

# THE WCR LEARNING COMMUNITY

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Snow geese fly in large groups

PHOTO — MIZMAK / CC, FLICKR

## Snow geese 📖

Snow geese migrate over the coastal area in Delta, BC. They rest in the fields around Delta.

Snow geese fly here from Wrangel Island. Wrangel Island is north of Siberia. They fly about 5,000 km each direction.

They arrive at the Reifel Bird Sanctuary in Delta between the middle of October and the middle of December. In the spring, they fly north between the middle of March and the middle of April.

70,000 snow geese winter between here and the Skagit River Delta.

A flock of snow geese is amazing to watch. They travel together in very large dense flocks of up to 20,000 birds. They feed, rest and fly over the Reifel Bird Sanctuary, neighbouring farmland and nearby Fraser marshes every day. They are restless and constantly moving when eagles, people and dogs are nearby.

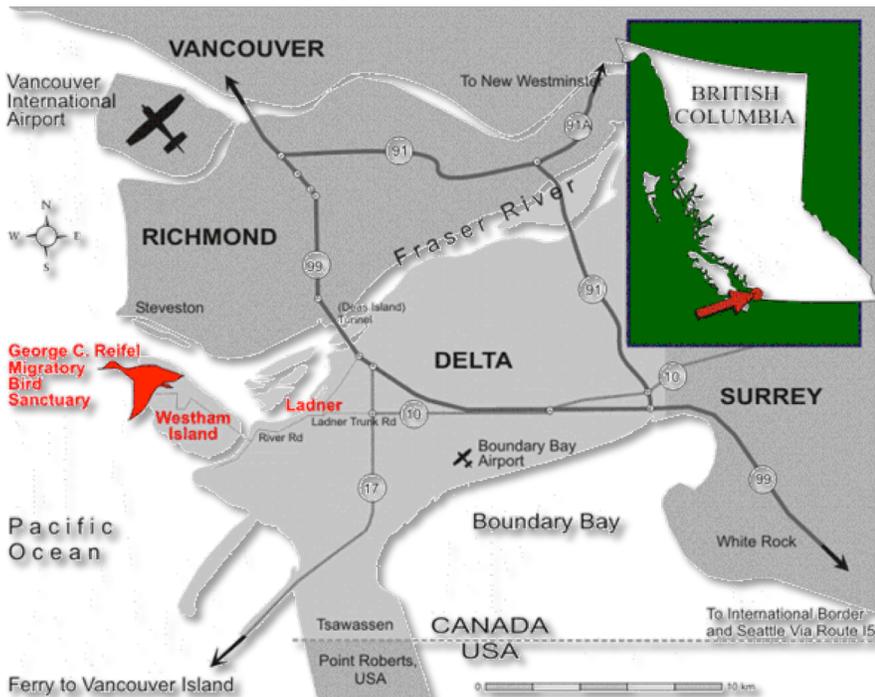
A great place to see snow geese is the Reifel Bird Sanctuary in Delta, BC. The Sanctuary is the resting place for many other kinds of birds too.

The Sanctuary is open every day from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Remember to leave your dog at home, please. Dogs upset the birds. Therefore, they are not allowed in the Sanctuary.

Adapted from *The Province* and Reifel Bird Sanctuary website

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Map: Courtesy of the Reifel Bird Sanctuary Visitor information ©The British Columbia Waterfowl Society

Answer key  
for exercise on page 3

1. migrate
2. north
3. 70,000
4. restless
5. see
6. upset

## Vocabulary

**Migrate** means to move from one country or place to another. Snow geese migrate from the north to the south in the fall. In the spring, they migrate from the south to the north.

**Flock** means a group of birds.

**Sanctuary** means a safe place to rest.

## Links

Go to *The Westcoast Reader* website for links to more information and videos.

[www.thewestcoastreader.com](http://www.thewestcoastreader.com)

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## Exercise

**Draw a line under the correct word to finish each sentence.**

1. Snow geese migrate / drive over the coastal area in Delta, BC.
2. Wrangel Island is south / north of Siberia.
3. In January 2012, bird watchers counted 20,000 / 70,000 snow geese in the area.
4. They are restless / calm when eagles, people and dogs are nearby.
5. A great place to see / taste snow geese is the Reifel Bird Sanctuary in Delta, BC.
6. Dogs upset / please the birds.

See page 2 for answers to the exercise.