

L'Accord sur la conservation des oiseaux d'eau migrateurs d'Afrique-Eurasie (AEWA)



Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2012-2014

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2012-2014 was approved at the 9th meeting of the Standing Committee (18-19 September 2013, Trondheim, Norway) by Doc StC 9.11. This format has been constructed following the AEWA Action Plan, the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 and resolutions of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP).

In accordance with Article V.1(c) of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, each Party shall prepare to each ordinary session of the MOP a National Report on its implementation of the Agreement and submit that report to the Agreement Secretariat not later than 120 days before the session of the MOP. The 6th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP6) is taking place on 9-14 November 2015 in Bonn, Germany; therefore the deadline for submission of National Reports is 12 May 2015.

The AEWA National Reports 2012-2014 will be compiled and submitted through the CMS Family Online Reporting Facility, which is an online reporting tool for the whole CMS Family. The CMS Family Online Reporting System was developed in 2010-2011 by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

To contact the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat please send your inquiries to aewa national reporting@unep.de

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

> Sweden

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

> 01/11/1999

List any reservations that the Contracting Party has made (if any) upon deposition of its instruments of accession on provisions of the Agreement or its Action Plan in accordance with Article XV of AEWA

> None

2. Institutional Information

Please update information on the National AEWA Administrative Authority, the National Focal Points, the Designated National Respondent and the other contributors to this report.

Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority

Full name of the institution

> The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Name and title of the head of institution

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Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2012-2014

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

☑ The National Focal Point (NFP) has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2012-2014

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this report

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this reports > Klas Allander, SEPA

Status

3. Non-native Waterbird Species Status

Are there non-native waterbird species occurring in your country?

If you respond **negatively** to this question, please skip this chapter and proceed to chapter 4. Species Conservation. If you respond **positively** to this question, please select from the drop-down list below only the **non-native** species that occur in your country and fill out the required information.

✓ Yes

AEWA Species - Alopochen aegyptiacus / Egyptian Goose

English Common name(s):

Egyptian Goose

French Common name(s):

Oie d'Égypte, Ouette d'Égypte



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country ☐ The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country
☑ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected
☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

No information

☑ No information

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

No information

☑ No information

Population trend

No information

☑ No information

Species Status - Field for additional information (optional)

Optionally you can provide additional information on the status of the species in the country > Currently under discussion whether the species should be considered invasive.

Legal Status

Does the species have any legal status?
☑ Yes

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\ \square$ No

AEWA Species - Porzana parva / Little Crake

English Common name(s):

Little Crake

French Common name(s):

Marouette poussin



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country
☑ The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected
☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely natural vagrants

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely natural vagrants

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Population trend

No information

☑ No information

Legal Status

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\hfill \hfill \square$ No

AEWA Species - Calidris minuta / Little Stint

English Common name(s):

Little Stint

French Common name(s):

Bécasseau minute



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country <a>I The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected
☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely natural vagrants

Source of information

 Artportalen (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

No information

☑ No information

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely natural vagrants

Source of information

> Artportalen (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

No information

☑ No information

Population trend

Population trend
☑ Unknown

No information
☑ No information

Legal Status

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\ \square$ No

Alien Species - Anser indicus / Bar-headed Goose

English Common name(s):

Bar-headed Goose

French Common name(s):

Oie à tête barrée



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country <a>I The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected
☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

No information
☑ No information

Population trend

No information
☑ No information

Legal Status

Does the species have any legal status?
☑ Yes

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\ \square$ No

Alien Species - Chen caerulescens / Snow Goose

English Common name(s):

Snow Goose

French Common name(s):

Oie des neiges



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country
☑ The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected
☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Population trend

No information

☑ No information

Legal Status

Does the species have any legal status? ☑ Yes

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\hfill \hfill \square$ No

Alien Species - Branta hutchinsii / Cackling Goose

English Common name(s):

Cackling Goose

French Common name(s):

Bernache de Hutchins



Confirmation of species occurrence

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population Both options can be selected

☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected
☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

No information

☑ No information

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

No information

☑ No information

Population trend

No information
☑ No information

Legal Status

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\ensuremath{\square}$ No

Alien Species - Aix sponsa / Wood Duck

English Common name(s):

Wood Duck

French Common name(s):

Canard branchu, Canard carolin



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country ☐ The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected ☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Population trend

No information
☑ No information

Legal Status

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\hfill \hfill \square$ No

Alien Species - Aix galericulata / Mandarin Duck

English Common name(s):

