



Euroopa Maaelu Arengu  
Põllumajandusfond:  
Euroopa investeringud  
maapiirkondadesse

## European Goose Management Platform

Bruno Leles  
EGMP Coordinator  
UNEP/AEWA Secretariat



## European Goose Management Platform Need & Justification

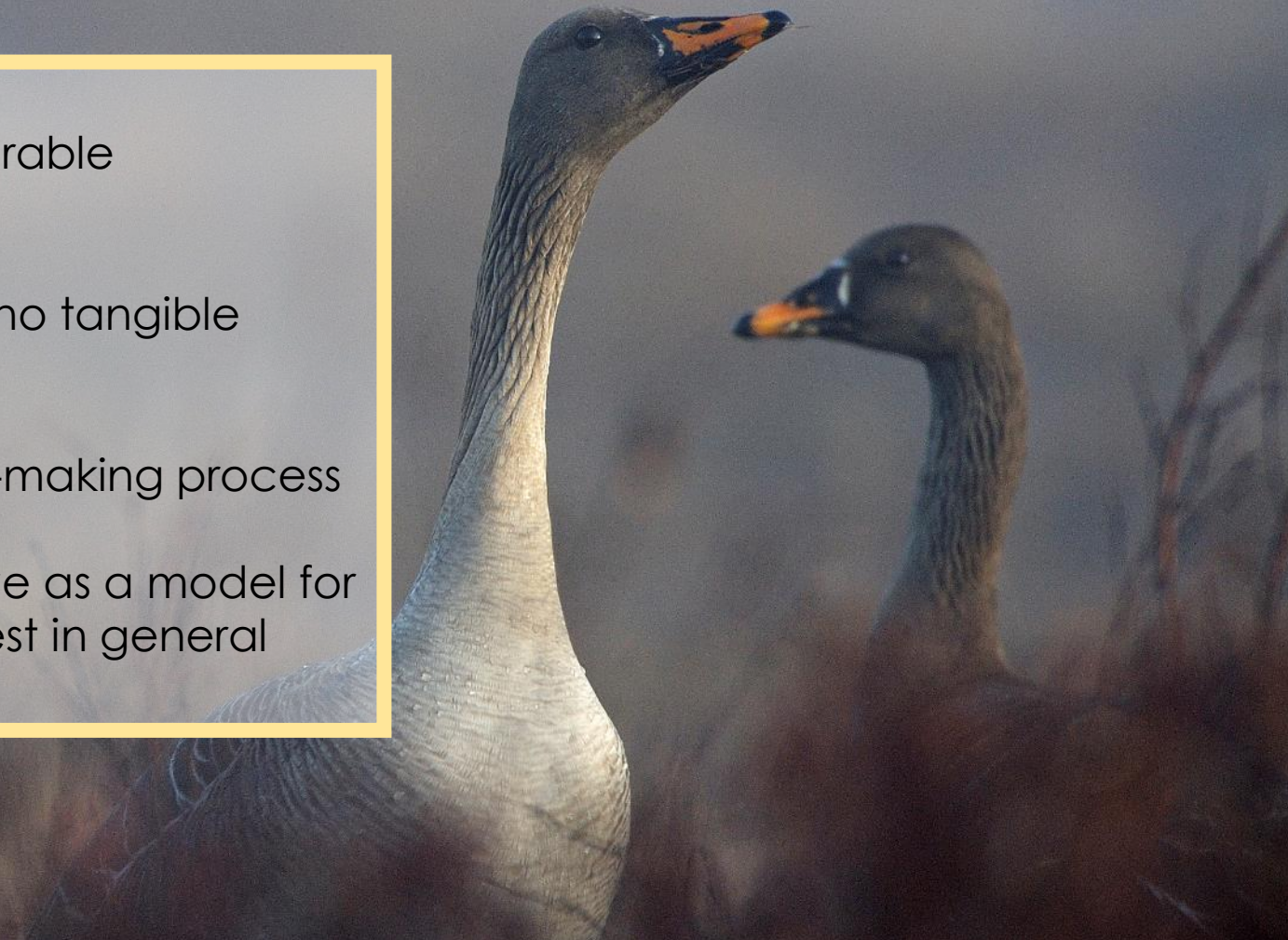
- Goose-human conflicts and ecosystem impacts continue and are becoming more acute and complex
- Geese hold societal value (birdwatching, hunting, ecosystem services)
- Svalbard Pink-footed and Taiga Bean Goose plans were in place and two more were in the pipeline
- For populations, such as Taiga Bean Goose, adaptive harvest management is required by their listings on AEWA
- Lack of coordinated approach to data collation and processing (population size, harvest, derogation shooting)





## European Goose Management Platform Need & Justification

- Some huntable populations have unfavorable conservation status
- Local or national approach would bring no tangible solutions
- Requires structures flyway-scale decision-making process
- A goose management platform can serve as a model for sustainable practicing of waterbird harvest in general





## Paris Declaration

Confirmation of commitment and agreement on modalities

The **EGMP** was established at the Paris negotiation meeting in May 2016.




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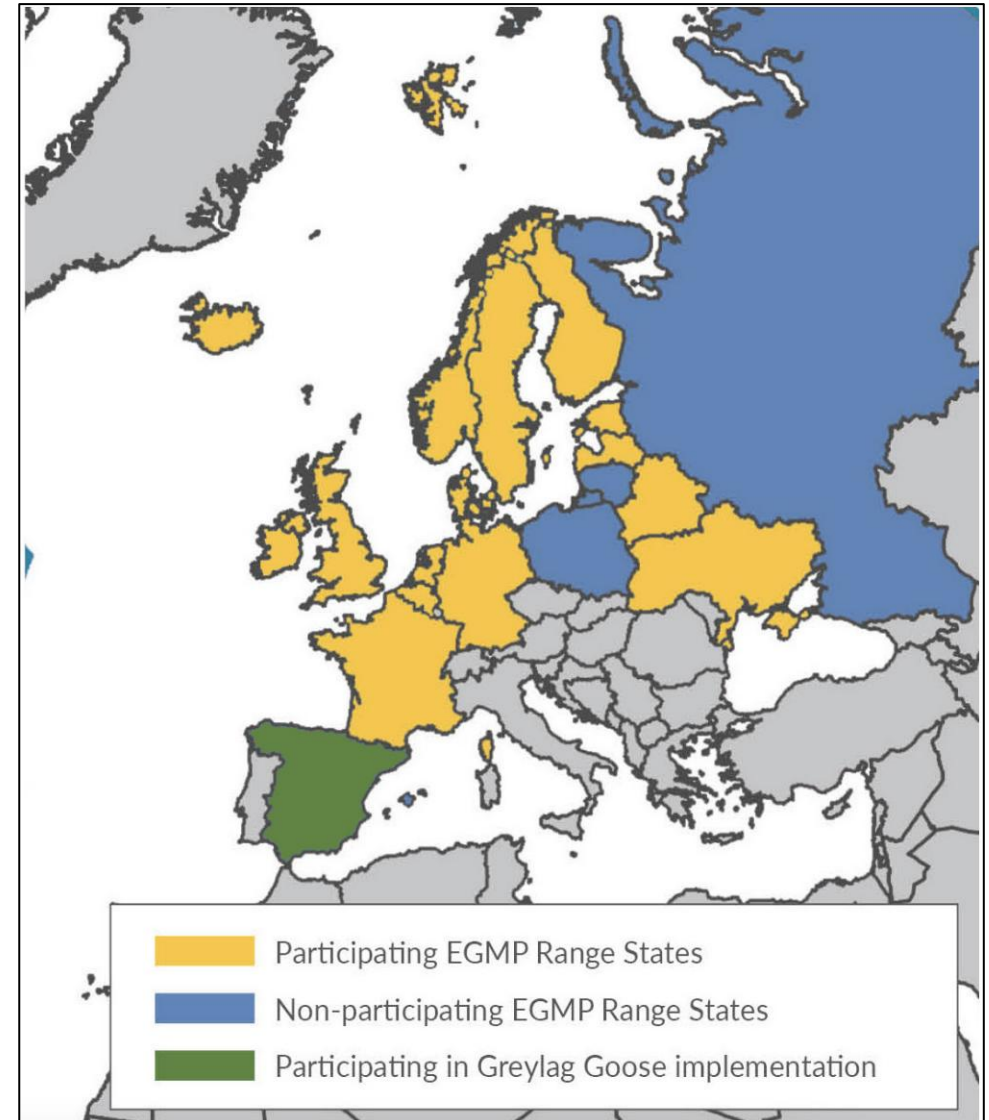


