

Working with Wild Waterfowl in ALASKA



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- ADFG Waterfowl Program Overview
- Population Management and Monitoring
 - Band Recoveries
 - New Projects

Alaska has more than 174 million acres of wetlands. About 20% of America's waterfowl nest here. Alaska supports nesting populations of at least 36 species of waterfowl, including many species found nowhere else in the United States or the world.

Geese: more than half a million individuals nest in the state annually.

-More than 80% of the world's breeding population of Pacific Black Brant fly to Alaska each year to nest.

-Nine out of ten of the world's Emperor Geese nest here.

-Alaska supports 100% of the world's breeding Tule and Pacific White-Fronted Geese, Aleutian Cackling Geese, Cackling Geese, and Dusky Canada Geese.



Northern Pintails: Up to half of North America's Northern Pintails nest here.

Sea Ducks: Alaska supports 100% of the U.S. breeding populations of Spectacled, King, and Steller's Eiders; Long-tailed Duck; and Black, White-Winged, and Surf Scoters.

Swans: More than 100,000 Tundra Swans and 15,000 Trumpeter Swans nest in Alaska

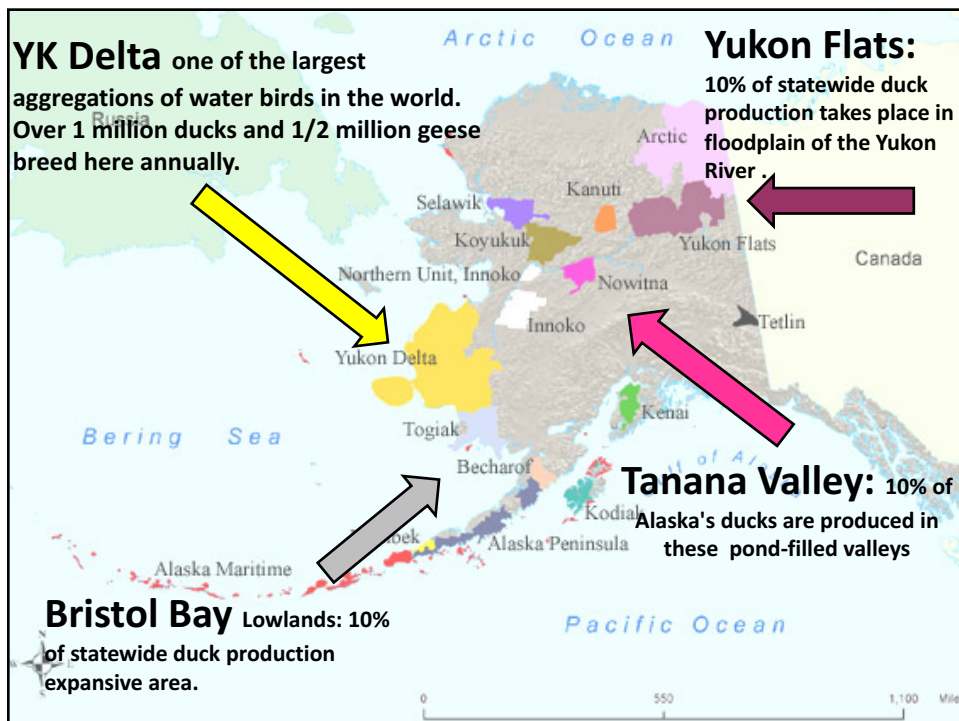
Alaska's extensive wetlands and marine waters support a wealth of waterfowl, seaduck, and marine mammal species. ADF&G maintains a waterfowl research and management program to cooperatively manage ducks and geese with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Pacific Flyway Council. Studies include monitoring the recovery of harlequin ducks from the Exxon Valdez oil spill, population change in dusky Canada geese on the Copper River Delta, and study of the federally threatened population of Steller's eiders that occur in Alaska.



- To protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.
- increase public knowledge and confidence that wild populations of fish and wildlife are responsibly managed
- Management and research of fish and wildlife is carried out by five divisions in the department: Commercial Fisheries, Sport Fish, Subsistence, Habitat, and Wildlife Conservation. We also partner with Alaska tribes; state, federal, and municipal agencies; and other organizations to conduct research, monitoring, permitting, and access for resource use and development.



