

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF TAIGA BEAN GOOSE TASK FORCE

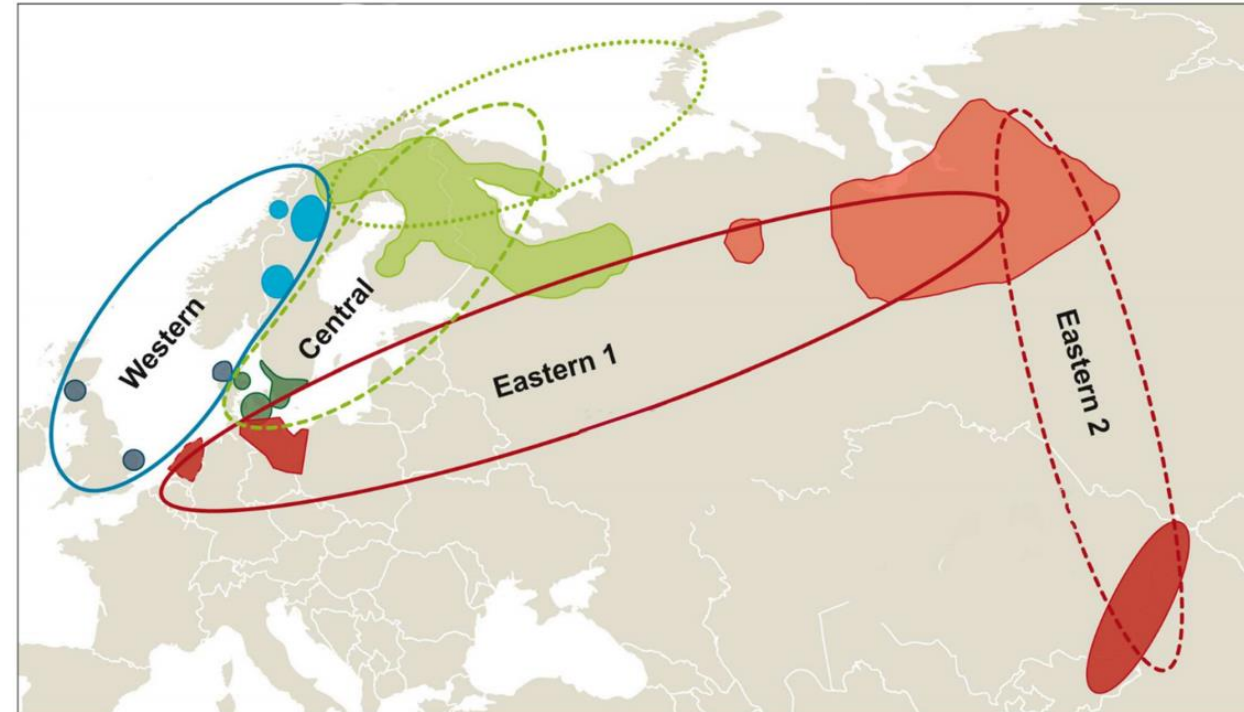
TBG TF Coordinator

Mikko Alhainen, Finnish Wildlife Agency

Document title
Doc. AEW A/EGMIWG/6.8

Introduction

- Overview of the work since the EGM IWG6
- Summary, non-AHM Workplan for 2021-2022.
- Recommendations of the TBG TF



Status in terms of AHM

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

What happened 2021-2022

- TBG TF: 2 online meetings and f2f meeting
- Key outcomes and new information
 - General: The TBG TF had a more relaxed year – we carried out the ‘regular’ activities of reading and commenting the assessments. Also discussed and commented the TBG briefing note and the Proposal to AEWA MOP8 to change the population delineations of the Bean Goose
 - Update on the progress in relation to the recommendations of IWG6
 - Status of the implementation of the non-AHM workplan as reported by the range states is presented at the report document
 - TBG counts in Poland and Germany have been strengthened and improved understanding of the population size is foreseen to be available in near future
 - October and March counts has been continued at the level possible under the travel restriction of the COVID19.

