

block grants to States for the purpose of providing substance abuse prevention and treatment services. Under the provisions of the law, States may receive allotments only after an application is submitted and approved by the Secretary, DHHS. For the FY 1999 Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant cycle, SAMHSA plans to provide States with slightly modified application forms and instructions. These changes affect the portion of the application that asks for information related to section 1926 (sales of tobacco to minors). The application will no longer require a description of sampling methodologies and procedures for identifying and selecting tobacco outlets to be sampled throughout a State, unless a change to such methodologies or procedures has occurred in the previous year. The application will provide for more detailed information on the results and validity of the random unannounced inspections, and it will request greater detail on the number and results of actual enforcement activities that a State has undertaken. At the request of the Department, SAMHSA plans to include an additional tobacco-related question to Attachment 6 of the application. This question will require States to briefly describe collaboration between each State's Tobacco and Health Office (ASTHO representative) and Single

State Authority for Substance Abuse (NASADAD representative). Because Federal funds for tobacco prevention and control efforts are, in most cases, awarded to different State-level agencies, it is necessary for the Department and SAMHSA to verify and understand interactions at the State level on youth tobacco prevention and enforcement. SAMHSA also plans to modify Attachment 2 to include an additional question regarding tobacco use among minors. Finally, SAMHSA will modify the race/ethnicity categories in Form 9 to comply with recent revisions to OMB Directive No. 15. These modifications are not expected to increase respondent burden. The annual burden estimate for the SAPT Block Grant Application Format is shown below:

| Number of respondents | Re-sponses per respondent | Hours per response | Total hours |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 11 .....              | 1                         | 530                | 530         |
| 59 .....              | 1                         | 563                | 33,217      |
| Total .....           | .....                     | .....              | 33,747      |

<sup>1</sup> Red Lake Indian Tribe (exempt from Tobacco Regulation requirements).

Send comments to Deborah Trunzo, SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer, Room 16-105, Parklawn Building, 5600

Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: January 12, 1998.  
**Richard Kopanda,**  
*Executive Officer, SAMHSA.*  
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 BILLING CODE 4162-20-U

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

**Fiscal Year (FY) 1998 Funding Opportunities**

**AGENCY:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of Funding Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services announces the availability of FY 1998 funds for grants and cooperative agreements for the following activities. These activities are discussed in more detail under Section 4 of this notice. This notice is not a complete description of the activities; potential applicants must obtain a copy of the Guidance for Applicants (GFA) before preparing an application.

| Activity                                | Application deadline | Estimated funds available (millions) | Estimated No. of awards | Project period |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Circles of Care .....                   | 04/03/98             | \$2.4                                | 6-8                     | 3 yrs.         |
| Consumer-Operated Service Program ..... | 04/09/98             | 5.0                                  | 9                       | 4 yrs.         |

**Note:** SAMHSA also published a notice of available funding opportunities in FY 1998 in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 63, No. 3) on Tuesday, January 6, 1998.

The actual amount available for awards and their allocation may vary, depending on unanticipated program requirements and the volume and quality of applications. Awards are usually made for grant periods from one to three years in duration. FY 1998 funds for activities discussed in this announcement were appropriated by the Congress under Public Law No. 105-78. SAMHSA's policies and procedures for peer review and Advisory Council review of grant and cooperative agreement applications were published in the **Federal Register** (Vol. 58, No. 126) on July 2, 1993.

The Public Health Service (PHS) is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention

objectives of Healthy People 2000, a PHS-led national activity for setting priority areas. The SAMHSA Centers' substance abuse and mental health services activities address issues related to Healthy People 2000 objectives of Mental Health and Mental Disorders; Alcohol and Other Drugs; Clinical Preventive Services; HIV Infection; and Surveillance and Data Systems. Potential applicants may obtain a copy of Healthy People 2000 (Full Report: Stock No. 017-001-00474-0) or Summary Report: Stock No. 017-001-00473-1) through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325 (Telephone: 202-512-1800).