ADF&G State Wide Waterfowl Program Staff






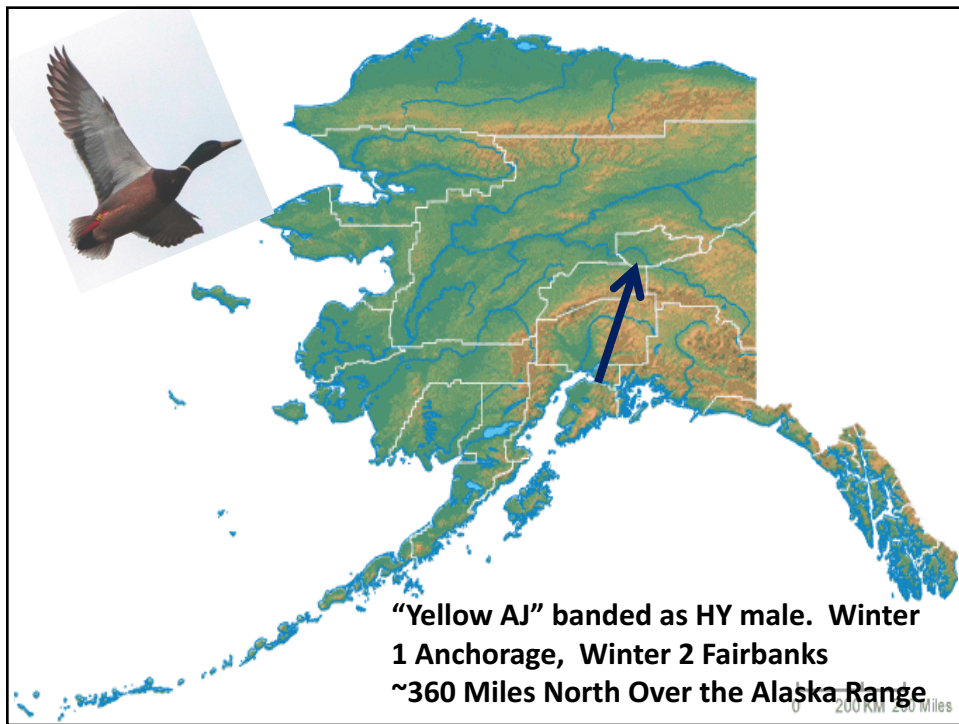
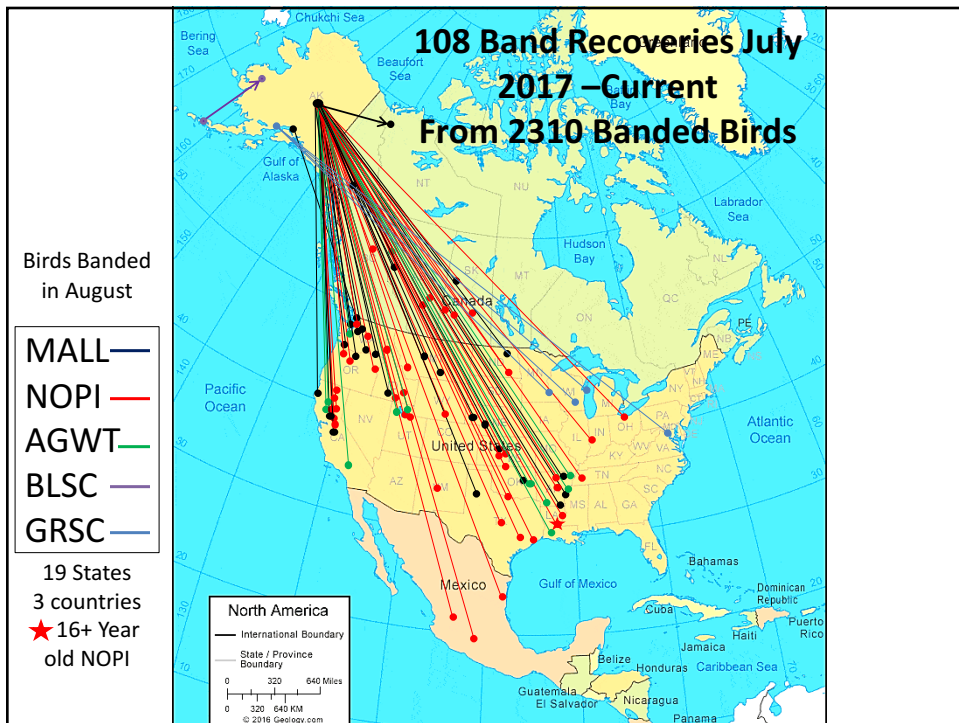
Conservation of Alaska's waterfowl requires coordination and partnership with ornithologists, natural resource and land managers, and private landowners in a wide variety of places outside of Alaska where our birds migrate through or overwinter.

- 50% of Alaska's waterfowl winter in the Pacific Flyway.
- 25% use the Mississippi Flyway.
- 10% use the Central Flyway.
- 10% use the Atlantic Flyway.
- The remaining 5% percent travel to Mexico, South America, Asia or the Pacific Islands.

Banding Efforts



Flyway banding goal for Alaska Mallards is 6000:
1000 Adult Males, 2000 Hatch Year Males
1000 Adult Females, 2000 Hatch Year Females





Over Wintering in Alaska comes at a cost.
What are the benefits?



