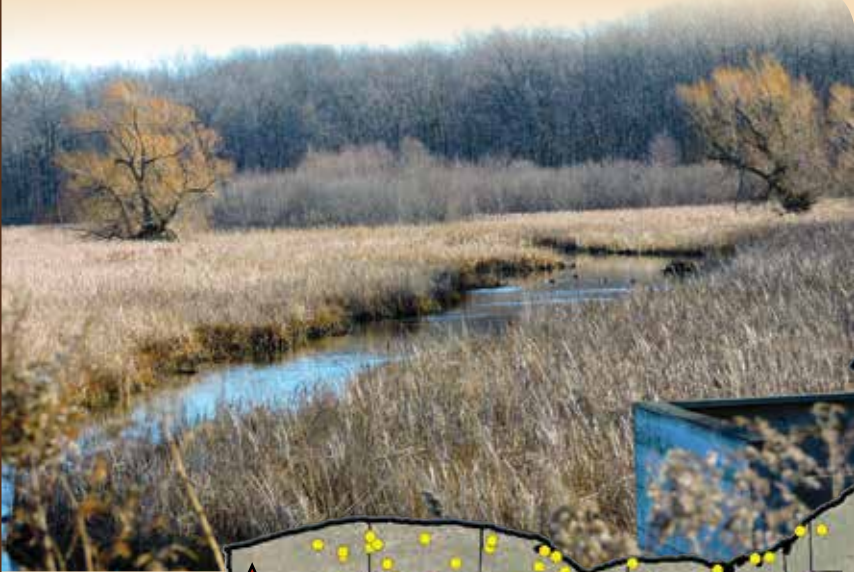


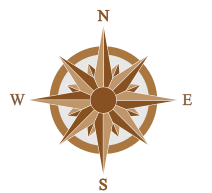
BUCKHORN MARSH TO SEE NEW POTHoles, CHANNELS

Ducks Unlimited and New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will improve water flow and reduce cattails in Buckhorn Marsh, part of the 895-acre Buckhorn Island State Park, located on Grand Island. Ducks Unlimited will assess and make recommendations on water level management capabilities with the existing weir system. The project also will establish a series of interconnected potholes and meandering channels to restore aquatic connectivity and mimic historical wetland features. Buckhorn is the largest of two remaining wetlands on the Niagara River, spanning 150 acres of palustrine emergent marsh and wet meadow. Engineers will survey and design in 2018 and construction is planned for 2019. The work is funded through the New York Power Authority's Habitat Enhancement Research Fund and Ducks Unlimited.



★ THREE PRIVATE LANDS PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED IN 2017

Within the Atlantic Flyway migration corridor, Ducks Unlimited in 2017 worked with two private landowners on restoring critical habitat near the Tonawanda-Iroquois-Oak Orchard Wetland complex, which supports the highest concentrations of migratory birds in western New York. Ducks Unlimited also has worked with a landowner on a restoration project in the St. Lawrence Valley area, recognized as one of the most important habitats for waterfowl and grassland birds in the Eastern United States. The projects restored nearly 150 acres of wetland habitat. 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.



Ducks Unlimited PROJECTS

- Completed
- ★ Featured

Note: Project points may represent more than one project.

WETLANDS TO RETURN TO PORTION OF NORTHERN MONTEZUMA WMA

Ducks Unlimited in 2018 will help expand wetland and grassland habitat at Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area with a 140-acre restoration project that will be open to the public for recreation. The site, owned by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), has been in agriculture production. The area provided little benefit to wetland wildlife and promoted substantial nutrient runoff into the Seneca River during flood periods. The restoration project will improve water quality in the river while providing spring foraging habitat for migrating and breeding waterfowl. A 10-acre upland field adjacent to the site will be restored to native upland grasses and managed as dense nesting cover to attract a diversity of native wildlife species. Funding comes from a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant, NYSDEC, Friends of the Montezuma Wetlands Complex and Ducks Unlimited.



