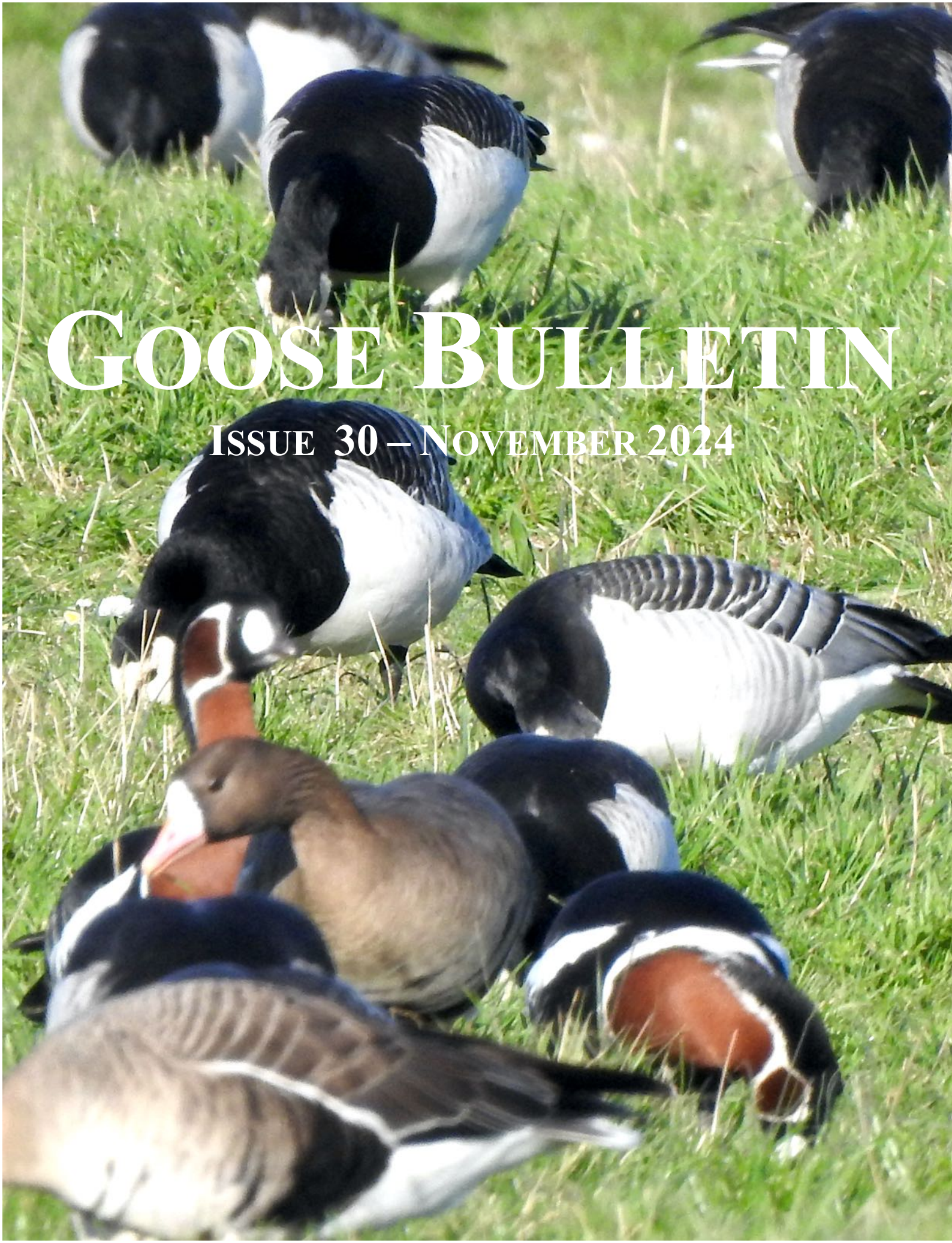

GOOSE BULLETIN

ISSUE 30 – NOVEMBER 2024

GOOSE BULLETIN is the official bulletin of the Goose Specialist Group
of Wetlands International and IUCN

Contents

GOOSE BULLETIN is the official bulletin of the Goose Specialist Group of Wetlands International and IUCN.

GOOSE BULLETIN appears as required, but at least once a year in electronic form. The bulletin aims to improve communication and exchange information amongst goose researchers throughout the world. It publishes contributions covering goose research and monitoring projects, project proposals, status and progress reports, information about new literature concerning geese, as well as regular reports and information from the Goose Database.
Contributions for the **GOOSE BULLETIN** are welcomed from all members of the Goose Specialist Group and should be sent as a Word-file to the Editor-in-chief.
Authors of named contributions in the **GOOSE BULLETIN** are personally responsible for the contents of their contribution, which do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board or the Goose Specialist Group.

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Editorial

As I was a young student, we wrote our reports and manuscripts at first by hand on paper. As you were more or less sure to have found the right wording, you took the typewriter and by means of a two-finger-search-system (it wasn't common for students to learn to use a typewriter!) you wrote your text in "clean". Small mistakes were corrected with "Typp-ex" (a white substance you could overwrite) and for bigger mistakes you had to rewrite whole pages. When the first computers were introduced, the university had a computer department that occupied an entire floor. We had to transfer our data to punch cards, put them in shoeboxes and then brought them to the computer department for processing. After one, sometimes even several weeks, we got our shoeboxes filled with punch cards back, accompanied by a statistical analysis, printed with a dot matrix printer on continuous paper. We were extremely happy as in the second part of the 1980's personal computers became more common and we could make our own statistics, could write and rewrite manuscripts without big problems. We enjoyed computers and the software getting better and better and the introduction of a world wide web to optimize the possibilities to connect people all over the world.
Although at that time some people already warned of the risks of a computerised world, we used and enjoyed the new possibilities and 1984, the fictional year from George Orwell's novel, in which three dictatorial states spied on and harassed their populations with the help of technology, passed without any problems.
But ….

In 2001, the famous English theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking (1942-2018) said: "*…computers double their speed and memories every 18 months. There is a real danger that computers will develop intelligence and take over*." The development and rapid growth of the possibilities of the new artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) seems to confirm his gloomy prognosis. According to the definition of the European Parliament "*artificial intelligence is the ability of a machine to imitate human abilities such as logical thinking, learning, planning and creativity*."

Until now we use AI/ML to make our lives more comfortable. Artificial intelligence has already become common in many people's everyday lives in many forms, like for instance search engines like Google, Bing, Yandex and Yahoo!, text translators like Google translator, DeepL Translate, Bing, Leo, text recognition software (OCR), artificial text writer software (ChatGPT), software for recognition of handwriting or faces, the analysis of large amounts of data, processes or workflows as well as digital voice assistants like Alexa, Siri, Google. Still, in most countries we are not yet living under the frightening conditions as in George Orwell's novel 1984!
But we must remain vigilant!

