

Great Bay

National Wildlife Refuge

Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Judd Gregg (R)
Senator John E. Sununu (R)
Rep. Jeb E. Bradley (R-1st)
Rep. Charles F. Bass (R-2nd)

Contact

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Profile

Established:	1992
Current acres:	1,054
Staff:	2
FY 2002 budget:	\$253,365
2002 volunteer hours:	1,550
2002 visitation:	74,000
Satellite refuges:	
John Hay	164 acres
Wapack	1,672 acres
Conservation easement:	
Karner Blue Butterfly	28 acres

Purpose

Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge was established to encourage the natural diversity of plant, fish and wildlife species within the refuge to provide for their conservation and management; to protect species listed as endangered, threatened or candidate species; to preserve and enhance water quality of aquatic habitat within the refuge; and to fulfill international treaty obligations of the United States relating to fish and wildlife.

Public Use Notes

- Visitor contact station
- Hiking trails
- Deer hunting (November)

Management Activities

- Managing water levels in three impoundments covering 57 acres to provide feeding and resting areas for migrating birds
- Maintaining and expanding grasslands and reducing the encroachment of woody vegetation through a combination of mowing and prescribed burning
- Controlling invasive plant species to protect native species
- Continuing biological monitoring programs and procedures to document baseline information on the wildlife habitat within the refuge

Highlights

Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge is the only coastal refuge in the state.

The refuge maintains six and half miles of undisturbed shoreline along Great Bay estuary.

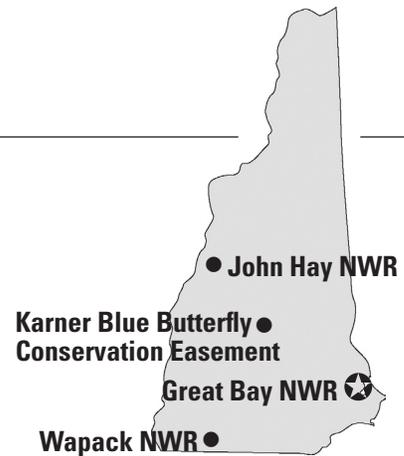
The Great Bay and the refuge serve as wintering habitat for black ducks in New Hampshire.

The Service is a member of Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership that is acting to protect additional lands around the bay and its tributaries.

The refuge has cooperative agreements with two friends groups for the management of John Hay and Wapack National Wildlife Refuges.

Issues

Demolition and removal of former weapons storage area remaining from Pease Air Force Base would create a 65-acre grassland for sensitive grassland species like upland sandpiper and bobolink.



Several landfills created by military may still be releasing contaminants, with unknown effects on local flora and fauna.

The historic Margeson Estate, located in a closed portion of the refuge near wildlife resting and feeding areas, is in need of stabilization for preservation purposes.

The main house and other historic buildings at John Hay NWR have undergone stabilization projects to prevent further damage. All structures require complete restoration.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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