TF Recommendations non-AHM

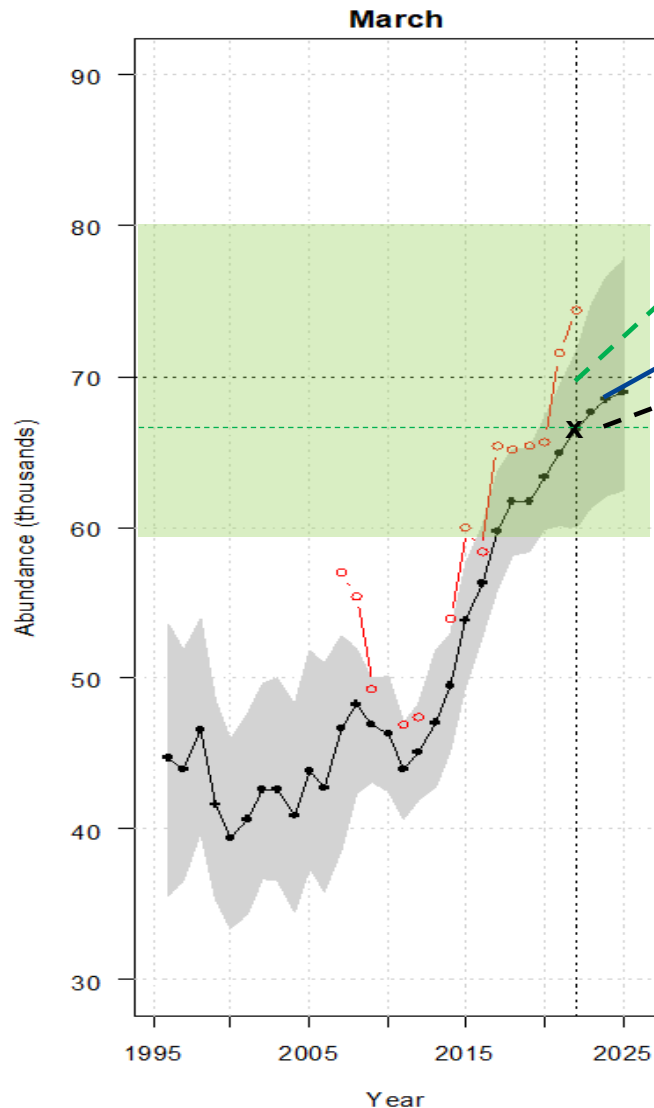
- All Management Units: Continue and strengthen, if necessary, the January counts for population size estimates and the delineation of MUs in overlapping wintering areas.
- Central Management Unit: Continue October and March counts to foreseeable future for the data generation for the IPM. Prepare to extend the coordinated counts to Finland and Denmark by 2023 (*or as seen necessary*).
- *Continue all the good work in the Range States!*

TF Recommendations AHM

Background

- **Population target 60 000 – 80 000**
 - **March 2022 at ~66 k**
 - Stabilize at this level? harvest = 5003
 - When 70 k reached, stabilizing harvest = 3,668
 - To reach 70 k by 2025 harvest = 2,000
 - Average harvest 2017-2021 has been 2,955 → continued population growth towards the 70 000 birds.
- Approaching carrying capacity → harvestable surplus declines while population grows

TF Recommendations AHM



Population target and harvest quota relation	Annual total quota	FI	SE	DK
<i>Stabilize at 70 k</i>	<i>3,668</i>	<i>2127</i>	<i>1100</i>	<i>440</i>
Increase from 66 k to 70 k by 2025	2000	1160	600	240
Stabilize at 66 k	5,003	2902	1501	600
Allow population growth without set time for reaching 70 k	3000	1740	900	360

