



EUROPEAN GOOSE MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

PRESENTERS:

1. EVA MEYERS, EGMP COORDINATOR/ UNEP/AEWA SECRETARIAT
2. JESPER MADSEN, HEAD EGMP DATA CENTRE /AARHUS UNIVERSITY

AEWA provisions underpinning EGMP

Article II.1: “Parties shall take coordinated measures to **maintain** migratory waterbird species in a **favourable conservation status** or to **restore them** to such a status. (...)”

Article III.2(b): “Ensure that **any use of migratory waterbirds** is based on an **assessment of the best available knowledge** of their ecology and **is sustainable** for the species as well as for the ecological systems that support them”



AEWA provisions underpinning EGMP (2)

AEWA Action Plan, para 2.2.1: “Parties shall cooperate with a view to developing and implementing international **single species action plans** for **populations listed in Category 1 of Column A of Table 1** as a priority and for those populations **listed with an asterisk** in Column A of Table 1”

AEWA Action Plan, para 4.3.4: “Parties shall cooperate with a view to developing **single species management plans** for populations which cause **significant damage** (...)”



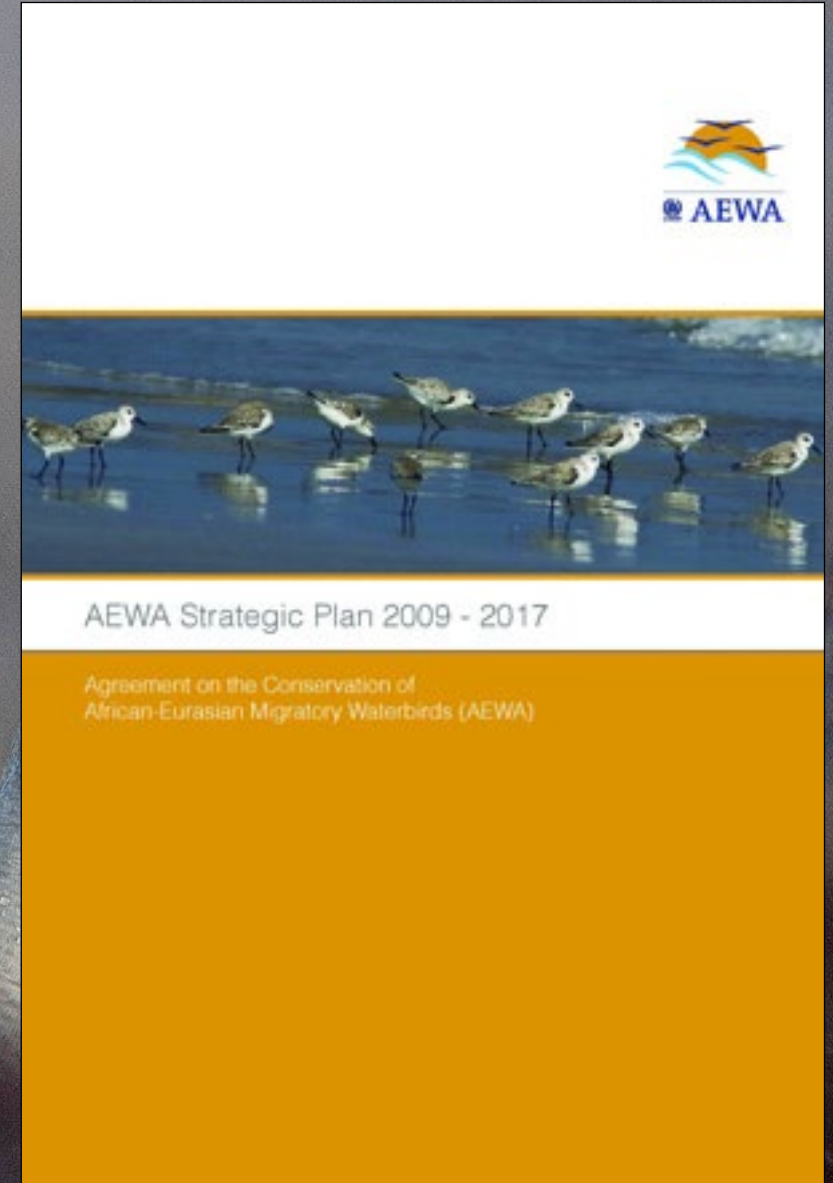
Tangible Adaptive Harvest Management Targets

AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Target 2.5:

“**Adaptive harvest management** of quarry populations is ensured at international level.”

Indicator

“International **harvest management plans** for two quarry populations are developed and implemented”



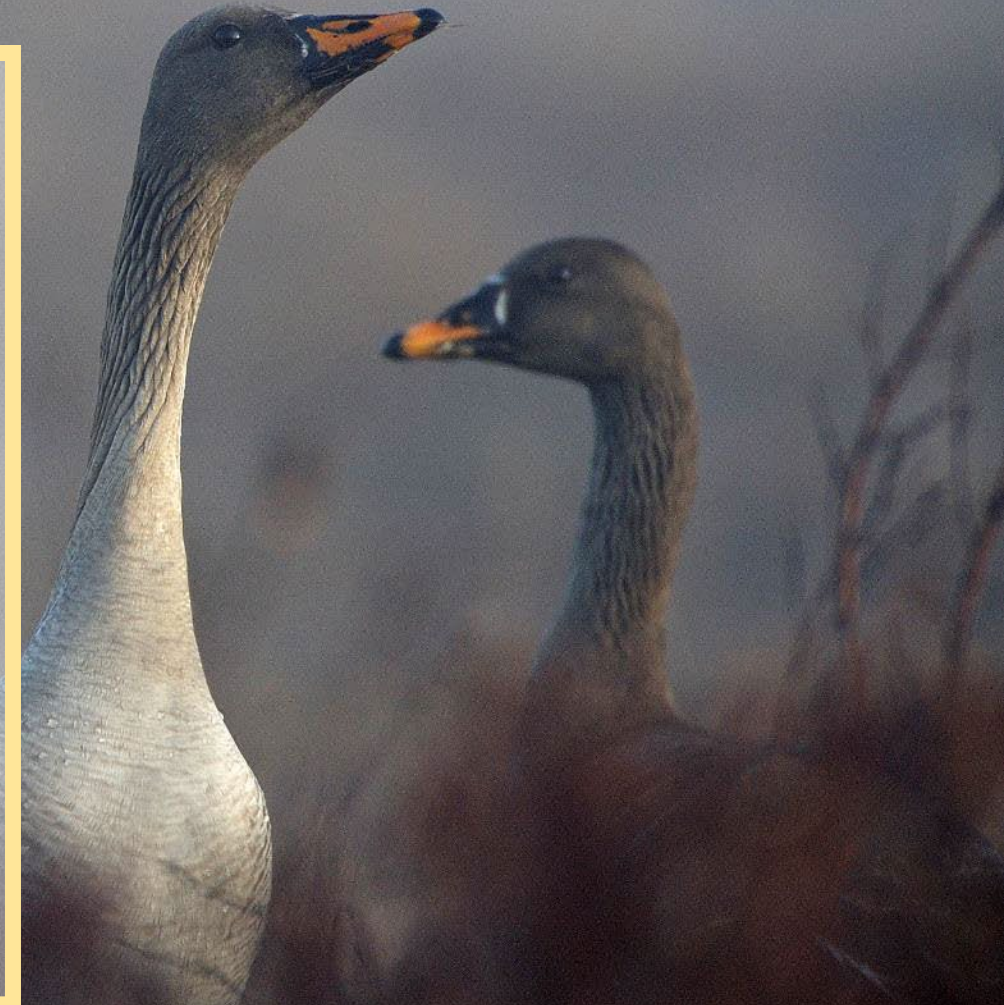
Direct EGMP mandate by MOP6 (2015)