NATIONAL FOREST WETLAND GETS BOOST IN 2018

Ducks Unlimited and the U.S. Forest Service are partnering for the first time in New York at Teeter Pond, located in the Finger Lakes National Forest in Hector. The 16,212-acre Finger Lakes National Forest is New York's only public, federally managed national forest, open for recreation year-round. The 30-acre Teeter Pond was managed by a water-control structure, which has become non-functional due to beaver damage. Ducks Unlimited has engineered a plan for a new structure and berm to restore water level management and improve habitat conditions for waterfowl and wildlife. Construction is expected to begin summer 2018. The project is funded through Cargill, Ducks Unlimited, a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant and the U.S. Forest Service.





© Feathers in Flight Photography

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 2017, 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.

LICENSE PLATE LAUNCHED!

Here's your chance to show your support of Ducks Unlimited in New York! A Ducks Unlimited custom license plate from the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles is now available to motorists in both passenger and commercial class.

More than 16,000 Ducks Unlimited members in New York support conservation with waterfowling. To date, DU has protected, restored or enhanced 54,000 acres and has invested nearly \$37 million in the state. Help us promote Ducks Unlimited, anywhere you drive!

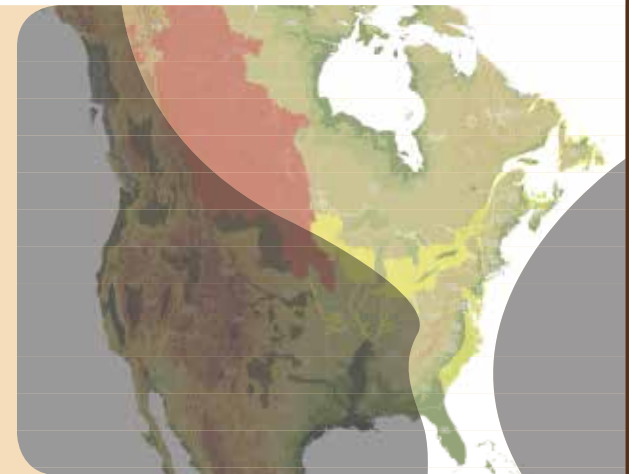
For details on ordering, visit www.ducks.org/nyplate.



LOOKING AHEAD

Other projects for 2018 and beyond in New York include:

Thousand Islands/St Lawrence River Phase II – Phase I of this project supported multiple wetland restoration and protection projects across the state. Through a \$1 million North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant to be awarded this year, Phase II will protect, restore and enhance 2,698 acres in the St. Lawrence River Valley. Partners include the Thousand Islands Land Trust, St. Lawrence Land Trust, Indian River Lakes Land Conservancy, NYSDEC, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, National Audubon Society, Ontario Bays Initiative, local municipalities and private landowners.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

New York is vital to the goals of Duck's Unlimited's Great Lakes/Atlantic Region. The entire team in New York, including our volunteers, fundraising staff and conservation staff, has developed a winning strategy that grows stronger each year.

Our 21-state region had a tremendous impact on waterfowl habitat and water quality in 2017. We used private donations and public funds to invest nearly \$22 million on conservation projects. That strong support enabled our biologists and engineers to deliver focused, effective habitat conservation on 48,111 acres of wetlands.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers, conservation partners and financial supporters. The accomplishments of Ducks Unlimited are your accomplishments. As an organization, we can trumpet our success knowing how strongly equipped we are to improve the health of wetlands across North America for the next generation.

Thank you for believing in our mission, and for helping us reach our vision of wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever.

David Brakhage, GLARO Director of Operations

NEW YORK BY THE NUMBERS

2017

- 7 projects
- 950 acres conserved
- \$1,450,752 invested

HISTORICAL

- 54,122 acres conserved
- \$38.18 million invested

For more information visit www.ducks.org/new-york

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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.

Visit us online at www.ducks.org/new-york



GREAT LAKES / ATLANTIC REGION

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