

**International Single Species Action Plan for the Western Palearctic
Population of the LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, *Anser erythropus***

Comments from SYRIA on Version 3.0. - Third and Final Draft, May 2008

Reception date: 19 July 2008 (email)

1- I am full agree with the writers of the Action Plan that it is necessary to prepare for further researches to describe the situation of this species in Syria.
If the writers can make a quick look at the National Report which I submitted it to the AEWA Secretariat before a few days, they can find some information specially about the Hunting Process and the main procedures in Syria.

2- Unfortunately we haven't the needed data related to LWfG to fill the cells related to Syria in the annexes.

3- I hope to receive all data collected by the experts during the 2007 expedition (mentioned in the Action Plan Document), to compare it with the IBA's in Syria.

4- In 1995 Birdlife International and some Syrian experts has also identified 21 important bird areas (IBA's) that has a big value for the protection of birds specially during their migration and in protecting habitats important for the breeding of important bird species, of course included some of the sites which has importance for the Water – Birds Species. Four of these IBA's where probably the LWfG will be record in the future (Al- Baath – Lake, Buhayrat al-Assad, Sabkhat al-Jabbul and Euphrates River valley).

5- Syria declared 24 Protected Areas represented a different ecosystems including a wetlands; relevant ecosystem for LWfG. Three of declared wetland protected Areas located in the eastern part of Syria.

6- In any case, In cooperation with the interest organizations, we can go-ahead to collect the needed data related to LWfG.

7- I suggest to establish a Specific Group consist of:

- 1- International expert.
- 2- Four members of Syrian Society of Conservation of Wild life (SSCW)(three of them will be from the eastern part of Syria.
- 3- Two governmental members.

* The main task of the group is: The collection of the data related to LWfG, its habitat, and the human activities in and around the sites where the LWfG will be recorded.

* After that we will coordinate with the national stackholders to declare the IBA as a Natural Protected Area.

8- Related Annex 2:

Paragraph: Supporting information to use in conjunction with the table

The vernacular name of the Lesser White-fronted Goose is:

Al-Owaza Alramadeya Or Al-Owaza Al Garaa Al Saghera

الأوزة الرمادية / الأوزة الغراء الصغيرة