

Rochester, NY – Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) today announced that the Buffalo Audubon Society will receive a \$160,031 grant for habitat restoration at the Joseph Davis State Park (JDSP), along the Niagara River shoreline.

The Buffalo Audubon Society will use the funds to restore at least 35 acres of habitat for breeding and migrating birds along the Niagara River corridor between Lakes Erie and Ontario.

The 320 acre JDSP provides a large, relatively underdeveloped habitat for local wildlife, particularly important to many bird-species living along the Niagara River corridor.

“Each year bird watchers and nature enthusiasts flock to the Niagara region and rightly so. We have some of the most breathtaking spectacles in the world in our backyard and these treasures must be protected,” said Slaughter, Co-Chair of the Great Lakes Task Force. “There used to be more than 150 acres of habitat on Joseph Davis State Park, but it has fallen victim to invasive species and other caucuses leading to almost half of the land to be degraded. The grant announced today will restore at least 35 acres of this lost habitat helping to ensure that these sights are around for generations to come.”

The grant was awarded as part of the Great Lakes Watershed Habitat and Species Restoration Initiative Grants Programs administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a Department of the Interior agency. The grants were funded by the President’s 2011 Budget which provided \$300 million for the multi-agency Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The GLRI provides funding to restore approximately 800 acres in New York, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

Slaughter serves a Co-Chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, a bipartisan and bicameral organization of lawmakers dedicated to improving economic and environmental health of the Great Lakes.

She was instrumental in ensuring \$475 million in federal funding for the GLRI in FY 2010, testifying in front of the House Budget Committee and organizing her colleagues to support adequate funding. Through their efforts, GLRI is expected to receive an additional \$300 million in FY2011, and \$475 million each year for the three years following that.

For her testimony in front of the House Budget Committee in March 2009, [click here](#) .

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