



AFMP – GG

**Report and Recommendations of the GG TF –
Coordinator of the GG TF, Iben Hove Sorensen**

Report and Recommendation of the Greylag Goose TF
Doc. AEWA/EGMIWG/8.13

Membership and meetings

- 27 members
 - Eight range states represented, including one observer range state – Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden & Spain
 - Five observer organisations represented – FACE, Nordic Hunters' Alliance, OMPO, Wetlands International & CIC
 - Data Centre & AEWA Secretariat
- Two online meetings since EGM IWG 7 (Feb and May 2023)
- One joint meeting with all TFs (Dec 2023)
- One in-person meeting (June 2023)

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Key activities of the GG TF 2022/23

- Meetings
- Supporting ongoing work by:
 - providing feedback to progress reports presented by Fred Johnson on Coordinating Offtake of the NW/SW European Population of Greylag Geese
 - assisting Range States in defining utility (i.e., stakeholder satisfaction) as a function of population size in both Management Units
 - receiving and commenting on updates from the Data Centre and the Modelling Consortium
 - participating in the EGMP webinar on Geese and Risks to Air Safety (Jan 2023)

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Key activities of the GG TF 2022/23

- Updating workplans
 - GG TF
 - National workplans
- Contributing to the review of the following documents submitted to EGM IWG8:
 - EGMP Population Status and Offtake Assessment Report 2023
 - The TF Report and Recommendations

The Greylag Goose TF recommends that

- All Range States strive to provide the necessary data and a description of methods as brought forward in the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report:
 - Reliable offtake estimates by country and biannual period (spring-summer: March-August and fall-winter: September-February) for the most recent five calendar years, clearly separating leisure hunting and derogation killing;
 - Summer or early autumn abundance by country for those conducting such surveys; all years in which they are available
 - Post-breeding age ratios for all years and countries where available (should include counts of young and total sample size)
 - Winter counts for all years and countries where available
 - A short description of the methods for collecting such data (except for winter counts, while protocols are well-known).

Other recommendations from the GG TF

- All Range States should focus on offtake-strategies minimising the need for breeding-season derogation (those with high winter offtake), as long as an agreed protocol for harvest assessment including coordination hereof is lacking.
- The GG TF should continue to exchange general information and experiences with the other species-specific Task Forces and the Agriculture Task Force to strengthen the relations between EGMP Task Forces and benefit from the work already carried out (crippling, crop damage).
- The GG TF should actively promote material such as the recorded EGMP webinars and briefing notes.
- Use of the EGMP workspace should be promoted.

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TF Workplan 2023/24

Actions from the ISSMP	Priority	Timescale	Greylag Goose Task Force
2.3 Apply scaring and land management techniques to reduce the attractiveness of sensitive areas, monitoring the implications of such local displacement for conflicts at wider scale	High	Short / Rolling	Sharing experience / Coordination with other TFs
3.2 Establish an internationally coordinated programme to assess agricultural damage including monitoring and assessment protocols	High	Short	
3.3 Liaise with farmers affected by goose damages to reduce agricultural conflicts	High	Short / Rolling	Cross-cutting TFs, share information
4.3 Improve effectiveness of population control measures through experimenting with different timing and methods and better understanding the relative efficacy of lethal versus non-lethal scaring techniques	High	Medium	Exchange information and experience through webinar. Collate and summarise results (possibly workshop, if time and resources allow - cross-cutting with Agri TF)
4.4 Promote best practices of goose hunting including timing to minimize damage and significant disturbance to other species	Medium	Medium / Rolling	Exchange information and experience. Collate, summarise results (possibly workshop, time + resources needed)
4.5 Maintain low crippling rates	High	Medium / Rolling	Exchange information and experience with PFG TF. Investigate GG crippling rates.
4.6 Develop hunting techniques to further reduce crippling	Medium	Long / Rolling	Exchange information and experience. Collate, summarise results (possibly workshop, time and resources needed)
A.1 Produce and update periodically spatially explicit population size estimates based on agreed international monitoring	Essential	Short / Rolling	Consultation
A.2 Maintain an annually updated bag statistics database including geese harvested by any means	Essential	Ongoing / Rolling	Consultation
A.3 Maintain a spatially explicit database on goose damage to agriculture, other flora and fauna and risk to air safety	Essential	Medium / Rolling	Liaise with Agri TF. Some Range States already have relevant databases or collated information (France, the Netherlands, Norway).
C.1 Develop and implement a communication strategy and plan	Medium	Short / Rolling	Produce scientific papers - outreach to wider community - then member states can use the info to reach national stakeholders - improve and use the EGMP website news section, publish results, content, scientific results, outputs, not only announce meeting. Continue the outreach activities already taking place in several Range States.

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TF Workplan 2023/24

- Encourage all Range States to improve and provide the necessary data
- Seek to collaborate on reducing crippling rates of goose species
- Investigate GG crippling rates
- Keep the online workplan active and updated between meetings
- Participate in and contribute to TF webinars (cross-cutting issues)
- Improve data on agricultural damage and risk of airstrikes

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Summary

The Greylag Goose TF Report and Recommendations

- Provides an overview of the status and key activities that the Greylag Goose Task Force has undertaken since EGM IWG7 in June 2022.
- Provides an overview of the actions recommended by the Greylag Goose Task Force
- Presents a proposal for the TF Workplan for 2023/2024.

Action requested from the EGM IWG:

- **Take note of the Task Force Report and Recommendations and adopt the proposed TF Workplan for 2023/24**



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Discussion and adoption of documents

Action requested from the EGM IWG

- The EGM IWG is requested to take note of the Task Force report and recommendations and adopt the annual workplan.
- The EGM IWG is requested to take note of the Population Status and Offtake Assessment Report.

Action requested from the EGM IWG

The EGM IWG is requested to take note of the AFMP status report, acknowledge the proposed timeline for deadlines in 2023-2024 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. Discussion on use and way forward for damage impact models and knowledge gap for Greylag Goose (see recommendations from the impact report, document AEW A/EGMIWG/Inf.8.15).
2. Outstanding from 2022/2023: Systematic monitoring in place and development of factsheets is not in place due to some monitoring activities are still missing from some Range States (see the EGMP Population Status and Assessment Report for a full overview of data availability);
3. Discussion of harvest protocol including “coordinate” offtake when needed.