

**AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM**



**9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE  
AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT  
INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP**



*18-20 June 2024, Tromsø, Norway*

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**STATUS REPORT OF  
THE ADAPTIVE FLYWAY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (AFMP)  
FOR THE NW/SW POPULATION OF THE GREYLAG GOOSE**

*Prepared by EGMP Secretariat and Data Centre*

**Summary:**

This document provides an overview of the Greylag Goose AFMP elements and related deliverables, status of the work and documents for the current 6-year cycle from 2020-2026. It includes an overview of the activities that are conducted on an annual basis, as well as the progress on activities that need to be completed by the end of the 6-year cycle.

The purpose of this document is to keep an overview of the AFMP implementation status and ensure that progress as well as any issues are tracked and identified. This overview shall be a dynamic document that is updated periodically and submitted to each EGMIWG meeting within the 6-year cycle.

**Action requested from the EGM IWG:**

The EGMIWG is requested to take note of the AFMP status report and provide further guidance to the Secretariat and Data Centre.

Moreover, the EGM IWG is requested to acknowledge the proposed timeline for the activities in Table 1 and agree on the following points:

1. Outstanding from 2023/2024: Discussion on use and way forward for damage impact models and knowledge gap for Greylag Goose (see recommendations from the impact report, document AEW/EGMIWG/Inf.8.15).
2. Outstanding from 2022/2023: Systematic monitoring is not in place due to the lack of monitoring activities from some Range States (see the 2024 EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report for a full overview of data availability);
3. Discussion of harvest protocol including “coordinate” offtake (including derogation) when needed.

## **Introduction**

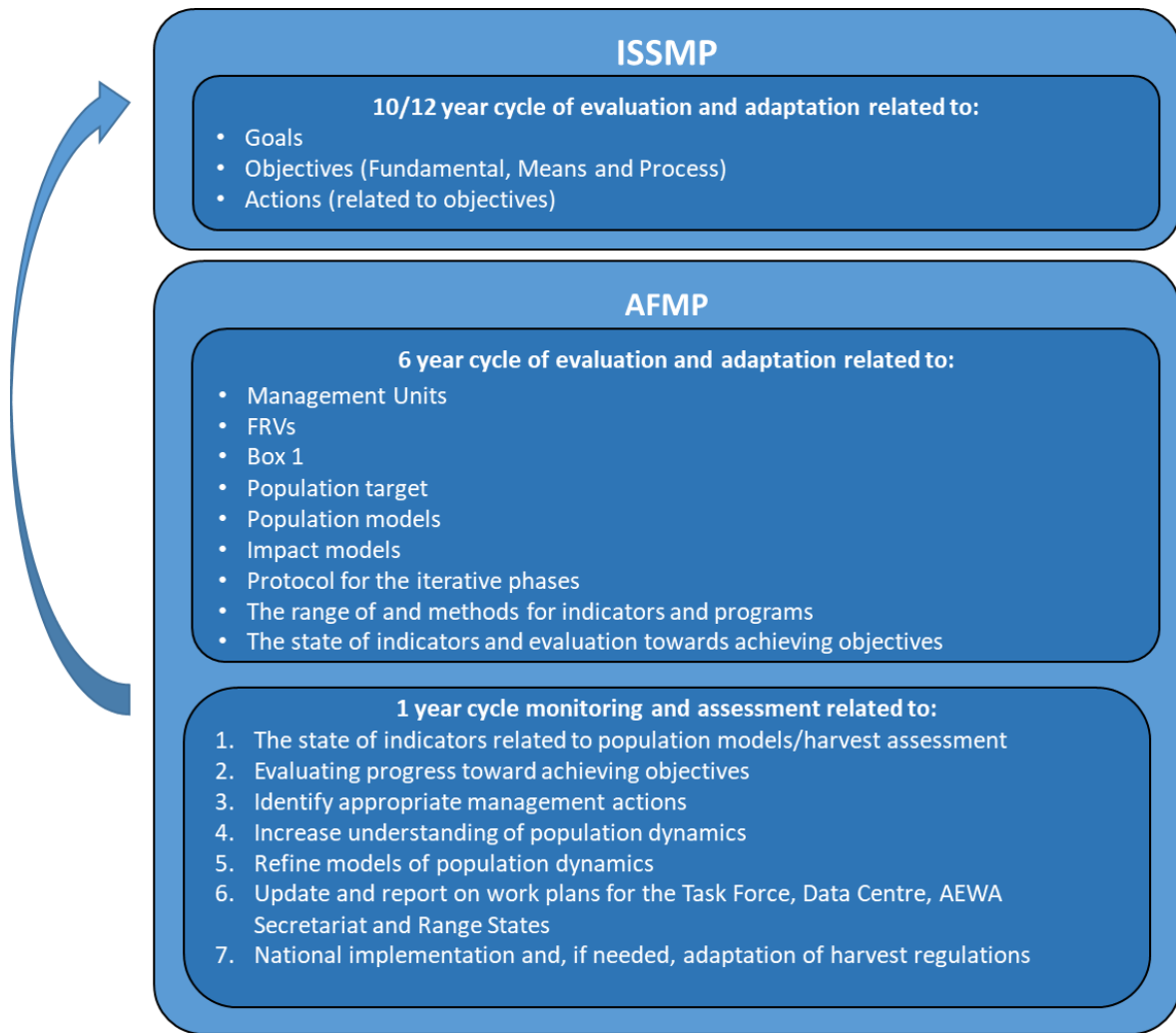
The Greylag Goose Adaptive Flyway Management Programme (GG AFMP) was first adopted for implementation by the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG) at EGM IWG5 in June 2020 and submitted for final adoption, including the pending sections, at EGM IWG6 in June 2021.

