

Summary of Draft Wildlife Area Management Plan Revisions

Substantial changes were made to the June 2009 Draft SIWA management plan which necessitates an additional informational briefing to the Commission and another public review period. Extensive revisions were made to the Draft to address comments and suggestions received from the public, key stakeholders and Wildlife Division and regional staff input.

Numerous corrections were made throughout the Draft document, based on comments from both the public and internal reviewers.

The entire ‘Purpose and Need of Sauvie Island Wildlife Area’ section of the Draft plan was rewritten, to improve readability and clarify SIWA’s primary management foci.

The ‘Background’ section was also rewritten, again to improve readability and provide more detail.

Draft Goals and Objectives

Although none of the four goals were changed from the Draft plan, several of the objectives were. These are described below.

(Inserted text is **bold** and underscored, deletions are [bracketed] and ~~struckthrough~~.)

Goal 1: To protect, enhance and manage wetland habitats to benefit fish and wildlife species.

Sturgeon Lake

Objective 1.1: Conduct research on methods **and then implement these methods** to improve the biological and hydrological function of the 3,000 acre Sturgeon Lake system.

Inside the levees

Objective 1.2: Protect, enhance and manage approximately 286 acres of palustrine seasonally flooded wetlands and convert approximately 200 acres of existing **poorly drained** agricultural land into **a total of 486 acres of** this wetland type to benefit **a wide variety of fish** and **wildlife** species.

Outside the levees

Objective 1.3: Protect and enhance approximately 2,922 acres of lacustrine seasonally flooded wetlands **to benefit a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.**

Objective 1.4: Protect and manage 285 acres of lacustrine permanently flooded wetlands **to benefit a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.**

Objective 1.5: Protect, enhance and manage approximately 795 acres of palustrine permanently flooded wetlands to benefit a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.

Objective 1.6: Enhance and manage 62 acres of palustrine semi-permanently flooded and 52 acres of palustrine seasonally flooded wetland habitats to benefit a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.

Objective 1.7: Protect and enhance approximately 161 acres of riverine wetlands to benefit a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.

Objective 1.8: Maintain and improve critical physical and functional infrastructure affecting wetland and water management activities within and outside the levees.

Goal 2: To protect, enhance and manage upland habitats to benefit a wide variety of wildlife species.

Objective 2.1: Enhance habitat carrying capacity for wintering Canada geese by reviewing current habitat management practices on 2,230 [1,800] acres of pasture and 1,316 acres of agricultural cropland.

Objective 2.2: Maintain and improve the quality of 193 acres of existing Willamette Valley oak woodlands [~~and oak savannah~~].

Objective 2.3: Maintain 2,857 [3,287] acres of riparian/bottomland hardwood forest and improve the quality of these habitats.

Objective 2.4: Protect, enhance and manage [~~Restore~~] approximately 2,230 [50] acres of pasture/grassland habitat to benefit wildlife species, with emphasis on ground nesting songbirds [~~native grassland, an OCS priority~~].

Objective 2.5: Maintain and enhance SIWA facilities, structures, and equipment used to conduct habitat management, public use projects and other administrative functions.

Goal 3: To maintain waterfowl hunting programs and to provide a variety of other fish and wildlife oriented recreational and educational opportunities to the public that are compatible with Goals 1 and 2.

Objective 3.1: Provide approximately 165,000 hunting, trapping, and angling use days annually.

Objective 3.2: [~~Maintain the existing level of 300 permits~~] Provide opportunities for individual dog training and [~~50 days of permitted~~] dog field trials [~~annually and assure that these activities do~~] which will not conflict with wildlife habitat management objectives or Objective 3.1.

Objective 3.3: Provide 100,000 wildlife viewing, wildlife-oriented education and interpretation use days annually, compatible with Objective 3.1 and habitat management objectives.

Goal 4: To control other public uses to minimize impacts on fish and wildlife, their habitats, and fish and wildlife related recreation and to maintain the security of the wildlife area and reduce disturbance to neighboring private lands.

Objective 4.1: Manage non-wildlife oriented public use to minimize disturbance to wildlife species on SIWA.

Objective 4.2: Review [~~Initiate a review of~~] the SIWA Parking Permit program to determine its effectiveness in providing appropriate levels of funding for maintenance, law enforcement and administration.

Objective 4.3: Continue implementation of the 1993 SIWA Beach Use Plan.

More detail was added to the 'Habitat Types' section, per both internal staff review and public comment. More detail was added to the Oak Woodland, Pasture/Grassland, Freshwater Aquatic and Beach habitat descriptions.

Within the Biological Resources section, the Shorebirds/Waterbirds description was expanded and Raptors, Songbirds and Plants were added.

More detail was added to the 'Species of Conservation Concern' section.

Per suggestions from internal reviewers, the 'Monitoring' section was greatly expanded and a Habitat monitoring paragraph was added.

The 'Public Use' section was revised to more accurately describe current hunting, birding and wildlife viewing activities and more examples were given of how the department will be enhancing these activities.

In the 'Objectives and Strategies' section, the rationales behind many of the objectives were revised, to give more detail and background information. Additional strategies have been provided, per both public review and internal review, to more explicitly describe on the ground management activities.