In the past years the number of faked photographs and videos in the world wide web showed a sharp increase, manuscripts based on fake data found their way into renowned peer-reviewed journals and even some fake bachelor and PhD theses were uncovered. These are only the cases that have been found and reported. Nobody knows how many undiscovered and unreported cases there are. This development is alarming. If we are not careful enough, we could irretrievably lose control of autonomous AI systems, experts warned in "Science" some time ago.

But also our scientific community, like that of the Goose Specialist Group, is not protected for the dangers of modern communication technology. Experts estimated that since 2015 more than half a million scientists paid a lot of money, to publish the results of their work (mostly sponsored by public funds) in some fake online journals, which hardly anyone reads.

The best way to be sure that the results of a research project are spread within the scientific community is a traditional face-to-face conference, like the 21st Goose Specialist Group conference 27-31 of January 2025, and the publication in traditional journals, like Wildfowl, or even the Goose Bulletin.

The next issue of the GOOSE BULLETIN is planned to appear in May 2025, which means that material for this issue should have reached the editor-in-chief no later than the 31st of March 2025.....but earlier submission is, of course, always permitted, if not actively encouraged!

Editor in chief

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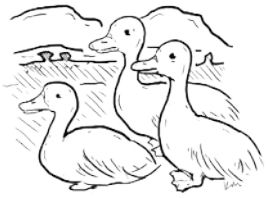
The first announcement of the 21st Goose Specialist Group Conference



The Goose Specialist Group of IUCN SSC will hold its 21st conference in Mušov, Pasohlávky, South Moravia, Czechia, on the 27th-31st of January 2025.

The Czech Republic, as well as other central European countries, have become more important for wintering geese and other waterbirds. South Moravia is the most important region within the country, with a high concentration of White-fronted Goose, Tundra Bean Goose and Greylag Goose. Other wintering species include Barnacle Goose, Brent Goose, Red-breasted Goose, Lesser White-fronted Goose and Pink-footed Goose. South Moravia is a unique region of the Czech Republic.

It is located at the edge of the Pannonian plateau and Bohemian - Moravian Highlands. The history of this region is ancient, including mammoth hunters in the ice age, the edge of the Roman Empire and later centuries-old border between Austria, Moravia and Hungary, and more recently Austria, Czechia and Slovakia. This region represents one of the most fertile agricultural landscapes and is famous for its wine production.

The original habitats include riparian forests, wet meadows in the floodplains of Thaya, Svratka, Svitava and Jihlava rivers as well as limestone rock steppe, forest-steppe and thermophilic oak forest. Moreover, man-made wetlands such as fishponds created in the Middle Ages and water reservoirs created in the 1970s – 1990s replaced original habitats.

Recently, there have been three sites declared as SPA in the Natura 2000 Network: Middle Lake Nove of Mlýny Water Reservoir, Pálava Hils, and Lednické rybníky fishponds.

There are also 2 Ramsar sites: Wetlands of Lower Thaya river and Lednické rybníky fishponds

Venue

The Conference will take place at the Hotel Thermal https://www.hoteltermal.cz/ in Mušov, Pasohlávky, in South Moravia, Czechia, 13 km North of the historic city of Mikulov. The hotel is located (48.9043 N, 16.5790 E) on the shore of Upper Lake Nové of Mlýny Water Reservoir, i.e., one of the most important sites for wintering geese and other waterbirds in Czechia.

Time Schedule

10 April 2024: Distribution of the conference announcement.
10 April 2024: Opening of the conference registration.
10 April 2024: Opening of the abstract submission.
30 September 2024: Deadline for the proposals of Workshops, Round-table Discussions etc.
15 November 2024: Deadline for the abstract submission.
30 November 2024: Confirmation of abstract acceptance.
30 November 2024: Registration and payment deadline.
11 December 2024: Programme announcement.

Programme

27 January 2025: Arrival and Welcome Ice-breaking session
28 January 2025: Talks and poster session
29 January 2025: Mid-conference excursion, workshops, talks
30 January 2025: Talks and poster session
31 January 2025: Talks (optional) and departure

Registration

Registration will be open from the 10th of April, 2024.
The registration fee will cover food during the conference (lunches, dinners), a welcome ice-breaking session, a mid-conference excursion, a conference dinner with wine tasting and the use of facilities (conference room, coffee breaks, etc.). The registration fee will be 300 EUR for people participating in all four conference days.

Accommodation

The accommodation in the hotel will cost between 30 and 60 EUR according to the size and sharing of the room. There will also be possibilities within walking distance from the conference venue (see: http://www.gsg2025.cz/).

Abstracts

Abstract submission will be open from the 10th of April, 2024.
Abstracts must be in English and no longer than 300 words. The scientific committee intends to accept as many contributions as possible, provided that the contribution meets the minimum standards set by the committee. Moreover, the scientific committee can recommend changing the form of the presentation from a talk to a poster or otherwise. Abstracts must be submitted by 31 October 2024. All participants will receive confirmation of acceptance of their talks or posters no later than 30 November 2024.

Traveling Info

The conference will be held on the edge of Pasohlávky village. The road distance to Václav Havel Prague Airport is 260 km and 115 km to Vienna Schwechat International Airport. There will be the possibility to use the Conference shuttle bus from Vienna Schwechat International Airport, with expected departure at 17:00 on the 27th of January 2025

The conference location can also be reached by train and bus. The nearest International Railway Station is in Brno. Afterwards, a regular bus from Brno station goes directly to the conference site (bus stop: Pasohlávky-přehrada)

Further and actual information can be found on the conference website:
http://www.gsg2025.cz/

Please do not hesitate to contact us at: gsg2025cz@gmail.com

Bird Sanctuaries Surveyed to Confirm Number of *Anser cygnoides.*

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As a member of IUCN SSC GSG 2021-2025, Dr Seliger and I'd like to share the following article about Swan Goose in the DPRK (=North Korea):

The Mundok and Sindo migratory bird (wetland) reserves located respectively in the estuaries of the Chongchon and Amnok rivers at the west coast of Korea are important stopovers for migrants in autumn.

