

Conservation Harvest

Spring 2000



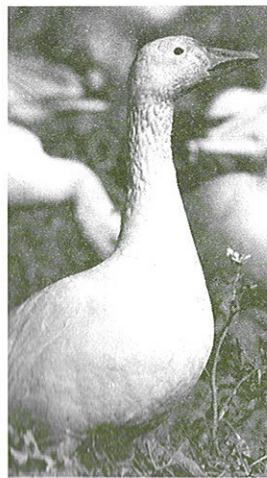
A scientific report by Canadian and American experts states that a serious overpopulation problem exists with respect to the Greater Snow Goose. This situation of overabundance poses a threat in the medium term to the integrity of this species' habitats and the habitats it shares with other wildlife.

The scientists have recommended the adoption of special management measures to protect the Greater Snow Goose and its habitat, stressing that action should be taken as quickly as possible to reduce the population to a stable level between 800,000 and one million individuals by the year 2002.

To implement this recommendation, the committee of experts has advocated that a spring conservation harvest be instituted and that non-traditional hunting methods be permitted, such as the use of bait and recorded bird calls.

It is hoped that, further to these measures, the rate of harvest by sport hunters will double from 12% to 24%, resulting in an annual Snow Goose harvest of 140,000 birds compared to 70,000 in the past.

The Greater Snow Goose a resource to be protected



Hunters are one of the interest groups most affected by this issue. Historically, they have always participated in the management of this important wildlife resource.



Anyone interested in participating in the spring conservation harvest should take note of the following.

No registration is required.

If you hold a 1999-2000 hunting permit for migratory birds

- 1 Your 1999-2000 permit is in effect until August 31 2000.
- 2 You must purchase a 2000-2001 small game hunting permit for Quebec.

If you do not hold a 1999-2000 hunting permit for migratory birds

- 1 You must purchase a 1999-2000 hunting permit for migratory birds at Canada Post Corporation offices or at the Canadian Wildlife service office.
- 2 You must purchase a 2000-2001 small game hunting permit for Quebec.

1999-2000 permit missing or destroyed?

You must obtain a 1999-2000 hunting permit for migratory birds at Canada Post Corporation offices or at the Canadian Wildlife Service office.

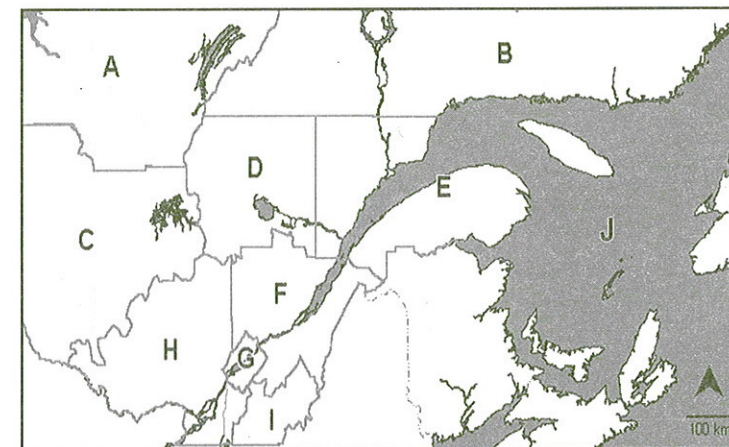
For more information on the hunting regulations:
1 888 303-3305.

Regulations in Force in Spring 2000

- Hunting is authorized on farmland only, with the exception of District A;
- hunting is prohibited in Districts B and J;
- in District F, hunting is prohibited south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route #132 between Forgues Street at Berthier-sur-Mer and the eastern boundary of the municipality of Cap St-Ignace;
- in District G, hunting is prohibited south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way near Route #132 between the Nicolet River to the east and Lacerte Road to the west;
- in District G, hunting is prohibited north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1 000 m north of highway no. 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River;
- hunters are permitted to use recorded bird calls of the Greater Snow Goose and Lesser Snow Goose throughout Quebec;
- the use of bait (grain, corn) is authorized in Districts E, F, G, H and I, provided a written authorization from the Canadian Wildlife Service;
- the daily bag and possession limits that apply to the spring conservation harvest have been set at 20 birds and 60 birds respectively.

Where and when will the hunt take place?

- May 1 to June 30 in District A;
- April 15 to May 31 in Districts C, D, E, F, G, H and I.

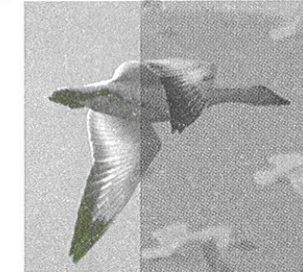


SOS Poaching

The Greater Snow Goose is an important wildlife resource and deserves protection. If you witness any illegal acts that pose a threat to this species, please call **1 888 659-2929** to report them to one of our conservation officers or to a representative of the Conservation Service of Faune et Parcs Quebec.

The Fédération québécoise de la faune (FQF) and the Union des producteurs agricoles (UPA) have developed a program whereby farmers post their lands if they are open to hunters. For more information, visit the Internet site of the Fédération québécoise de la faune at www.fqf.qc.ca

As a matter of ethics, hunters must be sure to obtain farmland owners' permission before carrying out hunting activities on their property.



The Canadian Wildlife Service estimates that 44,171 Snow Geese were killed during the spring 1999 conservation hunt. This estimate is based on a survey of 2,315 of the 13,750 hunters who registered for the first season.

For more information

Please contact the regional office of the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
1141 Route de l'Église
Sainte-Foy, Quebec
G1V 4H5
Tel.: (418) 648-7225

A full range of information on migratory bird hunting is available at the following Internet sites:
Canadian Wildlife Service
<http://www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html>
The Green Lane, Quebec Region
<http://www.qc.ec.gc.ca>

