

Note: Proposal 38 is a combination of two proposal submissions requesting 500 permits for residents and nonresidents for taking Emperor geese. 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 38

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

Allocate 500 permits to residents and nonresidents for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17 as follows:

I would recommend setting aside fewer Emperor goose tags for Alaska residents only and allow more nonresident tags. I would recommend setting the draws at 500 tags for Alaska residents only and 500 tags for nonresidents and any Alaska residents that applied for a tag and were not drawn in the resident application. This would allow other US citizens to enjoy this National resource as well.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Lack of opportunity for nonresident hunters to harvest Emperor geese. Alaska residents have had more than ample opportunity to harvest Emperor geese for several years. Nonresidents have only had the opportunity for 75 tags for the rest of the population. Between buying a license and applying for tags each year I have spent around \$300 with very low odds of a draw and have never been drawn. My understanding is that resident Alaskans have never harvested more than 130 Emperor geese in a given season.

PROPOSED BY: Britt Broadhurst (EG-F20-081)

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**Proposed solution:** Based on the extremely low interest and harvest by the resident pool, I would ask or recommend to make the allocation an even split, 500 permits to both groups. If you add a full successful nonresident pool to the average resident harvest, you are still well below the harvest allocation of 1,000 birds. Of course, if science data feels the overall harvest needs to be decreased, then it should to preserve the species, but again keep it even and reduce the allocation to both groups evenly.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The drastically different allocation of Emperor goose hunting permits between residents and nonresidents. It seems well documented with data that the resident interest in the hunting opportunity is very low and therefore it would make sense to allow more nonresidents more of an opportunity and better odds to have the experience. By allowing more avid nonresident waterfowl hunters to visit Alaska for the once in a lifetime hunting experience would benefit the tourism income for the state and its residents just as all of the nonresident big game hunters and fisherman provide.

**PROPOSED BY:** Christopher Eikelberger (EG-F20-116)

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