

**Barnacle Goose Task Force**  
*Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population*

**Notes for the Meeting of the Barnacle Goose Task Force**  
*(Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population)*

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| <b>Date and Time:</b>                  | 26 October 2021<br>14:00-15:30 Central European Time   |
| <b>Online meeting convened using:</b>  | GoToMeeting  |
| <b>Chair / Task Force Coordinator:</b> | Ms Wilmar Remmelts   |
| <b>Attendees:</b>                      | Belgium: Floris Verhaeghe, Frank Huysentruyt, Christine Verscheure & Eckhart Kuijken, Denmark: Iben Sørensen; Data Centre: Jesper Madsen, Gitte Høj Jensen, EC: Joseph van der Stegen; FACE: Cy Griffin.; NL: Gerben Mensink, Wilmar Remmelts, Nick Warmelink, Kees Koffijberg, Monique de Jager; Germany: Markus Nipkow, Jutta Leyrer (NABU); Norway: Ingunn Tombre; NJS: Olav Greivstad; Wetlands International: Szabolcs Nagy; AEWA: Eva Meyers |

### **Agenda item 1 – Welcome and Agenda**

The meeting agenda was adopted with no comments from the TF members.

### **Agenda item 2 – Round table**

Wilmar Remmelts announced that she was officially retired and that she only stepped in because the post of the Coordinator of the BG TF was vacant. She mentioned that for the continuation of the work it was vital that someone else in the group overtook the position of the new coordinator.

The members of the TF gave a short overview from each country with little updates to report on.

The Secretariat reported that Mr Henning Heldbjerg from the Data Centre had moved on to other tasks at the Aarhus University. Gitte has now taken over his EGMP-related responsibilities and represents the DC in this TF.

The Secretariat is busy with the EGM IWG6 follow up. The report of the meeting is now online, the updated documents (incl. the BG AFMP) will follow soon.

### **Agenda item 3 – Updates Data and AFMPs**

#### *Status of the Impact models*

Ms Monique de Jager from the NL (part of the Dutch Research Consortium) gave a presentation on the status of the impact models: barnacle geese foraging in Friesland. The presentation included an overview of Friesland's farmer – goose conflict. The full presentation is provided as an attachment to the meeting notes.

### The EGMP Database

The EGMP Data Centre has developed an EGMP Database website where all datasets from the populations managed under EGMP are provided. This includes raw data sheets as well as a metadata sheet with a description of variables, available methods, etc. It also includes an explanation on the policy on using the data that is available and a link to the GITLAB page where scripts with all codes are available.

The purpose of this database is to increased transparency in the EGMP processes, given that data is open access for everyone. The link to this website will be circulated soon by the DC.

### Adaptive Flyway Management Programme – next steps in the process

The Data Centre provided a background on the AFMP and its objectives (see PPT). MU2 and MU3 are below the 200% threshold – i.e. Coordination among Range States is required. The AFMP cycle was presented as well as the immediate steps in the process. A first assessment is to be done in 2022 and then every 3 years. The Project is led by the Dutch Research Consortium in collaboration with the DC

### Cumulative assessment of derogations – role of the Task Force and next steps

The Secretariat gave an introduction to the cumulative assessment of derogations mentioned in the AFMP and the decisions taken at the EGM IWG6. A mandate was given to this Task Force to discuss and agree on a possible process to assess the cumulative impact of derogations and inform the EGMP Range States.

The EC clarified that there is no intention to develop a guidance on application of Article 9. However, it is necessary to monitor the population and assess the impact of derogations. This information should be provided to the RS. The information could for example be provided as part of the annual population assessments submitted to the EGM IWG each year.

The EC further suggested to have discussions with the Member States to raise attention on risks and to collaborate with the system.

FACE added as an observation that this process should be about sharing information, best available data, to allow Range States to make the right choices. The definition about the term “coordination”, which has been added to the AFMP of the Barnacle Goose following a decision at EGM IWG6, is about sharing information in both directions.

Ms Rimmelts suggested that this TF should look into the wording and the definition of the term “coordination” once again properly and add this as a discussion point to the upcoming TF meeting.

It was suggested that the EGMP should prepare an information note on all the background and include the information presented in the presentations given during this agenda item.

Mr Nagy suggested that the TF should talk through this issue in a more concrete and thought through way. Think about what the reaction will be and what the available tools and actions are, to be used and implemented. What is the tolerance level? Think in practical terms, what coordination in practice would mean, not only in a theoretical way.

### Data overview

There was no time left to discuss this agenda item, thus it will be covered in the next meeting of the BG TF.

