

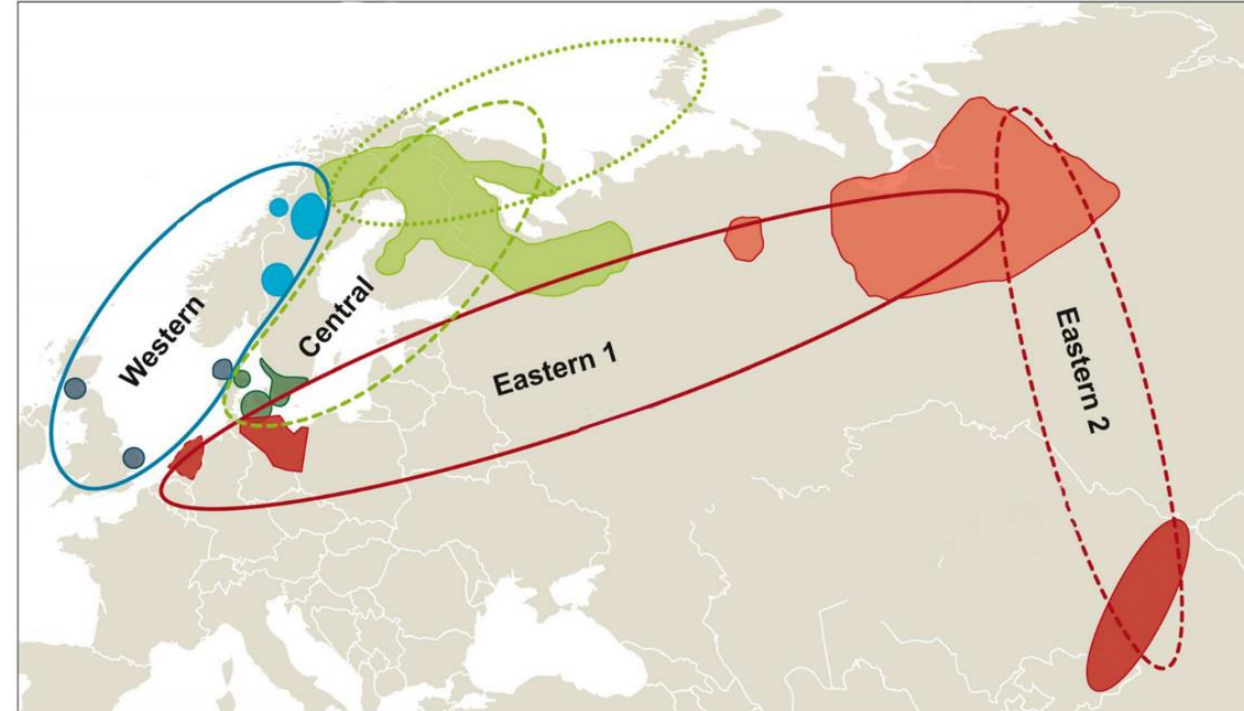
## REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EGMP TAIGA BEAN GOOSE TASK FORCE

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## Introduction

- Overview of the work since the EGM IWG4
- Non-AHM Workplan for 2020-2022.
- Recommendations of the TBG TF



Status in terms of AHM

- Western MU – moratorium
- Central MU – AHM
- Eastern 1&2 - moratorium



## Meetings

- Work of the TBG TF has been done via email, online meetings and the EGMP Workspace.
- 5 meetings between Perth and Helsinki IWG's.

# Report of Key Activities – Western MU

- Action 1: Increase of the number of GPS-tagged Taiga Bean Geese
  - Preparations made for the Norfolk - birds did not co-operate
- Action 2: Continue juvenile proportion assessment in Slamannan and organise it in Jutland.
  - Done
- Action 3&4:
  - Progress achieved.

## Report of Key Activities – CENTRAL MU

- Action 1: For the period of three years, the Central MU Taiga Bean Goose population size is being monitored in three seasonal counts:
  - Done
- Action 2: An IPM is used to estimate the true population size...
  - IPM ready to support decision making at IWG5
- Action 3: Harvest bag recording in Sweden and Denmark is further strengthened
  - Sample collection organized

## Report of Key Activities – EASTERN 1&2 MU

- Action 1: Secure funding for the project proposal compiled by the TBG TF
  - No funding. The activities are still valid – funding welcome
- Action 2: Designate a second coordinator...
  - Still working on it...

# Report of Key Activities – EASTERN 1&2 MU

- Other Key Achievements on the Implementation of the TBG ISSAP
  - **Russia** – good progress made
    - TBG added to Russian Federal Red List, legally protected in key breeding areas
  - **Germany**
    - starting a goose monitoring project with special focus on Taiga Bean Goose
  - **Ukraine**
    - Overview on existing published information



## Report of Key Activities - Other Tasks

- Action 1: Guidelines (brochure) for separation of Tundra and Taiga Bean Goose
  - Done! – 4 language versions
- Action 2: Collection of datasets (pictures, DNA etc.) on sub-species
  - ~ 1200 bean goose heads collected for DNA analysis



### Identification of Tundra and Taiga Bean Goose

The **Taiga Bean Goose** (*Anser fabalis fabalis*) and **Tundra Bean Goose** (*Anser fabalis rossicus*) are difficult to separate in the field, and some individuals will always be impossible to assign to subspecies based on visual characteristics alone.

