

AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM



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



17-19 June 2025, Brussels, Belgium

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AGRICULTURE TASK FORCE FOR 2024/2025 AND DRAFT WORKPLAN FOR 2025/2026

*Prepared by Ingunn Tombre, Coordinator of the Agriculture Task Force,
with contributions from the members of the Agriculture Task Force*

Summary:

This document provides an overview of the status and key activities that the Agriculture Task Force has undertaken from June 2024 until May 2025. In addition, a proposed list of recommendations is included as well as the proposed annual workplan for 2025/2026.

Action requested from the EGM IWG:

Take note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopt the annual workplan.



Introduction

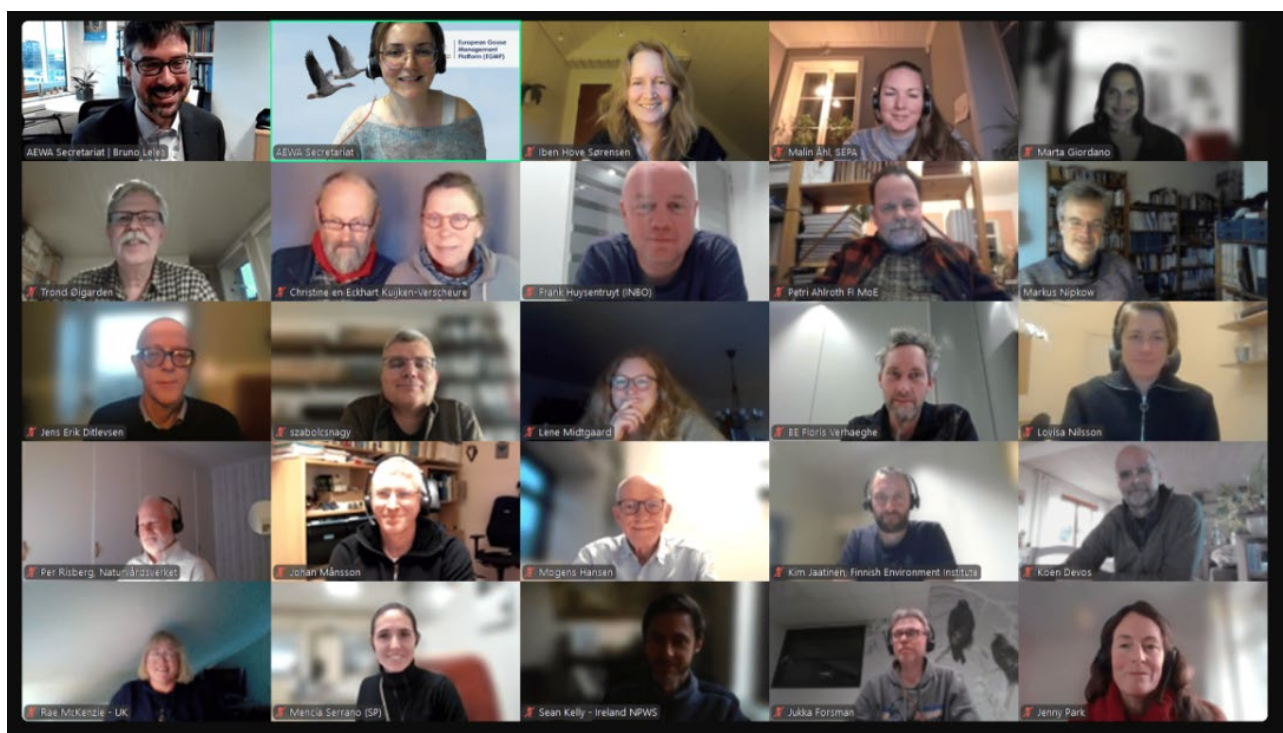
The role of the Agriculture Task Force is to assist the AEWA European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG) and the population-specific Task Forces and processes in the European Goose Management Platform (EGMP). In this document, an overview is given of activities since the 9th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group, which took place on 18-20 June 2024 in Tromsø, Norway. A draft workplan for 2025/2026 is also presented.

1. Status of the Task Force Membership

The Task Force currently has 25 members with representatives from 10 Range States, 4 non-governmental organisations (BirdLife International, Copa Cogeca, FACE and Wetlands International), the EGMP Data Centre and the AEWA Secretariat. An overview of members as of May 2025 is presented in Annex 1.

2. Meetings

The Agriculture Task Force members participated in two joint online meetings of the EGMP task forces; on 26 November 2024 and on 6 March 2025. Joint meetings were feasible and resource efficient, as much of the information from the Data Centre and the AEWA Secretariat is common for all task forces. There has also been some email correspondence between group members, especially regarding the arrangements for a webinar.



Members attending a joint online meeting of the EGMP Task Forces (Photo: Shenay Huseynova ©).

