

# Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC) Subsistence Bird and Egg Harvest Survey Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta



The AMBCC is comprised of representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), and Native Caucus, which includes Alaska Native representatives from 10 subsistence regions in Alaska. The Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta representative at the AMBCC is appointed by the Waterfowl Conservation Committee of the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP). The AMBCC provides recommendations on harvest regulations and other topics related to the harvest and conservation of migratory birds.

The AMBCC conducts bird and egg harvest surveys to document the importance of birds to subsistence communities and to inform harvest management and bird conservation.



Harvest data collection relies on collaboration among the FWS, ADF&G, and many Alaska Native organizations, tribal councils, and local surveyors. Communities and households are randomly selected for the survey.

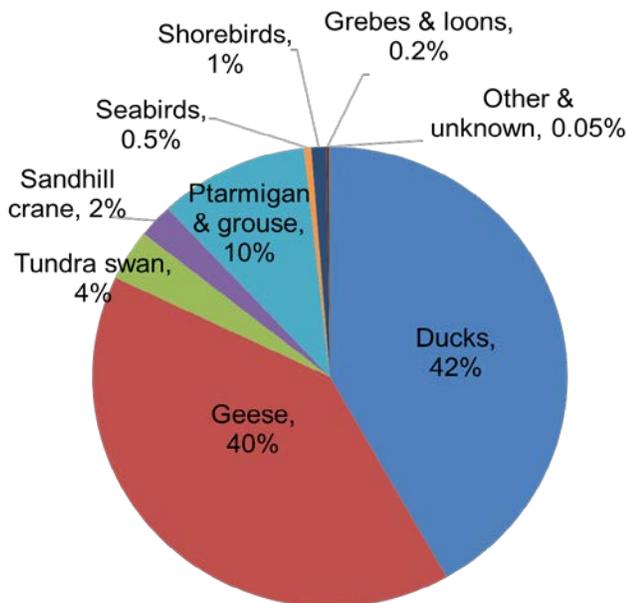
If your household is contacted by a surveyor, please complete the survey even if your household did not harvest birds or eggs. **Quyana!**

The average Alaska-wide subsistence harvest of migratory birds is about 370,000 birds per year. Including ptarmigan and grouse (non-migratory), the Alaska-wide harvest of birds is about 400,000 birds per year. Harvest in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region (about 128,000 birds per year) represents one-third of the total harvest of all birds.

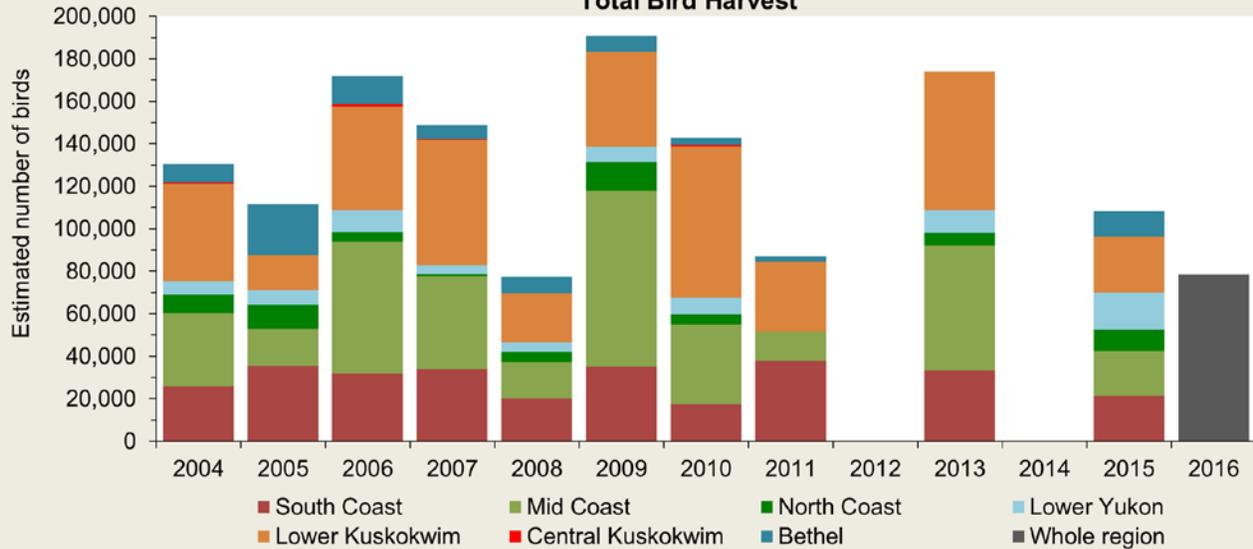
The birds harvested in the largest numbers in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta are: ptarmigan (13%), white-fronted goose (12%), Canada/cackling geese (9%), northern pintail (8%), mallard (6%), and black scoter, scaup, and swan (5% each).

