

# Adirondack Daily Enterprise

## DEC to end terrapin turtle hunting

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The state Department of Environmental Conservation announced this week that it would be permanently ending its annual terrapin turtle hunting season after next spring's hunt.

The terrapin turtle is native to brackish waters, including the lower Hudson River and Long Island Sound. New York is the last state to eliminate its hunting season for the animals.

The final terrapin hunting season will end on April 30, 2018 and all hunting permits for the turtles will expire on May 4 next year.

The Center for Biological Diversity has been campaigning to eliminate the harvest of diamondback terrapins for several years, and celebrated the announcement.

“Ending harvest of terrapin turtles is an important step forward that brings New York regulations in line with those of most other states and makes it clear that terrapin populations, like those of most other turtles, cannot withstand harvest,” Dr. Russell Burke, a professor of ecology and conservation at Hofstra University said in a press release.

“We can now focus our efforts on addressing habitat loss and other threats to diamondback terrapins.”

