



AEWA LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE
INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP



Doc: LWfG IWG 2.4
Date: 25.10.2012

2nd Meeting of the AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group

9. - 11. November 2012, Lake Kerkini, Greece

PROPOSAL FOR A NETWORK OF CRITICAL SITES FOR THE LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (Western Palearctic Populations)

INTRODUCTION

Close to two hundred sites have been identified for the Western Palearctic populations of the Lesser White-fronted Goose over the course of the years, but not all sites identified are necessarily crucial for the survival of the species today. In order to enhance the activities implemented for the Lesser White-fronted Goose and to further coordinate conservation efforts along the migratory routes of the species, it is suggested that the AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group establish a network of critical sites for the Western Palearctic populations by prioritizing sites of critical importance in each range state.

The goal of such a network is to ensure the conservation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose in particular and other migratory waterbirds in general along the migratory routes through the recognition and appropriate management of a network of internationally important sites. Prioritizing sites will allow range states as well as other stakeholders to concentrate limited resources on the sites that are truly crucial for the survival of the species today.

Conservation activities should therefore focus on sites that are:

- a) Critical for the conservation and recovery of the Lesser White-fronted Goose and;
- b) Which are also important for other migratory geese and waterbirds.

Following the designation of critical sites, range states – with the assistance of the international conservation community and other stakeholders - should strive to ensure that the prioritized conservation activities for each range state are fully implemented at these sites. The established critical site network should also be closely linked to the Common Monitoring Scheme for the Lesser White-fronted Goose (LWfG IWG 2.7); in particular with regard to the network of experts to be established within the scheme, as critical sites should be monitored regularly as a priority.

The Working Group is invited to discuss the prioritization of critical sites along the flyways and to draft and agree on a list of sites at the Working Group Meeting. For ease of reference, a non-exhaustive list of sites used by the species - as identified in the International Single Species Action Plan, the Critical Site Network Tool and the National Reports submitted to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat - is attached in Annex I. In addition, an overview map of key sites according to the percentage of the population using each site as displayed in the Critical Site Network Tool (<http://csntool.wingsoverwetlands.org/csn/>) is attached in Annex II.



The 2nd Meeting of the AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group is being convened within the framework of the EU LIFE+ project "Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose along its European Flyway" [LIFE10NAT/GR/638].

Annex I. List of key sites identified for the Lesser White-fronted Goose (non-exhaustive)

	Country	Site name	Season	Min	Max	Mean	% pop	Protected
1	Azerbaijan	Agrichay Reservoir	non-breeding	40	70	55	<1%	unknown
2	Azerbaijan	Gizilagach State Reserve	winter	1100	3652	2376	22%	most
3	Azerbaijan	Aggyol National Park	winter	15	950	482	4%	whole
4	Azerbaijan	Lake Sarysu	winter	41	41	41	<1%	little/none
5	Azerbaijan	Araz Water reservoir in Nakhchivan Autonomic Republic						some
6	Belarus	Mid-Pripyat	passage	50	250	150	1%	whole
7	Bulgaria	Pyasachnik Reservoir	passage	3	3	3	<1%	unknown
8	Bulgaria	Shabla Lake Complex	non-breeding winter	3 15	24 50	13 32	<1% <1%	some
9	Bulgaria	Durankulak Lake	winter	15	50	32	<1%	some
10	Estonia	Väinameri	non-breeding	11	50	30	<1%	unknown
11	Estonia	Põhja-Liivimaa	passage	23	44	33	<1%	most
12	Estonia	Matsalu Bay region	spring staging		50			
13	Estonia	Silma Nature Reserve	spring staging		50			
14	Finland	Viklinrimpi	passage	1	5	3	<1%	most
15	Finland	Pori archipelago and wetlands	passage	1	1	1	<1%	unknown
16	Finland	Alajoki	passage	2	2	2	<1%	unknown
17	Finland	Oulu region wetlands	passage	50	50	50	<1%	little/none
18	Finland	Siikajoki, Säärenperä	spring staging					not
19	Greece	Evros delta	winter	116	116	116	1%	most
20	Greece	Lake Mitrikou (Ismarida)	winter	20	20	20	<1%	whole
21	Greece	Lake Kerkini	passage	12	110	61	<1%	whole
22	Greece	Nestou delta and coastal lagoons	winter	26	26	26	<1%	most
23	Greece	Porto Lagos, Lake Vistonis, and coastal lagoons (Lakes of Thrace)	winter	40	40	40	<1%	whole
24	Hungary	Gemenc	non-breeding	50	50	50	<1%	whole
25	Hungary	Alkaline puszta of Upper Kiskunság	non-breeding	50	500	275	3%	some
26	Hungary	Lower Tisza Valley	non-breeding	1	71	36	<1%	whole
27	Hungary	Nagymagocs Ret. Legelo	non-breeding	68	960	514	5%	unknown
28	Hungary	Béda-Karapanca	passage	30	30	30	<1%	most
29	Hungary	Kis-Sárrét	non-breeding	3	40	21	<1%	most
30	Hungary	Nagymagocs Ret. Legelo	passage	380	460	420	4%	unknown
31	Hungary	Hortobágy	passage	70	450	260	2%	unknown

