

# AEWA European Goose Management Platform

20-22 June 2023

EGM IWG8

Bonn, Germany



Report from the EGMP Communications Working Group



## Background: Why was EGMP Communications Group established?

- Questionnaire sent out in spring 2022 identified that EGMP Communications field needs improvement:

The process and results of the EGMP are well communicated.  
30 responses

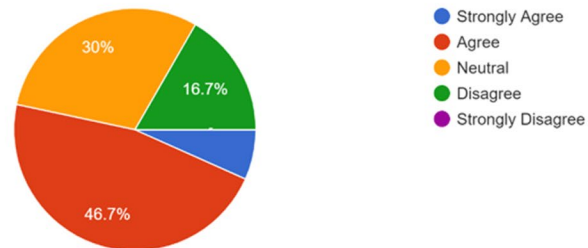


Figure 15. Opinions on the communication of the results of the EGMP

The relevant information is easy to find and access.  
31 responses

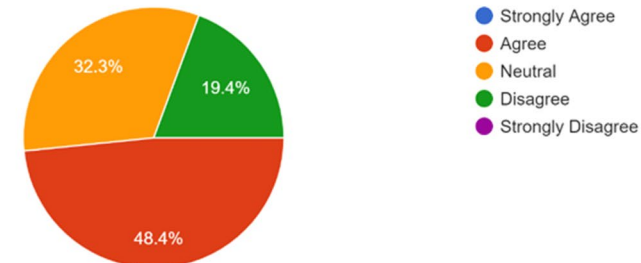


Figure 16. Opinions on the accessibility of the relevant information

## Background: Why was EGMP Communications Group established?

- The issue was discussed during the Joint Meeting of EGMP Task Forces and EGM IWG7 in Helsinki.



## EGMP Communications Group Membership

- Iben Hove Sorensen (Denmark/CIC)
- Ingunn Tombre (Norway)
- Rae McKenzie (UK)
- Nick Warmelink (Netherlands)
- Gitte Hoj Jensen (EGMP Data Centre)
- AEWAs Secretariat (Eva Meyers & Shenay Huseynova)

Group membership open to those willing to contribute!



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## EGMP Communications Strategy

Actor – BY WHO?	Audience – TO WHO?	What message?	Communication channel – HOW?	Communication items
EGMP Range States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recommendations from IWG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Translate) EGMP briefing notes about decisions from the IWG (see attached example)</li> <li>• Link to decision and action table on EGMP website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decided by the range state</li> </ul>
EGMP Task Forces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governments</li> <li>• National Stakeholders</li> <li>• EGM IWG Members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGMP purpose added value</li> <li>• Decisions taken at EGM IWG</li> <li>• Success stories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Briefing notes, fact sheets</li> <li>• Webinars</li> </ul>	
The AEWA/EGMP Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGMP Range States</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the EGMP</li> <li>• The purpose of the EGMP/Added value</li> <li>• How the EGMP work/function</li> <li>• The recommendations from IWG</li> <li>• Successes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGMP IWG documents</li> <li>• Webinar</li> <li>• Fact sheets/briefing notes related to assessment and EGMP processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGMP Website</li> <li>• Widely distributed to network eg. hunters, farmers and bird organization (identify networks) SoMe</li> </ul>
EGMP Data Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Researchers</li> <li>• Monitoring network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the EGMP</li> <li>• How the EGMP/assessments works</li> <li>• What data we use and how</li> <li>• The value of monitoring</li> <li>• Successes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data files</li> <li>• Assessment files</li> <li>• Newsletter to monitoring networks</li> <li>• Webinars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Database</li> <li>• GitLab</li> <li>• EGMP Website</li> <li>• Monitoring networks, (IWC, AEWMP, identify networks)</li> </ul>
International Modelling Consortium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGMP Data Centre</li> <li>• Researchers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New projects and results</li> <li>• Successes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New research project</li> <li>• Scientific papers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EGMP Website</li> <li>• SoMe</li> </ul>



