

CAROLINE BROUWER

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

National Wildlife Refuge Association – Washington, DC_ 2015 – Present
Director of Government Affairs

- Responsible for leading our push to increase appropriations for the NWRS Operations and Maintenance budget.
- Lead staffer for the CARE coalition. We collaborate with 23 NGO's to advocate on behalf of funding for wildlife refuges, on Capitol Hill, and within their own organizations
- Work directly with Friends groups across the country—leading groups up to Capitol Hill, conducting trainings, and offering guidance on advocating for their refuge
- Work closely with USFWS HQ on the Resource Protection Act and Keep America's Refuges Operational, and with Members of the House Wildlife Refuge Caucus on introduction of bills.
- Ran the 2015 and 2017 Wildlife Refuge Expos, which brought several hundred Congressional staff, Members, NGO partners, and USFWS staff together to learn about the Refuge System on Capitol Hill.
- Organized the 2017 NWRA Awards Dinner, with awards presented to the Refuge Manager, Volunteer, Employee, and Friends Group of the Year.
- Work extensively with Interior Department staff at HQ, Regional Offices, and individual refuges. I also maintain close working relationships with staff at other agencies, including NOAA, Bureau of Land Management, Office of Management and Budget, and others.

Ducks Unlimited – Washington, DC 2008 – 2015
Governmental Affairs Representative

- Led DU's team in developing western water and drought policy.
- Washington, DC lead on wetland and climate policy, both on Capitol Hill as part of a larger effort to pass federal legislation and later within agencies.
- Collaborated with a coalition of organizations working on coastal habitat issues and advocated for coastal projects within USFWS and NOAA and for funding for these project on Capitol Hill.
- Worked with Interior Appropriations Committee Members and staff to determine funding levels for federal programs affecting waterfowl and wetland habitat.
- Led DU's efforts within the CARE coalition and presented to groups such as Advanced Refuge Academy.
- Currently in development of legislation in the House to resolve a longstanding U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conflict regarding grants for estuary protection.
- Partnered with conservation NGO's on development of a new strategy for reauthorization and reworking of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

United States Peace Corps – Ukraine 2005 – 2007
Community Economic Development Volunteer

- Developed and managed local community-based projects and wrote grants on the topics of democracy education, HIV/AIDS prevention, and the mechanics of project building.
- Taught English to 10th and 11th graders at a local high school.

- Ran three summer programs for high school and college youth with the goal of developing skills to improve their local communities through project development and implementation.
- Taught classes in Environmental Education, Civics, Project Design and Management, Human Trafficking, and HIV/AIDS Awareness; in English, Ukrainian, and Russian.

Garrett Law Offices – Charleston, SC 2004 – 2005
 Practiced law in a small general practice law firm; handled family law, real estate, and criminal issues

Ninth Circuit Solicitor’s Office – Charleston, SC 2002 – 2004
 Prosecuted one third of the juvenile criminal cases in the office, ranging from attempted murder to school disturbances. Worked with defendants’ families, victim advocates, and law enforcement

EDUCATION

University of South Carolina School of Law – Columbia, SC Graduated 2002
 Juris Doctor

- Focus on Environmental Law, Criminal Law, and oral advocacy
- President, Environmental Law Society

University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee Graduated 1999
 Bachelor of Arts – Anthropology, with a Minor in French

- Completed two French conversational language courses in Hyères, France (June – July 1998)
- Anthropology focus on international conservation and development

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND INTERESTS

- Languages– conversational in French, Russian, and Ukrainian
- Member of the South Carolina Bar, admitted to practice law November 2002
- Member of the District of Columbia Bar, admitted to practice law February 2009
- Traveling in the US and abroad and playing in the great outdoors