

While cormorants are not listed as a migratory bird and they are not listed in the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997, (FWCA) they are protected by the following clause:

5. (1) A person shall not hunt or trap specially protected wildlife or **any bird** that belongs to a species **that is wild by nature** and is not a game bird. 2009, c. 33, Sched. 22, s. 2 (5).

Exceptions

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to,

- (a) an American crow, brown-headed cowbird, common grackle, house sparrow, red-winged blackbird or starling;
- (b) a bird that is declared to be a migratory game bird in the Convention set out in the Schedule to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* (Canada);
- (c) a bird that has been transported into Ontario, or propagated from stock that was transported into Ontario, and that is released with the Minister's authorization under section 54, other than a specially protected bird or a member of a species prescribed by the regulations for the purpose of this clause; or
- (d) any other bird, other than a specially protected bird, that is hunted with the authorization of the Minister. 1997, c. 41, s. 5 (2); 2009, c. 33, Sched. 22, s. 2 (6).

Cormorants are not posted as an exception but they are a bird that is wild by nature and therefore protected under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act.

You may only kill cormorants in protection of property. There is no open hunting season in Ontario for this species.

We hope you find this information helpful. If you require further assistance, please contact the Natural Resources Information Centre at 1-800-667-1940.