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Ducks Unlimited: Who We Are and What We DO

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RESCUE  OUR
WETLANDS
Banding Together for Waterfowl




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What is Ducks Unlimited?

- World's largest non-profit wetland conservation organization
- Mission: *To conserve, restore, and manage wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl.*
- Grassroots organization with paid conservation staff
- NHQ in Memphis; 4 regional offices; Gov't Affairs in D.C.
- Conserved over 14.1 million acres; Established 1937
- Partners, partners, partners!
- Not a hunting or advocacy group – **Science-based Wetlands Conservation!**




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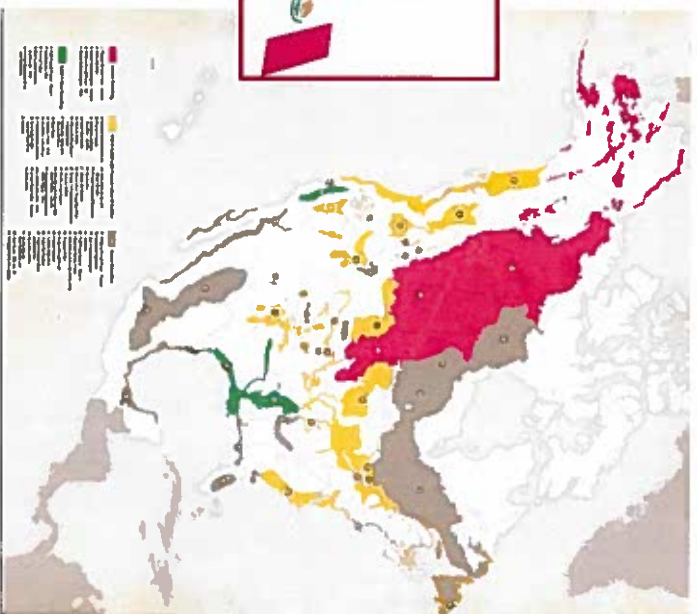


Singleness of purpose since 1937!


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Accomplishments in North America




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Importance of Great Lakes Wetlands

- **Absorb and filter run-off**
 - Purify accumulated sediments and toxins
 - Reduce storm surges
 - Groundwater recharge
- **Wildlife habitat**
 - Over 900 species use wetlands, including many threatened or endangered
- **Recreation/Economy**
 - Hunting and fishing related jobs generate over \$11.2 billion annually in MI




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Great Lakes Conservation Program

- Restore drained wetlands – ditch plugs, tile breaks
- Restore associated uplands – prairie establishment
- Habitat management capability – water control structures, pumps, invasive species
- Land protection – facilitate acquisitions, easements
- Public Policy – wetland friendly



Great Lakes / Atlantic Regional Office

- Biologists, engineers, surveyors, construction managers, GIS, lands specialist, policy experts, fundraisers, contract compliance, communication, planning... **a full service shop!**
- >1,400 acres of wetlands and related habitats conserved in 2018 alone
- Develop partnerships, write/administer complex grants, engineering




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Michigan Accomplishments

Acres Conserved

83,900

Dollars Invested

Over \$43M



MICHIGAN
2019 STATE CONSERVATION REPORT
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SACINAW RAY LAND CIFT
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has announced the acquisition of 2,500 acres of land in the Saginaw River watershed, near the city of Saginaw. This acquisition is part of a larger effort to restore and protect the river's habitat. The land will be managed as a wildlife refuge and will provide critical habitat for several species of birds and fish. The project is being funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Ducks Unlimited.

ANCHOR BAY WOODS PRESERVE
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has announced the acquisition of 1,500 acres of land in the Anchor Bay area, near the city of Detroit. This acquisition is part of a larger effort to restore and protect the area's habitat. The land will be managed as a wildlife refuge and will provide critical habitat for several species of birds and fish. The project is being funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Ducks Unlimited.

ST. JOHNS MARSH
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has announced the acquisition of 1,000 acres of land in the St. Johns Marsh area, near the city of St. Johns. This acquisition is part of a larger effort to restore and protect the area's habitat. The land will be managed as a wildlife refuge and will provide critical habitat for several species of birds and fish. The project is being funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Ducks Unlimited.

WILLIAM C. STEWART STATE PARK
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has announced the acquisition of 500 acres of land in the William C. Stewart State Park area, near the city of William C. Stewart. This acquisition is part of a larger effort to restore and protect the area's habitat. The land will be managed as a wildlife refuge and will provide critical habitat for several species of birds and fish. The project is being funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Ducks Unlimited.