Mandarin, Mandarin Duck

French Common name(s):

Canard mandarin



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country <a>I The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country $\ \square$ Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected ☑ Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

 $\ensuremath{\square}$ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Population data quality

☑ Moderate

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Previous population estimate

Occasional records

Both options can be selected

☑ Occasionally recorded, most likely escapes from collections

Source of information

> Swedish Species Information Centre (internet-based public national reporting system). Administrated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Population trend

No information

☑ No information

Legal Status

Does the species have any legal status? ☑ Yes

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status? $\hfill \hfill \square$ No

Pressures and Responses

4. Species Conservation

4.1 Legal Measures

1. Please indicate which modes of taking are prohibited in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

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- ☑ Snares
- ☑ Limes
- ☑ Hooks
- ☑ Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys
- ☑ Tape recorders and other electronic devices
- ☑ Electrocuting devices
- ☑ Artificial light sources
- ☑ Mirrors and other dazzling devices
- ☑ Devices for illuminating targets
- ☑ Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter
- ☑ Explosives
- ✓ Nets
- ☑ Traps
- Poison
- ☑ Poisoned or anesthetic baits
- ☑ Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition
- ☑ Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)
- ☑ Other non-selective modes of taking

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation

> The Swedish Hunting Ordinance.

2. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate

livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

√ No

3. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions laid down in paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3)

✓ No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.1. Legal Measures

> Concerning paragraph 2.1.1: none of the species listed in column A are allowed for hunting. Concerning paragraph 2.1.2: hunting is restricted in time and only allowed during part of the year Concerning paragraph 2.1.3.: exemptions have been granted for scientific purposes.

4.2 Single Species Action Plans

4. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAP), for species whose populations are listed on Column A of Table 1, developed under or recognised by AEWA, into National Single Species Action Plans (NSSAP). (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2)

Please report on each relevant ISSAP for Sweden

National Single Species Action Plan for Crex crex

(Corncrake)

✓ No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Expired 2012 and will not be revised

National Single Species Action Plan for Gallinago media

(Great Snipe)

☑ No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Expired 2012 and will not be revised

National Single Species Action Plan for Oxyura leucocephala

(White-headed Duck)

☑ No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> No eradication program per se, but basically open season all year round. No observations since 2008.

National Single Species Action Plan for Anser erythropus

(Lesser White-fronted Goose)

☑ NSSAP in place and being implemented

When was the plan approved and published? Please provide a web link or attach a file, if available. Please provide contact details for any person or organisation coordinating its implementation. Please list any activities and/or achievements over the past triennium.

> 2008. Project coordinated by the County Administrative Board, Swedish Hunting and wildlife management association is responsible for implementation, The Swedish EPA is the responsible national organisation. Supplementation of the Swedish population with Russian birds - captive breeding program in place, release of wild-caught birds into the wild. Satellite transmittor project.

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

Åtgärdsprogram för fjällgås 2011-2015 - National SSAP

http://www.blessgans.de/?641 - Satellite tracking map

National Single Species Action Plan for Cygnus columbianus bewickii

(Bewick's Swan)

☑ No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Species only occuring during passage in small numbers. Most of the important staging areas are protected.

National Single Species Action Plan for Limosa limosa

(Black-tailed Godwit)

☑ No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> NSAP in preparation. Scheduled to be finalized in 2015. Multi-species SAP.

5. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)

 $\ensuremath{\seldsymbol{arphi}}$ Yes

Please provide information on each species for which relevant action has been undertaken

National Single Species Action Plan for Anser erythropus / Lesser White-fronted Goose

For Anser erythropus / Lesser White-fronted Goose
☑ NSSAP in place and being implemented

Please provide details

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

Swedish LwFG project

National Single Species Action Plan for Charadrius alexandrinus / Kentish Plover

For Charadrius alexandrinus / Kentish Plover

 $\ \square$ NSSAP in development

Please provide details

National Single Species Action Plan for Limosa / Black-tailed Godwit

For Limosa limosa / Black-tailed Godwit
☑ NSSAP in development

Please provide details

> Multi-species SAP, scheduled to be finalized during 2015

National Single Species Action Plan for Calidris alpina / Dunlin

For Calidris alpina / Dunlin
☑ NSSAP in development

Please provide details

> Multi-species Action Plan covering Calidris alpina arcticola, scheduled to be finalized during 2015

National Single Species Action Plan for Philomachus pugnax / Ruff

For Philomachus pugnax / Ruff ☑ NSSAP in development

Please provide details

> Mutli-species Action Plan, scheduled to be finalized during 2015

National Single Species Action Plan for Sterna caspia / Caspian Tern

For Sterna caspia / Caspian Tern

☑ NSSAP in place and being implemented

Please provide details

> Expires 2016

6. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for migratory waterbirds?