Frost Bitten Feet

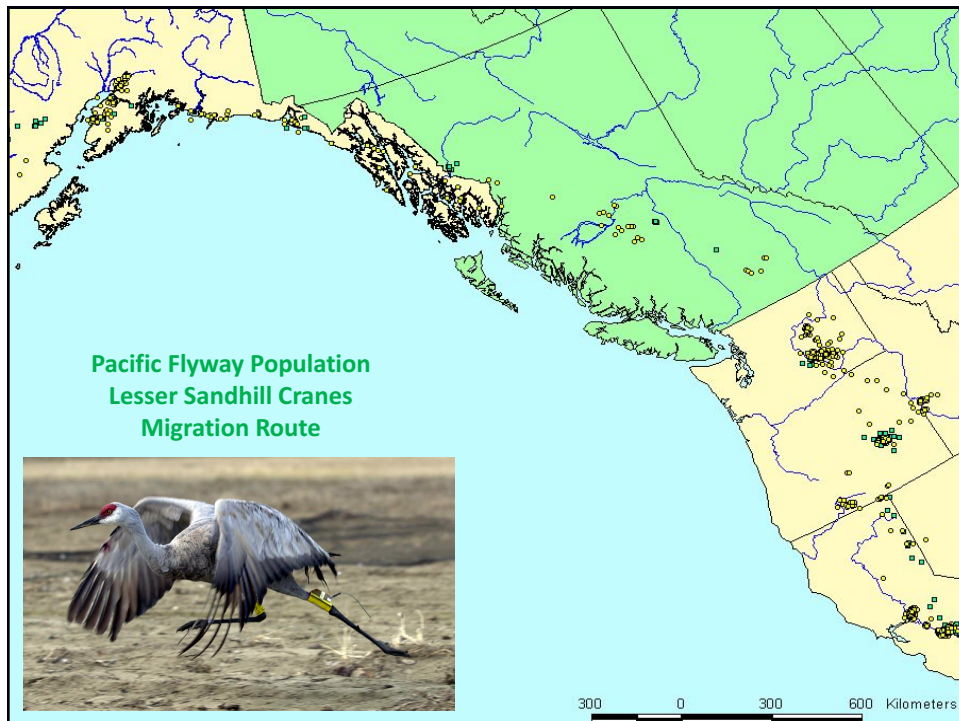


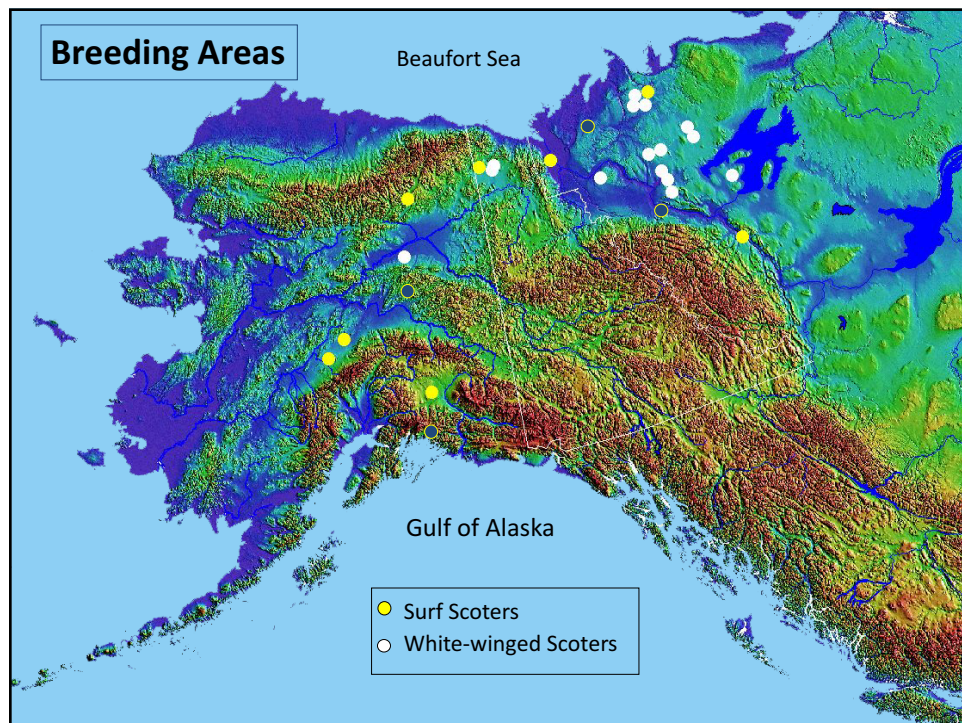
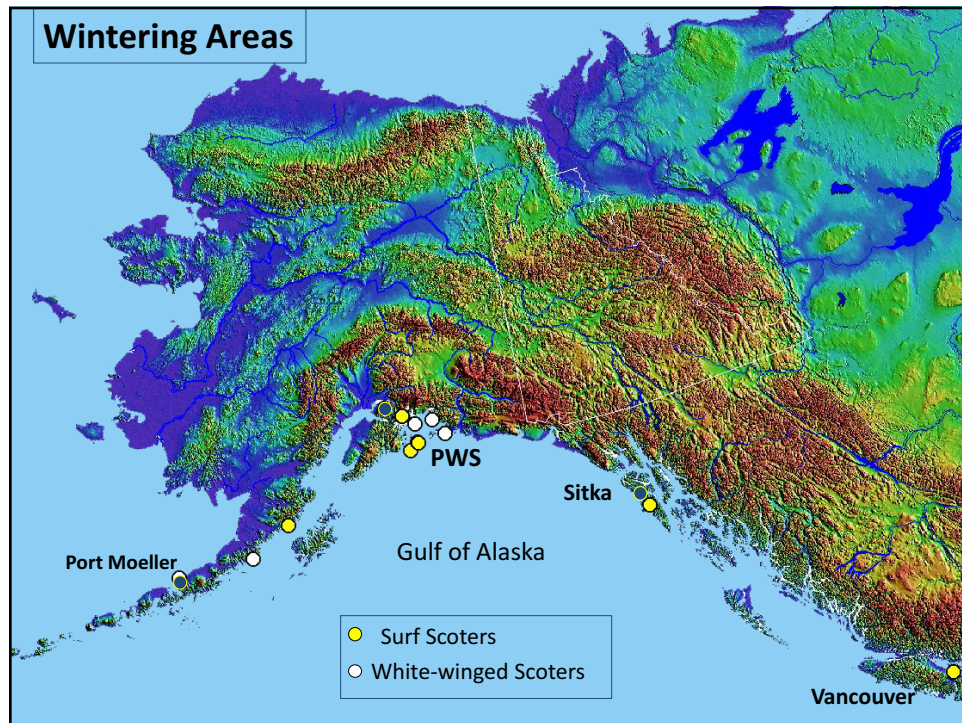
Yellow Feathers from a cracked corn diet

