

Aroostook

National Wildlife Refuge

Northern Maine National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R)
Senator Susan M. Collins (R)
Rep. Michael H. Michaud (D-2nd)

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The refuge is managed as a satellite of Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge.

Purpose

To protect and manage wetlands, uplands and natural resources for the enhancement of wildlife populations, especially waterfowl and neotropical migratory birds.

Public Use Notes

- Visitor center
- 1.5-mile nature trail
- 5-mile cross-country ski trail
- Future public use activities:
 - guided auto tour route
 - wildlife observation blinds
 - nature trail extensions
- Friends of Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge

Management Activities

- Creating and managing wetland habitats for waterfowl and other waterbirds
- Managing 400 acres of grassland habitat for nesting grassland birds
- Forest management for woodcock and neotropical migrants
- Habitat restoration on a former Air Force Base for migrating and resident wildlife

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

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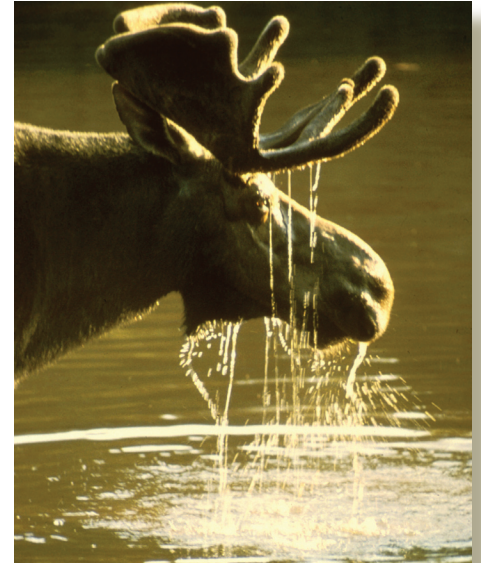
Highlights

The refuge has more than 150 species of birds, including 20 species of wood warbler, 7 species of thrush, 10 species of waterfowl and a host of raptors, as well as several mammals such as bobcat, moose, snowshoe hare and black bear.

Issues

The refuge has been exceeding its goals for wildlife habitat restoration. Although many miles of fencing, railways and infrastructure have been removed and recycled, much more work is needed. Several more miles of fencing and a half dozen bunkers identified for removal have become safety issues.

The Army National Guard currently operates a shooting range centrally located on the refuge. The range's location presents difficulties



Moose

Ronald L. Bell/USFWS

in opening the refuge to public use. Range expansion has also impacted use of the habitat by upland sandpiper, a state-listed species of concern.

The former base is listed as a CERCLA site due to groundwater contamination and other issues.

Maintenance shop water well is contaminated.

Acquiring abutting properties would enhance resource management potential and secure the refuge's boundary.

Managing conservation easements