Location of the Mundok (2) and Sindo (1) migratory bird (wetland) reserves in North Korea

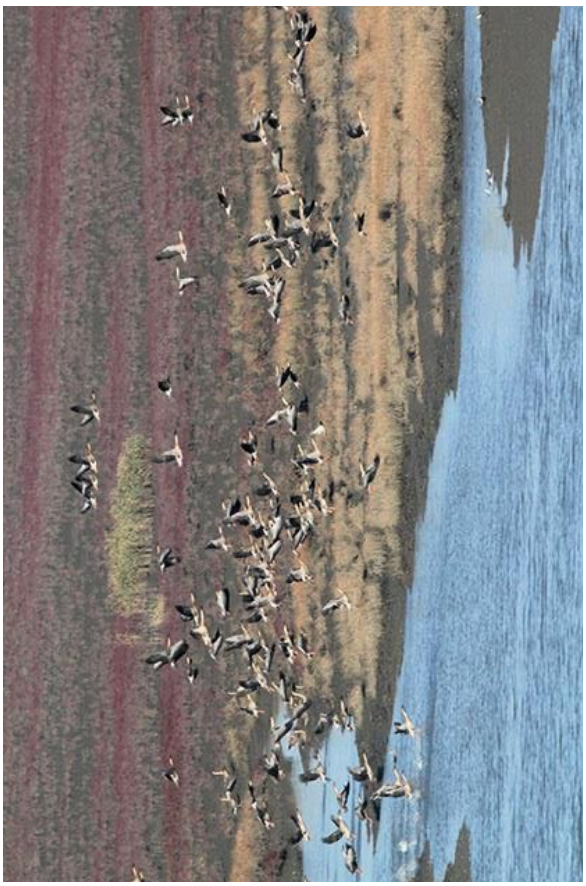
According to a survey conducted by experts of the Biodiversity Institute of the State Academy of Sciences, in October this year 2023 43 species of more than 44 000 water birds were observed in the area of the Mundok Migratory Bird Reserve inscribed on the Ramsar list and 41 species of over 62 000 water birds in the Sindo Migratory Bird Reserve area. They also identified in the areas the habitation of such globally endangered species as the Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor* (EN), the Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* (EN), the Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides* (VU), the Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* (VU) and the Saunders's Gull *Chroicocephalus saundersi* (VU).

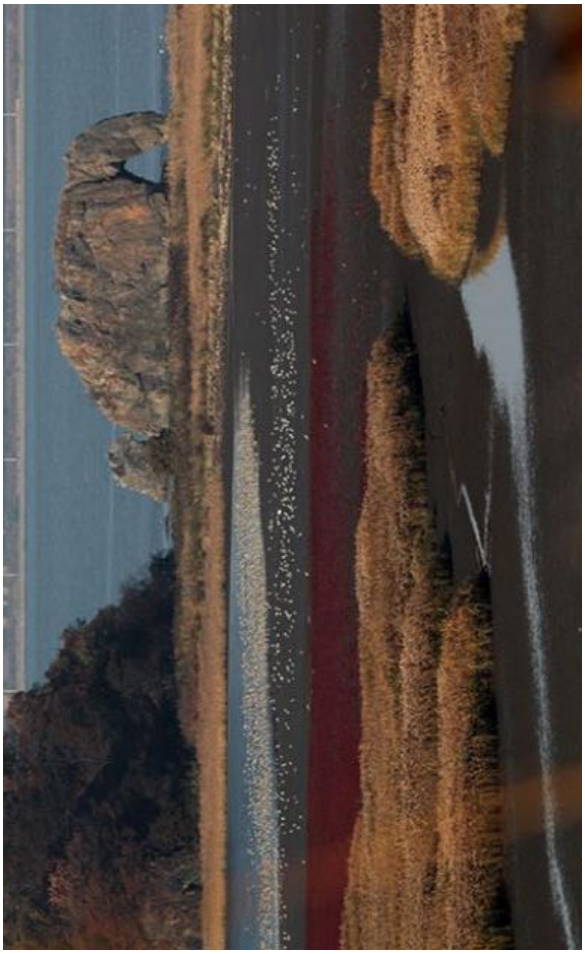
The number of *Anser cygnoides* making a stopover in the lower reaches of the Chongchon River accounted for more than 60 percent of its global population, and in the area of the Sindo Migratory Bird Reserve, its number made up about 40 percent of its global population with the number of *Chroicocephalus saundersi* about 2 percent, that of Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* about 4 percent, that of Western Curlew *Numenius arquata* nearly 4 percent and that of Common Gull *Larus canus* about 7 percent of their regional populations.

About 36 000 *Anser cygnoides* were observed in the lower reaches of the Chongchon River where there is the Mundok Migratory Bird Reserve and about 23 000 *Anser cygnoides* in the lower reaches of the Amnok River where there is the Sindo Migratory Bird Reserve.

This survey record indicates that the number of *Anser cygnoides* observed in the two areas reaches more than its global population (54 000) and it proves that, even when taking into account the number of overlapping individuals in the survey, most of its global population make a stopover in the two areas of the DPRK during the autumn migration.

Source: 1 December 2023, Naenara (Naenara is the official web portal of the DPR Korean government).





Swan Project - A Public Bird Migration Tracking and Citizen Science Initiative

Tetsuo Shimada, Kan Konishi, Guozheng Li, Guodong Shi & Hiroyoshi Higuchi

Tetsuo Shimada (The Miyagi Prefectural Environmental Foundation),
Kan Konishi (Hamatombetsu Lake Kutcharo Waterfowl Observatory),
Guozheng Li, Guodong Shi (Druid Technology, Co., Ltd).
Hiroyoshi Higuchi (Professor Emeritus of the University of Tokyo)
Corresponding author: tshimada0423@gmail.com

The Swan Project was launched in the winter of 2023/2024 as an international collaboration aimed at establishing a swan-tracking system.

In this project, Whooper Swans *Cygnus cygnus* and Bewick's Swans *Cygnus columbianus bewickii* are fitted with GPS loggers equipped with cameras (called SwanEyes, Fig. 1), allowing their locations and images to be made publicly available.

Fig. 1. GPS logger with camera (SwanEyes). The square in the center is the GPS unit, flanked by two cameras positioned at a 60-degree angle, providing a 240-degree field of view. The total weight is 130g.

SwanEyes is a neck ring-style Global positioning System (GPS) logger with an integrated camera, developed by Druid Technology Co., Ltd.

The collar and logger measure 80 mm in length, 60 mm in inner diameter, and weighs 130 g. The device features two cameras angled 60 degrees from the GPS, each with a 240-degree field of view. Powered by solar energy, SwanEyes transmits data via cellular networks. Location data is recorded six times a day, every four hours, while images are captured at 7:00, 9:00, 13:00, and 17:00, and can be retrieved at 1:00, 9:00, and 17:00.

Fig. 2. 6C08 ("Miho") fitted with SwanEyes.

Although there is a slight time lag, this system enables near-real-time tracking of the swans' locations and the views from their perspective. When cellular coverage is lost, the device continues to store data, which can be retrieved once the connection is restored.

All location data and images are accessible to the public through a multilingual (Japanese, Chinese, and English) website (https://www.intelinkgo.com/swaneyes/) and a smartphone application. The app even offers navigation to the swans' last known locations.

Citizen scientists are encouraged to contribute by sharing their observations on X (formerly Twitter) using the hashtag #SwanEyes.

Fig. 3. "Akira" foraging in a rice field (Dec. 16, 2023).

In December 2023, 10 Whooper Swans (5 males and 5 females) were fitted with SwanEyes at Lake Izunuma-Uchinuma (38°43' N, 141°07' E) in Miyagi Prefecture, Japan, with each swan receiving a unique nickname (Fig. 2). In March 2024, 10 Bewick's Swans will be similarly tagged at Lake Kutcharo (45°08' N, 142°19' E) in Hokkaido. This report focuses on the Whooper Swans.

