

Update on CRD Goose Management Activities

Salt Spring Island LLC, Nov 13, 2025

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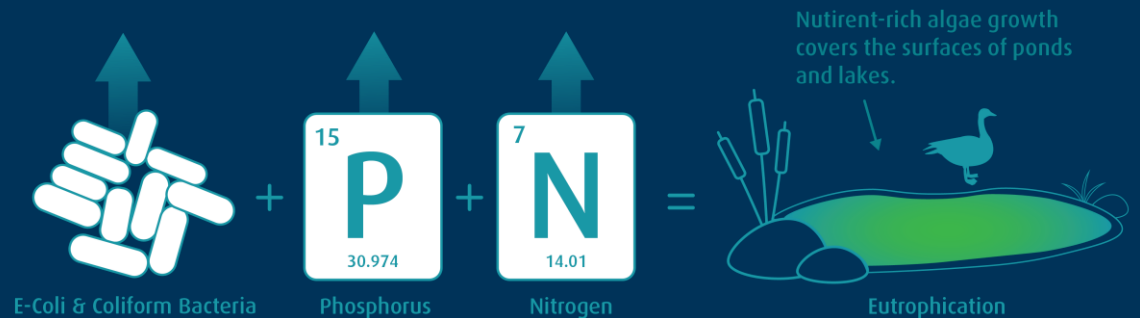
Canada Geese in the CRD

- Historically, were only occasional migratory visitors.
- In the 1960's and 70's programs were implemented to increase wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities.
- Introduced geese were juveniles who became the non-migratory resident Canada geese we have in the region today.
- Population is Growing!



Environmental, Social & Economic Impacts

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





Regional Canada Goose Working group

Mandate: to support the Regional Canada Goose Management Strategy through collaboration and coordination.

Composition: representatives from local governments, First Nations and Agricultural Commissions in the Capital Region.

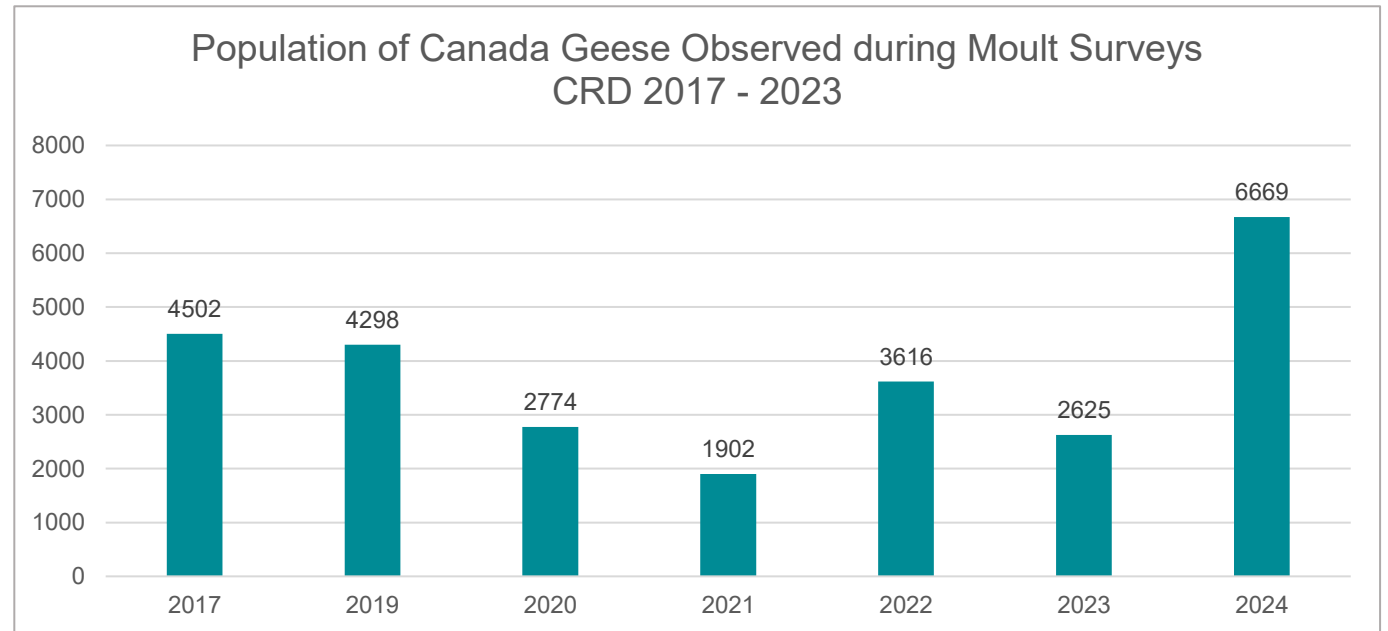
Purpose: to minimize and eliminate the negative ecological, economic and public health impacts geese have on the region.





