



**Committee of Advisors
to the
Great Lakes Fishery Commission**



Resolution #3: Double Crested Cormorants

Whereas the Double Crested Cormorant has proliferated in the Great Lakes basin due to protection under the Migratory Species Act in the United States, and due to improved ecological conditions, though it is not protected in the Province of Ontario, and

Whereas populations of the cormorants continue to spread and increase throughout the Great Lakes basin and are an issue beyond just Lake Ontario, and

Whereas recent studies by New York Department of Environmental Conservation and US Geological Survey have indicated the Double Crested Cormorants are consuming significant numbers of prey and game fish (e.g. smallmouth bass in Lake Ontario's Eastern Basin and the St. Lawrence River), and

Whereas large colonies of the Double Crested Cormorant have a negative effect on the flora, fauna, and other wildlife in the ecosystem surrounding their colonies, therefore

Be it resolved that the US Advisors for Lake Ontario urge the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to take a leadership role, as an international organization, in coordinating research, information exchange and coordinating policy formulation dealing with the Double Crested Cormorant. We further request that, as a logical extension of its role as an advocate of fisheries management issues (delineated in the draft Strategic Vision), that the Great Lakes Fishery Commission take an active role in advocating and supporting policies and measures for the management of the Double Crested Cormorant, where their numbers are shown to impact the fishery and the ecosystem.

Submitted by Ed Sander, U.S. Advisor, Lake Ontario

Resolution 01-03

Passed by the U.S. Committee of Advisors, June 4, 2001

The opinions expressed here are those of the independent committee of advisors and not necessarily those of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. The Committee of Advisors consists of both U.S. and Canadian representatives, from First Nation, commercial, recreational, academic, agency, and public fishery interests in the Great Lakes Basin. Advisors provide advice to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission; U.S. advisors are nominated by the State Governors, and appointed by the commission. Canadian advisors are nominated by the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and appointed by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.