Resolution 6.4: “Requests the Secretariat to facilitate, funding permitting, the establishment of a [European multispecies goose management platform](#) and process to address [sustainable use](#) of goose populations and to provide for the resolution of [human-goose conflict](#)”



European Goose Management Platform Need & Justification

- Goose-human conflicts and ecosystem impacts continue and are becoming more acute and complex
- Geese hold societal value (birdwatching, hunting, ecosystem services)
- Svalbard Pink-footed and Taiga Bean Goose plans were in place and two more were in the pipeline
- For populations, such as Taiga Bean Goose, adaptive harvest management is required by their listings on AEWA
- Lack of coordinated approach to data collation and processing (population size, harvest, derogation shooting)



European Goose Management Platform Need & Justification

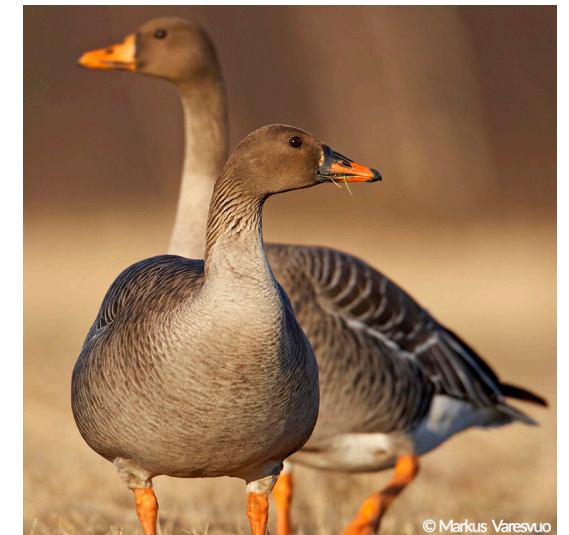
- Some huntable populations have unfavorable conservation status
- Local or national approach would bring no tangible solutions
- Requires structures flyway-scale decision-making process
- A goose management platform can serve as a model for sustainable practicing of waterbird harvest in general



Paris Declaration

Confirmation of commitment and agreement on modalities

The **EGMP** was established at the Paris negotiation meeting in May 2016.



EGMP Goal

Provide the mechanism for a **structured, coordinated and inclusive decision-making and implementation process** for the **sustainable use and management** of goose populations in Europe, with the objective of maintaining them in a **favourable conservation status**, while taking into account **concerns of relevant stakeholders** and the pertinent **legislative frameworks** and regulations.

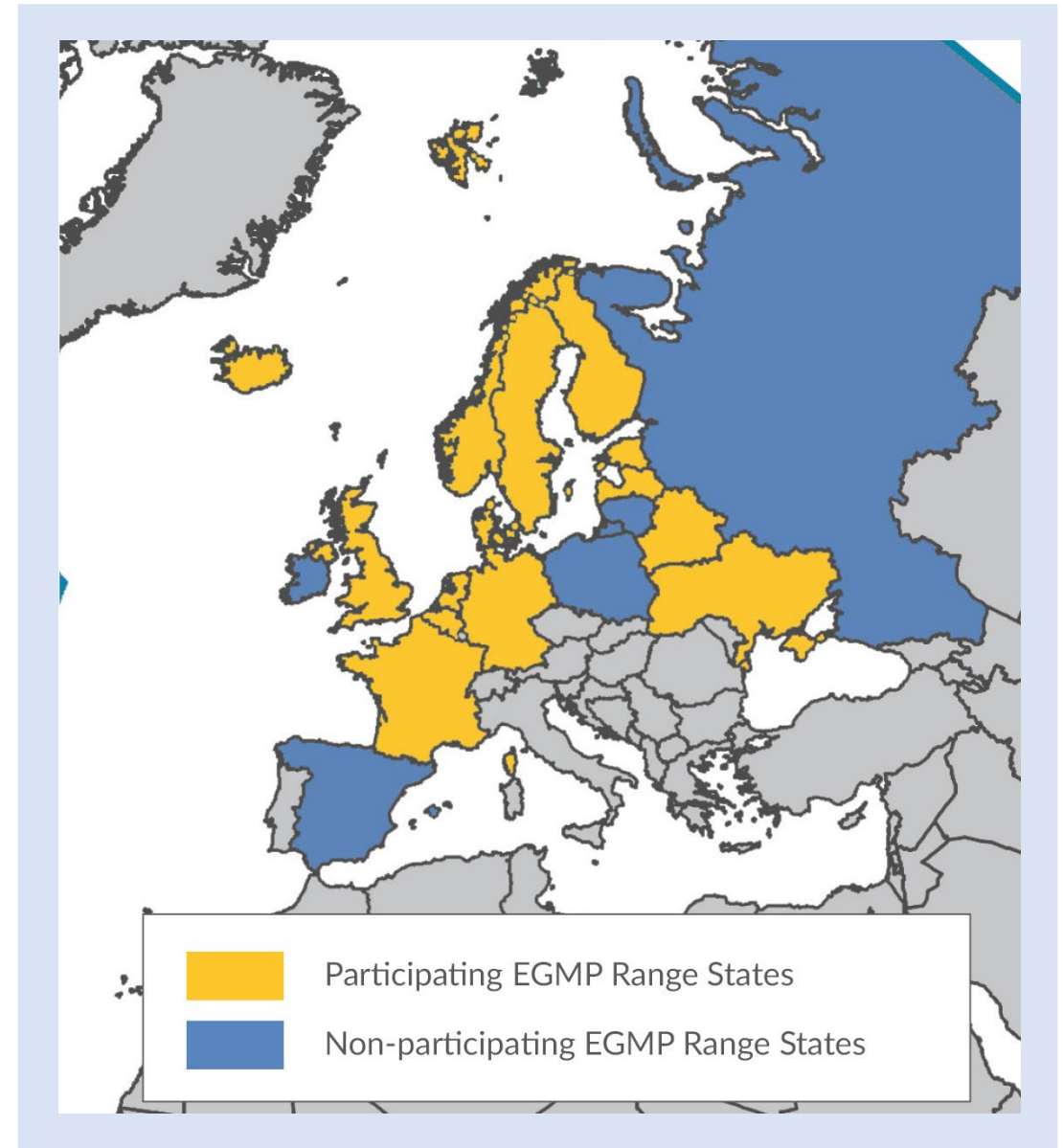
EGMP Species & Populations

- **Pink-footed Goose, Svalbard Population;** ISSMP since 2012
- **Taiga Bean Goose;** ISSAP adopted AEWA MOP6, November 2015
- **Greylag Goose, Norwest/Southwest European Population**
ISSMP adopted AEWA MOP7, December 2017
- **Barnacle Goose, Russia/Germany and Netherlands Population: East Greenland, Scotland & Ireland Population** ISSMP adopted AEWA MOP7, December 2017

