Proposal 131

Reduce Bag and Possession Limits for Goldeneyes (Barrow’s and Common)

Under General Duck Limits:
Reduce to 3 per day, 9 in possession

Submitted by: Public
Department: Oppose
Advisory Committees: No Comments

Game Management Units Affected

Region II
GMU’s 6, 7, 8, 14C, and 15

General Duck Limits
8 daily/24 possession (GMU 6, 7, 14C, 15)
7 daily/21 possession (GMU 8)

Submitted by ADF&G
Department Recommendation

Proposal 131: Reduce Bag and Possession Limits for Goldeneyes

- Department: Oppose
- No Conservation concerns regionally.
- Maintain current bag and possession limits for all GMU's.
- Focus management efforts at a population level over broad geographic scales.

Goldeneyes

Barrow's and Common Goldeneyes both in Alaska

Goldeneyes and Bufflehead are 'Taxonomic' sea ducks but not included in sea duck regulations (Federal Framework)
Barrow's goldeneye
225,000

Common goldeneye
1,000,000

Barrow's Goldeneyes
Delineate the Pacific population of Barrow's goldeneyes using satellite telemetry
Breeding Population Status and Trends
Alaska Breeding Population Survey

Winter Population Trends


Kachemak Bay 1999-2003

Uyanik Bay 1980 - 2008

Uyan Bay 1980 - 2008
Winter Population Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population Estimate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prince William Sound</td>
<td>1989-2008</td>
<td>35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachemak Bay</td>
<td>2012-2104¹</td>
<td>3,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak</td>
<td>1980-2008</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Alaska</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>133,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Alaska</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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</table>

¹ Surveys conducted 1999-2003 and 2012-2014

Goldeneye Harvest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harvest</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Statewide Ave.</th>
<th>Gulf Coast¹</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subsistence</td>
<td>2004-2011</td>
<td>7,252</td>
<td>3,039</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport² (Combined)</td>
<td>2004-2013</td>
<td>3,053</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,231</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barrow's</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,822</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Highest Year for each Region combined. Not all regions surveyed annually.
² Fifty percent of the sea duck sport harvest occurs in Cook Inlet and Kodiak
Summary

Pacific Flyway populations of goldeneyes appear relatively stable.

Sea ducks are managed at broad spatial scales. Current surveys at any scale cannot adequately assess short-term changes in sea duck populations.

Harvest is at low levels. Cannot adequately assess harvest at local levels. Reduced harvest will effect subsistence hunting opportunities.

Conducting surveys and studies to improve our knowledge of population status, harvest rates, and behavior.

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