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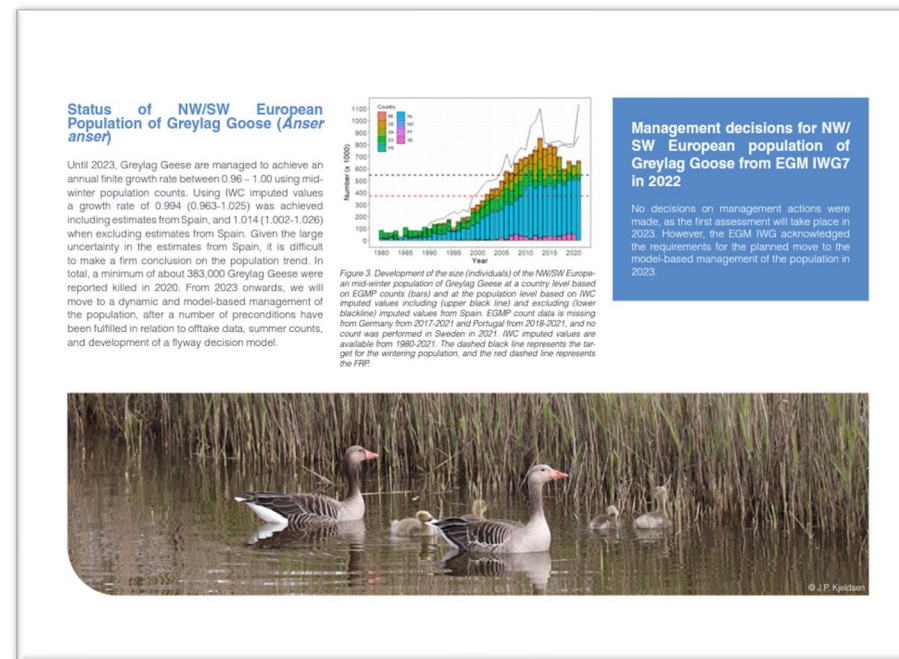
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## EGMP Communications Work in the past year

- Communications & Outreach Materials
- Webinars
- EGMP Website Upgrade



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## Communications & Outreach Materials

- EGMP Highlights 2022 with overview of all ongoing activities and status updates

EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

**Highlights 2022**

It is that time of the year again! The EGMP team is sending warmest wishes for this festive season to you and your loved ones. Staying true to tradition, we would like to recall and share with you all the memorable moments of the past year.

**7th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG7) in Helsinki, Finland – 31-23 June 2022**

After two years of virtual annual meetings, the famous "Helsinki Meeting" finally happened! We were so happy to reconnect with everyone in person again. Big thanks go out to the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland for persistently renewing their invitation throughout the challenging period of global pandemic and being the best hosts one could wish for. Curious to know more? The [meeting report](#), as well as the presentations from the meeting can be found on [EGM IWG7 meeting page](#).

**Excursion to Suomenlinna**

Thanks to our hosts, we got to discover this unique place with rich history and beautiful nature.

**Joint Meeting of the EGMP Task Forces in Helsinki, Finland, 20 June 2022**

Our six Task Forces also came together in person, and it was a blast! One of the main takeaways of their dynamic brainstorming session was "Goose is goose, grass is grass" – no matter what species, Task Forces can learn a lot from each other.

Many great ideas came out of this session, and we have started putting them into practice. A Joint Meeting of EGMP Task Forces was organised remotely in December 2022 to allow for their members to share species updates and upcoming projects. Happy about the positive feedback, we will continue maintaining this close friendship between TFFs.

**EGM Side Event at AEWA MOPs in Budapest – 26-30 September 2022**

Part of the EGMP team travelled to Budapest to support the running of the AEWA MOPs and organise an EGMP side event. It was the EGMP Coordinator Ms Eva Meyers, the Head of the EGMP Data Centre Dr Jesper Madsen and the Coordinator of the Greyling Goose Task Force Ms Ellen Hove Sørensen who guided the attendees into the fascinating and complex world of EGMP, carefully explaining its main concepts and the processes behind.

