



Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC) Cordova Bird and Egg Harvest Estimates, 2014

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Prepared by Liliana Naves, ADF&G Division of Subsistence, Anchorage

The Cordova migratory bird subsistence harvest was first authorized in 2014. The season was opened 2–30 April for waterfowl hunting and 1–31 May for gull egg harvesting. A limited list of species was opened to harvest and only Cordova residents were eligible to participate. Participants were required to obtain a registration issued at the Cordova offices of the U.S. Forest Service and Native Village of Eyak. A total of 36 households registered (Table 1). The Division of Subsistence of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) coordinated the registration process and the harvest survey in collaboration with AMBCC and local partners.

The harvest survey was conducted in the context of the AMBCC Harvest Assessment Program. A mail-out survey was sent in late June, 2014 to all registered households. Survey reminders were sent in late July and late August to registration holders that had not yet provided completed surveys. A total of 28 surveys were returned (out of 36 registered households) resulting in a response rate

of 78%. The estimated harvest was 32 ducks, 10 geese, and 131 gull eggs (Table 2).

Table 1. Participation in the 2014 Cordova spring harvest of migratory birds.

Total households in Cordova ¹ :	922
Household registrations issued:	36
Total Cordova population ¹ :	2,239
People listed in all registrations:	65
People per registration ² :	1–4
People trying to harvest birds ³ :	8
Households harvesting birds ³ :	7
People trying to harvest eggs ³ :	14
Households harvesting egg ³ :	10

1: 2010 Census (U.S. Census Bureau, 2011).

2: Permit holder and other household members listed.

3: Based on 24 returned surveys.



Summer in the community of Cordova: Eyak Lake (left) and tidal flats (right).

Table 2. Spring harvest of birds and eggs, Cordova, April–May 2014.

	Number reported	Estimated harvest	Confidence Interval			
			CIP	Low	–	High
Birds						
American wigeon	1	1	97%	1	–	3
Teal	1	1	97%	1	–	3
Mallard	11	14	43%	11	–	20
Northern pintail	12	15	47%	12	–	23
Northern shoveler	0	0	-	-	-	-
Black scoter	0	0	-	-	-	-
Surf scoter	0	0	-	-	-	-
White-winged scoter	0	0	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	0	0	-	-	-	-
Goldeneye	0	0	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	0	0	-	-	-	-
Scaup	0	0	-	-	-	-
Common eider	0	0	-	-	-	-
King eider	0	0	-	-	-	-
Harlequin duck	0	0	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed duck	0	0	-	-	-	-
Merganser	0	0	-	-	-	-
Total ducks	25	32	38%	25	–	44
Greater white-fronted goose	4	5	67%	4	–	9
Snow goose	4	5	57%	4	–	8
Total geese	8	10	49%	8	–	15
Sandhill crane	0	0	0	-	-	-
Total birds	33	42	37%	33	–	58
Eggs						
Gull (unidentified)	102	131	37%	102	–	179

CIP: Confidence interval as a percentage of estimated harvests.

Comments provided in surveys:

“Although we did not gather, it was nice to have the legal option to harvest our subsistence foods.”

“I wasn't able to get out and participate - next year!”

“I was called away in family emergency and did not get to hunt or harvest this spring.”

“Hunted Egg Island. Lots of pintails, teal, mallards. Only hunted one day.”

“Wish I had more time to hunt. Awesome opportunity.”

“Hunted one day. Gathered eggs two days.”

“Did not go out to hunt. Area or barrier islands difficult access, bad weather.”

“Didn't harvest much, but was cool to watch spring migration. Longer season.”

Acknowledgments

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Naves L.C. (2015) Alaska subsistence harvest of birds and eggs, 2014, Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence Technical Paper 415.

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/techpap/TP415.pdf>

For a copy of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game OEO statement, see <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=home.oeastatement>