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32	Hungary	Alkaline pusztas of Upper Kiskunság	passage	20	500	260	2%	some
33	Iran	Shur Gol, Yadegarlu and Dorgeh Sangi lakes	winter	70	70	70	<1%	whole
34	Iran	Shur Gol, Yadegarlu and Dorgeh Sangi lakes	passage	175	175	175	2%	whole
35	Iran	Seyed Mohalli, Zarin Kola and Larim Sara	winter	359	359	359	3%	little/none
36	Iran	Gomishan marshes and Turkoman steppes	winter	1773	1773	1773	16%	unknown
37	Iran	Hilleh Protected Area	winter	21	37	29	<1%	whole
38	Iran	Miankaleh Peninsula and Gorgan Bay	winter	4900	4900	4900	45%	whole
39	Iran	Lake Maharlu	winter	40	102	71	<1%	little/none
40	Iran	Dez river marshes and plains	winter	190	190	190	2%	whole
41	Iran	Beesheh Dalan	non-breeding	92	92	92	<1%	unknown
42	Iran	Anzali Mordab complex	winter	32	32	32	<1%	whole
43	Iran	Karun river marshes	winter	590	590	590	5%	little/none
44	Iran	Lake Alagol, Lake Ulmagol and Lake Ajigol	winter	150	150	150	1%	little/none
45	Iran	Lake Bakhtegan, Lake Tashk and Kamjan marshes	winter	90	90	90	<1%	most
46	Iran	Incheh Borun lake and marshes	winter	36	36	36	<1%	little/none
47	Iraq	Haur Al Suwayqiyah	winter	70	70	70	<1%	little/none
48	Iraq	Dalmaj Marshes	winter					not
49	Iraq	Teeb Marshes	winter					not
50	Kazakhstan	Sulukol Lake	passage	360	360	360	3%	little/none
51	Kazakhstan	Shoshkaly Lake System	passage	26	68	47	<1%	little/none
52	Kazakhstan	Sankebay Lakes	passage	15	40	27	<1%	little/none
53	Kazakhstan	Maliy Kak Lake	passage	5	34	19	<1%	little/none
54	Kazakhstan	Kushmurun Lake	passage	74	170	122	1%	little/none
55	Kazakhstan	Kulykol-Taldykol Lake System	passage	900	2000	1450	13%	little/none
56	Kazakhstan	Ashchykol and Barakkol Lakes	passage	8500	8500	8500	77%	little/none
57	Kazakhstan	Koybagar-Tyuntyugur Lake System	passage	36	2030	1033	9%	little/none
58	Kazakhstan	Kamyshovoe-Zhamankol Lakes	passage	50	506	278	3%	little/none
59	Kazakhstan	Korgalzhyn State Nature Reserve	passage	40	40	40	<1%	whole
60	Kazakhstan	Korgankol Lake	passage	200	200	200	2%	little/none
61	Kazakhstan	Akzhan Lake	passage	36	36	36	<1%	little/none
62	Kazakhstan	Bolshoy Kak Lake	passage	15	37	26	<1%	little/none
63	Kazakhstan	Shoindykol Lake, Kostanay province	passage					well
64	Kazakhstan	Kazakh Zharkol, Kostanay province	passage					well

