



REPORT 2022/2023

EGMP SECRETARIAT AND DATA CENTRE



Barnacle Geese
(*Branta leucopsis*) ©
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The present report covers the work of the AEWG European Goose Management Platform (EGMP) Secretariat and the Data Centre for the period between June 2022 and May 2023.

This report is divided into seven sections:

1. EGMP Organisational Structure;
2. Staffing and Organisation of the EGMP Secretariat and the Data Centre;
3. Participating Range States of the EGMP;
4. Funding;
5. Meetings and Workshops;
6. EGMP Activities;
7. Communication and Outreach.

Activities reported in detail in other EGM IWG8 documents are only mentioned briefly here, with a reference to the relevant substantive document containing more information.

The day-to-day work of the EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre, which includes administration, management, responding to incoming mail, maintaining the extensive network of contacts, etc. are not specifically mentioned in this report.



EGMP ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



Pink-footed
Geese (*Anser
brachyrhynchus*) ©
J.P.Kjeldsen

Photo on previous
page: Taiga Bean
Geese (*Anser
fabalis fabalis*) ©
J.P.Kjeldsen

The *European Goose Management International Working Group* (EGM IWG) serves as the main coordinating and decision-making body of the EGMP and is composed of national delegations comprising representatives of national governments, their designated national experts and other national stakeholders. The European Commission is also a member of the EGM IWG. Several relevant international organisations have received permanent observer status to the EGM IWG and individual experts are invited to meetings, as necessary.

The *Chairmanship* has been assumed by the UK (represented by Prof Des Thompson) since June 2020 and its term of office expired at the close of EGM IWG7, in 2022. However, the EGM IWG agreed to exceptionally extend UK's term for another year, until June 2023 at the close of EGM IWG8.

There are *six Task Forces* operating under the EGMP:

- Pink-footed Goose Task Force
- Taiga Bean Goose Task Force
- Agriculture Task Force
- Barnacle Goose Task Force for Russia/ Germany & Netherlands Population
- Barnacle Goose Task Force for E. Greenland/Scotland & Ireland and Svalbard/SW Scotland Populations
- Greylag Goose Task Force for NW/SW European Population

The Task Forces are aimed to support the EGM IWG in coordination and facilitation of the respective ISSAP and ISSMP implementation.

The *EGMP Data Centre* is responsible for providing the necessary scientific analysis, assessments and subsequent proposals for conservation and management options for EGMP related issues. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and Aarhus University in Denmark have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation under which Aarhus University hosts the Data Centre for the EGMP.

Under the coordination of the EGMP Data Centre, the *International Modelling Consortium*, consisting of an international partnership of scientific institutions, collaborates on the development of population models (to support the optimisation of harvest offtake and analyse the cumulative impact of derogation killing and harvest) and so-called impact models to understand the relationship between goose abundances and socioeconomic as well as ecosystem impacts caused by geese.