The Alaska-wide egg harvest is about 200,000 eggs per year and this harvest is mostly composed of eggs of murre and gulls. The average egg harvest in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region is about 34,000 eggs per year.

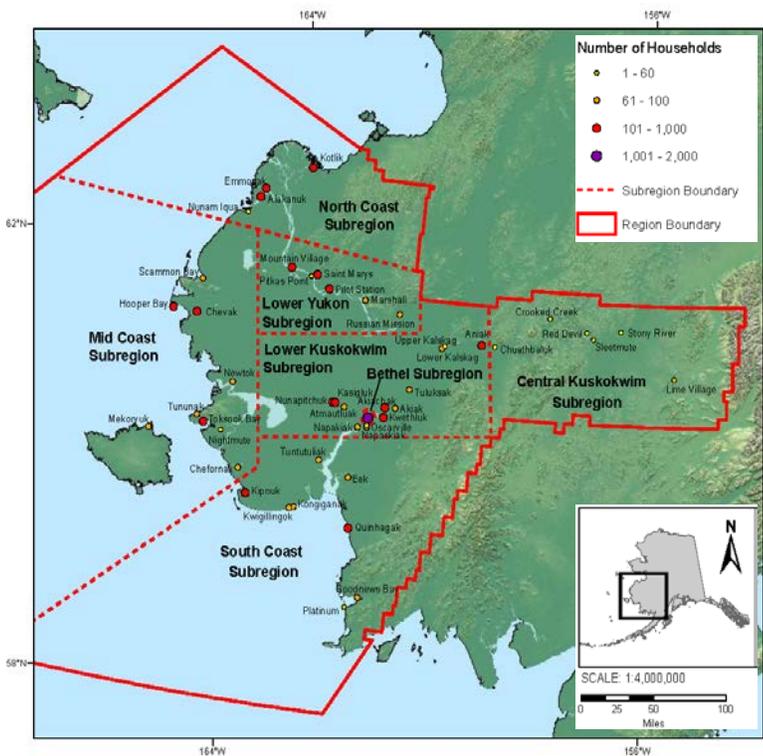
Composition of Bird Harvest, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta



Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subregions and Whole Region  
Total Bird Harvest



