

International AEWA Single Species Action-Planning Workshop for the management of Taiga Bean Goose (*Anser f. fabalis*)

Population size, trend, distribution, threats, hunting, management, conservation status and possible actions in

Norway



Ingar Jostein Øien & Tomas Aarvak, NOF-BirdLife Norway
Arild Espelien, Norwegian Environment Agency
Norway





Population

- Hekkebestanden i Norge er estimert til 500-1000 par, alle tilhører underarten *fabalis*. Den totale vinterbestanden av *A. f. fabalis* i Europa er estimert til 90 000-110 000
- Breeding/Staging/Wintering population
 - South-Norway wintering population fluctuating 20-80 ind.
 - Southern Varanger, Finnmark;
 breeding: ca 5-10 pairs; staging
 spring/autumn > 200 ind.
 - Southeast Norway spring staging 100-200 ind.
 - Nord-Trøndelag breeding: ca 5-10 pairs (previously more dispersed).
 - Unknown ssp. and size of breeding population in southern Finnmark on the border to Finland. Could be some few tens of pairs.





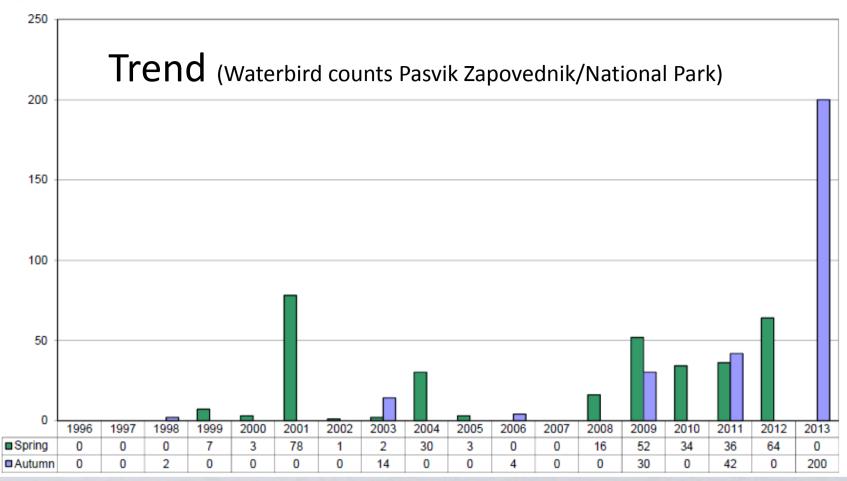
Trend

In Nord-Trøndelag, no trend data exists, but a decrease in last century is assumed as the distribution area has been reduced.

In Pasvik, Finnmark no negative trend was noticed on staging bean geese from 1975 – 1990 (Source: Steinar Wikan). From 1995-2013 a slight positive trend in staging is suggested (Source: Morten Günther Bioforsk Svanhovd, Rolf Kolstrøm, Pasvik National Park).





