



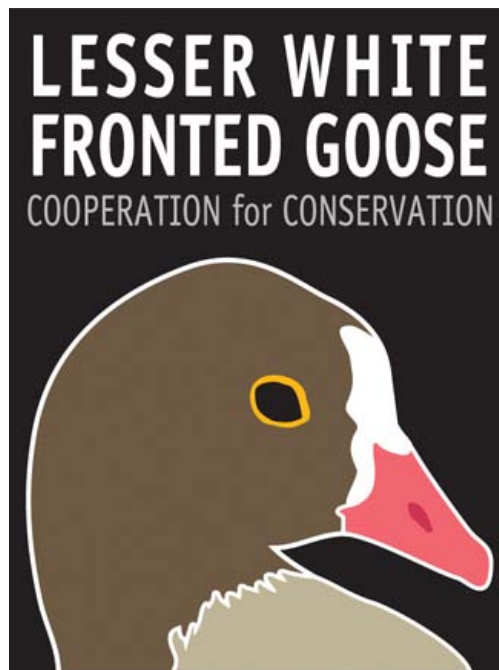
LIFE10 NAT/GR/000638



LIFE+10 NAT/GR/000638 Project

« Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose
Fennoscandian population
in key wintering and staging sites within the
European flyway »

After-LIFE Conservation Plan



**Time frame:
2017-2020**



MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT
& ENERGY



METSÄHALLITUS

The report forms the After LIFE Plan for the LIFE+ Project “Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose Fennoscandian population in key wintering and staging sites within the European flyway” (LIFE10 NAT/GR/000638) and is produced in the framework of Action E5: Develop an “After-LIFE” conservation plan.

Project Identity

Title: Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose Fennoscandian population in key wintering and staging sites within the European flyway

EU Code: LIFE+10 NAT/GR/000638

Project area: Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Finland

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End date: 30/04/2017

Project Duration: 68 months

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Norwegian Environment Agency contribution: 350.000€

Project Coordinator: Hellenic Ornithological Society/BirdLife Greece

Project partners:

Forest Research Institute – Hellenic Agricultural Organization “Demeter” / Greece

Ministry of Environment and Energy / Greece

Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds / Bulgaria

Hortobágy National Park Directorate / Hungary

Secretariat of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat) / UN

WWF Fi / Finland

Metsähallitus Natural Heritage Services / Finland

Project website: www.wwf.fi/lwfg

Facebook: Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose

Contact Person: Manolia Vougioukalou

Hellenic Ornithological Society/BirdLife Greece

Themistokleous 80 Athens

10681 Greece, Athens

+30 210 8228704 & +30 210 8227937

e-mail: mvougioukalou@ornithologiki.gr

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Abbreviations

| | |
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| AEWA | African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement |
| BSPB | Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds |
| FRI | Forest Research Institute |
| HAOD | Hellenic Agricultural Organisation “Demeter” |
| HNPД | Hortobágy National Park Directorate |
| HOS | Hellenic Ornithological Society |
| IUCN | International Union for Conservation of Nature |
| LWfG | Lesser White-fronted Goose |
| MEE | Ministry of Environment and Energy (Greece) |
| MEW | Ministry of Environment and Waters (Bulgaria) |
| NAHA | National Association of Hunters and Anglers |
| NAP | National Action Plan |
| NOF | Norsk Ornitologisk Forening (BirdLife Norway) |
| RFD | Regional Forestry Directorates (Bulgaria) |
| SPS | Smart Patrol System |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |

Part 1: After-LIFE Plan

1.1 Introduction

The project “Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose Fennoscandian population in key wintering and staging sites within the European flyway” begun in September 2011 and ended in April 2017. The aim of the project was to implement urgent concrete conservation actions in wintering and staging grounds of the Fennoscandian population of the Lesser White-fronted Goose (LWfG) in south east Europe in order to halt its alarming population decline. The LWfG is a Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) Annex I species and is characterized as Vulnerable by the IUCN. The global population trend has shown a rapid decline and the Fennoscandian population even more so, which is now characterized as Critically Endangered within the EU. At the beginning of the project in 2011 the Fennoscandian LWfG population was estimated to 20-30 pairs. The project undertook concrete conservation actions in seven Natura 2000 sites in Greece, Bulgaria and Hungary that aimed to 1. Reduce mortality rates related to hunting, 2. Provide suitable foraging and roosting habitats, 3. Increase knowledge and awareness and 4. Maximise international cooperation.

