



National
Wildlife Refuge
Association

1975-2015 | Celebrating 40 Years of Wildlife Refuge Conservation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 30, 2014

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**Julie Morris Hired as New Conservation Program Manager,
Florida and the Gulf Coast**

The National Wildlife Refuge Association has hired Julie Morris as its new Conservation Program Manager for Florida and the Gulf Coast. Morris will work extensively across programs in Florida and the Gulf Coast to advance on-the-ground conservation through policy, advocacy, and constituency-building work. She will be working closely with Refuge staff, local landowners, local communities, conservation groups, and other public agencies, in an effort to find common interests and leverage multiple programs for maximum conservation impact.

"Julie's expertise in both the ecological and political landscape of Florida and the Gulf Coast make her the perfect choice for this position," said David Houghton, President of the Refuge Association. "We have worked with her for years and she is a huge asset to our organization."

Morris has more than 18 years of experience working in conservation. Most recently, she was a partner and Director of Conservation at Wildlands Conservation, Inc. in Florida. Her areas of expertise include Florida ecosystems, conservation issues, planning and policy, listed species, land acquisition and easement programs, payments for ecosystem services, human dimensions of conservation, and stakeholder outreach.

Morris has worked with federal and state agencies and county governments to develop conservation plans for protected wildlife species, issues entailing conservation design and management, and community education and outreach. Some of her recent projects include: coordinating the Southwest Florida Cooperative Conservation Blueprint Project for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), Co-Project Manager on the Polk County Habitat Conservation Plan, Project Manager on a Pilot Payment for Ecosystem Services Program for FWC, Project Manager on the Peace River Network, assisting FWC with a panther stakeholder analysis, identifying potential conservation lands and protection strategies for multiple state and federal agencies, working with private landowners on acquisition and easement programs, and evaluating potential conservation lands for the Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge.

Morris can be reached at jmorris@refugeassociation.org or 941-234-7201

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The National Wildlife Refuge Association is the only independent nonprofit that promotes and protects the world's largest wildlife conservation network: the National Wildlife Refuge System. www.refugeassociation.org.