Regional Moults Surveys

- Collaboration between First Nations, Stewardship groups, Municipalities and large landowners/managers
- 2024: first region-wide moult survey
- Past surveys had only covered Sooke to North Saanich
- Data obtained informs regional decisions regarding the management of geese

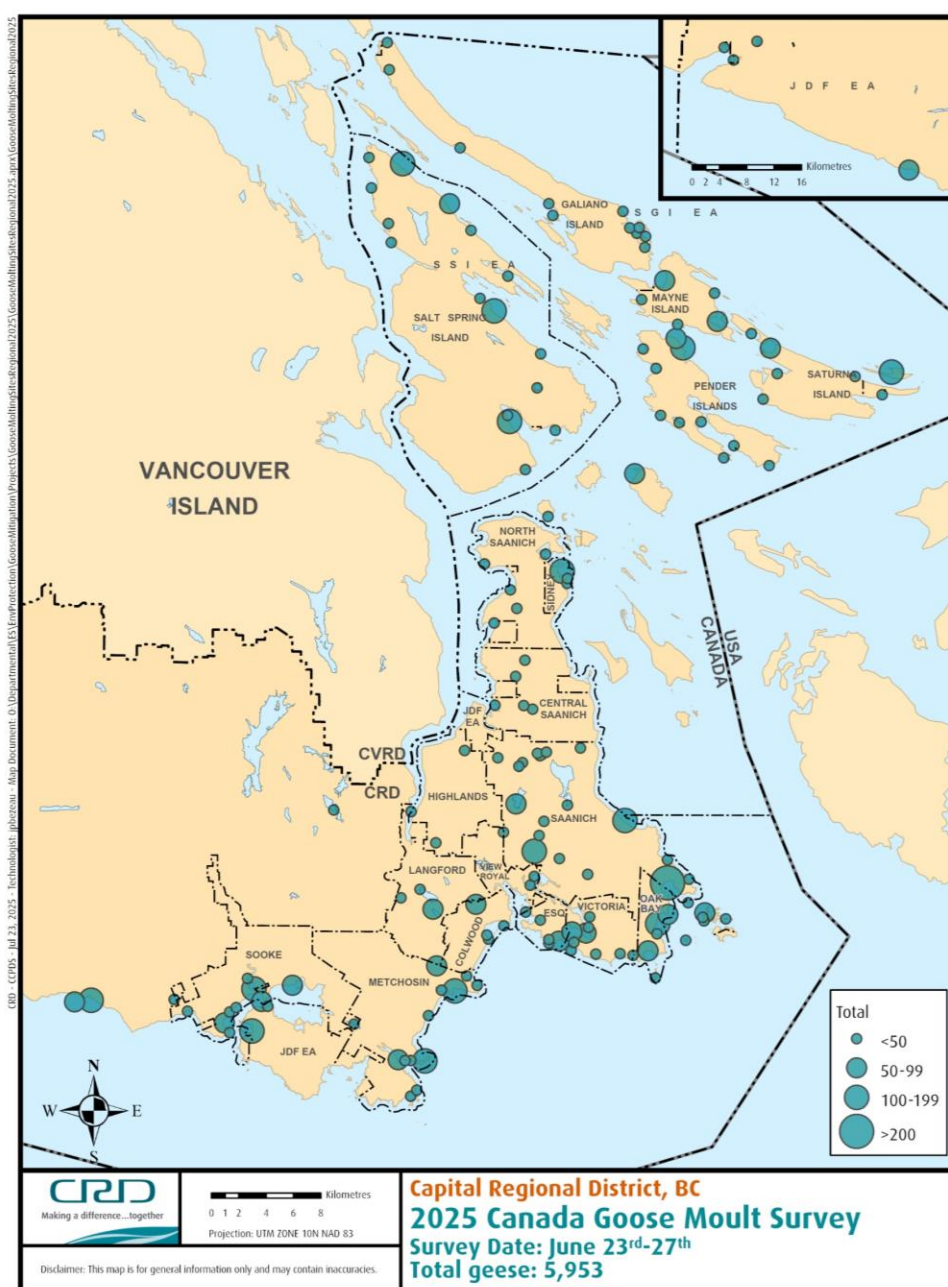




2025 Moulting Survey Results

- Date: June 23rd- 27th
- All 13 municipalities and electoral districts were included.
- 380 locations were surveyed.
- 168 locations were found with geese (blue on map)
- Covered over 600km of shoreline.
- 18 groups participated.

