



REPORT 2021/2022

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 2021 and May 2022.

This report is divided into seven sections:

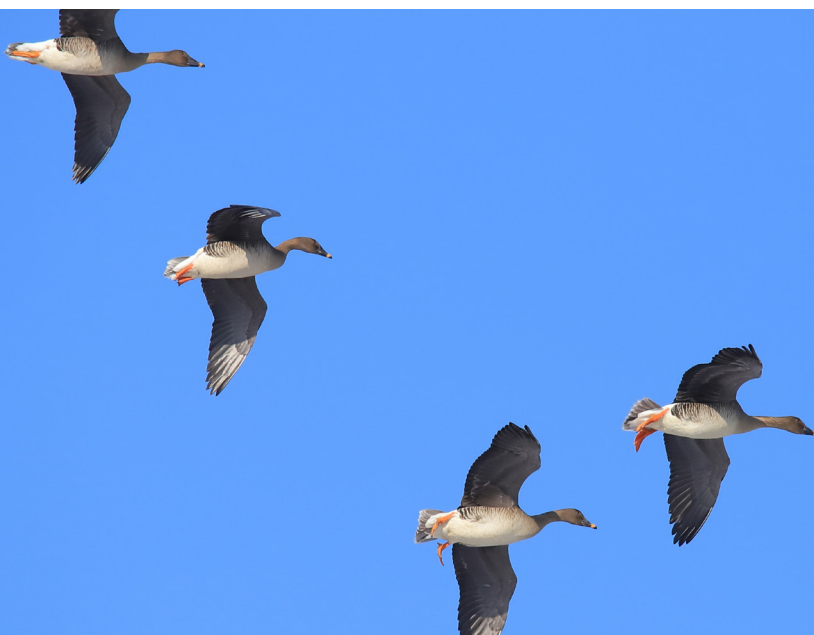
1. EGMP Organisational Structure;
2. Staffing and Organisation of the EGMP Secretariat and the Data Centre;
3. Participating Range States of the EGMP;
4. Funding;
5. Meetings and Workshops;
6. EGMP Activities;
7. Communication and Outreach.

Activities reported in detail in other EGM IWG7 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*) ©
Tera/Adobe Stock
Photos

Photo on previous
page: Taiga Bean
Geese (*Anser fabalis
fabalis*) © Markus
Varesvuo

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 the term of office expires at the close of EGM IWG7.

With three new Task Forces established at EGM IWG5, there are now 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 & the 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.