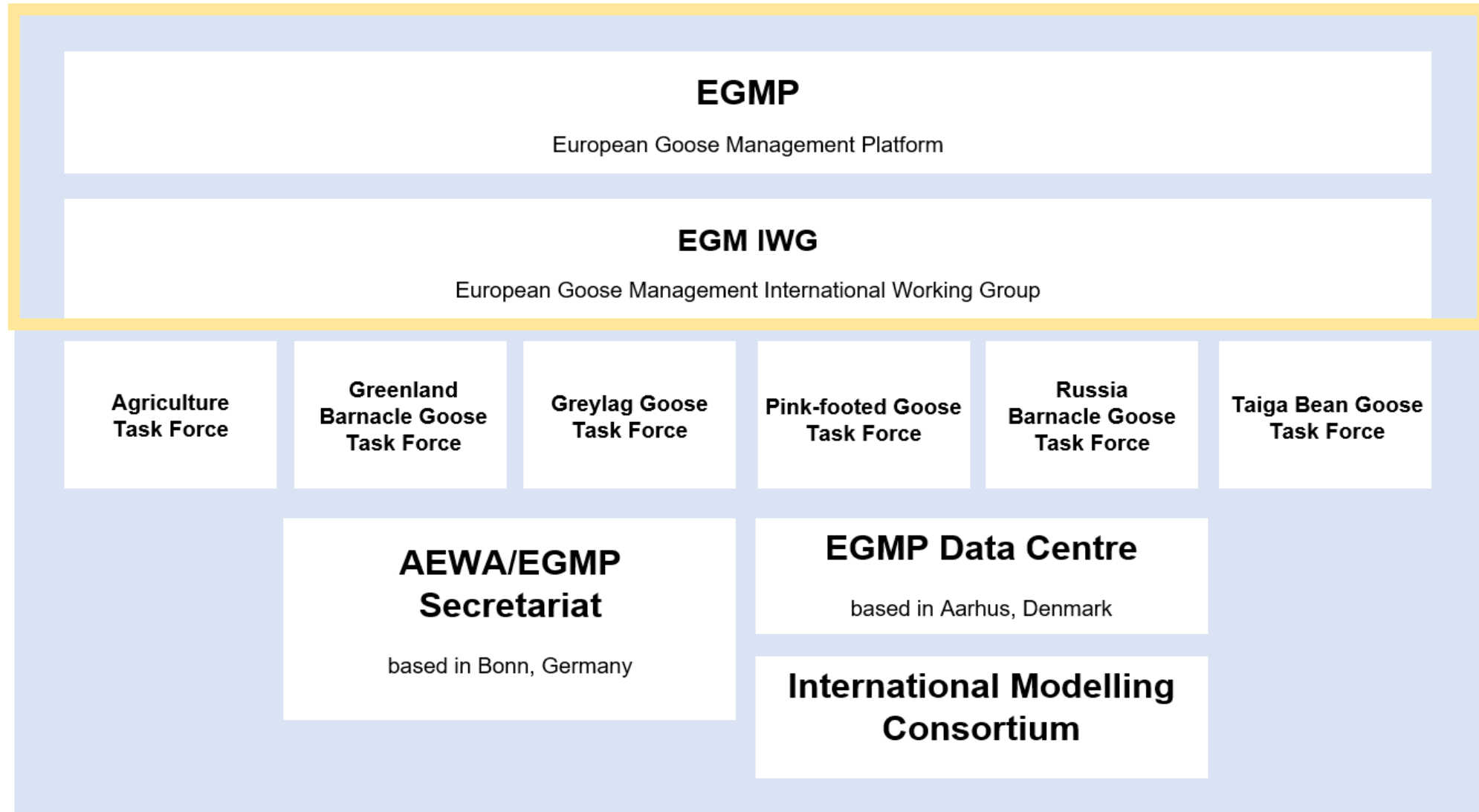


15 participating Range States + EU

- Belarus
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Estonia
- EU
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Russia
- Spain
- Sweden
- UK
- Ukraine



Organisational Structure of the EGMP



EGM IWG

European Goose Management International Working Group



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Organisational Structure of the EGMP



Task Forces



- **Pink-footed Task Force**
 - Established in June 2018
- **Taiga Bean Task Force**
 - Established in June 2017
- **Agriculture Task Force**
 - Established in June 2017
- **Greylag Goose Task Force**
 - Established in June 2020
- **Greenland Barnacle Goose Task Force**
 - Established in June 2020
- **Russia Barnacle Goose Task Force**
 - Established in June 2020



Task Forces

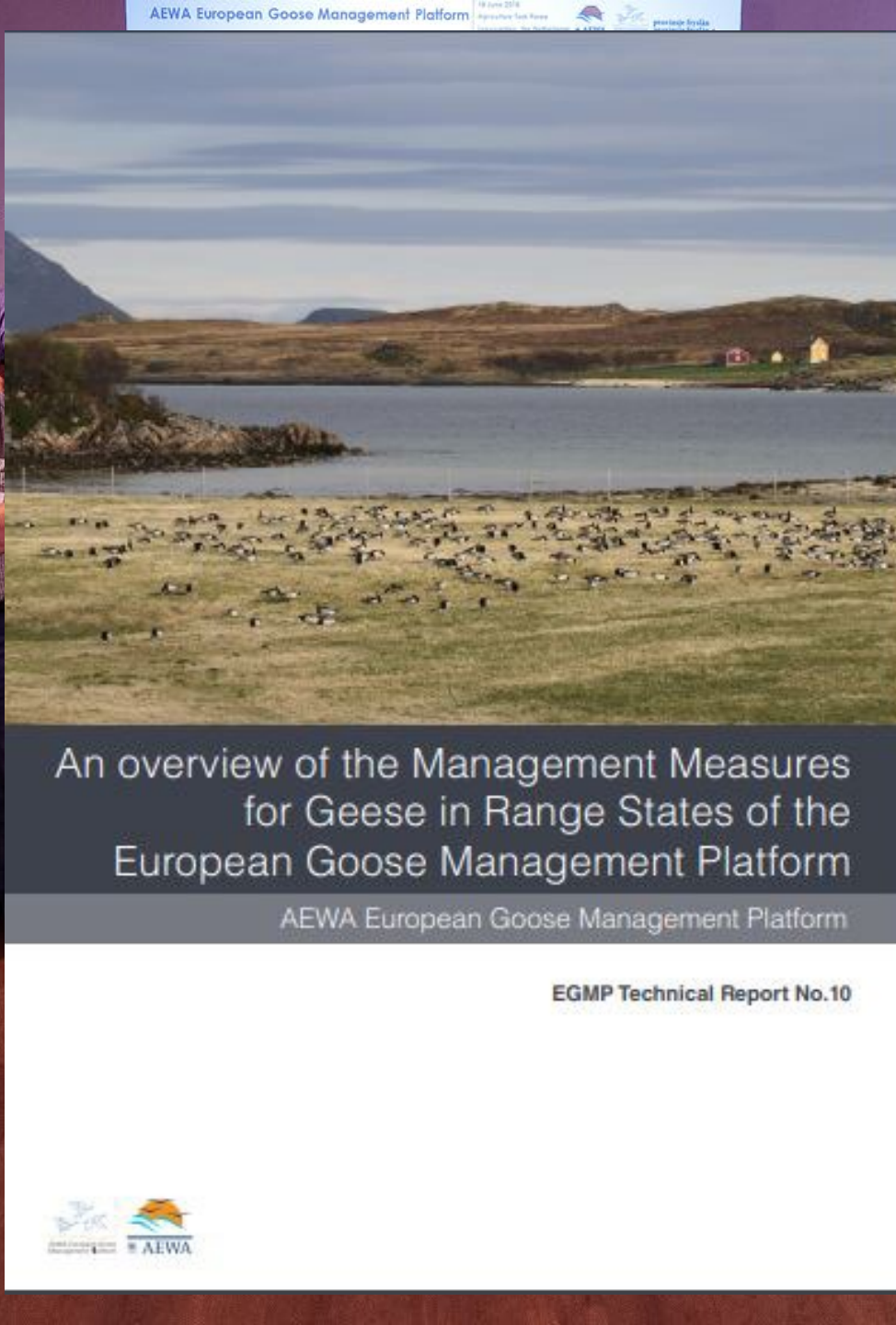
- Support the EGM IWG by suggesting implementation priorities;
- Assist with the monitoring of the species populations in cooperation with the EGMP Data Centre;
- Stimulate and support scientific research;
- Facilitate internal and external communication and exchange of scientific, technical, legal and other required information.
- Meet several times a year
- Coordinated by different countries/experts

