

AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM



10th MEETING OF THE AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP

17-19 June 2025, Brussels, Belgium



Decision Table – EGM IWG10

NOTE: *Wording may still be refined during the review of the meeting report.*

AGENDA ITEM	DECISION	AGREED ACTION
Adoption of the agenda	The EGM IWG adopted the provisional agenda.	
Admission of individual expert observers to EGM IWG10	The EGM IWG admitted the following individual expert observers to EGM IWG10: Mr Sander Moonen (Coordinator of the Russian Barnacle Goose Task Force) and Mr Albert de Hoon (Coordinator of the Flight Safety Task Force).	

Report of the EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre (2024/2025)	The EGM IWG took note of the EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre report.	
Summary of EGMP National Reports	The EGM IWG took note of the Summary of EGMP National Reports.	
Status of the TBG ISSAP revision process	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Taiga Bean Goose evaluation report.</p> <p>The EGM IWG took note of the progress on the revision of the TBG ISSAP and the envisaged timeline for finalising this process.</p>	
Population Status and Assessment Report of the TBG	The EGM IWG took note of the Population Status and Offtake Assessment Report.	

<p>Report and Recommendations from the TBG Task Force</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan for 2025/2026.</p> <p>The EGM IWG agreed on a total annual harvest of less than 3,000 birds for the 2025/2026 hunting season (Finland – 1,740, Sweden – 900, Denmark – 360).</p>	<p>Based on the TBG TF Report, the EGM IWG agreed to the following actions for 2025/2026 (see further details in the report):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue and strengthen January/mid-winter counts of all populations for the population size estimates and delineation of the populations in overlapping wintering areas. • Continue October and March counts of the Finland and NW Russia/Sweden, Denmark and Germany population (previously Central Management Unit) for the foreseeable future for the data generation for the IPM, and extend, as a matter of priority, the coordinated counts to Finland and Denmark, as relevant, for robust population monitoring; analyse the data on Finland in terms of changes in staging TBG numbers during key counting times to inform the IPM and development of the monitoring framework. • Strengthen and extend the age ratio monitoring in early Autumn staging areas of the Central and Western populations (Finland, Denmark, Sweden). • In co-operation with the AEWA Secretariat, prepare for the implementation of the revised ISSAP. • Consider funding monitoring activities utilizing GPS-tags (this would take an initial investment of perhaps ~50 tags to be followed by annual addition of around 10-20 tags to keep up with the level of 30-50 tags per population).
--	--	--

Status of the PfG ISSMP revision process	The EGM IWG took note of the progress on the revision of the PfG ISSMP and the envisaged timeline for finalising the process.	
Population Status and Assessment Report of the PfG	The EGM IWG took note of the Population Status and Offtake Assessment Report.	

<p>Report and Recommendations of the PfG TF</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan for 2025/2026.</p> <p>The EGM IWG agreed on a total harvest quota of 20,000 birds for the 2025/2026 hunting season (Norway – 6,000, Denmark – 14,000).</p>	<p>Based on the PfG TF Report, the EGM IWG agreed to the following actions for 2025/2026 (see further details in the report):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Task Force will support the implementation of the revised plan (provided that it is adopted) and engage in the drafting of the AFMP, which is expected to start in the autumn of 2025 (pending funding). • EGMP Range States of the Pink-footed Goose (i.e. Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium) are requested to provide the necessary resources to fund the development of the AFMP (anticipated to require 200 hours of work) and participate in the drafting of the AFMP. • An internationally coordinated GPS tagging programme will be continued. • The Task Force will engage in further initiatives to promote the EGMP flyway approach and uptake by national stakeholders (e.g. related to agricultural conflict resolution, effective goose shooting, reduction of crippling due to shotgun shooting, habitat restoration etc.). • Task Force members will engage in providing input to the development of an international dissemination platform.
--	--	---

Proposed protocol for AFMP indicator assessment	The EGM IWG approved the proposed protocol for the assessment of AFMP indicators and invited Range States to support the gathering and transmission of the necessary information to the EGMP Data Centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EGMP Data Centre will take the input received during discussion of this agenda item at EGM IWG10, and further comments received in writing by 1 August 2025, into account when preparing the questionnaire that will be used for assessment of indicators.
Population Status and Assessment Report of the E. Greenland BG	The EGM IWG took note of the Population Status Offtake Assessment Report.	
Report on the coordination of offtake of the East Greenland BG population in Autumn/Winter 2024/2025	The EGM IWG took note of the report on the coordination of offtake.	
Status report: Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the E. Greenland BG population	The EGM IWG took note of the AFMP status report and acknowledged the proposed timeline for the activities in Table 1 in document AEWA/EGMIWG/10.6.	<p>Based on the Progress report: Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the E. Greenland BG population, the EGM IWG agreed on the following action for 2025/2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue discussion on use and way forward for damage impact models (see recommendations from the impact report, document AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf.8.15).