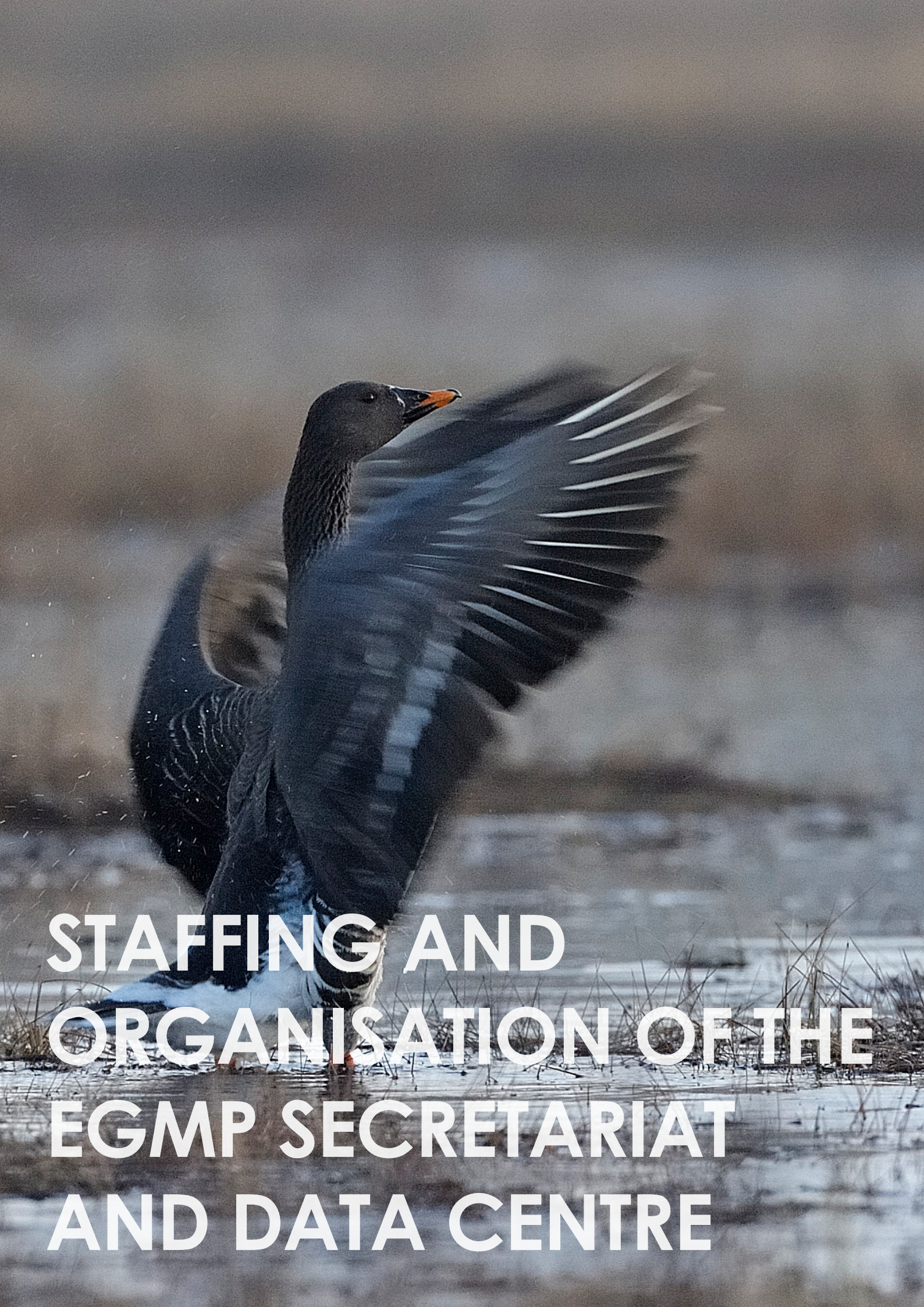
The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, based in Bonn, Germany, is also functioning as the EGMP Secretariat responsible for the coordination and facilitation of the EGMP, including its respective bodies (EGM IWG and the EGMP Data Centre).