Implementation of the activities outlined in the AFMP started in 2020. Several activities, including the annual workplan, have been discussed and implemented by the Greylag Goose Task Force. These activities are reported separately in document AEWA/EGMIWG/9.15. The population status and assessment report of the NW/SW European Population of Greylag Goose is provided in document AEWA/EGMIWG/9.8.

As described in the AFMP, the management evaluation and adaptation of the NW/SW European population of Greylag Goose follows three iterative phases running in parallel (Figure 1).

1. A 10/12-year cycle of the ISSMP (possible evaluation in 2028);
2. Two 6-year cycles of the AFMP, and within the AFMP (possible evaluation in 2026):
3. 1-year cycles of:
  - i. Indicators/monitoring related to population models/harvest assessment;
  - ii. Update of population models and harvest assessment;
  - iii. Annual implementation of actions by range states;
  - iv. Update work plans.

Table 1 provides an overview of the AFMP elements, including deliverables, status of the work and documents for the current cycle 2020-2026. In the next cycle of the AFMP, elements related to the 6-year cycle (with the exception of collection and evaluation of indicators and the annual workplans) are only evaluated and adapted if the Range States see a compelling reason for doing so and/or new scientific knowledge suggests a re-evaluation is needed, unless otherwise is stated under the individual element in the table. If an evaluation shall take place, financial and staff resources must be available.



**Figure 1.** Flow chart of the management evaluation and adaptation of the NW/SW European population of Greylag Goose taken from the GG AFMP adopted on 23 June 2021.

**Table 1.** Overview of AFMP elements and related deliverables, status of the work and documents for the current cycle 2020-2026. In the next cycle of the AFMP elements related to the 6-year cycle (with the exception of collection and evaluation of indicators (point 5a) as well as Annex 1: Annual workplans) are only evaluated and adapted, if the Range States see a compelling reason for doing so and/or new scientific knowledge suggests a re-evaluation is needed, unless otherwise is stated under the individual element in the table. If an evaluation shall take place, financial and staff resources must be available. Cells highlighted in blue require additional decisions and/or funding and resources.