- **Recommendation for IWG:**

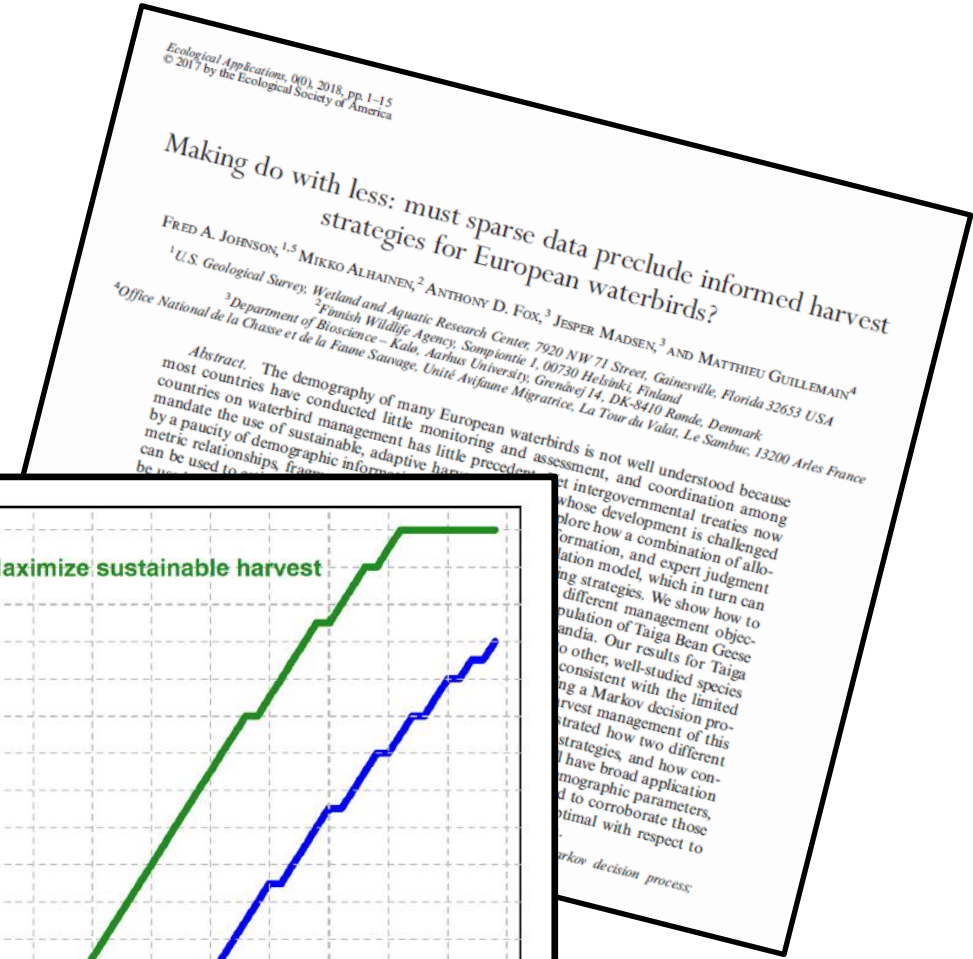
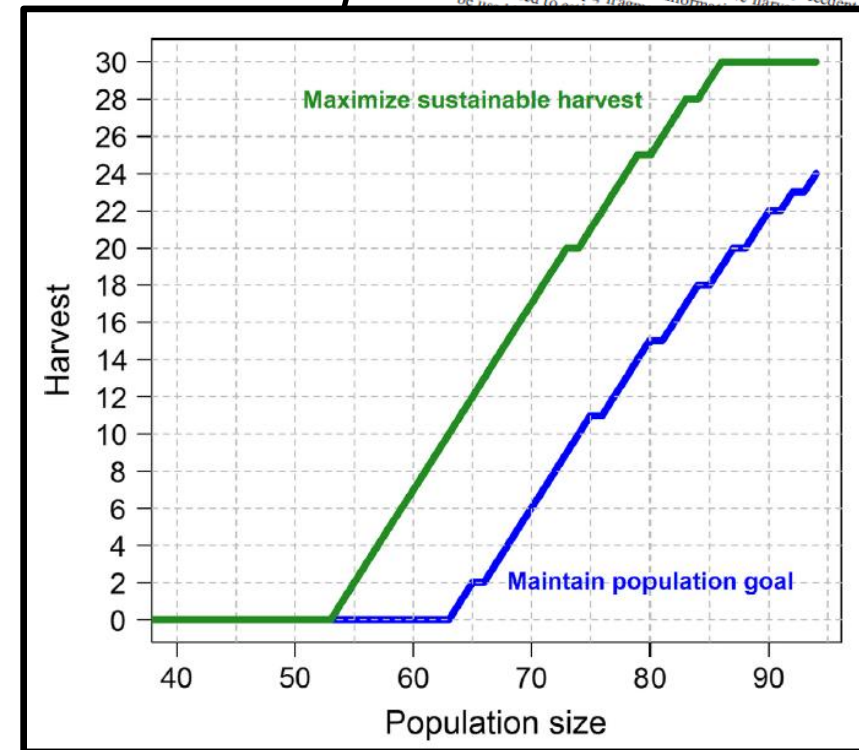
- We are at the target population size, its important to avoid any population decline while some growth is advisable.
- Any harvest below 5003 allows the population to grow, while harvest of 2 000 forecasts 70 k by 2025.
- **Overall quota of 3000 TBG would recognize that we have reached our goal while allowing population to increase**
 - **balanced compromise**

Future development of the AHM

Development of harvest management

Background

- The harvest management of the Taiga Bean Goose is based on the interim harvest strategy.
- The technical work for a dynamic harvest model and full adaptive harvest management is in place.
- The missing piece is a discussion and decision on the trade-offs between population and harvest management objectives.
 - Please refer to <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/eap.1659>.