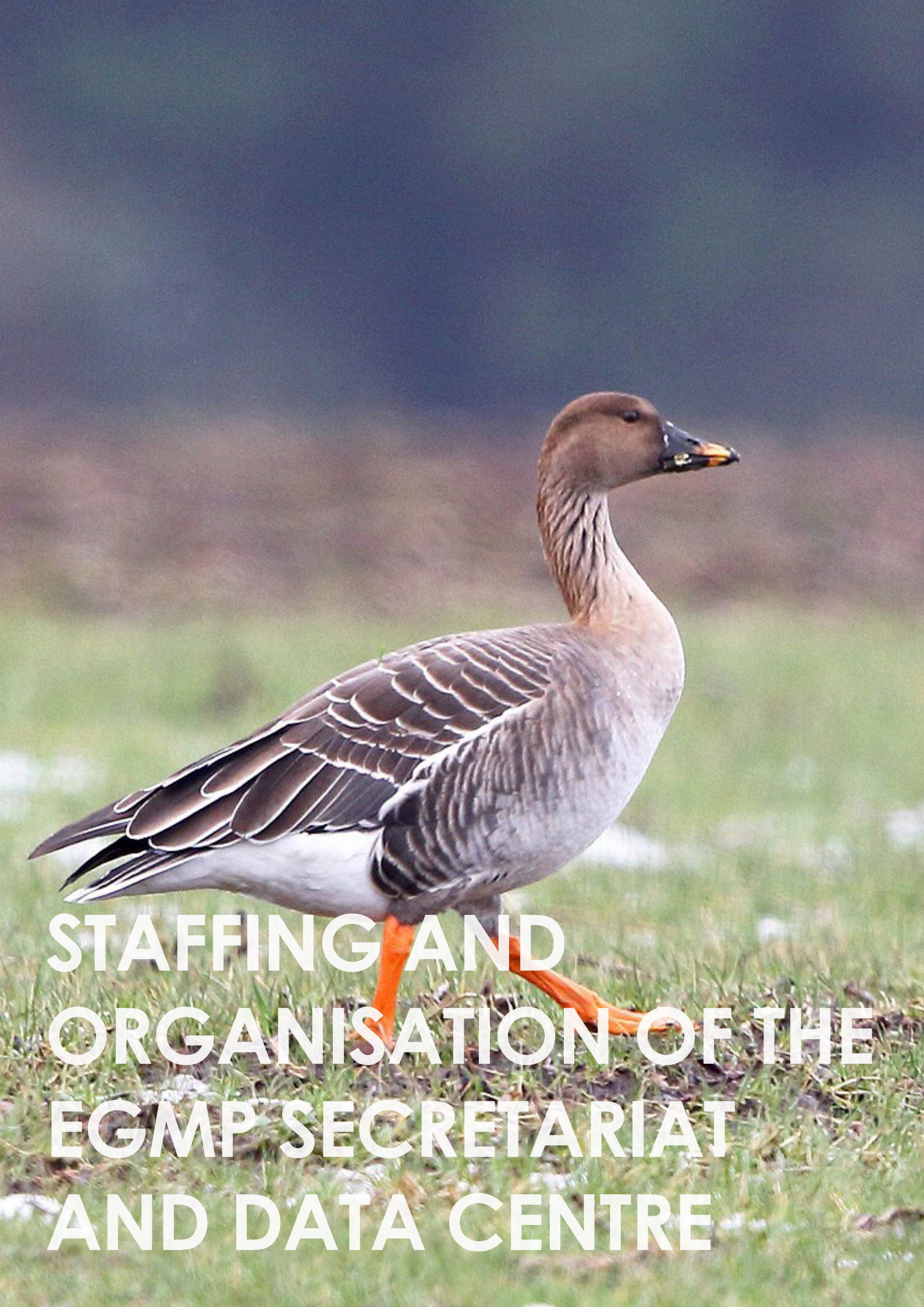
The *UNEP/AEWA Secretariat*, based in Bonn, Germany, is also functioning as the EGMP Secretariat responsible for the coordination and facilitation of the EGMP, including its respective bodies (EGM IWG and the EGMP Data Centre).



