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## **SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL ASPECTS OF THE ARCTIC GEESE NESTING SUCCESS ON THE LEMMING-FREE ISLAND**

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We studied nesting success of Greater White-fronted, Bean and Barnacle Geese, nesting in high numbers on the lemming-free Kolguev island. Arctic and Red foxes, as well as Gulls and Skuas predate on nests during incubation period thus decreasing nesting success. In these stable environments, with no lemming cycles influencing predators, we found no signs of pronounced inter-seasonal fluctuations of nesting success, which are typical for the geese populations nesting in Arctic areas with lemmings. Based on the analysis of 4260 nests fate of three geese species during 6 seasons (2006-2008, 2011-2012, 2017), we found that nesting success was highest in Barnacle Geese, reaching up to 94%, and was the lowest (though hardly lower than 70%) in Bean geese. Such aspects of nest predation as complete and partial clutch losses varied between and within species, depending on spatial aspects of nest distribution, clutch size, habitats used and breeding phenology. Both complete clutch loss and partial clutch loss tended to be similar in nearest neighboring pairs. Complete predation was higher in small clutches of 2-3 eggs, while partial predation dominated in big clutches (4-6 eggs). Proportion of untouched clutches was smallest in clutches of 5-6 eggs, while about half of 2-egg clutches survived untouched until hatching. Very little predation occurred a fter peak of hatching, when gulls and foxes switched their activity to newly hatched goslings, thus favouring better late nests survival.