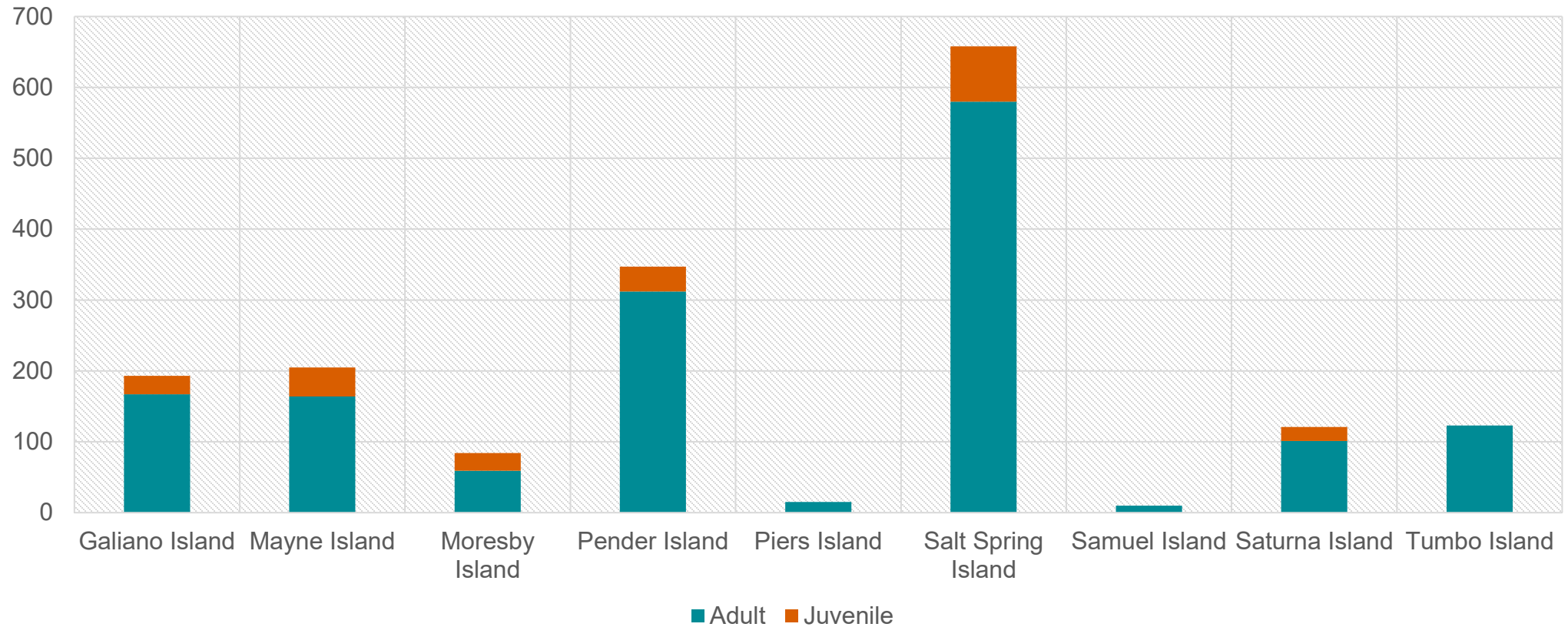
Survey Results



Region	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Central Saanich	59	43	102
Colwood	104	26	130
Esquimalt	167	65	232
Gulf Islands	1531	225	1756
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

Gulf Islands	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Galiano Island	167	26	193
