

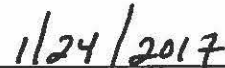
Leaders' Intent for the National Wildlife Refuge System Wilderness Stewardship Program

The NWRS wilderness stewardship program will foster and maintain an adaptive organization to meet our conservation mission by fulfilling our statutory responsibilities to secure an enduring resource within Refuge System Wilderness. We will protect and preserve the wilderness character of the Wilderness Areas of the Refuge System, and will administer their use for the enjoyment of the American people in a way that will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment. We will provide leadership in expanding internal and external awareness, understanding, and support for the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Our priority is to establish the Wilderness Leadership Council of the National Wildlife Refuge System, the purpose of which is to design and oversee implementation of the interagency Wilderness Policy Council's priority action items in a manner that advances the recommendations of the Conserving the Future Planning Implementation Team.



Cynthia, Martinez, Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System



Date