Provide the mechanism for a **structured, coordinated and inclusive decision-making and implementation process** for the **sustainable use and management** of goose populations in Europe, with the objective of maintaining them in a **favourable conservation status**, while taking into account **concerns of relevant stakeholders** and the pertinent **legislative frameworks** and regulations.

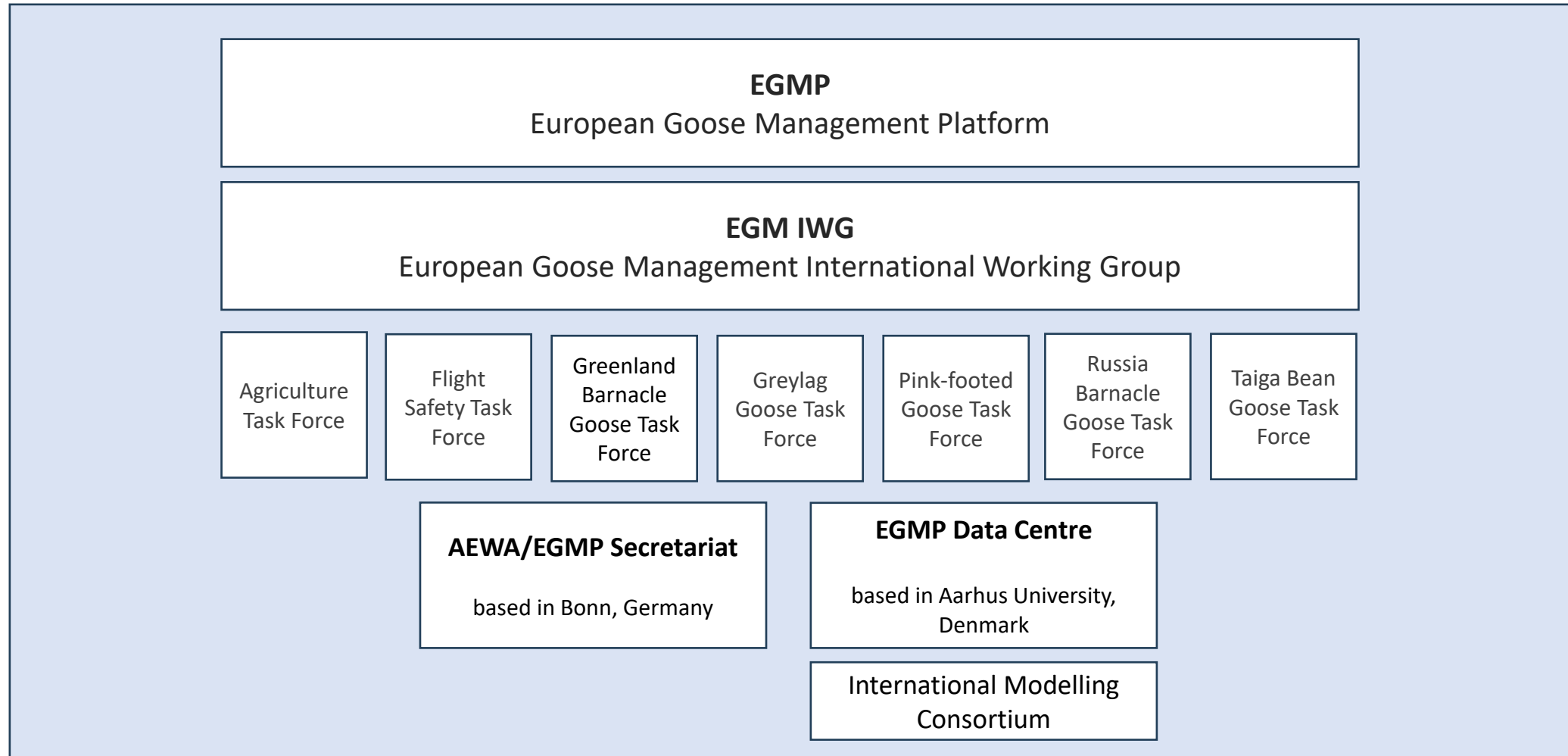


## 15 participating Range States + EU

- Belarus
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Estonia
- EU
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Russia
- Spain
- Sweden
- UK
- Ukraine



# Organisational Structure of the EGMP



## European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG)

- Main coordinating and decision-making body.
- Composed of representatives of national governments (Ministry of Environment/Agriculture), national experts (nominated by governments), the European Commission, permanent observer organizations and other relevant stakeholders.
- Meets annually to decide on adjustments to the management frameworks, prioritization of plan processes and to exchange experience.







