



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

**Draft Revised
Comprehensive
Conservation Plan**

**Draft Environmental
Impact Statement**

**Wilderness
Review**

**Wild and Scenic
River Review**

Volume 1



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mission

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats, for the continuing benefit of the American people.



National Wildlife Refuge System Mission

The mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and, where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

This Comprehensive Conservation Plan describes programs that may exceed future budget allocations and therefore does not constitute specific commitments for future staff increases, project details, or funding.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

**Draft Revised Comprehensive
Conservation Plan**

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Wilderness Review

Wild and Scenic River Review

**Volume 1
June 2011**

**Prepared by Arctic Refuge and the Alaska Region
of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

**Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
101 12th Ave, Rm 236
Fairbanks AK 99701**

**Alaska Regional Office
Division of Conservation Planning and Policy
1011 East Tudor Rd MS 231
Anchorage AK 99503**

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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
101 12th Avenue, Room 236
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-6237
(907) 456-0250



Dear Reader:

This is the draft revised Comprehensive Conservation Plan (Plan, Revised Plan) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. It includes a Wilderness Review (Appendix H) and a Wild and Scenic River Review (Appendix I). The final version of this Plan will guide management of the Refuge for the next 15 years. The Plan outlines goals and objectives, Refuge management guidelines, and six management alternatives for addressing management issues raised by the public and the agency. The Plan also describes our evaluation of the environmental impacts associated with implementing each alternative. Additionally, the Refuge manager's preliminary reviews of the compatibility of Refuge uses with Refuge purposes are presented in Appendix G—Compatibility Determinations.

This Plan has been sent to you because public involvement in the planning process is essential for developing an effective plan. Please review and provide comment on the Plan's content no later than 90 days after the Plan was released (see our web site (<http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm>) for the comments due date). Comments should be specific and should address the merits of distinct aspects of the document such as the goals, objectives, management guidelines, or alternatives, or the adequacy of the environmental analysis. We will consider your comments as we prepare the Final Plan. Objections that could have been raised at this draft stage may be waived if they are not raised until after completion of the Final Plan.

All public comments received, including respondent names and addresses, will be included in the planning record, which will be available for public review. If you, as an individual, want us to withhold your name or contact information, please state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. We will honor your request to the extent allowed by law. We are unable to withhold the names or contact information for representatives or officials of organizations or businesses.

Public meetings will be held in the communities of Arctic Village, Fort Yukon, Kaktovik, Venetie, Fairbanks, and Anchorage during the public review period. Meeting dates, times, and locations will be announced at <http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm> once they are confirmed.

You may view the draft revised Plan, EIS, Wilderness Review, Wild and Scenic River Review, and a summary of these reports, online at <http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm>. You may also request a hard copy of the summary or a compact disc containing complete texts of all the documents.

Comments and requests should be received by **the end of the comment period** (visit <http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm> for the comments due date). Submit comments to:

Sharon Seim, Planning Team Leader
Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
101 12th Ave, Rm 236
Fairbanks AK 99701

Email: ArcticRefugeCCP@fws.gov
Phone: 907-456-0501 or 800-362-4546

Additional information about the planning process:

web: <http://arctic.fws.gov/ccp.htm>
email: ArcticRefugeCCP@fws.gov
phone: 907-456-0501 or 800-362-4546

Information about Arctic Refuge:

web: <http://arctic.fws.gov/>
facebook: [facebook.com/arcticnationalwildliferefuge](https://www.facebook.com/arcticnationalwildliferefuge)
email: arctic_refuge@fws.gov
phone: 907-456-0250 or 800-362-4546

*Thank you for participating in our planning process!
Your comments will help us prepare a better plan for the future of Arctic Refuge.*

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Acronyms

ADEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
ADFG	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
ADNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
AIWFMP	Alaska Interagency Wildland Fire Management Plan
ANILCA	Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act
ANCSA	Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
ASRC	Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BLM-AFS	Bureau of Land Management, Alaska Fire Service
CE	categorical exclusion
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CRMP	Comprehensive River Management Plan
DOI	Department of the Interior
EA	environmental assessment
EIN	easement identification number
EIS	environmental impact statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FMP	Fire Management Plan
FTE	full-time employee
FY	fiscal year
GIS	Geographic Information System

Acronyms

GMU	game management unit
I&M	Inventory and Monitoring
IACUC	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan
IWSRCC	Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council
KIC	Kaktovik Iñupiat Corporation
LCC	Landscape Conservation Cooperative
LPP	Land Protection Plan
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MRA	Minimum Requirements Analysis
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPS	National Park Service
NWPS	National Wilderness Preservation System
NWSRS	National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
ORV	outstandingly remarkable value
PLO	Public Land Order
PRISM	Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring
PUNA	Public Use Natural Area
RNA	research natural area
ROC	region of comparison
ROD	record of decision
SNAP	Scenarios Network for Alaska Planning
TUS	transportation or utility systems

USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VUMP	Visitor Use Management Plan
WSA	Wilderness Study Area