Report and Recommendations of the E. Greenland BG TF	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan.</p> <p>The EGM IWG took note of the agreement between Iceland and the United Kingdom that the maximum offtake will be 3,250 birds, split between the two range states.</p> <p>This shall not be considered as a precedent in the context of any future EGM IWG decisions or in the broader context of AEWa.</p>	<p>Based on GBG TF report, the EGM IWG agreed that the Task Force will prepare a recommendation to EGM IWG11 regarding whether the AFMP is in need of revision or should be extended for the remainder of the BG ISSMP's lifespan.</p> <p>The AEWa Secretariat will initiate a process to develop guidance on compliance with the obligation to maintain or restore populations to a favourable conservation status in relation to the risk of falling below the favourable reference population. This process will take into account the precautionary principle (as a fundamental principle in Article II of AEWa). This guidance will be presented to the AEWa Meeting of the Parties by no later than MOP10.</p>
Population Status and Assessment Report of the Russian BG population	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Population Status and Offtake Assessment.</p>	
Report on the coordination of offtake of MU3	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the report on the coordination of offtake of MU3.</p>	

<p>Progress report: Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the Russian BG population</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the AFMP status report and acknowledged the proposed timeline for the activities in Table 1 in document AEWA/EGMIWG/10.7</p>	<p>Based on the Progress report: Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the Russian BG population, the EGM IWG agreed on the following actions for 2025/2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force discussion on use and way forward for impact models (see recommendations from the Impact report, document AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf.8.15). • Ensure that systematic monitoring is in place. It is important to note that some monitoring activities are still missing from some Range States, such as the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More up-to-date reporting on winter and summer numbers is needed (notably concerning Germany). - More extensive age ratio assessments are needed in the Baltic population, notably in Sweden and Finland (outside Helsinki region), and possibly also Denmark, in order to achieve a more representative sample on productivity data (now only relying on data collected in Helsinki region Finland). <p>(See the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report for a full overview of data availability).</p> • Secretariat and Range States engage with the European Commission regarding the need for guidance on Article 9 of the Birds Directive.
---	--	---

<p>Report and Recommendations of the Russian BG TF</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan for 2025/2026.</p>	<p>Based on the Russian Barnacle Goose Task Force Report, the EGM IWG agreed to the following actions for 2025/2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Task Force will implement the activities outlined in its workplan for 2025/2026. • The Dutch Modelling Consortium will continue to coordinate monitoring of Barnacle Goose, provide population estimates by running the IPM and contributing to the annual status report (2025-2028), thanks to confirmation of continued funding by the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature, the Dutch provinces and BIJ12-agency. • Range States continue to assist the Dutch Modelling Consortium by facilitating the gathering and provision of needed data. The Task Force can assist the work of the consortium by promoting outputs of its work. • Take action to fill the gaps in monitoring information that is used for the annual assessment of the population. • Support the assessment of the AFMP indicators. • The Task Force will prepare a recommendation to EGM IWG 11 regarding whether the AFMP is in need of revision or should be extended for the remainder of the ISSMP's lifespan. • The Task Force will continue to liaise with Range States regarding the potential establishment of coordination for MU2. • Coordination in MU3 will continue as is. The Task Force will continue to liaise with Netherlands and Germany for MU3.
---	--	--

<p>Population Status and Assessment Report of the GG population</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Population Status and Offtake Assessment report.</p> <p>The EGM IWG acknowledged that due to monitoring issues, managing the population at MU level is still not possible. However, all Range States* will continue to focus on offtake strategies that minimise the need for derogations.</p> <p>Considering that the population level of both MUs is well above the target population size, and that the population shows no declining trend, the EGM IWG agreed to maintain the current level of offtake for the 2025/2026 hunting season.</p> <p>(*It was noted that in the Netherlands there is no recreational hunting, and thus all offtake falls under derogation.)</p>	
<p>Progress report: Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the GG population</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the AFMP status report and acknowledged the proposed timeline for the activities in Table 1 in document AEWA/EGMIWG/10.8.</p>	<p>Based on the Progress report: Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the GG population, the EGM IWG agreed on the following actions for 2025/2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on use and way forward for damage impact models and knowledge gaps for Greylag Goose (see recommendations from the impact report, document AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf.8.15).

