Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

c/o Office of Subsistence Management 1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199 Phone: (907) 786-3888 Toll-Free: 1-800-478-1456

In Reply Refer To RAC.B25012

FEBRUARY 25 2025

Patty Schwalenberg, Executive Director Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council 6450 Andover Circle Anchorage, Alaska 99516

Martin Andrew, Chair Waterfowl Conservation Committee Association of Village Council Presidents P.O. Box 219 Bethel, AK 99559

Dear Ms. Schwalenberg and Mr. Andrew:

I write to you on behalf of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) to share concerns about migratory bird populations in our region.

The Council represents subsistence harvesters of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and waters in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region. It was established by the authority in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Section 805 of ANILCA and the Council's charter establishes the Council's authority to initiate, review, and evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region. The Council also reviews resource management actions occurring outside their regions that may impact subsistence resources critical to communities served by the Council. The Council provides a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations regarding any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region.

The Council held a public meeting on August 21-23, 2024, in Bethel. Among the items discussed were concerns about migratory birds and the need to conserve them because they are important subsistence foods. The Council is particularly concerned about Emperor geese, cackling geese, murres, and Black brant, and wants to ensure hunting and egging regulations support their long-term sustainability.

The Council invites your organizations to attend a future Council meeting to present to the Council on the work of your organizations and on-going migratory bird conservation efforts. Our upcoming meetings are planned for March 4-5, 2025, and October 21-23, 2025. Arrangements can be made through our Coordinator.

Thank you for considering our comments. If you have any questions or would like to follow up, please contact me through our Subsistence Council Coordinator, Brooke McDavid, at (907) 891-9181 or brooke mcdavid@ios.doi.gov.

Sincerely,

Alissa Nadine Rogers Acting Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Office of Subsistence Management

Interagency Staff Committee

Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council Members

Jennifer Hooper, Association of Village Council Presidents Natural Resources Manager

Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Mark Burch, Assistant Director of Wildlife Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Administrative Record