☑ No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the preparation of NSSAPs?

> National guidelines for Swedish single species action plans

4.3 Emergency Measures

7. Please report on any emergency situation that has occurred in your country over the past triennium and has threatened waterbirds. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.3)

Please indicate whether an emergency situation threatening waterbirds, such as botulism, chemical pollution, earthquacke, extreme weather, fire, harmful algal bloom, infectious disease, introduction of alien species, lead poisoning, nuclear accident, oil spill, predation, volcanic activity, war or other emergency (please specify), has occured in the country over the past triennium.

 $\ensuremath{\square}$ No emergency situation has occurred

8. Are there any other emergency measures, different from the ones reported above, but were developed and are in place in your country?

 $\ \ \square$ No

9. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with emergency situations? > No emergency situations have occured within the specified time period

4.4 Re-establishments

10. Is your country maintaining a national register of re-establishment projects occurring or planned to occur wholly or partly within your country? (Resolution 4.4)

Yes

Please provide details on the register

> The register concerning Lesser white fronted goose is maintained by the Swedish association for hunting and wildlife management.

The white stork register is maintained by the stork project.

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

The Swedish White stork reintroduction program

The Swedish Lwfg project

11. Is there a regulatory framework for re-establishments of species, including waterbirds, in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)?

Yes

Please provide details

> The Swedish Hunting Ordinance

12. Has your country considered, developed or implemented re-establishment projects for any species listed on AEWA Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)

Yes

Please provide information on each species for which relevant action has been undertaken

Projects for Ciconia ciconia / White Stork

For Ciconia ciconia / White Stork

☑ Re-establishment plan developed and being implemented

Please provide information on the time frame and the objectives of the project. Please provide a web link or attach a file, if available. Please provide contact details of any person or organisation coordinating its implementation. Please list any activities and/or achievements over the past triennium.

> http://www.storkprojektet.se/

Has your country informed the AEWA Secretariat in advance of this re-establishment project? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)

 $\ensuremath{\square}$ No

Please explain the reasons

> The project started before (1989) AEWA was established

13. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the translocation of waterbirds for conservation Purposes?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

> National guidelines for NSSAP

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.4. Re-establishments

> Concerning the Lesser White-fronted goose it is a supplementation programme and not a re-establishement programme.

4.5 Introductions

14. Does your country have legislation in place, which prohibits the introduction into the environment of non-native species of animals and plants which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.1)

☑ Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of legislation, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it

> In 2007 the Swedish EPA, together with relevant authorities, received a government assignment to create a national strategy for invasive alien species. The policy was finalized in 2008. EU Invasive Species Ordinance in place.

15. Does your country impose legislative requirements on zoos, private collections, etc. in order to avoid the accidental escape of captive animals belonging to non-native species which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.2)

☑ Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of the document, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it

> The Swedish Board of Agriculture and The County Administrative Boards enforce The Species Conservation Ordinance adopted by the Swedish government, as well as regulations for showing animals in public.

16. Does your country have in place a National Action Plan for Invasive Species (NAPIS) (in the framework of other MEAs, such as CBD, Bern Convention, and GISP (Global Invasive Species Programme) (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 5)?

☑ Yes, and being implemented

Has consideration been given to waterbirds in the NAPIS?
☑ Partially

17. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate non-native species of waterbird so as to prevent negative impacts on indigenous species? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3)

☑ Yes

Please provide information on each species for which relevant action has been undertaken

Eradication programme for Oxyura jamaicensis / Ruddy Duck

For Oxyura jamaicensis / Ruddy Duck

☑ Control or eradication programme developed, but not being implemented properly or at all

Please explain the reasons

> No vagrant ruddy ducks have been observed in Sweden since 2008

Field for additional information (optional)

- > There is no eradication program per se. Swift actions have however been taken when birds have been observed. Whith apparent success as no birds have been observed since 2008
- 18. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate other non-native species (in particular aquatic weeds) so as to prevent negative impacts on migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3 and Resolution 5.15) ☑ No
- 19. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species?

☑ No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue? > National legislation.

