

PLASTIC DEBRIS INCORPORATED INTO DOUBLE-CRESTED
CORMORANT NESTS IN THE GULF OF MAINE

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ABSTRACT

The incorporation of plastic debris into double-crested cormorant, *Phalacrocorax auritus*, nests is reported on three islands in the Gulf of Maine. Of the 497 nests examined during 1987 and 1988, 188 nests (37%) contained plastic debris. Sections of lobster trap line, plastic bags, and pieces of fishing net dominated this debris. The significance of this is discussed and future monitoring of plastics in seabird nests is recommended.