Mayne Island	164	41	205
Moresby Island	59	25	84
Pender Island	312	35	347
Piers Island	15	0	15
Salt Spring Island	580	78	658
Samuel Island	10	0	10
Saturna Island	101	20	121
Tumbo Island	123	0	123
Totals	1531	225	1756

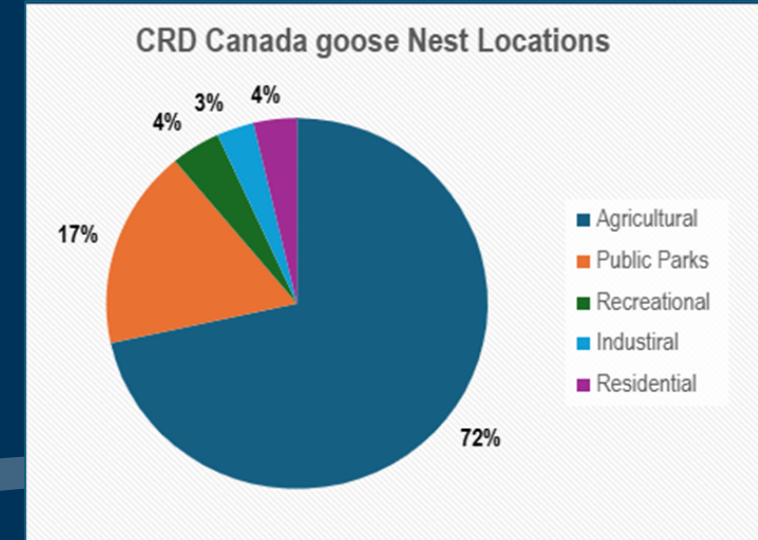
Gulf Island Adult & Juvenile Totals 2025 Regional Canada Goose Moulting Survey