- **Pink-footed Task Force**
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Agriculture Task Force

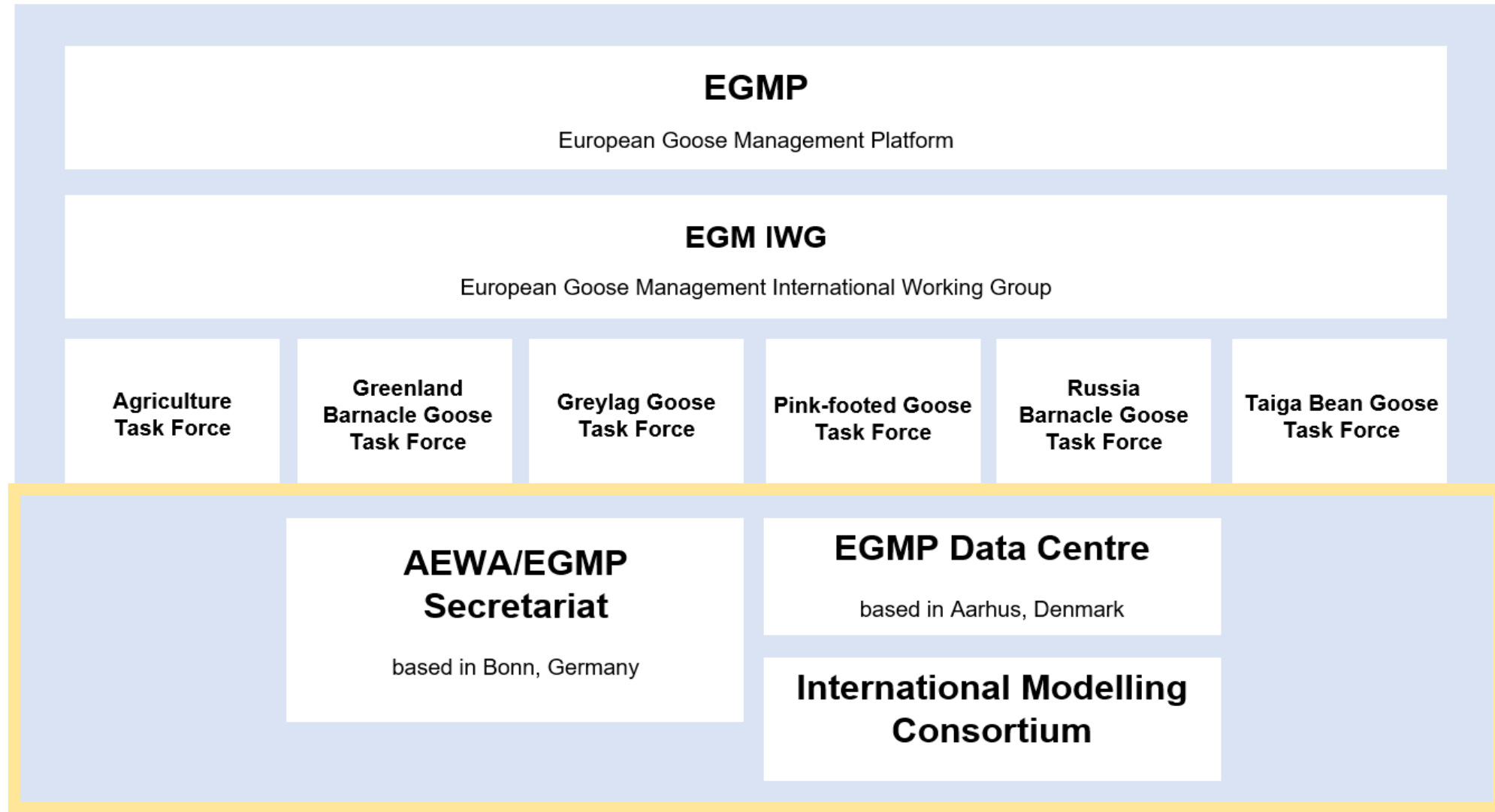


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Webinars: How to manage agricultural damage and conflict?

Organisational Structure of the EGMP



Further EGMP Bodies

EGMP Data Centre

- Conducts annual assessments of population sizes
- Proposes management options for the annual decision-making process of the EGM IWG.
- Data collection and monitoring

