



# 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 Ukraine



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- Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis*) occurs in Ukraine only during migrations and wintering.
- Birds of both subspecies fly through the territory of Ukraine during migrations : Taiga Bean Goose (*Anser f. fabalis*) and Tundra Bean Goose (*Anser f. rossicus*).
- On wintering this species can be met sporadically in the southern regions
- In Ukraine Bean Goose has no conservation status and is a game bird.



## ***Spring migrations***

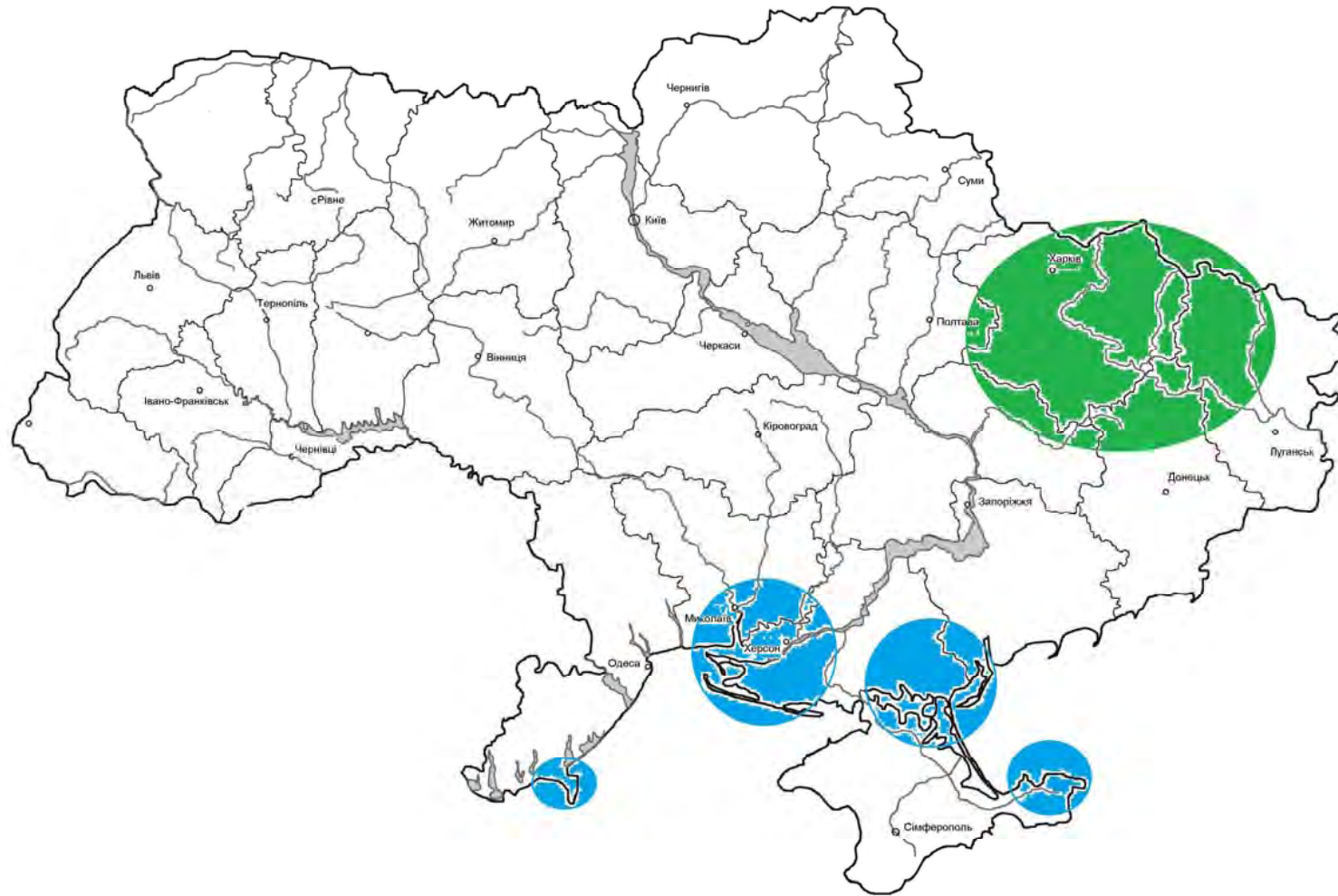
Bean Goose is the most common spring migrant in the northern and central regions of Ukraine.