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65	Kazakhstan	Russian Zharkol, Kostanay province	passage					well
66	Kazakhstan	Shagly-Teniz Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					
67	Kazakhstan	Taiynsha Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					reserve
68	Kazakhstan	Alva Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					reserve
69	Kazakhstan	Kamyshevo Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					
70	Kazakhstan	Zhaltyr Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					
71	Kazakhstan	Balykty Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					reserve
72	Kazakhstan	Solenoe Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					
73	Kazakhstan	Polovinnoe Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					
74	Kazakhstan	Aksuat Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					reserve
75	Kazakhstan	Sorbalyk-Maibalyk Lake, North Kazakhstan province	passage					
76	Kazakhstan	Shalkar-Karashatau LAke, Aktobe province	passage					reserve
77	Kazakhstan	Shalkar Lake, Aktobe province	passage					
78	FYR Macedonia	Lake Dojran	winter	2	6	4	<1%	little/none
79	Netherlands	Zwanenwater	non-breeding	20	20	20	<1%	whole
80	Netherlands	Lauwersmeer	non-breeding	40	40	40	<1%	whole
81	Netherlands	Oudeland van Strijen	non-breeding	30	30	30	<1%	some
82	Netherlands	Haringvliet	non-breeding	30	30	30	<1%	some
83	Norway	Inner part of Porsanger fjord	non-breeding	50	70	60	<1%	most
84	Norway	Varangerfjord	passage	60	60	60	<1%	little/none
85	Norway	Valdak Marshes	breeding					yes
86	Norway	Sirbma, Tana municipality, Finnmark county	spring migration					yes
87	Romania	Jijiei Ȃyi Miletinului fish-ponds	passage	30	46	38	<1%	unknown
88	Romania	Defileul Inferior al MureÅyului	passage	1	3	2	<1%	unknown
89	Romania	Danube Delta	non-breeding	86	94	90	<1%	unknown
90	Romania	BraÅul Borcea	non-breeding	127	127	127	1%	unknown
91	Romania	Lake GÄflÄfÄui	non-breeding	18	18	18	<1%	unknown
92	Romania	Balta MicÄf a BrÄfilei	non-breeding	22	22	22	<1%	some
93	Romania	Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve and Razim Complex						yes
94	Romania	Dunarea Veche -Bratul Macin						yes
95	Romania	Strachina Lake						yes
96	Romania	Tasaul Lakes						yes
97	Romania	Techirghiol Lake						yes

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98	Romania	Fundata and Amara lakes						yes
99	Romania	Macin-Niculitel						yes
100	Romania	Black Sea						yes
101	Romania	Maxineni						yes
102	Romania	Pescaria Cefa - Radvani Forest						yes
103	Romania	Balta Alba – Amara-Jirlau						yes
104	Romania	Traianu Lake						yes
105	Romania	Hasarlac Lake						yes
106	Romania	Oltina Lake						yes
107	Romania	Dunareni Lake						yes
108	Romania	Bugeac Lake						yes
109	Romania	Iortmac Lake						yes
110	Romania	the Small Island of Braila						yes
111	Romania	Amara Lake						yes
112	Romania	Ianca Lake						yes
113	Romania	Bistret Lake						yes
114	Romania	Mostistea Lake						yes
115	Romania	Ciocanesti Lake						yes
116	Romania	Fundata Lake						yes
117	Romania	Strachina Lake and the accumulation lakes from the Olt Valley						yes
118	Russia	Sviyago-Kubninskaya forest-steppe	passage	200	200	200	2%	little/none
119	Russia	Berkubinski forest	passage	500	1000	750	7%	little/none
120	Russia	Turali lakes	passage	100	100	100	<1%	little/none
121	Russia	Unskaya bay	passage	200	200	200	2%	most
122	Russia	Valley of Sysola river	passage	50	150	100	<1%	little/none
123	Russia	Yeiski salt-lakes	non-breeding	500	500	500	5%	little/none
124	Russia	Zolotarevskaya area	passage	1200	1200	1200	11%	little/none
125	Russia	Middle reaches of Bolshaya Rogovaya river	breeding	30	30	30	<1%	little/none
126	Russia	Dadynskiye lakes	passage	10	300	155	1%	little/none
127	Russia	Kuloy river	passage	2000	3000	2500	23%	some
128	Russia	Curonian (Courish) Bay	passage	20	20	20	<1%	little/none
129	Russia	Kocherdyksky goose zakaznik	passage	50	300	175	2%	whole
130	Russia	Kulaksay lowland	passage	200	350	275	3%	little/none

