

# Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge Is Seeking a President for our Board of Directors

The Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge and collaborating with local communities to grow connections with nature. The Friends' mission is *"to promote, protect and provide resources to preserve and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge for the enjoyment of present and future generations."* 

Guided by that mission, the Friends' Board of Directors sets the direction and policies for the organization and oversees Friends' activities.

The Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge is currently seeking a President to join the Board of Directors and lead a dedicated group of Friends in implementing the organization's mission to support Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge.

# Position Description

The President upholds the commitment to our mission of supporting Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge and leads the Friends in honoring this commitment.

The President:

- Meets regularly with the Refuge Manager and serves as the Friends' main communication channel between the refuge and the board;
- Leads long-term strategic planning efforts, delegates tasks/projects to other Board members, and guides other Board members in their specialized responsibilities as needed;
- Conducts Board meetings, creating Board meeting agendas and distributing them at least one week in advance of scheduled Board meetings, and calling special meetings when necessary;
- Acts as a Friends' spokesperson, oversees the Friends' financial affairs (including budget and audits), and oversees all committee chairpersons; and
- Oversees Board development by working with the nominating committee to recruit new Board members, assisting in conducting new Board member orientation, coordinating periodic Board assessments, and consulting with Board members on their roles to help assess their performance.

*Additional Notes*: This is a volunteer position; Board members of the Friends are not compensated. We devote our time out of passion for growing connections with nature and supporting Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. The time commitment is usually 3-5 hours per week. The President serves a one-year term but may be elected for multiple terms.

Requirements: Candidates for President of the Board must:

- Be committed to supporting Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge and putting the good of shared goals above personal interests.
- Have demonstrated leadership ability, including the ability to communicate and implement an organizational vision, communicate effectively, delegate, promote collaboration, and lead a group to organize, plan, and complete projects.
- Be dedicated to building connections with local communities, have prior experience with community engagement, and have the capacity to cultivate relationships with diverse stakeholders.
- Be a full-time resident of the Treasure Valley area.

Previous experience working at the board level and with a non-profit organization is preferred.

### About the Friends

<u>Who We Are</u>: The Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge became a 501(c)(3) in 2006. Our organization supports Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge and its programs in cooperation with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service staff, advocating for the lands under Refuge management and for educational and restoration programs. The Friends support a vision where the Refuge is seen as a community asset and where visitors reflect the true diversity of the Treasure Valley.

<u>Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge website</u> (friendsofdeerflat.org) <u>Deer Flat NWR website</u> (fws.gov/refuge/deer-flat)

# What We Do:

*Community*: Contribute to implementing the <u>Urban Wildlife Conservation Program</u> (https://fws.gov/program/urban-wildlife-conservation) at Deer Flat NWR through fundraising, community engagement, environmental education, promoting a culture of diversity, equity, & inclusion on the Friends' Board of Directors and in all Friends' activities, and other means of support in collaboration with Refuge Staff and community partners.

*Fundraising & Grant Writing*: Actively solicit funds as a 501(c)(3) organization on behalf of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. Funds are used to support the Refuge and the community, such as transportation scholarships to bring local students on-site for field trips, a sagebrush-steppe restoration project, and installation and expansion of a pollinator garden at the refuge visitor center.

*Advocacy*: Advocate as an independent voice and in partnership with the NWRS, CORFA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, local government, and community in support of the Friends of Deer Flat mission.

# How to Apply

Interested persons, please contact:

Rex Hanson Acting President (208) 371-6191 • friendsofdfwr@gmail.com Eddie Owens Refuge Manager (208) 467-9278 • edward\_owens@fws.gov