

**Okefenokee NWR CCP Excerpt**  
**October 2006**

**GOAL 4 – PUBLIC SERVICES**

Provide and enhance fully accessible opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation when compatible to promote public appreciation, understanding, and action on behalf of the Okefenokee Ecosystem while maintaining the wilderness resource of the Okefenokee Wilderness Area.

**Objective 8.** Use concession contracts, permits, and commercial uses within the policies of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Wilderness legislation established for Okefenokee Refuge to assist in meeting the management goals of the refuge.

- Strategy 8.1. Continue to meet regularly with concession supervisors to maintain lines of communication and to clarify policies and issues of interest to each party.
- Strategy 8.2. Investigate the need, feasibility, and impact of concession contracts and facilities at Kingfisher Landing and the Suwannee River Sill area.
- Strategy 8.3. As technology becomes available, negotiate concession contracts requiring conversion to battery-operated motors for guided tour boats, and boat and motor rentals.
- Strategy 8.4. Evaluate the need and feasibility of alternative means of transportation for remote parking areas off refuge and an interpretive tram for tours on refuge.
- Strategy 8.5. Develop specialized training for concession guides concentrating on interpretive messages and environmental education principles relevant to refuge issues and concerns.
- Strategy 8.6. Re-negotiate commercial outfitter guidelines for soliciting, evaluating, awarding, and monitoring overnight and day use of the refuge.
- Strategy 8.7. Re-negotiate Stephen C. Foster State Park's contracts emphasizing compatible recreational activities on the refuge.
- Strategy 8.8. Re-negotiate east side concession contract emphasizing interpretation and environmental education.
- Strategy 8.9. Re-negotiate Okefenokee Swamp Park contract emphasizing interpretation and environmental education.
- Strategy 8.10. Re-evaluate refuge commercial guiding procedures.