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**

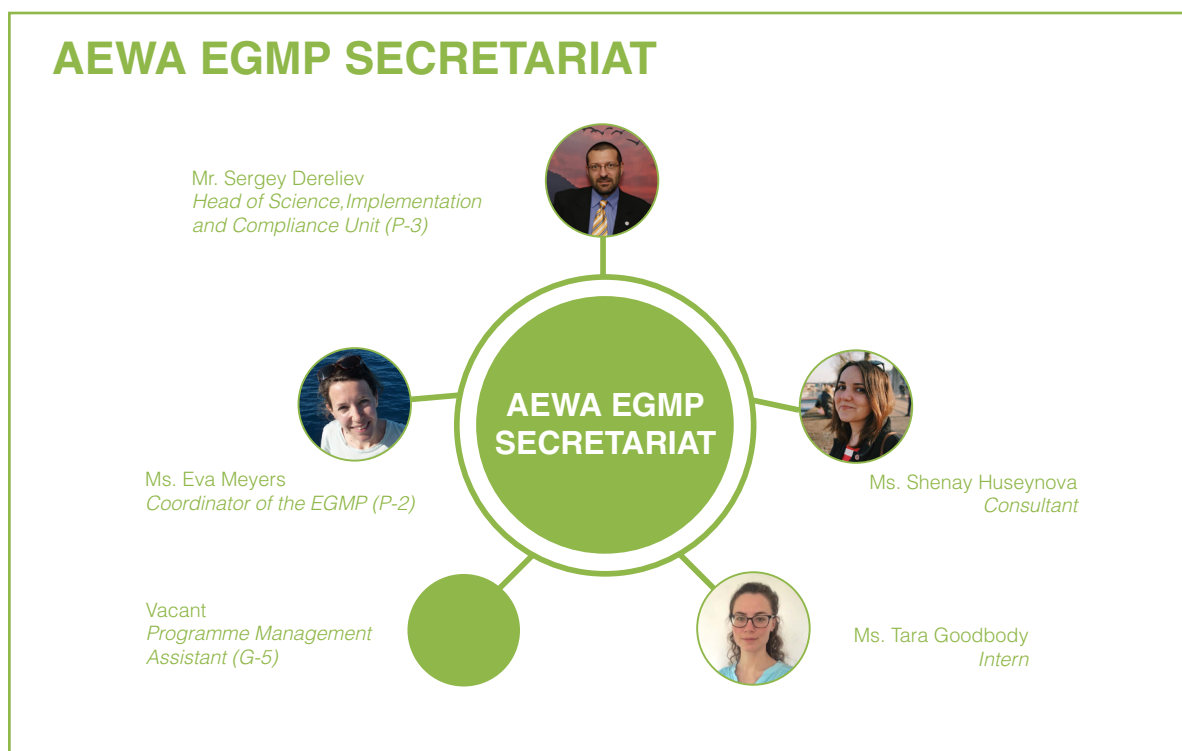


Figure 2. AEWA EGMP Secretariat Staff Composition

AEWA EGMP Secretariat

AEWA Head of Science, Implementation and Compliance Unit

Mr Sergey Dereliev

Part of Mr Dereliev's staff time, covered in-kind by the AEWA 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

Position vacant

In January 2022, the Programme Management Assistant position was advertised. The recruitment of this position is currently underway with a selected candidate.

EGMP Consultant

A consultant (Ms Shenay Huseynova) has been contracted for the period of 1 January

2021 to 31 January February 2022, to support the Coordinator and the organisation of the EGM IWG annual meeting.

EGMP Intern

Ms Tara Goodbody has been recruited as an intern from end of March until mid-June 2022. Her main responsibilities are to support the Secretariat with Communications (e.g. development of briefing notes, social media and website, among other tasks).

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 Henning Heldbjerg

Dr Heldbjerg, recruited as the Goose Monitoring Coordinator based in Aarhus University in January 2019, moved to another position as of September 2021.

Dr Gitte Høj Jensen

Dr Gitte Høj Jensen has been recruited as the new Goose Monitoring Coordinator based in

Photo on left page:
Taiga Bean Goose
(*Anser fabalis fabalis*)
© Magnus Elander



Greylag Geese
(*Anser anser*) ©
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Photos

Aarhus University (as of 1 September 2021)
This fulltime post is fully funded through the contributions provided by the EGMP Range States for the platform's core budget.

Population Modelling Experts

To support model developments, as well as the development of adaptive management frameworks, Dr Fred A. Johnson, formerly at the USGS, has been employed at Aarhus University since January 2020 as part time Associate Professor. The EGMP core budget funds a 40% person-year position, which is

supplemented by project funding from various Range States.

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.