Around from 8 to 10 thousand birds fly every year through the territory of the Western Ukraine. In the flocks of geese this species is the most numerous – 50-80%. Flight direction – northeast and east. Active flight – the third decade of February – the third decade of March.

No more than 5 thousand individuals fly through the territory of the Northern Ukraine. In Kyiv Region its part constitutes from 8 to 32%. In the territory of the North of the Chernihiv and Sumy Regions – 3-5%. Flight direction – the northeast. Flight terms – the first decade of March – the second decade of April.

In the Central Ukraine (South of Kyiv Region and Cherkasy Region) it is a rare flying species (from 300 to 3000 in the year). Its part makes up from 5 to 7%. Migration direction – northern and northeast. Terms of spring flight – the first decade of March – the third decade of March.





*Region of mass stops of Bean Geese during spring migrations in the north-east of Ukraine*



*Points of sporadic wintering of Bean Geese in the south of Ukraine*



The most important territory for spring migration of Bean Goose is the North Western Ukraine.

Here geese have convenient places of stops on large reservoirs and artificial ponds in a valley of the Siverski Donets River and its tributaries. Vast agricultural grounds are located near these reservoirs where these birds are fed. They eat vegetative parts of the winter-crops.

In this territory 100-150 thousand tundra geese stooped annually where the part of Bean Goose can reach up to 90% . Flight direction - east and northeast. Flight terms – the first decade of April – the first decade of May.

In the southern areas and on the sea coasts the Bean Goose are rare and irregular. In the 1990th from 500 to 5 thousand individuals flew through the Azov-Black See region in spring and autumn seasons.





## ***Autumn migration***

Intensity of autumn migration of the Bean Goose in Ukraine is much lower than in spring.

In the Western Ukraine the number of this species is estimated to be 3-4 times less; in the north of Ukraine is 5-10 times lower; in the northeast of Ukraine - up to single individuals.

In the northeast regions the Bean Goose probably fly northerly from continental Ukraine, nearer to the Baltic Sea.

General direction of autumn flight – southwest and western.  
Flight terms – the first decade of October – the first decade of November.