Taiga Bean Goose
(*Anser fabalis fabalis*)
© Jari Peltomäki



Figure 1. Organisational Structure of the European Goose Management Platform



**STAFFING AND
ORGANISATION OF THE
EGMP SECRETARIAT
AND DATA CENTRE**

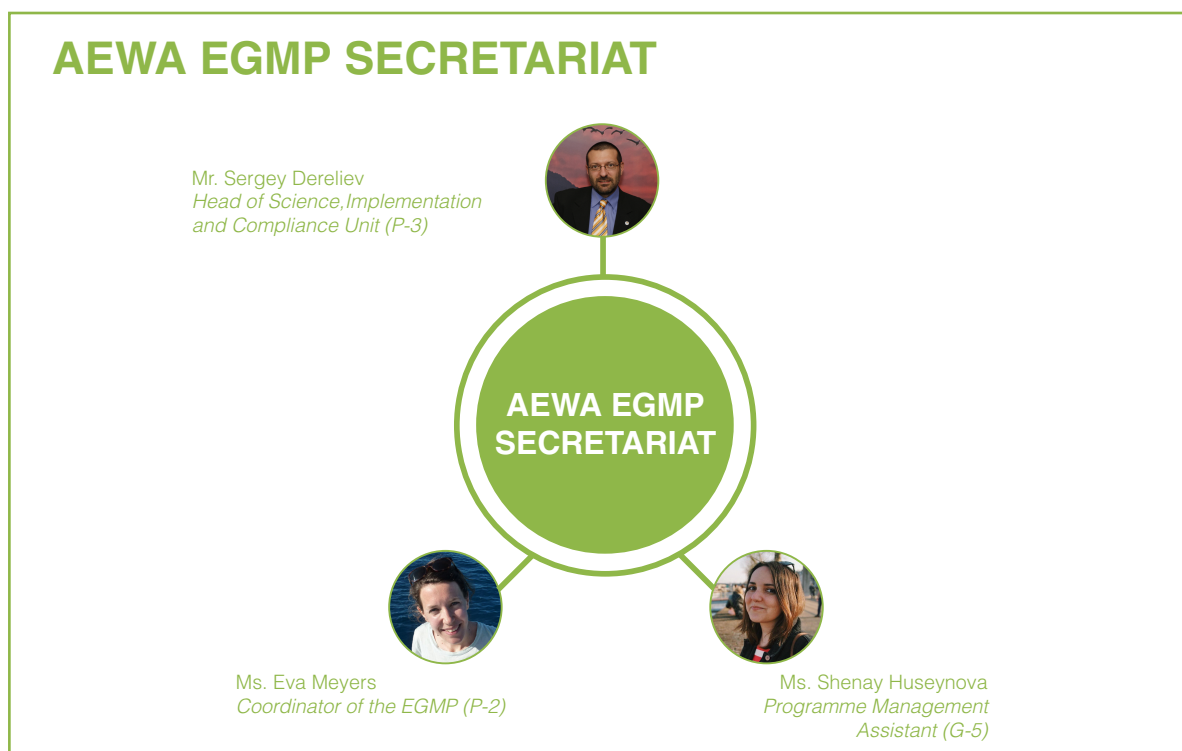


Figure 2. AWEA EGMP Secretariat Staff Composition

AWEA EGMP Secretariat

AWEA Head of Science, Implementation and Compliance Unit

Mr Sergey Dereliev

Part of Mr Dereliev's staff time, covered by the AWEA core budget, is allocated to oversee the EGMP process and to supervise the day-to-day work of the EGMP team.

EGMP Coordinator

Ms Eva Meyers

Ms Meyers serves as the Coordinator of the EGMP, as full-time P-2 Associate Programme Management Officer since July 2017. This post is fully funded through the voluntary contributions provided by the EGMP Range States. The EGMP Coordinator has an annual workplan which is revised mid-term and approved by the Head of Science, Implementation and Compliance Unit, as well as an annual evaluation of performance.

Programme Management Assistant

Ms Shenay Huseynova

Ms Shenay Huseynova serves as the Programme Management Assistant (PMA) since June 2022. The EGMP PMA has an annual workplan which is revised mid-term and approved by the EGMP Coordinator, as well as an annual evaluation of performance.

EGMP Data Centre

Head of the EGMP Data Centre

Prof. Dr Jesper Madsen

Professor Madsen from the Department of Ecoscience at Aarhus University, Denmark, acts as the head of the EGMP Data Centre (30% person-year). This part-time post is funded through the voluntary contributions provided by the EGMP Range States.

Goose Monitoring Coordinator

Dr Gitte Høj Jensen

Dr Gitte Høj Jensen serves as the Goose Monitoring Coordinator based in Aarhus University. This fulltime post is fully funded through the contributions provided by the EGMP Range States for the platform's core budget.

Population Modelling Experts

Dr Fred A. Johnson

Dr Fred A. Johnson is a part-time Senior Researcher at the Department of Ecoscience at Aarhus University, Denmark. He is the developer of the adaptive management frameworks and the assessor for Pink-footed Goose, Taiga Bean Goose, Greylag Goose, and Greenland Barnacle Goose. The EGMP core budget funds a 40% person-year position, which is supplemented by project funding from various Range States or funds.

Photo on previous page: Taiga Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis fabalis*) © Marton Berntsen



Greylag Geese
(*Anser anser*) ©
Canva.com

Professor Dr Anthony D. Fox, Dr Kevin Kuhlmann Clausen and Dr Morten Frederiksen, Aarhus University, occasionally contribute to annual assessments and modelling work.

