

News Release

Department of Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuges P.O. Box 346/ Bethel, AK 99559 Telephone 907-543-3151/FAX 907-543-4413

For Immediate Release June 3, 2023 Contact Aaron Moses, aaron_moses@fws.gov, 907-543-1021

2023 Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Region Subsistence Spring Waterfowl Closure

A 30-day Emergency Closure has been established for the 2023 Alaska subsistence spring migratory bird harvest in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region. The spring waterfowl season will be closed during the initiation of migratory bird nesting from June 6 through July 6, 2023 for all species except scoters. The spring waterfowl season will be closed for scoters from June 10 through July 10, 2023. This emergency closure comes after consultation with the Association of Village Council Presidents Waterfowl Conservation Committee and field biologists from the Service. This closure is established in 50 CRF 92.21 and through the publication of this notice.

A special closure for Black Brant, from the time of egg laying until young birds are fledged, remains in effect through July 15, 2023.

Egg collecting for emperor geese remains closed in 2023.

For more information, contact Aaron Moses, Subsistence Coordinator at (907) 543-1021.

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Special notice: Avian Influenza is being detected on the Yukon Delta. If dead or sick birds are seen or found, please call 1-866-527-3358 to report sightings.