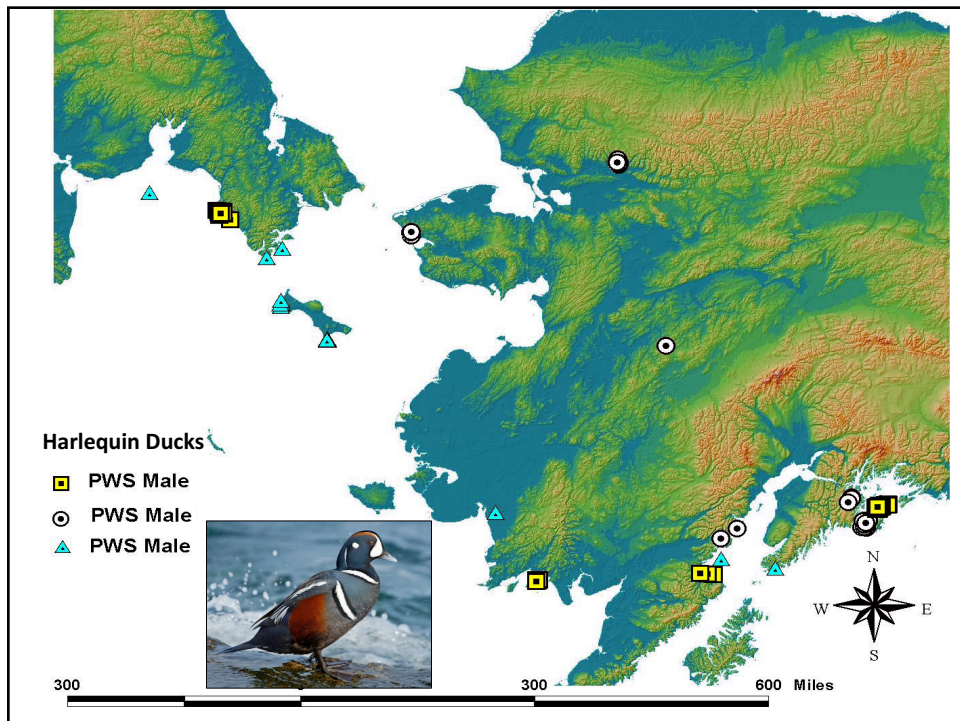
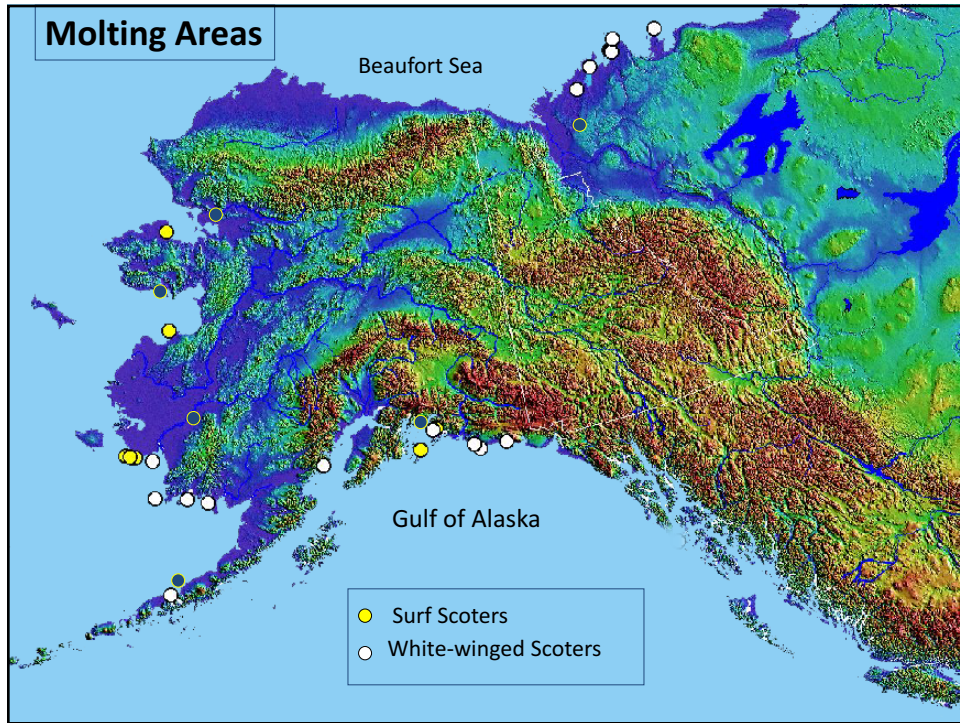
Learning More about Migration Routes