**General Instructions:** Applicants must use application form PHS 5161-1 (Rev. 5/96; OMB No. 0937-0189). The application kit contains the GFA (complete programmatic guidance and

instructions for preparing and submitting applications), the PHS 5161-1 which includes Standard Form 424 (Face Page), and other documentation and forms. Application kits may be obtained from the organization specified for each activity covered by this notice (see Section 4).

When requesting an application kit, the applicant must specify the particular activity for which detailed information is desired. This is to ensure receipt of all necessary forms and information, including any specific program review and award criteria.

The PHS 5161-1 application form and the full text of each of the activities (i.e., the GFA) described in Section 4 are available electronically via SAMHSA's World Wide Web Home Page (address: <http://www.samhsa.gov>).

**Application Submission:** Unless otherwise stated in the GFA,

applications must be submitted to: SAMHSA Programs, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, Suite 1040, 6701 Rockledge Drive MSC-7710, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7710.\*

(\* Applicants who wish to use express mail or courier service should change the zip code to 20817.)

**Application Deadlines:** The deadlines for receipt of applications are listed in the table above. Please note that the deadlines may differ for the individual activities.

Competing applications must be received by the indicated receipt dates to be accepted for review. An application received after the deadline may be acceptable if it carries a legible proof-of-mailing date assigned by the carrier and that date is not later than one week prior to the deadline date. Private metered postmarks are not acceptable as proof of timely mailing.

Applications received after the deadline date and those sent to an address other than the address specified above will be returned to the applicant without review.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for activity-specific technical information should be directed to the program contact person identified for each activity covered by this notice (see Section 4).

Requests for information concerning business management issues should be directed to the grants management contact person identified for each activity covered by this notice (see Section 4).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** To facilitate the use of this Notice of Funding Availability, information has been organized as outlined in the Table of Contents below. For each activity, the following information is provided:

- Application Deadline
- Purpose
- Priorities
- Eligible Applicants
- Grants/Cooperative Agreements/

Amounts

- Catalog of Federal Domestic

Assistance Number

- Contacts
- Application Kits

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### 1. Program Background and Objectives

SAMHSA's mission within the Nation's health system is to improve the quality and availability of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and rehabilitation services for substance abuse and mental illnesses, including co-occurring disorders, in order to improve health and reduce illness, death, disability, and cost to society.

Reinventing government, with its emphases on redefining the role of Federal agencies and on improving customer service, has provided SAMHSA with a welcome opportunity to examine carefully its programs and activities. As a result of that process, SAMHSA moved assertively to create a renewed and strategic emphasis on using its resources to generate knowledge about ways to improve the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and mental illness and to work with State and local governments as well as providers, families, and consumers to effectively use that knowledge in everyday practice.

SAMHSA's FY 1998 Knowledge Development and Application (KD&A) agenda is the outcome of a process whereby providers, services researchers, consumers, National Advisory Council members and other interested persons participated in special meetings or responded to calls for suggestions and reactions. From this input, each SAMHSA Center developed a "menu" of suggested topics. The topics were discussed jointly and an agency agenda of critical topics was agreed to. The selection of topics depended heavily on policy importance and on the existence of adequate research and practitioner experience on which to base studies. While SAMHSA's FY 1998 KD&A programs will sometimes involve the evaluation of some delivery of services, they are services studies and application activities, not merely evaluation, since they are aimed at answering policy-relevant questions and putting that knowledge to use.

SAMHSA differs from other agencies in focusing on needed information at

the services delivery level, and in its question-focus. Dissemination and application are integral, major features of the programs. SAMHSA believes that it is important to get the information into the hands of the public, providers, and systems administrators as effectively as possible. Technical assistance, training, preparation of special materials will be used, in addition to normal communications means.

SAMHSA also continues to fund legislatively-mandated services programs for which funds are appropriated.

