

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.

PROPOSAL 35

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

Allocate 50% of the permits for harvesting Emperor geese in Units 9, 10, and 17 to nonresidents as follows:

Increase the proportion of annual Emperor goose permits allotted to nonresidents to 50% of overall permits. When Emperor goose population counts merit regular seasons, this would equate to 500 nonresident permits; if population counts dip to merit restrictive seasons, the nonresident quota would drop to 250 permits.

Because the peak sport harvest by Alaska residents topped out at 129 birds back in 2017, this should result in no Alaska resident being restricted from sport harvest of an Emperor.

Proposed breakdown of available permits:

Regular season:

AK Residents: 500 permits // nonresidents: 500 permits

Restrictive season:

AK Residents: 250 permits // nonresidents: 250 permits

NOTE: Alaska resident sport harvest was less than 129 birds each year from 2017-2019 with lower harvest reported each consecutive year.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Increasing the allocation of Emperor goose permits for non-residents

I appreciate USFWS, ADF&G, and the Board of Game's cautious approach to the opening of Emperor goose sport harvest in 2017. As a longtime waterfowler from Montana, I have applied every year in hopes of being drawn for an Emperor permit, even though I knew the odds were long. It would be the honor of my lifetime to be able to harvest an Emperor, a conservation success story, on public lands of which I am a steward.

The evidence is clear that interest by Alaska residents for sport harvest of this species is limited and decreasing. Increasing the number of permits available to non-residents would immediately benefit ADF&G's budget and Alaska's economy.

I respectfully ask you to consider providing nonresidents with a better chance to be drawn for an Emperor goose permit.

PROPOSED BY: Brianne Rogers (EG-F20-152)