## Agriculture Task Force

- Established in June 2017

## Taiga Bean Task Force

- Established in June 2017

## Pink-footed Task Force

- Established in June 2017

## Greylag Goose Task Force

- Established in June 2020

## Greenland Barnacle Goose Task Force

- Established in June 2020

## Russia Barnacle Goose Task Force

- Established in June 2020

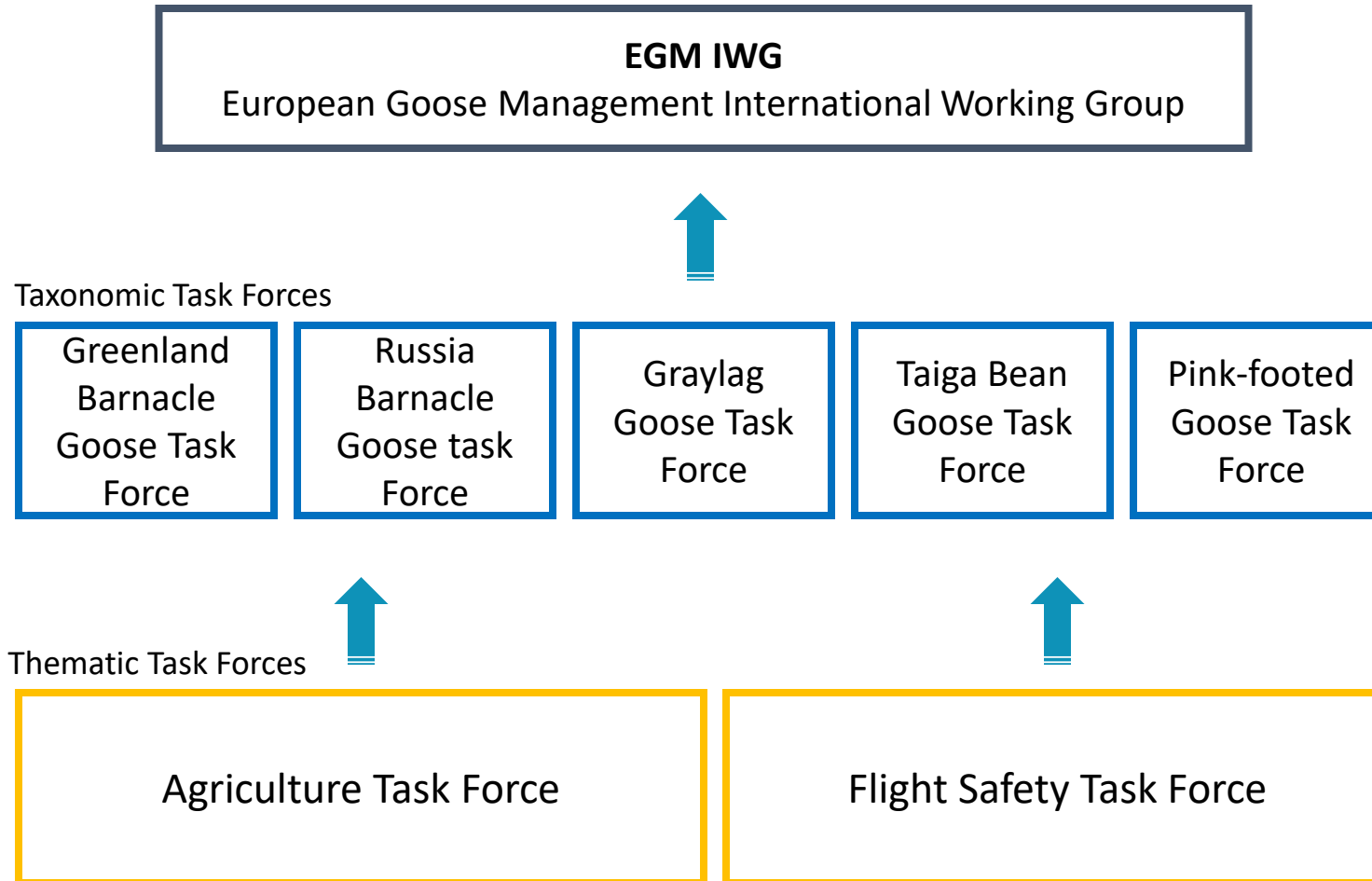
## Flight Safety Task Force

- Established in June 2023

## HPAI Contact Group

## Communication Contact Group







## Secretariat & Data Centre

### AEWA/EGMP Secretariat

- The AEWA Secretariat services and coordinates the overall process of the EGMP, including its respective bodies and the participating Range States.

### EGMP Data Centre

- Conducts annual assessments
- Proposes management options for the annual decision-making process of the EGM IWG.
- Data collection and monitoring

### Modelling Consortium

- Estimates population sizes and assesses harvest data based on state-of-the-art modelling.
- Partners include
  - Aarhus University
  - Wageningen University/ALTEERRA
  - NIOO-KNAW
  - SOVON
  - OFB
  - Swedish Agricultural University
  - Kristianstad University
  - Scottish Natural Heritage
  - Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust



- **Pink-footed Goose, Svalbard Population;** ISSMP since 2012
- **Taiga Bean Goose;** ISSAP adopted AEWA MOP6, November 2015
- **Greylag Goose, Norwest/Southwest European Population**  
ISSMP adopted AEWA MOP7, December 2018
- **Barnacle Goose, Russia/Germany and Netherlands Population; East Greenland, Scotland & Ireland Population** ISSMP adopted AEWA MOP7, December 2018






# AEWA European Goose Management Platform

17 December 2024





TECHNICAL SERIES No.48




International Species Management Plan for the Svalbard Population of the Pink-footed Goose

*Anser brachyrhynchus*






TECHNICAL SERIES No. 56



International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Taiga Bean Goose

*Anser fabalis fabalis*

TECHNICAL SERIES No.71




International Single Species Management Plan for the Greylag Goose (Northwest/Southwest European Population)

*Anser anser*






TECHNICAL SERIES No.70



International Single Species Management Plan for the Barnacle Goose (Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population, East Greenland/Scotland & Ireland Population, Svalbard/South-west Scotland Population)

*Branta leucopsis*







Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population of the Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

AEWA European Goose Management Platform



AEWA EGMP Programme No. 3

Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the East Greenland/Scotland & Ireland Population of the Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

AEWA European Goose Management Platform


AEWA EGMP Programme No. 2

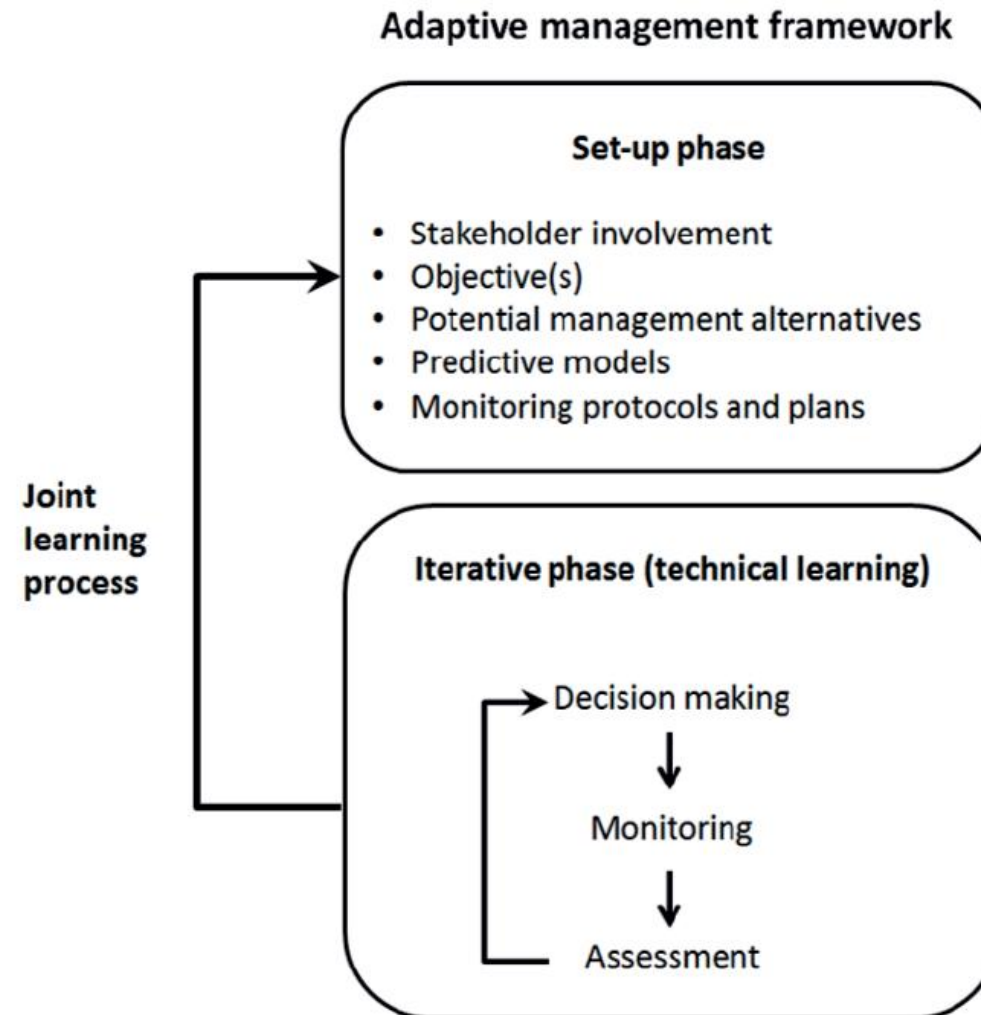



Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the NW/SW European Population of the Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*)

