

fishing plan (61 FR 45364, August 29, 1996). It has become a separate unit this year, thus we are including a separate listing that Coldwater National Wildlife Refuge is open to fishing only.

Upon publication of this document, the 2003–2004 hunting and fishing season will result in a net of three national wildlife refuges added to fishing and four national wildlife refuges added to hunting. This will bring our cumulative total of national wildlife refuges open to hunting to 315 and refuges open to fishing to 274.

We incorporate this regulation into 50 CFR part 32. Part 32 contains general provisions and refuge-specific regulations for hunting and sport fishing on national wildlife refuges.

### Regulatory Planning and Review

In accordance with the criteria in Executive Order 12866, the Service asserts that this rule is not a significant regulatory action. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) makes the final determination under Executive Order 12866.

a. This rule will not have an annual economic effect of \$100 million or adversely affect an economic sector, productivity, jobs, the environment, or other units of the government. A cost-benefit and full economic analysis is not required. The purpose of this rule is to add seven refuges to the list of refuges that have hunting and/or fishing activities and to increase the type of activities at three other refuges. The refuges are located in the States of Arkansas, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota,

Mississippi, Nebraska, Oregon, and Virginia. Fishing and hunting are two of the wildlife-dependent uses of national wildlife refuges that Congress recognized as legitimate and appropriate and directed us to facilitate, subject to such restrictions or regulations as may be necessary to ensure their compatibility with the purpose(s) and mission of each refuge. Many of the 542 existing national wildlife refuges already have programs where we allow fishing and hunting. Not all refuges have the necessary resources and landscape that would make fishing and hunting opportunities available to the public. By opening these refuges to new activities, we have determined that we can make quality experiences available to the public. This rule establishes hunting and/or fishing programs at the following refuges: Wapanocca National Wildlife Refuge in Arkansas, Grand Cote National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana, Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge in Minnesota and Iowa, Boyer Chute and North Platte National Wildlife Refuges in Nebraska, DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge in Iowa, Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana, Coldwater National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi, Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon, and Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia. We present impacts in 2002 real dollars.

For this analysis, we do not expect changes to recreational visits at the Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District, Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, or Coldwater National

Wildlife Refuge. All Wetland Management Districts are open to hunting and fishing activities until closed, and this rulemaking reflects that Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District is open to hunting of migratory game birds, upland game, big game, and sport fishing. However, we do not expect any change in visitation rates at this management district because recreationists currently have the option to participate in these activities at Detroit Lakes. We expect no visitation changes at Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. The rule corrects an administrative error, but does not change current activities at the refuge since the refuge has been open to fishing since 1986. Also, we expect no visitation changes at Coldwater National Wildlife Refuge. Coldwater was part of Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuge (also in the State of Mississippi) and covered by its fishing plan. Therefore, we would expect any previous fishing activity in the Coldwater section of Tallahatchie to continue without change.

Following a best-case scenario, if the refuges establishing new fishing and hunting programs were a pure addition to the current supply of such activities, it would mean a consumer surplus of approximately \$200,000 annually and an estimated increase of 1,000 user days of hunting and 2,082 user days of fishing (Table 1). Consequently, this rule will have a small, measurable, beneficial economic impact on the U.S. economy.

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED CHANGES IN CONSUMER SURPLUS FROM ADDITIONAL FISHING AND HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2003  
[In days]

Refuge	Current visitation (FY02)	Additional fishing	Additional hunting	Additional fishing and hunting combined
Wapanocca .....	844	.....	70	70
Grand Cote .....	2,500	.....	1,000	1,000
Northern Tallgrass Prairie .....	.....	.....	300	300
Boyer Chute .....	3,147	.....	175	175
DeSoto .....	14,967	.....	25	25
Big Branch Marsh .....	5,975	.....	500	500
North Platte .....	.....	.....	12	12
Bandon Marsh .....	100	.....	.....	0
Coldwater .....	.....	.....	.....	0
Rappahannock River .....	45	1,000	.....	1,000
Total Days per Year .....	27,578	1,000	2,082	3,082
Consumer Surplus per Day .....	.....	\$62.16	\$66.02	.....
Change in Total Consumer Surplus .....	.....	\$62,160	\$137,454	\$199,614

**Note:** All estimates are stated in 2002 real dollars.