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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
ALASKA**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Kristy Tibbles, Department of Fish and Game, Executive Director
Shellene Hutter, Department of Fish and Game, Regulations Contact

FROM: April Simpson, Office of the Lieutenant Governor 465.4081 

DATE: August 31, 2022

RE: Filed Emergency Regulations: Department of Fish and Game

Department of Fish and Game Emergency Regulation re: hunting season for Canada Geese (5 AAC 85.065(a)(4)(C))

Attorney General File:	Emergency Regulations
Regulation Filed:	8/31/2022
Effective Date:	8/31/2022
Expiration Date:	December 28, 2022 unless made permanent by the adopting agency
Print:	243, October 2022

cc with enclosures: Colleen Bailey, Department of Law
Judy Herndon, LexisNexis

FINDING OF EMERGENCY

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game finds that an emergency exists and that the attached regulations are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare. The facts constituting the emergency include the following:

Per recommendations from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game the regulatory framework for Canada geese is changed for the 2022–2023 season. Canada geese are defined as any large bodied (Canada) or small bodied (cackling) white-cheeked geese.

1) Canada geese in Game Management Units 9, 17, and 18 are changed as follows: daily bag and possession limits are decreased from a daily bag limit of 6 birds, 18 in possession, to a daily bag limit of 4 birds, 12 in possession.

The population of minima cackling geese breeding in Alaska has declined to a level below a management threshold that requires regulatory action as stipulated in the Pacific Flyway Council's Cackling Canada Goose Management Plan (Plan). The harvest strategy in the Plan seeks to maintain a population of $250,000 \pm 10\%$ geese, as measured by the 3-year average index of total indicated birds from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Coastal Zone Survey expanded to approximate fall population size (fall index). If the fall index is greater than 10% above or below the population objective of 250,000 geese, regulatory actions will be implemented to regain the objective. The 2021 fall index for minima cackling geese was 206,941 geese and the most recent 3-year average (2018–2019, 2021) was 206,763; 17% below the population objective. Initial regulatory actions likely to be most effective to regain the population objective are reductions in bag limits in states that experience the highest proportional harvest across the Pacific Flyway. Band recovery data from hunter harvest of minima cackling geese indicates that most (~75%) of the fall-winter harvest occurs in northwest Oregon and southwest Washington, and the next highest in western Alaska. Accordingly, the federal frameworks for Oregon and Washington have been modified to reduce the 2022-2023 bag limit for Canada and cackling geese in those states. The federal frameworks for Alaska also have been modified to reduce the bag limit for Canada and cackling geese in the western portion of the state (Units 9, 17, and 18) from 6 per day to 4 per day.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Game is not scheduled until January 2023 and the board is unable to meet requirements for public notice and implementation of these changes prior to the opening of the 2022–2023 migratory bird seasons on September 1. Therefore, this emergency regulation is necessary to follow the harvest strategy agreed to by the Pacific Flyway Council and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and comply with the recent modification to the federal frameworks.

ADOPTION ORDER

Under the authority of AS 16.05.255, AS 16.05.258, and under a delegation of authority from the Board of Game under AS 16.05.270, the attached two pages of regulation changes are therefore adopted as emergency regulations to take effect August 31, 2022, as provided in AS 44.62.180(3).

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: 8/22/2022
Juneau, Alaska

DocuSigned by:
Ben 2 M
339355571A4B4AB
Ben Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

April Simpson for
A

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Kevin Meyer, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on August 31,
2022, at 11:59 a .m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.

Kevin Meyer
Lieutenant Governor

Effective: August 31, 2022
Register: 243, October 2022

Expires December 28, 2022
unless made "permanent"
by the adopting agency

FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

**I, KEVIN MEYER, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA,
designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act
filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:**

**Josh Applebee, Chief of Staff
Kady Levale, Notary Administrator
April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist**

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have
signed and affixed the Seal of the State of
Alaska, in Juneau, on December 11th,
2018.**




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**KEVIN MEYER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

Title 5. Fish and Game.

Part 3. Game.

Chapter 85. Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits.

Article 2. Seasons and Bag Limits.

5 AAC 85.065(a)(4)(C) is amended to read:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(4)		
Migratory game birds		
(except by falconry) ¹		
(C) Geese		
Canada and cackling		
combined		
...		
Units 7, <u>9, and 11 – 26</u> [11 – 16,	Sept. 1 – Dec. 16	Sept. 1 – Dec. 16
AND 19 – 26]	(General hunt only)	
4 per day, 12 in possession		
[Units 9,] <u>Unit</u> 10 (Unimak Is. Only)[,	Sept. 1 – Dec. 16	Sept. 1 – Dec. 16

17 AND 18] (General hunt only)

6 per day, 18 in possession

...

(Eff. 8/20/89, Register 111; am 9/1/89, Register 111; am 8/9/90, Register 115; am 8/12/90, Register 115; am 12/27/90, Register 116; am 6/16/91, Register 118; am 7/1/92, Register 122; am 5/13/93, Register 126; am 7/1/93, Register 126; am 8/25/94, Register 131; am 8/31/94, Register 131; am 9/8/94, Register 131; am 7/8/95, Register 135; am 7/9/95, Register 135; am 8/1/95, Register 135; am 8/4/95, Register 135; am 6/28/96, Register 138; am 8/26/96, Register 139; am 7/18/97, Register 143; am 7/26/97, Register 143; am 7/1/98, Register 146; add'l am 7/1/98, Register 146; am 8/6/98, Register 147; am 7/1/99, Register 150; am 7/7/99, Register 151; am 7/17/99, Register 151; am 9/29/99, Register 151; am 7/1/2000, Register 154; add'l am 7/1/2000, Register 154; am 7/24/2000, Register 155; am 7/6/2001, Register 159; am 10/27/2001, Register 160; am 7/1/2002, Register 162; am 7/1/2005, Register 174; am 8/31/2005, Register 175; am 8/31/2006, Register 179; am 8/31/2007, Register 183; am 8/31/2008, Register 187; am 7/1/2009, Register 190; am 8/31/2009, Register 191; am 9/1/2009, Register 191; am 7/1/2010, Register 194; am 8/31/2011, Register 199; am 7/1/2012, Register 202; am 8/31/2013, Register 207; am/readopt 8/31/2014, Register 211; am 9/2/2014, Register 211; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; 8/31/2015, Register 216; am 8/31/2016, Register 219; am 7/1/2017, Register 222; am 7/1/2018, Register 226; am 7/1/2019, Register 230; add'l am 7/1/2019, Register 230; am 7/1/2020, Register 234; add'l am 7/1/2020, Register 235; am 8 / 31 / 2022, Register 243)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.255

AS 16.05.258