



Taiga Bean Goose Session

Taiga Bean Goose Population Status Report 2019-2020

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Report prepared by the AEWA European Goose Management Platform (EGMP) Data Centre

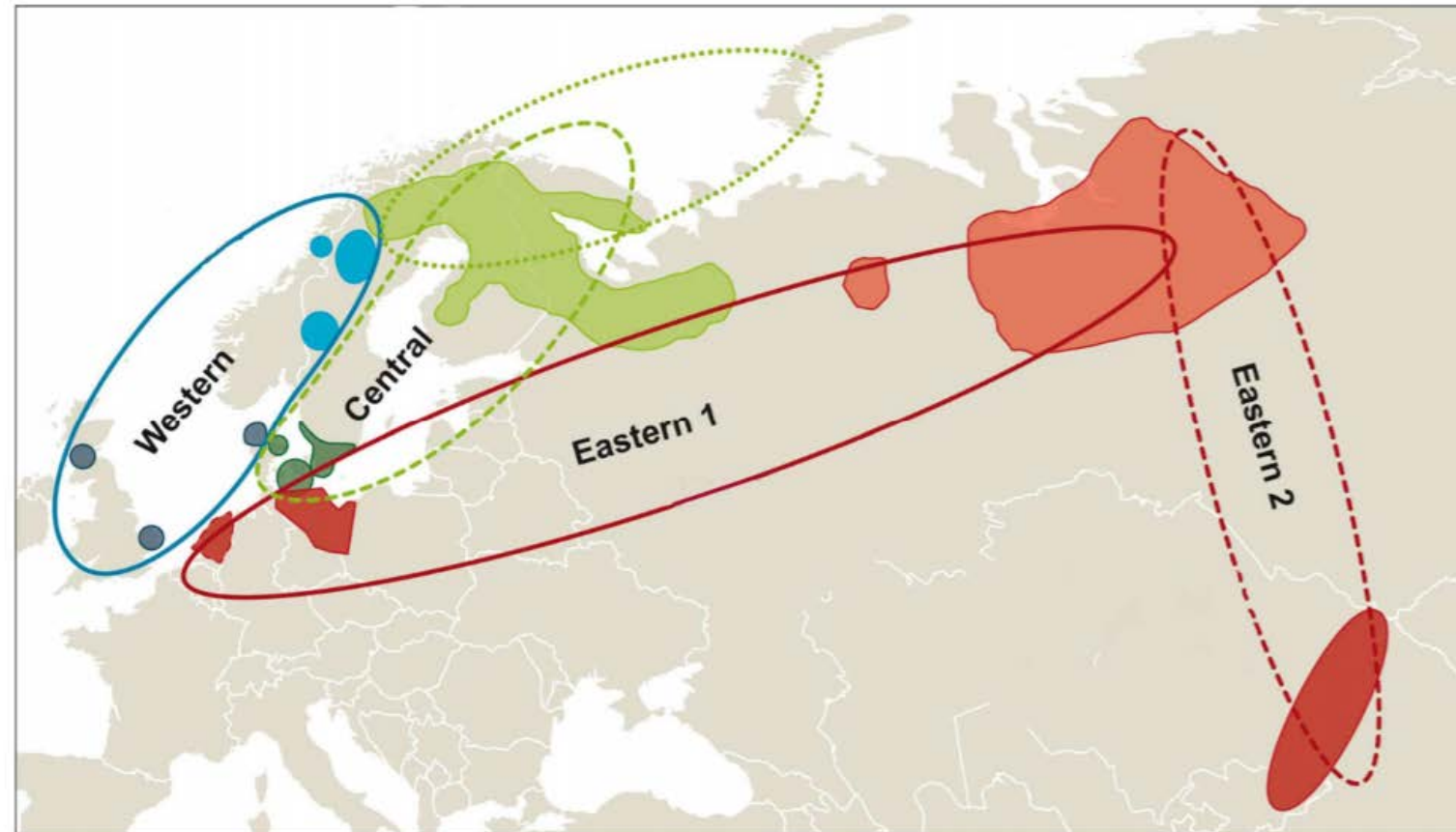
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Doc. AEWA/EGMIWG/5.10

Aim

Population status of the four Management Units (MUs) of Taiga Bean Goose for the season 2019/2020

- To assess the population development and to
- Provide input for the modelling of a harvest strategy for the Central MU for the coming hunting season (2020/2021).



Taiga Bean Goose

- Two subspecies of Bean Goose
 - Taiga Bean Goose
 - Tundra Bean Goose
- Taiga Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis fabalis*) = TBG

From the new ID guide <https://egmp.aewa.info/>



Identification of Tundra and Taiga Bean Goose

Western Management Unit

The Western MU population was counted during mid-winter.

The number is similar to the previous year

Movements from Scotland to Denmark already in early January

We need to better understand the movements of the WMU

Country	Area	Number
Denmark	NW Jutland	1,170
Scotland, UK	Slamannan	207
England, UK	Norfolk	7
Total		1,384

Central Management Unit

- Population estimates in the 2019/2020 season were based on monitoring in October, January and again in early March.
 - The majority of the TBG are in Sweden during the counts in October and March
 - During January we have no reports from Germany where an unknown part of the TBG are thought to be

Central MU October counts

A total of c. 75,000 TBG counted during two weeks in October

- Of these, c. 21,000 were not identified during the counts but judged to be TBG based on recent observations
- 6,300 were counted in Finland but judged to also be included in the Swedish counts due to an influx from FI

A shorter period with simultaneously counts would be preferable to lessen the movements

