

## 2017 Refuge Manager Survey Results on Staffing

(Responses from 104 refuge managers out of 302 surveys delivered – 34% rate of return)

### Staffing at my refuge(s) is adequate to meet the core conservation mission.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
1%	5%	0	39%	55%

### Current staffing levels for my refuge(s) fall below core requirements by –

<i>less than 25%</i>	<i>between 25 and 50%</i>	<i>between 51 and 75%</i>	<i>more than 75%</i>
13%	48%	26%	13%

### Essays submitted by Refuge Managers in response to this question:

#### The next administration could best help the National Wildlife Refuge System by—

*“Addressing the chronic funding shortages that prevent us from adequately staffing our refuges and important support positions in Regional offices; negatively impacts morale; increases the maintenance backlog.”*

*“Return to staffing levels that were present in 2007.”*

*“Providing resources to address our maintenance backlog and better serve the members of the public who value the work we do and the resources we manage. Ensuring we have adequate staffing levels to successfully manage the wildlife and habitats we have been entrusted with.”*

*“Not do an across-the-board federal govt. cut which would devastate our tiny agency.”*

*“Increasing funding for the NWR system so we can hire employees to accomplish our mission & repair, replace and protect our facilities & infrastructure we use to manage habitats for wildlife.”*

*“Re-staff refuges.”*

*“Provide adequate funding to allow for at least minimal staffing at all refuges”*

*“Ensure refuges are staffed to support the needs & mission of the refuges. The loss of staff has impacted all aspects of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The system no longer shines like it did 20-30 years ago.”*