European Environment Agency
European Topic Centre
on Biological Diversity

Anser albifrons flavirostris
Greenland/Ireland & UK

Annex I	Yes
International action plan	SAP

Greater White-fronted Goose, *Anser albifrons*, is a species of goose found in cropland, grassland and wetland ecosystems. It breeds in Greenland and arctic Russia. The species breeds in open, low-lying, shrubby tundra on the coast and inland, in close proximity to marshes, lakes, pools, rivers, and willow- and shrub-lined ponds and streams. It requires dry slopes, banks, mounds, hummocks or patches of sand or clay for nesting sites, especially those commanding good views of the surrounding area. The species winters in open country on steppe and agricultural land and wet meadows, or in brackish and freshwater marshy habitats. It may also roost on tidal marshes, in sheltered bays or in estuaries and frequents inland lakes and reservoirs in North America (European Red List 2015).

Anser albifrons albifrons, the European subspecies, has a winter population size of 1410000-2260000 individuals in the EU27. The winter population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term. *Anser albifrons flavirostris*, the Greenland subspecies, which winters in Britain and Ireland, has a winter population size of 25100-25200 individuals in the EU27. The winter population trend in the EU27 is Decreasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

The EU status assessment was carried out at the species level, *Anser albifrons*. *Anser albifrons* has a winter population size of 1430000-2280000 individuals in the EU27. The winter population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

The EU population status of *Anser albifrons* was assessed as Secure, because the species does not meet any of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened or Near Threatened, or the criteria for Depleted or Declining (the EU27 population or range has not declined by 20% or more since 1980).

This factsheet was produced for *Anser albifrons flavirostris* [Greenland/Ireland & UK] population. Also other subspecies/populations of the same species occur within the EU27. The assessment of status at the European level and the introductory text were done at the species level in line with the criteria for assessment of the EU population status.

Assessment of status at the European level

Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range area	Breeding range trend		Winter population size	Winter population trend		Population status
	Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term	
						25100 - 25200 i	-	+	Secure

See the endnotes for more information[i]

The population status assessment at the EU level was carried out at the species level. The EU status assessment covers following subspecies/populations: *Anser albifrons albifrons, Anser albifrons flavirostris* [Greenland/Ireland & UK] (each of them presented in a separate factsheet).

Additional assessment at the subspecies level

Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range area	Breeding range trend		Winter population size	Winter population trend		Population status
	Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term	
									Threatened

Distribution map not available.

Trends at the Member State level

MS/Ter.	% in EU27	Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range area	Breeding range trend		Winter population size	Winter population trend	
			Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term
IE								12173 - 12173 i	-	+
UK								13000 - 13000 i	-	+

See the endnotes for more information[ii]

Short-term breeding population trend was not reported for this species.

Anser albifrons flavirostris
Greenland/Ireland & UK sub-population
Short-term winter population trend

Decreasing
Increasing
Stable or fluctuating
Unknown trend
Extinct
Present
EU Member States
Outside data coverage
<= 12 200
<= 13 000
<= n .a.
<= n .a.
No. of individuals

Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the 20 most important pressures and threats using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal (http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article_12/reference_portal). Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. The table below only contains information from Member States, where a species triggers SPA classification. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance', the table below only shows pressures and threats classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten pressures and threats reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures and threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	33
M02	Biotic changes (climate change)	33
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	17
K03	Interspecific faunal relations	17

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the size of a species population occurring within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
IE	winter	YES	99.18
UK	winter	YES	41.49

See the endnotes for more information[iii]

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
2.2	Adapting crop production	29

Code	Measure	Frequency
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	29
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	29
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	14

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 12 of the Birds Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2008-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at: http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article12/summary?period=1&subject=A395 .

[i] **Assessment of status at the European level:** The EU assessments of birds population status was made by the European Red List of Birds Consortium (under contract with the European Commission)

The EU27 population trends were assessed using these categories: '+' Increasing, '0' Stable, 'F' Fluctuating, '-' Decreasing, 'xu' Uncertain and 'x' Unknown. The breeding population size is estimated in majority of the cases as 'p' number of pairs. Alternative population units used are: 'males' number of males, 'i' number of individuals, 'cmales' number of calling males and 'bfem' number of breeding females. The winter population size is estimated as number of individuals.

[ii]**Species trends at the Member State level:** The percentage of the EU27 species population occurring in the Member States (% in EU27) is calculated based on the population size reported by the Member States.

[iii]**Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites:** In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the species population and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece and for non-Annex I species in the Czech Republic.