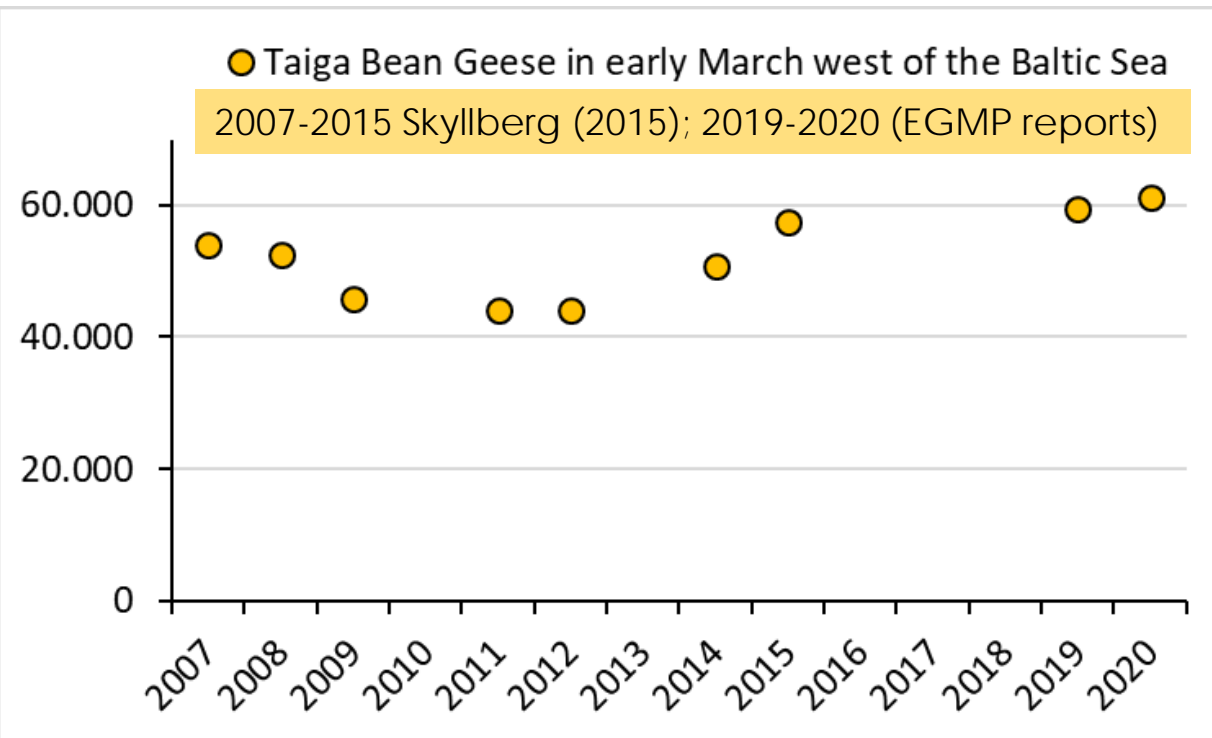
Country	Area	Number of Bean Geese			Reported by
		Taiga	Tundra	Unidentified	
Sweden	Sweden	54,700	5,270	447	<u>Kampe-Persson</u> 2020
		54,700	5,270	20,857	Nilsson 2020
		20,857			
	Total	75,557			
Finland	Finland	6,300	NA	850	Tiira.fi, Antti Piironen
Denmark	Lille <u>Vildmose</u>	0	1	0	DOFbasen.dk, Preben Clausen
	Outside Lille <u>Vildmose</u>	17	67	0	
Germany	North- Central Germany				
The Netherlands ¹		0	16,182		www.waarneming.nl (Taiga BG only) Kees Koffijberg
Total	Estimated	75,574			

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Central MU March counts

A total of c. 62,000 TBG counted during the first days in March

- Of these, c. 1,000 were from Latvia, which was previously not included



Country	Number of Bean Geese			Reported by
	Taiga	Estimated Tundra	Unidentified	
Finland	1,000	??	??	Ulf Skyllberg
Sweden	60,000	4,000		
Denmark	213	431	0	Preben Clausen
Latvia	1,000	23,539	720	Hakon Kampe-Persson
Total	62,213	27,970	720	

Population trend and production

- Estimated population size based on the integrated population model was 80,700 in October 2019, 77,000 in January 2020, and 75,200 in March 2020.
- Estimates (IPM) of population size increased over the last decade in all three months, especially so after the Finnish harvest moratorium in 2014.
- This year's counts show a large increase during autumn and a minor increase during spring since the previous year.
- A part of the explanation for the increase is the higher production of young, 26.9% (N= 435 juv/1,181 ad) (Hakon Kampe-Persson)
 - Compared to 7% in 2017 and 8% in 2018

Harvest data



Harvest data are not up-to-date everywhere

- Delivered at slow pace
- Not separated into subspecies

Too few wings for a reliable age ratio estimate (only 10 received in Denmark in 2019/20)

Head samples

From the new ID guide:

- Head samples used to describe the proportion of Tundra and Taiga Bean Geese in Swedish harvest
 - 233 heads in 2017/18, 504 in 2018/19 and c. 400 in 2019/20
 - Unfortunately they are not examined yet (due to limited funding)



Management challenges

Successful implementation of an AHM framework for the Central Taiga Bean Goose MU requires annual abundance and harvest data in order to model population estimates and assess effects of harvest

- Reliable annual population estimates are now available for autumn and spring
- Up to date sub-species specific hunting bag data are required from all Range States (particular Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Russia (by region) and Germany), but are still missing from several areas.
- Data on annual survival and/or reproductive success (e.g. samples of the ratio of young to adults in autumn) would also be helpful for improving the model.

Eastern1 and Eastern2 MUs

- No recent monitoring information is available
- All new information about the E1 and E2 MUs, i.e. wintering areas, staging areas and migration routes is valuable
- There are several activities like counts during winter (not published), GPS loggers in use, changes in hunting legislation and information material produced