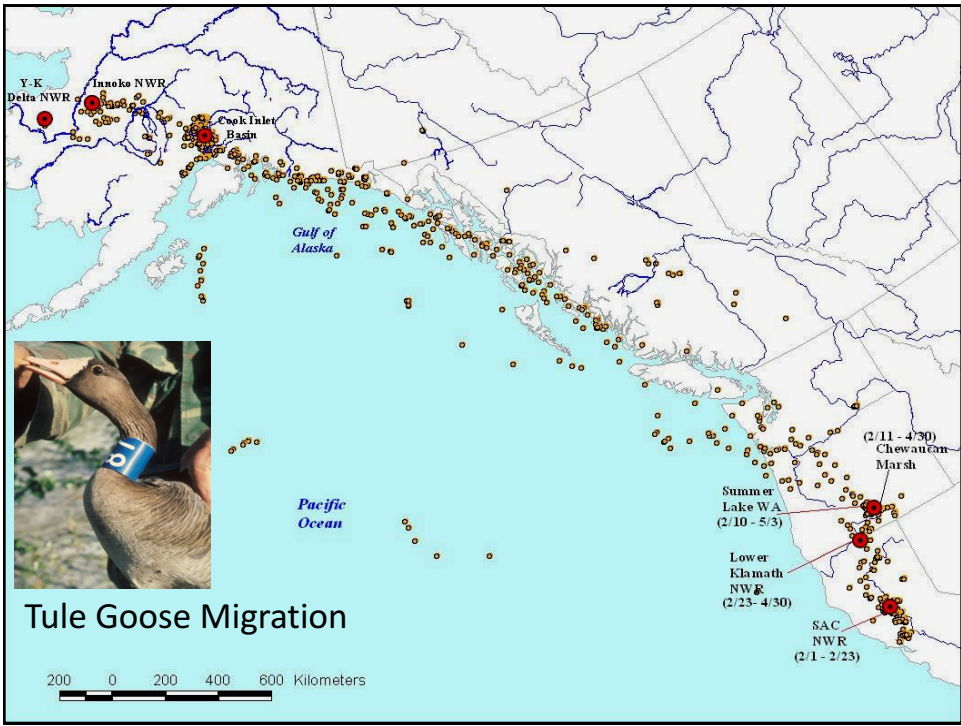
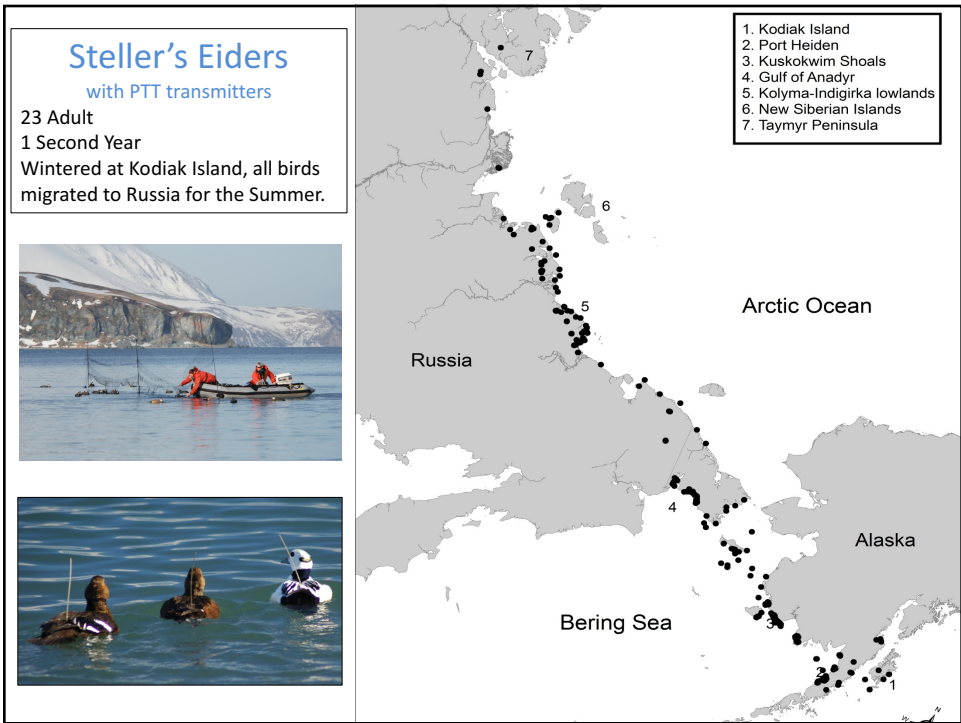


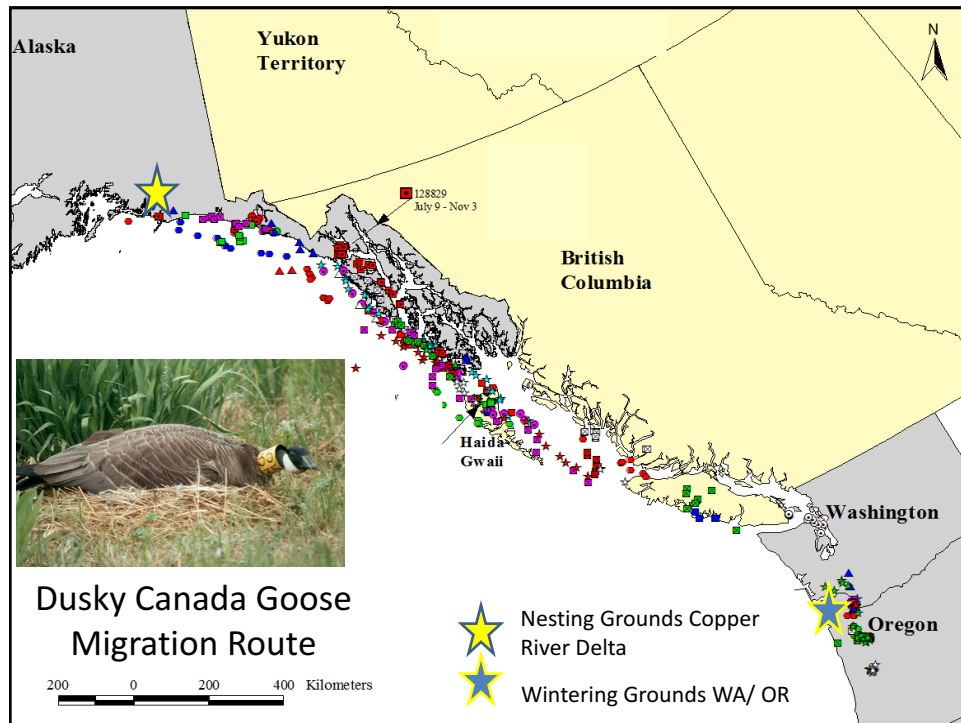
Platform Transmitter Terminal (PTT) are battery powered transmitters, sending signals to the Argos System; instruments on board satellites in orbit around Earth. Satellites record PTT signals and re-transmit them to a receiving station on the ground. PTT's that include 2 batteries are 60 grams and last ~3 years. If it were not for PTT and Argos technology, we still might not know where Spectacled Eiders spend the winter.

