



MICHIGAN

2026 STATE REPORT AND FACT SHEET



PRIVATE LANDOWNERS COLLABORATING WITH DU AND USFWS TO PROMOTE CONSERVATION

In 2025, Ducks Unlimited was awarded a \$1 million grant from the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (GLFWRA) grant program. This 3-year grant will further a partnership among the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Partners for Fish and Wildlife (USFWS-PFW) program and Ducks Unlimited. The primary focus of this grant is to restore or enhance wetland and grassland habitat for federally listed species and migratory birds on private properties in the Lake Michigan watershed in Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Annually, over 3 million ducks, primarily mallards, American black ducks, scaup, canvasbacks and redheads, are estimated to migrate through the region as they move between breeding and wintering areas. The PFW-DU partnership delivered 352 acres through approximately 50 different projects in 2025.

DU continues to partner with Archer-Daniels Midland (ADM) and the Farmers Business Network to incentivize producers to plant cover crops on private land. In 2025, this partnership implemented cover crops on 61,528 acres and wheat on 10,696 acres, in collaboration with 126 individual farmers. Additionally, a fall cover crop field day was held in partnership with Michigan State University (MSU) at the Mason, Michigan Research Plots, where MSU extension professors, farmers, ADM representatives, and DU staff discussed species selection and herbicide carryover.



MICHIGAN TARGETS HABS THROUGH WETLAND CONSERVATION

Water quality in the western Lake Erie and Saginaw Bay watersheds is getting a major boost due to a \$10 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) initiative that is piloting a program to advance wetland conservation and reduce the impact of harmful algal blooms (HABs).



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and DU, partnered with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development are working together to secure land and restore wetlands that will both reduce harmful nutrient run-off into the Great Lakes, while also establishing a new MDNR State Game Area in Lenawee County.

Concurrently, the MDNR and DU partnered to establish the Lake Erie and Saginaw Bay Wetland Conservation Program (WCP). DU is working directly with non-governmental organizations, local governments, federal agencies, and private landowners interested in conserving wetlands. Thus far, 592 acres have been conserved through the WCP.

THE HAL AND JEAN GLASSEN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION SUPPORTS LUUKKONEN GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

The David R. Luukkonen Waterfowl and Wetlands Graduate Student Fellowship Endowment will receive \$150,000 from The Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation over the next five years. This generous donation will help Ducks Unlimited achieve its goal of raising \$400,000 to fund two annual graduate student fellowships in perpetuity. Luukkonen worked as a wildlife research biologist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for 30 years before becoming an adjunct professor at Michigan State University. The endowment that bears his name was established after Luukkonen, an avian ecologist, colleague, friend, and mentor, died in December 2021.



U.S. REP. LISA C. MCCLAIN TOURS CONSERVATION PROJECTS

House Republican Conference Chairwoman Lisa McClain joined Ducks Unlimited and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in July 2025 to tour Harsens Island Managed Waterfowl Area. DU and the MDNR have been conservation partners for decades, working to restore public wetlands across the state. Much of the recent restoration at Harsens Island has been federally funded by the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). MDNR manages Harsens Island, which is located on the shores of the St. Clair Flats. The 3,355 acres of

managed habitat are part of the largest freshwater delta in the U.S. Mallards are the most prevalent waterfowl species at Harsens Island. Still, American black ducks, pintails, wood ducks, and Canada geese are also prevalent.



GREAT LAKES / ATLANTIC REGION

ducks.org/michigan



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MEMBERSHIP

Grand Total: 30,311
Members: 29,468
 General Members: 26,877
 Greenwings: 1,106
 Legacy Greenwings: 222
 Sponsor Members: 1,263
Major Sponsors: 843
Feather Society Members: 382

STATE FUNDRAISING

Total event income dollars raised: **\$2,679,631**
 Number of committees: **104**
 Number of fundraising events: **234**
 Local chapter volunteers: **1,474**

FY25 FALL FLIGHTS INVESTMENTS TO CANADIAN PROJECTS

Total Contributions: **\$175,000**

Location of projects: SW

Ontario Wetlands, Southern Ontario Habitat Initiative

US CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Total Acres Conserved in the state (historically since FY1984): **80,080**

Total Acres of Conservation in the state (FY2025: Includes short-term acres associated with working lands delivery and not accounted for in long-term Conserved Acres): **113,377**

Amount spent on projects in the state: **\$62,243,780**

Amount spent on projects in MS Flyway (through FY2025): **\$921,117,840**

Primary waterfowl species:

Black Duck; Mallard; Wood Duck; Canvasback; Blue-Winged Teal and Ring-Necked Duck.

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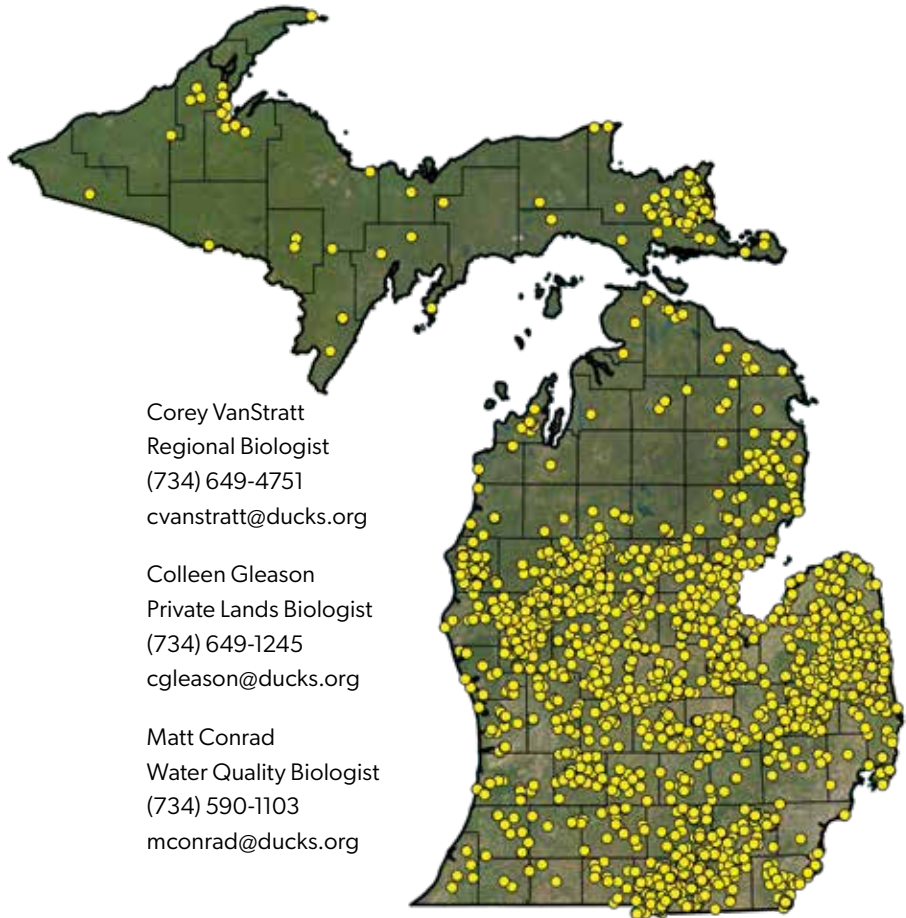
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Ducks Unlimited PROJECTS

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 ● Completed Project(s)

 Note: Project points may represent more than one project.

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For more information about DU's work in your state visit

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