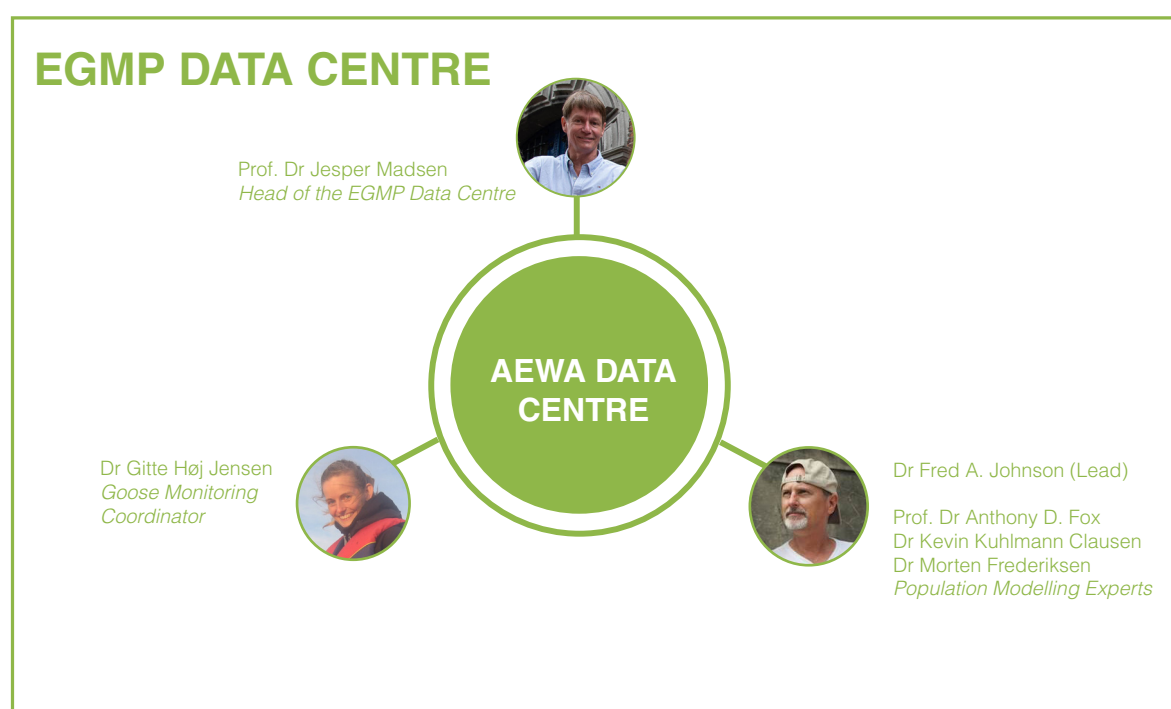


Figure 3. EGMP Data Centre Staff Composition



PARTICIPATING
RANGE STATES OF
THE EGMP/FUNDING

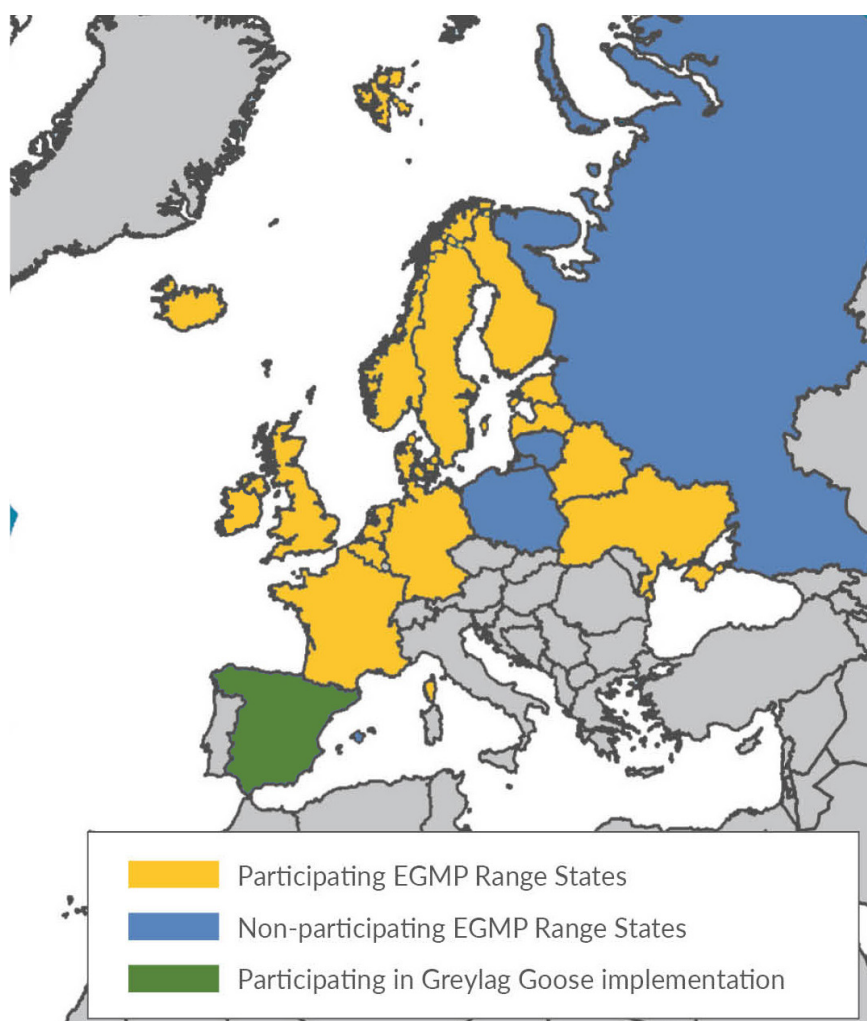


Figure 4. Map of the EGMP participating and non-participating Range States

Photo on previous page: Barnacle Geese (*Branta leucopsis*)
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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 participating 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/7.17.

A proposed budget and costed Programme of Work for 2023 is presented in document AEWA/EGMIWG/7.18 and are to be considered at EGM IWG7.



MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS



Participant meeting
badges © Provincie
Fryslân

Photo on previous
page: Greylag
Goose (*Anser anser*)
© Pixabay.com

Meetings and Workshops

Online meetings of the EGMP Task Forces

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

7th Meeting of the AEWA European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG7)

The 7th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG7) is scheduled to take place in Helsinki, Finland on 21-23 June 2022, at the kind invitation of the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland.

Meeting	Meeting Date
PfG TF (Coordinator: Jesper Madsen):	
8th Meeting of the PfG TF	13 October 2021
9th Meeting of the PfG TF	5 May 2022
TBG TF (Coordinator: Mikko Alhainen):	
19th Meeting of the TBG TF	7 September 2021
20th Meeting of the TBG TF	22 March 2022
Agri TF (Coordinator: Ingunn Tombre):	
8th Meeting of the Agri TF	25 November 2021
9th Meeting of the Agri TF	22 March 2022
BG TF (Russia population) (Coordinator: position vacant)	
6th Meeting of the BG TF	26 October 2021
7th Meeting of the BG TF	25 January 2022
8th Meeting of the BG TF	25 March 2022



Barnacle Geese
(*Branta leucopsis*)
© Pixabay.com