### 2. Special Concerns

SAMHSA's legislatively-mandated services programs do provide funds for mental health and/or substance abuse treatment and prevention services. However, SAMHSA's KD&A activities do not provide funds for mental health and/or substance abuse treatment and prevention services except sometimes for costs required by the particular activity's study design. Applicants are required to propose true knowledge application or knowledge development and application projects. Applications seeking funding for services projects under a KD&A activity will be considered nonresponsive.

Applications that are incomplete or nonresponsive to the GFA will be returned to the applicant without further consideration.

### 3. Criteria for Review and Funding

Consistent with the statutory mandate for SAMHSA to support activities that will improve the provision of treatment, prevention and related services, including the development of national mental health and substance abuse goals and model programs, competing applications requesting funding under the specific project activities in Section 4 will be reviewed for technical merit in accordance with established PHS/SAMHSA peer review procedures.

#### 3.1 General Review Criteria

As published in the **Federal Register** on July 2, 1993 (Vol. 58, No. 126), SAMHSA's "Peer Review and Advisory Council Review of Grant and Cooperative Agreement Applications and Contract Proposals," peer review groups will take into account, among other factors as may be specified in the application guidance materials, the following general criteria:

- Potential significance of the proposed project;
- Appropriateness of the applicant's proposed objectives to the goals of the specific program;

- Adequacy and appropriateness of the proposed approach and activities;
- Adequacy of available resources, such as facilities and equipment;
- Qualifications and experience of the applicant organization, the project director, and other key personnel; and
- Reasonableness of the proposed budget.

### 3.2 Funding Criteria for Scored Applications

Applications will be considered for funding on the basis of their overall technical merit as determined through the peer review group and the appropriate National Advisory Council (if applicable) review process.

Other funding criteria will include:

- Availability of funds.

Additional funding criteria specific to the programmatic activity may be included in the application guidance materials.

## 4. Special FY 1998 Mental Health Activities

### 4.1 Grants

#### 4.1.1 Circles of Care: Planning, Designing, and Assessing Mental Health Service System Models for Native American Indian and Alaska Native Children and Their Families

- Application Deadline: April 3, 1998
- Purpose: Six to eight grants will be awarded to plan, design, and assess the feasibility of implementing a culturally appropriate mental health service model for American Indian/Alaska Native children with serious emotional disturbances and their families. The purpose of this program is to support the development of mental health service delivery models that are designed by American Indian/Alaska Native communities to achieve outcomes for their children that they choose for themselves. Formulation and evaluation of programs based directly on the needs, values, and principles of the grantee organizations will provide an information base for other programs interested in structuring culturally relevant children's mental health service systems.

Grantees will engage in a strategic planning process, design a service model, and conduct a feasibility assessment of the model, including a cost and funding analysis. Actual services will not be funded but the intent of the program is to position tribal and urban Indian organizations advantageously for future service system implementation and development when opportunities for funding services are available.

- Priorities: None

- Eligible Applicants: Applications may be submitted by federally acknowledged tribes and tribal organizations. Urban Indian organizations are eligible to apply if they are a nonprofit corporate body situated in an urban center, governed by a board of directors of whom at least 51% are American Indian/Alaska Natives, and provide for the participation of all interested Indian groups and individuals. The applicant must be capable of legally cooperating with other public and private entities for the purposes of performing the activities of this program.

The primary intent of the "Circles of Care" program is to support the development of mental health service delivery models that are designed by American Indian/Alaska Native communities to achieve outcomes for their children that they chose for themselves. Models designed for American Indian/Alaska Native communities by people other than American Indian/Alaska Natives are already available. This program will enable community members to develop models to juxtapose with those not designed by Indians to find which are best for meeting their service needs. To be effective and have the cooperation and confidence of the community, the applicant must be representative of the community, in addition to demonstrating the ability to fulfill the technical requirements of the GFA.

- Grants/Amounts: It is estimated that approximately \$2.4 million will be available to support approximately 6–8 awards in FY 1998. Actual funding levels for subsequent years will depend on availability of appropriated funds.

- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.230
- Program Contact: For programmatic or technical assistance contact: Gary De Carolis, M.ED., Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 18–49, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 443–1333.

