

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 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