For example, Figure 3 shows "Akira" foraging in a rice field, capturing a selfie. Figure 4 features a view of a roost from "Hitoshi." The combination of GPS data and images makes it easy to determine when, where, and what the swans are doing.

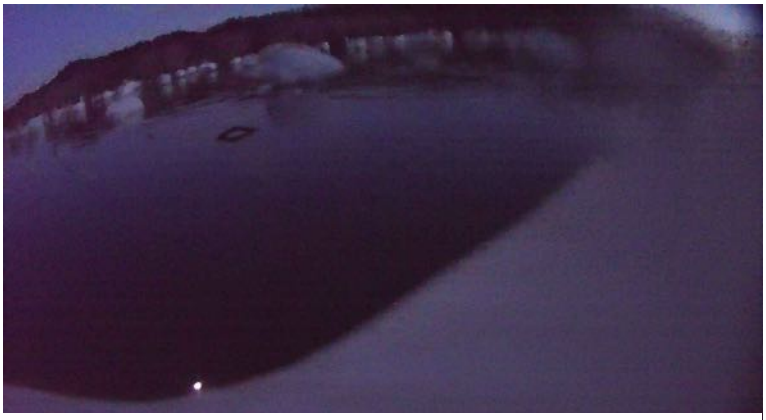


Fig. 4. Roost photographed by "Hitoshi" (December 23, 2023).

Some images, such as "Natsuki's" photo of a friend in flight (Fig. 5) or "Kiyoshi's" capture of friends migrating from Akita to Aomori Prefectures (Fig. 6), show the swans in motion.

Fig. 5. Friend in flight, photographed by "Natsuki" (January 27, 2024).

In some cases, the images reveal additional information.

For example, Figure 6 was taken at 7:00 a.m., and although the GPS tracking indicated a northeast trajectory, the terrain in the image suggested that "Kiyoshi" was actually flying north, 22 km further out to sea than the tracking path showed. This highlights that the GPS path is only an estimate. These swans crossed the sea from Honshu to Hokkaido—a journey previously hypothesized based on satellite tracking data, but now visually confirmed by the project's images (Fig. 7).

We provided an overall summary of the marked swans in Swan News (https://swansg.org/news-and-events/), and here we will focus on other waterfowl captured in SwanEyes.

In March, Whooper Swans equipped with SwanEyes migrated to Hokkaido (Fig. 8).
By April, the swans had left Japan, heading north toward Sakhalin (Fig. 9).
Interestingly, while SwanEyes did not capture other waterfowl at the wintering grounds, it did capture several species of waterfowl at the stopover sites.

Fig. 6. Image from "Kiyoshi" flying from Akita to Aomori Prefectures, showing six companions (March 14, 2024).

Fig. 7. "Kenji" flying over the Pacific Ocean (February 9, 2024).

For example, Greater White-fronted Geese *Anser albifrons* were seen in a dent corn field (Fig. 10), Bean Geese *Anser fabalis serrirostris* in a wheat field (Fig. 11) and Cackling Geese *Branta canadensis* in a wheat field (Fig. 12). During their spring migration, they traveled northward through snow-covered areas, which limited the areas in which they could forage. Because such areas were concentrated with flocks of various waterfowl, it is likely that other species of geese will also be captured by SwanEyes.

These visuals provide insights into their behavior and environment that cannot be understood from location data alone.
The Swan Project is still in its early stages, and while we are learning as we go, the public's positive response has been motivating. Many have been using the available GPS data to track the swans, posting their findings and photographs on X (Twitter). Since SwanEyes only captures images close to the individual swans, photos contributed by others showing the entire flock have been extremely helpful.

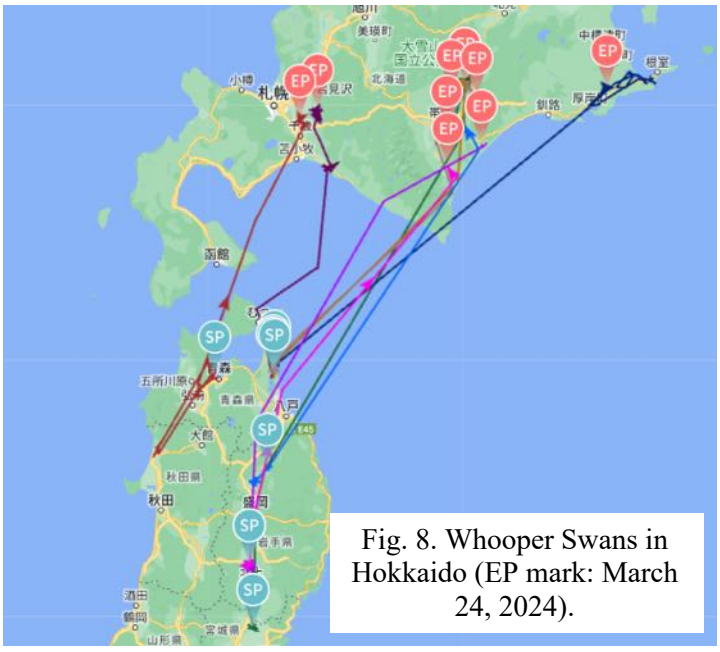


Fig. 8. Whooper Swans in Hokkaido (EP mark: March 24, 2024).

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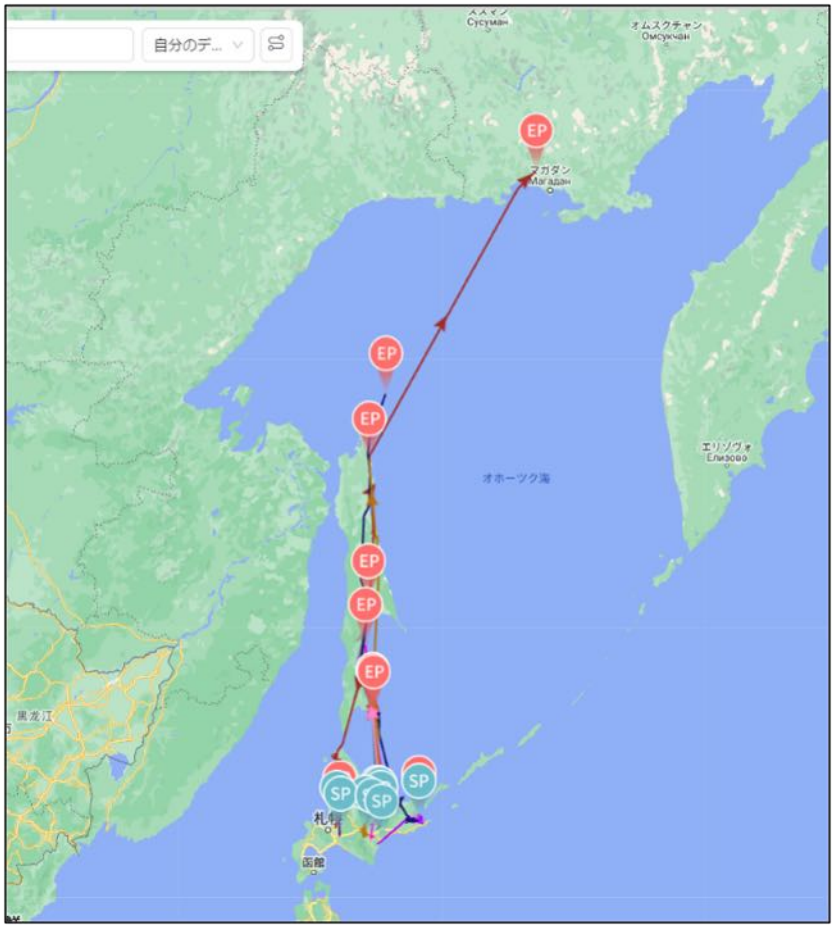

Fig. 9. Whooper Swans in Sakhalin (EP mark: April 30, 2024).

