APPENDIX A.—FISCAL YEAR 2007 FUNDING AWARDS FOR THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM—Continued

Organization	Address/City/State/Zip Code	Amount
Pierce County Housing Authority—FSS/Homeownership	P.O. Box 45410, 603 South Polk Street, Tacoma, WA 98448-0410.	128,532
Housing Authority of the City of Tacoma	902 South L Street, Tacoma, WA 98405	64,266
Housing Authority of Snohomish County	12625 4th Avenue West, Suite 200, Everett, WA 98204	19,127
Housing Authority of the City of Everett	P.O. Box 1547, 3107 Colby Avenue, Everett, WA 98201	137,160
Housing Authority of Thurston County	503 West 4th Avenue, Olympia, WA 98501	128,532
Housing Authority City of Kelso	1415 South 10th, Kelso, WA 98626	22,844
Brown County Housing Authority	100 North Jefferson Street, Green Bay, WI 54301	128,214
Superior Housing Authority	1219 North Eighth Street, Superior, WI 54880	50,615
Dunn County Housing Authority	1421 Stout Road, Menomonie, WI 54751	36,295
City of Kenosha Housing Authority	625 52nd Street, Room 98, Kenosha, WI 53140	65,000
Oconto County Housing Authority	120 Main Street, Oconto, WI 54153	54,075
Appleton Housing Authority	925 West Northland Avenue, Appleton, WI 54914-1422	38,350
Housing Authority of Racine County	837 Main Street, Racine, WI 53403	64,244
Beloit Community Development Authority	220 Portland Avenue, Beloit, WI 53511	64,266
Community Development Authority	601 South Cedar, Marshfield, WI 54449-4267	20,000
The Huntington West Virginia Housing Authority	300 Seventh Avenue, West, Huntington, WV 25701	36,233
Greenbriar Housing Authority	Route 2, Box 142, Lewisburg, WV 24901	59,192
Clarksburg Housing Authority	433 Baltimore Avenue, Clarksburg, WV 26301	33,027
Harrison County Housing Authority	433 Baltimore Avenue, Clarksburg, WV 26301	33,012
Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority	911 Michael Avenue, Charleston, WV 25312	34,381
The Housing Authority of the City of Fairmont	P.O. Box 2738, 103 12th Street, Fairmont, WV 26555–2738	54,089
Benwood Housing Authority	2200 Marshall Street, Benwood, WV 26031	36,208
Housing Authority of Mingo County	P.O. Box 120, 5026 Helena Avenue, Delbarton, WV 25670	31,820
Parkersburg Housing Authority	1901 Cameron Avenue, Parkersburg, WV 26101	40,951

[FR Doc. E8–3638 Filed 2–25–08; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5100-FA-16]

Announcement of Funding Awards for the Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency Program for Fiscal Year 2007

AGENCY: Office of Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Announcement of Funding Awards.

SUMMARY: Purpose of the Program. In accordance with Section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989, this announcement notifies the public of funding decisions made by the Department for funding under the FY 2007 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Public Housing (PH) Family Self-Sufficiency Program funding for Fiscal Year 2007. This announcement contains the consolidated names and addresses of those award recipients selected for

funding based on the rating and ranking of all applications and the allocation of funding available for each State.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning the FY 2007 Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency awards, contact the Office of Public and Indian Housing's Grant Management Center, Director, Iredia Hutchinson, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC, telephone (202) 358-0273. For the hearing or speech impaired, these numbers may be accessed via TTY (text telephone) by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1 (800) 877-8339. (Other than the "800" TTY number, these telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The authority for the \$12,000,000 in one-year budget authority for ROSS PIH FSS program coordinators is found in the Departments of Veteran Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, FY2007 (Pub. L. 109). The allocation of housing assistance budget authority is pursuant to the provisions of 24 CFR part 791, subpart D, implementing section 213(d) of the

Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

This program is intended to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance with public and private resources to enable participating families to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency. A Public and Indian Housing FSS Program Coordinator assures that program participants are linked to the supportive services they need to achieve self-sufficiency.