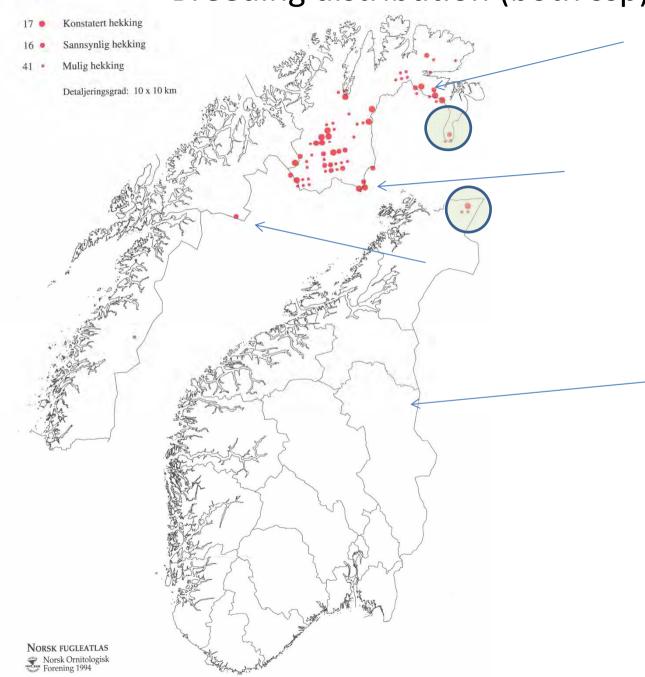






Sædgås Anser fabalis

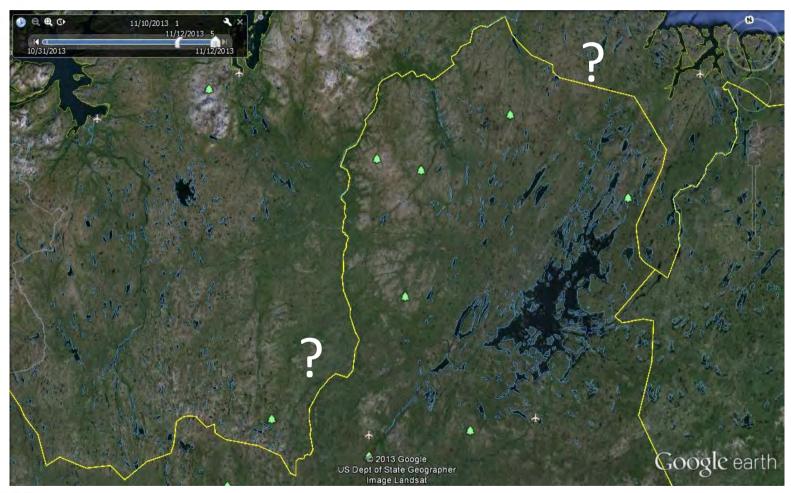
Breeding distribution (both ssp)







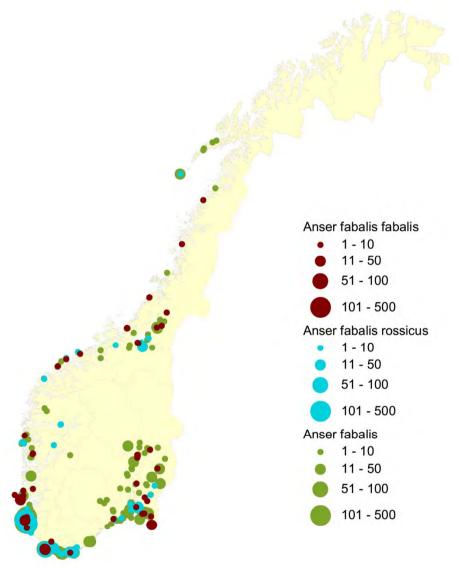
Breeding habitat for bean goose in southern Finnmark







Distribution Winter

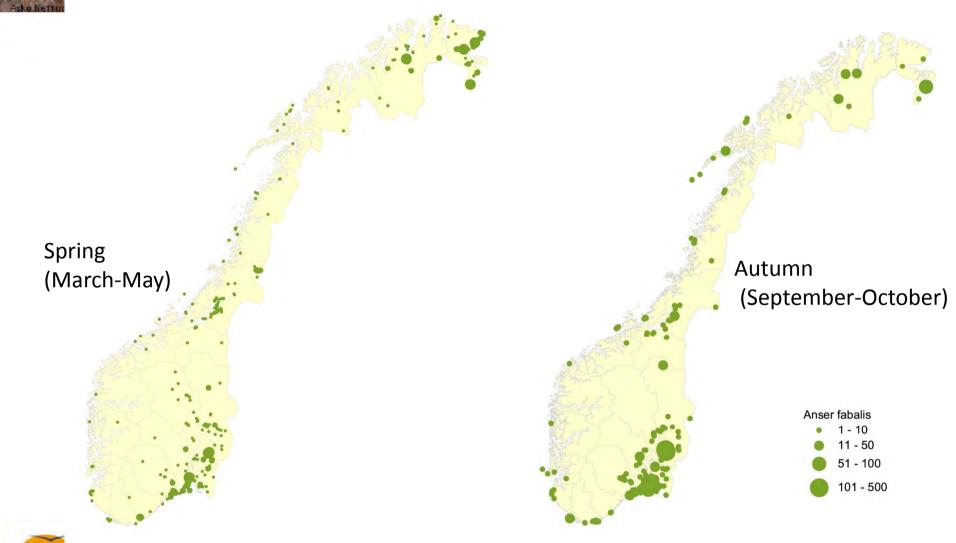






@ AEWA

Staging spring and autumn 2001-2013 (both ssp)





Migration through Southern Norway



Threats to the Taiga Bean Goose in Norway

Listing of threats in order of significance:

