

Taiga Bean Goose Session

Report and Recommendations from the TBG Task Force

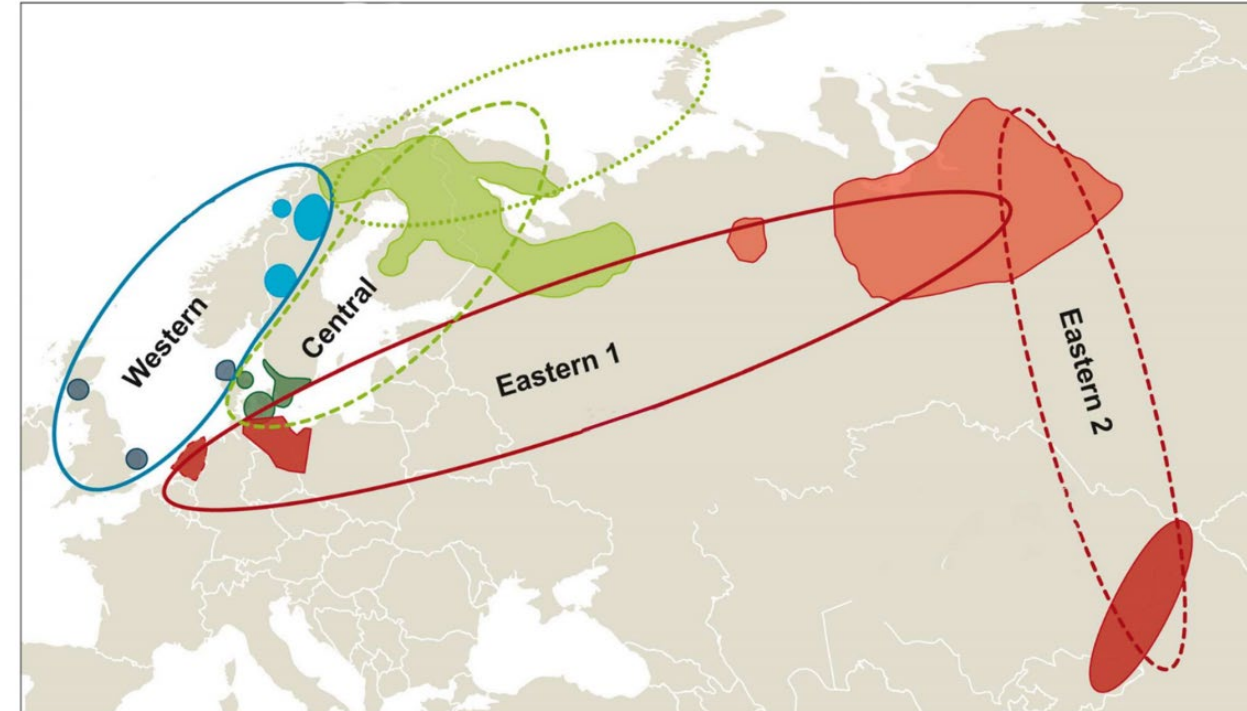
Coordinator TBG TF

Mikko Alhainen, Finnish Wildlife Agency

Document title
Doc. AEWA/EGMIWG/8.10/EGMIWG/XX

Introduction

- Overview of the work since the EGM IWG7
- Recommendations of the TBG TF



Status in terms of AHM

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

What happened 2022-2023

- TBG TF: 3 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.
 - Update on the progress in relation to the recommendations of IWG7
 - Counts have been continued and other good work done in the Range states – Thank you!
 - Additional points
 - Emerging discussion on the status of former “Eastern 2 Management Unit”, there is contradictory evidence on the taxonomy of the ‘population’ – discussion to be continued based on further information
 - Preparation of the evaluation of the TBG ISSAP