3. Report of key activities and outcomes

Agriculture Task Force-related information and knowledge have been communicated by Task Force members locally and regionally in the different Range States.

Members of the Agriculture Task Force delivered presentations in the EGMP webinar “Effects of Climate Change on Migratory Geese”, which was arranged in a hybrid format on 17 June 2024 in Tromsø (the day before the 9th EGM IWG meeting). The seminar was recorded and can be found on the [EGMP YouTube channel](#).

OUR SPEAKERS

- DR. JESPER MADSEN
AARHUS UNIVERSITY
- DR. THOMAS LAMERIS
ROYAL NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR SEA RESEARCH
- DR. ANTHONY FOX
AARHUS UNIVERSITY
- DR. VIRVE RAVOLAINEN
NORWEGIAN POLAR INSTITUTE
- DR. ELIE GAGET
TOUR DU VALAT
- DR. INGUNN TOMBRE
NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE FOR NATURE RESEARCH

EGMP WEBINAR: EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON MIGRATORY GEESE

SCANDIC ISHAVSHOTEL
TROMSØ, NORWAY

17 June 2024
14:00 - 17:30 CEST

JOIN US IN PERSON OR ONLINE!

REGISTRATION LINK BELOW

AEWA European Goose Management Platform
Norwegian Environment Agency

PHOTO: ANITA RUD


WEBINAR AGENDA

14:00-14:10	Welcome remarks: Dr. Jesper Madsen, EGMP Data Centre, convener
14:10-14:40	Dr. Thomas Lameris, Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research Consequences of a warming Arctic for migration timing and reproductive success of migratory geese
14:40 -15:10	Dr. Anthony Fox, Aarhus University Cold Realities: Exploring the ecological consequences of global warming on Arctic goose populations
15:10 -15:40	Dr. Virve Ravolainen, Norwegian Polar Institute; and Dr. Jesper Madsen, Aarhus University Goose grubbing effects in a changing Arctic climate
15:40-16:00	Coffee break
16:00 -16:30	Dr. Elie Gaget, Tour du Valat Climate-driven changes in winter goose abundance at EU scale
16:30 -17:00	Dr. Ingunn Tombre, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research At the interface between geese and agriculture; the role of climate change
17:00 -17:30	Brainstorming and discussion of possible initiatives

REGISTER HERE:
https://un-org-unep.zoom.us/joining/register/tjw7comrotksgnv730dc_bh_zt3rkk2ew5go

The flyer and agenda for the EGMP Webinar arranged on 17 June 2024.







Another webinar, titled “Geese and Agriculture: Perspectives on Tools to Prevent Crop Damage”, was arranged jointly by the Agriculture and Greylag Goose Task Forces on 18 February 2025. With 139 people in attendance, the webinar attracted interest from all over the world. Also, this webinar was recorded and is available on [YouTube](#).




EGMP WEBINAR
**GEESE AND AGRICULTURE:
PERSPECTIVE ON TOOLS TO REDUCE CROP
DAMAGE**



Join us for this webinar organised jointly by the EGMP Agriculture and Greylag Goose Task Forces. The webinar will feature a presentation of a survey on citizens' perspectives on Barnacle Geese, alongside case studies highlighting tools to reduce crop damage in Sweden and Finland.

Webinar Programme:

-  **Introduction**
Ingunn Tombre, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research/Agriculture TF Coordinator
-  **Results from a citizen survey in Finland: perspectives on barnacle geese, their crop damage and possible solutions**
Mikko Jokinen, Natural Resources Institute Finland
-  **Scaring geese by drones or walking humans: individual responses by GPS-tagged geese**
Johan Månsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences /Wildlife Damage Centre
-  **Accommodation fields: a case study from Sweden**
Lovisa Nilsson, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences /Wildlife Damage Centre
-  **Accommodation fields: a case study from Finland**
Jukka T. Forsman (Natural Resources Institute Finland)
-  **Q&A: Open discussion**
Malin Åhl, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency/Greylag Goose TF Coordinator

 **18 FEBRUARY 2025, 10:00 – 12:00 CET**

Photos by LTombre

 **Join the webinar using this Zoom Link: <https://un-org-unep.zoom.us/j/99383188746>** 

The flyer and agenda for the EGMP Webinar arranged 18 February 2025.

Some of the Task Force's planned activities are in the pipeline. The Task Force still aims to develop a literature repository (a “[Zotero library](#)”) for EGMP, including grey and peer-reviewed publications. This should be a common activity for all Task Forces in EGMP, not only the Agriculture Task Force, and will hence be raised

at the next joint meeting with the task forces. At present, the Agriculture Task Force has collected an overview of 94 different papers and activities:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10VRUPxA9UIFo6FxbZi_EQTRDCKDteyZh8XXalehVvao/edit?gid=655288406#gid=655288406

4. Recommendations

The Agriculture Task Force would like to recommend the following to the EGM IWG:

- The Task Force continues to work on the activities referred to above and described in the proposed Workplan (see Table 1).

