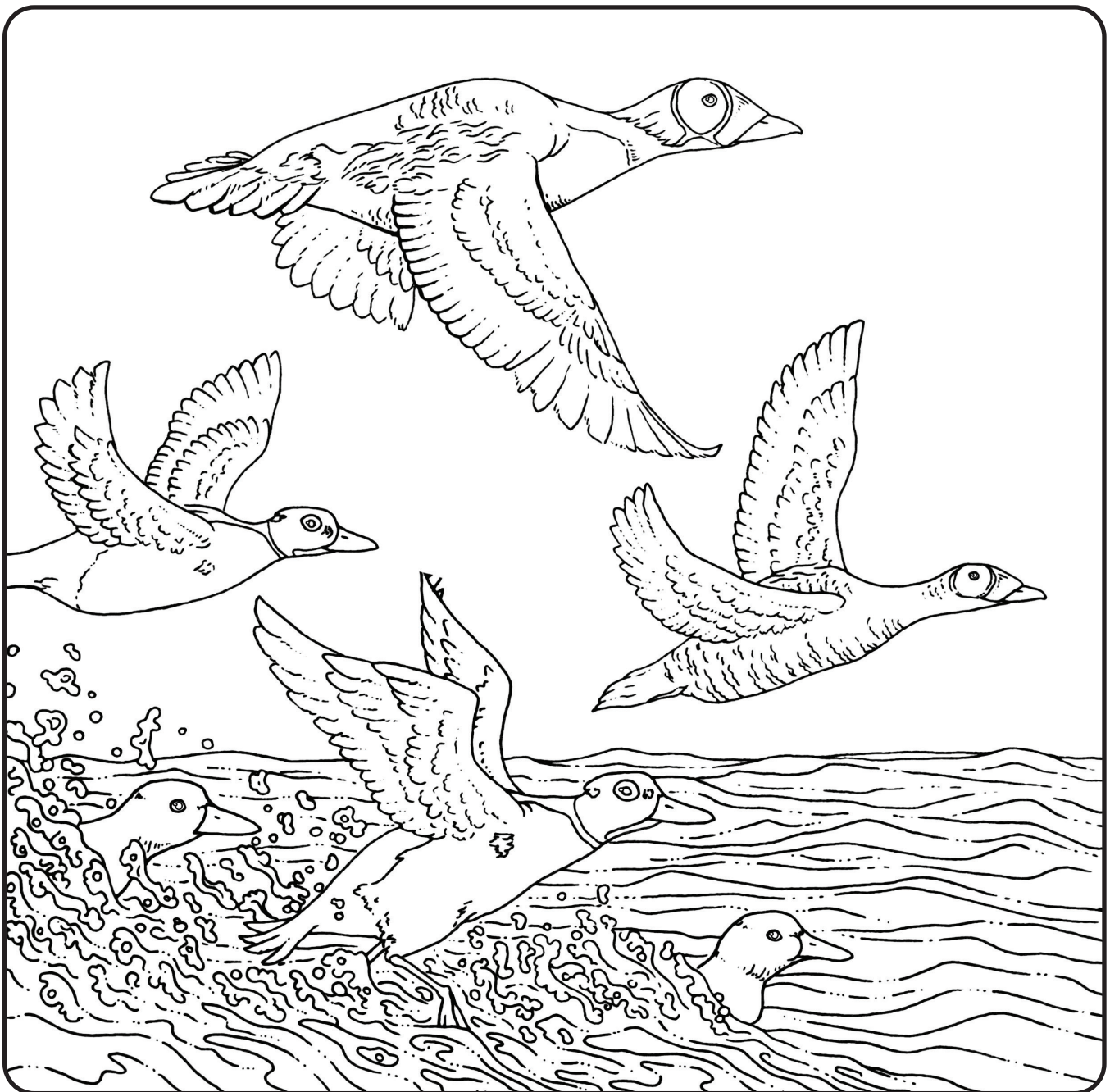




Spectacled and Steller's eiders **threatened**

Steller's and spectacled eiders are small sea ducks. Steller's eiders have black eye rings. Male spectacled eiders have white eye patches; females have brown. Did you know Steller's eiders only nest in one place in Alaska, around the town of Utqiagvik? Spectacled eiders nest in tundra along the Yukon Delta and arctic coastal tundra of Alaska and Russia. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service surveys these areas to understand how well eiders are doing. After molt (shedding old feathers to grow new ones), spectacled eiders fly to the central Bering Sea and form large flocks in sea ice holes until spring. If you see a bird nest, stay quiet, don't get too close or visit often. Sounds and activity easily bother nesting birds and chicks; predators may follow paths made by frequent visits.



Protected by the U.S. Endangered Species Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act