TF Recommendations

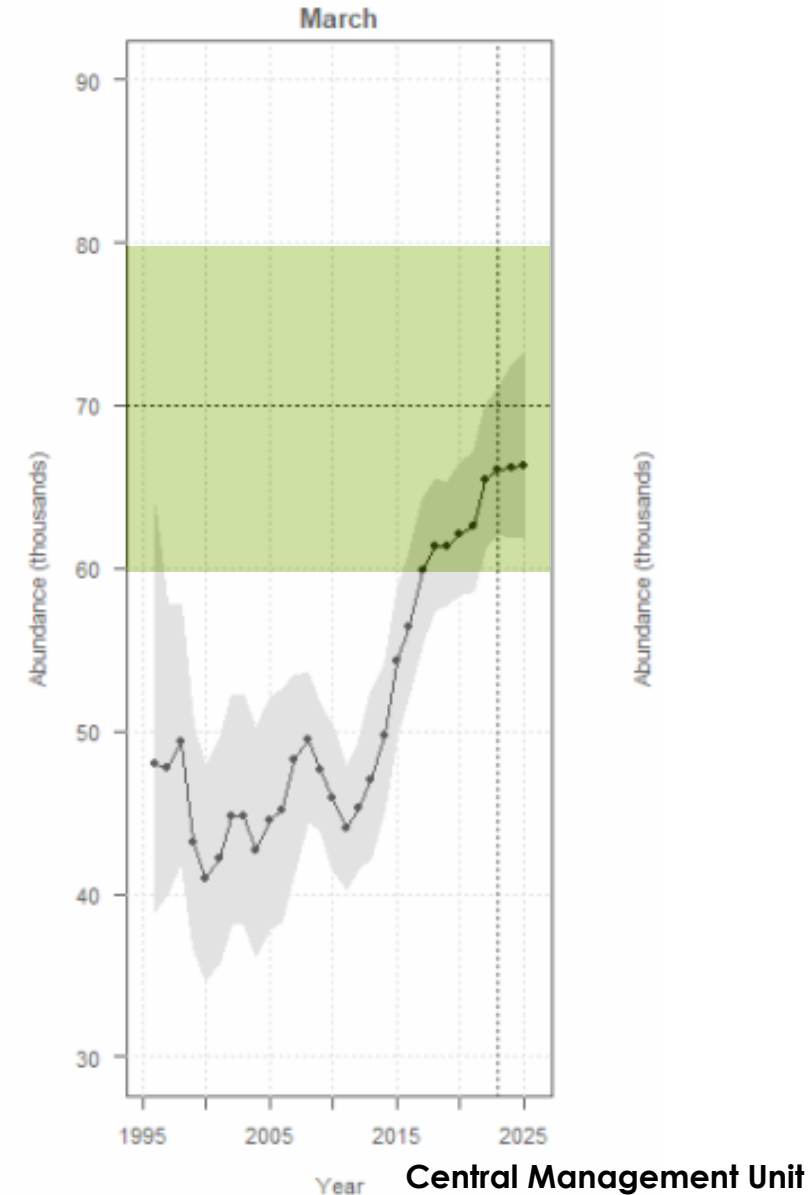
Non-AHM

- Strengthen and continue January counts in all MUs for the delineation of MU's in overlapping wintering areas & population size estimates;
- Continue October and March counts in CMU in foreseeable future for the data generation for the IPM and prepare to extend the coordinated counts to Finland and Denmark if relevant for robust population monitoring;
 - Note findings of the study of Piironen et al. 2022: "*censuses might have underestimated the true population size*" --> Please refer to the recommendations of the study when planning how to develop the counts <https://www.utupub.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/174481/DissAnnales%20All%20396%20Piironen.pdf?sequence=1>
- In co-operation with the AEWA Secretariat
 - implement the ISSAP evaluation data collection and analysis;
 - raise funds and prepare the workplan for the ISSAP extension/update/revision for 2024-2025.
- Continue all the good work in the Range States!

TF Recommendations AHM

Background

- **Population target 60 000 – 80 000**
 - **March 2023 at ~66 k**
- Model approaching carrying capacity
→ harvestable surplus declines while population grows
 - Underestimation of the population size?



TF Recommendations

AHM

Harvest quota	Annual total quota	FI	SE	DK
	1000	580	300	120

- With following notes for the Range States:
- ***The Taiga Bean Goose Central Management Unit population estimate of 66,166 (62,078 – 70,985) is well within the population target of 60-80 thousand birds.***
- ***The total quota reflects harvest which stabilizes population size in the situation where population estimate is close to modelled carrying capacity, while noting the new studies indicating underestimation of the population size in the current counts.***
- ***Due to the status of the population and modelled dynamics any harvest below 5000 birds will, on average, maintain the population above 60 thousand birds and within the population target boundaries.***

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Future development of the AHM