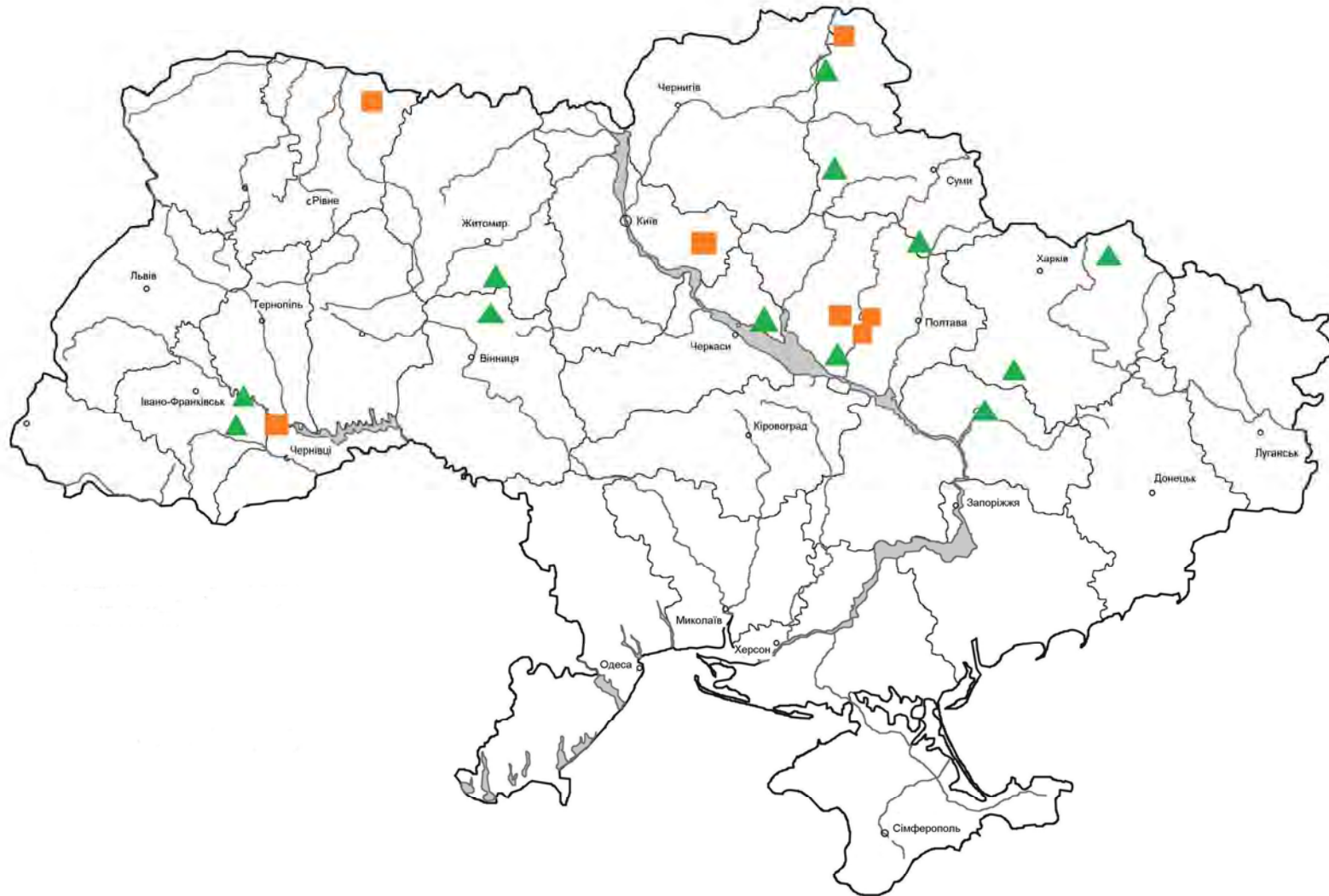
