



CCA

COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
OREGON

5-20-13

**Testimony To Senate Environmental and Natural Resources Committee
In support of HJM-2**

My name is Dana Roberts, I live in Salem Oregon. I am a volunteer with the Coastal Conservation Association Oregon. CCA Oregon would like to voice our support for House Joint Memorial 2 urging the United States Secretary of the Interior to allow enhanced management of cormorants by the state of Oregon.

According to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife documents the Double Crested Cormorant colony at East Sand Island on the Columbia River is the largest colony in Western North America and that colony alone consumes about **11 million** juvenile salmonids a year.

Double Crested Cormorants have historically been present in Oregon but received federal protection in 1972 by the Migratory Bird Protection Act. The Oregon population of Double Crested Cormorants has increased over 20% in the past 20 years. Population increases have been observed in nearly all waters of the state and so has their impact on juvenile salmonids.

24 states currently have lethal control authority given and monitored by the federal government to control Double Crested Cormorant populations.

CCA Oregon recognizes that many predator populations have reached artificial and unnatural levels due to human actions and conflicting laws. CCA supports science - based efforts to decrease the impacts of predation on adult and juvenile fish populations. It is our belief that enhanced management by the state is most likely to result in the appropriate level of balanced action while avoiding either over or under reaction.

We support passage of House Joint Memorial 2 and ask the US Secretary of the Interior to allow the State of Oregon authority for enhanced management of Double Crested Cormorants.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Dana Roberts
CCA-OR
Government Relations Committee

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