The project was successfully completed in 2017. The conservation efforts that took place in the project framework received international recognition, and the decreasing trend of the LWfG Fennoscandian population has now been reversed and the population shows an annual increase on 15%. The project actions were designed and implemented in a way that allows their continuation beyond the end of the LIFE project, ensuring a long-lasting effect of the project on the species.



The whole Fennoscandian Lesser White-fronted Goose population in Lake Kerkini, Greece (November 2014).
Photo.: Kostas Papadopoulos/Lake Kerkini Management Authority

1.2 Aims of the After-LIFE Plan

The general aim of the LWfG After-LIFE conservation plan is to utilize the progress, the know-how and the techniques developed during the LIFE10 NAT/GR/000638 project in order to allow the partners and other relevant stakeholders to actively and significantly contribute to the aims of the International Species Action Plan for the Lesser White-fronted Goose regarding the Fennoscandian population, and also to the National Action Plans (NAP) where these exist. The plan aims to address the main threats of the species at the project sites, highlighted from the International Species Action Plan for the Fennoscandian population as well the Final Report of LIFE10 NAT/GR/000638.

The After-Plan project partners, plan how to continue necessary project actions, outline the framework and timetable for the implementation of the actions, and the suggested or definite source of funding. When appropriate, the project outlines and plans actions not implemented during the LIFE10 NAT/GR/000638 but considered necessary for the conservation of the Fennoscandian LWfG population.

The After-Life plan addresses the conservation issues of the LWfG in the following thematic categories:

1. Population Increase
2. Habitat conservation
3. Policy and legislation
4. Monitoring and research
5. Dissemination and awareness

1.3 Main actions

1.3.1 Population maintenance/increase

Increased mortality due to illegal and accidental killing and disturbance from hunting constitute major threats for the species globally. As a result any comprehensive and effective LWfG conservation programme must include actions to minimize these threats. Through the implementation of the following actions the staging and wintering sites of the Fennoscandian LWfG are sites, in which the LWfG do not face the threat of population loss through illegal killing and shooting. Through the following actions, disturbance to the LWfG Fennoscandian population is minimized, contributing to reproduction success and eventually to population recovery. In the framework of the LIFE+ project methodologies and capacity now exist in Greece and Bulgaria with which the mortality threat can be minimized.

1.3.1.1 Greece: Patrolling at the main LWfG wintering sites (Action C1)

Patrolling in the Greek project sites is described in the Greek LWfG NAP as the most important action that needs to be implemented immediately and continuously. More specifically the NAP prescribes patrolling in all LWfG sites, which extends beyond the project sites and also includes the Koronia-Volvi Lakes SPA (GR122009) and the Nestos Delta SPA (GR1150001). Patrolling will utilize the capacity, technology, equipment and infrastructure acquired and developed through the Smart Patrol System (Project Action C1), which has been donated to the Management Authorities of Kerkini Lake, Ismarida Lake and the Evros Delta. Patrolling will be executed by the Management Authority staff and assisted by the local Forest Services during the period when the LWfG are present. Additional / beyond recurrent schedule patrols are also foreseen in the NAP and funding has so far been secured for the Evros Delta for five wintering seasons. Patrolling is expected to be significantly improved in the project areas due to the extensive capacity building that took place in the LIFE project framework through the SPS implementation and the training seminars for the local authorities. Additionally, patrolling in the Evros Delta is facilitated by the wildlife refuge vehicle traffic ban that has been initiated during the LIFE project and is valid until 05-01-2020. The ban is mostly respected by hunters and reduces significantly the disturbance and patrol needs of the wildlife refuge's core area that is also the most important area for the LWfG.



