

在北極繁殖的黑勃蘭特 依群(高中22屆)

****代一群健談的小海鵝們講一些話****

我們是黑色的勃蘭特(黑雁鵝) [註1]
是一種古鳥: 小海鵝,
春天在北極品種(繁殖);
每年秋天,從阿拉斯加南部沿海南下到墨西哥,
避寒過冬季。

春天的時候,
我們馬不停蹄地從墨西哥向北飛,
我們抬頭飛行, 避免了從人類的狩獵。
我們首先經過加拿大的溫哥華島,
體瘦, 又累又餓。
只有幾天休息, 恢復我們的體重,
繼續直飛阿拉斯加半島。



停在阿拉斯加半島的 Izembek 礁湖, [註2]
休息幾個星期, 吃高品質的飼料,
繼續飛行,
終於抵達了我們的棲息地: 在北極繁殖。

在近幾十年來勃蘭特的物種數量一直在下降,
因素是人類的狩獵和干擾,

影響到鳥其繁殖和分期.

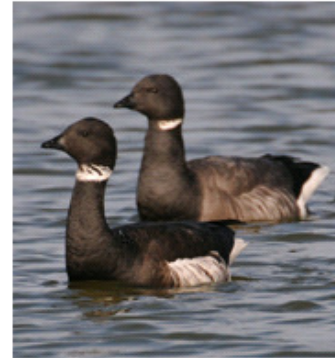
人類侵占和發展所造成:

鳥棲息地和越冬地的喪失....

最近，我們的移民已經成為一個笞刑:

除了天敵，還有人類的狩獵，

交通船，漏油和狗叫.....



感謝 Parksville and Qualicum Beach, 溫哥華島的兩個城市，
每年春天慶祝勃蘭特的飛回. [註3]

同時也感謝這兩個社區，

宣布帕克斯維爾奎里肯海灘野生動物管理區;

幫助確保我們有一個地方停下來，休息，

和供應飼料給我們，

讓我們飛往北方繁殖.

但願在墨西哥越冬地，

在不列顛哥倫比亞省的棲息地， [註4]

在阿拉斯加的繁殖地;

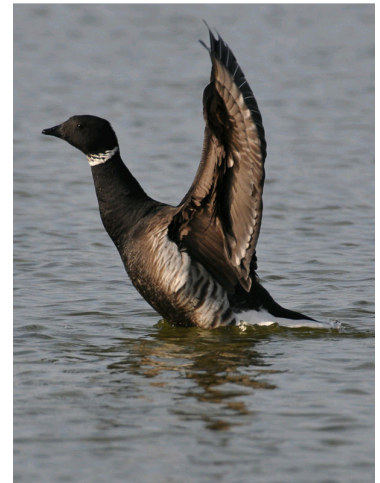
這三個國家的繼續合作，

共同維護棲息地，

確保幾代小海鵝.

我們這健談的小海鵝仍然出現

在太平洋遷徙路線的海灣，礁湖，和河口。



註1: Black Brant (学名: *Branta bernicla nigricans*), one of the species of Brant Geese. Brant geese have a circumpolar distribution, occurring in northern Europe and Asia as well as North America. They are sometimes known as Brant Geese. The eastern American subspecies (*Branta bernicla hrota*) has a white abdomen, while that of western race (*Branta bernicla nigricans*) is dark. Brant in British Columbia are part of a larger Pacific Flyway Brant Population which is made up of several smaller stocks wintering along the Pacific coastline from Alaska to Mexico. During the last 2-3 decades, the Pacific Flyway population has generally fluctuated between 100,000 - 150,000 birds.

註2: Izembek Lagoon is a crucial staging area in both spring and fall; for some birds it provides important wintering habitat. Izembek Lagoon is a large, protected National Wildlife Refuge managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Up to 20, 000 Brant may over winter there in mild winters.

註3: Since 1991, an annual Brant Festival has been held in the Parksville-Qualicum Beach area of Vancouver Island to celebrate the return of the Brant each spring. The Festival attracts an artistic community of painters, carvers, and photographers as well as bird watchers and wildlife enthusiasts.

註1, 註2 & 註3 大部分的參考來源是從

“ Black Brant Geese, an indicator of wildlife sustainability in the Georgia Basin ” posted on Environment Canada Website:

http://www.ecoinfo.org/env_ind/region/brantgeese/brantgeese_e.cfm#Grey

註4: 不列顛哥倫比亞省 (British Columbia Province in Canada)

(寫在2011年初秋:加拿大溫哥華島的 Qualicum Beach)