**EGM IWG Chair**

We have been so lucky to have the most brilliant and supportive Chair that we just could not let him go! Warmest thanks to Dr Des Thompson from UK for kindly agreeing to carry on with his responsibilities for another year.

We are also pleased and excited to confirm that at EGM IWG8 in June 2023, Sweden will take over the role of the EGM IWG Chair.

**EGM Modelling Consortium meetings**

The EGMP Modelling Consortium, which consists of 17 researchers from 8 Range States, has already met 2 times since EGM IWG7. The first meeting in September had a focus on the damage impact models for Barnacle Goose and Greylag Goose, status of work and ways of presenting the results. More on this at the webinar in spring 2023 and at EGM IWG8.

The second meeting in October had a focus on Greylag Goose, preliminary results from the first summer counts in Management Unit 1 and the status of the flyway decision model. Updates on this will be given at EGM IWG8, where the first Greylag Goose assessment at management unit level will be presented.

**News on projects in 2022**

In 2022, we have put great efforts into making the move to a flyway decision model at management unit level for Greylag Goose, understanding the relationship between goose numbers and damage and ways of mitigating damage and risk. Below is the overview of all the projects:

- **Flyway decision model for Greylag Goose by Aarhus University**
- **Impact in the flyway decision model for Greylag Goose by Jérôme François de la Huchonnais (INRAE) and Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO-KNAW)**
- **Summer counts of Greylag Goose in the Nordic countries** (The project in Denmark by Aarhus University)
- **GPS tracking of Greylag Goose by Aarhus University**
- **Damage impact model for the Greenland and Svalbard Barnacle Goose populations by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research and Naturvet**
- **Investigating the indirect effects of goose disturbance and goose grazing on agricultural damages in the Netherlands 2018-2021 NIOO**
- **How the combination of accommodation areas and scaring/disruption shooting can be used to manage goose damage by grass and cereals by Aarhus University**
- **Investigating how scaring and disruption activities can be improved to keep geese away from the airport area in Copenhagen, by Aarhus University and Copenhagen Airport**

**Establishment of Ad-Hoc Group for Communications**

In spring 2022, we sent out a questionnaire to the EGM IWG asking a number of important questions on EGMP. Turns out that our communications efforts are in need of improvement. As a result, at EGM IWG7 an ad-hoc group was established to determine ways of addressing the issue. The group will focus on a communication strategy, restructuring of the website and production of briefing notes and fact sheets. If you are interested in becoming a member and sharing your ideas with us, do not shy away – the membership is open and all it takes is dropping us a line.

**EGMP Webinars**

EGMP webinars came to life as an idea from the EGMP Task Forces in response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, we continued this fantastic initiative, organising new webinars dedicated to general topic of EGMP and adaptive management. You will find recordings of all our webinars on the [EGMP Youtube channel](#). See below for the upcoming webinars in 2023.

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**What does 2023 hold for the EGMP?**

**EGMP Webinars**

- **10 January 2023** – Webinar on Geese and Risks to Air Safety – What is already being done and what can we do to improve air safety?
- **March-April 2023 (date tbc)** – Webinar on Barnacle and Greylag Goose Impact Models – Understanding the link between population level and damages.
- **21 May 2023** – Webinar on EGMP and EGM IWG8 documents – Learn about the EGMP and "get dressed" for EGM IWG8.

**EGM IWG8**

We know you have been wondering as well where our next annual meeting will take us. The EGMP team is in close communication with a potential host-country, hoping to reveal the news in early 2023. Until then, do not forget to block the week of 18-23 June 2023 in your calendar!

**EGMP Briefing Notes**

A series of communication materials focused on EGMP species, processes and documents is in the making. Please stay tuned and regularly check our website.

**New National Reporting format**

In 2023, we will be moving to a new, more straightforward and dynamic format for the EGMP national reporting. The Task Forces and EGM IWG members will shortly receive more information about the timelines and workflow.

