

Nomans Land Island and Monomoy NWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan

Planning Update

Fall 2008

What is the current status of the Monomoy and Nomans Land Island NWR CCPs?

Progress on the Monomoy and Nomans Land Island Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) has been slow in the last year. In our Fall 2007 planning update, we provided the draft goals and objectives that had been developed for Nomans Land Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). We also indicated that the next step in the CCP process was for us to develop a reasonable range of alternative management strategies that could help us achieve our Goals and Objectives for Monomoy NWR and Nomans Land Island NWR.

We were planning on developing these alternatives during spring and summer



Monomoy Lighthouse USFWS photo

of 2008 and have a draft plan for both refuges available for public review and comment in November 2008.

Our planning process came to a halt in November 2007, however, when Refuge Planner Bill Perry accepted a natural resource planner position in Hawaii. He is now writing comprehensive plans for several of the national wildlife refuges in

Hawaii, Guam and the Pacific Islands. We miss Bill tremendously but are pleased to know he and his family are very happy living in Hawaii.

During the summer of 2008, we decided to separate the development and analysis of the Nomans Land Island and Monomoy NWR comprehensive plans. We are continuing to work on the Monomoy NWR CCP, but as of this date we still do not have a refuge planner assigned to this project.

Meanwhile, data from research conducted by the Service on the factors affecting the distribution and abundance of migratory shorebirds at Monomoy NWR is still being analyzed. We also are awaiting the final report from research conducted on behalf of the Town of Chatham.

We hope to begin developing alternatives and writing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) later this year. While there is no revised timetable for completion of the draft CCP and EIS, refuge staff are striving for a November 2009 release. This could result in a final plan for Monomoy NWR by September 2010.



Pond on Nomans Land Island USFWS photo

Contact Information

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Meanwhile, we continue close coordination with the Town of Chatham on issues affecting the refuge and our visitors, neighbors, fishermen, and other town residents.

With the delinking of this planning process, we are actively moving forward on the development of the Nomans Land Island NWR comprehensive plan. Carl Melberg has transferred to the headquarters of the Eastern Massachusetts NWR Complex and has been given the responsibility to coordinate the development of the CCPs for Nomans Land Island NWR, Mashpee NWR and Massasoit NWR. He has picked up the CCP for Nomans Land Island NWR where we left it off last year.

The planning team recently reviewed the vision statement, goals and objectives for the refuge. These were found to still be very relevant but are being amended slightly. They will be posted shortly on the refuge website. Go to <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/refugeCCPs.html> for more information.



Monomoy Tidal Flats USFWS photo

Next Public Meeting for Nomans Land Island CCP:

The revised goals and objectives for the Nomans Land Island NWR will be presented to the public on October 14, 2008 at the Chilmark Library from 6-8 pm. Please come to meet the staff, learn about current refuge management, help us identify issues and concerns, and make recommendations about future refuge programs. We hope to see you there!

Want to Stay Involved?

Including the local community, our partners, and other stakeholders throughout the planning process is vital to the ultimate success of the plan. Your contributions in the past have been invaluable to this process. We would like to offer you an opportunity to continue to provide input during the development of these plans. Future planning updates will be prepared separately for Monomoy NWR and Nomans Land Island NWR. If you wish to remain on the mailing list for one or both of these plans, please fill out the form below and mail it back to Carl Melberg. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our meetings!



Cliffs on Nomans Land Island USFWS photo



Nomans Land Island Cove USFWS photo

Please provide the following information to Carl Melberg, Refuge Planner, Eastern Massachusetts NWR Complex, 73 Weir Hill Road, Sudbury, MA 01776

_____ Yes, please keep me on the mailing list for the Monomoy NWR comprehensive plan.

_____ Yes, please keep me on the mailing list for the Nomans Land Island NWR comprehensive plan

_____ I would prefer to receive electronic versions of planning updates and other notices via email

_____ I would prefer to receive paper copies of planning updates and other notices through the U.S. mail

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____