The possibility to maintain these posts is dependent on the provision of annual voluntary contributions by the participating Range States of the EGMP covering the full necessary annual budget.

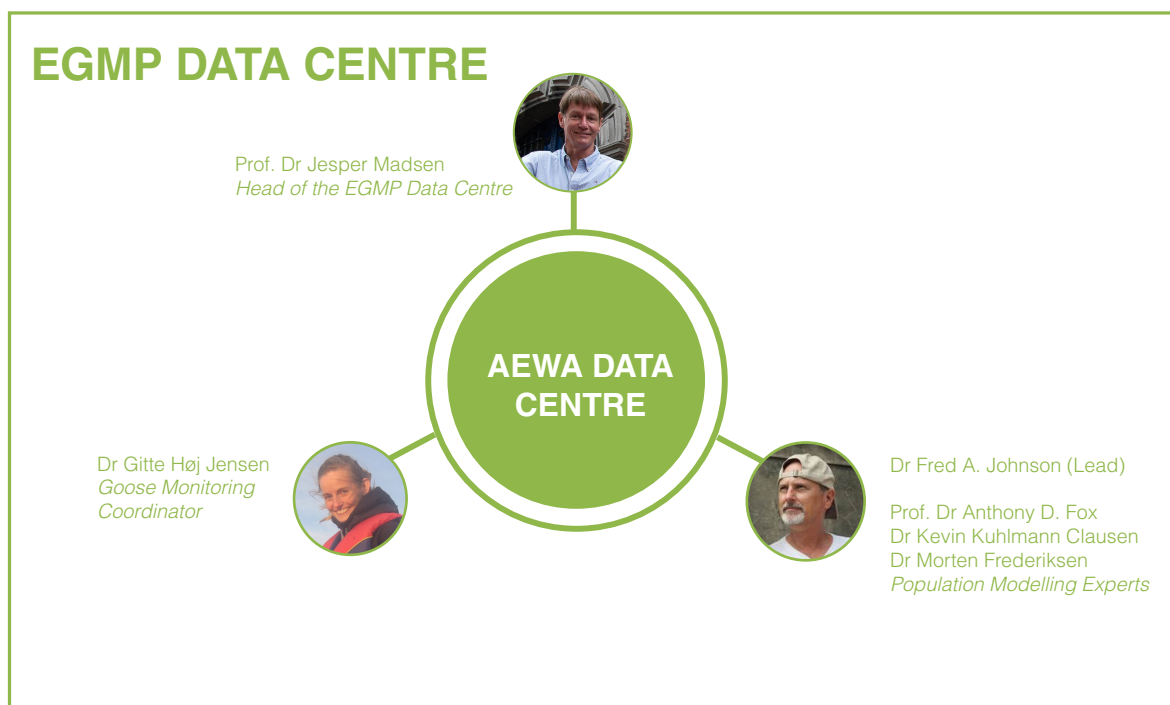


Figure 3. EGMP Data Centre Staff Composition



PARTICIPATING RANGE STATES OF THE EGMP/FUNDING

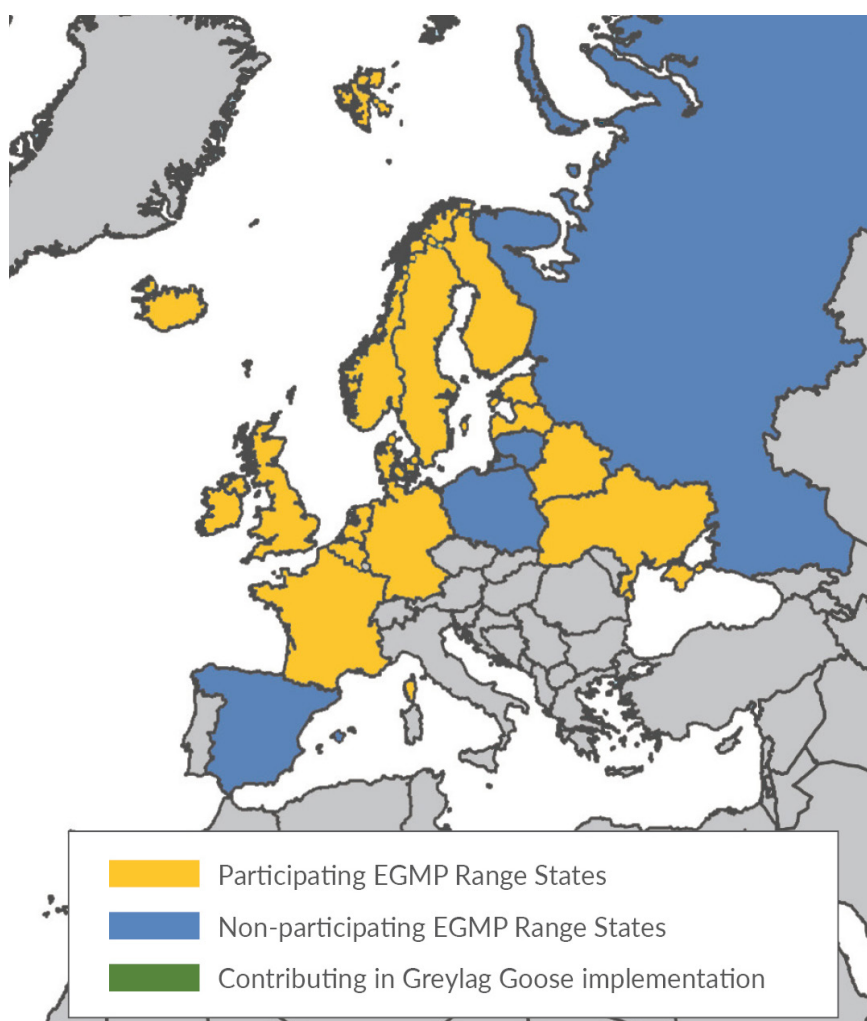


Figure 4. Map of the EGMP participating and non-participating Range States

Photo on previous page: Barnacle Geese (*Branta leucopsis*)

Participating Range States of the EGMP

The EGMP has 16 participating Range States (see Figure 2), 15 national governments and the European Commission: Belarus, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

Ireland was the latest country joining the EGM IWG, in June 2021. Spain is contributing in the Greylag Goose implementation process through data provision. Poland has designated a national expert to participate in the Taiga Bean Goose Task Force. Spain, Lithuania, Poland and Russia officially remain non-participating Range States of the EGMP.

Funding

The AEWA Secretariat would like to express its appreciation for the financial support received towards the implementation of the EGMP processes. A detailed financial report outlining budget, funding and expenses is provided as document [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.16](#).

