



To: Mr. Matti Osara, The Ministry of the Environment, Finland
Mr. Øystein Størkersen, The Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management
Mr. Per Sjögren-Gulve, The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Oliver Schall, The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany

Date: 20.7.2009
Subject: **Invitation to the 2nd Meeting of the Committee for Captive Breeding, Reintroduction and Supplementation of Lesser White-fronted Geese in Fennoscandia**
Ref: 09-345-nm

Dear RECAP Committee Members,

I have the pleasure to invite you to the second meeting of the Committee for Captive Breeding, Reintroduction and Supplementation of Lesser White-fronted Geese in Fennoscandia, to be held on 7 - 8 September 2009 at Nordens Ark in Sweden, located 120 km north of Gothenburg and 200 km south of Oslo.

Please find attached the preliminary annotated agenda for the meeting along with a registration form as well as information on logistical arrangements. Additional meeting documents will be sent to you by e-mail as they become available.

The main issues of this meeting are:

Country Updates

Much time has lapsed since the first RECAP meeting in May 2008. We would therefore like to encourage you to give a short update on recent or ongoing activities in your country, followed by a short discussion (e.g., up to 20 minutes update in form of a presentation, paper or oral briefing, and ca. 10 minutes of discussion).

Swedish feasibility study of catching and genetic screening of Swedish Lesser White-fronted Geese

The main results of the Swedish study on the feasibility and estimated cost of capturing the reinforced Swedish population of Lesser White-fronted Geese, subjecting it to genetic screening and refinement by removal of individuals with apparent hybrid ancestry (with Greater White-fronted Goose) will be presented to the Committee for discussion.

Preliminary results of the feasibility study for captive breeding of Norwegian birds by WWT

The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust has been commissioned by the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management to produce a study on the feasibility of using Norwegian Lesser White-fronted Geese for captive breeding in an effort to supplement the wild population. The preliminary results of this study will also be presented to the Committee.

Independent Scientific Review on Lesser White-fronted Goose genetics

The Committee is requested to adopt the Terms of Reference for the independent scientific review. This will allow the Secretariat to proceed with the commissioning of the review as was decided at the last RECAP meeting. The draft ToR will be sent to you for comments in advance. (NOTE: If the draft terms of reference are not ready to be adopted at the meeting, we will have a preliminary discussion concerning the ToR, which will then be circulated for comments and adoption after the meeting.)



Funding

The Secretariat will present an overview of funding possibilities in the Nordic countries as well as a list of funding suggestions as decided at the previous RECAP Committee meeting. To this end we kindly ask all countries to send information on national funding possibilities to Ms. Nina Mikander (nmikander@unep.de) as soon as possible, by the 19th of August at the latest.

Implementation of the Single Species Action Plan for the Lesser White-fronted Goose (LWfG)

Following the adoption of the SSAP last year the Secretariat will briefly introduce its plans for the international coordination of the implementation efforts in the range states.

Excursion

In addition to the RECAP meeting itself we will have the opportunity to get acquainted with the Lesser White-fronted Goose breeding facilities at Nordens Ark. The LWfG breeding project leader Mr. Christer Larsson and senior coordinator and scientific supervisor Professor Claes Andrén will give us a presentation on the LWfG work being done at Nordens Ark.

Following your preliminary confirmation of dates for the meeting, the AEWA Secretariat would appreciate to receive notice of the size and composition of your delegation as soon as possible. Please send the completed registration forms for all delegates to Ms. Mikander by the 19th of August at the latest.

Please make your own hotel and travel arrangements for the meeting. Rooms have been reserved until the 19th of August at the Nordens Ark Hotel. The price for a single room with breakfast buffet is 1.050 kr per night (approximately 95€). You are free to confirm this reservation (under the reservation name "RECAP") or make alternative hotel arrangements according to your preferences. Please also note that the Secretariat cannot cover any costs of travel, hotel accommodation or subsistence associated with the meeting.

In case you encounter any problems or for any feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Mikander.

We look forward to meeting you and your colleagues in Nordens Ark and would like to thank you in advance for your contributions and cooperation which will be critical for the success of this meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Bert Lenten
Executive Secretary of AEWA