AEWA European Goose Management Platform

AEWA EGMP Programme No. 1









# Taiga Bean Goose ISSAP

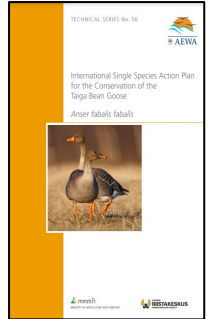


## Long-term Goal:

To restore and maintain the population at the **favourable conservation status** of around **165,000-190,000 birds** (5,000-10,000 individuals in Western, 60,000–80,000 individuals in Central and 100,000 individuals in Eastern 1 & 2 sub-populations, with stable or increasing trends).

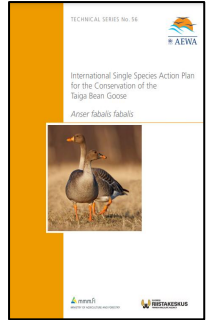
Targets for the next 20 years in each of the management units:

- Western: 4,000 birds
- Central: 60,000 birds
- Eastern 1 & 2: 30,000 birds.





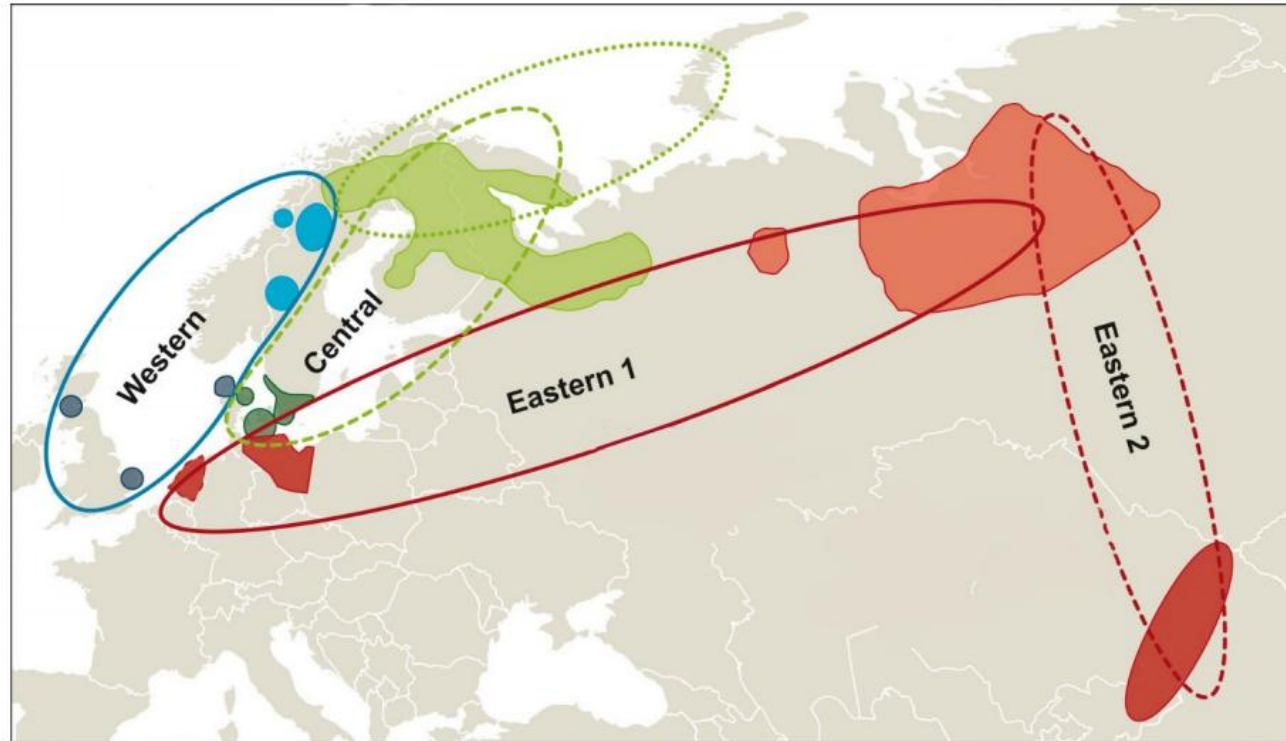
# Taiga Bean Goose ISSAP



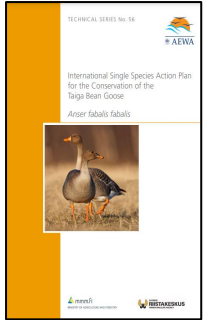
## Objectives:

1. Increase survival rate of adults
2. Increase reproductive rates
3. Stop ongoing loss, fragmentation and degradation of habitats, and restore lost, fragmented and degraded habitats

# Taiga Bean Goose ISSAP



**Figure 3.2-1.** The former Western, Central and Eastern1 Management Units (now *Scandinavia/Denmark and UK population, Finland and NW Russia/Sweden, Denmark and Germany population and West Siberia/Poland and Germany population, respectively*) of Taiga Bean Goose (green dotted line indicates linkages between breeding areas in northern Fennoscandia and known mouling areas in Novaya Zemlya and the Kola Peninsula). Birds belonging to the Eastern2 MU are currently listed as a population of Bean Goose (subspecies *johanseni*) in the AEWA Annexes.

