GLOSSARY

Accessible Facilities: Structures accessible for most people with disabilities without assistance; facilities that meet Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS); Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible.

Adaptive Management: The rigorous application of management, research, and monitoring to gain information and experience necessary to assess and modify management activities. A process that uses feedback from research, monitoring and evaluation of management actions to support or modify objectives and strategies at all planning levels.

Agricultural Land: Non-forested land (now or recently pastures or crops).

Alternatives: Different sets of objectives and strategies or means of achieving refuge purposes and goals, helping fulfill the Refuge System mission, and resolving issues. A reasonable way to fix an identified problem or satisfy a stated need [40 CFR 1500.2 (cf."management alternative")].

Appropriate Use: A proposed or existing use on a refuge that is a wildlife-dependent recreational use as identified in the 1997 Refuge System Improvement Act (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation) or a use that contributes to the fulfillment of refuge purpose(s), the Refuge System mission, or goals or objectives described in a refuge management plan approved after October 9, 1997.

Approved Acquisition Boundary: A project boundary that the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approves upon completion of the planning and environmental compliance process. An approved acquisition boundary only designates those lands which the Service has authority to acquire or manage through various agreements. The approval of an acquisition boundary does not grant the Service jurisdiction or control over lands within the approved boundary. Lands do not become part of the National Wildlife Refuge System until the Service buys them or they are placed under an agreement that provides for their management as part of the System.

Aquatic: Growing in, living in, or dependent upon water.

Best Management Practices: Land management practices that produce desired results [e.g., best management practices for herbicide application, grazing etc.].

Biological Diversity or Biodiversity: The variety of life and its processes, including the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them and communities and ecosystems in which they occur.

Biological Integrity: Biotic composition, structure and functioning at genetic, organism and community levels comparable with historic conditions, including the natural biological processes that shape genomes, organisms and communities.

Biotic Community: A set of plants, animals and microorganisms occupying an area interacting directly or indirectly with each other and their physical environment.

Breeding habitat: Habitat used by animals during the breeding season.

Candidate species: Species for which we have sufficient information on file about their biological vulnerability and threats to propose listing them.

Categorical Exclusion (CE, CX, CATEX, CATX): Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a category of Federal agency actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment [40 CFR 1508:4].

CFR: The Code of Federal Regulations.

Community: An assemblage of plants occurring together at any point in time.

Compatible Use: A wildlife-dependent recreational use, or any other proposed or existing use on a refuge that will not materially interfere with or detract from the purposes of the refuge or the National Wildlife Refuge System mission.

Compatibility Determination: A required determination for wildlife-dependent recreational uses or any other public uses of a refuge.

Comprehensive Conservation Plan: A document that describes the desired future conditions of a refuge or planning unit and provides long-range guidance and management direction to achieve the purposes of the refuge; helps fulfill the mission of the Refuge System; maintains and, where appropriate, restores the ecological integrity of each refuge and the Refuge System; helps achieve the goals of the National Wilderness Preservation System; and meets other mandates.

Concern: **"***see issue"*

Connectivity: Community occurrences and reserves that have permeable boundaries and thus are subject to inflows and outflows from the surrounding landscape. Connectivity in the selection and design of nature reserves relates to the ability of species to move across the landscape to meet basic habitat requirements. Natural connecting features within the ecoregion may include river channels, habitat corridors, ridgelines, or migratory pathways.

Conservation: Managing natural resources to prevent loss or waste [Management actions may include preservation, restoration, and enhancement.].

Conservation easement: A non-possessory interest in real property owned by another imposing limitations or affirmative obligations with the purpose of returning or protecting the property's conservation values.

Conservation status: Assessment of the status of ecological processes and of the viability of species or populations in an ecoregion.

Cooperative agreement: A legal instrument reflecting a relationship between the Federal Government and a recipient when the principle purpose is to fund a project to support or stimulate activities that are not for the direct benefit or use of the Federal government but instead for a public purpose that the government participates substantially in.

Critical Habitat: According to U.S. Federal law, the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend.

Cultural Resources: The remains of sites, structures, or objects used by people in the past.

Cultural Resource Overview: A comprehensive document prepared for a field office that discusses, among other things, project prehistory and cultural history, the nature and extent of known cultural resources, previous research, management objectives, resource management conflicts or issues, and a general statement of how program objective should be met and conflicts resolved. [An overview should reference or incorporate information from a field office's background or literature search described in section VIII of the Cultural Resource Management Handbook (cf. FWS Manual 614 FW 1.7).]

