Dear Friends of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge:

Congratulations on 20 impressive years of advocacy and support for our coastal treasure, Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. In the 20 years of work, it has been an honor to be your partner in the superb transformation of the Ottawa Refuge, including a systematic expansion of the Refuge complex to more than 10,000 acres of high quality coastal habitat. Along the way, your efforts have encouraged public access and understanding of coastal ecosystems, and educated thousands of visitors about the benefits those natural systems provide for Lake Erie.

The protection of America’s public lands is a charge not just for government, but also for its citizens to whom the benefit of these public resources accrue. Your work to support the Ottawa Refuge is as important as ever. As Ohio’s only national refuge, this special place beckons more and more visitors each year to enjoy its beautiful wetlands, marshes, waterfowl and other migratory birds, and abundant wildlife.

On behalf of ONWR’s many visitors, her resident and travelling wildlife benefactors, and the citizens of our region, thank you for your strong voice for conservation, natural and historic preservation, and public enjoyment and education. Onward to a bright future for our Refuge and the Friends who bequeath her to future generations!

Sincerely,

Marcy Kaptur
U.S. Representative