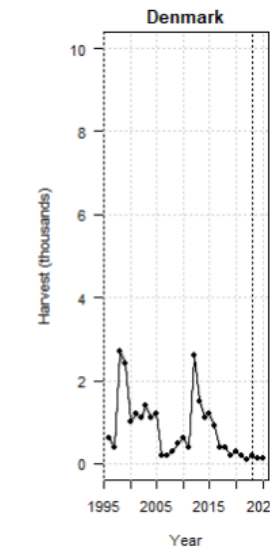
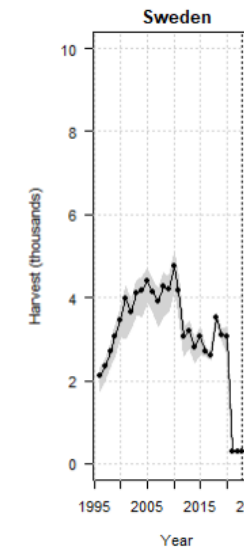
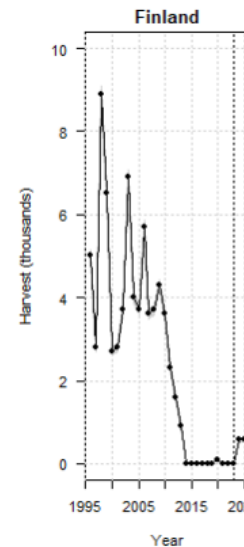
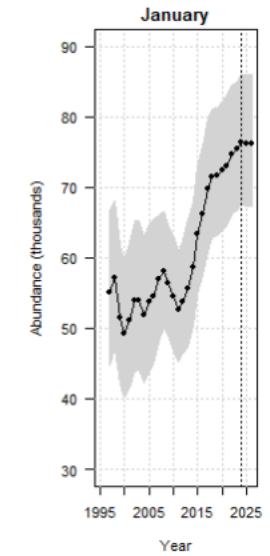
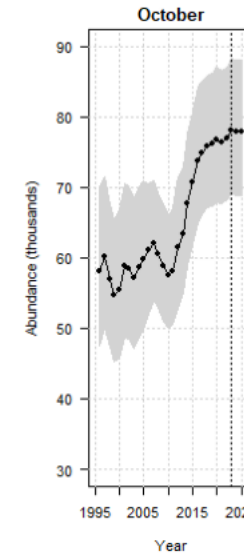
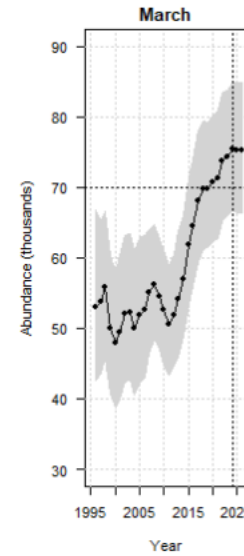




# Taiga Bean Goose ISSAP

Table 3. Estimated numbers and trends of Taiga Bean Geese in the range states. \* = data unspecified for subspecies, N/A = not available.

Range state	Breeding		Staging		Wintering		Source
	Pair number	Trend	Number	Trend	Number	Trend	
Russia	5,000–10,000	decreasing	N/A	N/A	–	–	1, 2
Finland	1,700–2,500	decreasing	40,000–60,000* (spring)	unknown	–	–	3, 4, 5
Sweden	655–1,045	decreasing	45,000–55,000 (autumn)	stable	8,000–42,000	increasing	6, 7, 8
Norway	≥ 20	decreasing	≥ 200 (spring & autumn)	increasing*	20–80	stable	9, 10
Denmark	–	–	N/A	N/A	6,498–18,922 (2004–2011)	stable	11
Germany	–	–	N/A	N/A	12,100–52,000 (2005–2013)	decreasing	12
Poland	–	–	≥ 5,000 (autumn)	N/A	273–3,800 (2004–2013)	N/A	12
United Kingdom	–	–	–	–	300–400	decreasing	13, 14
<b>Estonia</b>	–	–	9,000–18,000* (spring)	stable	–	–	15, 16
Latvia	–	–	unknown	unknown	–	–	–
Lithuania	–	–	≤ 5,000*	increasing*	–	–	17
Netherlands	–	–	–	–	c. 200	decreasing	18



# Taiga Bean Goose ISSAP

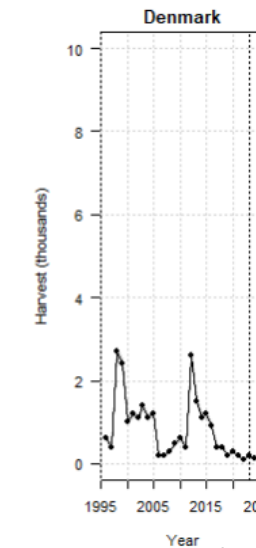
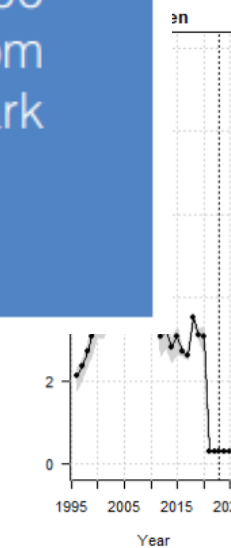
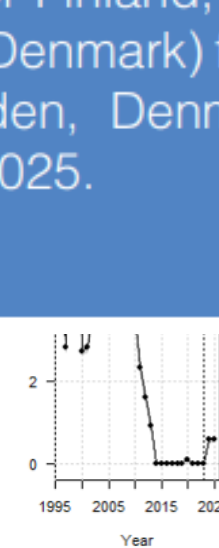
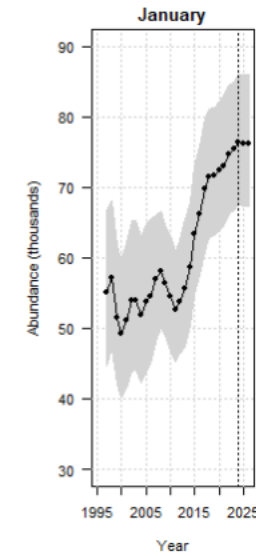
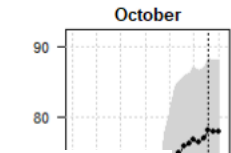
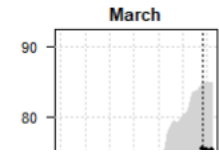
Table 3. *Estim for subspecies*

Range state							
Russia							
Finland							
Sweden							
Norway							
Denmark							
Germany							
Poland							
United Kingdom							
Estonia	-	-	9,000–18,000* (spring)	stable	-	-	15, 16
Latvia	-	-	unknown	unknown	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	≤ 5,000*	increasing*	-	-	17
Netherlands	-	-	-	-	c. 200	decreasing	18



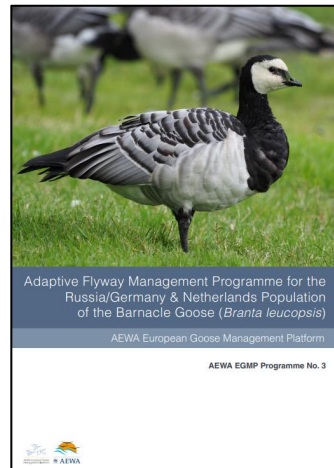
**Management recommendations for Taiga Bean Goose**

The EGM IWG agreed on a total annual harvest of less than 3,000 birds (1740 birds for Finland, 900 birds for Sweden, and 360 birds for Denmark) from the Finland and NW Russia/Sweden, Denmark and Germany population for 2024/2025.