AEWA/EGMP Secretariat

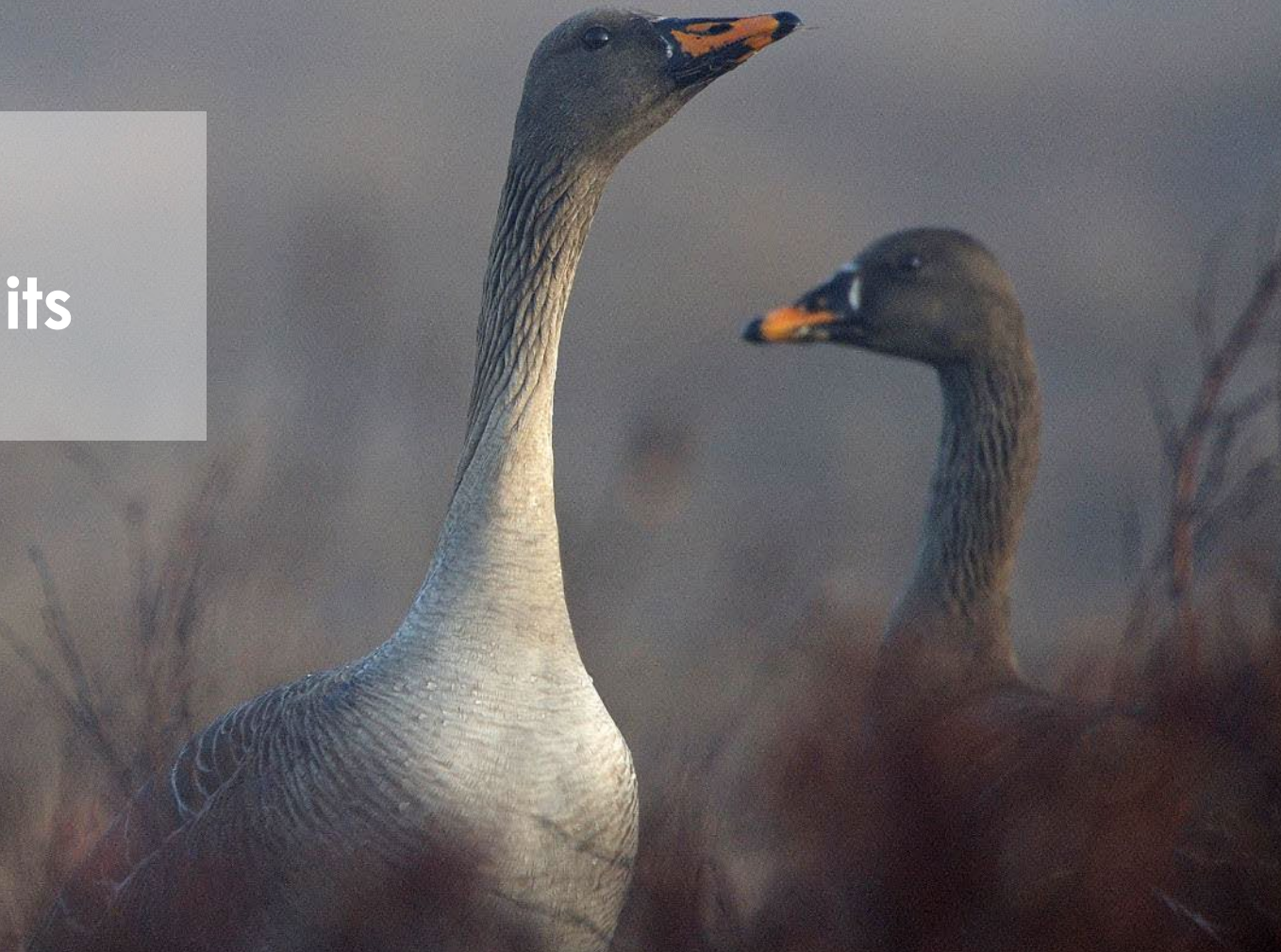
- The AEWA Secretariat services and coordinates the overall process of the EGMP, including its respective bodies and the participating Range States.

Modelling Consortium

- Estimates population sizes and assesses harvest data based on state-of-the-art modelling.
- Partners include
 - Aarhus University
 - Wageningen University/ALTEERRA
 - NIOO-KNAW
 - SOVON
 - ONCFS
 - Swedish Agricultural University
 - Kristianstad University
 - Scottish Natural Heritage
 - Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

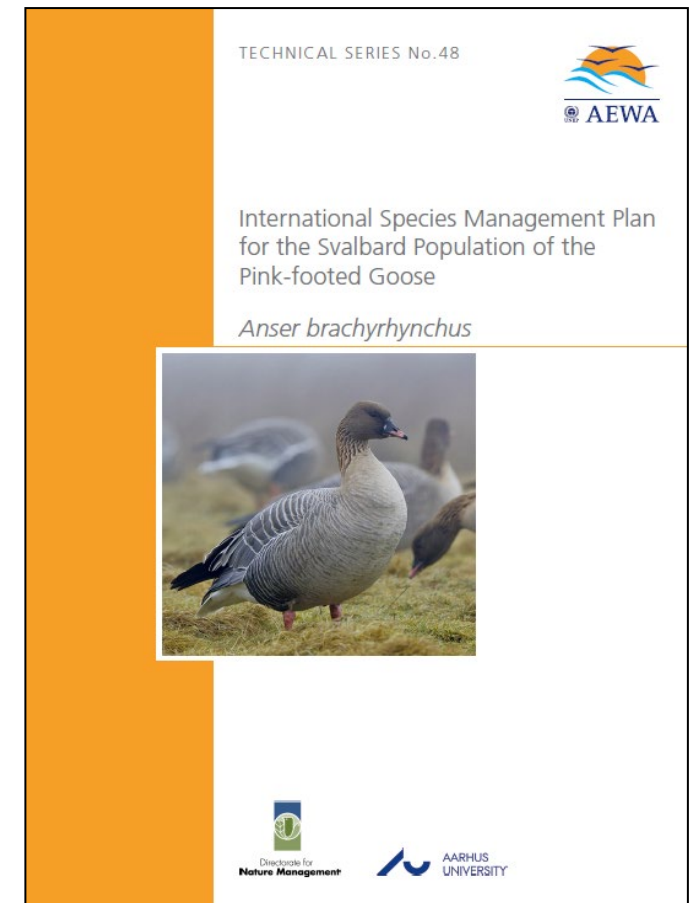


A quick review of the main milestones in the **EGMP** since its establishment



International Single Species Management Plan for the Svalbard Population of the Pink-footed Goose

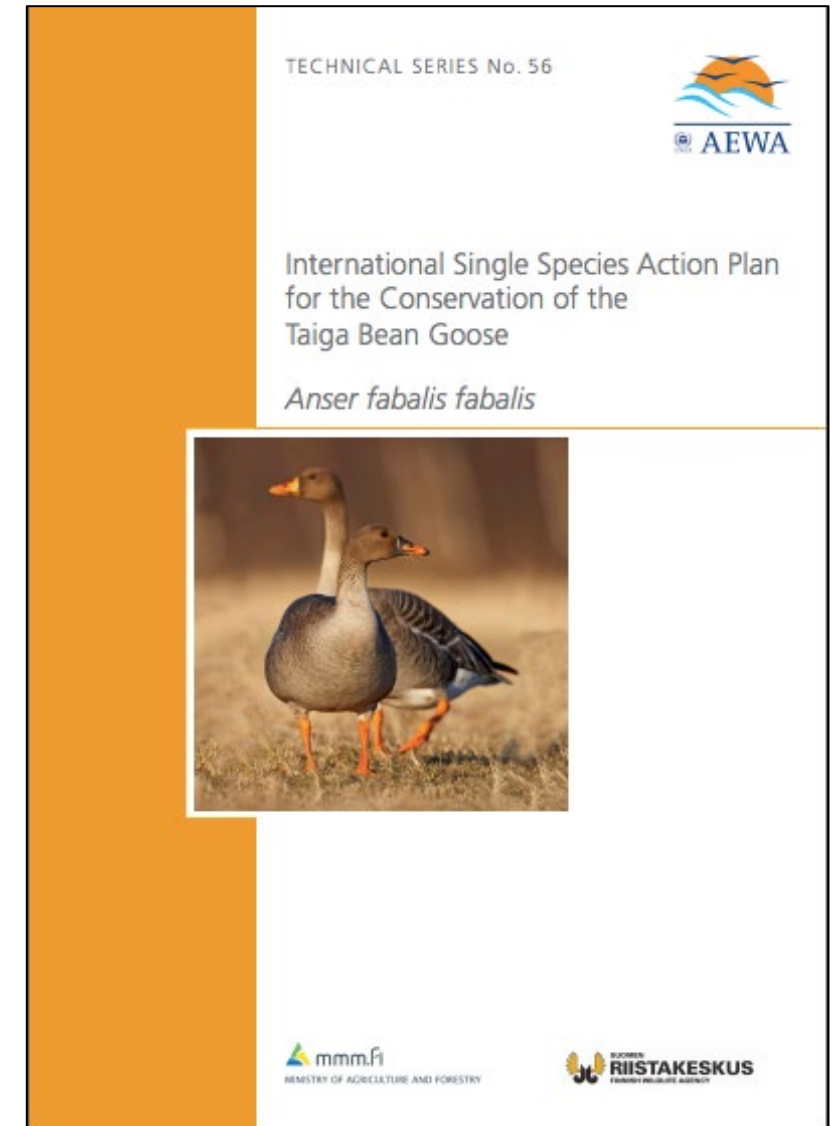
In 2013 the first trial of an **adaptive harvest management plan** of a migratory population in Europe was launched.