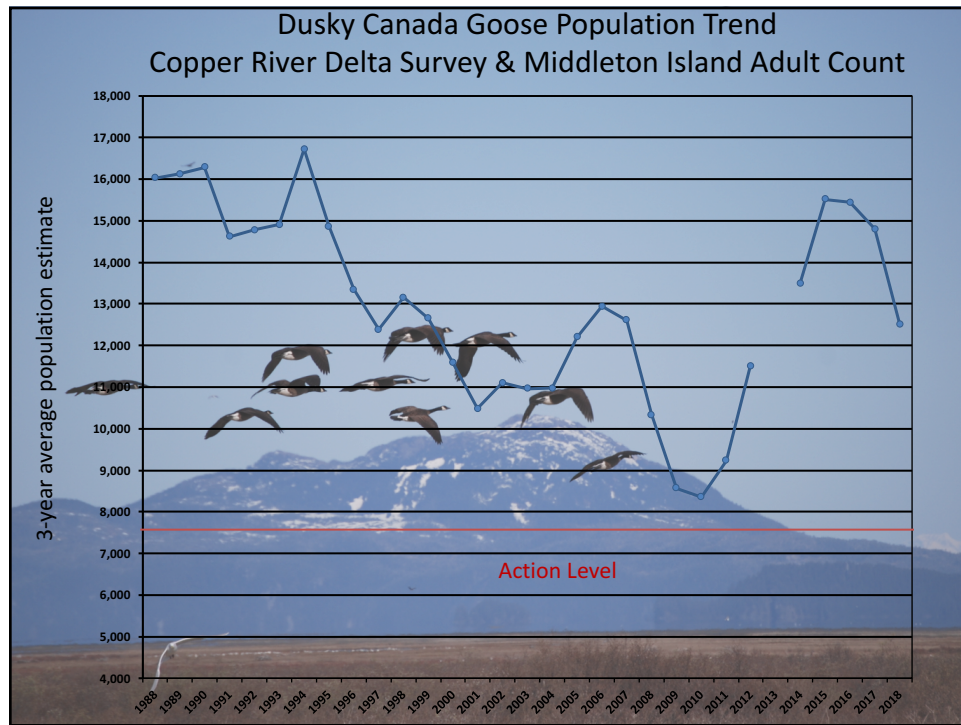














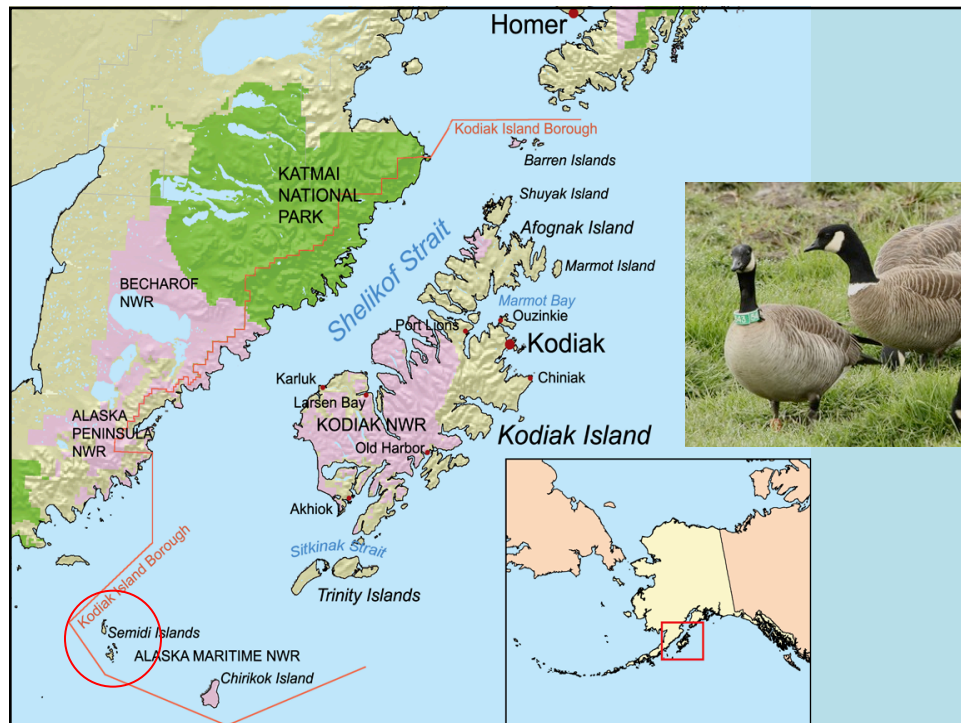


Semidi Aleutian Cackling Goose

Branta hutchinsii leucopareia



Aleutian Cackling Geese were delisted in 2001
 Current Semidi Sub-Population ~ 200
 Nest in one location: Semidi Islands, Alaska
 Winter in one location: Pacific City, OR
 83 Individuals were collared and banded in 2008

