



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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David A. Paterson
Governor

Carol Ash
Commissioner

Mark W. Thomas
Director, Western District

September 1, 2010

Ms. Margaret Wooster & Ms. Jill Jedlicka
Greenway Ecological Standing Committee
1250 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14213

Dear Ms. Wooster & Ms. Jedlicka:

On behalf of the Western District of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation I am pleased to support the Buffalo Audubon Society Proposal "Habitat Restoration and Bird Habitat Enhancement, Joseph State Park, Lewiston NY" for funding through the Greenway Ecological Standing Committee and the New York State Power Authority Relicensing Funds.

The Joseph Davis State Park Master Plan Vision Statement states that "Recreational/interpretive opportunities and access will continue in a manner consistent with conservation of the diverse assemblage of bird species using the area for breeding or during migration." The Audubon proposal is strongly aligned with this vision for Joseph Davis State Park, and provides concrete actions that will ensure the restoration and management of habitats that support these bird species. The proposal is consistent with numerous other plans for the park and for the region, including the Niagara River Corridor Important Bird Area Conservation Plan, Joseph Davis BCA Management Guidance Summary and the Niagara River Greenway Plan (as I indicated during my vote of 'consistent' during the Greenway review process).

The project team has the skills and capacity to manage and undertake this process, and they have worked with staff from our Environmental Management Bureau to ensure that there is not a duplication of effort and that complimentary activities occur to manage the natural resources of the park.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal which will have a significant impact upon the environment at Joseph Davis State Park.

Sincerely,

Mark Thomas
Director, Western District Director