The Fiscal Year 2006 awards announced in this Notice were selected for funding in a competition announced in **Federal Register** NOFA published on March 13, 2007. In accordance with Section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (103 Stat. 1987, 42 U.S.C. 3545), the Department is publishing the names, addresses, and amounts of the 203 awards made under the Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency competition.

Dated: February 7, 2008.

Paula O. Blunt,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Office of Public and Indian Housing.

APPENDIX A.—FISCAL YEAR 2007 FUNDING AWARDS FOR THE PH FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Organization	Address/city/state/zip code	Amount
Jefferson County Housing Authority		\$36,548 52,471 52,652

APPENDIX A.—FISCAL YEAR 2007 FUNDING AWARDS FOR THE PH FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM—Continued

Organization	Address/city/state/zip code	Amount
Prichard Housing Authority	4559 St. Stephens Road, Eight Mile, AL 36613	46,090
The Housing Authority of the City of Huntsville	200 Washington Street, Huntsville, AL 35804-0486	65,500
Tuscaloosa Housing Authority	P.O. Box 2281, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403–2281	38,686
Housing Authority of Lonoke County	P.O. Box 74, 617 North Greenlaw Street, Carlisle, AR 720204	33,990
Housing Authority of the City of North Little Rock	2201 Division, North Little Rock, AR 72114	37,182
Housing Authority of the City of West Memphis	2820 Haririson Street, West Memphis, AR 72301–6099	40,685
City of Phoenix Housing Department	251 West Washington, 4th Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003	65,500
City of Tucson	P.O. Box 27210, 310 North Commerce Park Loop, Tucson, AZ 85726–7210.	26,787
Housing Authority of Maricopa County	2024 North 7th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85006	46,103
Housing Authority of the City of Yuma	420 South Madison Avenue, Yuma, AZ 85364	57,158
Housing Authority City of Fresno	P.O. Box 11985, 1331 Fulton Mall, Fresno, CA 93776–1985	65,500
Housing Authority County of Fresno	P.O. Box 11985, 1331 Fulton Mall, Fresno, CA 93776–1985	65,500
Housing Authority of the City of Madera	205 North G Street, Madera, CA 93637	49,756
Housing Authority of the City of Oakland	1619 Harrison Street, Oakland, CA 94612–3307	64,890
Housing Authority of the City of Oxnard	435 South D Street, Oxnard, CA 93030	65,000
Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura	995 Riverside Street, Ventura, CA 93001–1636	65,500
Housing Authority of the City of San Luis Obispo	487 Leff Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	49,986
Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara Housing Authority of the County of Kern	808 Laguna Street, Santa Babarba, CA 93101	65,000 60,909
Housing Authority of the County of Marin	4020 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903	65,000
Housing Authority of the County of Main	715 East Brier Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408–2841	65,500
Housing Authority of the County of San Joaquin	448 South Center Street, Stockton, CA 95203	165,333
Housing Authority of the County of Santa Cruz	2931 Mission Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060	65,500
Housing Authority of the County of Stanislaus	1701 Robertson Road, Modesto, CA 95351	65,000
San Diego Housing Commission	1122 Broadway, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92101	131,000
Adams County Housing Authority	7190 Colorado Boulevard, Commerce City, CO 80022	65,000
Boulder Housing Partners aba Housing Authority Boulder CO	4800 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80304	63,551
Fort Collins Housing Authority	1715 West Mountain, Fort Collins, CO 80521	65,500
Housing Authority of the City & County of Denver	777 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203	222,600
The Housing Authority of the City of Loveland	375 West 37th Street, Suite 200, Loveland, CO 80538	65,500
Housing Authority City of Stamford	22 Clinton Avenue, Stamford, CT 6904	65,000