GG TF (Coordinator: Iben Hove Sørensen)

5th Meeting of the GG TF	30 September 2021
6th Meeting of the GG TF	1 April 2022

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

5th Meeting of the BG TF	29 March 2022
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International Modelling Consortium meeting

The International Modelling Consortium held three online meetings:

2nd Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	9 September 2021 involving updates on all populations managed under the EGMP
3rd Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	10 March 2022 regarding Barnacle Goose
4th Meeting of the International Modelling Consortium	17 March 2022 regarding Greylag Goose



EGMP ACTIVITIES

EGMP Population Status and Assessment report

In response to the growing number of population status and assessment reports, last year the reports were compiled into one report. To shorten the report (more than 100 pages), the EGMP Data Centre has modified the report format a bit further. Thus, the report still contains information on all species managed under the EGMP, but everything related to the raw data, thus methods for data collection and the raw data itself have been taken out of the report and are now available in the [EGMP Database](https://egmp.aewa.info/resources/publications), whereas the model and assessment results are presented in the report. The report can be found on the EGMP website <https://egmp.aewa.info/resources/publications>.

ISSMP for the Pink-footed Goose (PfG)

In spring 2022 the Data Centre produced annual monitoring and harvest assessment reports for the PFG (due June 2022). Furthermore, potential biases in demographic variables and monitoring programs, and analysis of critical components in the monitoring program have been investigated using the Integrated Population Model for the Svalbard population of the Pink-footed Goose.

