



AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group - National Report 2011-2012

Welcome to the online reporting template for the 2011-2012 national report on the implementation of the AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose Single Species Action Plan under the framework of the AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group.

Reporting on the implementation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose Single Species Action Plan was established at the first Meeting of the Working Group, which took place on the 30.11.-1.12.2010 in Helsinki, Finland. The meeting also adopted the format reflected in this online template.

Please submit the completed form to the AEWA Secretariat by **Friday the 31st of August 2012 at the latest**, by pressing the **submit button** on the top right of the questionnaire **once you have completed all questions**.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact Nina Mikander, Coordinator for the Lesser White-fronted Goose:

Email: nina.mikander@lesserwhitefrontedgoose.aewa.info

Tel: **+49 (0)228 815 2452**

Single Species Action Plan in English

Single Species Action Plan in Russian

Happy reporting!

1. General Information

Name of reporting Range State

> ROMANIA

Contracting Party to AEWA

Yes

National Focal Point

Name

> MIAUTA NELA

Functional title

> DR.

Organisation

> MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

Address

> 12 LIBERTATII BLVD., DISTRICT 5, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

E-mail

> nela.miauta@mmediu.ro

Phone

> +40 21 4089545

Fax

> +40 21 4089634

National Expert

Name

> PETRESCU EUGEN

Functional title

> Ornithologist

Organisation

> Romanian Ornithological Society

Address

> 1848 Street, Nr. 5, Bl. 4, Ap. 15, Tulcea, Romania

E-mail

> eugen.petrescu46@gmail.com

Phone

> +40 744317337

Fax

> +40 240 513183

2. Status Update

2.1. Species Status - breeding (pairs)

Does the species breed in your country?

No

2.2. Species Status - passage (individuals)

Does the species occur in your country on passage?

Yes

Latest population estimate

Minimum

> 80

Maximum

> 150

Year

> 2012

No information

Tick only if no information is available

Population trend

Please select from the list

Stable

Source(s) of information

Please list any published or unpublished sources of information on passage population size and trend estimates.

> Field surveys

2.3. Species Status - wintering (individuals)

Does the species winter in your country?

Yes

Latest population estimate

Minimum

> 80

Maximum

> 150

Year

> 2012

No information

Tick only if no information is available.

Population trend

Please select from the list

Stable

Source(s) of information

Please list any published or unpublished sources of information on wintering population size and trend estimates.

> Field surveys

3. Update on Critical Sites

3.1. Critical sites identified in the SSAP

Which sites that have been identified in the LWfG SSAP as important for the species in your country have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented?

Total number of sites identified in the SSAP:

> 1

Out of the above total, number of protected sites:

> 10

Number of protected sites with management plans that are being implemented:

> 1

3.2. Gaps in protection

Please point at any major gaps in the protection and management of critical sites which will need to be addressed as a matter of priority.

> Lack of information about the feeding habitats of LWfG.

Lack of financial resources required for implementation of the SSAP.

Longer field surveys are needed to identify current population size and the age structure ratio for obtaining concrete data about this species.

There were no attempts to evaluate the total number of individuals of LWfG which passing through Romania in the last years.

Lack of management plans for the critical sites due to a long procedure for approval.

There is a need for joint projects with European partners for improving the data base regarding LWfG (satellite tracking, additional field work etc).

Lack of budget allocated to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for nature conservation.

3.3. Identification of new sites

Have any new sites which are currently not mentioned in the SSAP been identified as possible critical sites for the species?

Yes

Please list these sites

> ROSPA0031 Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve and Razim Complex

ROSPA0040 Dunarea Veche -Bratul Macin

ROSPA0059 Strachina Lake

ROSPA0060 Tasaul Lakes

ROSPA0061 Techirghiol Lake

ROSPA0065 Fundata and Amara lakes

ROSPA0073 Macin-Niculitel

ROSPA0076 Black Sea

ROSPA0077 Maxineni

ROSPA0097 Pescaria Cefa - Radvani Forest

Balta Alba - Amara-Jirlau

Traianu Lake, Hasarlac Lake, Oltina Lake, Dunareni Lake, Bugeac Lake, Iortmac Lake, the Small Island of Braila, Amara Lake, Ianca Lake, Bistret Lake, Mostistea Lake, Ciocanesti Lake, Fundata Lake, Strachina Lake and the accumulation lakes from the Olt Valley

Of those listed above, please specify which ones are protected and/or managed.