A proposed budget and costed Programme of Work for 2024 is presented in document [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.17](#) and are to be considered at EGM IWG8.



**MEETINGS AND
WORKSHOPS**



Participant meeting
badges © Provincie
Fryslân

Photo on previous
page: Greylag
Goose (*Anser anser*)

Meetings and Workshops

Online meetings of the EGMP Task Forces

The meetings of the EGMP Task Forces were held online (via GoToMeeting and Zoom online platform) involving the Task Force Coordinators and members, together with the EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre.

8th Meeting of the AEWA European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG8)

The 8th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG8) is scheduled to take place on 20-22 June. In the absence of a host country, the meeting will take place in Bonn, Germany and will be hosted by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

Meeting	Meeting Date
Joint Meeting of the EGMP Task Forces	
	2 December 2022
PfG TF (Coordinator: Jesper Madsen):	
10th Meeting of the PfG TF	7 February 2023
11th Meeting of the PfG TF	22 May 2023
TBG TF (Coordinator: Mikko Alhainen):	
21st Meeting of the TBG TF	26 January 2023
22nd Meeting of the TBG TF	8 May 2023
Agri TF (Coordinator: Ingunn Tombre):	
10th Meeting of the Agri TF	17 March 2023
BG TF (Russia population) (Coordinator: position vacant)	
In the absence of a TF coordinator, no meetings of the TF took place in this period.	