Pressures and Responses 5. Habitat Conservation

5.1 Habitat Inventories

20. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2)

☑ Partially

Please describe the progress

> In the process of evaluating the existing network. N2000 network being revised during 2014-2015.

21. If your country has identified or is currently identifying the networks of sites of international and national importance, have you used the AEWA Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the inventory?

> EU guidelines for the designation of N2000 as well as national guidelines are used for the actual designation. About 60-70% overlap with IBA's. National monitoring schemes are mostly general and do not specifically cover protected areas. Assessments for less common species (not sufficiently covered by monitoring schemes) are made using the Swedish Species Observation System.

5.2. Conservation of Areas

22. Has your country assessed the future implications of climate change for protected areas and other sites important for waterbirds (i.e. resilience of sites to climate change)? (Resolution 5.13)

For one or more single sites ☑ No

23. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

Please report separately on internationally important sites, nationally important sites and buffer zones.

- ☑ Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites
- $\ensuremath{\square}$ Reporting on designation and management of nationally important sites
- ☑ Reporting on establishing buffer zones around waterbird sites (as an approach for maintaining or increasing resilience of ecological networks, including resilience to climate change)

All sites of international importance

Total number

> 0

Total area (ha)

> 0

Out of the above total: number of protected sites

> 0

Out of the above total: protected area (ha)

> C

Number of protected sites with management plans in place which are being implemented $\rightarrow 0$

Area under protection (in ha) covered by management plans which are being implemented > 0

All sites of national importance

Total number

> 0

Total area (ha)

> 0

Out of the above total: number protected sites

> 0

Out of the above total: protected area (ha)

> C

Number of protected sites with management plans in place which are being implemented > 0

Area under protection (in ha) covered by management plans which are being implemented > 0

Has your country identified around which nationally or internationally important sites the establishment of buffer zones is needed to maintain or increase resilience? ☑ №

Please explain the reasons

> No assessment made on national level. In some cases included regionally in the enlargment of existing protected areas. The SEPA has also suggested that buffer zones are needed in adjacent areas in certain protected woodland areas.

24. Has your country developed a national action plans for filling gaps in designation and/or management of internationally and nationally important sites? (Resolution 5.2)

☑ Being developed

Please provide starting date and expected date of finalisation

> Current revision of N2000 network. Finalization during 2015.

25. Has your country developed a strategic plan (independently or as part of your country's overarching biodiversity or protected area policy document) to maintain or increase the resilience of the ecological network (for waterbirds), including resilience to climate change, and to conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species? (Resolution 5.2, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

> See Optional field.

Also, regional action plans for green infrastructure are being developed, where these issues will probably be adressed. To be finalized 2017.

26. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the management of key sites for migratory waterbirds?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons. What guidance has been used instead?

> See Optional field:

The Swedish policy for area protection takes its direction first and foremost from the legally binding EU Birds directive (and Habitats Directive). We have not based our network specifically on species mentioned in the AEWA tables, nor have we carried out an analysis on whether our network coincides with IBA for table 1 species. Also, under question 23, the N2000 network is being revised right now, including updating the managements plans, so updated statistics will be available until next reporting period.

27. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

> See Optional field:

The Swedish policy for area protection takes its direction first and foremost from the legally binding EU Birds directive (and Habitats Directive). We have not based our network specifically on species mentioned in the AEWA tables, nor have we carried out an analysis on whether our network coincides with IBA for table 1 species. Also, under question 23, the N2000 network is being revised right now, including updating the managements plans, so updated statistics will be available until next reporting period.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 5.2. Conservation of Areas > The Swedish policy for area protection takes its direction first and foremost from the legally binding EU Birds directive (and Habitats Directive). We have not based our network specifically on species mentioned in the AEWA tables, nor have we carried out an analysis on whether our network coincides with IBA for table 1 species. Also, under question 23, the N2000 network is being revised right now, including updating the managements plans, so updated statistics will be available until next reporting period.

Pressures and Responses 6. Management of Human Activities

6.1. Hunting

28. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3)

√ Yes

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

☑ Only some AEWA species occuring in your country

> The system covers all species taken according to the Swedish hunting act

☑ The whole territory of your country

☑ All harvesting activities

Field for additional information (optional)

> The Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management reports each year data based on random sampling. The County Administrative boards also reports derogations under the EU birds directive, which are collected and submitted to the EU Commission by the Swedish EPA.

29. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4)

☑ Fully

When was the lead shot use in wetlands banned? What legislation is in place? Who does enforce this legislation?