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1 of 2

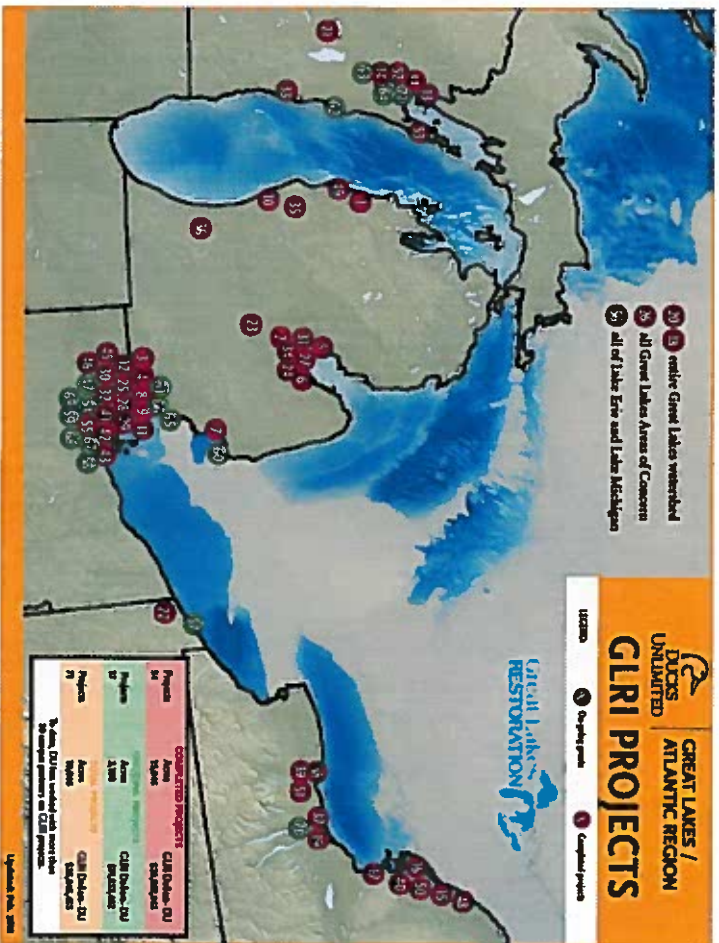


MICHIGAN NAWCA PROJECTS

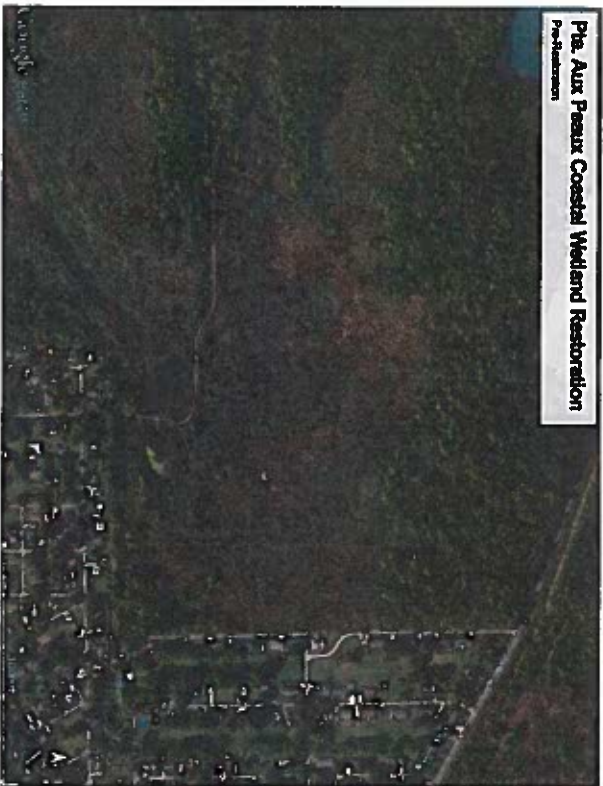
\$20,004,685 TOTAL PARTNER CONTRIBUTION **53** TOTAL ACRES


NAWCA GRANT AMOUNT **\$66,514,831** **60,723** TOTAL ACRES

Michigan has 53 NAWCA projects either completed or underway. These projects have conserved 60,723 acres of wildlife habitat. NAWCA funding of more than \$20 million stimulated partner contributions of over \$66.5 million. These figures do not include multi-state projects.



Restoration Success! Pointe Aux Peaux




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Michigan License Plate

- \$35 additional cost with \$25 going to DU for conservation efforts in Michigan; \$10 renewal fee also to DU
- Over \$120,000 of plate revenue to date to help fund the Detroit River IWR - Fix Unit Restoration, Manistee Marsh, Sterling State Park, and more!



