

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789243203321
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Titolo	The double-crested cormorant : plight of a feathered pariah / / Linda R. Wires ; with original illustrations by Barry Kent MacKay ; Sonia Shannon, design
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, Connecticut : , : Yale University Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	0-300-18826-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (368 p.)
Disciplina	598.43
Soggetti	Double-crested cormorant - North America Double-crested cormorant - Economic aspects - North America Bird pests - North America Human-animal relationships - North America
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Part I. What are Cormorants? -- PART II. The Populations and the Perceptions, Then and Now -- PART III. The Economic and Political Landscape of the Cormorant, 1965 to the Present -- PART IV. The Science, Management, and Ethics of Today -- Afterword: What Future for Cormorants? -- Notes -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	The tragic history of the cormorant's relations with humans and the implications for today's wildlife management policy The double-crested cormorant, found only in North America, is an iridescent black waterbird superbly adapted to catch fish. It belongs to a family of birds vilified since biblical times and persecuted around the world. Thus it was perhaps to be expected that the first European settlers in North America quickly deemed the double-crested cormorant a competitor for fishing stock and undertook a relentless drive to destroy the birds. This enormously important book explores the roots of human-cormorant conflicts, dispels myths about the birds, and offers the first comprehensive assessment of the policies that have been developed to manage the double-crested cormorant in the twenty-first century.

Conservation biologist Linda Wires provides a unique synthesis of the cultural, historical, scientific, and political elements of the cormorant's story. She discusses the amazing late-twentieth-century population recovery, aided by protection policies and environment conservation, but also the subsequent U.S. federal policies under which hundreds of thousands of the birds have been killed. In a critique of the science, management, and ethics underlying the double-crested cormorant's treatment today, Wires exposes "management" as a euphemism for persecution and shows that the current strategies of aggressive predator control are outdated and unsupported by science.