International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Taiga Bean Goose

ISSAP adopted at AEWA MOP6 in 2015

- The key objective of this Action Plan is to ensure the **recovery** of the population.
- An **adaptive management** program was developed in 2016. **This marked the first time an international consensus on how to reduce hunting to enable a species to recover was reached.**



International Single Species Management Plan for the **Barnacle Goose**

East Greenland/Scotland &
Ireland
Svalbard/South-west Scotland
Russia/Germany & Netherlands

➤ 1st **Barnacle Goose** Stakeholder Workshop (12-14 June 2017, Copenhagen)



International Single Species Management Plan for the **Greylag Goose** (NW/SW European population)

➤ 1st **Greylag Goose** Stakeholder Workshop in Paris, October 2017



2nd International Management Planning Workshop for the **Barnacle Goose** and the **Greylag Goose** (NW/SW European Population)

➤ Leeuwarden, the Netherlands, June 2018



Framework for Action

Goal: Maintain the population in a favourable conservation status while taking into account ecological, economic and recreational interests.

Fundamental objectives

I. Maintain the populations at a satisfactory level

II. Minimize agricultural conflicts

III. Minimize the risk to public health and air safety

IV. Minimize the risk to other flora and fauna

V. Maximise ecosystem goods and services

VI. Minimize costs of goose management

VII. Provide hunting opportunities that are consistent with maintaining the populations at a satisfactory level

TECHNICAL SERIES No.71



International Single Species Management
Plan for the Greylag Goose
(Northwest/Southwest European Population)
Anser anser



Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark
Environmental Protection Agency

FONDATION FRANCIS SUMMERIP
Association in order

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

provincje Fryslân
provincie Fryslân

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TECHNICAL SERIES No.70



International Single Species Management
Plan for the Barnacle Goose
(Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population
East Greenland/Scotland & Ireland Population
Svalbard/South-west Scotland Population)
Branta leucopsis



Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark
Environmental Protection Agency

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

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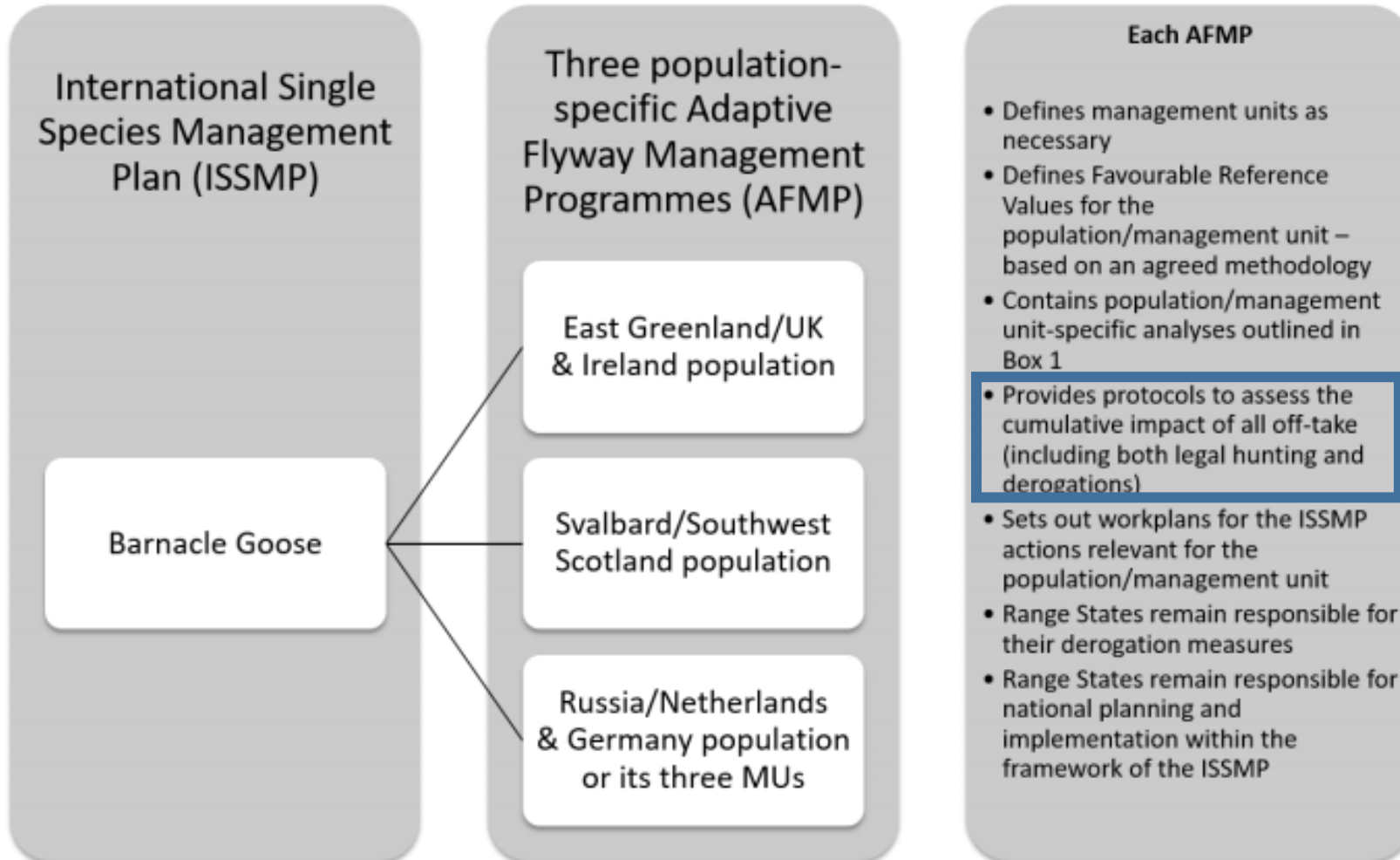
Favourable Conservation Status

Favourable Reference Values

The minimum necessary values of population size, habitat and range to ensure the longterm viability of the population.