> All listed above are protected areas.

3.4. Additional information (optional)

Please add any additional information concerning critical sites not covered by the previous questions.

> The wintering/staging areas and migration routes of the Lesser White-fronted Goose are partially known.

4. Update on Pressures/Threats and Responses

4.1. Hunting

4.1.1. Please rate the magnitude of hunting as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Please select from the list (for guidance "hover" over the question mark button on the right):

High

Please indicate the trend of hunting as a threat to the LWfG

Stable

Please describe the hunting situation with respect to LWfG in your country (For example: when and where does hunting occur? Who hunts and why?)

> LWfG are staging mostly inside the special protected areas during the spring migration period when geese hunting is forbidden everywhere. There is no verified information about poaching of LWfG. during the hunting season in autumn there are a few observations of LWfG.

Please list any published or unpublished sources on hunting pressure on LWfG in your country.

> Field observations, monitoring hunting bag, reporting from hunters.

4.1.2. Has hunting been banned at all key sites used by LWfG when LWfG are present?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide more information (when is hunting banned, at which sites etc.)

> Hunting is prohibited in the key sites but outside these areas (e.g. in the feeding areas) hunting is happen. The hunters also can make mistakes during the birds identification.

4.1.3. Have efforts been made to assess the hunting pressure at key sites?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

Please provide more information on why efforts have not yet been made to assess the hunting pressure at key sites.

> No institution was involved in assesing the hunting pressure at key sites until now. Lack of financial resources for biodiversity's protection.

4.1.4. Has obligatory training of hunters as outlined by the Hunting Charter of the Bern Convention been implemented?

Please tick the appropriate box.

Yes

Please provide more information on the implementation of training for hunters.

> Trainings for hunters are regularly conducted by the Romanian Associations of Hunters but it will be usefull to be involved the ornithologists from the institutes, the faculties of biology or from the Romanian Ornithological Society.

4.1.5. Has the level of protection from illegal hunting been increased within existing protected areas through training and improved enforcement?

Please tick the appropriate box.

No

Please provide more information on why training and improved enforcement have not been implemented in order to increase the level of protection from illegal hunting.

> We need more specialists for training the hunters but is lack of financial resources.

4.1.6. Has an effort been made to redirect hunting from adults to juveniles in areas where LWfG occur outside of the key sites?

Please tick the appropriate box

No

Please provide more information on why no measures have been taken.

> LWfG occur outside of the key sites rarely, mostly during the spring migration when hunting is not allowed. The juveniles were not observed in the last years.

4.1.7. Have lure crops been planted (or similar steps been taken) to direct LWfG away from areas where hunting pressure is known to be high?

Please tick the appropriate box

No

Please provide more information on why such measures have not been undertaken.

> We have not enough observations of LWfG during the hunting season.

4.2. Poisoning

4.2.1. Please rate the magnitude of poisoning as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Please select from the list (for guidance "hover" over the question mark button on the right):

Medium

Please indicate the trend of poisoning as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Stable

Please describe the situation with regard to the threat from poisoning to the LWfG in your country.

> There is some information regarding the threat from poisoning to the LWfG in Dobrogea and Muntenia regions.

Please list any published or unpublished sources on poisoning of LWfG or waterbirds in general in your country.

> Some information about the poisoning of LWfG or waterbirds was received from the Romanian Ornithological Society.

4.3. Human disturbance

4.3.1. Please rate the magnitude of human disturbance as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Please select from the list (for guidance "hover" over the question mark button on the right):

High

Please indicate the trend of human disturbance as a threat to LWfG in your country.

Stable

Please describe the situation with regard to the threat from human disturbance and the LWfG in your country.