Process/Element	Deliverable	Status	Document	Funding and Resources
<b>6-year cycle of the AFMP</b>				
1. Definition of MUs	Agreement of MUs as of EGM IWG4 in June 2019	Finalised	<a href="#">Doc. AEWA/EGMIWG/4.14</a> New scientific documents: Månsson et al 2021: <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10344-022-01561-2">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10344-022-01561-2</a> Nilsson et al. 2022: <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ece3.8740">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ece3.8740</a> Piironen & Laaksonen 2023: <a href="https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rspb.2023.1528">https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rspb.2023.1528</a>	n/a
2. Definition of Favourable Reference Values (FRVs)	Gap-filling of FRVs before EGM IWG meeting in 2026.	Work done by the EGMP Data Centre in the period up to the EGM IWG meeting in 2026.	<a href="#">AFMP + Doc. AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf.6.10</a>	Financial and personnel resources are in place.
3. Population targets above the FRVs	Population target and utility function.	Finalised	<a href="#">AFMP</a> + Progress report AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf.8.14	Financial and personnel resources are in place.
4. Population models to support harvest management	Flyway decision model	Finalised	<a href="#">AFMP</a> + Progress report AEWA/EGMIWG/Inf.8.14	Financial and personnel resources are in place.

<p>5a. Monitoring indicators and programmes (1. collection of data and 2. evaluation)</p>	<p>1. Collection of data for indicators: Annual by 1 April for indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.1<sup>1</sup>, VII.1<sup>2</sup></li> </ul> <p>By 31. Dec. 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I.2<sup>3</sup>, II.1<sup>4</sup>, III.2<sup>5</sup>, III.3<sup>6</sup>, IV.1<sup>7</sup>, V.1<sup>8</sup>, V.2<sup>9</sup>, V.3<sup>10</sup>, VI.1<sup>11</sup>:</li> </ul> <p>2. Evaluation of the state of these indicators and towards achieving objectives is done every 6-years, thus by 2026.</p>	<p>Information is missing from some Range States. See the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report for a full overview of data availability.</p> <p>For indicator IV.1 “Habitat negatively affected” Range States will need to collect information from the organisations responsible for managing conservation areas on the damage caused by Greylag Goose two times during the lifetime of this AFMP.</p> <p>Evaluation of the state of these towards achieving objectives is to be done by the EGMP Data Centre in the period up to the EGM IWG meeting in 2026.</p>	<p><a href="#">EGMP Database</a> + EGMP Indicator report (submitted for EGM IWG in June 2026)</p>	<p>Financial and personnel resources are in place.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> Population size compared to the target population size

<sup>2</sup> Available sustainable hunting quota

<sup>3</sup> Range extent compared to Favourable Reference Range (FRR)

<sup>4</sup> Relative change in damage payments

<sup>5</sup> Number of bird strikes with aircrafts caused by Greylag Goose

<sup>6</sup> Number of Greylag Geese passing over commercial airports

<sup>7</sup> Area of natural habitat or habitat of threatened species negatively affected by Greylag Goose

<sup>8</sup> Number of people enjoying watching geese

<sup>9</sup> Number of recreational Greylag Goose hunters

<sup>10</sup> Number of Greylag Geese killed and used

<sup>11</sup> Relative change in cost of goose management

5b. Monitoring indicators and programmes	Development and evaluation of the range and methods for indicators and programmes	Finalised	<a href="#">AFMP</a>	n/a
6. Protocols for the iterative phase	Protocols for: 1. Indicators related to objectives 2. Indicators related to population model 3. Harvest assessment 4. Damage impact assessment	1. Protocol for the collection of indicators related to objectives are available under factsheets in the AFMP, however, the assessment of the indicators needs to be agreed latest at EGM IWG 2025. 2. Protocol for the collection and use of indicators related to population models is under development by the EGMP Data Centre. 3. Protocol for harvest assessment including coordination hereof is missing. 4. Protocol for the damage impact assessment is awaiting agreements on use and knowledge gap.	<a href="#">AFMP</a> <a href="#">EGMP Database</a>	Financial and personnel resources are in place.  Depending on the discussions at EGM IWG9
Annex 1: Annual workplans	Annual workplans	Workplans reviewed and updated by the Task Forces annually and reported to the EGM IWG. Every second year, reporting on the workplans will be conducted via the EGMP National Reports.	TF report and recommendations  Next EGMP National Reports to be submitted to EGM IWG10 in June 2025	Financial and personnel resources are in place.

