

Regional Canada Goose Management Program

February 18, 2026

Environmental Services Committee

Regional Canada Goose Management Service

Bylaw No. 4522

The service aims to reduce the impacts of non-migratory resident Canada goose populations on the region's environment, economy and health.

- Establish collaborative partnerships
- Reduce Canada goose populations and their impacts
- Share knowledge and engage support
- Monitor, report and evaluate



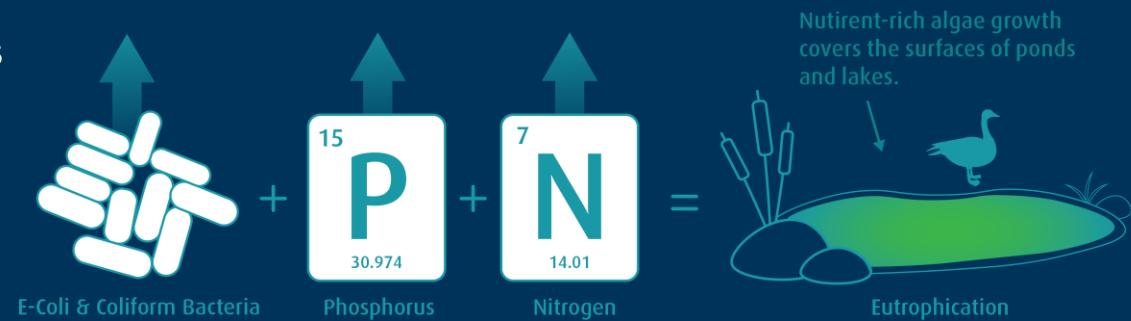


Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts

- Historically, Canada geese were only occasional migratory visitors
- Introduction programs in the 60's and 70's for hunting
- Led to large and established non-migratory resident Canada goose population.

Overpopulation of geese are impacting:

- Estuaries & Tidal Marshes
- Endangered Ecosystems
- Water Contamination
- Farming & Recreation



Survey Results

11% reduction
in resident
population
from 2024 to
2025



Moult Survey

Region - Moult	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Central Saanich	59	43	102
Colwood	104	26	130
Esquimalt	167	65	232
Gulf Islands	1,531	225	1,756
Highlands	20	12	32
Juan de Fuca	356	35	416
Langford	135	35	170
Metchosin	453	47	500
North Saanich	80	31	111
Oak Bay	363	169	759
Saanich	364	276	606
Sidney	198	10	208
Sooke	628	79	707
Victoria	112	102	214
View Royal	10	0	10
Totals	4580	1155	5953

Winter Survey

- 9,700 resident and migratory geese
- SSI, Esquimalt not surveyed
- Winter population likely 10-15% higher

Mitigation Results

Regional Egg Addling Results



Partner	2024		2025	
	Nests	Eggs	Nests	Eggs
CRD	157	696	190	907
GooSE	201	1,037	110	584
DND	38	148	50	144
PC	28	97	28	145
Other	13	87	23	96
Totals	437	2,065	401	1,876

Harvests with First Nations



- **2024:** 465 Canada geese removed from Colwood.
- **2025:** 738 Canada geese removed from Oak Bay and Central Saanich
- **Total:** 1,203 removed since CRD goose service establishment

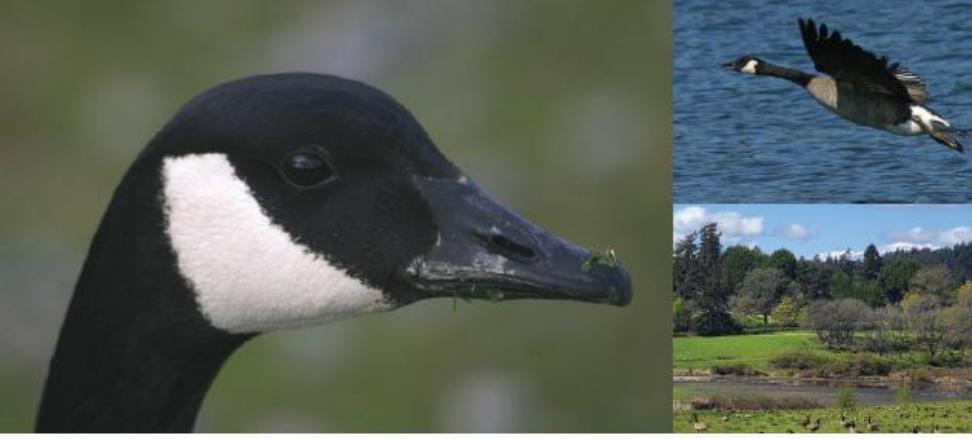


Crop Protection Permits & Hunting*

- 2021: 212 w/ permits & 174 hunted
- 2022: 258 w/ permits & 314 hunted
- 2023: 164 w/ permits & 483 hunted
- 2024: 200 w/ permits & 425 hunted



- In 2024 at least **2,770** geese prevented from hatching or removed from the population.
- In 2025, **2,614** geese prevented from hatching or removed from the population so far.



Help Track Canada Geese with Goose Watch!

Do you see Canada geese in your neighbourhood or grazing in your fields? Join Goose Watch and contribute to tracking the seasonal movements and patterns of our local Canada goose population.

Population surveys are an important component of the CRD's Regional Canada Goose Management Strategy. The collected data will play a crucial role in shaping future wildlife management decisions in the region.

IT'S EASY TO PARTICIPATE



Download form at:
arcg.is/rbC110



or quickly scan the QR code to visit the online form.

SAVE THE LINK

Once you visit the form link, add it to your laptop or phone homepage to keep using.

You can put in observations every day or even multiple times a day if you come across new sightings.

Learn More

To learn more visit www.crd.ca/goose, email goose@crd.bc.ca or call 250.360.3196.

CRD
Making a difference...together

2025 Accomplishments

- Obtained regional danger and damage permit and expanded egg addling program by 20%
- Two goose harvests instead of one
- Engaged 4 First Nations in program
- Hosted 4 Regional Canada Goose Management Working Group meetings and increased agricultural participation
- Launched Goose Watch app – public observations of geese to determine seasonal movement and inform mitigation work
- Developed Social Media outreach materials
- Mailout to 1,600 agricultural properties
- Increase private property access by 30% over 2024 (97 properties allow CRD staff to access)



2026 Regional Goose Service Priorities

Communications: Mailout to all agricultural properties with information about the CRD's goose mitigation and monitoring programs, increase social media presence.

Egg Addling: Planning phase begins in January; outreach for collaboration, land authorizations, survey locations, auxiliary hire. Expand on Salt Spring and Pender Island's.

Population Surveys: Complete a region wide-moult survey and expand Goose Watch participation.

Harvests: Negotiating a contract for two harvests, at least 4 First Nations participating. Increase education around crop protection & migratory game bird hunting.



Questions?

Connect with us:

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Website for more information:

www.crd.bc.ca/goose



Capital Regional District



CRDVictoria



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CRD