**Thank you for being with us and we are looking forward to working with you in 2023!**

**For questions or inquiries please contact:**

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## Briefing Notes

- Population status and management recommendations 2022



The cover of the briefing note features a dark grey header with the AEWA logo and the text 'AEWA European Goose Management Platform'. Below this, the title 'Briefing Note' is prominently displayed, followed by the subtitle 'Population status and management recommendations 2022'. The main body of the cover is a photograph of a large flock of pink-footed geese flying over a body of water. The bottom left corner includes the copyright notice '© J.P. Kjeldsen'.



The content page features a photograph of pink-footed geese in flight on the left side. The main text area on the right includes a 'Background' section, a 'Status of the Svalbard Population of Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)' section, and a 'Management decisions for the Svalbard population of Pink-footed Goose from EGM IWG7 in 2022' section. A line graph is positioned between the status and management sections.

### Background

The EGMP Population Status and Offtake Assessment Report provides the status, offtake assessment and management recommendations for the goose populations managed under the EGMP. The information covers aspects related to population status, survival, productivity, as well as assessment of the cumulative impact of derogation and legal hunting and, for some populations, management recommendations.

This briefing note provides the main results and management guidance and/or recommendation.

### Status of the Svalbard Population of Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)

The May 2022 population estimate was 71,393 (59,753 – 86,621), which is lower than the May 2021 estimate of 79,122 (60,785 – 91,169). Population size has been relatively stable since implementation of the adaptive harvest management program in 2013. Harvests and harvest rates were increasing prior to the implementation of the adaptive harvest management program in 2013, but have been somewhat stable since. In 2021, the estimated post-breeding proportion of young was a near-record-low of 0.15 (0.13 – 0.16), following only 2 days above freezing in May in Svalbard. The recommended harvest quota for the 2022/2023 hunting season, based on the estimated population size and 11 days above freezing in Svalbard in May 2022, is 19,400. Using an agreed upon allocation of the total quota, harvest quotas for Norway and Denmark this year would be 5,820 and 13,580, respectively.



The graph shows the abundance of Svalbard Pink-footed Geese from 1990 to 2020. The y-axis represents 'Abundance (thousands)' ranging from 30 to 100. The x-axis represents 'Year' from 1990 to 2020. Two data series are plotted: May (orange line) and November (green line). Both series show a general upward trend with significant fluctuations. A horizontal dashed line at 60,000 represents the goal. Two shaded grey bands around the goal line indicate stakeholder satisfaction levels: a dark grey band for near-complete satisfaction and a light grey band for ≥ 1/3 of maximum satisfaction.

Figure 1. Estimates of abundance of Svalbard Pink-footed Geese in May and November, relative to the goal of 60,000 (95% credible intervals are indicated by the dashed lines). The dark grey band centered on the goal defines near-complete stakeholder satisfaction with population sizes, while the light grey band exhibits ≥ 1/3 of maximum satisfaction.