As I write this in late September 2024, communication with the tagged swans is temporarily lost while they are in their breeding grounds. We eagerly anticipate their return in autumn and look forward to the images they will share. We hope this project continues to foster interest in swans, birds, and ornithology as a whole.

Fig. 10. Dent corn field used by "Kenji" and Greater White-fronted Geese (March 23, 2024).

Fig. 11. Wheat field used by "Kenji" and Bean Geese (March 5, 2024).

Fig. 12. Wheat field used by “Asami” and Cackling Geese (March 15, 2024).

Bar-headed Goose Workshop and Hands-on Training in Bayan-Ulgii, Mongolia

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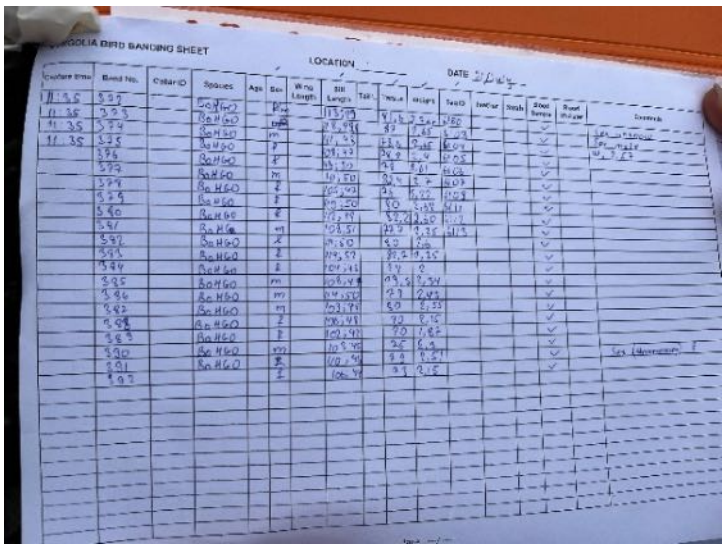
The Central Asian Flyway is one of the major global flyways and is crucial for many migratory birds, like the Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*. One of the most iconic waterfowl species within the flyway is the Bar-headed Goose, which travels between the breeding grounds in Central Asia and wintering areas in southern China and India. Key threats to the species are climate change, wetland loss, and habitat degradation. The population has been declining for the last two decades and is most likely experiencing population fragmentation. Based on this background, the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) supported tracking research of the Bar-headed Goose's migratory routes in western Mongolia and promoted knowledge sharing and the exchange of experiences among researchers in Central Asian Flyway (CAF) countries.

On July 20th, 2024, the HSF, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and the Wildlife Science Conservation Center of Mongolia (WSCC), hosted a significant hybrid workshop on the Bar-headed Goose, a pivotal waterbird of the CAF. This event is part of HSF's Global Project for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change (GMACC), aimed at bolstering regional networks among experts and enhancing collaborative conservation efforts.

Fig. 1. Impression of the Bar-headed Goose workshop

Fig. 2. Participants of the Bar-headed Goose workshop

The workshop kicked off with opening remarks from Dr. Bernhard Seliger, Representative of HSF Korea, and Mr. B. Nurgulan, Chairperson of the Food and Agriculture Department of Bayan-Ulgii Province. These remarks set the stage for a day filled with expert discussions and collaborative sessions.



The Bar-headed Goose, renowned for its remarkable migratory journey across the CAF, passes through multiple countries, underscoring the need for cooperative conservation strategies.

China and India serve as primary breeding grounds for this iconic species, which makes the involvement of experts from these and other Central Asian countries crucial for sharing knowledge and enhancing conservation practices.

Fig. 3. Record of Bar-headed Goose's banding.

Workshop Highlights were:

- Population Size Discussion: An in-depth look at the current population metrics of the Bar-headed Goose to understand trends and make informed decisions.
- Key Sites and Threats: Identification of crucial habitats and the threats they face, facilitating targeted conservation actions.
- Field Research Techniques: Hands-on training in GPS tagging, color banding, and other field research methods to track and monitor the geese effectively.

Fig. 4. Bar-headed Goose banding led by WSCC.

- Movement Modeling Demo: A demonstration of movement modeling techniques to predict migratory patterns and assess habitat needs.
- Networking and Discussion: Opportunities for participants to connect, exchange ideas, and discuss collaborative strategies for the conservation of the Bar-headed Goose and other waterfowl species.

The workshop aimed to foster cooperation among government agencies, researchers, and conservationists across the range countries within the CAF. By identifying actionable steps and enhancing regional collaboration, it sought to support the conservation of the Bar-headed Goose and contribute to the broader efforts to safeguard migratory birds.

Furthermore, the experts participated in the BHG tracking research led by the WSCC on July 22 in Khongor-Ulun Lakes. Together, the WSCC team and the experts successfully captured 20 BHG individuals and equipped 10 of them with satellite transmitters to study their movement ecology.

Obituary: Richard David Hearn (1971 -2024)

Eileen Rees & Kane Brides
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The world of waterbird research and conservation is deeply saddened by the loss of Richard "Rich" Hearn following his untimely death from kidney cancer on 15th February 2024 at the age of 52 years. Rich was internationally renowned for his work on the monitoring and conservation of waterbirds, and led numerous projects on them, many in far-flung parts of the globe. Not only did he have great knowledge and passion for these species, but he made a real difference in helping to secure their future through his expertise and ability to enthuse others, with a generosity of spirit and humour that he brought to all aspects of his life.

Rich was born in Chesham, Buckinghamshire, but moved to Gloucestershire in 1993, aged 22 years, on starting his long career at the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT). He initially joined as a student to run a breeding bird survey at the Cotswold Waterpark and was then hired for an expedition which searched for the critically endangered Brazilian Merganser in Argentina during June–October 1993. This sparked his enduring enthusiasm for wildfowl and, like many other friends and colleagues of that time, he never got around to leaving the WWT. First he worked on non-native Ruddy Ducks (in the UK) and Pink-footed Geese (in the UK and Iceland), before taking on a full-time post as Ringing Assistant at the WWT in 1995. This role required him not only to coordinate WWT's wildfowl ringing activity but to work closely with other UK bird ringers to increase capture and marking effort, which suited him ideally.