International Single Species Management Plan for the Barnacle Goose

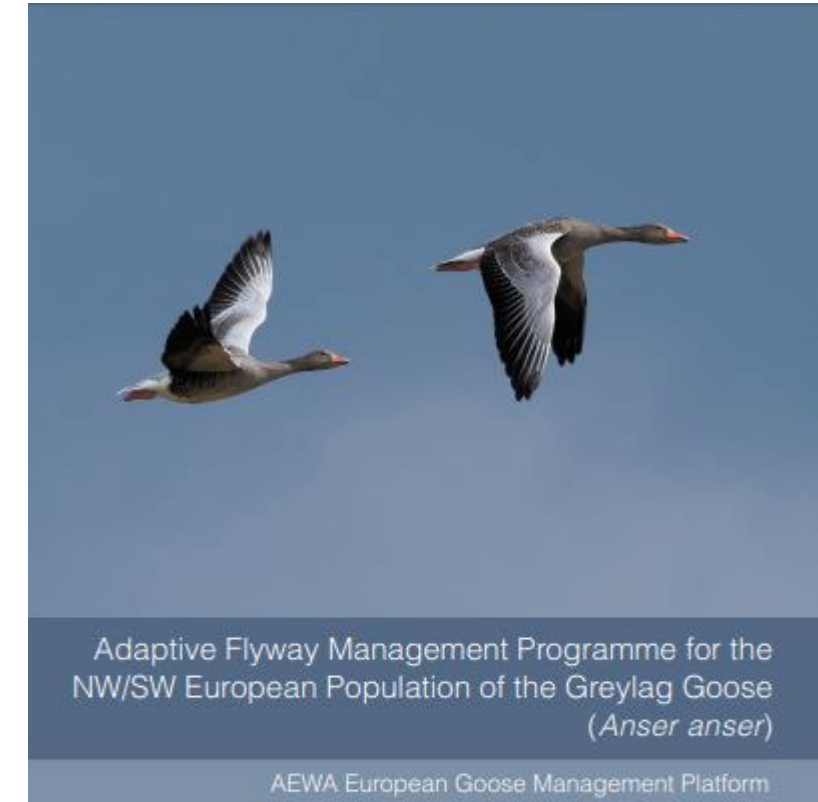
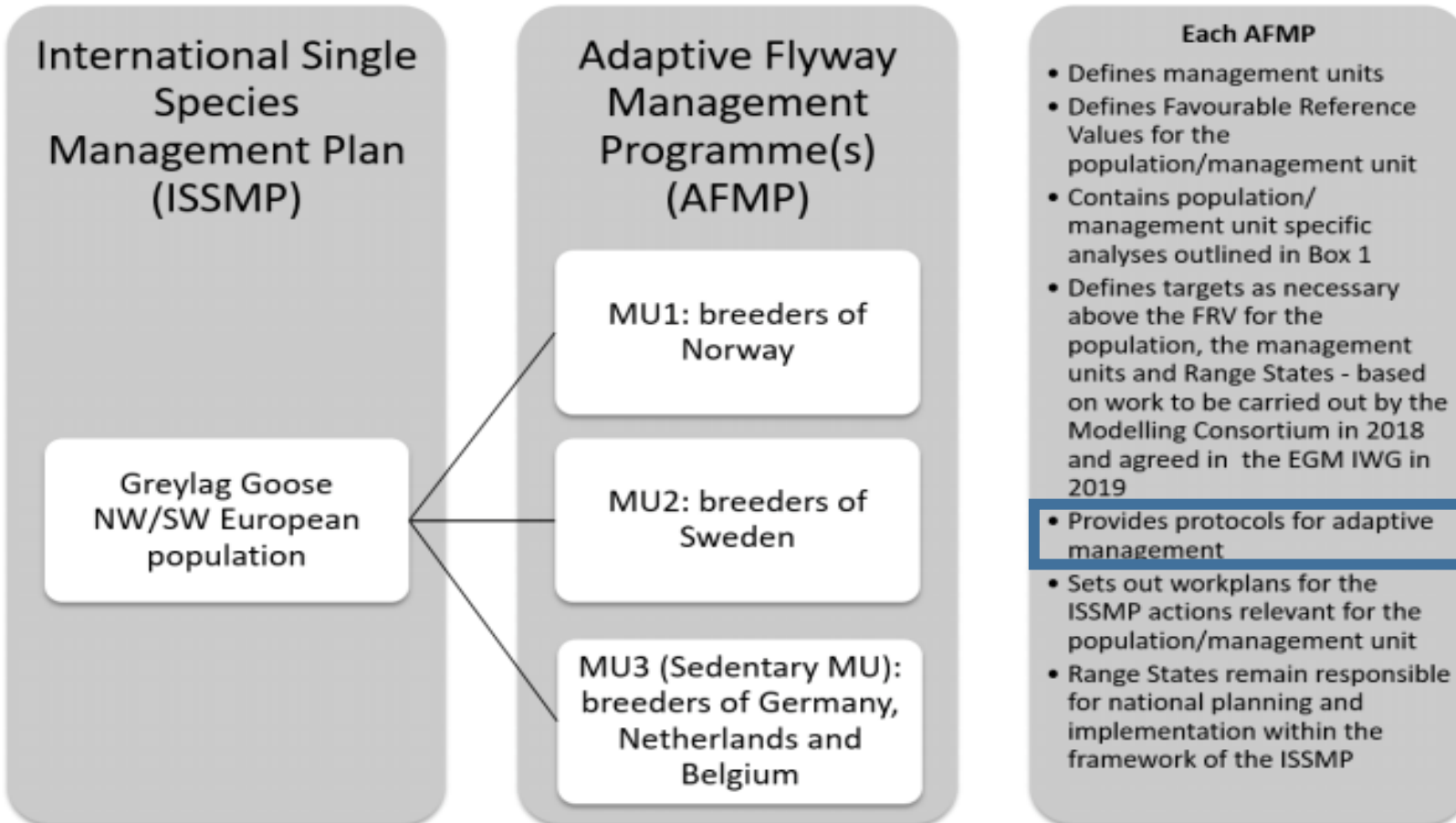


Adaptive Flyway Management Programme for the Russia/Germany & Netherlands Population of the Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

AEWA European Goose Management Platform

AEWA EGMP Programme No. 3

International Single Species Management Plan for the Greylag Goose



AEWA EGMP Programme No. 1


Action Framework

Means / Process objectives	Actions	Priority ¹⁴	Time scale ¹⁵	Organisations responsible
1. A network of safe key sites is maintained and managed throughout the range of the species	1.1 Provide adequate protection and management to key sites of international importance under Article 4(1) of the Birds Directive in the EU and other relevant instruments in other Range States throughout the range of the populations and maintain them in good ecological status	Essential	Short / Rolling	National authorities
	1.2 Promote goose-based eco-tourism at selected key sites	Medium	Medium	National authorities, NGOs
2. Geese are kept away from sensitive areas	2.1 Take key sites for geese into account in land use planning and growing of sensitive crops ¹⁶	High	Immediate / Rolling	National authorities
	2.2. Provide accommodation areas to reduce risks and conflicts at sensitive areas through e.g. subsidies ¹⁷	Medium	Medium/ Rolling	National authorities
	2.3 Apply scaring and/or land management techniques to reduce the attractiveness of sensitive areas to geese, monitoring the	High	Short / Rolling	National authorities, Airport authorities

