

AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM



3rd MEETING OF THE AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP



20-21 June 2018, Leeuwarden, the Netherlands

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EGMP PINK-FOOTED GOOSE TASK FORCE AND WORKPLAN FOR 2018/2019

Prepared by Prof. Jesper Madsen, Coordinator of the Pink-footed Goose Task Force

Introduction

According to Rule 29 of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG) [Modus Operandi](#), the EGM IWG may establish species and/or thematic Task Forces as necessary to deal with the preparation and coordination of decision papers and background documents, as well as to deal with other specific tasks.

At the 2nd Meeting of the EGM IWG (EGM IWG2) in June 2017, both the generic ([AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf. 3.14](#)) and the Agriculture Task Force ([AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf. 3.15](#)) Terms of Reference were adopted and the establishment of the Agriculture Task Force and species-specific task forces for the Pink-footed Goose and Taiga Bean Goose were recommended.

The Secretariat was given the task to lead on the establishment of the Task Forces and to identify a Coordinator for each Task Force.

Mr Jesper Madsen from Denmark was identified as the Coordinator for the Pink-footed Goose Task Force (PfG TF). The current membership of the PfG TF is indicated in Annex 1 to this document. In line with the Terms of Reference, the nomination of additional members to the Task Force is at the discretion of the National Government Representative of each Range State and the Coordinator of the Task Force.

This document provides an overview of the work that has taken place since the establishment of the PfG TF and the draft workplan for the TBG TF for 2018/2019. Recommendations for the implementation of the AEWA International Species Management Plan for the Pink-footed Goose (ISMP) are also provided, pending the incorporation of the outcomes of the 1st face-to-face meeting of the EGMP Task Forces on 18 June 2018, in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands.

Meetings

Since no funding has been specifically allocated for the work of the PfG TF, communication and information exchange has been conducted either via email or through online meetings.

The first meeting of the PfG TF took place on 15 February 2018. The second meeting took place on 9 April 2018.

To maximise synergies and use of resources, the first face-to-face meeting for the PfG TF is taking place back-to-back with the 3rd annual meeting of the EGM IWG in June 2018 (EGM IWG3). It is envisaged that this concept will be likely carried into the following years.

The meeting notes of each online meeting have been circulated to the EGM IWG shortly after the meetings have been concluded. The main activities and outcomes are summarized in this document.

Key activities

According to the Terms of Reference for AEWAs EGM IWG Task Forces, the PfG TF shall assist the IWG in the implementation of the PfG International Species Management Plan (ISMP) in terms of catalysing the process and stimulating and supporting Range States in the implementation.

Key activities include:

1. To support the ongoing development of monitoring of the progress of the implementation of the ISSMP, including recommendations on how to tune Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) and non-AHM monitoring activities;
2. Support the implementation of hunting organisation in Denmark and Norway to support the AHM strategy; and
3. Act as review panel for the annual monitoring and assessment reports for the PfG ISMP provided by the EGMP Data Centre.

Outcomes and recommendations

The Task Force members agreed to review the Population Status Report 2017/2018 and the PfG Harvest Strategy Report 2017/2018, which will be submitted to the EGM IWG3 in June 2018.

During the 1st face-to-face meeting of the EGMP Task Forces (18 June 2018, Leeuwarden, the Netherlands). the Task Force will discuss needs for adjustment of population and harvest monitoring in light of recent new developments of migration routes and schedules as well as the new population models, which are currently being developed by the EGMP Data Centre; proposals for adjustments will be submitted to the EGM IWG in June 2018.

In addition, the Task Force will provide suggestions to the EGM IWG in June 2018, on how to improve the organisation of hunting in Norway and Denmark, to maintain a sufficient harvest rate to stabilise the population around the agreed target.

The Task Force recommends to the EGM IWG that discussions are initiated on which variables shall be included in the evaluation of implementation of the PfG ISMP in 2022, including evaluation of the population target.

Workplan for the implementation of non-AHM related actions (2018/2019)

The Task Force will prepare:

1. A report on preliminary outcomes of habitat restoration activities in Belgium;
2. A proposal for how to assess ecosystem services provided by Pink-footed Geese;
3. An overview of the status of tundra degradation in Svalbard.

It should be noted that the draft workplan will be revised and completed during the 1st face-to-face meeting of the EGMP Task Forces (18 June 2018, Leeuwarden, the Netherlands). Activities foreseen in the draft workplan will be revised against the information provided by Range States in the National Reports 2018. The revised draft workplan will be presented to the EGM IWG3 during the Pink-footed Goose Session at the meeting, and is expected to be approved by the EGM IWG for implementation in 2018/2019.

Table 1 Draft workplan for the Pink-footed Goose Task Force 2018/2019

| ISSAP / ISSMP Objective/Action/Result | Activity | Lead | Time-frame | Comments |
|--|--|------|-------------------------|----------|
| Review of annual assessment reports for the Pink-footed Goose | Comment on draft reports | tbd | First half of June 2019 | |
| Proposal for improved hunting organisation in Norway and Denmark | National consultations; compilation of a note | tbd | March 2019 | |
| Ecosystem services assessment | Proposal for monitoring and assessment; report | tbd | March 2019 | |
| Adjustment of monitoring activities | Report with recommendations to EGM IWG | tbd | November 2018 | |
| Ecosystem impacts | Status of tundra degradation; report | tbd | February 2019 | |
| Habitat restoration | Belgian status; report | tbd | March 2019 | |

Annex 1

Table 1 below shows the current membership of the Pink-footed Goose Task Force per Range State.

Table 1 membership of Pink-footed Goose Task Force as of 16 May 2018

| Country | Representative | Affiliation |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Belgium | Mr Floris Verhaeghe | Species policy expert, Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos |
| | Dr Frank Huysentruyt | Institute for Nature and Forest Research |
| | Dr Eckhart Kuijken | Research Institute for Nature and Forest, Flemish Government of Belgium |
| Denmark | Jesper Madsen (Coordinator) | Aarhus University |
| | Ms Iben Hove Sørensen | Danish Hunters' Association |
| | Mr Niels-Erik Jørgensen | Danish Hunters' Association |
| | Mr Knud Flensted | BirdLife Denmark |
| | Mr Marco Brodde | BirdLife Denmark |
| Finland | Mr Jorma Pessa | Centre for Economic Development |
| Netherlands | Fred Cottaar | Dutch Goose and Swan Working Group |
| | Kees Koffijberg | Sovon Vogelonderzoek Nederland |
| Norway | Ms Ingunn Tombre | Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Department of Arctic Ecology |
| | Mr Ove Martin Gundersen (member of the TF until further notice) | Norwegian Farmer's Union |
| Sweden | Mr Urban Johannson | Swedish Environmental Protection Agency |
| EGMP Data Centre | Mr Fred A. Johnson | Wetlands & Aquatic Research Center U.S. Geological Survey / USGS |
| EGMP Data Centre | Prof. Jesper Madsen | Aarhus University |
| EGMP Data Centre | Ms. Gitte Høj Jensen | Aarhus University |
| AEWA Secretariat | Ms. Eva Meyers | UNEP/AEWA |