**Birding on and near Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge (RWR)**

Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge is located at the terminus of the vast Mississippi Flyway, wintering as many as 160,000 waterfowl. Numerous shorebirds and wading birds migrate through or winter along the shoreline and in the marshes of RWR. During the spring and fall, neotropical migrant passerines use the "upland" areas of the refuge (e.g., vegetated levees) and adjacent chenier habitat as a stopover site on their trans-Gulf journeys to and from Central and South America. A resident flock of Canada geese was established by RWR staff on the refuge in the early 1960s; descendants of this reintroduction program still occur in the southwestern Louisiana marshes. Below are some locations on and adjacent RWR property where visitors are welcome and encouraged to enjoy bird watching in this area. At the end of this document is a list of confirmed bird species for RWR and surrounding areas.

**Price Lake Road**

Price Lake Road, 0.8 miles west of RWR headquarters on LA Hwy. 82 (see map below), is not only an excellent place to crab or fish, but it is also a hotspot for birding. Price Lake Road is a three mile long, shell/limestone road where visitors can have spectacular views of wading birds, waterfowl, shorebirds, and other avian species from the road or from the newly-constructed observation tower. This road is open for public access from March 1 – December 1 between official sunrise and sunset. The Wild Louisiana Stamp (nonconsumptive use stamp) or a valid hunting/fishing license is required for entry and can be purchased at most local convenience stores, as well as at sporting goods stores at locations adjacent to the coast.

**Nunez Woods**

RWR also permits bird watchers to access the Evariste Nunez Estate property and Recreational Birding Area (hereafter Nunez Woods), which is located 1.1 miles west of RWR headquarters on LA Hwy 82 (0.25 miles west of Price Lake Road; see map below). This private property is a quality example of intact chenier habitat with live oaks, hackberries, palmettos, and deciduous hollies. Nunez Woods is a hotspot for neotropical migrants during spring migration, and birders can expect to find a variety of passerine, near passerine, and raptor species while scanning the trees along the cleared historic airstrip. To observe more that Nunez Woods has to offer, the woods also contain two birding trails* that run east to west through most of the chenier habitat. To access Nunez Woods, visitors must stop in at the RWR
headquarters to pick up a key for entrance gate. The headquarters is open Monday-Friday 7am-5:30 pm (except for state declared holidays). Public access is restricted from this property during deer hunting season (September 1 – February 1).

*Note: Depending on the amount of recent rains, these trails may be flooded or muddy; plan your footwear accordingly. Also, biting mosquitoes, horse flies, and deer flies can be numerous depending on the time of year you visit.