

**For Immediate Release: April 3, 2009**

**WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT JOINS STAFF OF  
DETROIT RIVER  
INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE  
REFUGE**



AnnaMaryLee Vollick, a resident of Canton and a biology and environmental studies student at Wayne State University, has joined the staff of Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. Anna has received a one-year, Student Temporary Education Program (STEP) appointment with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to work half-time during the academic year and full-time during the summer. The primary focus of her work will be to help prepare a final conference report for the 2009 State of the Strait Conference to be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the University of Windsor and to perform a survey of ecological benefits of 30 soft shoreline engineering projects completed in the Detroit River watershed. Funding for this position comes from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes National Program Office. Anna brings a strong academic background in biology and environmental science together with practical work experience at a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center in Texas and at Wayne State University in performing botanical surveys at Michigan State Parks.

"We are very pleased to have one of our Wayne State University students selected for the prestigious appointment with the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge," notes Dr. Steve Salley, Interim Dean of the Graduate School at Wayne State University. "Wayne State University has a long history of performing research on the Detroit River and involving students in solving real-world, practical, environmental problems in southeast Michigan."

Anna Vollick will be working closely with numerous Canadian and U.S. partners to quantify the ecological effectiveness of 30 soft engineering projects completed in the last 10 years. Further, she will become a key member of a U.S.-Canada team charged with reaching agreement on a set of findings and recommendations from the 2009 State of the Strait Conference.

Congressman John D. Dingell notes that "The work that Anna Vollick will be undertaking is critically important to building and managing North America's only international Wildlife Refuge. Further, it helps develop the next generation of leaders and managers for our natural resources."

The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge covers 48 miles of shoreline along the lower Detroit River and the western basin of Lake Erie. It focuses on conserving, protecting and restoring habitat for 29 species of waterfowl, 65 kinds of fish and 300 species of migratory birds. <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/detroitriver/index.html>

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