



## Swiss to kick out cormorants for abusing hospitality

### 「好心被雷親」 瑞士當局驅離鸕鷀

A group of cormorants has abused Swiss hospitality by eating too many fish, forcing authorities to approve measures aimed at kicking out the unwanted migrants.

The **coastal** natives used to come to Switzerland on a sporadic basis to escape harsher winters further north, but since 2001, some 260 cormorant couples have nested on two islands on western Switzerland's Lake Neuchatel.

While their permanent residence at the country's biggest natural bird reserve had been greeted with enthusiasm by bird-lovers, their appetite for fish from the lake has **browned off** some fishermen in the region.

"The cormorant is a bird which does not go unobserved. It nests in colonies, fish often in groups and gather where they sleep," said the Office for the Environment on its Web site.

"Opportunistic, it fishes where the fish are visible and easy to catch," added the office, underlining that "on the lakes, the groups of cormorants are competing with professional fishermen."

A report in 2008 found that regular fishermen at the lake lost up to 210,000 Swiss francs (NT\$8.9 million) in revenue

a year.

To control the population of cormorants, local authorities can now close off access to part of the lake's shoreline, and "remove the **residual** nests from the previous season."

"They can also coat the already laid eggs with oil to stop them from maturing," said the ministry, adding that the measures are taken on a trial basis and should be applied only until the end of 2011.

Bird enthusiasts were **dismayed** by the move.

Francois Turrian from BirdLife Switzerland told AFP that the "witchhunt in the middle of a natural reserve, especially in spring — the reproduction period" was regrettable.

He called instead for compensation for the fishermen.

(AFP)

瑞士「好心被雷親」！一群鸕鷀捕食過多魚兒，迫使有關當局採取措施，驅離這些不速之客。

這群主要生活在沿海地帶的北方嬌客，以往都三三兩兩南遷到瑞士避寒，但自二〇〇一年以來，已有約兩百六十對鸕鷀在西部納沙泰爾湖的兩座島上建立家園。

愛鳥人士熱情歡迎牠們在該國最大的自然野鳥保護區內永久定居，不過牠們大量捕食湖中的魚，讓當地部分漁民頗有微詞。

環境總署在其官方網站中表示：「隨處可見的鸕鷀有集體棲息和覓食的習性，就連睡覺也在一起。」

環境總署還特別強調，「鸕鷀是投機取巧的動物，牠們喜歡在魚兒清楚可見又容易捕捉的地方抓魚。湖面上，一群群鸕鷀正和專業漁夫展開競捕」。

二〇〇八年一份報告發現，該湖區的正規漁民年收入損失高達二十一萬瑞士法郎（新台幣八百九十萬元）。

為了控制鸕鷀的數量，當地有關單位現在封鎖了湖區部分海岸線，並「清除上個遷徙季所遺留的鳥巢」。

該部門表示：「他們也可在已產下的鳥蛋表面塗油，防止其孵化。」還說這些試行措施應該只會執行到二〇一一年底。

這項行動令愛鳥人士錯愕不已。

「瑞士國際鳥盟」的弗朗索·圖里安向法新社表示，他對「自然保護區內這種針對春季繁殖期進行的迫害行動」深感遺憾。

他呼籲當局改採補償漁民的方式。

(法新社/翻譯：林倩如)

A cormorant swims in an estuary in Ibera, Corrientes, Argentina, on Nov. 4, 2009.

PHOTO: AFP

二〇〇九年十一月四日，一隻鸕鷀在阿根廷科連特斯省伊維拉市某河口處游水。

照片：法新社

#### TODAY'S WORDS

##### 今日單字

#### 1. coastal /'kɒstl/ adj.

海岸的 (hai3 an4 de5)

例：Marlon grew up in a coastal town and trained as a fisherman.  
(在沿海小鎮長大的馬龍後來成為一名漁夫。)

#### 2. residual /rɪ'zɪdʒuəl/ adj.

殘留的 (can2 liu2 de5)

例：There is still some residual heat from last night's fire.  
(昨晚生的火還留有些許餘溫。)

#### 3. dismay /dɪs'me/ v.

驚愕 (jing1 e4)

例：I was dismayed to discover that someone had stolen my new bike.  
(發現新買的腳踏車被偷，我錯愕不已。)

#### LANGUAGE POINT

##### 重要片語

#### browned off

##### 厭倦，煩惱

If somebody is **browned off**, they are bored or annoyed. According to the article, Swiss fisherman were **browned off** by cormorants eating fish from the lake.

Example: "Ray was **browned off** that nobody noticed that he had bought a new picture for the office."

「browned off」意指厭煩、懊惱。上文中提到，鸕鷀捕食湖中魚令瑞士漁民困擾不已。例如：「雷對辦公室裡沒人發現他買了幅新畫的事感到懊惱」。