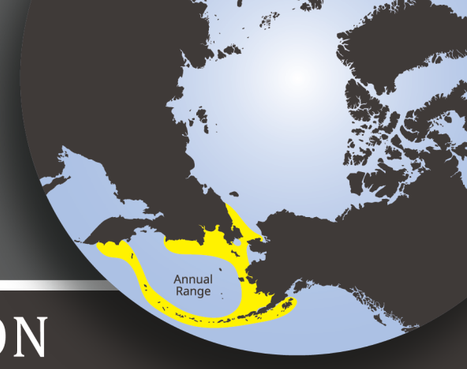
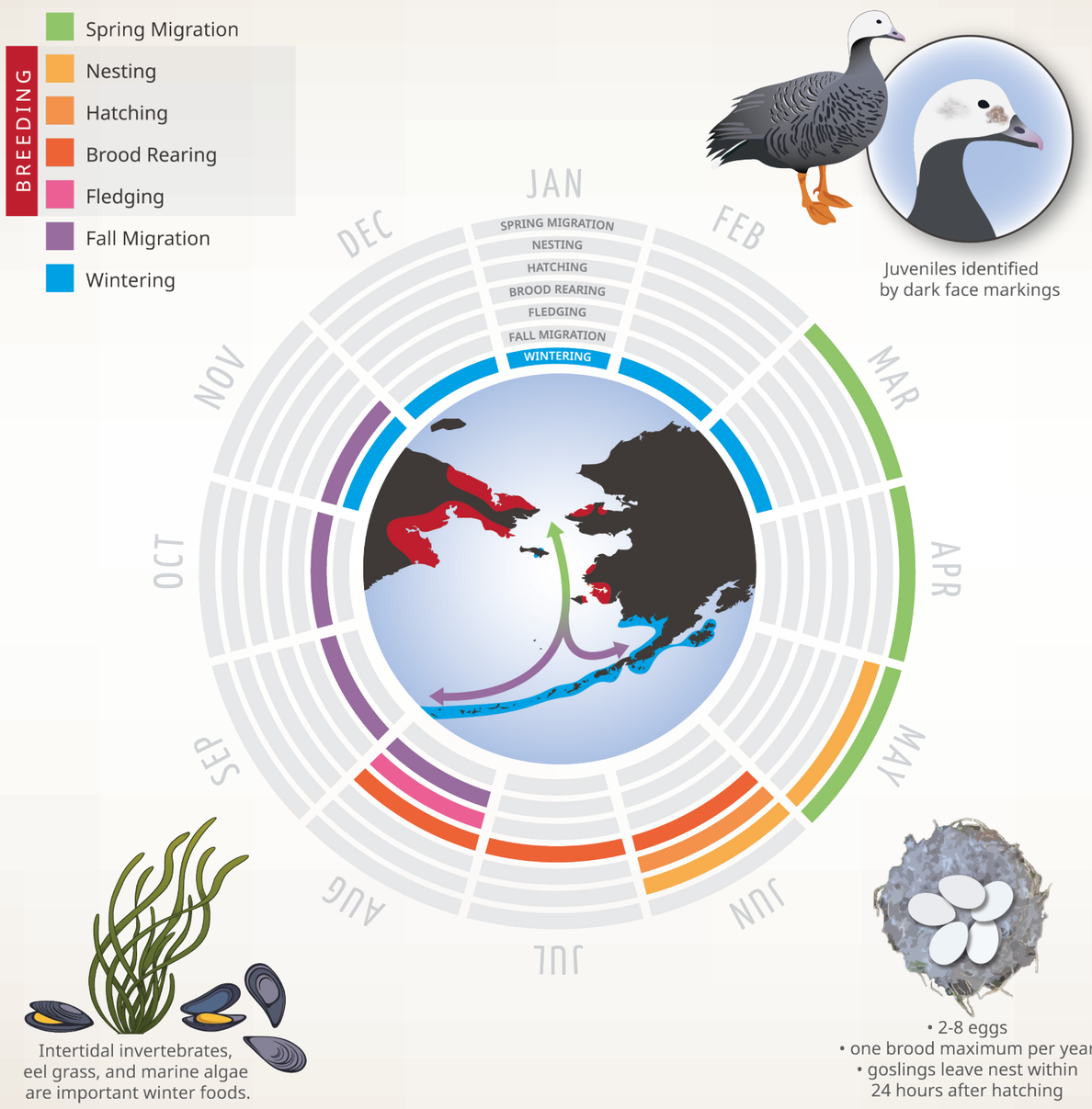
EMPEROR GOOSE

NACAULLEK • LEGHLLEQ • LIGLIQPAK • MITILGRUAQ • NEQLLEQ

It Takes All of Us to Protect Alaska's Goose



NATURAL HISTORY



IDENTIFICATION

Anser canagicus
ORDER: Anseriformes
FAMILY: Anatidae

THREATS

It takes all of us to protect Emperor Geese from threats.