Over the next decade, Rich's knowledge, expertise and immense personal skills saw him increasingly involved in waterbird monitoring and conservation internationally, and his reputation grew. He became WWT's Head of Species Monitoring, and led the UK's Goose and Swan Monitoring Programme (which assesses the status of the migratory geese and swans wintering in the UK) for many years. Whilst his role required a reasonable amount of desk-work, to ensure that results were reported, he also travelled extensively, with expeditions to Iceland (to work on Pink-footed Geese and Whooper Swans), the Russian arctic (to ring Bewick's Swans), Bulgaria (for Red-breasted Geese), and to Bangladesh, Kuwait, Dubai and Nigeria (to promote capacity building), along with attending and contributing to many meetings of parties and conferences over the years.

Thus, despite his increasing standing, Rich continued very willingly to engage in fieldwork, which he enjoyed immensely, and was to the great benefit of all involved. In the early 2000s this saw him spend an increasingly amount of time in the Far East, where he worked on migratory species (several of them endangered) in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. He made several visits to China for projects ranging from tagging Spoon-billed Sandpipers (also critically endangered), to track their migration, and working with Beijing Forestry University on Baer's Pochard conservation. His work on waterbird monitoring in East Asia included him joining a Hefei University expedition to survey waterbirds at sites in the Yangtze River floodplain and to train students in research techniques. The "Wild Goose Chase" – an impromptu pursuit by car of Bean Goose flocks as they flew from a daytime roost at Dongting Lake to nighttime feeding areas on the other side of the Yangtze River – was particularly memorable for those lucky enough to be there. Despite the team losing track of the birds during the river crossing, as they disappeared into the distance whilst the cars waited for the ferry.

Back at his desk, Rich was the lead author of two international single species action plans – for Baer's Pochard and Long-tailed Duck – and he also contributed to species action planning for other European seaduck species such as Velvet Scoter. He took on number of honorary roles for other organisations, notably becoming Global Chair of the IUCN SSC Duck Specialist Group and an active member of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) Technical Committee.

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He was also lead author of the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on Waterbird Monitoring, co-authored the Conservation Guidelines on Sustainable Harvest of Migratory Waterbirds, and was closely involved in AEWA's European Goose Management Platform and the African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership.

On moving to WWT's Policy & Advocacy team in 2019, where he focussed on international issues, he continued to advise on issues such as avian influenza surveillance, sustainable hunting and goose-agriculture conflict.

There's no doubt that Rich's contribution to waterbird monitoring and conservation in the African-Eurasian and East Asian flyways was immense and wide-ranging, and his absence from these areas is sorely missed. His legacy however continues, not only through the information gained and initiatives put in place, but through the inspiration and guidance provided to those who continue his work into the future. He will be greatly missed, by his partner Becca, his family, and his many friends.

Outstanding Ornithologists of the past: Coenraad Jacob Temminck (31 March 1778 – 30 January 1858)

Johan H. Mooij
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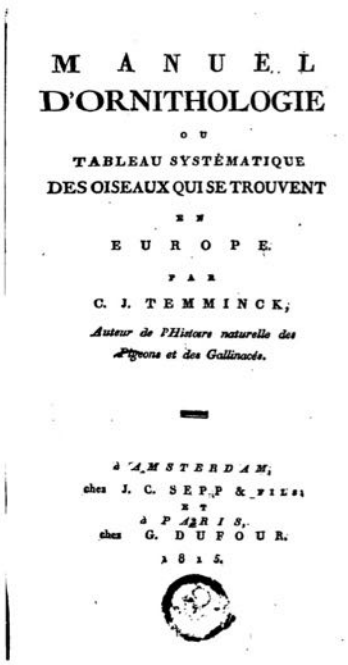
Coenraad Jacob Temminck was a Dutch aristocrat, zoologist (with main focus on ornithology) and museum director.
He was born on March 31, 1778 in Amsterdam from a respected and wealthy family.
His father, Jacob Temminck, was Treasurer of the Dutch United East India Company "Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC; 1602 – 1798) and his mother was Alyda van Stamhorst. Temminck senior not only was a successful businessman, but also a hobby ornithologist, a passion that his son inherited.

Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778-1858)
© Wikipedia

Coenraad Temminck was educated at home by a Swiss governor and was destined to take up high official positions later. At the age of seventeen, through the influence of his father (which was not uncommon at the time), he obtained the position of general sales manager at the former East India Company in 1785. This was an honorary job, which gave him enough time to devote himself to his true interests: birds and ornithology.



MANUEL
D'ORNITHOLOGIE
OU
TABLEAU SYSTÉMATIQUE
DES OISEAUX QUI SE TROUVENT
EN
EUROPE.
PAR
C. J. TEMMINCK,
Auteur de l'Histoire naturelle des Pigeons et des Gallinacés.

A AMSTERDAM,
chez J. C. SEPP & FILS;
ET
A PARIS,
chez G. DUFOUR.
1815.

As in the Netherlands 19 January 1795, as a result of the French revolution, the Batavian Republic ("Bataafse Republiek"; 1795-1806) was proclaimed as successor state to the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands ("Republiek der (Zeven) Verenigde Nederlanden"; 1581/1648 – 1795) the young Coenraad lost this lucrative job. He protested against this measure and was successful: he regained his position and continued his ornithological work.

Temminck developed great technical skills in preparing animals. His method was groundbreaking and was called the "Temminck method" by the famous Museum of Vienna. Between 1807 and 1855 he published a large number of books, mainly on ornithology, and earned an international reputation as an ornithologist and taxonomist. In 1815, Temminck's most famous book "*Manuel d'ornithologie, ou Tableau systemtique des oiseaux qui se trouvent en Europe*" was published.

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For many years it was the standard work on European birds. With this book Temminck definitively established his reputation as an international ornithologist. Between 1820 and 1840 he revised and extended the first edition of his book into four volumes.

In 1815 Coenraad Temminck became acting director of the Leiden Cabinet of Natural History and proposed to bring together the most important national natural history collections, which were those of the Leiden Cabinet of Natural History of Leiden University, including a large collection of Professor Brugmans, the collection of the National Cabinet of Natural History collected by the Dutch king Lodewijk Napoleon Bonaparte (1806-1810) and the Dutch royal family of Oranje-Nassau, and Temminck's own collection (including the collection he inherited from his father), in a new museum.

Building of the National Museum of Natural History ("Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie") (1820-1913) © Wikipedia.

In return for providing his collection, he proposed himself as the first director. His idea was presented by his friend Anton Reinhard Falck (1777-1843) to the Dutch king Willem I, who strongly supported the development of science in the Netherlands. The king liked the idea and on the 9th of August 1820 he signed a decree establishing a National Museum of Natural History ("Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie"), based in Leiden, with Coenraad Temminck as its first director.