> Human disturbance such as the traffic, farming machines, ATVs, dogs has been observed mostly on the arable fields near or inside the villages where LWfG are feeding early in the morning and before sunset.

Please list any published or unpublished sources on human disturbance and LWfG in your country.

> Field observations, monitoring reports of the natural protected areas status.

4.3.2. Are you taking measures to avoid infrastructure development and other sources of human disturbance, including recreation/tourism, liable to have an adverse impact on the known core breeding areas?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide more information on measures being undertaken.

> Human activities for development of infrastructure and the other sources of human disturbance including recreation/tourism liable to have an adverse impact on the known core breeding areas are limited by the protection rules of the protected areas. Tourists are advised to use only birdwatching towers, walking on the indicated paths.

4.3.3. Are you taking measures to avoid infrastructure development and other sources

of human disturbance, including recreation/tourism, liable to have an impact on known key sites for the LWfG?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide more information on the measures being undertaken.

> Development of the national legislation regarding the nature's protection.

4.3.4. Are you taking measures to avoid overgrazing and nest trampling if/where this is known to be a problem?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide further information on the measures being undertaken.

> Development of the national legislation in the agriculture and environmental fields.

4.4. Predation

4.4.1. Please rate the magnitude of predation as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Please select from the list (for guidance "hover" over the question mark button on the right):

Low

Please indicate the trend of predation as a threat to the LWfG in your country:

Stable

Please describe the threat from predation to the LWfG in your country.

> Not enough information collected in this matter.

Please list any published or unpublished sources concerning predation of LWfG in your country.

> Some information was given by the ornithologist from the Romanian Ornithological Society, the faculties of biology,

4.4.2. Are you taking measures to minimize predation, where this has been shown to be a significant limiting factor (particularly in the breeding grounds)?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

Please provide information on why measures are not being undertaken to limit the threat from predation?

> Predation was not considered to be a significant limiting factor in the breeding grounds of LWfG.

4.5. Habitat loss/degradation

(Such as agricultural intensification, construction of dams etc., wetland drainage, climate change, land abandonment, overgrazing, pollution of wetlands/water bodies etc.)

4.5.1. Rate the magnitude of habitat loss/degradation as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Select from the list (for guidance "hover" over the question mark button on the right):

Medium

Please indicate the trend of habitat loss/degradation as a threat to the LWfG in your country.

Stable

Please describe the situation with regard to habitat loss/degradation as a threat to the LWfG in your country (particular areas effected etc.?).

> LWfG usually stay in mixed flocks with other geese species and use a great variety of agricultural and natural habitats.

Please list any published or unpublished sources on habitat loss/degradation and the LWfG in your country.

> Field observations, monitoring reports of the status of conservation of habitats from the natural protected areas.

4.5.2. Are you monitoring the habitat quality at key sites in order to identify any anthropogenic pressures as early as possible?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide more information on the measures being implemented.

> Annually the administrators and the custodians of the natural protected areas elaborate monitoring reports regarding the status of conservation of the natural protected areas to identify any anthropogenic pressure as early as possible.

4.5.3. Are you taking measures to restore and/or rehabilitate Lesser White-fronted Goose roosting and feeding habitat in the staging or wintering areas?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

Please provide more information on why such measures are not being implemented in your country.

> Lack of financial resources allocated for taking measures to restore and/or rehabilitate Lesser White-fronted Goose roosting and feeding habitat in the staging or wintering areas.

4.6. Additional information (optional)

Please add any additional information concerning pressures/threats and responses thereto which was not covered by the questions above.

> Overhunting and habitat loss are considered to be the main threats for the Lesser White-fronted Goose *Anser erythropus* populations.

5. Update on National Legislation and Activities

5.1. National legal protection

5.1.1. Is the LWfG legally protected in your country?

Please tick the appropriate box.

Yes

Please list the year and title of the legislation concerned as well as the enforcing institution.

> Law No. 13/1998 for ratification of the Convention regarding the conservation of migratory species of wild animals.

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Habitat for Waterfowl (Ramsar) - ratified by Law No 13/1993 on Romania's adhesion to the Convention on the preservation of the European wildlife and natural habitats (Bern Convention)

Law No. 89/2000 for ratifying the AEWA.

