

**AEWA EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM**



**WORKSHOP FOR THE REVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
SINGLE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR THE SVALBARD POPULATION OF THE  
PINK-FOOTED GOOSE**

*8-9 October, Levanger, Norway*



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**CONSIDERATIONS RAISED DURING THE MEETING OF THE  
EGMP HPAI CONTACT GROUP  
TOWARDS THE REVISION OF THE PINK-FOOTED GOSSE INTERNATIONAL  
SINGLE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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## Background

The European Goose Management International Working Group decided at its ninth meeting, in 2024, that the EGMP Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Contact Group would provide input on preparedness measures during the review process for relevant ISSMPs and ISSAPs. On 2 October 2024, the Contact Group convened to discuss relevant issues for the revision of the Pink-footed Goose International Single Species Management Plan. The considerations listed below were raised during the meeting.

## Potential threats:

- Pink-footed Goose is vulnerable to HPAI.
- Outbreaks pose significant conservation, economic and human health risks.
- Predicting outbreaks is challenging, without long-term monitoring.
- Insufficient monitoring systems in place.
- Limited capacity to respond to outbreaks.
- Lack of resources for effective monitoring and response.

## Possible solutions:

- Establish a long-term monitoring system, including active and passive surveillance, to track baseline indicator levels and detect the early stages of outbreaks.
- Focus monitoring efforts on high-risk areas such as wetlands with high concentrations of birds and roosting sites.
- Consider possibilities of collaboration with veterinary services encouraging their expansion of monitoring to geese (if not already done so).
- Engage volunteers to report observations of dead birds.
- Implement measures to prevent the spread of contamination and minimize the scaring of infected individuals.
- Create simple and user-friendly channels for reporting dead birds and transmitting test results.
- Maintain equipment, testing kits and trained teams ready for HPAI testing and confirmation.
- Develop a response plan with clearly defined roles and responsibilities to enable rapid response to outbreaks.
- Educate the public about HPAI, emphasizing key messages during outbreaks and managing public perceptions.
- Restrict access to areas affected by outbreaks.
- If feasible, remove dead birds to reduce the risk of spreading the virus to other species.
- Invest in scientific research to assess the effectiveness of implemented measures.