Degradation: the loss of native species and processes due to human activities such that only certain components of the original biodiversity persist, often including significantly altered natural communities.

Designated Wilderness Area: An area designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System [FWS Manual 610 FW 1.5 9 draft)]

Desired future condition: The qualities of an ecosystem or its components that an organization seeks to develop through its decisions and actions.

Disturbance: Any relatively discrete event in time that disrupts ecosystem, community, or population structure and changes resources, substrate availability, or the physical environment.

Donation: A citizen or group may wish to give land or interests in land to the Service for the benefit of wildlife. Aside from the cost factor, these acquisitions are no different than any other means of land acquisition. Gifts and donations have the same planning requirements as purchases.

Easement: An agreement by which landowners give up or sell one of the rights on their property (e.g. landowners may donate rights-of-way across their properties to allow community members acess to a river). See *"conservation easement."*

Ecological Integrity: The relative intactness of biotic and abiotic components and their interrelated structure and function within a given ecosystem.

Ecological Processes: a complex mix of interactions among animals, plants, and their environment that ensures maintenance of an ecosystem's full range of biodiversity. Examples include population and predator-prey dynamics, pollination and seed dispersal, nutrient cycling, migration, and dispersal.

Ecoregion: A territory defined by a combination of biological, social, and geographic criteria, rather than geopolitical considerations; generally, a system of related, interconnected ecosystems.

Ecosystem: Dynamic and interrelating complex of plant and animal communities and their associated non-living environment.

Ecosystem Approach: A strategy or plan to protect and/or restore the natural function, structure and species composition of an ecosystem, recognizing that all components are interrelated.

Ecosystem Management: Management of an ecosystem that includes all ecological, social, and economic components, which make up and/or that affect the whole of the system.

Ecotourism: Visits to an area that maintains and preserves natural resources as a basis for promoting its economic growth and development.

Emergent Wetland: wetlands dominated by erect, rooted, herbaceous plants.

Endangered Species: A plant or animal species listed under the Endangered Species Act that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Environmental Assessment: A systematic analysis to determine if proposed Federal actions would result in a "significant effect on the quality of the human environment" thereby requiring either the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) or a determination of a "Finding of No Significant Impact."

Environmental Education: Curriculum-based education aimed at producing a citizenry that is knowledgeable about the biophysical environment and its associated problems, aware of how to help solve those problems, and motivated to work toward solving them.

Environmental Health: The composition, structure, and functioning of soil, water, air, and other abiotic features comparable with historic conditions, including the natural abiotic processes that shape the environment.

Exotic Species: A non-native plant or animal species introduced intentionally or unintentionally to the ecosystem under consideration.

Extinction: The termination of any lineage of organisms, from subspecies to species and higher taxonomic categories from genera to phyla. Extinction can be local, in which one or more populations of a species or other unit vanish but others survive elsewhere, or total (global), in which all the populations vanish (Wilson 1992).

Fauna: All animal life associated with a given habitat, country, area or period.

Federal land: Public land owned by the Federal Government, including national forests, national parks, and national wildlife refuges.

Federally-listed Species: A species listed either as endangered, threatened, or a species at risk (formerly, a "candidate species") under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

Federal Trust Species: Important fish and wildlife resources that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is specifically mandated to protect including migratory birds, threatened species, endangered species, inter-jurisdictional fish, marine mammals, and other species of concern.

Fee-title Acquisition: The acquisition of most or all of the rights to a tract of land; a total transfer of property rights with the formal conveyance of a title. While a fee-title acquisition involves most rights to a property, certain rights may be reserved or not purchased, including water rights, mineral rights, or use reservation (e.g., the ability to continue using the land for a specified time period, such as the remainder of the owner's life).

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI): Supported by an environmental assessment, a document that briefly presents why a Federal action will have no significant effect on the human environment, and for which an environmental impact statement, therefore, will not be prepared [40 CFR 1508.13].

Fire regime: The characteristic frequency, intensity, and spatial distribution of natural fires within a given ecoregion or habitat.

Floodplain: Flat or nearly flat land that may be submerged by floodwaters; a plain built up or in the process of being built up by stream deposition.

Flora: All the plants found in a particular place.

Flyway: Any one of several established migration routes of birds.

