

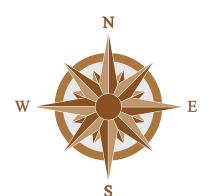
HIDDEN MARSH TO TRANSFORM INTO ORIGINAL WETLAND STATE

Ducks Unlimited is helping the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service restore upland and wetland areas in the 685-acre Hidden Marsh. This land was acquired in 2013 and incorporated into Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge through a NAWCA grant and support from several conservation partners. Ducks Unlimited purchased four new water-control structures to assist the USFWS in restoring the farm to its original wetland state. This project will increase the wetland habitat in Montezuma wetland complex and will be open to the public. Construction is under way.



PERCH RIVER WMA TO BE ENHANCED FOR DUCKS, OUTDOORS ENTHUSIASTS

Perch River Wildlife Management Area in Jefferson County provides nearly 8,000 acres of critical wetlands and uplands for waterfowl and other wetland-dependent species in the St. Lawrence Valley. Inadequate infrastructure has prevented wetland managers from maintaining healthy water levels, resulting in dense stands of cattails and rice cut grass, significantly reducing the value of the habitat for wildlife. Ducks Unlimited is partnering with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to rehabilitate failed water-control structures and improve water channels, giving wetland managers the tools they need. The \$2.5 million project benefits mallard, American black duck, northern pintail, greater scaup and several state-listed threatened, endangered and special concern species. Funding is provided through a NAWCA grant and the Pittman and Robertson Act. Perch River WMA is a state-owned public recreation area and portions are used for hunting, fishing, trapping, bird watching and non-motorized recreational boating.



Ducks Unlimited PROJECTS

● Completed ★ Featured
Note: Project points may represent more than one project.

SUNY STUDENTS, DU STUDYING BLACK DUCK HABITAT

Ducks Unlimited and several partners are collaborating with the State University of New York-College of Environmental Science and Forestry to research the ecology of American black ducks and mallards that winter in the state's Finger Lakes region. The Black Duck Joint Venture, DU and NYSDEC are working with graduate students to determine if there are differences in habitat use and migration between mallards and black ducks during winter and spring. That information could lead to management plans which would sustain wintering and breeding populations of black ducks in New York. The intent is to ensure black ducks continue to winter in abundance for viewing and hunting by waterfowl enthusiasts of the Empire State.



DU AND PRIVATE LANDOWNERS PARTNER FOR WETLAND PROTECTION

Most of the land in New York is privately held and Ducks Unlimited continues to partner with landowners to enhance, protect or restore important tracts of waterfowl habitat. Three projects encompassing 146 acres are undergoing wetland restoration or enhancement and will be completed in 2017. All projects were funded by North American Wetlands Conservation Act, with support from Thousand Islands Land Trust, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust and private landowners.





NEW YORK COMPLETES THE WATERFOWL LIFECYCLE

Positioned in the middle of the Atlantic Flyway, New York provides a critical connection between breeding grounds in Canada and wintering grounds to the south.

In 2016, Ducks Unlimited conservation staff continued to prioritize several important wetland habitat landscapes. Conservation projects provided foraging resources for fall and spring migration, protected and restored large interior freshwater wetland complexes and protected and restored coastal wetland habitat along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

New York and its 16,000 Ducks Unlimited members are part of the Completing the Cycle Initiative, which addresses the needs of Atlantic Flyway waterfowl throughout their life cycle. This holistic approach focuses on the most important factors that limit waterfowl populations, ensuring the landscape can support and sustain healthy birds throughout the year so they can complete the cycle and return to the breeding grounds to reproduce.

