



## South Florida Regional Partnership Specialist

The National Wildlife Refuge Association seeks a full-time Regional Partnership Specialist to work in South Florida in collaboration with Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge's Urban Program.

Since 2014, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Urban Wildlife Conservation Program (UWCP) has invested in communicating the importance of wildlife conservation to urban audiences. As a nonprofit partner to the National Wildlife Refuge System, the National Wildlife Refuge Association works with urban wildlife refuges across the country to assist in community outreach, partnership development, communications, and fundraising efforts that build strong and resilient nature-based programs that serve urban communities beyond refuge borders. The ultimate goal of the Urban Wildlife Conservation Program and the work of refuges like Loxahatchee is to create a connected conservation constituency and cultivate the next generation of conservationists and environmental leaders.



### Description

The primary goal of this position will be to expand the reach and impact of the Loxahatchee NWR Urban Program throughout South Florida. The Regional Partnership Specialist will promote a culture of collaboration aimed at breaking down barriers to engage urban audiences in nature. Major tasks will be to work and communicate with Refuge staff and existing partnerships to grow the reach of these organizations, build new and diverse community-based partnerships, and broaden support for wildlife conservation by providing opportunities to engage and connect diverse constituents with nature and inspire people of all ages to become stewards of the environment and the National Wildlife Refuge System.

### Supervision

This position is jointly managed by NWRA and Refuge staff. The Regional Partnership Specialist will work closely with Refuge staff on day to day tasks and local goals, and will be expected to attend NWRA all-staff meetings and provide progress reports to the Urban Wildlife Refuge Program Director.

## Responsibilities

- Work in close coordination with staff at Loxahatchee NWR to implement program priorities, promote and publicize achievements, identify partnership and fundraising opportunities, and assist in community outreach.
- Build and maintain good working relationships with current program partners, elected officials, media outlets, community-based civic conservation, public health, youth-focused, and environmental justice organizations.
- Identify new funding and partnership opportunities with foundations, corporate partners, individual donors, and government agencies.
- Foster good internal communications with the Refuge, Urban Refuge Coordinator, the Refuge Association's Urban Wildlife Refuge Program Director, and other USFWS urban program regional staff and Refuge leaders in the South Atlantic-Gulf & Mississippi-Basin region.
- Work with the Refuge Association's Urban Wildlife Refuge Program Director to identify experiences and lessons learned that can be shared with other urban refuges and help facilitate knowledge transfer through the Refuge Association's communications and outreach efforts.

## Desired Qualifications

Bachelor's degree in biological or social sciences preferred, and minimum 4-6 years of experience related to community outreach, advocacy, fundraising, or nonprofit administration. Experience working in parks, recreation, or other sectors related to urban nature is ideal for this position.

- Experience and skill working with diverse communities in an urban setting.
- Experience writing grant narratives and reports, and a basic understanding of fundraising principles and best practices.
- Demonstrated experience with resolving differences between entities with diverse backgrounds and competing interests/priorities.
- Proven track record building partnerships, setting and achieving program goals, and monitoring outcomes and impacts.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, experience with public speaking strongly preferred.

- Ability to work independently and as a member of a small cross-sector team in a dynamic and creative environment with the ability to lead, motivate, and inspire others. This is an amazing opportunity for a highly independent nature lover who wants to take the lead and get creative when it comes to outreach and engagement.
- A strong understanding of the diverse constituencies and unique culture of South Florida, and connections to conservation nonprofits is desired. Local candidates will be given preference.
- Must be willing and able to travel extensively around South Florida and possibly beyond, and should be comfortable in the outdoors (both urban and backcountry.)
- Spanish fluency is strongly preferred.
- Valid driver's license, vehicle, and proof of insurance required.

## Location

NWRA employees are currently working remotely, but the Specialist should be located (or willing to relocate) closer to Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR in Boynton Beach, Florida.

## Compensation

Salary range is \$60,000-\$65,000 per year commensurate with experience. The Refuge Association offers a competitive benefits package as well as paid sick leave, paid vacation, and paid holidays. Flexible schedules are permitted with approval by managers.

## To Apply

Please submit a statement of interest, your resume, and contact information for at least three (3) professional references to [nwrajobs@refugeassociation.org](mailto:nwrajobs@refugeassociation.org), with the subject line South Florida Urban Specialist. This position is open until filled.

*The National Wildlife Refuge Association is a non-profit exclusively focused on protecting, promoting, and enhancing the 850-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, the world's largest network of lands and waters set aside for wildlife conservation.*