AEWA European Goose Management Platform

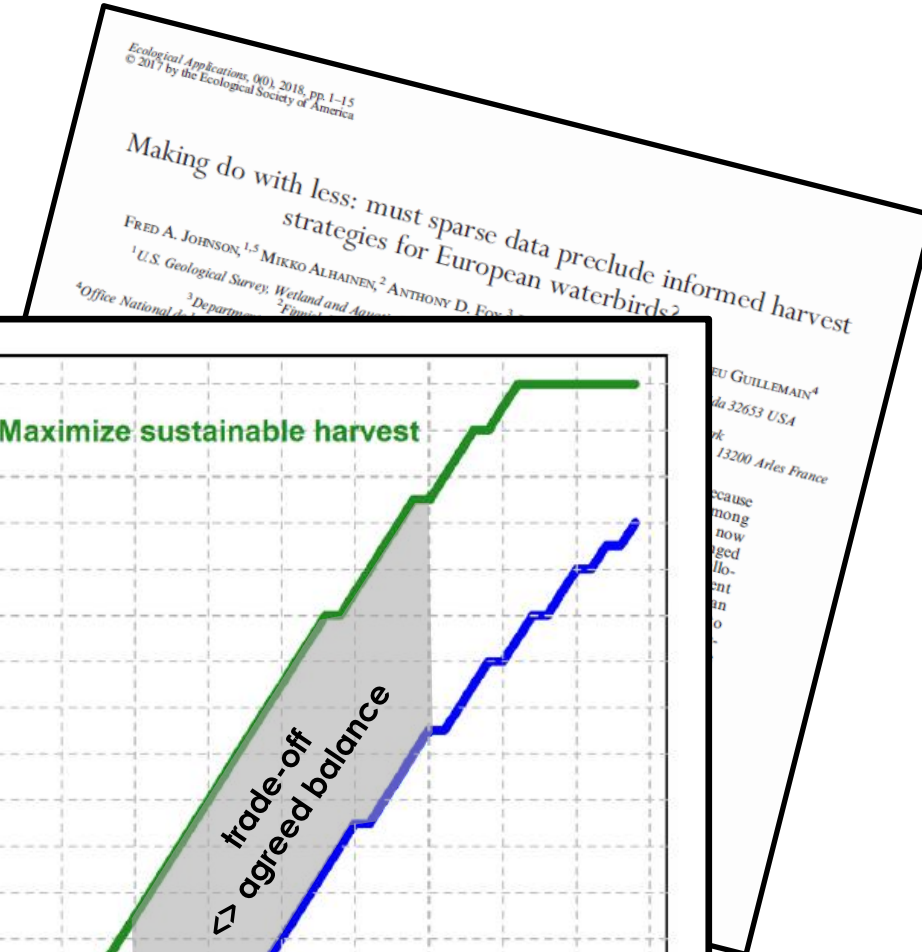
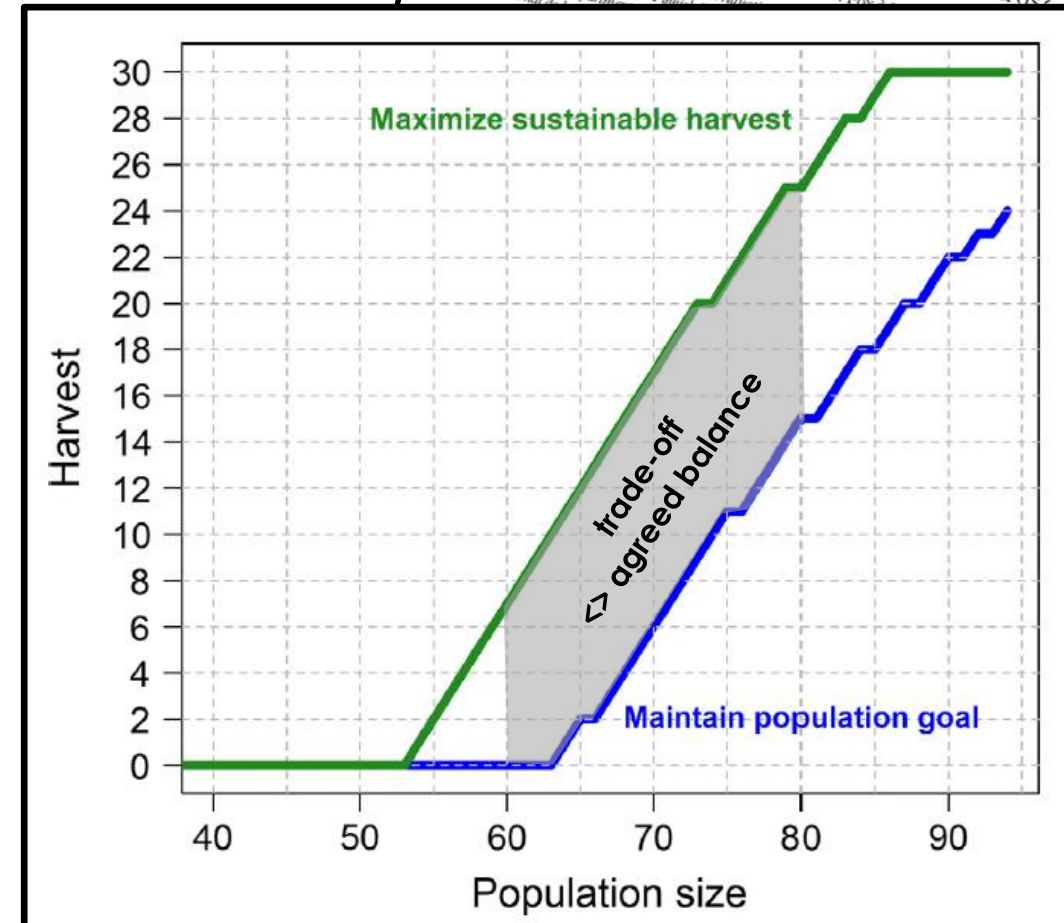
Future development of the AHM