<p>Report and Recommendations of the GG TF</p>	<p>The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan for 2025/2026.</p> <p>The EGM IWG agreed to establish an <i>ad hoc</i> working group with responsibility to further investigate short-stopping of Greylag Geese, identify knowledge gaps as well as possible needs for funding to better understand the declining number of Greylag Geese in Spain and France during winter. The <i>ad hoc</i> working group is requested to report its findings to EGM IWG11.</p>	<p>Based on the GG TF Report, the EGM IWG agreed to the following actions for 2025-2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Range States strive to provide the necessary data, and a description of methods as described in the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report. Specifically, Range States should provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reliable seasonal offtake estimates by country and biannual period (spring-summer: March-August and fall-winter: September-February) for the most recent five calendar years, clearly separating recreational hunting and derogation killing. (Noting that the lack of this data is the biggest obstacle to model improvement and application.) - Summer or early autumn abundance by country for those conducting such surveys; for all years in which they are available. - Post-breeding age ratios for all years and countries where available (this should include counts of young and total sample size). Data should be provided at the lowest level available (e.g., by flock or location). - Winter counts for all years and countries where available. • Range States discuss the practical considerations and constraints they may have in mitigating socio-economic conflicts and in managing recreational hunting so that trade-offs and limitations associated with efforts to
---	--	---

		<p>coordinate offtake can be better understood by the EGM IWG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range States discuss and identify obstacles and limitations they may have in implementing the actions and recommendations so that these can be better understood by the EGM IWG. • Range States support the Data Centre during the assessment of the AFMP indicators, which are planned to be submitted for the EGM IWG11. • The GG TF continues to exchange general information and experiences with other population-specific and crosscutting Task Forces (the Agriculture and Flight Safety Task Forces), thus strengthening the relations between the EGMP Task Forces and benefitting from the work already carried out within other Task Forces. • Task Force members actively promote available material such as the recorded EGMP webinars and briefing notes. • The GG TF will prepare a recommendation to IWG 11 regarding whether the AFMP is in need of revision or should be extended for the remainder of the ISSMP's lifespan. • The GG TF will keep the online workplan active and updated between meetings.
--	--	---

Report and Recommendations of the Flight Safety Task Force (FSTF)	The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan for 2025/2026.	Based on the FSTF Report, the EGM IWG agreed to the following actions for 2025-2026: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Government Representatives to facilitate the transmission of relevant aircraft goose strike data and information regarding the number of geese passing over aerodromes to the AEWA Secretariat and the EGMP Data Centre. • Support the development of airport warning systems based on GPS tagging of Pink-footed Goose.
Report and Recommendations of the Agriculture TF	The EGM IWG took note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopted the annual workplan for 2025/2026.	
Special activities for the 10th Anniversary of EGMP	The EGM IWG approved the workplan for the special activities dedicated to the 10 th anniversary of EGMP to be implemented in 2025 and 2026.	Based on the workplan for the special activities dedicated to the 10th anniversary of EGMP, the EGM IWG agreed on the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore funding opportunities for the development of the documentary <i>Geese Beyond Borders: The Journey of the Greylag Goose</i> (e.g. crowd funding) and conveying case studies and other anniversary communication products to a wider audience (i.e., beyond the existing EGMP community).

Updates on EGMP's communications efforts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host countries to consider including additional local stakeholders as observers to EGM IWG meetings as a contribution to awareness-raising. • EGMP Secretariat will package information from the briefing note into a PowerPoint format, and possibly a leaflet, for ease of national translation and use in engaging stakeholders. • Consider organising a webinar after EGM IWG meetings to convey key outcomes and messaging to a wider audience. • Continue to send updates on relevant national implementation work to the AEWa Secretariat for use in communications.
EGMP Finance Report for 2025/2026	The EGM IWG took note of document AEWa/EGMIWG/10.18 and the Data Centre reduced routine workplan for the rest of 2025.	
EGMP budget and costed Programme of Work for 2026	<p>The EGM IWG approved the EGMP budget estimate for 2026 and the proposed costed Programme of Work for 2026.</p> <p>The EGM IWG took note of the indicative scale for voluntary contributions, Annex 2 of the document.</p>	

Election of the new Chair of EGM IWG	<p>The EGM IWG conditionally elected Finland as the next Chair of the EGM IWG until final confirmation has been made by the Finnish delegation.</p> <p>In case of non-confirmation by Finland, Sweden will continue chairing the EGM IWG until EGM IWG11.</p>	
Date and Venue of the next EGM IWG meeting	<p>The EGM IWG welcomed Sweden's offer to host IWG 11.</p> <p>The dates for the EGM IWG11 were set for the week of 15-18 June 2026.</p>	