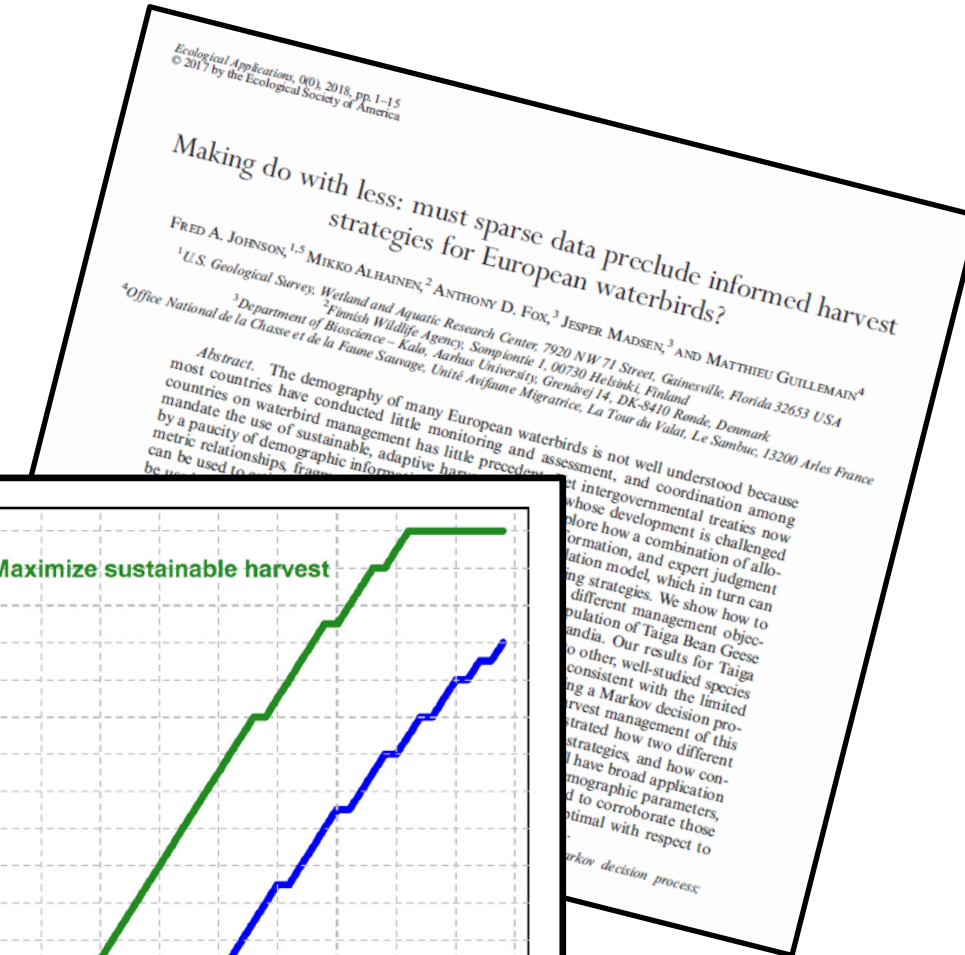
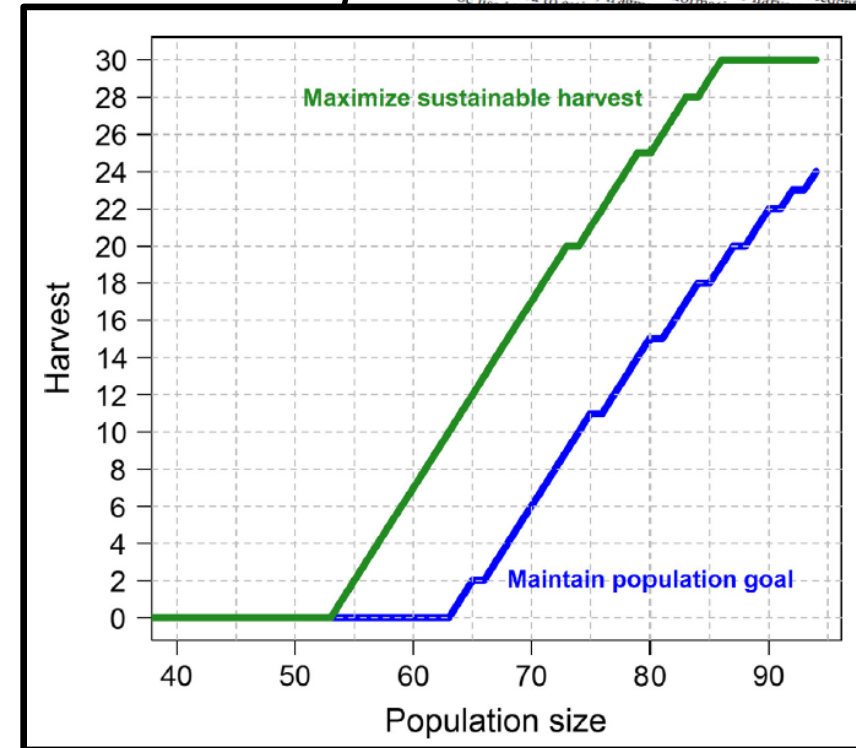
20-22 June 2023
EGM IWG8
Bonn, Germany