Means / Process objectives	Actions	Priority ¹⁴	Time scale ¹⁵	Organisations responsible
	implications of such local displacement for conflicts at wider scale ¹⁸			
3. Conflicts and risks in sensitive areas are managed	3.1. Reduce risk posed by goose migration to air safety through operational measures such as radar surveillance ¹⁹	High	Short / Rolling	National authorities, Airport authorities
	3.2 Establish an internationally coordinated programme to assess agricultural damage including monitoring and assessment protocols	High	Short	National authorities
	3.3 Liaise with farmers affected by goose damages to reduce agricultural conflicts	High	Short / Rolling	National authorities


Communication efforts

- Communication towards stakeholders
- Citizen Science community
- Website
- Webinars
- Briefing notes


AEWA European Goose Management Platform

Briefing Note

Population status and management recommendations
2022



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Status of Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) – Greenland/Scotland and Ireland population

The first offtake assessment of the Greenland/Scotland and Ireland population will take place in 2023. Thus, for 2022 only an update on the raw data is available. In 2022, population size is only available from winter counts on Islay, the most important wintering site in the UK, where 28,759 birds were counted in March (flyway census of performed every third year, next in 2023). A total of 4,550 Barnacle Geese were killed in Scotland and Iceland. Derogation shooting was suspended on 1/2/22 on Islay as the result of an avian influenza outbreak.

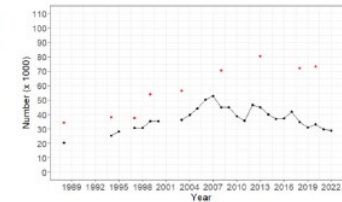


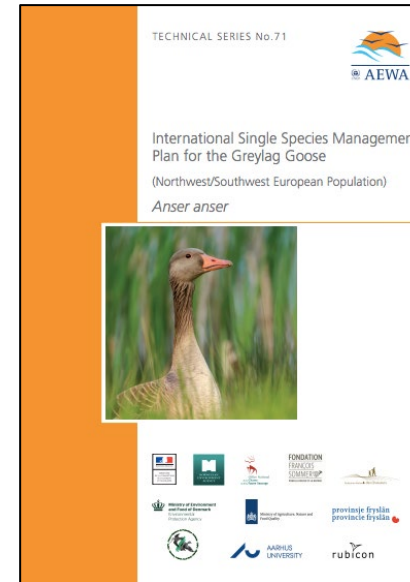
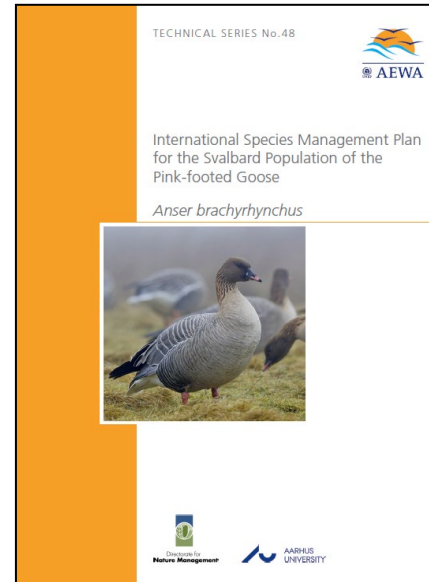
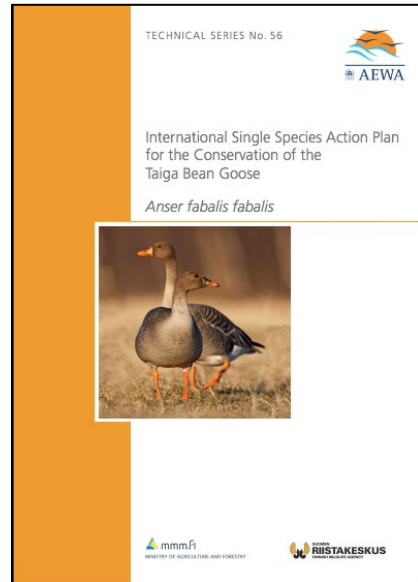
Figure 5. Development of the population size of the E. Greenland/Scotland & Ireland Barnacle Goose, Winter (filled red) with additional annual winter counts from Islay from, the most important wintering site in the UK (black line) (IWT).

Management decisions for Greenland/Scotland and Ireland population of Barnacle Goose from EGM IWG7 in 2022

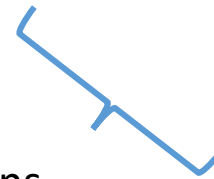
No decisions on management actions were taken at this meeting, as the next assessment informing decisions will take place in 2023 at EGM IWG8. However, the Task Force will organise a meeting to discuss the impact of avian influenza on the population, as well as how to coordinate offtake. Currently population size estimates from the IPM suggests a population decline to 65,000 individuals, which is below the 200% threshold of the FRP (FRP=54,000, and 200% FRP = 108,000).



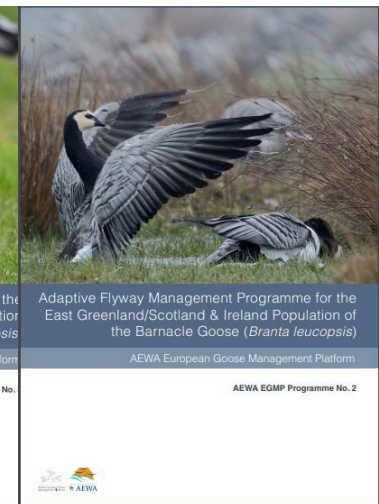
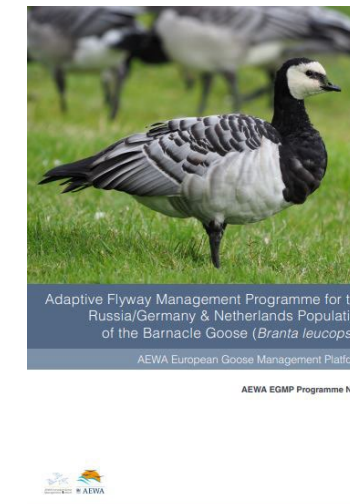
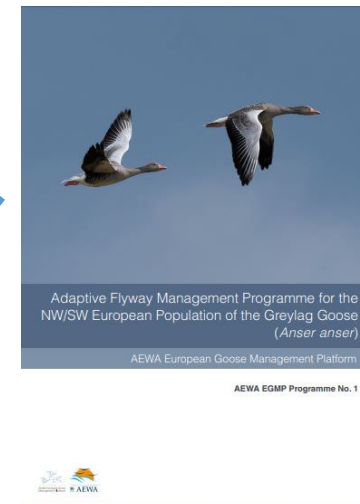
Summary of EGMP “Plans”



Action Plan
Recovery Objective



Management Plans
Adaptive Flyway
Management Programmes



Thank you!



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More information: www.egmp.aewa.info Contact: eva.meyers@un.org