- Grants Management Contact: For business management assistance, contact: Stephen J. Hudak, Grants Management Specialist, Division of Grants Management, OPS, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 15C–05, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 443–4456.

- Application Kits: Application kits are available from: National Mental Health Services, Knowledge Exchange Network (KEN), P.O. Box 42490,

Washington, D.C. 20015, Voice: (800) 789–2647, TTY: (301) 443–9006.

- CMHS intends to sponsor two technical assistance workshops for potential applicants to provide guidance on completing the grant application. One workshop will be held in the eastern part of the country; the other will be held in the western part of the country. Letters from CMHS will be mailed to all 550 federally recognized tribes and urban Indian organizations to inform them of the meeting(s). For more information, potential applicants may contact: Kathy McGregor, Project Coordinator, National Indian Child Welfare Association, 3611 SW Hood Street, Suite 201, Portland, OR 97201, (503–222–4044).

### 4.2 Cooperative Agreements

A major activity for a SAMHSA cooperative agreement program is discussed below. Substantive Federal programmatic involvement is required in cooperative agreement programs. Federal involvement will include planning, guidance, coordination, and participating in programmatic activities (e.g., participation in publication of findings and on steering committees). Periodic meetings, conferences and/or communications with the award recipients may be held to review mutually agreed-upon goals and objectives and to assess progress. Additional details on the degree of Federal programmatic involvement will be included in the application guidance materials.

#### 4.2.1 Cooperative Agreements to Evaluate Consumer-Operated Human Service Programs for Persons With Serious Mental Illness (Consumer-Operated Service Program)

- Application Deadline: April 9, 1998.
- Purpose: This Guidance for Applicants (GFA) solicits applications for two types of cooperative agreements—Study Sites and a Coordinating Center. The purpose of this Program is to assess the extent to which consumer-operated services are effective in improving rehabilitation and recovery of individuals with serious mental illness. It also seeks to determine to what extent participation in such services affect costs.

Specific questions to be addressed are:

1. To what extent does participation in a consumer-operated service program affect selected consumer outcomes for consumers who use traditional service programs?

The selected outcomes are empowerment, housing, employment

(such as transition from unemployment to employment), social inclusion, and satisfaction with services. This core question is to be addressed in both the individual Study Site evaluation and the multi-site evaluation to be coordinated by the Coordinating Center.

2. To what extent does participation in a consumer-operated service program affect costs for the following: inpatient hospitalization, crisis intervention, and emergency room utilization as well as offsetting costs in housing, criminal justice, vocational rehabilitation, physical health care, and income support?

Examination of patterns of service use of retrospective or prospective "claims" data on service utilization will be coordinated by the Coordinating Center.

While individual Study Sites will provide the necessary information for the cost-study, the Coordinating Center will be responsible for developing a design and method for collecting and analyzing all information for the cost-study.

A goal of the Program is to create strong and productive partnerships among consumers, service providers and services researchers that demonstrate to the field that these groups are capable of complementing each other's strengths and that their joint efforts will yield the most effective service delivery models possible.

Another goal is to disseminate the knowledge gained about the effectiveness of these projects and the specific components that contributed to their success.

- Priorities: None.
- Eligible Applicants: Applications to be a Study Site or a Coordinating Center may be submitted by public organizations, such as units of State or local governments and by domestic private nonprofit and for-profit organizations such as community-based organizations, universities, colleges, and hospitals, and family and/or consumer operated organizations. Since CMHS seeks to study established consumer-operated and traditional programs, both program entities must have been operational for a minimum of 2 years at the time of the submission of the study site application. Applicants may apply to be a Study Site or a Coordinating Center, but not both.

- Cooperative Agreements/Amounts: It is estimated that approximately \$5 million will be available to support approximately eight (8) Study Site awards and one (1) Coordinating Center under this GFA in FY 1998. The average award to support each Study Site is expected to range from \$400,000 to \$600,000 in total costs (direct+indirect)

per year. The award to support the Coordinating Center is expected to be in the range of \$700,000 to \$900,000 in total costs (direct+indirect) per year. Actual funding levels will depend upon the availability of appropriated funds.

- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.230.

- Program Contact: For programmatic or technical assistance contact: William R. McKinnon, Ph.D., Community Support Programs Branch, Division of Knowledge Development and Systems Change, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 11C-22, Rockville, MD 20857, (301) 443-3655, or Paolo del Vecchio, Office of External Liaison, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 13C-103, Rockville, MD 20857, (301) 443-2619.

- Grants Management Contact: For business management assistance, contact: Stephen J. Hudak, Grants Management Specialist, Division of Grants Management, OPS, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 15C-05, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 443-4456.

- Application Kits: Application kits are available from: National Mental Health Services, Knowledge Exchange Network (KEN), P.O. Box 42490, Washington, DC 20015, Voice: (800) 789-2647, TTY: (301) 443-9006, FAX: (301) 984-8796.

### 5. Public Health System Reporting Requirements

The Public Health System Impact Statement (PHSIS) is intended to keep State and local health officials apprised of proposed health services grant and cooperative agreement applications submitted by community-based nongovernmental organizations within their jurisdictions.

Community-based nongovernmental service providers who are not transmitting their applications through the State must submit a PHSIS to the head(s) of the appropriate State and local health agencies in the area(s) to be affected not later than the pertinent receipt date for applications. This PHSIS consists of the following information:

- a. A copy of the face page of the application (Standard form 424).
- b. A summary of the project (PHSIS), not to exceed one page, which provides:
  - (1) A description of the population to be served.
  - (2) A summary of the services to be provided.

(3) A description of the coordination planned with the appropriate State or local health agencies.

State and local governments and Indian Tribal Authority applicants are not subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements.

Application guidance materials will specify if a particular FY 1998 activity described above is/is not subject to the Public Health System Reporting Requirements.

### 6. PHS Non-use of Tobacco Policy Statement

The PHS strongly encourages all grant and contract recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the non-use of all tobacco products. In addition, Public Law 103-227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities (or in some cases, any portion of a facility) in which regular or routine education, library, day care, health care, or early childhood development services are provided to children. This is consistent with the PHS mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

### 7. Executive Order 12372

Applications submitted in response to all FY 1998 activities listed above are subject to the intergovernmental review requirements of Executive Order 12372, as implemented through DHHS regulations at 45 CFR Part 100. E.O. 12372 sets up a system for State and local government review of applications for Federal financial assistance. Applicants (other than Federally recognized Indian tribal governments) should contact the State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) as early as possible to alert them to the prospective application(s) and to receive any necessary instructions on the State's review process. For proposed projects serving more than one State, the applicant is advised to contact the SPOC of each affected State. A current listing of SPOCs is included in the application guidance materials. The SPOC should send any State review process recommendations directly to: Office of Extramural Activities Review, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 17-89, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

The due date for State review process recommendations is no later than 60 days after the specified deadline date for the receipt of applications. SAMHSA does not guarantee to accommodate or explain SPOC comments that are received after the 60-day cut-off.

Dated: January 11, 1998.

**Richard Kopanda,**

*Executive Officer, SAMHSA.*

[FR Doc. 98-1217 Filed 1-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4162-20-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Notice of Intent to Prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intends to gather information necessary to prepare Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) and associated environmental documents for the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Complex in southeastern North Dakota and the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge Complex in northeastern South Dakota. The Service is furnishing this notice in compliance with Service CCP policy to advise other agencies and the public of its intentions and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to be considered in the planning process.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received by February 19, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and requests for more information to Allison Banks, Planning Team Leader, Division of Realty, P.O. Box 25486, Denver, CO 80225.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Allison Banks, Planning Team Leader, Division of Realty, P.O. Box 25486, Denver, CO 80225.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Service has initiated Comprehensive Conservation Planning for the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Complex and the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The Tewaukon Complex includes the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge and the Tewaukon Wetland Management District (WMD). The Waubay Complex includes the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge and the Waubay Wetland Management District. Each National Wildlife Refuge has specific purposes for which it was established and for which legislation was enacted. Those purposes are used to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives within the National Wildlife Refuge System mission, and to guide which public uses occur on the refuge. The planning process is a way for the Service and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the