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>.



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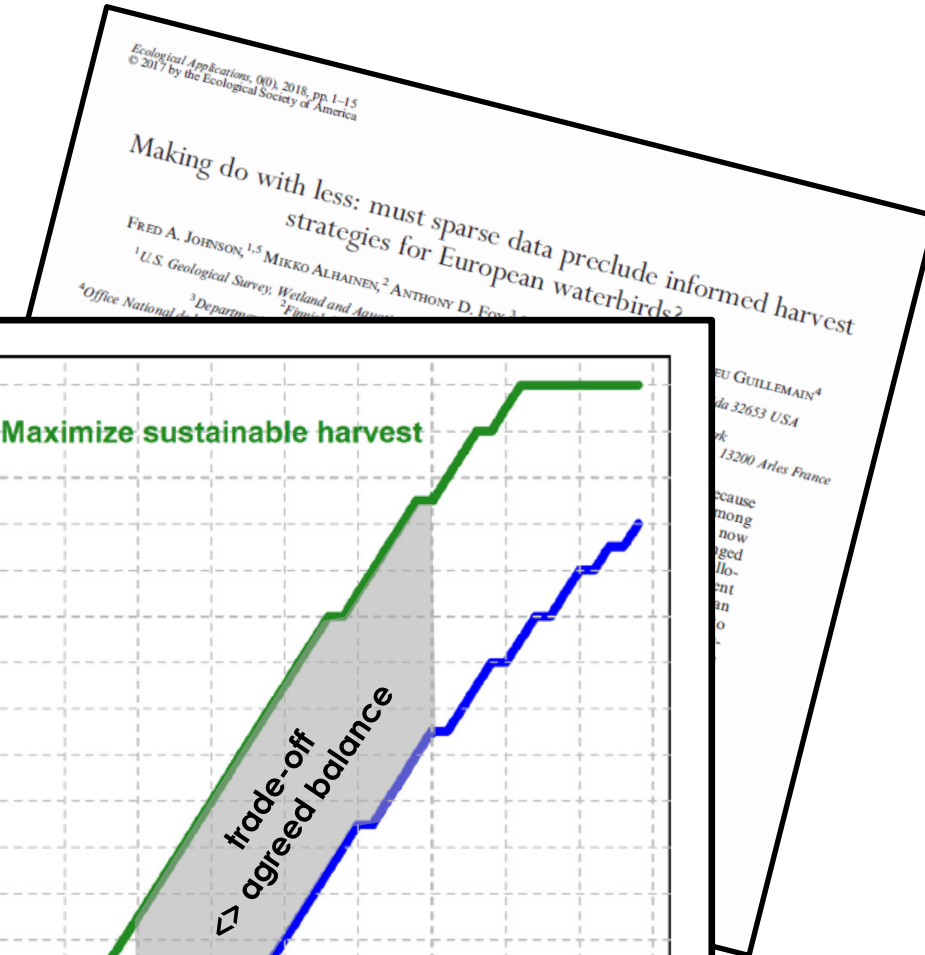
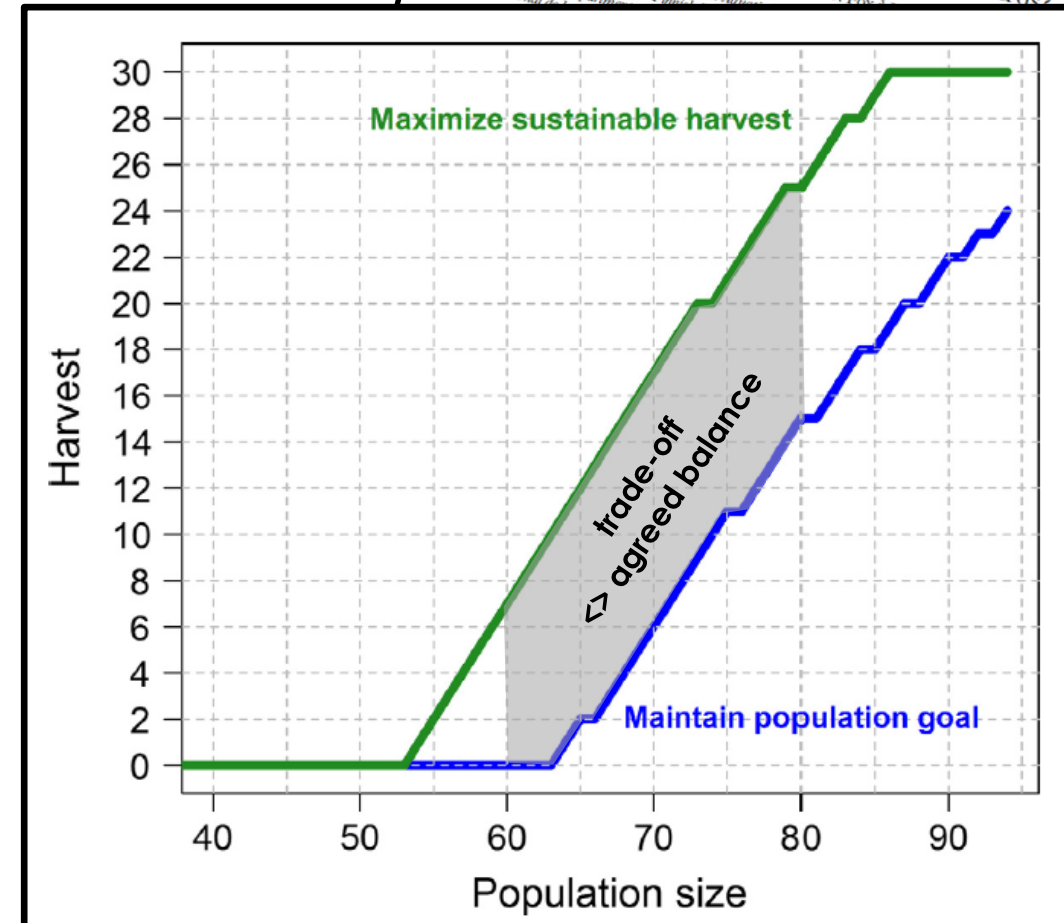
Future development of the AHM