Focal species: A species that is indicative of particular conditions in a system (ranging from natural to degraded) and used as a surrogate measure for other species of particular conditions. An element of biodiversity selected as a focus for conservation planning or action. The two principal types of targets in planning projects are species and ecological communities.

Forested Land: Land dominated by trees. For impacts analysis in CCPs, we assume all forested land has the potential for occasional harvesting; we assume forested land owned yb timber companies is harvested on a more intensive, regular schedule.

Fragmentation: The disruption of extensive habitats into isolated and small patches. Fragmentation has two negative components for biota: the loss of total habitat area; and, the creation of smaller, more isolated patches of habitat.

Geographic Information System (GIS): A computerized system to compile, store, analyze and display geographically referenced information [e.g., GIS can overlay multiple sets of information on the distribution of a variety of biological and physical features.].

Goal: Descriptive, open-ended, and often broad statement of desired future conditions that conveys a purpose but does not defined measurable units.

Grassland: A habitat type with landscapes dominated by grasses and with bio-diversity characterized by species with wide distributions, communities being relatively resilient to short-term disturbances but not to prolonged, intensive burning or grazing. In such systems, larger vertebrates, birds, and invertebrates display extensive movement to track seasonal or patchy resources.

Groundwater: Water in the ground that is in the zone of saturation, from which wells and springs and groundwater runoff are supplied.

Guild or Species Guild: An aggregation or group of species that tend to use the same kinds of resources for feeding or reproduction in a similar manner. Species guilds are useful in helping to focus wildlife and habitat management efforts or in environmental impact studies.

Habitat: The place or type of site where species and species assemblages are typically found and/or successfully reproduce. [An organism's habitat must provide all of the basic requirements for life, and should be free of harmful contaminants.].

Habitat Conservation: Protecting an animal or plant habitat to ensure that the use of that habitat by the animal or plant is not altered or reduced.

Habitat Fragmentation: The breaking up of a specific habitat into smaller, unconnected areas

Historic Conditions: The composition, structure and functioning of ecosystems resulting from natural processes that we believe, based on sound professional judgment, were present prior to substantial human-related changes to the landscape.

Hydrologic or Flow Regime: Characteristic fluctuations in river flows.

Hydrology: The science of waters of the earth: their occurrences, distributions, and circulations; their physical and chemical properties; and their reactions with the environment, including living beings.

Impoundment: A body of water, such as a pond, confined by a dam, dike, floodgate, or other barrier, which is used to collect and store water for future use.

Interpretive Facilities: Structures that provide information about an event, place, or thing by a variety of means, including printed, audiovisual, or multimedia materials [e.g., kiosks that offer printed materials and audiovisuals, signs, and trail heads.].

Interpretive Materials: Any tool used to provide or clarify information, explain events or things, or increase awareness and understanding of the events or things [e.g., printed materials like brochures, maps or curriculum materials; audio/visual materials like video and audio tapes, films, or slides; and, interactive multimedia materials, CD-ROM or other computer technology.].

Invasive Species: A non-indigenous species whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive species generally reduce the diversity of ecosystems when they become dominant.

Invertebrate: Any animal lacking a backbone or bony segment that encloses the central nerve cord.

Issue: Any unsettled matter that requires management decision, e.g., an initiative, opportunity, resource management problem, threat to the resources of the unit, conflict in uses, public concern, or the presence of an undesirable resource condition.

Land Protection Plan (LPP): A document that identifies and prioritizes lands for potential Service acquisition from willing sellers, and describes other methods of providing protection.

Land Trusts: Organizations dedicated to conserving land by purchase, donation, or conservation easement from landowners.

Landscape: An aggregate of land forms, together with its biological communities.

Limiting Factor: An environmental limitation that prevents further population growth.

Management Alternative: A set of objectives and the strategies needed to accomplish each objective [FWS Manual 602 FW 1.4.].

Management Concern: see *"issue"*.

Management Opportunity: see *"issue"*.

Management Plan: A plan that guides future land management practices on a tract. [N.b. In the context of an environmental impact statement, management plans may be designed to produce additional wildlife habitat along with primary products like timber or agricultural crops (see *"cooperative agreement")*].

Management Strategy: A general approach to meeting unit objectives [N.b. A strategy may be broad, or it may be detailed enough to guide implementation through specific actions, tasks, a projects (FWS Manual 602 FW 1.4)].

Mesic soil: Sandy-to-clay loams containing moisture-retentive organic matter, well-drained (no standing water).

