



A. Krevitz

Yaphank Creek

Long Island *National Wildlife Refuge Complex*

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Charles E. Schumer (D)
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D)
Rep. Tim Bishop (D-1st)
Rep. Steven J. Israel (D-2nd)
Rep. Peter T. King (R-3rd)

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The Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex includes nine units, with Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge as the headquarters.

Purpose

The Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex was established to conserve, manage and restore wildlife and plant species and their habitats for the benefit of present and future Americans. Management focuses on migratory birds and the conservation of threatened and endangered species.

Public Use Notes

- Self-guided wildlife-dependent recreational and educational opportunities
- Visitor information kiosks
- Wildlife observation & photography
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Nature trails; three are wheelchair accessible
- Salt and freshwater fishing
- Deer hunting at Wertheim NWR

Management Activities

- Wetland, grassland and forest management on and off the complex
- Restoration of federally listed endangered and threatened species
- Public use opportunities for nearly 500,000 visitors yearly
- Maintenance of nine units over a 120-mile area
- Active partnerships with more than 30 agencies and non-government organizations
- Public involvement meetings focus on refuge management and issues

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

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Highlights

Seven federally listed threatened and endangered species on the complex

Manage the largest and most viable population of a federally listed endangered plant

Three hundred avian species, with up to 25,000 wintering waterfowl, including black duck and greater scaup

One hundred species of mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish

Refuge habitats have special designations from national, state and non-government organizations

Diversity of habitats, including wetlands, pine barrens, native grasslands and barrier beaches

Fifty active partnerships, including a friends group at www.friendsofwertheim.org

Draft comprehensive conservation plan detailing refuge objectives and goals for the next 15 years to be released in spring 2006

Initiators and leaders in wetland, grassland and woodland management programs off the refuge complex

Located within a population of more than 15 million residents of three states

Issues

Restoring degraded wetlands and uplands to provide quality habitat

Reducing rapid spread and negative ramifications of invasive species for restoration of native wildlife and plants

Providing and maintaining quality wildlife-dependent public use opportunities within a large urban area

Facing trespassing, poaching, vandalism and illegal construction on refuges