The Remote Site in Evros Delta. The system is installed on a lagoon islet, allowing access only by boat, in order to safeguard the system from vandalism. *Photo: Alexandra Demertzi/HOS*

1.3.1.2 Bulgaria: Patrolling at the main LWfG staging sites (Action C2))

A scheme for patrolling the most important goose sites will be established and operate in Bulgaria. Joint checks will be carried out within the duration of the hunting season from December to February each year. The patrolling teams will consist of representatives from MEW, RFD and/or NAHA and will depend on the local conditions. Priority will be put on sites identified as important sites for the LWfG. Patrolling will be carried out in the Burgas region, NE of Bulgaria (Shabla, Durankulak), Northern Bulgaria (Zlatiyata and/or Svishtov-Belene lowland) and the inner part of the country (Pyasachnik and/or Ovcharitsa reservoirs) and mostly where a regular goose presence occurs during the season. The joint inspections will be carried out twice per month in the abovementioned period and in the identified territories and consequently protocols of the checks will be filled in.

1.3.2 Habitat restoration at staging and wintering sites

The LWfG is a habitat specialist that at least in Europe relies on natural grasslands and wetlands for feeding and roosting. During the LIFE+ project, the LWfG diet composition and selection was evaluated and the results showed that LWfG feed mainly on grasses but also on a variety of plant foods based on their availability. Taking into account the diet results, habitat management actions took place in LWfG wintering and staging sites in Greece and Hungary. The maintenance and continuation of these actions, where appropriate, will be implemented by the local authorities responsible for the LWfG site management. However the vegetation characteristics may differentiate among years due to changes in factors such as soil salinity, number of livestock and wild herbivores etc. As a consequence, diet composition and feeding behavior may also be changed. As a result, monitoring of vegetation characteristics, as well as, feeding and movement behavior of the LWfG is recommended.

1.3.2.1 Greece: Incorporation of pilot vegetation management actions in to the Evros Delta National Park management (Action C3)

In the framework of project action C3 (Suitable habitat management at key feeding and roosting sites in Evros Delta), vegetation management took place in selected plots within the main LWfG areas in the Evros Delta. Management mainly included the mechanical removal of halophytic vegetation and the subsequent light ploughing and seeding of a mix of two grasses and a legume species based on the LWfG diet. The aim was to provide additional food available for the LWfG during their presence there. The final report of this action is available online at the project website and was also submitted to the Evros Delta National Park Management Authority. The report describes the details of the management actions and also recommendations to be taken into account by the Management Authority for the future. When and where needed, the Evros Delta Management Authority will implement the pilot management measures on a wider scale.

1.3.2.2 Hungary: Maintenance of appropriate water and vegetation management in Hortobágy National Park (Action C4)

During the project period, Hortobágy National Park Directorate (HNPD) carried out habitat restoration and management actions on the Hortobágy-fishponds, as the main traditional sites for LWfG in order to provide ideal habitat conditions during migration in the Hortobágy National Park (HNP). Ensuring that the LWfG sites within the HNP are maintained at an optimal condition for the LWfG, the restored habitats (Fishponds V, VI and Kondás) will be managed by the HNPD through the After LIFE period. The HNPD will ensure optimal water level management, providing an optimal mosaic habitat conditions for resting and feeding areas at the Hortobágy-fishponds. According to the adjacent areas, the HNPD will secure optimal grazing regimes as vegetation management around the Fishponds at the alkali grassland-meadow-marshland mosaics, which will provide pioneer mud vegetation, as well freshly grazed grasslands and ponds with various water levels for the endangered LWfG population during their stay in the Hortobágy National Park. With the relevant experience and know-how, the HNPD will offer help to any other organization carrying out similar water and vegetation management.



The Hortobágy National Park. *Photo: HPND*

1.3.3 Policy and legislation

A number of action plans have been developed, endorsed and begun their implementation during the LWfG LIFE+ project. Even though endorsement of the Bulgarian and Greek LWfG National Action Plans (NAPs) is pending, progress is still considered significant, as in Greece at least it has been the first time that a NAP procedure is initiated. Additionally, the NAP procedure itself has been important as all relevant stakeholders participated in it and as a result the framework of action has been set, all existing knowledge on the species has been collected and all actions necessary for LWfG conservation in each country have been identified.

