

National Wildlife Refuge Week 2022

October 9-15



BACKGROUND

- National Wildlife Refuge Week, observed the second full week of October each year, celebrates the great network of lands and waters that conserves and protects Americans' precious wildlife heritage. In 2022, National Wildlife Refuge Week occurs October 9-15.
- The 2022 Resolutions designating this week as National Wildlife Refuge Week are [H.Res.1420](#) and [S.Res.814](#).
- The National Wildlife Refuge System is administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and has grown to 568 national wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management districts, with units located in every State and territory of the United States.
- The Refuge System provides vital habitat for thousands of native species, including sandhill cranes, American alligators, bison and sea turtles.
- National Wildlife Refuges are important recreational and tourism destinations in communities across the United States, and offer a variety of recreational opportunities, including hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation.
- Wildlife refuges also enhance coastal resiliency and climate mitigation by buffering coastal communities from storm surges, curbing flood risk and wildfire damage, reducing soil erosion and sedimentation, providing cleaner air and water, and filtering pollutants.
- Wildlife refuges pump \$3.2 billion per year into regional economies and support more than 41,000 jobs.
- [Click here for more background on the Refuge System, the challenges it faces, and how Congress can better support this important resource.](#)

SAMPLE SOCIAL POSTS

Tags:

- *National Wildlife Refuge Association:*
 - @WildRefuge
 - @RefugeAssociation
- *US Fish and Wildlife Service:*
 - @USFWS
 - @USFWSRefuges

Hashtags:

- #RefugeWeek
- #WildlifeRefuge
- #MyLocalRefuge

- It's National Wildlife #RefugeWeek! This week we celebrate the National Wildlife Refuge System, the world's largest system of lands and waters dedicated to wildlife conservation. Find a #WildlifeRefuge near you! <https://bit.ly/3Lb258s>
- *Highlight refuges near you and what makes them special [Find a refuge near you]*

Examples:

- #MyLocalRefuge is the Driftless Area National #WildlifeRefuge. It hosts one of the only known living populations of the endangered Iowa Pleistocene snail, a remnant species from the last Ice Age, providing most of its last remaining habitat.
#RefugeWeek @USFWS @WildRefuge
- #MyLocalRefuge is Ash Meadows Nat'l #WildlifeRefuge. This desert oasis provides habitat for 27 plants & animals found nowhere else in the world, including the world's rarest fish and 1st species to be classified endangered—the Devils Hole Pupfish.
#RefugeWeek @USFWS @WildRefuge

INFOGRAPHICS [[Folder with files](#)]

- *Post the infographics below throughout the week, with tags and hashtags, to celebrate the importance of the Refuge System!*

National Wildlife Refuges are home to over 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 reptile and amphibian species, and over 1,000 species of fish

#RefugeWeek
October 9-15, 2022



The National Wildlife Refuge System is the world's largest network of protected land and waters dedicated to wildlife conservation, encompassing more than 850 million acres

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513 threatened or endangered species, and thousands of other unique species, depend on the National Wildlife Refuge System for protection

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The National Wildlife Refuge System provides families and everyday Americans access to some of the nation's best wildlife watching, photography, hunting, fishing, and more

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Over 65 million people annually visit the nation's 568 National Wildlife Refuges, which are found in every state and territory and within an hour's drive of every major city

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The National Wildlife Refuge System is one of the most biologically rich systems of preserves in the world, encompassing ecosystems like tropical and boreal forests, wetlands, deserts, grasslands, arctic tundras, and remote islands

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The Urban Wildlife Conservation Program connects underserved communities to over 100 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System near cities, helping new generations and historically underrepresented communities access nature and learn about conservation

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The National Wildlife Refuge System includes five Marine National Monuments that protect and conserve some of the last remaining pristine ocean ecosystems

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National Wildlife Refuges protect crucial stopover and nesting habitat for millions of migratory birds every year, creating a virtual highway along migration routes

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National Wildlife Refuges provide Americans with accessible and sustainable hunting and fishing opportunities across the nation

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