



Greenland White-fronted Goose Study

Greenland White-fronted Goose international workshop Islay, 24-26 February 2009

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 TUESDAY 24 February

- 10.00 - 10.30 **Formal opening by Scottish Natural Heritage involving other relevant individuals**
Outline of objectives of meeting, introduction and welcome to Islay
1. **Review of the past and current status and threats to Greenland White-fronted Geese (Chair: Jesper Madsen, Denmark)**
- 10.30 – 11.20 What we do and don't know about the dynamics of the Greenland White-fronted Goose population (Tony Fox, GWGS/NERI)
- 11.20 – 11.45 **Tea or coffee**
- Country summaries: current conservation issues**
- 11.45 – 12.05 Ireland (John Wilson, Ireland)
- 12.05 – 12.25 Northern Ireland (Ian Enlander, NIEA)
- 12.25 – 12.40 Wales (Matt Murphy, CCW)
- 12.40 – 13.00 Scotland (Andy Douse, SNH)

13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 14.20	Round-table discussion and reflection on common issues raised regarding wintering areas
14.20 – 14.40	Iceland (Ævar Petersen, Icelandic Institute of Natural History)
14.40 – 15.00	Greenland (Christian Gladher, NERI, Denmark)
15.00 – 15.30	Round-table discussion and reflection on issues raised regarding staging and breeding grounds
15.30 – 15.50	Tea or coffee
15.50 – 18.20	2. Interactive session to review the main identified threats and possibilities for their reduction (Chair: Ævar Petersen, Iceland)
	Each issue will be introduced with a single slide summarising the issue with facilitated round-table discussion to capture key elements on which the Action Plan should be focussed
20	Inter-specific competition
20	Climate change impacts
15	Human disturbance on the breeding grounds
20	Human disturbance on the non-breeding grounds
15	Unsustainable harvesting
10	Collision with man-made structures
15	Habitat loss and degradation
15	Inadequate knowledge and knowledge management
5	Contraction of range
15	Conclusions and summing up, including relative ranking of seriousness of threats and the priorities to be given to them at different scales
19.30	Drinks Reception
20.00	Formal dinner hosted by SNH

DAY 2
Wednesday 25 February

Morning (09.00 departure from hotel)	Local excursion to look at site management issues Including visits to local farm and Gruinart RSPB reserve to see different management regimes.
13.00	Lunch at Bowmore Village Hall
13.00 – 15.00	Either: a) free time to explore Bowmore; or b) some participants will visit local primary schools to discuss the annual life cycle of Greenland White-fronted Geese
15.00 – 17.00	3. Managing wintering sites for Greenland White-fronted Geese (Chair: John Wilson, Ireland)
	Session open to the public and held in Bowmore Village Hall
15.00 – 15.40	The Scottish Goose Management Scheme and the Islay experience (Bill Dundas (SGRPID) & Barbara Bremner (SNH)) Four short reviews by site managers of management regimes and key issues at a few contrasting reserves:
15.40 – 16.00	Wexford Slobs (Dominic Berridge, NPWS)
16.00 – 16.20	Gruinart (James How, RSPB)
16.20 – 16.40	Tiree (John Bowler, RSPB)
16.40 – 17.00	Loch Lomond NNR (Tim Jacobs, SNH)
17.00 – 17.30	Discussion and reflection on issues raised regarding management of wintering sites, including conflict resolution
18.00-19.00	Dinner
Evening (19.30 - 21.30)	Bowmore Village Hall, open public slideshow (Chair: Tony Fox, Denmark)
Brief coffee-break at c. 20.30	Informal slide presentation by workshop participants showing the habitats and range of different locations used by the geese in the different parts of the range, and the range of challenges faced by the geese as they fly on their 6,000 km annual migrations. UK – Ian Francis; Ireland – Alyn Walsh; Iceland – Arnór Sigfússon; and Greenland – Christian Gladher.

DAY 3
Thursday 26 February

- 09.00 – 13.00 **4. Review of proposed conservation actions and responses (solutions) (Chair: Colin Galbraith, Scotland)**
- 09.00 – 09.40 The role of AEWA and examples of international action plans for migratory waterbirds (Sergey Dereliev, AEWA Secretariat)
- 09.40 – 10.20 Introduction to the proposed international action plan for Greenland White-fronted Geese: structure and contents (David Stroud, GWGS/JNCC)
- 10.20 – 10.50 **Tea or coffee**
- 10.50 – 13.00 Facilitated round-table discussion of issues, including
- Central conservation needs
 - What are the practical means of international co-operation in research and conservation?
 - How best to share experience between Range States with respect to conflict resolution?
 - What are the legal and other options for international co-operation?
 - How to funding the necessary actions?
 - How best to create synergies with other organisational and policy mechanisms given general capacity constraints within Range States
- 13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch**
- Circulation of draft workshop summary and redraft of threat table from draft Action Plan*
- 14.00 - 16.00 **5. Discussion and adoption of workshop summary (Chair: Colin Galbraith, Scotland)**
- Conclusion and next steps**
- 16.00 **Formal closure of meeting**
- 16.15 **Tea or coffee**
- 19.00 **Dinner**