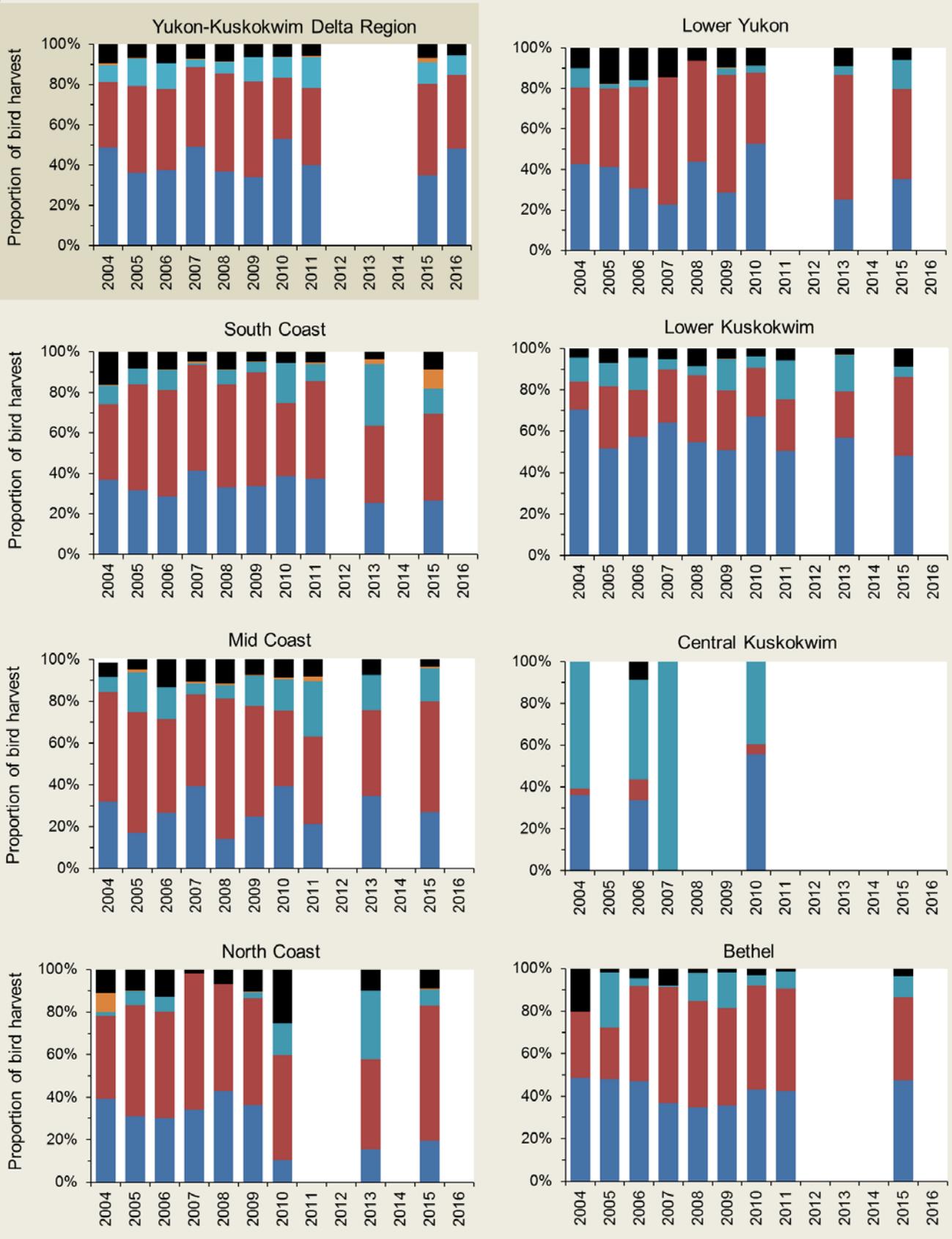
Birds per Person	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Y-K Delta region	5.4	4.7	7.0	6.3	3.2	7.9	5.9	4.5	-	-	-	4.3	3.0
South Coast	8.5	11.5	10.3	11.0	6.4	11.2	5.7	11.9	-	10.3	-	6.3	-
Mid Coast	7.5	3.8	13.0	9.1	3.6	17.1	8.0	2.9	-	11.9	-	4.1	-
North Coast	4.0	5.1	2.1	0.5	2.2	6.1	2.2	-	-	2.5	-	4.3	-
Lower Yukon	2.3	2.5	3.7	1.5	1.7	2.5	2.8	-	-	3.7	-	5.7	-
Lower Kuskokwim	8.5	3.0	8.9	10.8	4.1	8.3	13.6	6.1	-	11.7	-	4.6	-
Central Kuskokwim	1.0	-	2.8	0.6	-	-	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bethel	1.5	4.0	2.3	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.6	0.4	-	-	-	2.0	-