PREDATION AND HUNTING

Emperor Goose eggs and goslings are consumed by gulls, jaegers, and foxes. Emperor geese are also an important source of food for human hunters during spring, fall, and winter. Because their populations grow slower than most other goose species, we must take steps to avoid over-harvest to ensure healthy future populations.

NOISE DISTURBANCE

Emperor Geese are easily disturbed by humans and may be forced to use vital energy reserves escaping loud noises from low-flying aircraft, boat motors, and other perceived threats.

SPILLS AND POLLUTION

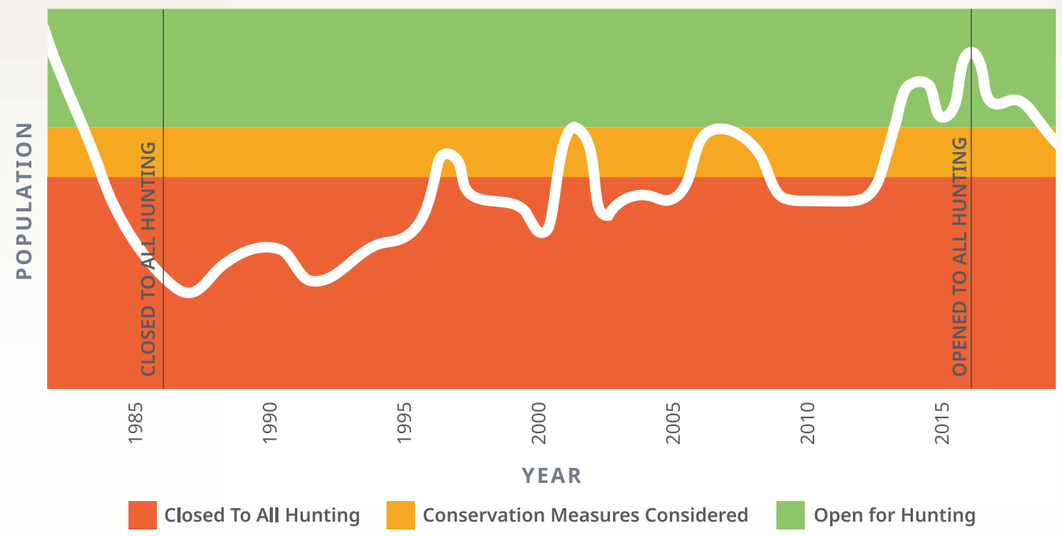
Increases in vessel traffic due to reduced sea ice extent and increased human development activities may threaten Alaskan coastal habitats important to Emperor Geese. Any spill or accident in these areas may directly affect Emperor Goose survival or reproduction.

CLIMATE CHANGE

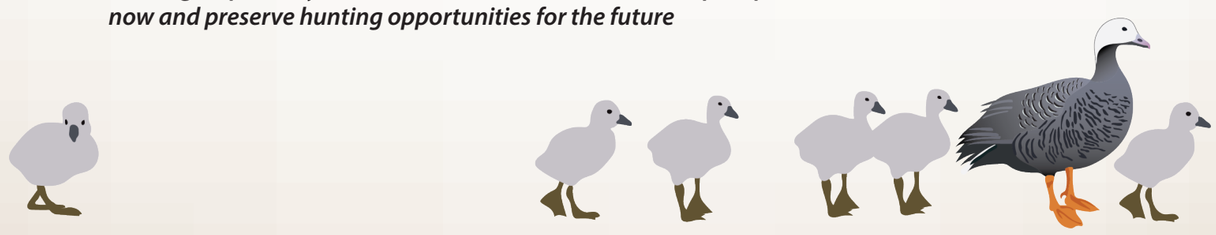
The effects of Climate Change—sea level rise, increased salinity, and coastal inundation, among others—are likely to alter nesting and brood rearing habitats and may impact Emperor Goose productivity and gosling survival.

ACTION

The Emperor Goose population is near the closure threshold. Action now may prevent future closures.



What Can Hunters Do?

- ❒ Do not take eggs. Egg harvest is closed until the population increases.
- ❒ When hunting, target juvenile birds to protect the breeding population.
- ❒ Leave nesting and brood rearing birds alone to protect population numbers.
- ❒ One shot, one kill. Accuracy protects the flock from injury.
- ❒ Take only what you need and "Hunt for the Future."

Hunting responsibly is one of the few actions that can help Emperor Geese now and preserve hunting opportunities for the future