

DESIREE SORENSON-GROVES

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Vice President of Government Affairs

National Wildlife Refuge Association (2005-present)

Ms. Sorenson-Groves directs the Association's government affairs activities including: development and execution of legislative and regulatory strategy; advocating policies and programs in Congress and the Executive Branch; analyzing legislation; development of Congressional testimony and communication tools, including position papers, testimony, speeches and articles for trade publications.

Prior to her VP role, she served as NWRAs Director of Grassroots Outreach and was responsible for identifying, educating and mobilizing local conservation constituencies to support national wildlife refuges across the country with the goal of increasing community awareness, volunteer involvement and advocacy on behalf of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Before joining NWRAs, Ms. Sorenson-Groves was the Assistant Director of Grassroots for the National Audubon Society, where she also served as the Audubon representative on the Teaming With Wildlife Steering Committee, promoting the goals and objectives of the Congressionally mandated State Wildlife Action Plans.

A skilled marketer and customer-relations professional, Desiree has experience organizing and promoting not-for-profit programs, including the Challenger Center's Window on the Universe program in Washington, DC, where she initiated and coordinated the campaign bringing NASA scientists into DC public schools. An Iowa native, Desiree was born into politics, participating in everything possible, including four Presidential Caucuses. Desiree earned her B.A. in Geography from George Washington University.