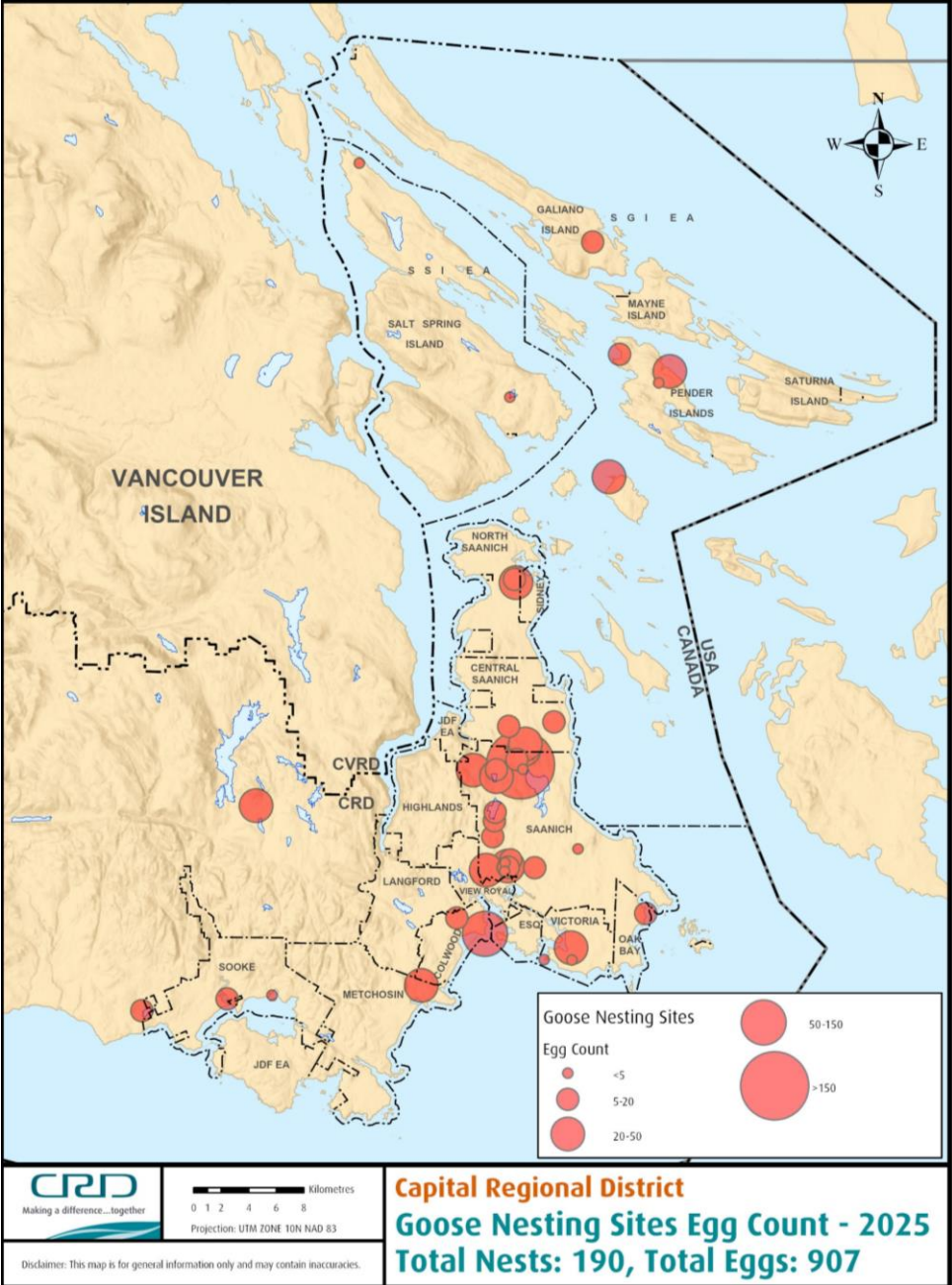


Egg Addling

- Effective approach that reduces the number of geese recruited into the population each year.
- Requires a Damage or Danger Permit from Canadian Wildlife Service.
- Makes the embryo of an egg non-viable, only takes a minute and the goose returns to the nest
- Methods based on the Humane Society's Canada Goose Egg Addling Protocol.



CRD Nest Survey Results



Region	Sites	Nests	Eggs
Central Saanich	4	21	98
Colwood	2	19	82
Juan de Fuca	2	9	48
Metchosin	1	6	26
North Saanich	2	11	54
Oak Bay	1	1	6
Saanich	16	90	415
Sooke	2	3	15
Victoria	3	6	41
View Royal	1	4	25
Gulf Islands	7	20	97
Totals	41	190	907

Mitigation Results

Regional Egg Addling Results



	2024		2025	
Partner	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

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 & 40** hunted

Harvests with First Nations



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



- 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.



2026 Regional Goose Service Priorities

Communications: Mailout to all agricultural properties with information about the CRD's goose mitigation and monitoring programs

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.

Additional Funding: Requested additional funding to increase mitigation efforts.

THANK-YOU

To all of the groups, agencies, individuals and collaborators who contributed to the goose management successes and achievements in this region.
