

## Emperor Goose Subsistence Harvest Data Sheet

Village: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) How many Emperor Geese did you harvest today? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Have you harvested any other emperor geese this season (yes/no) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) If yes, How many? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Were those geese already surveyed? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) May we take measurements of your emperor geese? \_\_\_\_\_

Village: _____			
Goose	Age	Sex	Weight
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
0			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

## FAQ's about data collection of Emperor Geese

Q: Why are you collecting information on emperor geese?

A: Because emperor geese haven't been harvested in 30 years, we know very little about the interest and harvest level of this species when it finally opens. We will be using the number of geese harvested as a gauge to peoples interest in the future, and make educated management decisions of emperor geese into the future so that the season will hopefully not be closed again.

Q: Why do you want the age and sex of geese?

A: Harvest demographics can tell us a lot of the population. In most species, juveniles are harvested more than adults, but being that we are harvesting them just prior to nesting on their nesting grounds, we are interested in what ratios are being removed from the breeding population.

Q: What does the weight of the bird tell you?

A: The weight of a bird is an indication of how healthy it is. We can get an idea of a birds winter habitat quality and their ability to gain weight just prior to nesting. Heavier birds are more likely to nest, but we know very little about their habitat quality, and what their weight is just prior to nesting.

# Emperor Goose

## *As Our Elders Say, Hunt for the Future*

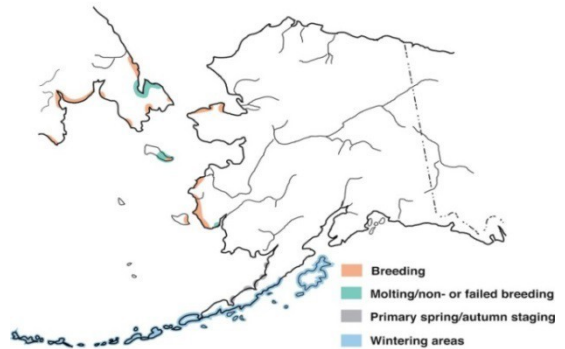


### Nacaullek Leghleq Ligliqpak Mitilgruaq

A subsistence hunt for emperor geese will open to rural Alaskans living in subsistence eligible areas beginning in spring of 2017 (April 2 through August 31). Emperor goose populations declined significantly in early 1980's resulting in a closure of any hunting in 1987. Conservation efforts through co-management let the emperor goose population rebound allowing for the first legal hunt in 30 years!

#### What Is Special About Emperor Geese?

The emperor goose is truly "Alaska's Goose"! Eighty percent of the world's emperor geese breed along the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta coast, with the remaining nesting along coastal areas of northwest Alaska and in Siberia. Most emperor geese tough out the winter along the Alaska Peninsula, the Aleutian Islands, and Kodiak Island. They spend the majority of their life in Alaska; some only venturing to Russia to molt.

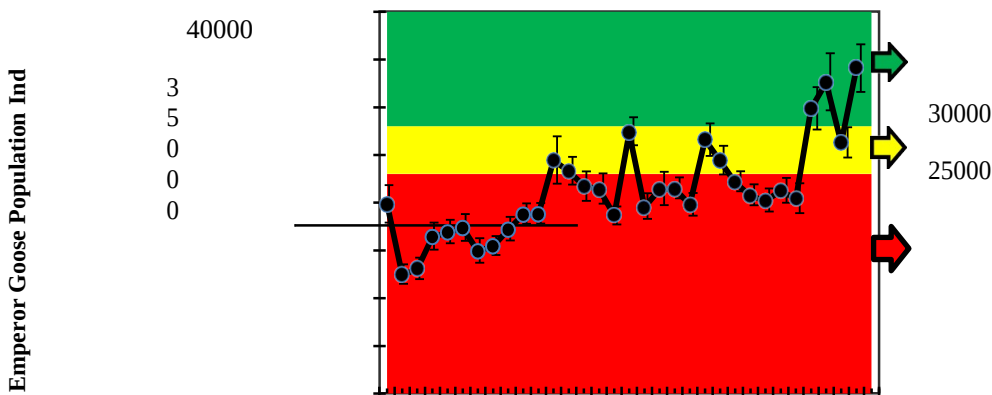


Annual Range of Emperor Geese

#### 2017 Spring/Summer Subsistence Harvest

Emperor goose populations have grown slowly and have only recently reached the level for customary and traditional hunting to be allowed again under spring/summer subsistence regulations. Emperor geese remain vulnerable to overharvest and the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council will review population and harvest data annually and implement restrictions if needed. Hunting conservatively will help to ensure future generations have the opportunity to harvest this special bird.

#### Spring/Summer Harvest Management Plan for Emperor Geese



C  
u  
s  
t  
o  
m  
a  
r  
y

and Traditional Open  
Harvest

Hunting Restrictions  
Considered

Closed to Harvest



## 2017 Fall/Winter Harvest

There will be a fall/winter hunt that allows for the take of emperor geese under a registration permit system administered by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. More details will be distributed at a future date.

## How YOU Can Help Conserve Emperor Goose Populations and Future Hunting Opportunities

- Take juvenile birds instead of adults when possible. Harvesting adult emperor geese will have the greatest negative impact on the population as these are the breeders that will be laying eggs and raising young.
- Don't harvest entire family groups, even if you have the chance.
- Target single emperor geese instead of flocks to reduce injuries or unintentional mortalities.
- Only take an egg or two and leave the rest. Emperor geese don't re-nest or replace eggs within a season.



T. Zeller, USFWS

### For More Information

- Emperor Goose Management Plans
  - AMBCC: <https://www.fws.gov/alaska/ambcc>
  - Pacific Flyway Council: [http://pacificflyway.gov/Documents/Eg\\_plan.pdf](http://pacificflyway.gov/Documents/Eg_plan.pdf)
- Spring/Summer Subsistence Harvest: Donna Dewhurst, USFWS/AMBCC, (907) 786-3499
  - Patty Schwalenberg, AMBCC Executive Director, (907) 334-0113
- Fall/Winter Harvest:
  - Jason Schamber, ADF&G, (907) 267-2206
- Schmutz, J. A., Margaret R. Petersen and R. F. Rockwell. (2011). Emperor Goose (*Chen canagica*), The Birds of North America (P. G. Rodewald, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North



America:

<https://birdsna.org/Species-Account/bna/species/empgoo>

DOI: [10.2173/bna.97](https://doi.org/10.2173/bna.97)