

**Please share our concern with your neighbors, friends, family, faith community in S.K. and Narragansett.**

*The more people who [sign the petition](#) and email the US Fish & Wildlife Service at [rhodeislandcomplex@fws.gov](mailto:rhodeislandcomplex@fws.gov), the better our chances for stopping this dangerous project in our towns.*

While we've been under quarantine, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has put forward a plan to open federal lands across the country (which in Southern RI includes the Chafee National Wildlife Refuge and Trustom Pond) to hunting and fishing. Parts of the refuge abut residential properties, schools, and walking paths, including the bike path.

The areas affected, which abut the wildlife refuge include:

Congdon Cove, Foddering Farms, Middle Bridge, Sedge Island, Starr Drive, and Mumford.

An outraged neighbor in Mumford noted that hunting used to be permitted in the area that is now the Chafee Wildlife Refuge but, *"That was before a busy bike path and increased development in the surrounding neighborhoods. To allow hunting in these areas is simply irresponsible and dangerous."*

In Stedman, the concern is even greater, as the proposal includes a 12 car/truck parking lot on the corner of Hillside and Crest (a private road), next to a group home, in the middle of our little neighborhood of 4 dead-end streets which abut the refuge, where the cross country team from Prout run for practice, (after running through the woods from Prout to the neighborhood. Stedman residents are mobilized to stop this move and need as much help as possible.

There is a consortium of activists fighting against this proposal. Carol McEntee has been our strong advocate in this and the town manager of South Kingstown has provided guidance and support. Our federal leaders, Reed, Whitehouse, Langevin and Cicilline, have signed a letter to the department head expressing deep concern and successfully got the public comments period to be extended from the June 1st to **June 8**, so safety issues can be studied and considered. You have time to act!

**We could use your help!**

Please . . .

- a) email your concerns to [rhodeislandcomplex@fws.gov](mailto:rhodeislandcomplex@fws.gov)
- b) [sign the petition](#)