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131	Russia	Kazachka	passage	500	1000	750	7%	little/none
132	Russia	Sondugski Reserve and its outskirts	passage	100	100	100	<1%	some
133	Russia	Bulgarski	passage	10	200	105	<1%	whole
134	Russia	Central Forest Biosphere Reserve and adjacent areas	passage	20	200	110	1%	some
135	Russia	Floodplain of Cheptsya river	passage	30	30	30	<1%	little/none
136	Russia	Shalkaro-Zhetykol'ski lake system	passage	500	1500	1000	9%	little/none
137	Russia	Flood-plain of Algashka river	passage	85	200	142	1%	little/none
138	Russia	Dvuob'ye	passage	400	600	500	5%	whole
139	Russia	Basins of the Schuchya and Khadytayakha rivers	breeding	15	100	57	2%	unknown
140	Russia	Basins of the Schuchya and Khadytayakha rivers	non-breeding	20	2000	1010	9%	unknown
141	Russia	Koporski Bay	passage	15	30	22	<1%	little/none
142	Russia	Mouth of Samur river	passage	30	40	35	<1%	most
143	Russia	Lake Manych-Gudilo	passage	13800	13800	13800	125%	whole
144	Russia	River Chernaya	breeding	1	2	1	<1%	little/none
145	Russia	Mouth of Svir river	passage	8	30	19	<1%	most
146	Russia	Downstream of Ik river	passage	100	100	100	<1%	unknown
147	Russia	Basins of the Schuchya and Khadytayakha rivers	winter	20	2000	1010	9%	unknown
148	Russia	Inder'	winter	60	60	60	<1%	little/none
149	Russia	Neman river Delta and the coast of the Curonian (Courish) Bay	passage	20	20	20	<1%	little/none
150	Russia	Petrocrepost' Bay	passage	500	500	500	5%	little/none
151	Russia	Kargopol' area	passage	1	1000	500	5%	little/none
152	Russia	Karakulinskaya flood-plain	passage	25	30	27	<1%	little/none
153	Russia	Delta of the River Don	passage	30	50	40	<1%	some
154	Russia	Arski fish-ponds	passage	200	300	250	2%	little/none
155	Russia	Schuch'i lakes	passage	20	180	100	<1%	some
156	Russia	Lover Ob'	passage	400	600	500	5%	little/none
157	Russia	Kolguev island	non-breeding	30	30	30	<1%	little/none
158	Russia	Torna - Shoina watershed	passage	1500	1500	1500	14%	most
159	Russia	Pinezhski meadow	passage	300	840	570	5%	little/none
160	Russia	Flood-plain of Kotorosl' and Ust'e rivers	passage	43	43	43	<1%	little/none
161	Russia	Floodplains of the Unzha river near Kologriv	passage	15	30	22	<1%	little/none
162	Russia	Steppes in the vicinity of Kanavka village	passage	12	30	21	<1%	little/none
163	Russia	Volochanka river basin, Taimyr Peninsula	breeding	150	300	225	2%	unknown

Annex II. Critical Sites as for the Lesser White-fronted Goose as identified in the Critical Site Network Tool (According to percentage of population using each site)