> On the initiative of the Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management all use of lead shots in wetlands was prohibited in 2002. Additional banning measures were taken later, by decision by the Swedish government. From January 2006 lead shots are completely banned, and from 2008 the ban also includes bullets containing lead.

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

Ordinance 1998:944 - Ordinance 1998:944 regulating the phasing out of lead shot in wetlands.

Please explain the reasons for not doing this

> There has been no formal assessment. However, according to the Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management there are very few cases where the ban is ignored. For instance, the sale of lead shots has diminshed to constituting 20% of the total sale (steel bullets 80%). The National Veterinary Institute and the Swedish Museum of Natural History very seldom receives ducks suffering from lead poisoning.

Has measurement of impact of the legislation been undertaken i.e. where there was a problem of lead poisoning in waterbirds, has this been reduced? \square No

Please explain the reasons for not doing this

> No measurement has been undertaken. See also the above answer.

30. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6)

✓ Yes

Please provide details

> Information campaigns administrated by The Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management. Illegal taking is considered very low in Sweden.

31. Are legally binding best practice codes and standards for hunting (e.g. bird identification) considered a priority or appropriate for your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 2, Target 2.4)

☑ Yes

Are there legally binding best practice codes or standards in place?

Yes

What do these cover?

- ☑ Proficiency test for hunters (including bird identification)
- ☑ Other (please specify)
- ☑ Optionally [Please upload links or examples]

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> Eu birds directive. Sustainable Hunting under the Birds Directive.

6.2. Other human activities

33. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12)

✓ No

If appropriate, please provide further details.

> The matter is under discussion, but no decisions have been taken so far.

34. Does your country have legislation in place, which provides for Strategic Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA/EIA) of activities potentially negatively affecting natural habitats or wildlife? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1)

☑ Yes and being implemented

Please provide details

> The Environmental Code requires that environmental impact assessments shall be carried out for any planned activity or exploitation that involves for example water operations, quarrying operations or potential environmental hazard.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Please provide details

> In connection with the consultation process, which takes place prior to the drafting of an environmental impact statement, the operator, must obtain and compile available data and consult the other parties, authorities and organizations concerned, as well as the public.

35. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects, including energy sector projects such as renewable energy developments and power lines installation, to assess the impact of proposed projects on migratory waterbird species listed on Table 1 and/or habitats/sites on which they depend? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1, Resolution 5.11 and Resolution 5.16)

☑ Yes, all proposed projects

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

> No outstanding cases during the reporting period. National legislation dictates that all large scale projects have to be preceded by EIA's. These take into account the impact on bird populations and are in compliance with national legislation.

Where an SEA/EIA has identified a likelihood of significant negative impacts on migratory waterbirds, have steps been taken to avoid these impacts, including avoidance of protected areas and other sites of importance for migratory waterbirds?

√ Yes

Please describe the measures put in place

> Exploitation of important areas are avoided, in accordance with national and international legislation. The

same applies for protected areas.

36. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on how to avoid, minimize or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds? ☑ №

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> We have used national and international guidelines, regulated by national legislation.

37. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.11 on Power Lines and Migratory Waterbirds.

37.1. Are relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, scientific bodies, nongovernmental organisations and the energy sector, being regularly consulted in order to monitor jointly the impacts of power lines on waterbirds and to agree on a common policy of action?
☑ No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Relevant bodies and organisations are aware of the problems and actions are carried out to some extent.

The Swedish Transport Administration and the Energy Market Inspectorate are the responsible national bodies.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

<u>Bern Rec 110 SE 141022.pdf.pdf</u> - Swedish report on implementation of Bern Recommendation 110E concerning electrocution of birds

37.2. Have a baseline of waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements (including those between breeding, resting and feeding areas) been established as early as possible in the planning of any power line project, over a period of at least five years, and with particular emphasis on those species known to be vulnerable to electrocution or collision; and, if such studies identify any risks, has every effort been made to ensure these are avoided?

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity? > All large scale projects are preceded by EIA´s. Although not entirely as extensive as the above text, these take into account the impact on bird populations and are in compliance with national legislation

- 37.3. Have the location, route and direction of new power lines been designated on the basis of national zoning maps; and has, wherever possible, the construction of power lines along major migration flyways and in habitats of conservation importance* been avoided, where such construction is likely to have significant effects on waterbirds?
- * such as Special Protection Areas under the EU Birds Directive, Important Bird Areas, protected areas, Ramsar sites, the West/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Crane and other waterbirds and other critical sites as identified by the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the African-Eurasian region.