Mima Mound: A term used for low, flattened, circular to oval, domelike, natural mounds. Mima mounds also occur within landscapes where a permanent water table impedes drainage, creating waterlogged soil conditions for prolonged periods.

Mission statement: A succinct statement of the purpose for which the unit was established; its reason for being.

Mitigation: Actions to compensate for the negative effects of a particular project [e.g., wetland mitigation usually restores or enhances a previously damaged wetland or creates a new wetland.].

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA): Requires all Federal agencies to examine the environmental impacts of their actions, incorporate environmental information, and use public participation in planning and implementing environmental actions [Federal agencies must integrate NEPA with other planning requirements, and prepare appropriate NEPA documents to facilitate better environmental decision-making (cf. 40 CFR 1500).].

National Wildlife Refuge: A designated area of land or water or an interest in land or water within the Refuge System, such as refuges, wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas and other areas under Service jurisdiction for the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife and plant resources. A complete listing of all units of the Refuge System may be found in the current "Annual Report of Lands under Control of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

National Wildlife Refuge System: All lands, waters and interests therein administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as wildlife refuges, wildlife ranges, wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas and other areas for the protection and conservation of fish, wildlife and plant resources.

Native: A species that historically occurred in a particular ecosystem.

Native plant: A plant that has grown in the region since the last glaciation, and occurred before European settlement.

Natural disturbance event: Any natural event that significantly alters the structure, composition, or dynamics of a natural community: e.g., floods, fires, and storms.

Non-consumptive, Wildlife-oriented Recreation: Wildlife observation and photography and environmental education and interpretation.

Non-point Source Pollution: A diffuse form of water quality degradation in which wastes are not released at one specific, identifiable point but from diffuse sources or a number of points or that are spread out and difficult to identify and control.

Non-forested Wetlands: Wetlands dominated by shrubs or emergent vegetation.

Notice of Availability: An announcement we publish in the Federal Register that we have prepared an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment and that it is available for public review and comment.

Notice of Intent (NOI): An announcement we publish in the Federal Register that we will prepare and review an environmental impact statement [40 CFR 1508.22].

Objective: A concise statement of what we want to achieve, how much we want to achieve, when and where we want to achieve it, and who is responsible for the work. Objectives derive from goals and provide the basis for determining strategies, monitoring refuge accomplishments, and evaluating the success of strategies. Objectives should be attainable, time-specific, and measureable.

Old Fields: Areas formerly cultivated or grazed, where woody vegetation has begun to invade. [N.b. if left undisturbed, old fields will eventually succeed into forest. Many occur at sites marginally suitable for crops or pasture].

Outdoor Education: Educational activities that take place in an outdoor setting.

Partnership: A contract or agreement among two or more individuals, groups of individuals, organizations, or agencies, in which each agrees to furnish a part of the capital or some service in kind (e.g., labor) for a mutually beneficial enterprise.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes: cf. Revenue Sharing Act of 1935, Chapter One, Legal Context.

Point Source: A source of pollution that involves discharge of waste from an identifiable point, such as a sewage-treatment plant outfall pipe.

Population: An interbreeding group of plants or animals. Also refers to the entire group of organisms of one species.

Population Monitoring: Assessing the characteristics of populations to ascertain their status and establish trends on their abundance, condition, distribution, or other characteristics.

Prairie: An extensive area of flat or rolling grassland.

Prescribed Fire: The application of fire to wildland fuels, either by natural or intentional ignition, to achieve identified land use objectives [FWS Manual 621 FW 1.7].

Priority Public Use: Wildlife-dependent recreational uses involving hunting, fishing wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation which receive priority consideration in refuge planning and management. Priority Public Uses were designated by the Refuge System Administration Act, as amended.

Priority Species: Wildlife or plant species that include Federal trust species such as migratory birds, threatened species, endangered species, inter-jursdictional fish, marine mammals, and other species of concern. Priority species also include rare, declining, or species of management concern that are on lists maintained by natural heritage programs, State wildlife agencies, other Federal agencies, or professional, academic, and scientific societies, and those mentioned in landscape-level or other conservation plans.

Private Land: Land owned by a private individual, group or non-government organization.

Private Organization: Any non-government organization.

Protection: Mechanisms like fee title acquisition, conservation easements, or binding agreements with landowners that ensure land use and land management practices will remain compatible with maintaining species populations at a site.