As the new director of a new museum Temminck had a clear aim: he wanted to compete with the great museums of Paris and Vienna. To enlarge his museum collection he only kept a single specimen per species. If there were several specimens of a species in the collection, he used these as a means of exchange to expand the number of species and enlarge the species diversity of the museum collection. He also bought skins of birds, mammals and fish from colleagues and brought back many prepared animals from his frequent travels. According to Temminck's museum concept the collection should be freely accessible almost all day long for anybody wishing to study the objects.

Temminck was already a passionate collector and taxonomist long before he became director of the museum and collected so many specimens in his house in Amsterdam that the collection filled a large part of all rooms, including the hallway and portal. But he not only collected species to enlarge at first his own and later the collection of the museum, he also had a passion for classifying the species he got in hold of and assigning them a correct place in the zoological system.

The insights gained from the intensive study of his collection as well as parts of it, were reflected in a great number of publications and new species descriptions. During his life he wrote at least 12 books and at least 14 mammal, 20 bird, 2 reptile, 10 fish and one shark species bear the name of Coenraad Jacob Temminck.

Temminck made extended trips through Europe to visit other museums and private collections to acquire high quality specimens for the collection of his own museum, to meet old friends and make new acquaintances and so gradually building an extended network of naturalists, collectors and scientists, which furthered his carreer.

In early 1817 Temminck was commissioned by the government to enlarge and improve the zoological collections of the universities of Leuven, Ghent and Liège, besides his duties at the Leiden Cabinet of Natural History. The idea was, to build similar collections at these universities by exchanging and purchasing specimens. Temminck was in charge of the finances and responsible to the Ministry.
Temminck made use of his extensive network and travelled through Europe, visiting natural history cabinets to acquire specimens by asking for duplicates. However, this project was never a labor of love of Temminck and not extremely successful. The specimens he collected as part of this commission were obviously of lower quality than those in his collection in Leiden, which triggered strong protests from his colleagues of the other universities.

Painting of Temminck's cottage
"Wildlust" in Lisse by P.J. Lutgers (1865)

Temminck was an extremely active man, as we say nowadays a "workaholic", who got up early in the morning, worked all day at home or at the museum and seldom got to bed before midnight. In his professional life he regularly stood out for his excessive self-confidence, which didn't always make him a pleasant colleague. In his private life, however, according to his contemporaries, he definitely was an aristocratic bon-vivant as well as a diplomatic and amiable person and as a generous host, who enjoyed receiving his friends, especially at his country residence "Wildlust" in Lisse, where he spent a considerable part of the year working and hunting.

Until 1834 his main residence was in Amsterdam, subsequently he moved to Leiden, keeping his house in Lisse, as a summer residence. He married three times; his first wife died after 24 years, his second wife after four years of marriage. The first two marriages remain childless, but from his third marriage four sons were born.

Coenraad Jacob Temminck reached the age of almost eighty, and continued to enjoy undisturbed physical and mental strength until the year 1857. Then, however, his strength began to fail. He spent the summer and autumn of 1857 struggling with his health, and finally succumbed on January 30, 1858. His last visit was to his beloved museum.

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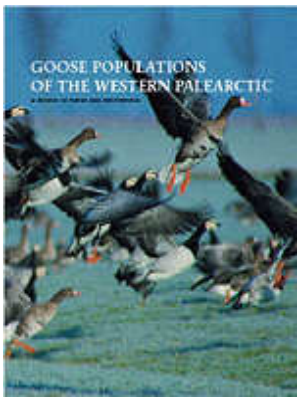
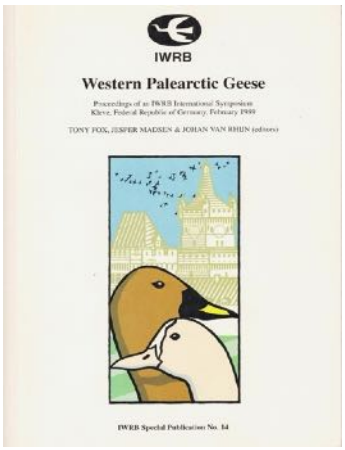


Goose populations of the Western Palearctic

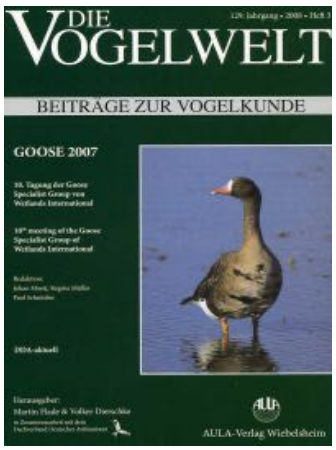
The Goose Specialist Group made an impressive compilation (edited by Jesper Madsen, Tony Fox & Gill Cracknell) of our knowledge on the status and distribution of the goose populations of the Western Palearctic. This book is not for sale anymore, but a digital copy can be downloaded for free from:
http://issuu.com/jesper_madsen/docs/goosepopulationswestpalearctic
or from
http://bios.au.dk/en/knowledge-exchange/about-our-research-topics/ animals-and-plants/mammals-and-birds/goose-populations-of-the-western-palearctic/

Proceedings of the Klever, the 10th and the 12th meeting of the GSG

Furthermore it is still possible to receive a printed copy of the official proceedings of earlier meetings of the Goose Specialist group, as there are:



Proceedings Goose Meeting 1989 (Kleve, Germany)
Interested? Please contact: johan.mooij@bskw.de



Proceedings Goose 2007 (Xanten, Germany)
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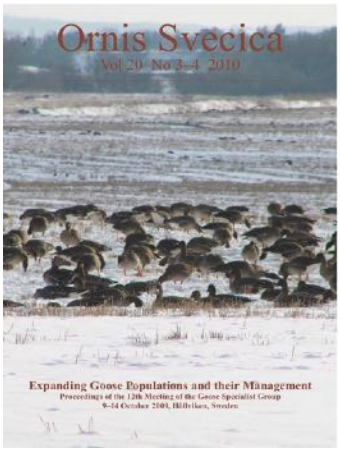

Proceedings Goose 2009 (Höllviken, Sweden)
Interested? Please contact: leif.nilsson@zooekol.lu.se

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Proceedings of the 14th meeting of the Goose Specialist Group

The proceedings of the 14th meeting of the Goose Specialist Group held in Steinkjer, Norway in April 2012 have been published in the online journal Ornis Norvegica, which is the scientific journal of the Norwegian Ornithological Society (Norsk Ornitologisk Forening – NOF). You can find articles from the 2012 meeting, as well as a number of other ornithological papers which are surely of interest on the journal website: https://boap.uib.no/index.php/ornis/issue/view/62