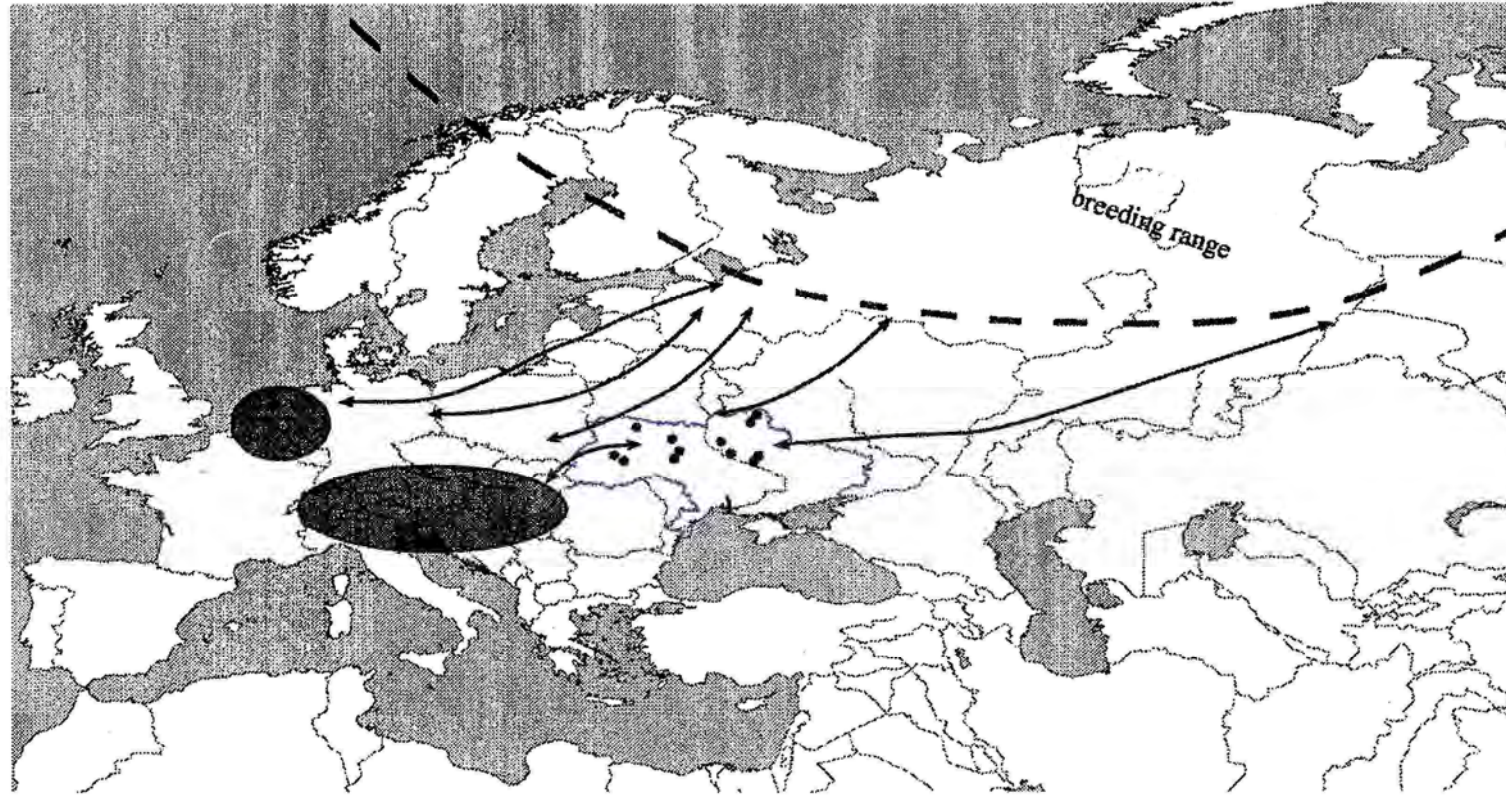


