

Note: Emperor geese harvest regulations apply to Units 9, 10 and 17 for the Central/Southwest Region; 18, 22 and 23 for the Western Arctic/Western Region; and Unit 8 for the Southcentral Region. The Board of Game is scheduled to address only the Central/Southwest Region units at this meeting. In addition, the Board of Game does not have authority to increase permit application fees.

PROPOSAL 43

5 AAC 85.065. Hunting seasons and bag limits for small game.

Increase the number nonresident permits for harvesting Emperor geese to 10% for Units 9, 10, and 17 as follows:

Given the current population objective and harvest rates, I recommend the Board of Game increase nonresident permit numbers in concurrence with an increase in fees associated with permit applications. Increase the allocation to ten % for nonresidents and increase the permit application fee \$5.00 per application with those funds to be applied to long-term monitoring, marking, and reporting of waterfowl programs in the State of Alaska.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I recommend the Board of Game (board) increase nonresident Emperor goose permit allocations: Having followed the three-year experimental season for resident and nonresident Emperor goose hunt in Alaska beginning in 2017, it appears that the regulated harvest system has worked. There is strong evidence for continued sustainable harvest and opportunities for nonresident hunters. Additionally, reported harvest indicates a saturation of resident hunters willing to undertake the expense and time commitment to harvest Emperor geese. The board can and should allocate ten % (100) of the permit quota (1,000) to nonresident hunters. This would likely lead to a small increase in harvest, but still well within the long-term objectives of the Pacific Flyway, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

PROPOSED BY: Matthew Wilson

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