5. Draft Workplan 2025/2026

Below is an overview of related and relevant tasks and actions for the Agriculture Task Force. Much emphasis will be on the arrangements of webinars with relevant content at the interphase between geese and agriculture. Our experience is that such arrangements reach a broad audience, also beyond members of the EGMP.

Table 1. Draft Workplan for 2024/2025 of the Agriculture Task Force

Actions from the ISSMP	Priority	Timescale	Activities carried out by AGRI TF
2.3 Apply scaring and land management techniques to reduce the attractiveness of sensitive areas, monitoring the implications of such local displacement for conflicts at wider scale	High	Short / Rolling	Continue to address through promotion of the available knowledge, e.g. webinars, new publications, etc.
3.2 Establish an internationally coordinated programme to assess agricultural damage including monitoring and assessment protocols	High	Short	1) Support the Data Centre and Modelling Consortium as consultants in the process, both during the development of the impact models as well as afterwards. 2) Discuss and share experience in webinars.
3.3 Liaise with farmers affected by goose damages to reduce agricultural conflicts	High	Short / Rolling	TF members represent farmers' unions and act as ambassadors, helping to share and relay information discussed within the TF.
A.3 Maintain a spatially explicit database on goose damage to agriculture, other fauna and flora and risk to air safety	Essential	Medium / Rolling	An overview of relevant ongoing projects/activities exists and will be developed further.
A.4 Collect demographic (mortality, reproduction, differential migration and connectivity) data from an agreed representative sampling framework across the range	High	Short / Rolling	Some of this information is available in the project overview.
B.1 Produce best practice guide on establishing refuge areas (size, management, subsidies)	Medium	Short	Some of these elements have been and will be, presented at the AGRI TF's webinars.
B.2 Provide guidance on conflict resolution and how to make this consistent with the European legal framework, including the Common Agricultural Policy	High	Short	Some of these elements have been and will be presented at the AGRI TF's webinars.

B.3 Create a toolbox for decisions in relation to determining significant damage (including metrics, benchmarking, verification, monitoring, various management techniques to prevent damage, compensation)	High	Short	Some of these elements have been and will be, presented at the Agri TF's webinars.
B.5 Share experience concerning methods to prevent damage to agriculture and risks to human health, air safety as well as to other flora and fauna	Medium	Medium	Some of these elements have been and will be, presented at the Agri TF's webinars.
C.1 Develop and implement a communication strategy and plan	Medium	Short / Rolling	Webinar arrangements

Annex 1. Members of the Agriculture Task Force as of May 2025

EGM IWG Task Force to develop a framework for dealing with agricultural conflicts caused by geese (ACTF) – membership		
Coordinator: Ingunn Tombre (Norway)		
Country	Representative	Affiliation
Belgium	Frank Huysentruyt	Institute for Nature and Forest Research
		Flemish Government
Denmark	Søren Rasmussen	Agency for Green Transition and Aquatic Environment
	Anthony Fox	Aarhus University, Department of Bioscience
	Lene Midtgaard	Danish Hunters Association
Finland	Jukka Forsman	Natural Resource Institute Finland
Germany	Heinz Düttmann	Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Protection of Lower Saxony
Iceland	Bjarni Jónasson	Environment Agency of Iceland
Netherlands	Bart Nolet	Netherlands Institute of Ecology
		Animal Ecology
	Ida van Ommeren	The Fauna Fund
	Sofia Kolkman	Provincial Fauna Management Unit, Noord-Holland
	Nikkie van Grinsven	Provincial Fauna Management Unit, Noord-Holland
Norway	Ingunn Tombre (Coordinator)	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Department of Arctic Ecology
	Ove Martin Gundersen	Norwegian Farmers' Union
Sweden	Johan Månsson	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences /Wildlife Damage Centre
	Lovisa Nilsson	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences /Wildlife Damage Centre
Ukraine	Vasiliy Kostiusyn	Institute of Zoology NAS of Ukraine, Department of Monitoring and Conservation of Animals
United Kingdom	Rae McKenzie	NatureScot
BirdLife International	Barbara Herrero	BirdLife Europe/BirdLife International
Copa Cogeca	Klaus Borde	Copa Cogeca
FACE	Cy Griffin	FACE
FACE	David Scallan	FACE (Based in Belgium)
Wetlands International	Szabolcs Nagy	Wetlands International
	Iben Hove Sørensen	Data Centre
	Bruno Pereira Leles	AEWA Secretariat

	Shenay Huseynova	AEWA Secretariat
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