

A large snapping turtle is the central focus of the image, floating in murky, brownish water. The turtle's head is in the foreground, with its mouth wide open, revealing a bright orange interior. Its eyes are prominent and dark. The turtle's shell is covered in a thick layer of green algae and moss, which also clings to its head and limbs. The background is a soft-focus view of the water and some sparse, thin green plants. The overall scene is a close-up, top-down view of the turtle in its natural habitat.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuges Complex

Comprehensive Conservation Plan

USFWS Photo

Comprehensive Conservation Plans provide long-term guidance for management decisions; set forth goals, objectives, and strategies needed to accomplish refuge purposes; and identify the Fish and Wildlife Service's best estimate of future needs. These plans detail program planning levels that are sometimes substantially above current budget allocations and, as such, are primarily for Service strategic planning and program prioritization purposes. The plans do not constitute a commitment for staffing increases, operational and maintenance increases, or funding for future land acquisition.