Fig. Finds of ringed Bean Geese during the spring (▲) and autumn (■) migration.



**Legend:**



wintering sites



migration direction



finds of ringed birds

*Fig. Supposed scheme of migratory movements of Bean Geese (by Poluda, 2009)*



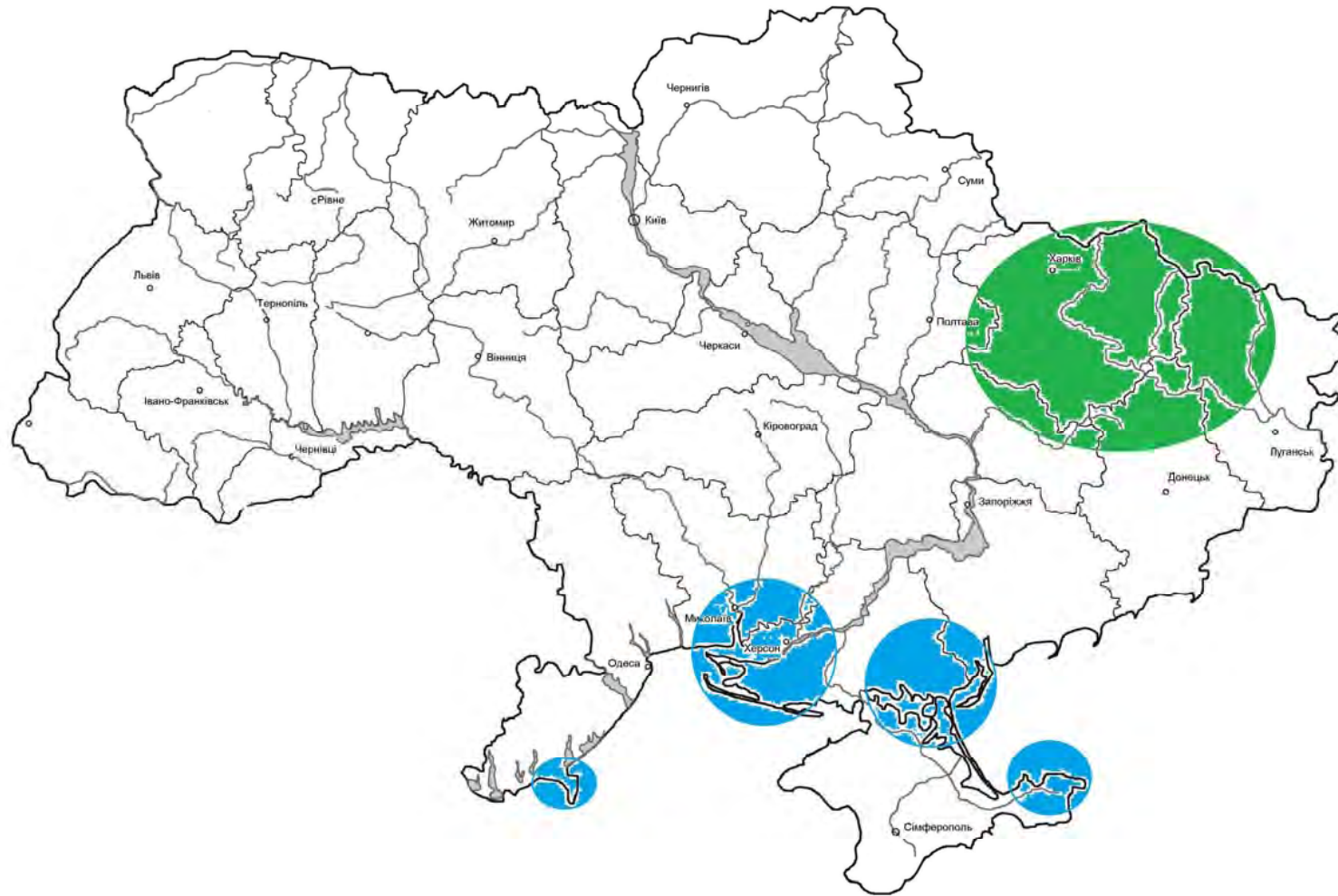


The portion of Taiga Bean Goose (*Anser f. fabalis*) flocks, which migrates through Ukraine doesn't exceed 10%.

The vast majority of Bean Geese which fly through the territory of the country belong to the tundra subspecies (*Anser f. rossicus*).

Quantitative assessments allow to assume that in spring from 100 to 200 thousand Bean Geese (without subspecies) fly through Ukraine.

In autumn its intensity is much lower on average by 5-6 times. Their total numbers is supposed to be 50-100 thousand individuals (Poluda, 2009) but, in our opinion, this number is 20-40 thousand birds.



*Region of mass stops of Bean Geese during spring migrations in the north-east of Ukraine*



*Points of sporadic wintering of Bean Geese in the south of Ukraine*



## *Wintering*

Bean Goose wintering in the territory of Ukraine is extremely rare. In 1992 and 1994 in the Black Sea Biosphere Reserve (Kherson Region) 1000 and 680 individuals were recorded respectively in winter; in 1994 and 1996 in the whole Azov-Black Sea region about 1 thousand individuals were wintered.

Once this species was registered in the Danube Delta – 100 birds in January, 1983.

In 2002 during the large-scale counts in the Azov-Black Sea region only 6 Bean Goose are revealed: 2 in the north of Sivash and 4 on the Kerch Peninsula. In Novotroitsk Region of the Kherson District 15.01.2007 40 individuals were met. In January of 2010 30 individuals were observed in the Northern Black Sea coast region

EM1

## Dia 11

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**EM1**

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Evelyn Moloko (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat); 16.8.2012



## *Threats*

- Hunting and poaching
- Change of stopover sites during migrations
- Change of wintering places
- Agricultural conflict





## Dia 12

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**EM2**

I have left this question as an additional one to the former questions. If there are no WGs, then they will leave the space blank. 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



Asko Kettunen



Thanks for your attention!