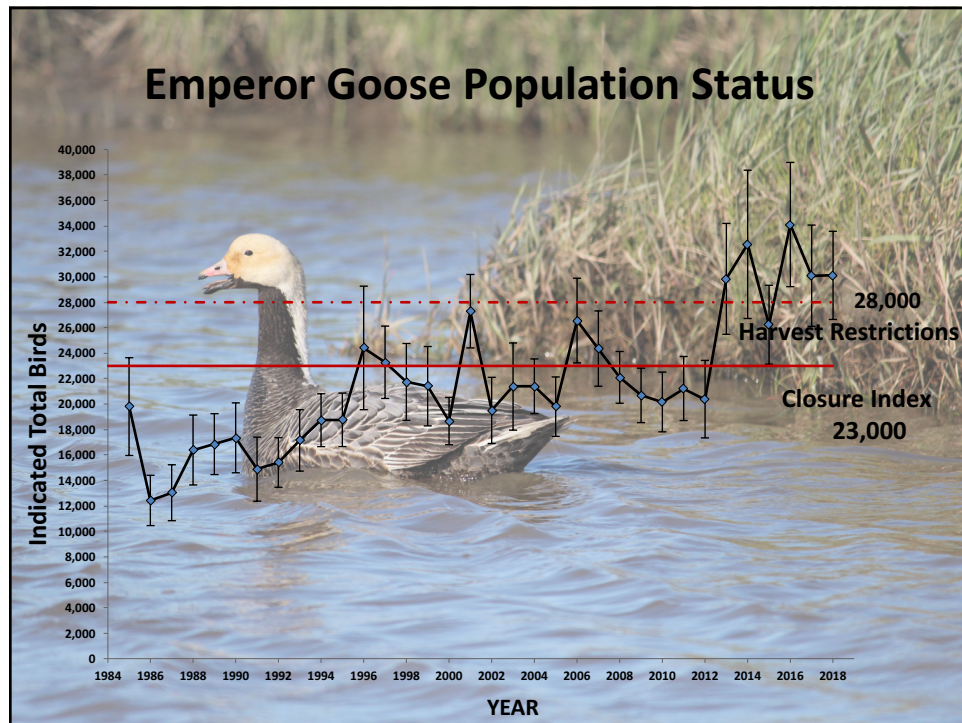


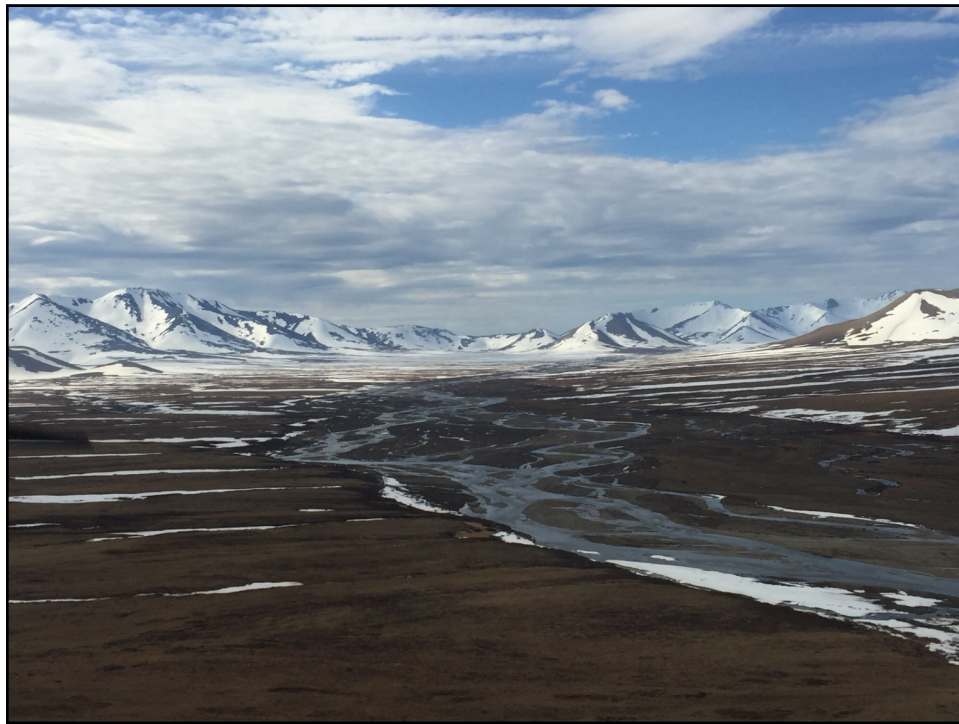
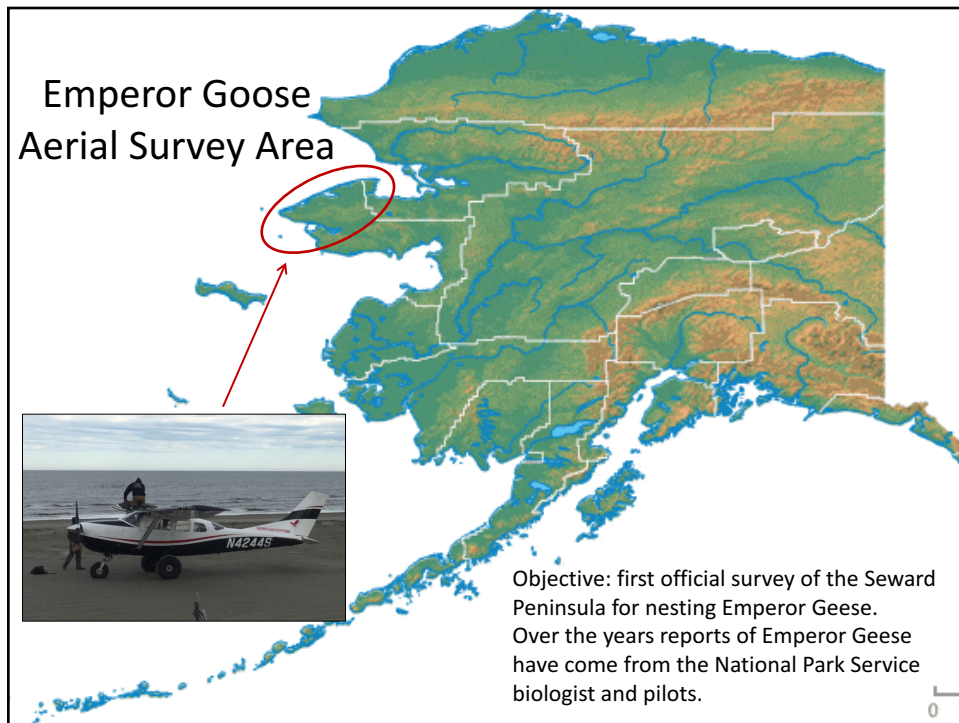
Aerial and Photographic Survey