NEW YORK: BY THE NUMBERS

2016

- 8 projects
- 2,504 acres conserved
- \$1,886,209 invested

HISTORICAL

- 53,888 acres conserved
- \$36,734,968 invested

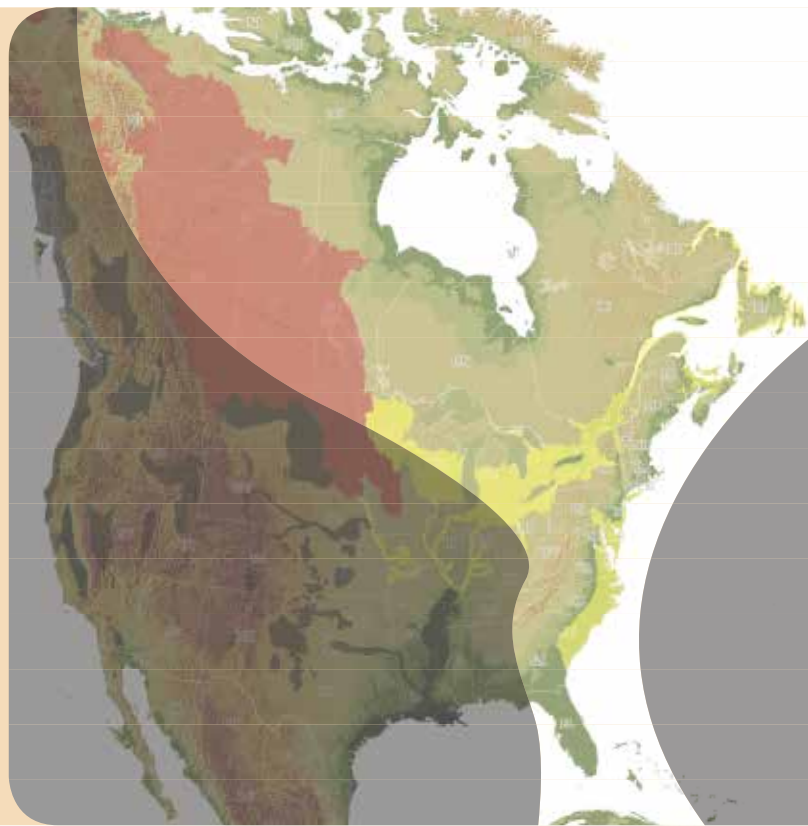
For more information visit
www.ducks.org/newyork

LOOKING AHEAD

Ducks Unlimited has submitted two large NAWCA grant proposals. A final decision about grant awards is expected by June.

Montezuma NAWCA Phase V – This multi-partnered effort would conserve more than 1,800 acres at Northern Montezuma and Lakeshore Marshes wildlife management areas. Several wetland types are planned for acquisition, restoration and enhancement. This proposal would restore native plant communities that benefit rare and endangered species and provide important breeding and migration areas for waterfowl. It also would help stimulate the local economy through outdoor recreation.

Thousand Islands/St Lawrence River Phase II – This proposal would protect, restore and enhance 1,726 acres in the St. Lawrence River Valley. Partners include the Thousand Islands Land Trust and numerous other local land trusts and state and regional organizations.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ducks Unlimited is celebrating our 80th anniversary in 2017. As an organization, we can trumpet our accomplishments knowing how strongly equipped we are to improve the health of wetlands across North America for the next generation.

The 21-state Great Lakes/Atlantic Region is a diverse landscape of habitats ranging from prairie potholes in the upper Midwest to coastal estuaries in the Atlantic Flyway, with Great Lakes marshes and riverine wetlands in between. Our region had a tremendous impact in 2016. We used private donations and public funds to invest \$29,049,039 on conservation projects. That strong support enabled our biologists and engineers to deliver focused, effective habitat conservation on 15,616 acres of wetlands.

New York is vital to the goals of our region and the country. The entire team in New York, including our volunteers, fundraising staff and conservation staff, has developed a winning strategy that helps waterfowl and anyone who enjoys clean water.

The work you see in this report is a snapshot of the conservation Ducks Unlimited achieves every day. We need and appreciate your support, as we build on this success for the next 80 years.

David Brakhage, GLARO Director of Operations

MEET YOUR NEW YORK CONSERVATION STAFF



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Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.



GREAT LAKES &
ATLANTIC REGION

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