Barnacle Geese
(*Branta leucopsis*) ©
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GG TF (Coordinator: Iben Hove Sørensen)

7th Meeting of the GG TF	21 February 2023
8th Meeting of the GG TF	4 May 2023

BG TF (E. Greenland/Svalbard population) (Coordinator: Rae McKenzie)

6th Meeting of the BG TF	2 August 2022
7th Meeting of the BG TF	9 February 2023

International Modelling Consortium meeting

The International Modelling Consortium held the following online meetings:

Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	23 September 2022
Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	25. October 2022
Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	27 February 2023 (Impact models)
Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	22 March 2023 (Impact models)
Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	2 May 2023 (Impact models)



EGMP ACTIVITIES

ISSMP for the Pink-footed Goose (PfG)

In spring 2023, the Data Centre produced the annual monitoring and harvest assessment chapter for the PFG (due June 2023).

ISSAP for the Taiga Bean Goose (TBG)

In spring 2023, the Data Centre produced an annual monitoring and harvest assessment report for the TBG, with focus on the Central Management Unit.

ISSMP for the Greylag Goose (GG)

Progress has been made towards moving to a dynamic and model-based management with the development of a preliminary population model and a utility function (i.e., how

Germany and Netherlands population of Barnacle Goose. In spring 2023, Sovon and Wageningen Environmental Research updated the population estimates for the Russian/Germany and Netherlands population of Barnacle Goose. In spring 2023 the Data Centre, produced the second assessment of the cumulative effect of offtake for the East Greenland/Scotland and Ireland population of Barnacle Goose.

Impact models

The Data Centre, together with the EGMP Modelling Consortium and the EGMP Agricultural Task Force, has coordinated reviewed the evidence for relationships between increasing goose abundances and impacts on agricultural conflict/damage,

Photo on previous page: Barnacle Geese (*Branta leucopsis*)

Photo below: Joint Meeting of Barnacle Goose and Greylag Goose Task Forces © UNEP/AEWA Secretariat



stakeholder satisfaction varies as populations deviate from their target) in order to evaluate levels of offtake. Moreover, progress has been made on summer counts to estimate the population size at MU level. Particularly on MU1, where an estimate was made for the first time, based on data from summer 2022. In spring 2023, the Data Centre produced an annual monitoring and assessment report for the GG.

ISSMP for the Barnacle Goose (BG)

In autumn 2022, the Data Centre together with NINA reviewed the IPM for the Russian/

with particular focus on Barnacle Geese and Greylag Geese; however including evidence from other EGMP goose populations as well. The synthesis will be presented at EGM IWG in June 2023.

EGMP Database and GitLab

Update of the EGMP Database was made with new data, figures and description of methods. Furthermore, EGMP GitLab is updated with new projects, each of which is now assigned a DOI for easier reference.



Participants of EGM
IWG7 © Ministry
of the Environment
Finland

EGMP Task Forces

The role of the EGMP Task Forces is to assist the EGM IWG in coordinating and catalysing the implementation of the respective ISSAP and ISSMPs and to monitor and report on the implementation of these activities. The EGMP Secretariat and the Data Centre have continuously supported the meeting organisation and document production of the six EGMP Task Forces.

The coordinators of the Task Forces are as follows:

Agriculture Task Force: Dr Ingunn Tombre (Norway)

Taiga Bean Goose Task Force: Mr Mikko Alhainen (Finland)

Pink-footed Goose Task Force: Prof Jesper Madsen (Denmark)

Barnacle Goose Task Force for Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population: position vacant. Chairing of meetings on a rotating basis.

Barnacle Goose Task Force for E. Greenland/Scotland & Ireland and Svalbard/South-West Scotland Populations: Ms Rae McKenzie (UK)

Greytag Goose Task Force for NW/SW European Population: Ms Iben Hove Sørensen (Denmark)

Detailed reports on the activities and outputs of the EGMP Task Forces are provided in documents [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.9](#), [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.10](#), [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.11](#), [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.12](#), [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.13](#), [AEWA/EGMIWG/8.14](#).



COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

ABOUT

EGMP Ad-hoc Communication Working Group

In spring 2022, the EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre sent out a questionnaire to the EGM IWG asking a number of important questions regarding the functioning of the EGMP and suggested improvements. Based on the collected feedback, it became clear that EGMP communication efforts needed improvement. As a result, at EGM IWG7 an ad-hoc communications group was established. The group has focused on developing a communication plan, restructuring the website and producing EGMP briefing notes and fact sheets.

