

## PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT BURDEN STATEMENT

In accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501), please note the following information. This information collection is authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act of 1997. The Fish and Wildlife Service will use this information to make management and policy decisions. Your response is voluntary. We will aggregate the information and use only for statistical purposes. We do not maintain personal identifying information. OMB has assigned OMB Control No. 1018-XXXX, which expires XX/XX/XXXX. Response is not required unless a currently valid OMB control number is displayed. We estimate that it will take 20 minutes to complete this survey. You may direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the form to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington D.C. 20240.

# NWRS Indian Tribe and State Agency Partner Survey

## Introduction & Organizational Data

This survey is being conducted as part of an evaluation of the effectiveness of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS). The evaluation is being conducted by Management Systems International under contract to the NWRS.

All responses will be anonymous as the survey does not ask for the respondent's name or any information that could identify an individual/organization. The answers you provide in this survey will be used, in combination with other information, to assess the effectiveness of various components of the NWRS. This information will also serve as a basis for developing recommendations to strengthen the Refuge System's performance.

This survey has been designed to be completed by officials of State Fish and Game Agencies and Indian Tribes who interact with the Refuge System.

The survey will collect information on two general topic areas:

- 1) The quality of your organization's partnership with the NWRS, and
- 2) Your view as to the NWRS' effectiveness in achieving its objectives.

This survey should take approximately 20 minutes or less to complete.

If you have any questions before you begin, please contact Dennis Marotta at [dmarotta@msi-inc.com](mailto:dmarotta@msi-inc.com). Thank you very much.

- \* 1. Please indicate the organization you represent? (Note - questions that contain an asterisk (\*) require an answer to be provided before you can proceed to the next question.)

State Fish and Wildlife Agency

Native American Tribe

- \* 2. Indicate in which US Fish and Wildlife Service region your agency operates?

Region 1 - Pacific (GU, HI, ID, OR, WA)

Region 2 - Southwest (AZ, NM, OK, TX)

Region 3 - Midwest (IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI)

Region 4 - Southeast (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, PR, SC, TN, VI)

Region 5 - Northeast (CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NJ, NH, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV)

Region 6 - Mountain-Prairie (CO, KS, MT, NE, ND, SD, UT, WY)

Region 7 - Alaska

Region 8 - California & Nevada (CA, NV)

Region 9 - Washington, DC

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## Quality of Partnership

3. Please summarize the overall quality of the working relationship between your state/tribal agency and the National Wildlife Refuge System?

	1-Poor	2-Fair	3-Good	4-Very Good	5-Excellent	N/A
Regional/Washington Office	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Individual Refuges	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

You may use this space to provide a brief explanation for your response.

4. Please review the following list of specific areas of partnership. For those areas in which you have an active partnership with the Refuge System, provide a rating of the quality of the partnership. If you do not actively partner in a given area then you may select "N/A - We do not partner in this area."

	1 - Poor	2 - Fair	3 - Good	4 - Very Good	5 - Excellent	N/A - We do not partner in this area
Hunting	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Fishing	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Environmental Education and Interpretation	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Habitat Restoration (incl. invasive species management)	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Wildlife Inventory & Monitoring	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Fire Management	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Law Enforcement	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

You may use this space to comment on aspects of particular program partnerships.

5. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	1 - Strongly Disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Agree	4 - Strongly Agree	N/A
Refuge Acquisition. "The National Wildlife Refuge System is a valuable partner with our state/tribe in the acquisition of priority lands for fish and wildlife conservation."	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
"The in-lieu tax support provided for existing and new National Wildlife Refuge land provides fair compensation to my State."	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

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You may use this space to provide a brief explanation for your response.

6. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	1 - Strongly Disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Agree	4 - Strongly Agree	N/A
"Appropriate members of my organization have been provided an opportunity to meaningfully participate in the development of National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plans in my state/area."	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
"My organization's participation in the Refuge System's Comprehensive Conservation Planning Process has improved communication and coordination between our agencies (state fish and game agency/tribe and the NWRS)."	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

You may use this space to provide a brief explanation for your response.

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## NWRS Program Effectiveness

7. For each program area listed below indicate which response best captures your judgment as to the Refuge System's effectiveness. Answer only for those areas in which you have substantial knowledge of the Refuge System's program activities.

	1-Ineffective	2-Somewhat Ineffective	3-Moderately Effective	4-Very Effective	5-Extremely Effective	Don't Know
Hunting	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Fishing	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Environmental Education and Interpretation	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Habitat Restoration (incl. invasive species management)	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Wildlife Inventory and Monitoring	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Fire Management	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Law Enforcement	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

You may use this space to provide a brief explanation for your response.

## Natural Resource Management

8. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement.

	1- Strongly Disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Agree	4 - Strongly Agree	N/A
Biological Importance. The Refuge System is an important partner to the state/tribe in helping to achieve our wildlife management and conservation goals.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

9. How would you rate the performance of the National Wildlife Refuges in your state/tribal area in achieving the following objective?

	1 - Poor	2 - Fair	3 - Good	4 - Very Good	5 - Excellent	Don't Know
Conserve, Manage, and Where Appropriate, Restore Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Resources and Their Habitats to Fulfill Refuge Purposes, Trust Resource Responsibilities, and Biological Diversity/Integrity.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn
Provide quality wildlife-dependent recreation and education opportunities – opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent recreation include wildlife observation, hunting, fishing, nature photography, interpretation and environmental education.	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn	jn

## Conclusion

Thank you for providing information regarding your agency's partnership with the National Wildlife Refuge System. We appreciate you taking the time to share your experiences with us. If you have any final comments you may write them below.

10. Provide suggestions or comments relating to the relationship between your agency and the National Wildlife Refuge System.