best possible conservation efforts of this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with each national wildlife refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge (approximately 8,500 acres) was established as " \* \* a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife \* \* \*" and " \* \* \* for use as an inviolate sanctuary or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds" (Migratory Bird Conservation Act), by Executive Order 6910, on November 26, 1934. The Tewaukon WMD consists of fee Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA's) (approximately 14,000 acres), and wetland easements (approximately 33,000 acres). The Complex is located in Richland, Ransom, and Sargent counties of North Dakota. The Tewaukon Complex also administers three easement refuges: Lake Elsie, Storm Lake, and Wild Rice. The WPA's are all open to hunting, fishing, and trapping in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations.

The Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Complex lies within the prairie pothole and tallgrass/mixed grass prairie ecosystem in southeastern North Dakota. High densities of a variety of shallow, productive wetlands surrounded by grasslands produce high quality migration and nesting habitat for migratory birds. Tewaukon is a mixing point for migrating birds of both the Central and Mississippi Flyways. The name "Tewaukon" is derived from an ancient tribal name Te Wauk Kon, roughly translated as Son of Heaven. The main water source for Tewaukon, the Wild Rice River, is a tributary of the Red River which flows through Fargo, North Dakota. A portion of the refuge fee title land, several WPA's, and wetland easements are located within the Sisseton-Wahpeton Indian Reservation boundary.

Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, located northeastern South Dakota, was established as " \* \* a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife: \* \* \*." by Executive Order 7245, dated December 10, 1935. The word "Waubary" is of Sioux Indian original meaning "a nesting place for birds." The refuge covers 4,740 acres of grasslands, wetlands, native forests, and croplands. Present public use includes wildlife viewing, environmental education, deer hunting, ice fishing, hiking, and picnicking.

The Waubay WMD manages 40,000 acres of fee WPA's, 100,000 acres of

waterfowl management rights easements and 125,000 waterfowl habitat protection easements in Clark, Codington, Day, Grant, Roberts, and Marshall counties of northeastern South Dakota.

Three distinct physiographic regions dominate the Waubay WMD, each with unique habitat properties. The *Coteau des Prairies*, a series of north to south parallel terminal moraines rising 800 feet or more in elevation above adjacent lowlands, covers nearly 80 percent of the WMD. Numerous glacial lakes and smaller wetland basins dot the Coteau. To the east and west of the Coteau lies the Minnesota River and James River Lowlands, respectively. These lowland areas contain flat, fertile, agricultural land that is more intensively cropped than the hilly Coteau grassland region. All WPA's are open to hunting, fishing, and trapping in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations.

The Service will conduct a comprehensive conservation planning process that will provide opportunity for Tribal, State and local governments, agencies, organizations, and the public to participate in issue scoping and public comment. The Service is requesting input for issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of the Tewaukon and Waubay Complexes. Anyone interested in providing input is invited to respond to the following three questions.

- (1) What makes the Tewaukon/Waubay Complexes (or any specific unit) special or unique for you?
- (2) What problems or issues do you want to see addressed in the Comprehensive Conservation Plans?
- (3) What improvements would you recommend for the Tewaukon/Waubay Complexes (or any specific unit)?

The Service has provided the above questions for your optional use. There is no requirement to provide information to the Service. The Planning Team developed these questions to facilitate finding out more information about individual issues and ideas concerning the Tewaukon/Waubay Complexes. Comments received by the Planning Team will be used as part of the planning process, individual comments will not be referenced in our reports or directly respond to.

There will also be an opportunity to provide input at open houses to be scheduled for February and/or March 1998 to scope issues and concerns (schedule can be obtained from the Planning Team Leader at the above address). All information provided voluntarily by mail, phone, or at public meetings becomes part of the official public record (e.g., names, addresses,