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

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

ISSAP for the Taiga Bean Goose (TBG)

In spring 2022 the Data Centre produced an annual monitoring and harvest assessment report for the TBG, with focus on the Central Management Unit.



EGMP Database

To make the process from data collection to management recommendations and/or assessment of the cumulative impact of derogation and legal hunting for the populations managed under the EGMP, as transparent as possible, the Data Centre has been working on an EGMP Database, where data used for the assessments is publicly available. Methods, figures, news about data collection, links to online data sources are also now available on the EGMP Database, along with assessment files and acknowledgments.

ISSMP for the Greylag Goose (GG)

In spring 2022, the Data Centre produced an annual monitoring and assessment report for the GG. Furthermore, progress has been made towards moving to a dynamic and model-based management in 2023. Three projects have been funded by Denmark, the Netherlands and France, respectively. Moreover, progress has been made on summer counts to estimate the population size at MU level. Particular on MU1, where projects have been funded in Norway, Denmark, Finland and Sweden. The EGMP Data Centre is project leader on the two projects run in Denmark.



Taiga Bean Goose
Task Force ©
UNEP/AEWA
Secretariat

ISSMP for the Barnacle Goose (BG)

In spring 2022, Sovon and Wageningen Environmental Research, assisted by the Data Centre, produced the first assessment of the cumulative effect of offtake of the Russian/Germany and the Netherlands population of Barnacle Goose. The report is a summary of the results directed against decision makers (doc AEWA/EGMIWG/7.10), whereas a full report and the peer review process will be produced and take place during autumn 2022. Likewise in spring 2022, NatureScot, assisted by the Data Centre, produced an annual monitoring report for the East Greenland/Scotland and Ireland population of Barnacle Goose. Exeter University, assisted by the Data Centre, has developed an Integrated Population Model for the East Greenland Barnacle Goose to be used in assessments from 2023 onwards.

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)

Greylag 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/7.11, AEWA/EGMIWG/7.12, AEWA/EGMIWG/7.13 AEWA/EGMIWG/7.14, AEWA/EGMIWG/7.15 and AEWA/EGMIWG/7.16.



COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH



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 and adding content and updating information accordingly.

EGMP Workspace

The workspace serves as a communication platform for the EGMP. Since the workspace on the EGMP website was not functioning as initially hoped for, the Task Forces have decided to setup a shared space in MS Teams where all the files are added and can be accessed via SharePoint. The process of setting this up is underway.

EGMP Communication Strategy

The Secretariat is developing a Communication Strategy Document that will be discussed and completed with input from the EGM IWG and the Task Forces. The document aims to:

- Develop a communications strategy in support of the work of the EGMP;
- Identify the communication objectives, the target audiences and the key messages;
- Articulate the right messages and relay

the agreed information to the right target group;

- Provide focus and efficiency when disseminating information to the identified target groups;
- Evaluate and gain broader understanding of the performance of the communication strategy.

The draft document can be found as a meeting document AEWA/EGMIWG/7.6.

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.

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

102 Twitter,

88 Instagram &

84 Facebook

followers as of May 2022





EGMP Briefing Notes

The Secretariat together with the EGMP Task Forces are developing briefing notes, initially for the Adaptive Flyway Management Programme of the Greylag Goose and a Species-Specific Briefing Note for the Taiga Bean Goose. These briefing notes will be able to be replicated to serve as communication tools for other programmes and other species managed under the EGMP. They include background information, an introduction to the processes in place under the EGMP, illustrations, aims and objectives. The purpose of the briefing notes is to provide the EGMP a tool to convey information and inform stakeholders and interested parties on the species associated with the EGMP and to offer an overview of the programmes being coordinated and managed by the EGMP.

Pink-footed
Goose (*Anser
brachyrhynchus*) ©
Pixabay.com

Cover Photo: Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) © Dr. Georg Wietschorke, pixabay.com

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/