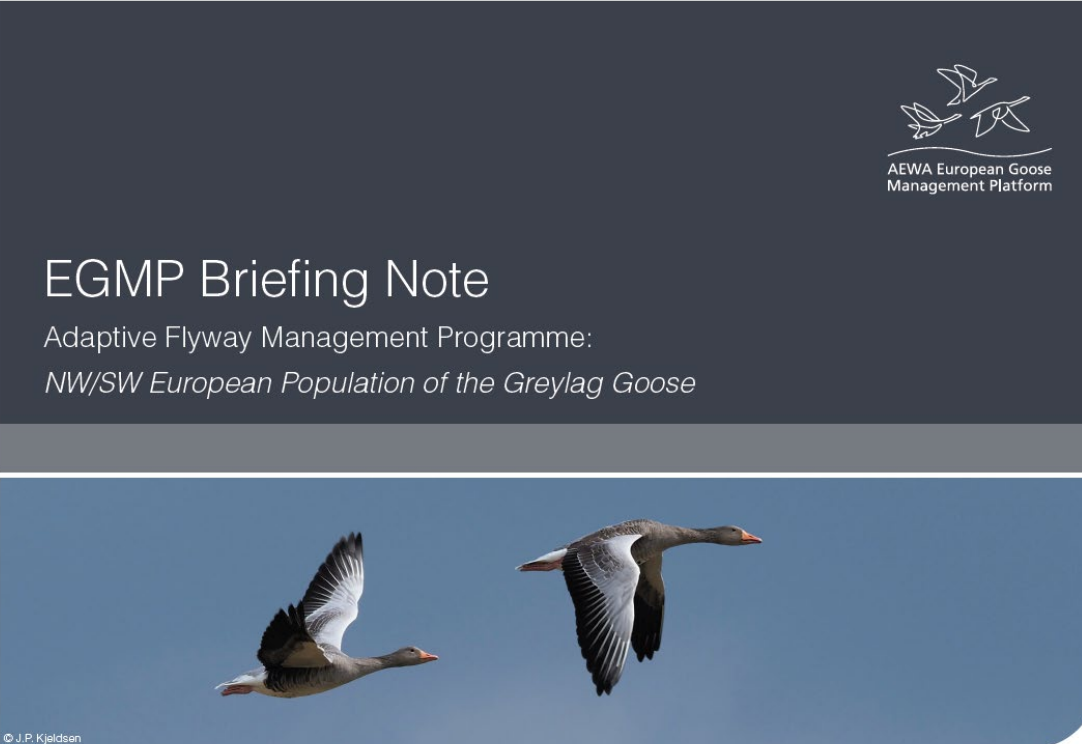
### Management decisions for the Svalbard population of Pink-footed Goose from EGM IWG7 in 2022

The EGM IWG agreed on a harvest quota of 19,400 individuals for 2022-2023 (5,820 for Norway and 13,580 for Denmark).



## Briefing Notes

- Greylag Goose AFMP

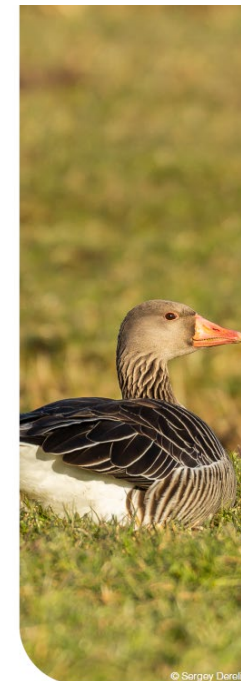


AEWA European Goose Management Platform

### EGMP Briefing Note

Adaptive Flyway Management Programme:  
*NW/SW European Population of the Greylag Goose*

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**Class:** Aves  
**Order:** Anseriformes  
**Family:** Anatidae  
**Binomial name:** *Anser anser*

### Background

The AEWA International Single Species Management Plan (ISSMP) for the NW/SW European Population of the Greylag Goose was developed due to a recent increase in population size from an estimated 120,000-130,000 individuals in the 1980s to around 960,000 individuals in the 2010s. This caused increasing concerns regarding agriculture conflicts and air safety. The AEWA ISSMP was adopted in 2018 and provided a mandate to develop a related Adaptive Flyway Management Programme (AFMP). As a result, a six-year iterative programme (2020-2026) became formally adopted by the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG), using monitoring and modelling to record and evaluate developments in the population size and relevant aspects regarding human-wildlife conflicts. For this population, two Management Units (MUs) were defined, one for migratory birds breeding in the Scandinavian countries (MU1) and one for the mainly sedentary breeding birds in Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and France (MU2).

### Objectives

The AFMP allows national and regional administrations to take a unified approach to meeting the fundamental objectives of the ISSMP. The ISSMP objectives are primarily to maintain the population at a satisfactory level whilst also taking into account what matters to a range of stakeholders. The AFMP facilitates the setting of targets, and the processing of data needed for the development of population and impact models, population size and 11 days above freezing in Svalbard in May 2022, is 19,400. Using an agreed upon allocation of the total quota, harvest quotas for Norway and Denmark this year would be 5,820 and 13,580, respectively.

