

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 41 is a combination of twelve individual submissions requesting an increase in nonresident permits for taking Emperor geese.

PROPOSAL 41

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

Increase the number of nonresident permits for taking Emperor geese for Units 9, 10, and 17 as follows:

I would like to see a higher number of permits for nonresident hunters. This would generate a large amount of revenue for rural Alaskan communities without causing significant damage to the population of Emperor geese.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The disproportionate amount of nonresident Emperor goose permits for residents compared to nonresidents. There are 975 permits available for residents of the State of Alaska, while just 25 permits are available for nonresidents on a limited draw basis. The majority of the resident permits aren't even utilized. Many nonresident hunters don't even apply for the draw because of the poor odds.

PROPOSED BY: Christopher O'Brien (EG-F20-070)

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My solution would be to increase tag numbers.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Increased number of Emperor goose tags available for nonresident hunters. By increasing tags you allow more opportunities for revenue to Alaska. Waterfowl hunters spend a great deal of time and revenue traveling to different destinations to pursue different species. The emperor goose is on the bucket list for many hunters but with extremely low amount of tags being drawn is extremely unlikely.

**PROPOSED BY:** Matt Switlick (EG-F20-076)

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Increase the number of Emperor goose permits for nonresidents. The small amount of permits for nonresidents will have no impact on the population.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Emperor goose permits

PROPOSED BY: Breck Dickinson (EG-F20-078)

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I think that more nonresident tags should be offered.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Emperor goose season.

**PROPOSED BY:** Lucien Gwin (EG-F20-083)

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Increase availability to hunt Emperor geese for nonresidents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Increase hunting permits.

PROPOSED BY: Kevin Ryan (EG-F20-088)

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More tags for nonresidents due to increase demand and populations of the Emperor geese available for harvest. There is no evidence to prove overharvest in hunting or subsistence at this point in time.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** More nonresident tags for Emperor geese.

**PROPOSED BY:** Mark Goldsworthy (EG-F20-091)

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I don't know the data or have a solution based on science but from I've seen it looks like it could open up at least a little but for nonresidents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? My name is Lee Thomas Kjos, longtime outdoor photographer, fisherman and hunter. My passion has always been waterfowl conservation and hunting. I've made many trips to Alaska in my lifetime and on a number of those been fortunate enough to see and photograph Emperor geese. Guide friends and outfitters have offered to me many times that if there ever was a chance for me to hunt Emperors to come up. I'm sixty years old now and would sure love the opportunity. I did apply for the Adak Island area this year unsuccessfully. I was really looking forward to it. Thank you.

PROPOSED BY: Lee Thomas Kjos (EG-F20-102)

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Due to Emperor goose harvest numbers annually falling short of the maximum allotted harvest, and goose numbers holding strong or increasing since the opening of Alaska's Emperor goose season, I suggest increasing the number of Emperor goose permits available to nonresidents. This could result in millions of dollars coming into Alaska's economy and create more hunting opportunities for these highly sought-after waterfowl.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Nonresident Emperor goose permit allocation.

**PROPOSED BY:** Scott Haugen (EG-F20-136)

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Note: The Board of Game does not have authority to change permit fees.

I would propose an allocated number of nonresident tags for purchase, at a reasonable dollar figure so as not to deter a potential hunter. After all, the travel to Alaska for most can be costly, especially within the islands.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Increase the amount of nonresident Emperor goose permits. Based on the available data, it appears there is not a huge demand from Alaska residents for harvesting Emperor geese, at least not enough to constitute the previously available resident tags. There is a niche group of waterfowl collectors worldwide that would clamor at the chance to harvest just one of these birds in their lifetime, as I am one of them. I have witnessed residents harvest these birds, and there is little to no satisfaction evident other than a seemingly additional check mark on a list.

PROPOSED BY: Jason Pinter (EG-F20-143)

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I would recommend allocating more nonresident tags. Allowing more nonresident tags would give hunters more of a chance in drawing a tag. I also feel that it would help improve the drawing of tags from multiple people in the same hunting party. On multiple occasions my father, myself, and other family members and friends have not been drawn and one person in our group would be drawn. This causes trip cancellations etc. because the majority of tag seekers do not get drawn. If there were more tags available the odds of having more people in a group get drawn would increase.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to address the current Emperor goose regulations for nonresident hunters. I have had the great opportunity to hunt waterfowl in the State of Alaska multiple times. My father and I have had opportunities to hunt in Adak, Seldovia, Kodiak, Cold Bay, and St. Paul Island. These travels and hunting experiences have been of those that I will forever remember. We have applied multiple times to hunt Emperor geese and have found it too difficult to obtain a tag. I feel that only allowing 25 nonresident tags for this species is too limited. The population of geese is a great level currently. I feel that with the limited interest in harvesting Emperor geese shown by residents of Alaska, there should be an increase in tags allocated to nonresidents. This would not only bring more revenue to the State of Alaska as a whole, but also help the local economies and businesses such as guide services.

**PROPOSED BY:** Delbert. Gatlin IV (EG-F20-149)

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Allow a larger percentage of the tags to be available for nonresident hunters.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? As a nonresident waterfowl hunter it would be nice to have the opportunity to hunt an Emperor goose and as of now you only allow 25 permits to nonresidents when there are 1,000 available and the balance are given to residents of Alaska and then the last three years they never use more than 130 of them so it would be nice if the nonresidents could have a chance at one of these special trophies once in their lifetime

PROPOSED BY: Steven Sadowski (EG-F20-163)

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Please allocate a larger percentage of the quota for emperor goose tags to non resident hunters.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like a greater portion of the emperor goose tags allotted to nonresident hunters. It seems like there is limited interest from resident hunters, increasing the quota for nonresidents allows more interest and opportunity and the fees, travel costs, etc. Contribute money to the local economy which can be used to aid in conservation of the geese and other species.

**PROPOSED BY:** Matt Frackelton

(EG-F20-084)

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