The table below provides and update on the missing data and will be up for discussion during the next meeting.

|                        | RU | FI | EE | SE | NO  | DK | DE | NL | BE | Action needed   |
|------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|---|
| <b>Counts</b>          |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |   |
| January (winter)       |    |    |    | x  | x   | x  | !  | x  | x  | Closing gap German counts 2017 onwards<br>Setting up census in SE (no old data) and DK (some data present); in DE partially published information but no data delivery. |
| July-August (summer)   |    | x  |    | !  | x   | !  | ~  | x  | ~  | However, estimate of size MU3 well possible (counts BE will resume)   |
| <b>Productivity</b>    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |   |
| MU1 & MU2 (Oct-Dec)    |    |    |    |    |     |    | x  | x  |    | samples in wintering flocks   |
| MU2 specific (Jul-Aug) |    | x  |    | !  | x   | !  |    |    |    | Setting up samples in SE and DK in DE partially published information but no data delivery  |
| MU3 specific (Jul)     |    |    |    |    |     |    | x  | x  |    |   |
| Hunting bags           | !  |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    | retrieve data from RU or calculate numbers shot<br>timely availability, make use of provisional data from the respective countries,                                     |
| Derogations            |    | x  | x  | x  | (x) | x  | x  | x  | x  | differentiation of MUs  |

#### Action Points:

- 1) Secretariat will initiate a discussion with the EC on how to move forward with the cumulative assessment of derogations and how the EGMP process can contribute
- 2) The definition of “coordination” of derogations will be added to the agenda for the next meeting
- 3) Discuss the overview of data during the next TF meeting

#### Agenda item 4 – National Reporting

It was agreed at EGM IWG6 that the Secretariat, Data Centre and TFs will work together on the new process and format for the national reporting. The TF members should get a mandate from the government representatives to keep the workplans up to date. Another possibility could be for TF members to fill out the workplans and NGRs to review them and indicate which activities they agree with.

There was no time left to discuss this agenda item. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda of the next TF meeting.

#### Action Points:

- 1) As agreed at the Greylag Goose Task Force Meeting in October 2021, the Secretariat will produce and circulate to the TF for review a draft document outlining the new national reporting process and format.
- 2) Discuss this point during the next Task Force meeting.

#### Agenda item 5 – Habitat Conservation

Prof. Jesper Madsen from the EGMP Data Centre gave a presentation on the Danish project on Integrated Adaptive Management of Barnacle Geese in Southeast Denmark 2019-2021. The results of this project are planned to be published as peer review articles soon. This work also answers some of the questions asked in Box 1 of the Barnacle Goose AFMP and is looking into alternative ways of managing geese. The full presentation is made available as an attachment to the meeting notes.

## Agenda item 6 – Communication

There was no time left to discuss this agenda item, thus it will be covered in the next meeting of the BG TF.

### Upcoming webinars

Jesper Madsen together with Kevin K. Clausen, Ove Martin Gundersen and Sander Moonen is organising a webinar on crippling. The webinar will take place on **11 November from 10-12 CET**. The webinar is open to public. The Secretariat has circulated an invitation.

The Agriculture TF is also organising a webinar on agricultural damage and conflict. The webinar will be held on 9 December 2021 from 10 – 13 CET. Heinz Düttman, Frank Ahlhorn, Lovisa Nielsson and Johan Mansson are taking the lead in organisation of the webinar.

Goose monitoring could be a topic for a webinar to be organised by the GG TF and the BG TF.

### Communication

The Secretariat is working on updating the EGMP website. TF members are welcome to point out sections that could benefit from updates and make any website-related suggestions.

TF meetings notes will also be added to the website.

The Secretariat will also be working on the briefing notes on AFMPs requested at the EGM IWG6 as well as factsheets on EGMP species.

TF members could also lead on or contribute to these documents.

### **Action Points:**

- 1) Discuss this point during the next Task Force meeting.
- 2) TF members to think about which briefing notes they would like to work on
- 3) TF members to review the EGMP website and suggest updates

## Agenda item 7– New Task Force Coordinator

Since Ms Rimmelts will be retiring, there is an urgent need to find a new Coordinator for this Task Force. The Secretariat cannot cover this gap, due to the limited capacity. Options were discussed on a time limited term for Coordinators to rotate. A new Coordinator could not be identified yet. However, Mr Kees Koffijberg, agreed to host the next meeting of the TF.

### **Action Point:**

- 1) Find a new Coordinator for the BG Task Force
- 2) Mr Kees Koffijberg to host the next meeting of the Task Force

## Agenda item 8– Next meeting & AoB

### **Action Point:**

The Secretariat will circulate a doodle poll for the next meeting of the TF to be held in end of November / beginning of December 2021.