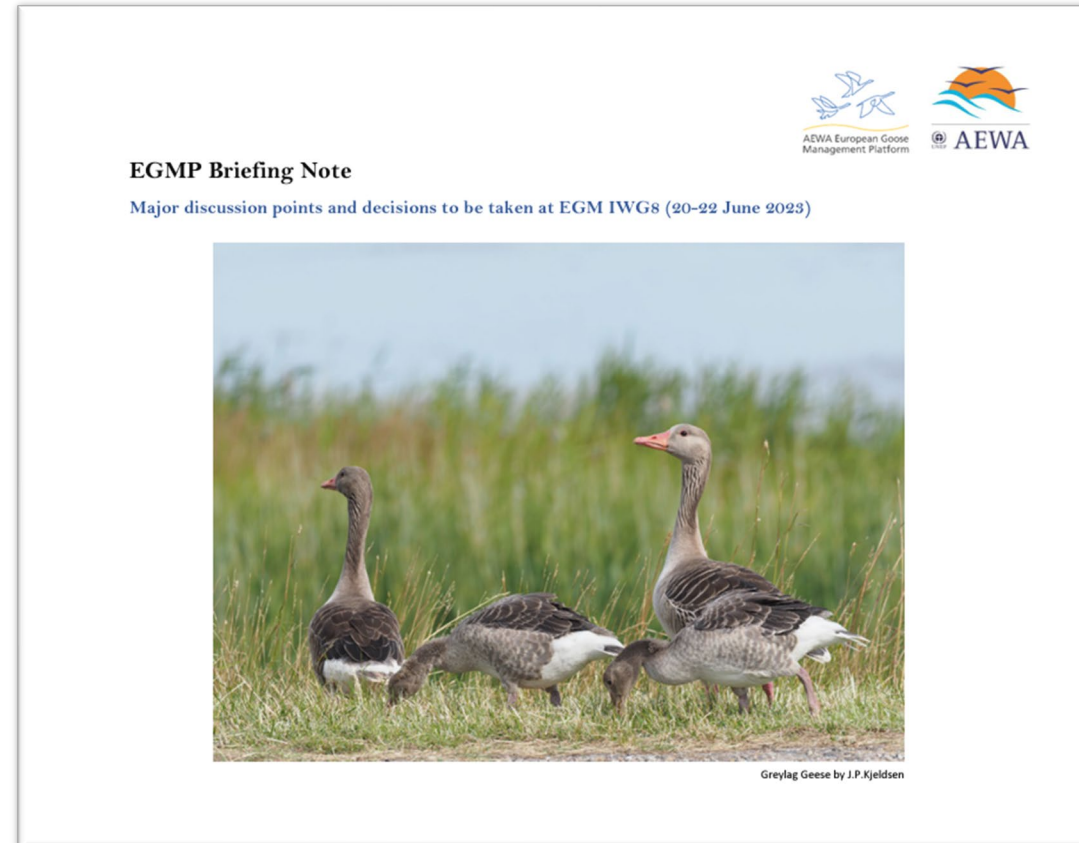
### Aims

The AFMP aims to:

- Establish beneficial relations and objectives between stakeholder groups like farmers and hunters, as well as government representatives and researchers.
- Define MUs and establish hierarchical Favourable Reference Values (FRVs) and population targets at flyway, MU and national levels, to ensure national targets are consistent with flyway targets and legal requirements at all levels.
- Establish an internationally coordinated population management programme for both MUs, including off-take under hunting and, if necessary, under derogations, involving monitoring, assessment and decision-making protocols.
- Establish indicators to assess progress toward the Fundamental Objectives and guide the implementation of further activities of the ISSMP through population-

## Briefing Notes


- Major discussion points and decisions to be taken at EGM IWG8





## Webinars

- Webinar on Geese and Air Safety on 10 January 2023





### EGMP Webinar

## Geese and Risks to Air Safety

10 January 2023, 13-16 hours (CET)

Chair: Jesper Madsen, Head of EGMP Data Centre based at Aarhus University, Denmark



Jesper Madsen

#### Programme

**13:00 - 13:15** Introduction – the goose situation  
*Jesper Madsen, EGMP Data Centre*

**13:15 - 13:45** Geese and flight safety from a governmental perspective  
*Albert de Hoon, Civil Aviation Authority, The Netherlands*