Housing Authority of the City of Meriden	22 Church Street, Meriden, CT 6451	53,572
Housing Authority of the City of New Haven	P.O. Box 1912, 360 Orange Street, New Haven, CT 06509–1912	57,181
Housing Authority of the City of Norwalk	P.O. Box 508, 24½ Monroe Street, Norwalk, CT 06856–0508	65,500
Housing Authority of the Town of Greenwich	249 Milbank Avenue, Greenwich, CT 6830	65,500
Hialeah Housing Authority	75 East 6th Street, Hialeah, FL 33010	37,981
Housing Authority of Brevard County	615 Kurek Court, Merritt Island, FL 32953	53,129
Housing Authority of Lakeland	430 Hartsell Avenue, Lakekand, FL 33815	47,664
Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers	4224 Michigan Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33916	54,993 61,859
Housing Authority of the City of Tampa	1300 Broad Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202	43,657
The Housing Authority of the City of Bradenton	1309 6th Street West, Bradenton, FL 34205	45,450
The Housing Authority of the City of Daytona Beach	211 North Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114	41,200
West Palm Beach Housing Authority	1715 Division Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33407	36,794
Carrollton Housing Authority	1 Roop Street, Carrollton, GA 30117	55,892
Housing Authority of the City of Albany, GA	P.O. Box 485, 521 Pine Avenue, Albany, GA 31702	28,219
Macon Housing Authority	2015 Felton Avenue, Macon, GA 31201	59,730
Northwest Georgia Housing Authority	800 North Fifth Avenue, Rome, GA 30162	43,329
State of Hawaii	P.O. Box 17907, Honolulu, HI 96817	65,500
City of Des Moines, Municipal Housing Agency	100 East Euclid, Suite 101, Des Moines, IA 50313–4534	29,978
Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority	3999 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 200, Dubuque, IA 52002	61,083
Nampa Housing Authority	211 19th Avenue, North Nampa, ID 83687	40,177
Chicago Housing Authority	60 East Van Buren Street, Chicago, IL 60605	53,044
Housing Authority of Champaign County	205 West Park Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820	34,491
Housing Authority of Henry County	100 Fairview Junction, Kewanee, IL 61443	44,767
Housing Authority of the City of Rock Island	227 21st Street, Rock Island, IL 61201	65,500
Peoria Housing Authority	100 South Richard Pryor Place, Peoria, IL 61605	48,073
Rockford Housing Authority	223 South Winnebago Street, Rockford, IL 61102	63,112
Springfield Housing Authority	200 North Eleventh Street, Springfield, IL 62703	36,000
Housing Authority of Michigan City	621 East Michigan Boulevard, Michigan, IN 46360	39,000
Housing Authority of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana	P.O. Box 13489, 7315 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46869—3489.	42,600
	P.O. Box 3086, One Dreiser Square, Terre Haute, IN 47803-	59,905
Housing Authority of the City of Terre Haute	0086.	
Housing Authority of the County of Delaware, Indiana	2401 South Haddix Avenue, Muncie, IN 47302-7547	49,764
Housing Authority of the County of Delaware, Indiana Housing Authority, City of Elkhart	2401 South Haddix Avenue, Muncie, IN 47302–7547	37,504
Housing Authority of the County of Delaware, Indiana Housing Authority, City of Elkhart	2401 South Haddix Avenue, Muncie, IN 47302-7547	37,504 60,255
Housing Authority of the County of Delaware, Indiana Housing Authority, City of Elkhart Indianapolis Housing Agency New Albany Housing Authority	2401 South Haddix Avenue, Muncie, IN 47302–7547	37,504 60,255 114,000
Housing Authority of the County of Delaware, Indiana Housing Authority, City of Elkhart Indianapolis Housing Agency New Albany Housing Authority Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority	2401 South Haddix Avenue, Muncie, IN 47302–7547	37,504 60,255 114,000 59,859
Housing Authority of the County of Delaware, Indiana Housing Authority, City of Elkhart Indianapolis Housing Agency New Albany Housing Authority	2401 South Haddix Avenue, Muncie, IN 47302–7547	37,504 60,255 114,000

APPENDIX A.—FISCAL YEAR 2007 FUNDING AWARDS FOR THE PH FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM—Continued