- Habitat destruction and degradation (3)
- Disturbance (3)
- Possible interspecies competition in summer from introduced Canada goose (Nord-Trøndelag population) (2)
- Legal and illegal hunting (in Norway and abroad) (also possibly during spring hunting in Kautokeino municipality) (3)
- Predation (nest predation/expansion of red fox and raccoon dog) and predation from eagles in moulting grounds (3)
- Interspecies competition winter (1)
- interference with agriculture etc. (1)

Ranking of threats (5=very significant, 4=significant, 3=medium, 2=low, 1=very low)







Hunting and management

- Taiga bean goose (and tundra bean goose) was removed from the list of hunting species from 2002
 - Estimate of annual hunting bag, trend in recent years and in long term 10-20 years? Hunting bag statistics exists only from the period 1991-1996. Very unreliable data states 5-70 bean geese shot annually (both ssp.) (Source: Statistics Norway).
 - Proportions of Taiga vs Tundra (fabalis vs rossicus) in the Bean Goose hunting bag? No info on ssp. level
 - Are there conservation / management actions, if yes, are local hunters involved in these conservation/management initiatives? Bean goose is totally protected and populations of both ssp. are monitored, a bean goose moulting site (fluctuating numbers between 800-1650 ind.) has been protected in Finnmark (mostly used by ssp. tundra bean goose; < 5% taiga bean goose).





The Taiga Bean Goose the local community and the economy benefits - damages

- Provide information about the relevance of the Taiga Bean Goose to local communities and national / local economy in your country
 - Is the TGB respected/valued locally? Yes
 - Are there local (hunting) traditions associated with it? Yes
 - Is the species important for the national or local economy? No
 - If so, for what reasons (e.g. Tourism, Hunting, Subsistence)?
 - Does Taiga Bean Goose cause damage/harm to Agriculture or other activities etc? Not significantly
 - Value of the damages? Very low Compensations scheme? No, compensation schemes only exists for pink-feets and barnacles





National Information - Monitoring

 Is there monitoring programme in Norway that provides data of Taiga Bean Goose:

Annual monitoring of bean geese at staging and moulting sites in Finnmark (mostly covering tundra bean geese). Taiga bean goose information is gathered through NOF-BirdLife Norway's rarities committees and the bird observation database: www.artsobservasjoner.no.





National Information – Status of the species

- National legal status for the species:
 - Both bean goose ssp. are protected in Norway
 - Both ssp. were removed from the list of game species from 2002 onwards.
 - Red list status: VU (Vulnerable based on criteria D1 (Very small or geographically very restricted population) Number of mature individuals 250-1000 (both ssp. together)
 - Which government agencies are responsible for implementation?
 Norwegian Environment Agency.
 - What is the level of implementation? Implemented.
 - What obstacles hinder effective implementation? None





Actions and Planning

- Is there any Actions taken on Taiga Bean Goose: Monitoring and research activities running since 2002.
- National Species Action Plan or other relevant plan: No
- National (Taiga) Bean Goose Working Group or other relevant group: Bean goose monitoring project run by NOF-BirdLife Norway since 2002. Research activity on the Nord-Trøndelag breeding population since 2010 (NT-University college, NOF-BirdLife Norway, University of Lund, Sweden).





EM1

I have left this question as an additional one to the former questions. If there are no WGs, then they will leave the space blanc. If there much more information than one slide can contain, it can be continued on another slide.

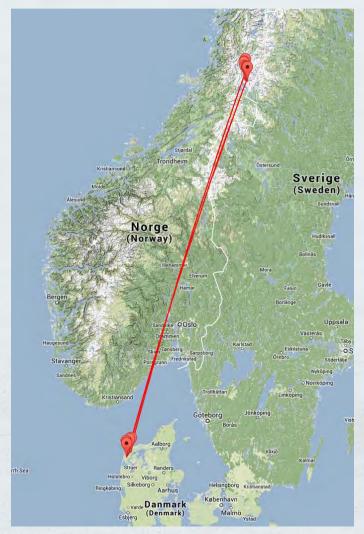
Evelyn Moloko (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat); 16.8.2012

A.f. fabalis male (X58) August 30th 2012 -May 1st 2013





A.f. fabalis female X01) May 8th- 2010 October 1st 2013 (reported shot)





Source Ringmerking.no/ NOF-BirdLife Norway