

Key Habitat Conservation Priority
Great Lakes Basin

\$38 million

ONTARIO'S GREAT LAKES BASIN IS VERY IMPORTANT TO CANADIANS. CONTINENTALLY, IT IS A CRITICAL HABITAT AREA USED BY WATERFOWL AND MANY OTHER SPECIES OF WILDLIFE. DUC, TOGETHER WITH OUR SISTER ORGANIZATION, DUCKS UNLIMITED INC., WILL WORK TO PROVIDE THE FOUNDATION TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT HABITATS IN THIS AREA THAT WILL SUSTAIN HEALTHY WATERFOWL POPULATIONS WHILE ALSO BENEFITING OTHER WILDLIFE AND SOCIETY AT LARGE.

THE WETLANDS OF THE Great Lakes watersheds are critical to the health of the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world. These wetlands support millions of waterfowl, hundreds of other fish and wildlife species, and play an important role within watersheds to maintain and improve water quality, reduce flooding and recharge groundwater. This area is also home to Canada's highest concentration of people. More than 18 million people live in the region, and human impacts on wetlands and wildlife habitat are among the highest on the continent. In parts of southern Ontario, habitat loss is over 90 per cent and wetlands in particular have been heavily affected.



OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS, DUC has a goal to protect and restore over 18,000 acres of wetland habitat and to work with public and private sector partners

to conserve a further 175,000 acres across priority landscapes in southern Ontario, including the Great Lakes basin. We will also manage over 60,000 acres of wetland habitat in a manner that is appropriate for their ecological integrity, the interests of our partners, and the benefits they provide to society.

This is a huge undertaking. Competition for land in Ontario has perhaps never been greater. Our strategic approach and extensive community networks ensure



we are well positioned to undertake this massive conservation effort, but we need your help. 🦆

