If you travel much in the wilder sections of our country, sooner or later you are likely to meet the sign of the flying goose—the emblem of the national wildlife refuges. Wherever you meet this sign, respect it. It means that the land behind the sign has been dedicated by the American people to preserving, for themselves and their children, as much of our native wildlife as can be retained along with our modern civilization.

—Rachel Carson
From “Conservation in Action”
Follow America’s Byways™ into the heart of remarkable landscapes to see national wildlife refuges (NWR). Catch a firsthand glimpse of soaring bald eagles, herds of bison, and snoozing alligators. Travelers can find a refuge within an hour’s drive of most major cities and along many of America’s Byways. We invite you to visit and have a wild experience.

America’s Byways™ provide opportunities to experience the beauty, history, and natural heritage of our country. The mission and goals of the National Scenic Byways Program are consistent with those of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Byways and Refuge System programs help protect the integrity and diversity of natural areas, as well as benefiting communities economically. The Fish and Wildlife Service supports well-planned, sustainable economic development by providing travelers with opportunities to experience our natural world first-hand.

National wildlife refuges contribute to the intrinsic qualities that qualify a road as one of America’s Byways: a National Scenic Byway or an All-American Road. Local residents and visitors benefit from national wildlife refuges being included in Byway corridor management plans and projects.

The Fish and Wildlife Service seeks to work closely with local community groups on initial byway designations, as well as proposals to elevate byways to National Scenic Byway or All-American Road status. Refuges have resources available to contribute to the preparation of the documents required for State, National, or All-American Road designation.