Public: Individuals, organizations, and non-government groups; officials of Federal, State, and local government agencies; Native American tribes, and foreign nations – includes anyone outside the core planning team, those who may or may not have indicated an interest in the issues, and those who do or do not realize that our decisions may affect them.

Public Involvement: Offering an opportunity to interested individuals and organizations potentially affected by actions or policies to become informed and provide input. Public input is thoroughly studied and given thoughtful consideration in shaping decisions about managing refuges.

Public Land: Land owned by the local, State, or Federal Government.

Public Uses: Normally refers to the six priority public uses (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation), but may include other permitted special uses.

Purposes of the Refuge: "The purposes specified in or derived from the law, proclamation, executive order, agreement, public land order, donation document, or administrative memorandum establishing, authorizing, or expanding a refuge, refuge unit, or refuge subunit." (601 FW 1)

Ranchette: a small-scale ranch, typically of only a few acres.

Rare Species: Species identified for special management emphasis because of their uncommon occurrence within a watershed.

Rare Community Types: Plant community types classified as rare by any State program; includes exemplary community types.

Refuge Goals: According to "Writing Refuge Management Goals and Objectives: A Handbook, refuge goals are "…descriptive, open-ended, and often broad statements of desired future conditions that convey a purpose but do not define measureable units."

Refuge lands: Lands in which the Service holds full interest in fee title or partial interest like an easement.

Refuge Operating Needs System (RONS): A national database that contains the unfunded operational needs of each refuge. Projects are required to implement approved plans and meet goals, objectives, and legal mandates.

Refuge Purposes: According to the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, "The terms 'purposes of the refuge' and 'purposes of each refuge' mean that purposes specified in or derived from the law, proclamation, executive order, agreement, pubic land order, donation document, or administrative memorandum establishing, authorizing, or expanding a refuge, refuge unit, or refuge subunit."

Restoration: Management of a disturbed or degraded habitat that results in the recovery of its original state [e.g., restoration may involve planting native grasses and forbs, removing shrubs, prescribed burning, or reestablishing habitat for native plants and animals on degraded grassland.].

Riparian: Of or relating to land lying immediately adjacent to a water body and having specific characteristics of that area, such as riparian vegetation. A stream bank is an example of a riparian area.

Riparian Habitat: Habitat along the banks of a stream or river.

Riverine: Within the active channel of a river or stream.

Runoff: Water from rain, melted snow, or agricultural or landscape irrigation that flows over a land surface into a water body.

Scoping: A process for identifying the "scope of issues" to be addressed in planning refuge activities. Involved in the scoping process are Federal, State, local agencies, private organizations, and individuals.

Service Presence: Service programs and facilities that it directs or shares with other organizations; public awareness of the Service as a sole or cooperative provider of programs and facilities.

Shrublands: Habitats dominated by various species of shrubs, often with many grasses and forbs.

Sound Professional Judgment: A finding, determination, or decision that is consistent with principles of sound fish and wildlife management and administration, available science and resources, and adherence to the requirements of the Refuge Administration Act and other appropriate laws.

Species: The basic category of biological classification intended to designate a single kind of animal or plant. Any variation among the individuals may be regarded as not affecting the essential sameness which distinguishes them from all other organisms.

Species of Concern: Species not federally listed as threatened or endangered, but about which we or our partners are concerned.

Species Diversity: Usually synonymous with "species richness," but may also include the proportional distribution of species.

Species Richness: A simple measure of species diversity calculated as the total number of species in a habitat or community.

Stakeholders: Those agencies, organizations, groups and individuals of the public, having an interest or stake in an organization's program and that may be affected by its implementation.

State agencies: Natural resource agencies of State governments.

State land: State-owned public land.

State-listed species: see "Federal-listed species."

Step-down Management Plan: A plan that provides specific guidance on management subjects (e.g. habitat, public use, fire, safety) or groups of related subjects. It describes strategies and implementation schedules for meeting CCP goals and objectives.

Stranding: Marine animals that wash ashore, dead or alive, or are found floating dead or alive (generally in a weakened condition).

Strategy: A specific action, tool, technique, or combination of actions, tools, and techniques used to meet unit objectives.

Succession: The natural, sequential change of species composition of a community in a given area.

Surface Water: All waters whose surface is naturally exposed to the atmosphere, or wells or other collectors directly influenced by surface water.