 ☑ Yes

Please provide details

> See 37.2. Protected areas (by national and international legislation) mostly covered by management plans regulating the means and levels of exploitation.

37.4. Are bird-safe designs in the construction of new power infrastructure, including measures designed to reduce electrocution and collisions been used in your country?

☑ Yes

Please provide details

> From the follow-up of the Bern REc. 110E:

The Transport Administration has since the last report:

- Taken measures to keep birds from perching on its installments, by equipping them with perch rejectors
- Cables have been equipped with perch rejectors ("Firefly" type)
- Substations have been equipped with "owl scarecrow" or the like
- Substations have been equipped with plastic screens to separate birds from parts with electric current.
- To prevent in particular raptors from colliding with trains, the Administration has put effort into clearing the tracks from carcasses more rapidly.
- 37.5. Have those sections of existing power lines that are causing relatively high levels of waterbird injury

and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision been identified and modified as a matter of priority?
☑ No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity? > See attached file under 37.1

37.6. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of power lines on waterbird populations at the national scale, as well as of the effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to minimise the impact of power lines on waterbird populations?

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity? > See attached file under 37.1

37.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?
☑ No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity? > Measures taken in accordance with national legislation. Considered to be adequate.

38. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region? ☑ №

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead? > Measures taken in accordance with national legislation.

39. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.16 on Renewable Energy and Migratory Waterbirds.

39.1. Has a national sensitivity and zoning mapping to avoid overlap of renewable energy developments with areas of importance for migratory waterbirds been developed in your country?
☑ Yes

Please provide details

- > All large scale projects have to be preceded by EIA's. Although not entirely as extensive as the above text, these take into account the impact on bird populations and are in compliance with national legislation
- 39.2. Please describe what international environmental guidelines, recommendations and criteria are being followed in your country for renewable energy developments impact assessment and the utilization of renewable energy sources.
- > We have national guidelines for wind energy production in Natura 2000 areas. The national guidelines are in line with the EU guidelines.
- 39.3. Is post-construction monitoring being undertaken of the renewable energy installations and associated infrastructure in your country? \square No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Not as a rule, but in some cases monitoring programmes are set up to assess number of birds killed by wind turbines.

39.4. Where damage cannot be avoided or mitigated, has compensation for damages to biodiversity been provided?

√ Yes

Please provide details

- > National legislation (The Swedish Environmental Code) dictates regulations regarding compensation.
- 39.5. Please indicate whether any of the following measures have been put in place to reduce the potential negative impact of terrestrial and marine windfarms on migratory waterbirds:

 \square focusing research efforts on alleviating the negative effects on waterbirds from wind farms, such as the mapping of the main migration corridors and migration crossings for waterbirds also allowing the optimising of wind farm layouts

39.6. Have any specific measures been put in place to assess, identify and reduce potential negative impacts of biofuel production on migratory waterbirds and their habitats?
☑ Yes

Please provide details

- > Näsudden, Gotland: An ambitious monitoring programme has given valuable information of killed birds in the wind park. Helcom recommendation 34E/1 aims to safeguard important bird areas in the marine environment. Many of these are part of the Natura 2000 network.
- 39.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?
 ☑ No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> Measures taken in accordance with national legislation. To some extent overlapping with guidelines in 5.11.

See also attached file under 37.1

40. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8)
☑ Yes

Please provide details

> Yes, in some fisheries. Reports on bycaught birds are scarce, though.

41. Has your country undertaken steps towards the adoption/application of measures to reduce the incidental catch of seabirds and combat Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing practices in the Agreement area? (Resolution 3.8)
☑ №

Please explain the reasons

> No particular emphasis on Resolution 3.8 has been made, efforts are focused on recommendations under Ospar and Helcom as well as regulations according to the MSFD. There is work ongoing to mitigate fishing in marine Natura 2000 areas in order to avoid bycatch of birds, but the process is slow. A promising pilot project with video monitoring of bycatch has been carried out, but interest among fishermen to implement the system is low.

Pressures and Responses

7. Research and Monitoring

43. Does your country have waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species in place? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.2)

√ Yes

Covering the breeding period

☑ Partially

Please provide details

> Although not specifically focusing on the AEWA species, the Swedish Bird Survey, a national monitoring program carried out by Lund university and funded by the SEPA, covers many of the relevant species during the breeding season. Also, a newly launched pilot project focusing on shorebreeding waterbirds (mainly ducks and gulls) will probably become an annually running national monitoring program.