Emergency Government Ordinance no. 57/2007 regarding the regimes of natural protected areas, preservation of natural habitats of wild flora and fauna aproved with the ammendments by Law No. 49/2011.

Law No. 66/2011 approving Government Emergency Ordinance no. 102/2010 amending Law 407 / 2006 on hunting and on the protection of the hunting fund.

5.1.2. Does the national hunting legislation, in principle, provide adequate protection of the LWfG?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide further information.

> Hunting legislation provides protection for LWfG but effective hunting control needs more efforts with more human resources. The identification of geese species by hunters is sometimes difficult.

5.1.3. Are sufficient human and financial resources being allocated to the enforcement of hunting legislation in order to control hunting effectively?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

Please explain why.

> There are not sufficient human and financial resources allocated to the enforcement of hunting legislation in order to control hunting effectively due to the financial crisis.

5.1.4. Additional information (optional)

Please add any additional information concerning national legal protection of the species not covered in the questions above.

> It is an emergency to approve the management plans and the regulations of the natural protected areas for the conservation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose where this species exist.

5.2. National Single Species Action Plan

5.2.1. Has your country drafted a National Single Species Action Plan for the LWfG?

Please select from the list:

No NSSAP

Please explain why your country does not yet have a NSSAP and is not in the process of producing one.

> We have not yet a NSSAP for the LWfG but we planned to do it under a new LIFE+ project.

5.2.2. If your country does not have or is still in the process of developing its LWfG NSSAP, would you be interested in assistance from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat in this work?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please specify what kind of assistance would be needed.

> Information and experience are required in the process of developing the LWfG NSSAP.

5.2.3. Additional information (optional)

Please add any additional information concerning NSSAPs not covered in the questions above.

> The Lesser white-fronted Geese wintering on the Black Sea coast of Romania and Bulgaria scattered among flocks of Greater White-Fronted Geese and there is a need to improve the cooperation between the both countries for known spring and autumn areas around the Danube River and the Black Sea.

5.3. National Working Group

5.3.1. Does your country have a National Working Group for the LWfG?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please provide more information about Working Group members, function etc.

> Romanian Ornithological Society and the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority are working together with the ornithologists from Bulgaria, Ukraine and Russia for the synchronous counting of the LWfG with *Branta ruficollis* species.

5.3.2. Additional information (optional)

Please add any additional information concerning the National Working Group for the LWfG not covered by the previous question.

> The National Working Group for the LWfG needs more financial resources and professional equipment for the field surveys.

5.4. Monitoring

5.4.1. Does your country have a monitoring scheme in place for the LWfG?

During the breeding season?

Yes

Please provide more information on the monitoring activities during breeding season.

> We have not any information because LWfG is not breeding in Romania.

During passage/migration period?

Yes

Please provide more information on monitoring activities during passage/migration season.

> During the passage/migration season there are activities for identifying the key feeding sites, identification of the roosts, research of the geese flocks to identify LWfG species, using the telescopes and digital cameras for making photos where it is possible.

During the wintering season?

Yes

Please provide more information on the monitoring activities during the non-breeding/wintering season.

> The monitoring activities during the wintering season are made by the Romanian Ornithological Society

If your country does not have a monitoring scheme in place for the LWfG please explain why.

Please fill in the text box:

> We have a monitoring scheme in place for the LWfG.

5.4.2. If there is no scheme on a national level, is LWfG monitoring conducted on a regular basis by other means?

During breeding season?

No

During passage/migration?

No

During wintering/non-breeding season?

 No

5.4.3. Additional information (optional)

Please provide any additional information concerning LWfG monitoring not covered by the questions above.

> Because Lesser White-fronted Geese are long-distance migrants, international cooperation is a prerequisite for effective conservation. There are gaps in knowledge about the movements of the Western main population and about the life cycle of this species.

5.5. LWfG conservation/research projects

Provide links to any national and/or international LWfG conservation or research projects being conducted in your country by using the buttons on the right hand side. Please list the project title, goals and objectives, period of implementation, implementing organisation, contact details and short description.