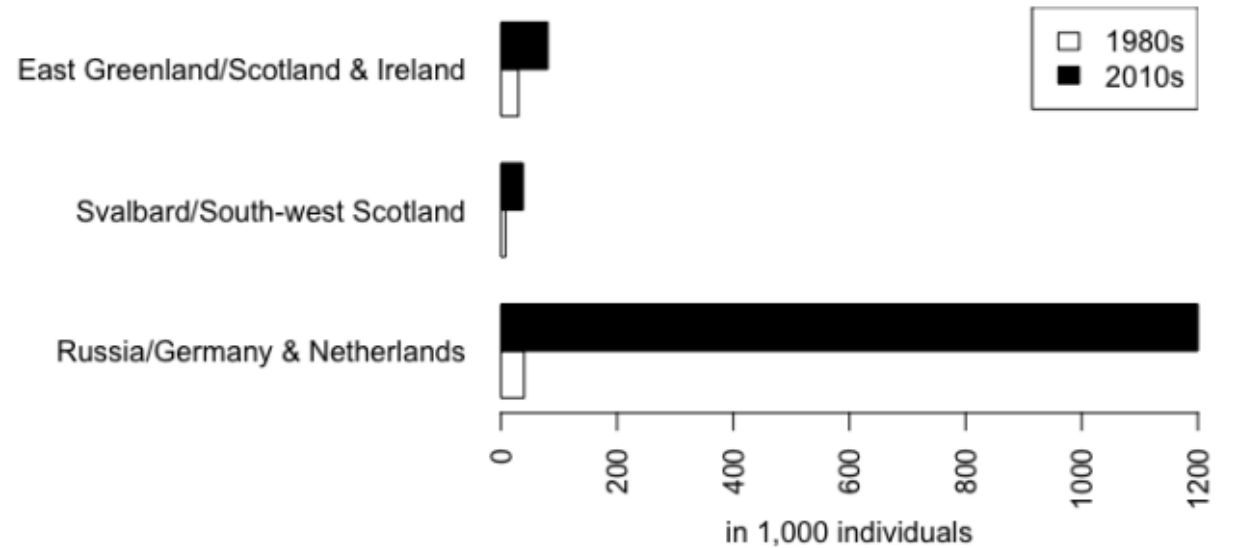
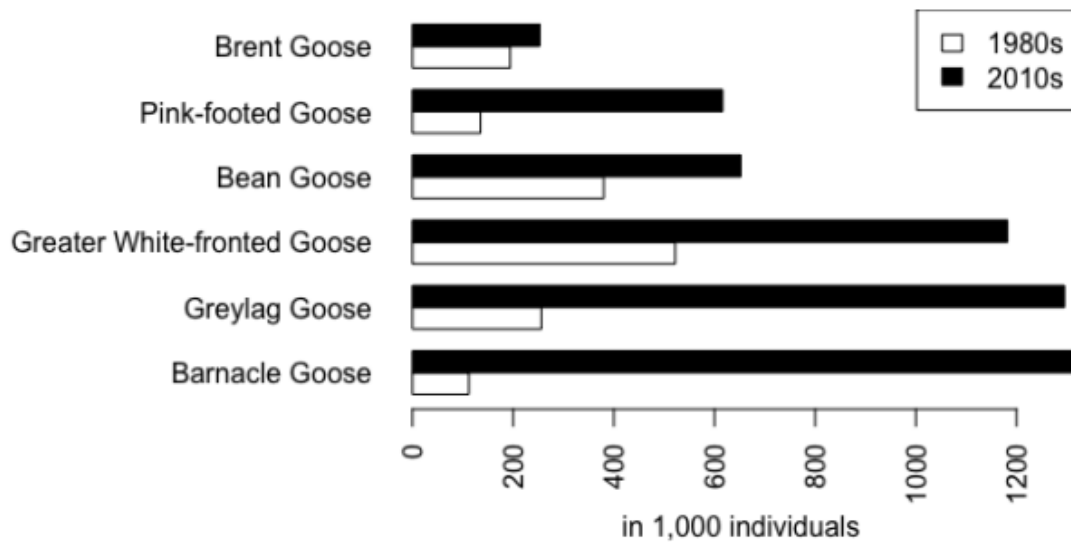


# Barnacle Goose ISSMP & AFMP



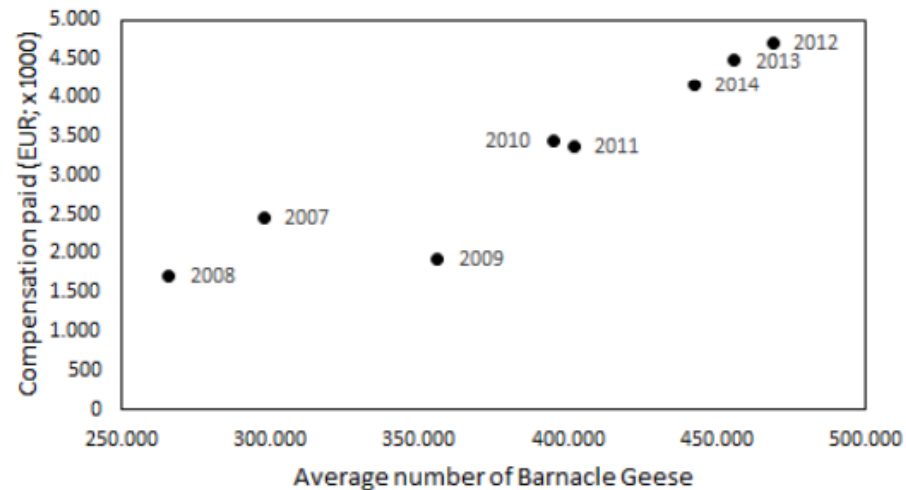
Development of an ISSMP for the Barnacle Goose was deemed necessary because the species is causing increasing **damage to agriculture**, poses increasing **risk to flight safety** in several Range States, and there are increasing concerns regarding its potential impact on other flora and fauna, especially on Arctic ecosystems.