Organization	Address/city/state/zip code	Amount
Housing Authority of Glasgow	P.O. Box 1745, 111 Bunche Avenue, Glasgow, KY 42142–1745	38,29
Louisville Metro Housing Authority	420 South Eighth Street, Louisville, KY 40203	64,74
Housing Authority of New Orleans		65,00
Jefferson Parish Housing Authority		43,26
Shreveport Housing Authority		34,49
Framingham Housing Authority		65,00
Holyoke Housing AuthorityLynn Housing Authority & Neighborhood Development		45,003 48,57
Somerville Housing Authority		65.50
Springfield Housing Authority		60,00
Worcester Housing Authority		65,50
Housing Authority of Baltimore City		65,50
Housing Authority of St. Mary's County, Maryland		52,45
Housing Authority of the City of Frederick	. 209 Madison Street, Frederick, MD 21701	50,00
Housing Authority of the City of Hagerstown	. 35 West Baltimore Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740	95,96
Housing Authority of Washington County		4,31
	21740–2944.	
Housing Opportunities Commission		129,16
Housing Authority of the City of Brewer		48,34
Lewiston Housing Authority	, ,	16,33
Portland Housing Authority		17,53 65,50
		42,88
Muskegon Housing Commission		42,86 47,25
Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Virginia, MN		52,90
Housing Authority of St. Louis Park		20,00
Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority		26,76
Housing Authority of Kansas City, Missouri		48,27
Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, MO		47,95
Housing Authority of the City of St. Charles		39,63
St. Louis Housing Authority	4100 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63108	65,50
Natchez Housing Authority		59,87
The Housing Authority of the City of Meridian		48,81
City of Concord Housing Department	P.O. Box 308, 283 Harold Goodman Circle, Concord, NC 28026–0308.	44,44
City of Hickory Public Housing Authority	P.O. Box 2927, Hickory, NC 28603	45,82
Gastonia Housing Authority	2398.	48,60
Housing Authority of the City of Charlotte		65,00
Housing Authority of the City of Greensboro		58,90
Housing Authority of the City of Greenville, NC		55,24
Housing Authority of the City of High Point	500 East Russell Avenue, High Point, NC 27261	95,83
Housing Authority of the City of Kinston, North Carolina		42,97 53,03
Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem Lexington Housing Authority		53,03
Statesville Housing Authority		94.87
The Housing Authority of the City of Durham		65,00
Housing Authority of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska		47,45
Housing Authority of the City of Omaha		40,94
Kearney Housing Agency		46,75
Keene Housing Authority	831 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431	46,90
Atlantic City Housing Authority		53,13
Housing Authority of the City of Camden		45,76
Millville Housing Authority	P.O. Box 803, 309 Buck Street, Millville, NJ 08332	44,00
City of Albuquerque Housing Services	. 1840 University Boulevard, Southeast, Albuquerque, NM 87106	65,50
Clovis Housing & Redevelopment Agency, Inc		41,20
Santa Fe Civic Housing Authority		52,69
Santa Fe County Housing Authority		51,78
Taos County Housing Authority		47,38
Truth or Consequences Housing Authority		9,85
Housing Authority of the City of Las Vegas		125,88
Housing Authority of the City of Reno		26,59
Housing Authority of the County of Clark, Nevada		50,47
Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority		64,93
Cohoes Housing Authority		14,27
Geneva Housing Authority		61,26 35,50
Municipal Housing Authority of the City of Schenectady		52,34
New Rochelle Municipal Housing Authority		65,50
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Troy Housing Authority	One Eddy's Lane, Troy, NY 12180	56,73

APPENDIX A.—FISCAL YEAR 2007 FUNDING AWARDS FOR THE PH FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM—Continued