>

EU LIFE project 'Conservation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose on the European migration route' concludes its findings with the establishment of a South-Eastern European monitoring network.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

EU LIFE project 'Conservation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose on the European migration route' concludes its findings with the establishment of a South-Eastern European monitoring network - The regular monitoring of sites throughout the course of the LIFE Project has already provided important insights into the species' wintering pattern - and identified some new questions to be addressed.

"Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose Fennoscandian population in key wintering and staging sites within the European flyway" - The Lesser White-fronted Goose Life project (officially "Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose Fennoscandian population in key wintering and staging sites within the European flyway") is an international EU LIFE+ Nature project that aims to halt the decline of the critically endangered Fennoscandian Lesser White-fronted Goose (LWfG) population by implementing concrete conservation actions. The project started in September 2011 and continues until June 2016.

Provide links to any other national and/or international conservation or research projects being conducted in your country that could be useful for LWfG conservation by using the buttons on the right hand side. Please also list the project title, goals and objectives, period of implementation, implementing organisation, contact details and a short description.

> Safe-guarding the wintering feeding grounds for the Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*), by ensuring access of farmers to support from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Safe-guarding the wintering feeding grounds for the Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*), by ensuring access of farmers to support from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development - This highly charismatic species was moved from Vulnerable to Endangered status on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ in 2007.

Romanian project to rescue Red-breasted Geese - The Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*) is listed as Endangered on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Around 37,000 remaining birds use farmland for their wintering ground in Europe. Farmers receive no compensation for crop damage caused by grazing geese. As a consequence, to protect their livelihoods, farmers use pesticides and poisons to harm the feeding birds.

Safeguarding wintering feeding grounds for - The Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*) is a charismatic, globally threatened species,

Red-Breasted Goose Bulgaria-U.S. Project - Small numbers of Red-breasted geese still wintering in Bulgaria and Romania

Please provide any additional information concerning LWfG conservation/research projects in your country not covered by the previous questions (optional).

> Not more information concerning LWfG conservation and the research projects in Romania.

5.6. Awareness Raising

5.6.1. Has your country developed and implemented methods for raising awareness and understanding on LWfG and LWfG conservation, in particular with relation to hunters?

Please select from the list:

Yes, being implemented

Please provide further information on methods and how they are being implemented.

> Building the websites for biodiversity' conservation

Printing flyers, posters, brochures, CDs

Cooperation in public-private partnerships for biodiversity protection

Dialogue with people in a documentary following a TV broadcast

Initiating a forum for discussions in the field of geese' conservation

Brainstorming to gather ideas from groups

Colaborating with another AEWA Party

Developing biodiversity' education programs which include classroom activities, field trips, community actions for geese protection

Organizing the exhibitions based on photos and films about AEWA species

Organizing the workshops and trainings for waterbirds' conservation

Organizing regular meetings with NGOs, Local Environmental Protection Agencies, stakeholders

Writing short articles or newsletters, newspaper advertisements

Elaborating the educational materials for schools, universities about the importance of biodiversity and the need of its conservation

activities to improve knowledge attitudes and behaviour relating to AEWA species are undertaken by zoo, visitor centres in wetlands, national and natural parks, national and international NGOs, the Natural History Museums, Regional Environmental Protection Agencies, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, private sectors engaged in natural resource management or in tourism.

Through learning by doing, awareness is raised about the importance of conservation the waterbird species and for sustainable use of the natural resources.

5.6.2. Has your country developed/produced LWfG information materials to this end (i.e. posters, leaflets etc.)?

Please select from the list:

Yes

Please provide further information and upload any files using the button on the right hand side.

> LWfG information materials are produced by the visitors centers, the natural history museums, the administration of the wetlands, the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority, the Romanian Ornithological Society and other NGOs.

5.6.3. Additional information (optional)

Please provide any additional information concerning awareness raising activities not covered by the questions above.