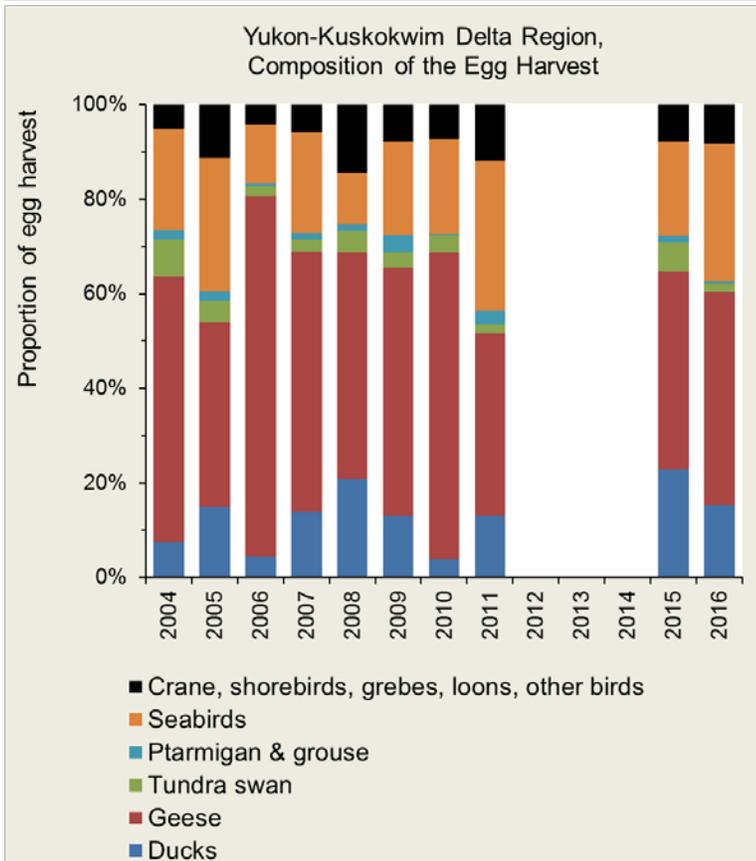
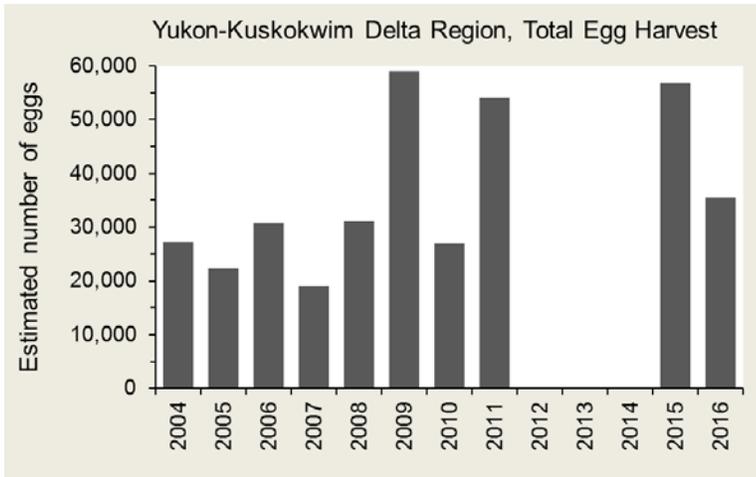
- Harvest estimates represent all households: harvest reported by surveyed households was expanded to non-surveyed households in the region or subregion.
- Harvest estimates are not available for all subregions in all years.
- Starting in 2016, because of changes in the sampling design, estimates are generated only at the regional and Alaska-wide levels.

## Composition of the Bird Harvest

■ Ducks   
 ■ Geese   
 ■ Ptarmigan & grouse   
 ■ Seabirds   
 ■ Swan, crane, shorebird, grebe, loon, other



## Egg Harvest



Eggs of Canada/cackling geese (a), white-fronted goose (b), and black brant composed most of the regional egg harvest. Duck eggs harvested in the largest amounts are of mallard and northern pintail (c). Most seabird eggs harvested are of mew gull (d) and glaucous gull.



For harvest survey reports, harvest regulations, and related information:

Harvest survey website: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=subsistence.AMBCCAMBCC>

AMBCC website: <http://alaska.fws.gov/ambcc/index.htm>

### AMBCC Program

Donna Dewhurst, Anchorage  
FWS Migratory Bird  
Management  
phone 907-786-3499  
donna\_dewhurst@fws.gov

### AMBCC Harvest Survey

Liliana Naves, Anchorage  
ADF&G Division of  
Subsistence  
phone 907-267-2302  
liliana.naves@alaska.gov

### Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge

Christopher Tulik, Bethel  
phone 907-543-1037  
christopher\_tulik@fws.gov

### AVCP Waterfowl Conservation Committee

Jennifer Hooper, Bethel  
AVCP Natural Resources  
phone 907-543-7471  
jhooper@avcp.org