

the Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office, currently located in Amherst, New York, in this new building. The 10,609 square-foot building would house a sales outlet for the Friends of Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, an exhibit hall, multi-purpose room, conference room, and office space to accommodate Service Refuge and Fisheries programs staff and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation staff.

We would also continue our biological monitoring and inventory program, but regularly evaluate the results to help us better understand the implications of our management actions and identify ways to improve their effectiveness.

#### *Alternative C (Natural Systems)*

Refuge management under Alternative C would focus on restoration of natural ecosystem processes and functions. Habitat management would target a more natural state and emphasize restoration of native habitats. Refuge impoundments would no longer be actively managed, resulting in a 329-acre decrease in open water and emergent marsh habitat. Only the two largest grassland units would be managed, leading to a 50 percent reduction in the amount of grassland habitat. We would also discontinue active management of shrubland habitat, with only some native shrub swamp habitat remaining. Under this alternative, forest cover would increase by 1,548 acres through the natural succession of refuge grasslands, shrublands, open water, and emergent marsh habitat. Similar to Alternative B, non-native conifer plantations would be replaced with native tree species.

We propose to limit public access to designated areas of the refuge year-round, allowing wildlife observation, hiking, and walking on established refuge nature trails. Also, we propose to co-locate the Lower Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office currently located in Amherst, New York, with a new visitor contact station and administration building at Iroquois NWR.

#### **Public Meetings**

We will give the public opportunities to provide input at an open house and public meeting at the refuge headquarters in Alabama, New York. You can obtain the schedule from the project leader or natural resource planner (see **ADDRESSES** or **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** above). You may also submit comments at any time during the planning process by any means shown in the **ADDRESSES** section.

#### **Public Availability of Comments**

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: September 9, 2010.

**James G. Geiger,**

*Acting Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hadley, MA 01035.*

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### **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

#### **National Park Service**

#### **Jackson Hole Airport Agreement Extension, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Jackson Hole Airport Agreement Extension, Grand Teton National Park.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service announces the availability of a Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Jackson Hole Airport Agreement Extension, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. This effort addresses a request from the Jackson Hole Airport Board to amend the agreement between the Department of the Interior and the Airport Board in order to ensure that the airport remains eligible for funding through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The proposal would allow the agreement to be amended to provide two additional 10-year options that could be exercised by the Board, the first in 2013 and the second in 2023. By exercising these options, the Board would ensure that the airport remains eligible for Airport Improvement Program grants from the FAA, upon which commercial airports are dependent. These grants provide funds for projects such as maintenance of the runway and taxiways, purchase of capital equipment such as snowplows and fire engines, and other projects necessary for the airport to retain its certification as a commercial airport. Without such funds, the airport would

at some point be unable to retain its certification and all commercial air service would be terminated.

Alternatives considered in the EIS include *Alternative 1: No Action*—The airport would continue operations under the existing Agreement which currently has an expiration date of April 27, 2033; and *Alternative 2: Extend Agreement*—This alternative would amend the text of the 1983 Agreement to provide the Jackson Hole Airport Board with options for two additional 10-year terms. The proposed amendment would also add language to the Agreement strengthening the requirements of the Airport Board to work in good faith to further reduce and mitigate the impacts of the airport on the park to the lowest practicable level, consistent with the safe and efficient operation of the airport and within applicable laws and regulations. In addition, the Agreement would require the Airport Board to prepare a biennial report of its operations and accomplishments, including efforts to mitigate its impacts, and to periodically review the terms of the Agreement with the NPS at least every five years. Alternative 2 is the Preferred Alternative.

**DATES:** The National Park Service will execute a Record of Decision (ROD) no sooner than 30 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

**ADDRESSES:** Information will be available for public inspection online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/GRTE>, in the office of the Superintendent, Mary Gibson Scott, Grand Teton National Park, P.O. Drawer 170, Moose, Wyoming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Pollock, Grand Teton National Park, P.O. Drawer 170, Moose, Wyoming, 307-739-3410, [gary\\_pollock@nps.gov](mailto:gary_pollock@nps.gov).

Dated: September 17, 2010.

**John Wessels,**

*Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.*

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