Organization	Address/city/state/zip code	Amount
Chillicothe Metropolitan Housing Authority	178 West Fourth Street, Chillicothe, OH 45601	22,692
Lorain Metropolitan Housing Authority	1600 Kansas Avenue, Lorain, OH 44052	43,260
Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority	435 Nebraska Avenue, Toledo, OH 43604	50,434
Morgan Metropolitan Housing Authority	4580 North Street, Route 376 Northwest, McConnelsville, OH 43756.	45,618
Springfield Metropolitan Housing Authority	101 West High Street, Springfield, OH 45502	43,332
Trumbull Metropolitan Housing Authority		45,830
Youngstown Metropolitan Housing Authority	131 West Boardman Street, Youngstown, OH 44503	57,749
Housing Authority of the City of Lawton	609 Southwest F Avenue, Lawton, OK 73501	32,467
Housing Authority of the City of Muskogee	220 North 40th Street, Muskogee, OK 74401	40,000
Housing Authority of the City of Shawnee, OK	P.O. Box 3427, 601 West 7th Street, Shawnee, OK 74802–3427	94,666
Housing Authority of the City of Tulsa	P.O. Box 6369, 415 East Independence, Tulsa, OK 74106–5727	42,749
Housing Authority & Community Services Agency of Lane County.	177 Day Island Road, Eugene, OR 97401	65,500
Housing Authority and Urban Renewal Agency of Polk County	P.O. Box 467, 204 Southwest Walnut Avenue, Dallas, OR 97338	14,534
Housing Authority of Portland	135 Southwest Ash, Portland, OR 97204	196,080
Housing Authority of the City of Salem	360 Church Street, Southeast, Salem, OR 97301	65,500
Umatilla Reservation Housing Authority	51 Umatilla Loop, Pendleton, OR 97801	65,000
Allegheny County Housing Authority	625 Stanwix Street, 12 Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222	64,500
Altoona Housing Authority	2700 Pleasant Valley Boulevard, Altoona, PA 16602	55,023
Housing Authority of Northumberland County	50 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847	50,635
Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh	200 Ross Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219	44,550
Housing Authority of the City of York		42,679
Philadelphia Housing Authority		65,500
Westmoreland County Housing Authority	154 South Greengate Road, Greensburg, PA 15601–6392	39,908
Housing Authority of the City of Providence	100 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02903	65,500
Housing Authority of the City of Columbia, South Carolina	1917 Harden Street, Columbia, SC 29204	46,921
Housing Authority of the City of Spartanburg	201 Caulder Street, Spartanburg, SC 29304	48,667
North Charleston Housing Authority	2170 Ashley Phosphate Road, North Charleston, SC 29406	49,440
The Housing Authority of the City of Greenville, SC	511 Augusta Street, Greenville, SC 29605	40,469
Jackson Housing Authority	125 Preston Street, Jackson, TN 38301	88,794
Kingsport Housing & Redevelopment Authority		56,512
Memphis Housing Authority	700 Adams Avenue, Memphis, TN 38105	65,000
Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency	701 South Sixth Street, Nashville, TN 37206	126,004
Oak Ridge Housing Authority	10 Van Hicks Lane, Oak Ridge, TN 37830	42,506
Town of Crossville Housing Authority	67 Irwin Avenue, Crossville, TN 38555	53,045
Beaumont Housing Authority		28,598
Cameron County Housing Authority		49,093
Housing Authority of the City of Austin		100,102
Housing Authority of the City of Fort Worth		65,500
Housing Authority of The City of Mission		35,000
Housing Authority of the City of San Antonio (SAHA)		272,286
Housing Authority of the City of Waco		49,729
Housing Authority of the County of Hidalgo	1800 North Texas Boulevard, Weslaco, TX 78596	38,192
Houston Housing Authority		50,989
San Marcos Housing Authority The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas (DHA)		38,501
	3939 North Hampton Road, Dallas, TX 75212	53,200
Housing Authority of Salt Lake City	3595 South Main, Salt Lake City, UT 84115	54,590 54,590
		38,292
Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority		30,292 47,448
	135 Jones Crossing, Danville, VA 24541	44,557
Danville Redevelopment & Housing Authority	3700 Pender Drive, Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030	65,500
Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority		131,000
Portsmouth Redevelopment & Housing Authority		50,645
Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority		65,500
Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority	2624 Salem Turnpike, Northwest, Roanoke, VA 24017	104,782
Waynesboro Redevelopment and Housing Authority		40,586
Housing Authority of the City of Bremerton		44,549
Housing Authority of the City of Tacoma		54,600
Seattle Housing Authority	P.O. Box 19028, 120 Sixth Avenue North, Seattle WA 98109—	57,230
•	1028.	
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee		65,500
Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority		43,255
Parkersburg Housing Authority	1901 Cameron Avenue, Parkersburg, WV 26101	36,726
Wheeling Housing Authority	P.O. Box 2089, 11 Community Street, Wheeling, WV 26003	44,000