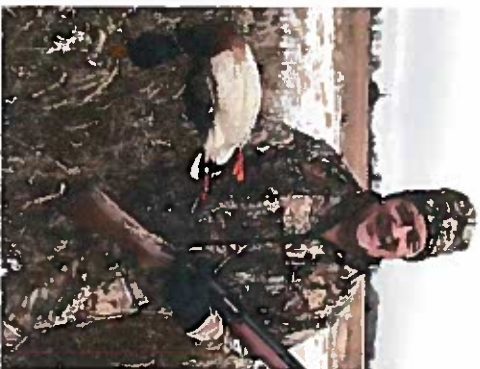

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Voluntary Wetland Restoration Legislation

- 2 bills in 2018 that created a new, innovative system and definitions for permitting voluntary wetland restoration projects in MI.
- This effort was led by Reps. Howell and Bellino and encompassed partnerships with the DEQ, DNR, USFWS and other conservation partners.
- The process displayed how good legislation can get passed through a concerted and judicious process with all stakeholders having a seat at the table.

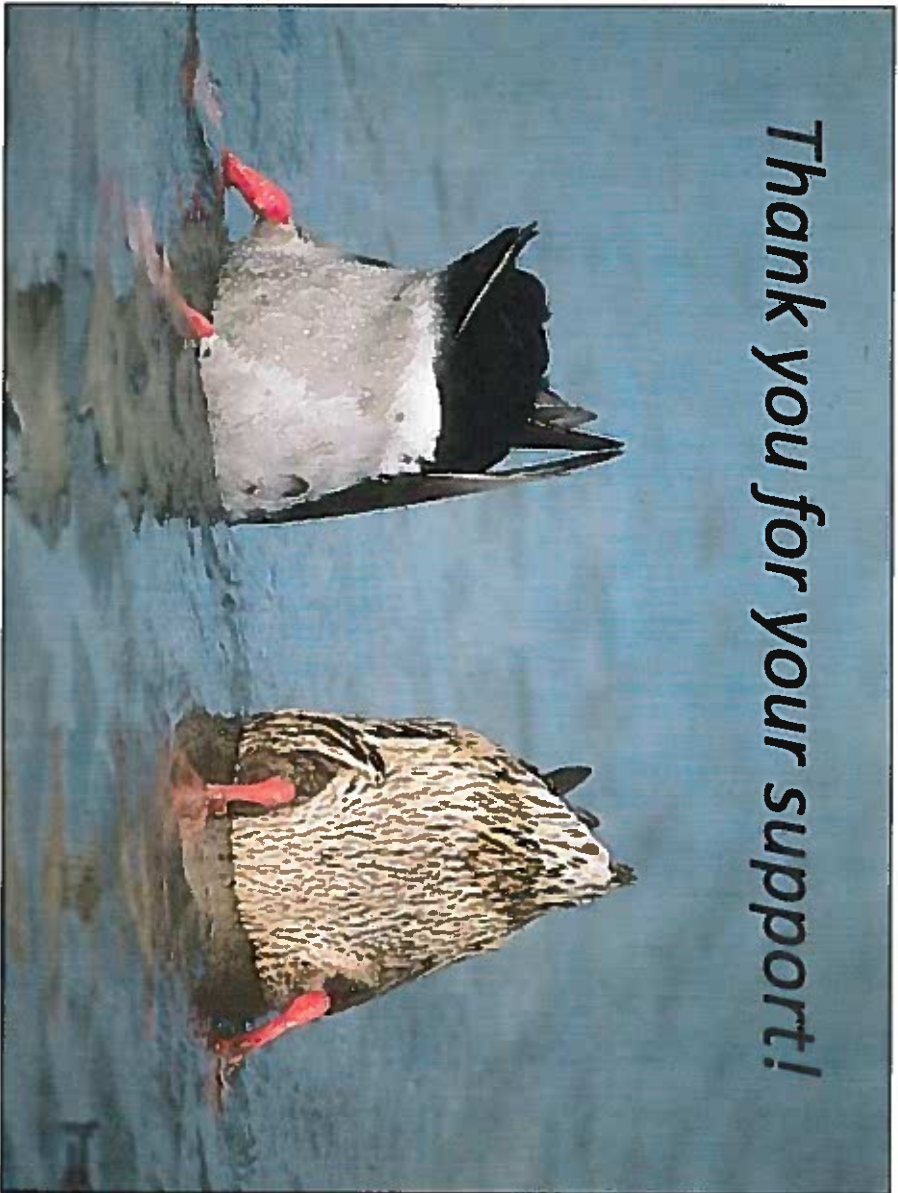





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Thank you for your support!




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