# Barnacle Goose ISSMP & AFMP





## Netherlands

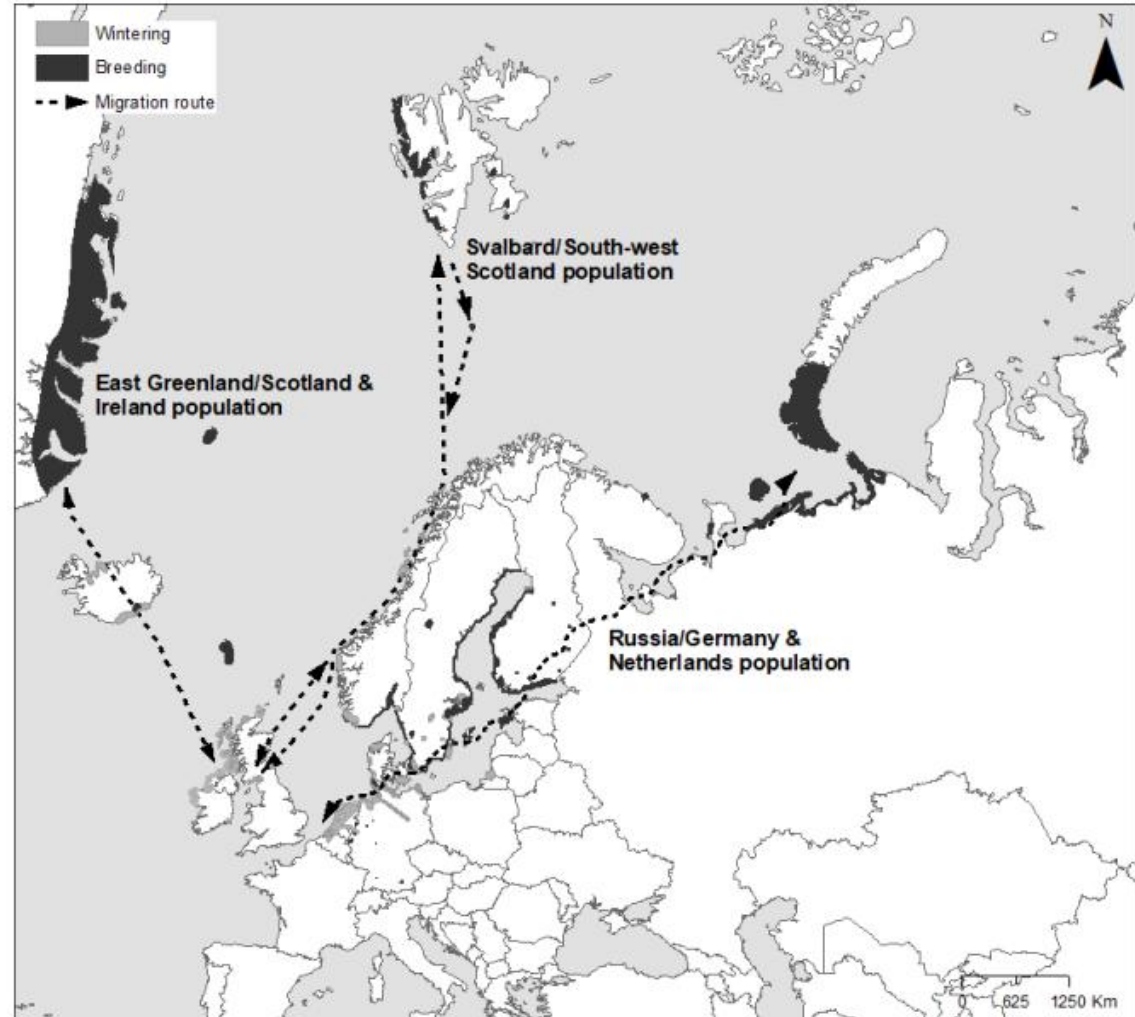
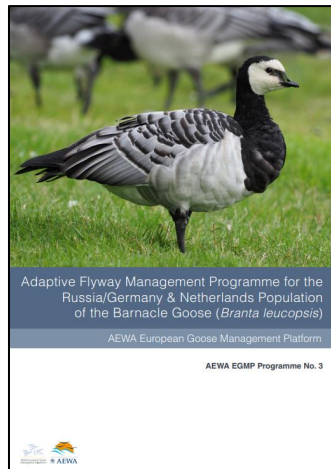
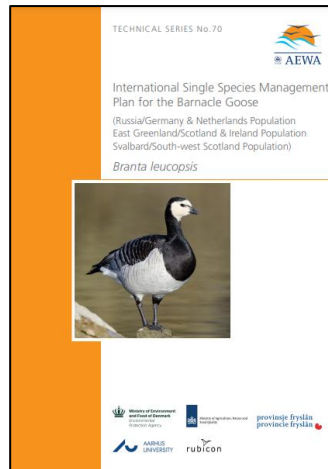


ISSMP, 2018

In the EU, Barnacle Goose is not listed in Annex II of the Birds Directive, so it **is not a huntable species**. The species is listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive according to which Member States shall ensure the species is the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.

It may be killed if the conditions for **derogation set out by Article 9 of the Directive** are satisfied. Currently, the species is subject to derogation taking in the UK, Estonia, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands.

# Barnacle Goose ISSMP & AFMP





## Fundamental Objectives

- I. Maintain the populations at a satisfactory level
- II. Minimise agricultural damage and conflicts
- III. Minimise the risk to air safety
- IV. Minimise the risk to other flora and fauna
- V. Maximise ecosystem goods and services
- VI. Minimise costs of goose management
- VII. Provide hunting opportunities that are consistent with maintaining the populations at a satisfactory level