Separation between subspecies is mainly based on the colouration and shape of the head and bill. Good views of foraging or resting flocks and inspection of shot birds will usually allow for subspecies identification. In field conditions the bill of Taiga Bean Goose usually looks rather orange-yellow and low-lined, and the head-bill combination thus long and low-lined.

The head of Tundra Bean Goose looks rounder and darker than the neck, while the bill looks dark and heavy. In field counts the longer neck and more elegant characteristics of Taiga Bean Goose are also good to look for.



## Workplan for the Implementation of non-AHM Related Actions (2020/2022) in the Range States

- The EGM IWG3 agreed on the extension of the period of the workplan for the implementation of non-AHM related actions of the AEWA Taiga Bean Goose ISSAP from 2017-2018 until 2020.
- The TBG TF prepared a new workplan from 2020 until 2022.
- The new workplan focused on activities which are foreseen as realistic to achieve or make progress on within the next two years.

# Summary of non-AHM workplan for the Range States

- Establish coordinated Taiga Bean Goose counts in Eastern 1 Management Unit, especially in Poland
- Increase the number of GPS-tagged and neck-collared Taiga Bean Geese
- Strengthen the harvest bag recording;
- Organise a campaign to raise skills and awareness of the goose hunters;
- Establish a national working group, if relevant, and develop a national prioritised 5-year work plan for coordinated implementation of actions relevant for the Range State.

## Recommendations of the TBG TF for non-AHM Activities

- Adoption of the non-AHM workplan for 2020/2022
- Continuation of at least October and March counts in the Central MU beyond 2021
- Nominate experts to the TBG TF:
  - Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Poland and Germany
  - A person from Eastern 1 Management Unit Range State could take the lead on the coordination of the monitoring framework

# Proposed decisions for Adaptive Harvest Management

	Population size assessment	Anniversary date of population model	Harvest model	Harvest strategy
Status Quo, initial step towards true AHM	January count estimate	January	Interim Harvest Model	3% Adult harvest to enable population recovery while allowing limited recreational harvest
Progress development on 2020. TBG TF Recommendation.	<b>Decision to use the Integrated Population Model (IPM)</b>	<b>Decision to use the March anniversary date</b>	<b>Decision to use the Interim Harvest Model</b>	<b>Decision on Harvest scenario expected to result population size of around 70 000 birds</b> TBG Harvest Assessment AEWA/EGMIWG/5.11
Long-term Goal, true AHM framework, enabling the reduction of uncertainties through iterative modelling, decision making, monitoring and assessment.	Integrated Population Model (IPM)	March	Dynamic Harvest Model	Further decision to be made on the trade-offs between Population and Harvest objectives

# TBG TF Workplan for 2020/2021

- The Taiga Bean Goose Task Force foresees to continue active working to support the implementation of the
  - ISSAP
  - non-AHM workplan
  - recommended activities.
- 6 meetings is planned for the period between IWG5 and IWG6
  - To keep things moving

## TBG TF Members

- Acknowledgements to all members of the TF for the good work!

Country	Representative	Affiliation
<b>Denmark</b>	Prof. Anthony Fox	Aarhus University
	Ms Iben Hove Sørensen	Danish Hunters Association
	Mr Knud Flensted	BirdLife Denmark
	Mr Boris Schönfeldt	BirdLife Denmark
<b>Finland</b>	Mr Mikko Alhainen (Coordinator)	Finnish Wildlife Department
	Mr Toni Laaksonen	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)
<b>Norway</b>	Dr Ingunn Tombre	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Department of Arctic Ecology
<b>Sweden</b>	Mr Per Risberg	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
<b>Ukraine</b>	Dr Olesya Petrovych	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine
	Dr Vasyl Kostyshyn	Institute of Zoology NAS of Ukraine, Department of Monitoring and Conservation of Animals
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Ms Morag Milne (rep for Scotland)	Scottish Natural Heritage
	Mr Michael Meadows (rep for England)	Natural England
	Mr Carl Mitchell	Wildfowl & Wildlife Trust
<b>Wetlands International</b>	Dr Szabolcs Nagy	Wetlands International
<b>Russian Bird Ringing Center</b>	Ms Sonia Rozenfeld	Russian Bird Ringing Center
<b>EGMP Data Centre</b>	Dr Henning Heldbjerg	Aarhus University
<b>EGMP Data Centre</b>	Dr Fred Johnson	Aarhus University
<b>AEWA Secretariat</b>	Mr Sergey Dereliev	UNEP/AEWA
<b>AEWA Secretariat</b>	Ms Eva Meyers	UNEP/AEWA