Covering the passage/migration period

☑ Partially

Please provide details

- > Bird count and ringing at Ottenby. During the spring and autumn migration seasons counting and ringing of primarily passerine birds and waders is performed at Ottenby Bird Observatory on the island of Öland in the Baltic Sea. Funded by the SEPA
- Migratory bird count at Falsterbo. Population trends of Swedish bird species are monitored by annual counting of migrating birds on the SW-most peninsula in Sweden during August-November, under the responsibility of Lund University, funded by the SEPA

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

☑ Partially

Please provide details

- > Swedish Waterfowl Count. Since 1967, Sweden participates in the International Waterfowl Census in midwinter (January) each year. Counts of waterfowl are made at about 600 sites that are grouped in about 70 reference areas covering representative areas of Swedish waterfowl habitats, with the exception of offshore waters. The winter survey is supplemented by inventories of 200 important areas in southern Sweden in September. Lund University has been commissioned by the Swedish EPA to be responsible for the census.
- 44. Has your country supported, technically or financially, other Parties or Range States in designing appropriate monitoring schemes and developing their capacity to collect reliable waterbird population data? (Resolution 5.2)

√ No

Please explain the reasons

> No official or regular support aimed at monitoring of waterbirds. Information and practicies are however communicated and/or gathered in relation to different monitoring projects.

Please explain the reasons. What guidance has been used instead?

> The national monitoring system was established before AEWA agreement text was ratified by Sweden

46. Have any research programmes been established in your country in the last 5 years to address waterbird conservation priorities in accordance with the AEWA strategies and plans? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.3)

✓ No

Please explain the reasons.

> No research programs per se have been started.

A pilot project for a national monitoring program of coast-dwelling seabirds was introduced in 2015. Funded/inititated by the SEPA, co-ordinated out by Lund University, carried out by the County Administrative Boards and local ornithological societies.

Birdlife Sweden are involved in a project concerning waders on coastal meadows. The aim of the project is to inform and educate landowners.

47. List (or provide links to lists) of research related to waterbirds and their conservation that has been undertaken or results published in the past triennium (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.5)

> Concerning scientific research we refer to the universities and journals. In particular Department of Biology, Biodiversity unit Lund University. Below are a few reports.

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

Inventering av myrfåglar i Norrbotten

Fluctuations and trends in the numbers of staging waterbirds in south Sweden in September 1973–2013
The status of the Nordic populations of the Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) in a changing world

48. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census at international or national level? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.1)

Nationally

Please provide details

> The SEPA funds the IWC counts in Sweden, carried out by Lund university

Internationally

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of funding.

49. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on watebirds been investigated in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12)

✓ No

Are there plans to investigate the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds in your country? $\ \square$ No

Please provide reason(s)

> Not considered a priority at the moment.

Pressures and Responses

8. Education and Information

8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

50. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA specifically? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4, Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

☑ Other

Please explain

> - No specific public awareness activities have been carried out by public authorities. In 2006 the translation into Swedish of the Agreement was finalized. This will hopefully act as a surety for the public awareness about the Agreement to increase. However, the overall awareness of nature conservation issues, including bird conservation, is high in Sweden. The BirdLife Sweden promotes people's interest in bird conservation through a number of different activities, for example the national Bird Watching Day which has been carried out each year since the late 1980's.

51. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been nominated by your country? (Resolution 5.5)

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

- > Not considered a priority at the moment. Education and awareness campaigns, as well as spreading of information, is carried out regionally by the County Administrative Boards.
- 52. Have measures been taken by your country to implement the provisions related to "Education and Information" in the AEWA Action Plan over the last triennium? (AEWA Action Plan, Paragraphs 6.1-6.4)

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

> Not considered a priority at the moment.

53. Have World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) activities been carried out in your country during this reporting cycle? (Resolution 5.5)

Please describe the activity/activities briefly and upload any sample materials, links or photos available related to the activity/event.

- > Birdlife Sweden organizes informational campaigns and inventories on WMBD. This year a competition between observation towers in Sweden.
- 54. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Strategic Plan 2009- 2017, Objective 4, Target 4.1 and Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

- > Not a priority matter due to lack of funding.
- 55. In Resolution 3.10 the Meeting of the Parties encouraged Contracting Parties to host AEWA Exchange Centres for their respective regions. Has your country considered/shown interest in hosting a Regional AEWA Exchange Centre? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 2 and Resolution 3.10)

✓ Not considered yet

Please provide details on the answer given above

> Not a priority matter due to lack of funding.

