

Biography of Dawn Shirreffs, Everglades Restoration Program Manager

DAWN SHIRREFFS is the Everglades Restoration Program Manager based in the Sun Coast Regional Office of the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA). Since 1919, the nonpartisan National Parks Conservation Association has been the leading voice of the American people in protecting and enhancing our National Park System. NPCA, its members, and partners work together to protect the park system and preserve our nation's natural, historical, and cultural heritage for future generations. Dawn's primary focus is on the implications of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan to Everglades and Biscayne National Parks as well as the entire ecosystem. Dawn also serves as National Co-chair of the Everglades Coalition, an alliance of 53 environmental and conservation organizations dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Everglades ecosystem.

Dawn came to NPCA from Rollins College, where she graduated with a focus on Environmental Studies and Growth Management. She also completed a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Florida International University. Previously, she worked as Florida Program Manager at Clean Water Action, where she spearheaded the Hold the Line campaign and generated grassroots support for Everglades restoration and water quality in South Florida. Dawn has been involved with a number of nonprofit environmental organizations has served on the Board of Directors of the Tropical Audubon Society in Miami, Florida since 2007. She also spent several years caring for and coordinating public education on Florida panthers and other captive born large predatory cats. Dawn's passion for national parks came from her early hiking and camping experiences in Fire Island National Seashore in her native New York.