[FR Doc. E8–3634 Filed 2–25–08; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R5-R-2008-N0012, 50130-1265-0000-S3]

Erie National Wildlife Refuge, Crawford County, PA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), intend to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and an associated National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document for Erie National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). We provide this notice in compliance with our planning policy to advise other agencies, Tribes, and the public of our intentions, and to obtain suggestions and information on the scope of issues to consider. We are also requesting public comments.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by April 30, 2008. We will hold public meetings to begin the CCP planning process; see *Public Meetings* under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. We will announce opportunities for public input in local news media throughout the CCP planning process, and will announce upcoming public meetings in local news media and the refuge Web site.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments or requests for more information by any of the following methods.

Electronic mail: northeastplanning@fws.gov. Include "Erie NWR CCP/EA" in the subject line of the message.

U.S. Postal Service: Erie NWR, 11296 Wood Duck Lane, Guys Mills, PA 16327

In-Person Drop-off, Viewing, or Pickup: Call 814–789–3585 to make an appointment during regular business hours at 11296 Wood Duck Lane, Guys Mills, PA.

Fax: 814–789–2909.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas Roster, Project Leader, at 585–948–5445, or Thomas Bonetti, Planning Team Leader, at 413–253–8307.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we initiate our process for developing a CCP for Erie

NWR in Crawford County, Pennsylvania. We provide this notice in compliance with our planning policy to (1) advise other Federal and State agencies and the public of our intention to conduct detailed planning on this refuge, and (2) obtain suggestions and information on the scope of topics to consider in the environmental document and during development of the CCP.

Background

The CCP Process

The National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Improvement Act) (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), which amended the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year plan for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS), consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlifedependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Improvement Act and NEPA.

We establish each unit of the NWRS for specific purposes. We use these purposes as the bases to develop and prioritize management goals and objectives for the refuge within the NWRS mission, and to determine how the public can use the refuge. The planning process is a way for us and the public to evaluate management goals and objectives for the best possible conservation approach to this important wildlife habitat, while providing for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities that are compatible with the refuge's establishing purposes and the mission of the NWRS.

Our CCP process provides opportunities for Tribal, State, and local governments; agencies; organizations; and the public to participate. At this time, we encourage the public to provide input in the form of issues, concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of Erie NWR.

We will conduct the environmental review of this Environmental

Assessment in accordance with the requirements of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those laws and regulations.

Erie National Wildlife Refuge

Erie NWR was established in 1959 under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act for "* * " use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds (16 U.S.C. 715d)." The 8,800-acre Erie NWR lies 35 miles south of Lake Erie in northwestern Pennsylvania in the glaciated Appalachian Plateau. The refuge is entirely within the French Creek watershed, which is considered an ecologically significant watershed nationally, as well as in Pennsylvania, with globally rare freshwater mussels and fish. Erie NWR is the only national wildlife refuge that hosts the Federal and State endangered clubshell and northern riffleshell freshwater mussels. Twenty-two mussels species, dozens of native fishes, and several rare plants and natural communities are found in the Muddy-Dead Creek drainage in the Seneca Division of the refuge. The Sugar Lake Division, 10 miles south, is more actively managed with a series of freshwater impoundments and natural stream drainages, wetland complexes, and uplands of mature forest, shrublands, and grasslands.

Scoping: Preliminary Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

We have identified preliminary issues, concerns, and opportunities that we may address in the CCP. We have briefly summarized these issues below. During public scoping, we may identify additional issues.

Erie NWR incorporates several management techniques to create desired habitat types and wildlife rich environments. Some of the management techniques to be addressed in the CCP will include prescribed fire, mowing, water level management, invasive species control through herbicide application, removal/management of select artificial nest structures, mechanical manipulation of habitats, and cropland management.

Additionally, public use throughout the refuge will be reevaluated in relation to wildlife dependent recreation and other mission compatible uses. These uses will include waterfowl, big game, small game, and turkey hunting; fishing and fishing access points; trapping area(s) and the permitting process; seasonal access throughout the refuge; deletion, addition, or modification of