

## Participate in the Scoping Meetings

To begin developing the CCP, Klamath Marsh NWR will hold two public scoping meetings in the evening to help identify issues and gather information. For your convenience, we've selected two different locations and dates, hoping that one will work for you.



## Draft Refuge Goals & Vision Statement



### Public Meetings

**Tuesday, February 6, 2007**  
(6:00 - 8:30 PM)

Shilo Inn Suites Hotel  
Klamath Lake Meeting Room  
2500 Almond Street  
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

**Wednesday, February 7, 2007**  
(6:00 - 8:30 PM)

Chiloquin Community Center  
140 1st Ave  
Chiloquin, Oregon 97624

For more information, visit our website at:  
<http://www.fws.gov/klamathbasinrefuges>

### Please feel free to contact us!

Please contact us if you have any questions or need additional information. Also, we would be happy to meet with your group or organization to discuss this project. Direct all inquiries to:

Carol Damberg: Refuge Manager  
Klamath Marsh NWR  
HC 63, Box 303  
Chiloquin, OR 97624  
phone: (541) 783-3380  
E-mail: [carol\\_damberg@fws.gov](mailto:carol_damberg@fws.gov)  
Office hours: Monday-Friday,  
7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
You can also find information and a copy of Planning Update #1 at our website  
<http://www.fws.gov/cno/refuges/planning.html>

Draft refuge goals have been developed that will set the framework for setting future objectives. Please review these goals and provide comments. The final goals that are developed will be the foundation of our CCP. We will refine and refer to these goals during our planning process.

#### Draft Refuge Goals for Klamath Marsh NWR

**Emergent Marsh Goal:** Restore and maintain optimum interspersion and diversity of aquatic vegetation and open water within the emergent marsh community to support migrating and nesting water birds.

**Sedge meadows.** Maintain and enhance the natural structure, diversity, and productivity of the seasonally flooded sedge meadows with an emphasis on providing nesting and foraging habitat for rails and sandhill cranes.

**Ponderosa forest.** Maintain the structure and diversity of existing old growth ponderosa pine stands and restore mature and old-growth characteristics to second growth and other degraded stands.

**Aspen.** Enhance and maintain the natural regeneration of existing aspen stands.

**Riverine/spring riparian habitat.** Restore the historic form and function of riverine and riparian systems to benefit native fish and wildlife including redband trout, spotted frog and neotropical migratory birds.

**Natural Fire Regime.** Where possible, restore a natural fire disturbance regime on all Refuge habitats.

**Upland meadow.** Restore and maintain the composition and structure of existing and historic grasslands to benefit meadowlarks, savannah/vesper sparrows, and sandhill cranes.

**Recreation.** Nurture an understanding of and appreciation for wildlife and other natural resources of KMNWR by providing opportunities for compatible wildlife dependent recreation while maintaining the primitive uncrowded nature of the area.

**EE and Interpretation.** Provide interpretive and education services that emphasize the natural setting and function of Klamath Marsh and its role in the NWRS.

**Cultural Resources.** Visitors gain an understanding and appreciation for the cultural significance of Klamath Marsh. Cultural resources of the refuge are preserved, and connect visitors and the community to the area's past and present.

The following is a draft refuge "Vision Statement." A refuge vision statement consists of a description of the refuge setting and a concise statement of desired future conditions for the refuge. A vision is a clear image of a desirable future- one that represents an achievable, challenging, and worthwhile long-range target toward which people can direct their energies. The vision statement should reflect the mission of the refuge system, the purposes for

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# More information to help you get involved

## Why is this planning effort starting now?

In October 1997, Congress passed the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act, which states that, first and foremost, the National Wildlife Refuge System must focus on wildlife conservation. This law establishes: (1) the mission of the Refuge System; (2) a new process of determining compatible public use activities on refuges; and (3) requires us to prepare CCP's for each refuge.

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

Goals of this planning process:

- Outline Refuge management priorities for the next 10 to 15 years;
- Describe significant Refuge resources and their importance;
- Identify how the Refuge can best protect these resources;
- Clarify what public uses are, and are not, compatible with managing significant resources;
- Identify the Refuge's role within the local community and as a national resource.

## What are Refuges all about?

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, part of the Department of the Interior, is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats. The Service also manages the National Wildlife Refuge System, the world's largest collection of lands set aside specifically for the protection of fish and wildlife populations and habitats. Refuges also offer a variety of wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities, and many have visitor centers, hiking trails, and environmental education programs.

## What activities can be enjoyed at Refuges?

There are laws and policies which guide management of public use on National Wildlife Refuges. Only those public uses which are determined to be compatible with the mission of the Refuge System and the purposes of the Refuge are allowed. The Refuge Improvement Act identified six wildlife dependent public uses as priority uses:

- Environmental Education
- Wildlife Photography
- Environmental Interpretation
- Hunting
- Wildlife Observation
- Fishing



Marsh in winter.



Bobcat on a perch.

## Draft Refuge Goals and Visions *(continued from other side)*

which the refuge was established and any other relevant mandates. We invite you to comment on this draft vision statement.

### Draft Refuge Vision Statement for Klamath Marsh NWR

Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge lies on a 7,000 year old layer of volcanic ash and rock in the transition zone between the Great Basin desert and the snow-capped eastern Cascades of Oregon. The expansive, 40,000-acre Refuge protects one of the largest and most pristine high elevation marshes in the Intermountain West.

The Eastern Slope of the Cascades has lost more than 75 percent of its natural wetlands, making the Refuge an integral component in preserving the biodiversity of the region. This large, contiguous block of wetlands provides important nesting and migratory habitat for a diversity of Pacific Flyway birds. The emergent/wocus (yellow pond lily) marshes, sedge meadows, and riparian habitats are encircled by stately pine forests, forming habitats that support over 250 species of wildlife, including

spotted frogs, yellow rails, sandhill cranes, and Rocky Mountain elk.

Klamath Marsh NWR is also located at the headwaters of the Upper Klamath watershed. The Refuge wetlands plays a key role in maintaining the water quality of the upper basin by modifying water chemistry, the balance of nutrients, and water temperatures.

The Refuge will continue to work with others to preserve, restore, and enhance the natural hydrology and biological integrity of the Klamath Marsh and associated uplands as habitat for migratory birds and other indigenous wildlife. Refuge staff will use or mimic natural processes to restore and maintain habitats that support naturally occurring wildlife and unique species. Adaptive management techniques will be used to respond to changing environmental conditions.

Successful implementation of management actions will result in a naturally hydrologically functioning marsh that includes a complex interspersed of bulrush/ cattail, wocus, and open water

that supports a diversity of migrating and nesting waterbirds such as black terns, American bitterns, wood duck, redhead, marsh wren, and common yellowthroat. Native sedge meadows will be structurally diverse and support healthy nesting populations of species like yellow rails and sandhill cranes. Refuge forests will be dominated by open stands of old growth ponderosa pine with healthy regenerating aspen stands interspersed within the marsh and forest transition zone. Grassland meadows are protected from woody encroachments and provide habitat for species like vesper sparrows, meadowlarks, and sandhill cranes.

Though it is remote, this unspoiled landscape draws a variety of visitors. Current and future generations will have the opportunity to participate in wildlife dependent recreation and education that emphasizes self reliance, solitude, and a close relationship and respect for the environment. Refuge staff, visitors, and the community will have the chance to learn about and understand the cultural significance of the marsh, both past and present.