> Romania celebrated and raised awareness about migratory birds for World Migratory Bird Day on 12-13 May 2012. birds watching, seminars, photos exhibitions were organized by the all Local Environmental Protection Agencies, the Romanian Ornithological Society and other NGOs as annual awareness raising campaign highlighting the need for the protection of migratory birds and their habitats.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

1st Meeting of the International Working Group within the AEWA concerning the Lesser White-fronted Goose, one of the most endangered bird species in the Western Palearctic - The Lesser White-fronted Goose - *Anser erythropus* (LWfG) is one of the most endangered bird species in the Western Palearctic. The global population of LWfG has declined rapidly since the middle of the 20th century. The decrease in numbers has been accompanied by fragmentation of the breeding range and is continuing to affect all populations, giving rise to fears that the species may go extinct. Overhunting and habitat loss are considered to be the main threats. There is an estimate of decrease in numbers in the range of 30% to 50% during the last decade. As the species is highly similar to the White-fronted Goose - *Anser albifrons* (WfG), and in many cases LWfG specimens occur in large WfG flocks, the difficulty of identification of LWfG is one of the major problem, in the term of detecting the most important staging areas, and illegal hunting as well.

6. Funding

6.1. Are there any national funding possibilities for LWfG conservation measures in your country?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Yes

Please list the relevant funding programmes and relevant authorities.

> Very little is provided by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

6.2. If your country does not yet have a National Single Species Action Plan, would national funding be available for the drafting and implementation of the NSSAP?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

6.3. Additional information (optional)

Please add any additional information concerning the funding of LWfG conservation measures in your country not covered by the questions above.

> Due to the deficits in the monitoring of LWfG in Romania, special monitoring actions are needed to reveal the true trend status of this species in the known key sites. There is a need for special trainings of ornithologists, hunters and more field surveys where extra funding is necessary for these activities.

7. Update on Key Knowledge

7.1. Are satellite tracking and/or field surveys being used in your country to locate the breeding, staging and/or wintering sites of the Western main population?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

Please explain why no satellite tracking or field survey are currently being undertaken.

> Lack of financial and human resources for field surveys and satellite tracking to locate the staging and wintering sites of the Western main population.

7.2. Are satellite tracking and/or field surveys being used in your country to locate the breeding, staging and/or wintering sites for the Fennoscandian population?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Not applicable

7.3. Are further field studies of suitable breeding habitat and staging areas being undertaken in order to update the estimate for the Fennoscandian population (Kola peninsula etc.)?

Please tick the appropriate box:

Not applicable

7.4. Are there any further knowledge gaps not covered by this report critical for LWfG conservation in your country which would require further research?

Please tick the appropriate box:

No

7.5. Additional information (optional)

Please provide any further information on key knowledge not covered by the questions above.

> The wind turbines and the high tension power lines are the factors that pose a potential risk to geese but for which no significant adverse impacts relating to Lesser White-fronted Geese are known.

8. Additional Comments

Please provide any additional comments or information not covered by the previous sections of the national report.

> Global warming has a significant impact on the ecosystem of the Lesser White-fronted Goose habitats. The increasing temperature is a change of feeding conditions through altered vegetation affecting the mortality of populations. Global warming has impact on the staging and wintering areas. In the north of Dogrogea region, the Jijila Lake important for waterbirds species was completely drained and turned into a cornfield. An international project funded by the EU's LIFE mechanism is needed with partners from Hungary, Bulgaria, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldavia is necessary for catching, colour ringing and satellite tracking of the Lesser White-fronted Geese *Anser erythropus*, preparing the National Action Plan for this species, providing safe feeding and roosting areas by habitats management, raising the public awareness amongst hunters, farmers and landowners.

Universities involvement in more studies and researches regarding the spread of *Anser erythropus* at the national level would be useful.

There is needed to fill the knowledge gaps concerning the number of individuals and to prevent further large declines in the population of *Anser erythropus* that could lead to the species' extinction.

We must ensure that all roosting and feeding sites used by Lesser White-fronted Geese are adequately protected and managed.

9. Submission

Please insert the date of when the previous national report was submitted:

> No National Report was submitted until now

Please insert the date of submission for this report:

> the 3rd of September 2012