

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK

October 8-14, 2023



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 2023, National Wildlife Refuge Week occurs October 8-14.
- [Click here](#) for background on the National Wildlife Refuge System and its values in conservation, recreation, and community.
- The social media guidance and infographics below are intended to raise awareness about the key values and benefits of the Refuge System, and help you show your support and why refuges are important to you.
- This year is the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act. To help celebrate, the infographics below feature endangered species supported by the Refuge System and amplifies the role wildlife refuges have in recovering these species.

SUPPORT WILDLIFE REFUGES

- [Click here](#) for background on the funding and staffing challenges facing the Refuge System.
- Ask members of Congress to:
 - Cosponsor the Senate and House congressional resolutions designating National Wildlife Refuge Week, sponsored by Senator Chris Coons and Representative Mike Thompson;
 - Join the Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus by contacting Representative Mike Thompson's office (House members only); and
 - Support increased federal funding for the National Wildlife Refuge System so it can effectively fulfill its conservation mission, provide opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation, and connect communities to nature.
 - Highlight endangered species in your message for more funding via this [advocacy action page](#).
- [Visit a nearby refuge](#) or [find a Refuge Week event near you](#), such as [Walk for the Wild](#) which can be participated in locally or virtually.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE

Tags:

- *National Wildlife Refuge Association:*
 - @RefugeAssociation - Instagram, Facebook
 - @WildRefuge - Twitter/X
- *US Fish and Wildlife Service:*
 - @USFWS

Key Hashtag:

- #RefugeWeek

Sample Social Posts:

- 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! <http://bit.ly/46DiwUw> @RefugeAssociation @USFWS
- America's #WildlifeRefuges provide critical habitat for our native wildlife, helping recover threatened and endangered species where they can thrive. During #RefugeWeek we celebrate the National Wildlife Refuge System and all its values! #ESA50 #RefugeAssociation @USFWS

INFOGRAPHICS

- The Refuge Association has developed [17 different infographics](#) highlighting endangered species and the values and benefits of the Refuge System. A couple of examples are included below.
- Please post infographics throughout the week, with the #RefugeWeek hashtag, to raise awareness and celebrate the importance of the Refuge System!

[Link to all infographic files](#)

Example Infographics