# Barnacle Goose ISSMP & AFMP

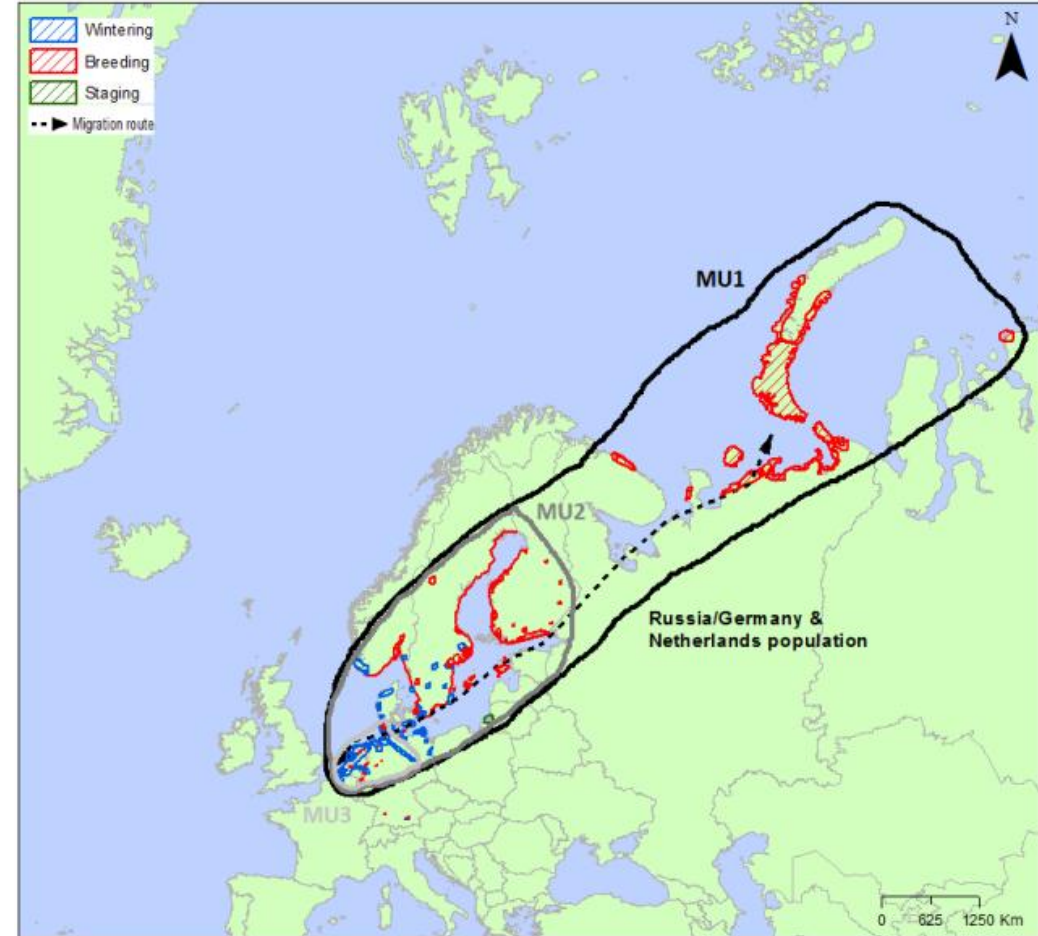
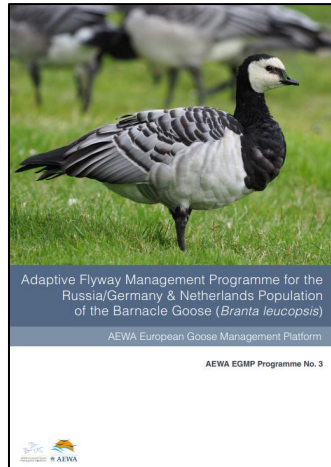
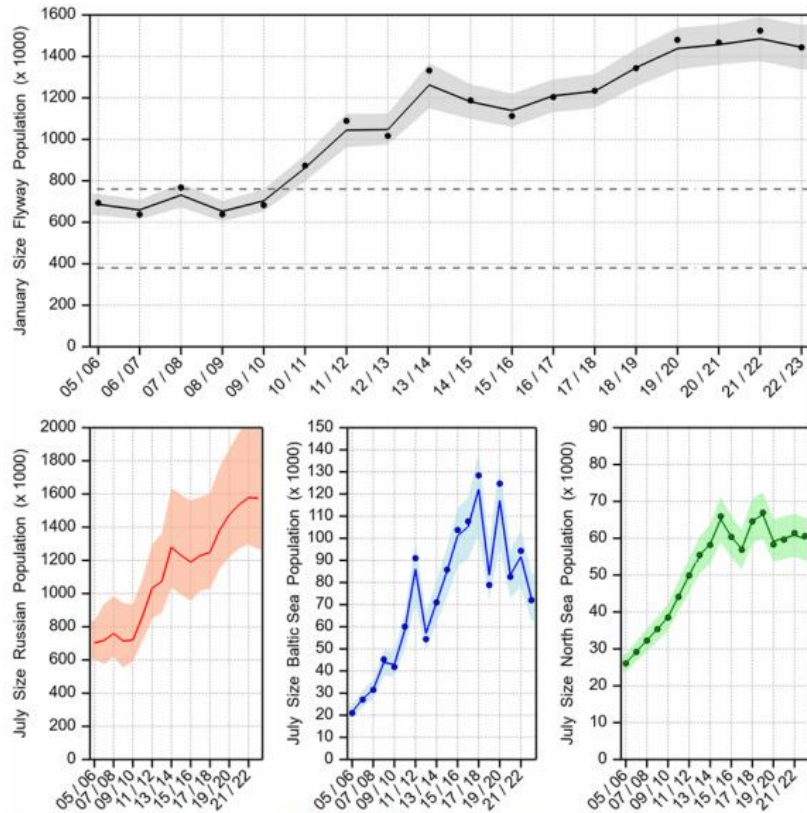
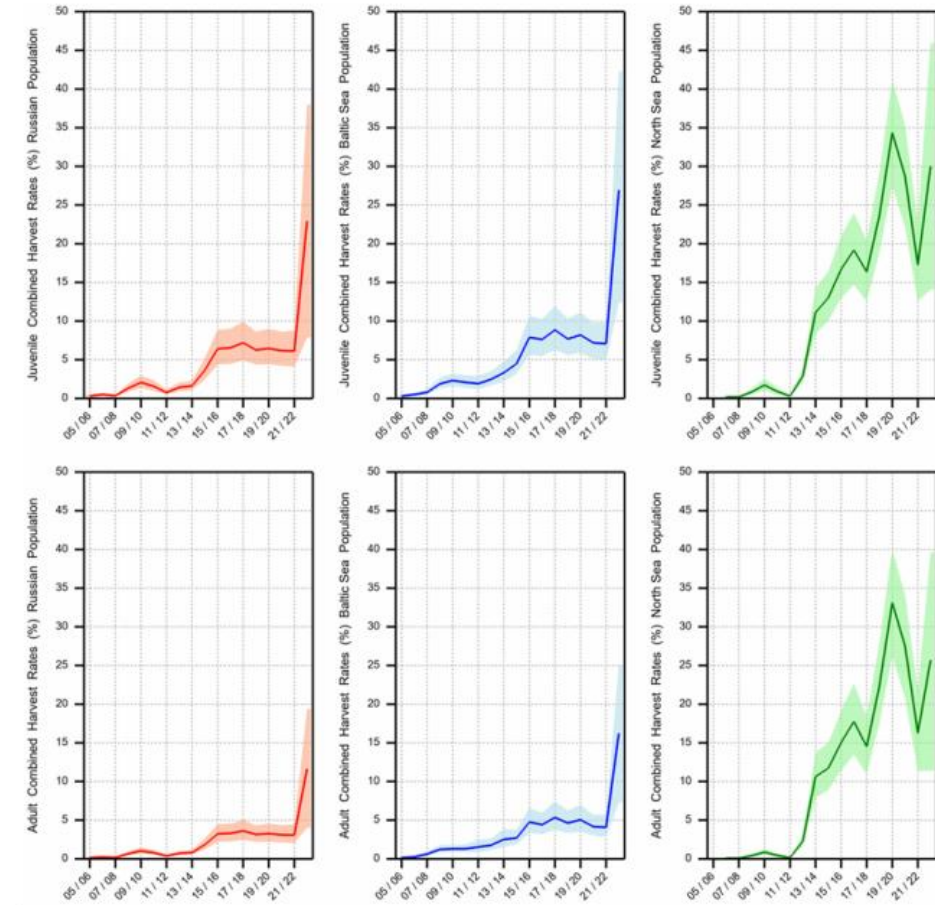


Figure 1. Agreed management units of the Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population of Barnacle Goose.





**Figure 3.4-3.** Top panel: January total flyway population counts (dots), posterior means based on the IPM (solid line), 95% credible intervals (shaded area) and FRP as well as the 200% of the FRP (dashed line). Bottom panels: July population sizes of the three MU-populations along with posterior means and 95% credible intervals. Left in red MU1, centre in blue MU2, right in green MU3. Note that July counts of the Russian population are not available and are estimated as latent variables within the IPM framework (and come with large 95% credibility intervals).



**Figure 3.4-6.** Posterior means (solid lines) and 95% posterior intervals (shaded area) for the combined derogation off-take rates of juveniles (top panels) and adults (bottom panels) for the three MU-populations. Left in red MU1, center in blue MU2, right in green MU3. Note that data for 2022/23 season were incomplete and IPM output comes with unrealistic means and large credibility intervals (2022 is the last year with complete derogation data).

In 2022 within the entire EU-countries, at least **50,928 Barnacle Geese were killed under derogation**, of which 83% in The Netherlands and Denmark (2021 it was 67,853, of which 89% in The Netherlands and Denmark). **Data for Estonia have not been reported for 2022, but they accounted for only 3% of the annual derogation in the EU in the last years.**



## Management recommendations for Russia/Germany and Netherlands population of Barnacle Goose

In 2022 within the entire range (including The Netherlands and Denmark). **Data for Estimated annual derogation in the**

Given that the population size of MU2 has recently moved towards the 200% threshold, coordination among MU2 Range States should be considered, particularly if large changes in derogation practice are foreseen.

Coordination among MU3 Range States should be continued, and coordination should mainly take place within the Netherlands, where the national FRP has now been distributed across the provinces. Suspension or significant reduction of derogations has already taken place in some provinces in the Netherlands.

**d under derogation, of**  
1 The Netherlands and  
**d for only 3% of the**



## Briefing Note

Population status and management recommendations

*9th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG9)*



# Thank you!

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More information: <https://egmp.aewa.info/>