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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 2 years in respect to available resources.



TBG TF Workplan for 2023/2024

- The Taiga Bean Goose Task Force foresees to continue active working to support the implementation of the
 - ISSAP
 - **evaluation and revision of the ISSAP**
 - non-AHM workplan
 - recommended activities.
 - **Supporting the development of the counts**
 - **Preparation of the discussion on the trade-off between population size and harvest objectives.**
- 3 meetings is planned for the period between IWG8 and IWG9 – more if needed

Annex 1. Members of the Taiga Bean Task Force as of May 2023

TBG TF Members

Thank you!

Country	Representative	Affiliation
Denmark	Anthony Fox	Aarhus University
	Iben Hove Sørensen	Danish Hunters Association
	Knud Flensted	BirdLife Denmark
Finland	Mikko Alhainen (TF Coordinator)	Finnish Wildlife Department
	Toni Laaksonen	University of Turku
	Markus Piha	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)
	Antti Piironen	University of Turku
Norway	Ingunn Tombre	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Department of Arctic Ecology
Sweden	Per Risberg	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Ukraine	Vasyl Kostushyn	Institute of Zoology NAS of Ukraine, Department of Monitoring and Conservation of Animals
United Kingdom	Morag Milne (rep for Scotland)	Scottish Natural Heritage
	Bart Donato (rep for England)	Natural England
	Gillian Fisher	Natural England
Wetlands International	Szabolcs Nagy	Wetlands International
Data Centre	Gitte Høj Jensen	Aarhus University
	Fred Johnson	Aarhus University
UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	Eva Meyers	EGMP Coordinator
	Shenay Huseynova	EGMP Programme Assistant