Annex 2. Box 1 of the ISSMP for the Greylag Goose	Box 1 report	Finalised	<a href="#">AFMP</a>	n/a
Annex 3. Setting population targets	See point 3	See point 3	See point 3	See point 3
Annex 4. Population models	See point 4	See point 4	See point 4	See point 4
Annex 5. Impact models	<p>Development of impact models.</p> <p>Compilation of the report and evaluation of use before EGM IWG8 2023.</p>	<p>Report finalised, however information on damage impact from Greylag Goose is limited and further research is needed.</p> <p>At EGM IWG8 it was agreed that the task (as defined in the ISSMPs and AFMPs for BG and GG), has been delivered. However, information is limited on grazing impacts of GG, especially during the summer period, thus Range States may wish to encourage further research on this topic.</p>	<a href="#">AFMP + EGMP Impact model report (submitted for EGM IWG8 in June 2023)</a>	Financial and personnel resources must be found to investigate the damage impact of Greylag Goose.
Annex 6. Indicator factsheet	See point 5	See point 5	See point 5	See point 5
Annex 7. Protocol for the iterative phase	See point 6	See point 6	See point 6	See point 6
Annex 8. Allocation of breeding numbers of greylag geese to wintering countries.	Agreement of allocation of breeding numbers to wintering countries.	Finalised	<a href="#">AFMP + Doc. AEW/EGMIWG/Inf.6.12</a>	n/a

<b>1 year cycle within the AFMP</b>				
<b>Process</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Document</b>	
Monitoring of indicators related to population models /harvest assessment	<p>Annual update of raw data on the <a href="#">EGMP Database</a>.</p> <p>Annual update of model estimates at <a href="#">Gitlab EGMP</a>.</p> <p>A compilation is presented in the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report</p>	Data is missing from some range states and updated model estimates cannot be provided. See the 2024 EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report for a full overview of data availability.	<p>Raw data: <a href="#">EGMP Database</a></p> <p>Model estimates: <a href="#">EGMP Gitlab</a></p> <p>EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report 2024</p>	<p>Financial and personnel resources are in place to collect and compile monitoring information.</p> <p>Annual model estimates are provided by the EGMP Data Centre, when data is available.</p> <p>National funding may be needed for some of the monitoring activities itself.</p>
Harvest assessment <sup>12</sup> at MU level	Annual update of the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report	Information is missing from some range states and the assessment cannot be done.	EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report 2024	Assessment is done by the EGMP Data Centre
National implementation and, if needed, adaptation of harvest regulations	<p>Every two years the EGMP National Reports are submitted to the EGM IWG.</p> <p>Progress update will be added to the online workplan monitored by the GG Task Force</p>	<p>Updates are added to the workplans in the GG Task Force on a regular basis.</p> <p>Full report on national implementation status to be updated as part of the EGMP National Reports for EGM IWG10</p>	<p>GG <a href="#">Task Force workplan</a></p> <p>EGMP National Reports (to be submitted for EGM IWG10 in 2025)</p>	Funded by National initiatives
Update and report on work plans for the Task Force,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annex 1 in AFMP for Task Force workplan</li> </ul>	Review annually by Task Force, Data Centre, AEWA Secretariat and Range States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annex 1 in AFMP</li> <li>AEWA Sec and DC Report</li> </ul>	Financial and personnel resources are in place.

<sup>12</sup> Evaluating progress toward achieving objectives, Identify appropriate management actions, Increase understanding of population dynamics and Refine models of population dynamics.



Data Centre, AEWA Secretariat and Range States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AEWA Sec and DC Report</li></ul>			
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