

# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## News Release

### *Eastern Massachusetts National Wildlife Refuge Complex*

Assabet River NWR · Great Meadows NWR · Mashpee NWR · Massasoit NWR · Monomoy NWR ·  
Nantucket NWR · Nomans Land Island NWR · Oxbow NWR

73 Weir Hill Road, Sudbury, MA 01776 978/443-4661 Fax: 978/443-2898

#### **For Immediate Release**

Date: June 9, 2017

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## Public Comments Sought on **Commercial Filming on Nomans Land Island** National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has released a draft compatibility determination that would allow commercial filming on Nomans Land Island National Wildlife Refuge for historical or natural resource purposes. The public is invited to review and comment on the draft compatibility determination. Comments are due by June 26, 2017. The draft compatibility determination can be found at [www.fws.gov/refuge/nomans\\_land\\_island](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/nomans_land_island). Comments can be emailed to Libby Herland, Refuge Manager, at [libby\\_herland@fws.gov](mailto:libby_herland@fws.gov), mailed to 73 Weir Hill Road, Sudbury, MA 01776, or faxed to 978-443-2898.

All public uses on any national wildlife refuge have to be appropriate and compatible. A compatible use of a national wildlife refuge is one that does not materially interfere with or detract from the purpose of the refuge or the national wildlife refuge system. The purpose of the Nomans Land Island is for the management of migratory birds.

Nomans Land Island NWR is closed to the public due to the presence of unexploded ordnance on the island. Refuge staff visit the island regularly to undertake management actions and conduct law enforcement. Commercial filming has never occurred on the refuge, but the Service has received requests to allow this use and believes that there are times when commercial filming would be beneficial to the refuge. Filming would be limited to certain parts of the refuge, would only be allowed when a Special Use Permit has been issued by the refuge manager, and when refuge staff are present. Filming cannot be authorized until the public has been given the opportunity to submit comments, the comments have been considered, and the compatibility determination revised if necessary, and signed by the refuge manager and the regional refuge chief.

The mission of the U.S. Fish & 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. WE are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

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