21-23 June 2022
EGM IWG7
Helsinki, Finland



Development of harvest management

- As a part of the revision process the TBG TF to start the process for discussing on the trade-off between maintaining target population size (70K) and maximizing hunting opportunities
- This would prepare for the development of formal Adaptive Harvest Management
- The work is foreseen to take place within next 3 years in respect to available resources.



TBG TF Workplan for 2022/2023

- The Taiga Bean Goose Task Force foresees to continue active working to support the implementation of the
 - ISSAP
 - non-AHM workplan
 - recommended activities.
- 3 meetings is planned for the period between IWG7 and IWG8 – more if needed
- Starting to use the same structure and template for the annual workplan, as used for the Greylag Goose and Barnacle Goose populations.

Decision points

Non-AHM

- All Management Units: Continue and strengthen, if necessary, the January counts for population size estimates and the delineation of MUs in overlapping wintering areas
- Central Management Unit: Continue October and March counts to foreseeable future for the data generation for the IPM. Prepare to extend the coordinated counts to Finland and Denmark by 2023 (*or as seen necessary*).
- Continue all the good work in the Range States!

AHM

Harvest quota	Annual total quota	FI	SE	DK
	3000	1740	900	360

TBG TF Members

Thank you!

Annex 1. Members of the Taiga Bean Goose Task Force as of 16.5.2022

Country	Representative	Affiliation
Denmark	Anthony Fox	Aarhus University
	Iben Hove Sørensen	Danish Hunters Association
	Knud Flensted	BirdLife Denmark
	Boris Schönfeldt	BirdLife Denmark
Finland	Mikko Alhainen (TF Coordinator)	Finnish Wildlife Department
	Toni Laaksonen	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)
Norway	Ingunn Tombre	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Department of Arctic Ecology
Sweden	Per Risberg	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Ukraine	Olesya Petrovych	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine
	Vasyl Kostiusbyn	Institute of Zoology NAS of Ukraine, Department of Monitoring and Conservation of Animals
United Kingdom	Morag Milne (rep for Scotland)	Scottish Natural Heritage
	Rebecca Jones (rep for England)	Natural England
Wetlands International	Szabolcs Nagy	Wetlands International
	Gitte Høj Jensen	Aarhus University
	Fred Johnson	Aarhus University
UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	Eva Meyers	EGMP Coordinator