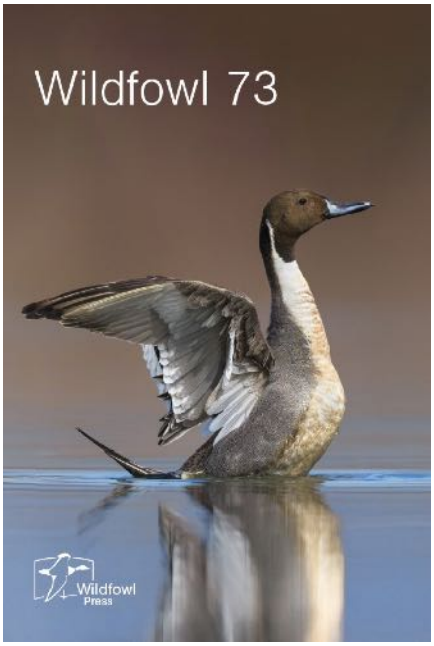
Proceedings of the 15th meeting of the Goose Specialist Group

The proceedings of the 15th meeting of the Goose Specialist Group held in Arcachon, France in January 2013 have appeared as a special edition of the journal **Wildfowl.**

By sending an email to wildfowl@wwt.org.uk a printed copy of this Special Issue (nr.3) can be ordered at the cost of £17 plus an additional £3.50 for credit card transactions.

It also can be downloaded for free at:
http://wildfowl.wwt.org.uk/index.php/wildfowl/issue/view/285

The journal Wildfowl



Wildfowl is an international scientific journal, published annually by Wildfowl Press, and previously published by the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (from 1948–2020).
The journal appeared originally as the Annual Report of The Severn Wildfowl Trust at the end of the Trust's first working year in 1947. From the outset it presented the results of scientific research in order to improve knowledge and understanding of wildfowl populations. It disseminates original material on the ecology, biology and conservation of wildfowl (Anseriformes) and ecologically associated birds (such as waders, rails and flamingos), and on their wetland habitats. Research and review articles related to policy development and application are welcome. Material on habitat management is also sought, particularly where this is directed to the conservation of wildfowl and other wetland birds.

In 2020, the WWT took a decision that it would no longer publish the journal, as part of its plans to refocus as a wetland conservation charity.
The journal however continues to thrive with support from the waterbird research and conservation community, and is now being published by "Wildfowl Press", a newly-formed publisher dedicated to the journal, with pdfs also being made available online as usual.

Impact factor: 1.094 (2021)

The complete back catalogue of Wildfowl is available via the Open Journal System at https://wildfowl.wwt.org.uk/index.php/wildfowl

The current Issue is Wildfowl 73 (2023), which was published in November 2023.

The IUCN-SSC waterbird specialist groups (Swan, Ducks, Geese, Threatened Waterbirds) support "their Wildfowl Journal" as well as its publisher the "Wildfowl Press".

Those interested in having access to or receiving future issues of the journal please send an email to Eileen Rees on her personal email, at <ReesEileenC@gmail.com>, including indicating whether they might be willing to subscribe to the journal. Either for online access to papers and/or for printed copy.

Instructions to authors

The Goose Bulletin accepts all manuscripts dealing with goose ecology, goose research and goose protection in the broadest sense as well as Goose Specialist Group items.
All manuscripts should be submitted in English language and in electronic form. Text files should be submitted in ".doc"-format, Font "Times New Roman 12 point", tables and graphs in ".xls"-format and pictures in good quality and ".jpg"-format.
Species names should be written with capitals as follows: Greylag Goose, Greenland White-fronted Goose etc. Follow an appropriate authority for common names (e.g. Checklist of Birds of the Western Palearctic). Give the (scientific) Latin name in full, in italics, at first mention in the main text, not separated by brackets.
Numbers- less than ten use words e.g. (one, two three etc) greater than 10, use numbers with blank for numbers over 1 000.
In case of doubt please look at the last issue of the Goose Bulletin.

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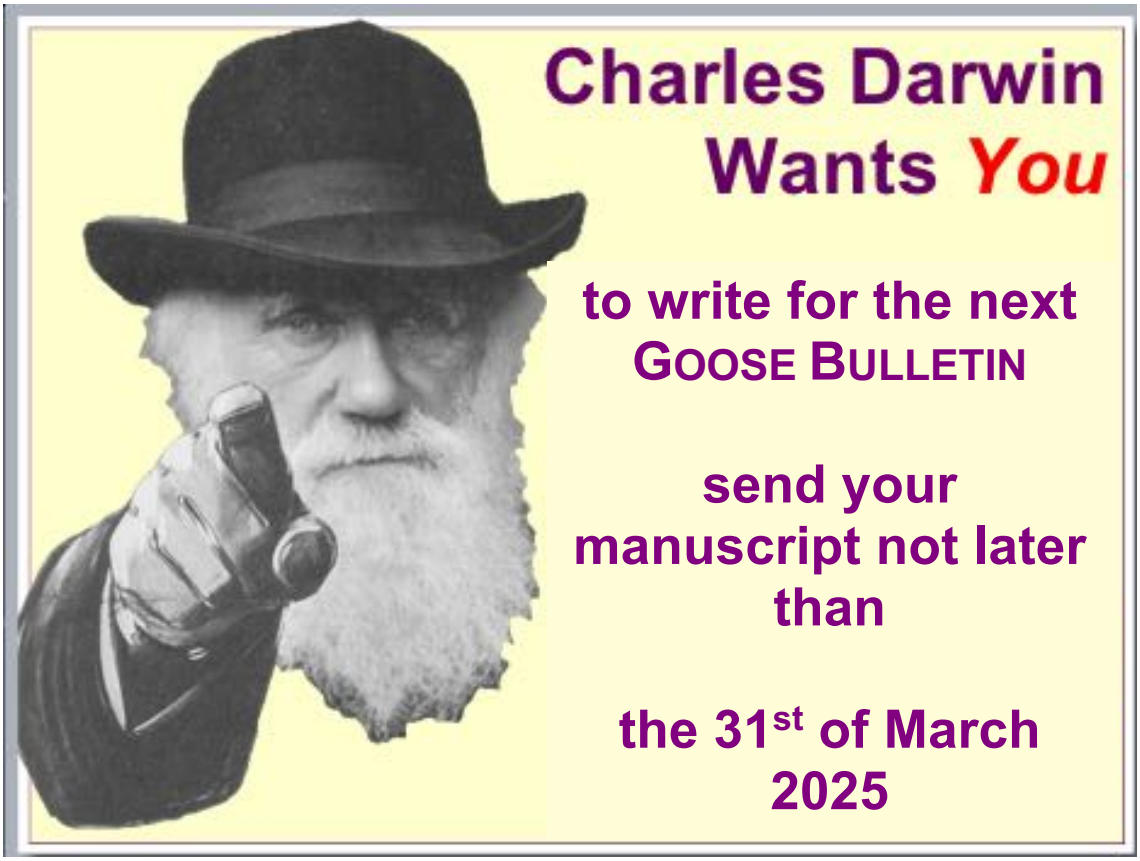

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