Sustainable Development: The attempts to meet economic objectives in ways that do not degrade the underlying environmental support system. Note that there is considerable debated over the

meaning of this term…we define it as "human activities conducted in a manner that respects the intrinsic value of the natural world, the role of the natural world in human well-being, and the need for humans to live on the income from nature's capital itself."

Terrestrial: Living on land.

Threatened Species: A plant or animal species listed under the Endangered Species Act that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future.

Tributary: A stream or river that flows into a larger stream, river, or lake, feeding it water.

Trust Resource: A resource that the Government holds in trust for the people through law or administrative act. [N.b. A federal trust resource is one for which responsibility is given wholly or in part to the Federal Government by law or administrative act. Generally, federal trust resources are nationally or internationally important no matter where they occur, like endangered species or migratory birds and fish that regularly move across state lines. They also include cultural resources protected by Federal historic preservation laws, and nationally important or threatened habitats, notable wetlands, navigable waters, and public lands like national wildlife refuges.]

Trust Species: (*See Federal Trust Species*).

Unfragmented Habitat: Large, unbroken blocks of a particular type of habitat.

Upland: Dry ground (i.e., other than wetlands).

Urban Runoff: Water from rain, melted snow, or landscape irrigation flowing from city streets and domestic or commercial properties that may carry pollutants into a sewer system or water body.

Vision Statement: A concise statement of what the planning unit should be, or what is planned to be accomplished, based primarily upon the Refuge System mission and specific refuge purposes, and other mandates. The vision statement for the refuge should be linked to the mission of the Refuge System; the purpose(s) of the refuge; the maintenance or restoration of the ecological integrity of each refuge and the Refuge System; and other mandates.

Wetland: Areas such as lakes, marshes, ponds, swamps, or streams that are inundated by surface or groundwater long enough to support plants and animals that require saturated or seasonally saturated soils.

Wilderness Study Areas: Lands and waters identified by inventory as meeting the definition of wilderness and being evaluated for a recommendation they be included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Wilderness: See "designated wilderness area."

Wildfire: Unplanned ignition of a wildland fire (such as a fire caused by lightning, volcanoes, unauthorized and accidental human-caused fires) and escaped prescribed fires.

Wildland fire: Every wildland fire is either a wildfire or a prescribed fire [FWS Manual 621 FW 1.3]. A general term describing any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland.

Wildlife-dependent Recreational Use: "A use of a refuge involving hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, or environmental education and interpretation." (605 FW 1) These are the six priority public uses of the Refuge System Administration Act, as amended. Wildlife-dependent recreational uses, other than the six priority public uses, are those that depend on the presence of wildlife. Other uses are also considered in the preparation of refuge CCPs; however, the six priority public uses always will take precedence.

Wildlife management: Manipulating wildlife populations, either directly by regulating the numbers, ages, and sex ratios harvested, or indirectly by manipulating habitat conditions. Wildlife management is not always to increase populations (e.g., wildlife damage control).

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADA	**Americans with Disabilities Act**
BCR	Bird Conservation Region
CCP	Comprehensive Conservation Plan
CPCI	Coastal Prairie Conservation Initiative
DEEP	Discovery Environmental Education Program
EE	Environmental Education
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EO	Executive Order
FM	Farm-to-Market (State secondary road)
FR	Federal Register
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GCP&M	Gulf Coast Prairies and Marshes
GS	General Schedule (pay rate schedule for certain Federal positions)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
lbs.	Pounds

LCC	Landscape Conservation Cooperative
LCRA	Lower Colorado River Authority
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding (Agreements)
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
N	Nitrogen
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NABCI	North American Bird Conservation Initiative
NADP	National Atmospheric Deposition Program
NAWMP	North American Waterfowl Management Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NNL	National Natural Landmark
NO_2	Nitrogen dioxide
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture)
NVCS	National Vegetation Classification System
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
NWRS, Refuge System	National Wildlife Refuge System
O&M	Operation & Maintenance
PIF	Partners in Flight
RIFA	Red Imported Fire Ant
RNA	Research Natural Area
RONS	Refuge Operating Needs System
RRP	Refuge Roads Program
SAMMS	Service Asset Maintenance Management System
SHC	Strategic Habitat Conservation
SUP	Special Use Permit
T&E	Threatened and Endangered Species
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TCPP	Texas City Prairie Preserve

Terminology	
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
UNESCO	United National Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USFWS, FWS, Service	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WG	Wage Grade Schedule (pay rate schedule for certain Federal positions)
WWF	World Wildlife Fund