**13:45 - 14:15** Geese control at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, the Netherlands  
*Yvonne Versteeg & Rosanne Blijleven, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol*

**14:15 - 14:25** Break

**14:25 - 14:55** Problems with geese in Copenhagen Airport, Denmark  
*Mogens Hansen, Copenhagen Airport*

**14:55 - 15:25** Problems with geese in Trondheim Airport, Norway

## Webinars

- Webinar on Goose Damage Impact on 19 June 2023

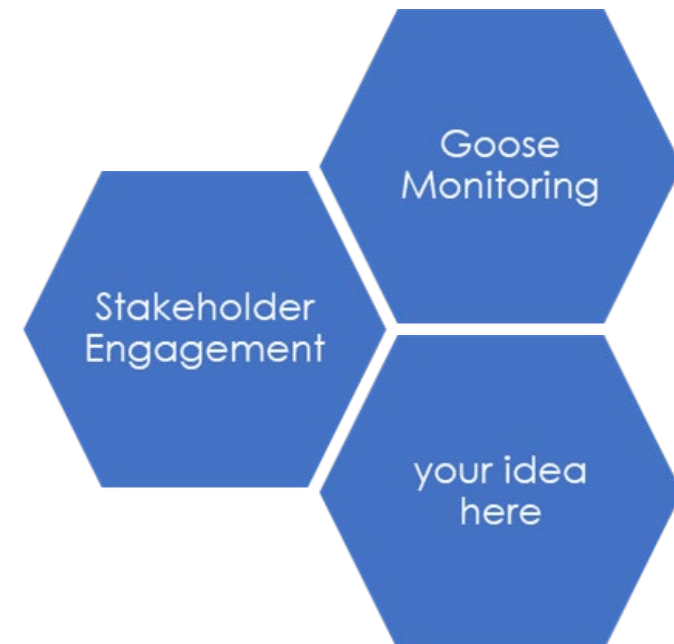




## Webinars

- Webinar on Geese and Air Safety on 10 January 2023
- Webinar on Goose Damage Impact on 19 June 2023

Ideas for new webinars:



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## Webinars



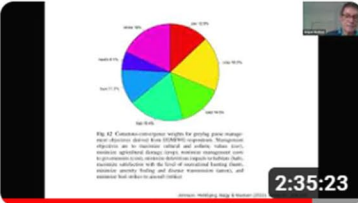
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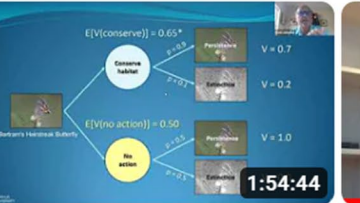
EGMP Webinar "Geese and Risks to Air Safety"

44 views • 5 months ago




Webinar "EGMP: The Platform's Structure,..."

25 views • 1 year ago



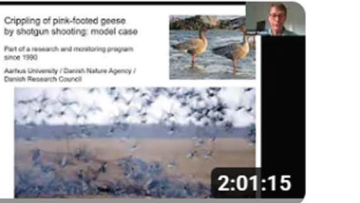
AEWA EGMP Webinar "Adaptive Management:..."

41 views • 1 year ago



AEWA European Goose Management Platform...

171 views • 1 year ago



AEWA European Goose Management Platform...

112 views • 1 year ago



## EGMP Website Upgrade

- Changes in structure and design
- New website needs to be populated – help needed from EGMP Task Forces to:
  1. Update the existing content (species info, TF descriptions)
  2. Make suggestions on new content & “feed” the News section

<https://egmp-d9.aewa.info/>



## EGMP Communications Group – Future Work

- Decision Table from EGM IWG8

### Ideas:

- Produce more Highlights with updates on all projects (similar to a newsletter)
- All documents longer than 10 pages to be summarized in a briefing note/fact sheet
- Developing a workflow for getting the success stories out (e.g. a communications focal point in each Task Force)
- Translating existing communications & outreach materials into Range State languages
- Adding latest publications from Range States on the website (with summaries in English)

Thank you for your contributions!!!

