THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

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An Agenda Change Request (ACR 5) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 85.065(a)(4)(G). The proponent is asking the board to reopen the emperor goose permit hunt for the 2027–2028 season and reallocate new federal bird quotas across established hunt areas. This would mean that hunters in Alaska could obtain a permit to harvest 1 emperor goose per season, and hunt areas would be managed according to specified individual quotas.

With respect to the board's Agenda Change Request (ACR) acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

A. The department is unaware of any error in regulation.
B. The department is unaware of any effects of regulations that were unforeseen when the regulation was adopted.
C. The department is unaware of any biological concerns.
D. The department is unaware of any unforeseen or unexpected events that would otherwise restrict or reduce a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional wildlife uses as defined in AS 16.05.258(f).
E. A biologically allowable resource harvest will be precluded, including for subsistence harvest, by delayed regulatory action if the board does not consider changes in state regulation to reopen the emperor goose hunt prior to the 2027–2028 season.

The requested change will align state regulations with federal authorization to reopen the 2027–2028 season to emperor geese with a 250-bird quota providing allowable opportunity to hunters in Alaska; and reallocation of the newly revised federal quotas would help the department provide balanced opportunity across hunt areas and manage against overharvest of the federal quota.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting for Statewide regulations is during winter/spring of 2027/2028. If the board accepts this ACR, the department recommends the proposal come before the board at its Arctic/Western Region meeting in Kotzebue in January 2027, to allow for more public input by those affected by the issue.

Sincerely,

Ryan Scott

Ryan Scott
Director
Division of Wildlife Conservation