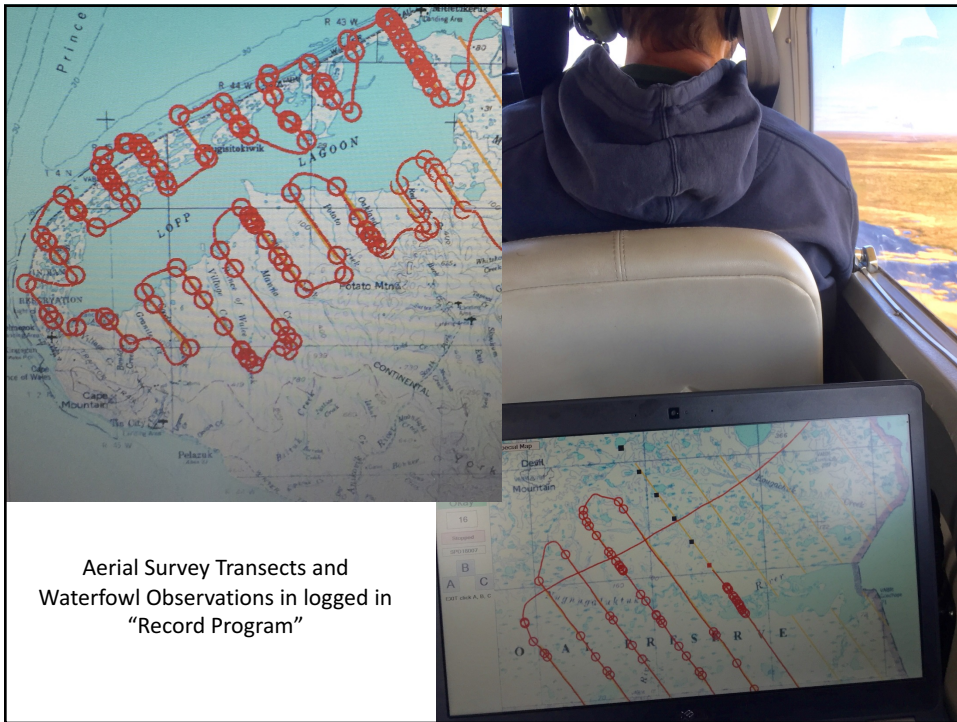
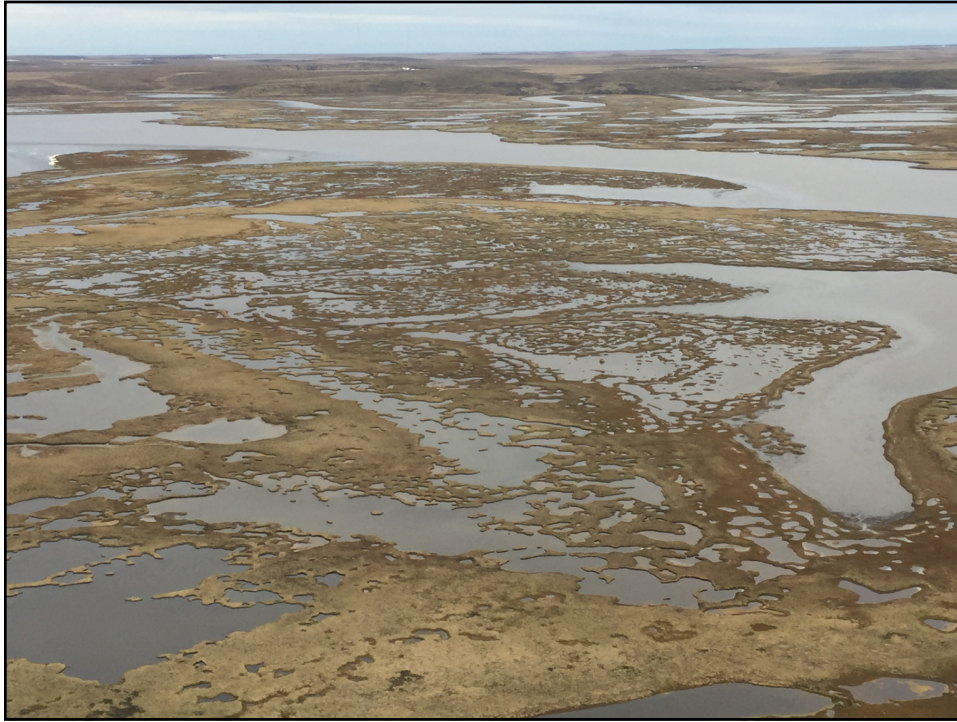












Aerial Survey Transects and
Waterfowl Observations in logged in
"Record Program"