56. Training for CEPA (Communication, Education and Public Awareness) at national level is

supposed to be conducted by staff who have been trained in the framework of an AEWA Training of Trainers programme. Have staff who were trained as part of a Training of Trainers workshop conducted national CEPA training in your country in the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.2)

Applicable only for countries in regions where Training of Trainers programme has taken place (for Eastern and Southern African countries in Naivasha, Kenya, May 2013, and for Lusophone African countries in Luanda, Angola, January 2014)

☑ No

Please explain the reasons
> No CEPA Focal point in Sweden.

Pressures and Responses

9. Implementation

57. Has your country approached non-contracting parties to encourage them to ratify the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10)

Report only on activities over the past triennium $\ \square$ No

Please explain the reasons

> Not considered a priority

58. Has your country supported/developed international co-operation projects for the implementation of the Agreement, according to the priorities outlined in the AEWA International Implementation Tasks (IIT) for the current triennium? (Resolution 5.3) ☑ №

Please explain the reasons

> The main part of the conservation actions regarding waterbirds are carried out within the framework of EU directives and guidelines, Also, international projects regarding for instance monitoring of seabirds are carried out within Helcom and Ospar.

59. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.4)

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of funding.

60. Has your country donated other funding or provided in-kind support to activities coordinated by the Secretariat?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of funding.

61. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.7)

☑ Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

> Question somewhat unclear. The Swedish EPA is responsible for implementation of AEWA, as NFP. As well as for other MEAs such as a the Birds directive.

62. Has your country concluded, or considered concluding, site twinning schemes with other countries, the sites of which share common migratory waterbirds or conservation issues? (Resolution 5.20)

Yes

Please provide details on each twinning arrangement

> No details to provide. No twinning schemes are planned, although discussions have been held regarding for instance joint or synchronized monitoring schemes.

63. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implement and to assess delivery of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011 - 2020 including the Aichi targets?

Yes

Please provide details

> The SEPA is responsible for implementation of both AEWA and CBD. Co-ordination and communication is part of the EPAs activities in order to streamline MEAs.

64. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to

which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?

> Streamlining reporting obligations so as to minimze work load. The amount of qualitative questions can probably be lessened to a high degree. Quantitative questions (if properly formulated) are probably easier to evalute.

Pressures and Responses 10. Climate Change

65. Please outline relevant climate change research, assessments and/or adaptation measures that are relevant to migratory waterbirds and which have been undertaken or planned in your country. (Resolution 5.13)

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds $\hfill \square$ Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

> Lehikoinen A et al. 2013, Rapid climate driven shifts in wintering distributions of three common waterbird species, Global Change Biology, Vol 19, Issue 7, p 2071-2081.

A Johnston et al, Observed and predicted effects of climate change on species abundance in protected areas, Nature and climate change 3, p 1055-1061.

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 22 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

☑ Planned

Please provide details

> No assessement on waterbirds in particular. However, the impact of climate change on habitats will be included when planning designation of protected areas as well as developing new/updated National SAPs.. Also, in general the climate change issue is adresses in regards to the Bern Convention Recommendation 159.

c. Assessment of the potential vulnerability of waterbird species to climate change.

☑ No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

- > Not considered a priority at the moment. Although thesse issues might also be included in the measures described under 65 b.
- d. Review of relevant national conservation policies relevant to waterbirds and climate change.

☑ Planned

Please provide details

> See 65b

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 23 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

☑ Planned

Please provide details

> See 65b

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

 $\ \ \square$ No

66. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on measures needed to help waterbirds to adapt to climate change?

✓ No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead? > See 65 b.

The main part of the conservation actions regarding waterbirds are carried out within the framework of EU directives and guidelines

Pressures and Responses

11. Avian Influenza

67. What issues have proved challenging in responding nationally to the spread of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the last triennium and what further guidance or information would be useful in this respect?

67.1 List challenges

> No particular challenges.

67.3 Field for additional information (optional)

> Due to low risk level, governmental funding for research on avian influenza has been minimized. However, the sampling/research program on Ottenby ringing station is ready to be started again on short notice.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 10. Avian Influenza

> risk level considered low, very few cases of avian influenza the last three years. EU monitoring program in place since 2013, carried out by The National Veterinary Institute and coordinated by The Swedish board of Agriculture.

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

Surveillance of infectious diseases in animals and humans in Sweden 2013 - Report from the monitoring program

12. Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

☑ I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2012-2014 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

> May 5 2015