The group is working on the following activities:

- Communication plan (available in the Task Force MS Teams/Share point folder [Communications Working Group](#));
- Draft Fact sheets (available in the Task Force MS Teams/Share point folder [Communications Working Group](#));
- [Briefing note of the Population status and Management decisions](#) (to be produced shortly after EGM IWG meetings, based on each annual Population Status and Offtake Assessment Report);
- Improvement of the EGMP website (updating its structure and content);
- Production and distribution of EGMP newsletters 2-3 times a year;

- Development of a workflow for getting the EGMP success stories published.

The membership of the group is open for those interested to participate and contribute.

EGMP Website

The Secretariat together with the joint CMS/AEWA Information Management, Communication and Awareness Unit (IMCA) has worked on the further development of the EGMP website (<https://egmp.aewa.info/>) producing a new template and adding content and updating information accordingly. The website has been upgraded from Drupal 7 web content management system to Drupal 9. Along with the upgrade, the overall design of the website and its structure have been improved as well. While the website upgrade has been completed, the migration of the content to the new website is still underway.

MS Teams Workspace

The Task Forces have decided to set up a [shared space in MS Teams where all the files are added and can be accessed via SharePoint](#).

EGMP Webinars

The EGMP Task Forces, Data Centre and Secretariat have initiated a series of EGMP webinars covering a range of topics

EGMP Website

Photo on previous page: Taiga Bean Geese (*Anser fabalis fabalis*) © Jari Peltomäki



Pink-footed
Goose (*Anser
brachyrhynchus*) ©
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Date	Topic	Coordinators	Attendance No.	Link to Youtube Channel
10 January 2023	Geese & Risks to Air Safety	Prof Jesper Madsen	110	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFr-cAb0XJU4
2 June 2023	Webinar on EGMP and EGM IWG8 documents – Learn about the EGMP and “get dressed” for EGM IWG8	Secretariat & Data Centre		
19 June 2023	Webinar on Barnacle and Greylag Goose impact models – Understanding the link between population level and damages.	Prof Jesper Madsen		

discussed under the platform. The webinars have been a real success and well received. The coordination of the webinars is passed on to different members of the EGMP Task Forces, who decide on the topic and coordinate the invitations of speakers and presentations. All webinars are recorded and made available on the [EGMP website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

EGMP Social Media

The EGMP has several social media platforms

including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The platforms enable information exchange and the possibility to communicate and disseminate issues and matters relevant to the EGMP to stakeholders, the wider community and interested members of the public.

EGMP Briefing Notes

The following briefing notes were developed by the Secretariat and the Data Centre together with the EGMP Task Forces:



- [EGMP Population Status and Management Recommendations 2022](#)
- Taiga Bean Goose
- Greylag Goose AFMP

EGMP Presentations at international and national meetings

The EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre presented information about EGMP, activities and results at the following international meetings:

- AEWA's 8th Meeting of the Parties, Budapest, Hungary, 28 September 2022: EGMP Side Event (Eva Meyers, Jesper Madsen, Iben H. Sørensen)
- Colloque gestion Adaptative pour une gestion concertée des espèces, de leurs habitats et de leur exploitation, l'Office

Français de la Biodiversité, Paris, France, 15 January 2023: Adaptive management of geese in Europe (Jesper Madsen)

- Colloque gestion Adaptative Pour une gestion concertée des espèces, de leurs habitats et de leur exploitation, l'Office Français de la Biodiversité, Paris, France, 15 January 2023: Grand témoin : aspects institutionnels de la mise en œuvre de la gestion adaptative à l'international en Europe (Jacques Trouvilliez)
- Wadden Sea Forum Goose Management Group webinar, 21 February 2023: EGMP presentations (Eva Meyers, Jesper Madsen, Ingunn Tombre)
- ENTWILD; Third Annual General Meeting of ENETWILD project (www.enetwild.com), IMBO facilities, Brussels, Belgium, 24-25 May 2023 (Gitte Høj Jensen)

Greylag Goose
(*Anser anser*) ©
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Cover Photo: Taiga Bean Geese (*Anser fabalis fabalis*) © Magnus Elander

For more information please visit the EGMP website at:

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

or our **Social Media Channels** at:

 <https://www.facebook.com/AEWA.EGMP/>

 https://twitter.com/AEWA_EGMP

 https://www.instagram.com/aewa_egmp/

