

Cormorant Management 2021

A tale of two permits (or maybe four if you're counting!)

Oneida Lake Association Virtual Meeting

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Jim Farquhar
NYSDEC, Albany, NY
James.Farquhar@dec.ny.gov



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

The New Double-crested Cormorant Permit

And a comparison to individual depredation permits

50 CFR §21.28: Special Double-crested depredation permit

2021-future

FOR State or Tribal fish and wildlife agencies

State- and Tribal-owned or operated aquaculture facilities, including hatcheries

Health and Human Safety

Threatened and endangered species

State- or Tribal-owned property and assets

Wild and Public-stocked fish

PTL now 37,019 for AF

Take not apportioned to states based on prior history

50 CFR §21.41: Individual Depredation Permits

2018-present

FOR individuals, States, Tribes

Aquaculture facilities

Health and Human Safety

Threatened and Endangered Species

Property

PTL range was 11,600-25,000 for AF

Take apportioned to states based on prior history



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NY Depredation Permit sans Fish (renewal)

Based on USFWS 2017 EA which allows for protection of human health and safety, listed species, aquaculture and property.

Flyway and regional take limits. Conservative, then moderate.

Current NY permit authorizes take of 1,500 adults, 6,800 nests.

Location specific-LGI and Gull Is., Murphy, Little and Wantry, Four Brothers, Donnellys wall and Motor and Reef lighthouse and Strawberry Is.



New Special State Permit for NY (in progress)

For 2021, keeping specific to fisheries needs, open water, pen rearing/stocking sites, and hatcheries

Proposing take up to 300 on Oneida Lake during migration (in addition to 300 which may be taken through season as part of diet study on existing scientific collectors permit)

600 Eastern Basin Lake Ontario

165 at pen rearing/stocking sites

50 at hatcheries (existing permit also in place)



Oneida Lake 2020

Highlights

Region 6 and 7 conducted 30 count trips

Collected 217 cormorants for diet study (220 allowed)

Goby most prominent in diet, but walleye accounted for most by weight

Average count of 307 DCCO/trip

Peak count 935 21-Sept

Counts lower than those in 2017-19, more similar to 2012-16