1.3.3.1 National Action Plan for the LWfG in Bulgaria (Action A8)

The BSPB has established a contact with the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Waters and has submitted the NAP to the Ministry as foreseen by the LIFE project. Following this a communication was initiated with the Chief expert in the Ministry in order for the NAP to be endorsed by the Biodiversity Council. The BSPB will maintain close contact so that the LWfG NAP can be considered by this Council and finally a decision to be taken. Following national legislation the BSPB has undertaken all the actions foreseen so that the NAP can be endorsed, however the actual endorsement process cannot be controlled by any legal means by the submitting party. Once the Biodiversity Council makes a decision regarding the NAP endorsement the BSPB will comply accordingly.

Nevertheless, without the legal endorsement of the LWfG NAP a number of actions described in the NAP can still be implemented:

- Filling in the gaps in the standard Natura 2000 forms for the SPAs in Bulgaria where the species occurs
- LWfG species experts in Bulgaria to take part in the development of protected sites and SPAs action plans in order to ensure the protection of the LWfG and its habitats within these territories by providing expert opinion and notes on the regimes of the concrete territory
- Prolongation of the patrolling in the most important and critical LWfG sites in Bulgaria and mediation of the communication between different institutions
- Development of the network of field researchers and involvement of new people to cover larger territories in the country
- Coordination of the LWfG monitoring with the international working group
- Raising the awareness of the local stakeholders towards the LWfG and its habitats, especially among hunters and farmers
- Annual estimation of the wintering and staging LWfG population in Bulgaria

1.3.3.2 National Action Plan for the LWfG in Hungary (Action A8)

The HNPД and the Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for the evaluation of the Hungarian NAP implementation. HNPД will keep in touch with the national and international expert groups, stakeholders, NGOs, etc. on the species within Hungary and its surroundings (Carpathian Basin) and if it's necessary, will organize LWfG meetings. If any national or international project will come up which can be related with the LWfG or have any effect on the species, HNPД will ensure that it will be in harmony with the NAP. At the same time, the NAP will be taken into account during harmonisation or legislation laws. With the relevant experience HNPД will offer help for other countries, with the legislation process of a new NAP.

1.3.3.3 National and Local Action Plans for the LWfG in Greece (Action A8 & D1)

A National Action Plan for the LWfG (Action A8) was developed in which all actions necessary for LWfG conservation in Greece were described, budgeted, and assigned to a responsible relevant authority or organization. Despite the efforts of the HOS, other partners and affiliated organizations the NAP has not been yet endorsed. The HOS is and will be in frequent communication with the Ministry of Environment and Energy until the endorsement procedure is complete which is foreseen in the coming months. Even though the NAP is not yet a legally binding document the progress achieved in the framework of this action is considered significant as capacity and procedures now exist for both NGOs and the Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy for NAP development. A number of actions described in the NAP will be implemented even without its endorsement as they are recurrent for already existing authorities. For example the Management Authorities of the LWfG sites will monitor the LWfG movements and will also patrol the sites in collaboration with the local Forest Services.

Local Action Plans were developed and endorsed (Action D1) that foresee coordinated action to minimize illegal killing in the three key LWfG areas (Kerkini Lake, Ismarida Lake, Evros Delta). As a result the framework now exists for local authorities that are responsible for the management of illegal killing and hunting, to collaborate annually in order to minimize illegal killing in their respective areas. The Local Action Plans are foreseen by the Greek Ministry for Environment and Energy and unless amended they are valid indefinitely.

The HOS policy department will remain active in LWfG-relevant legislation monitoring, and will participate in all discussions with the Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy regarding waterfowl hunting regulations, especially during the annual Hunting Act consultation.

1.3.3.4 Coordinating international LWfG conservation action: the International Single Species Action Plan for the LWfG (Action E3)

The AEWA International Single Species Action Plan for the Lesser White-fronted Goose was adopted at the 4th Session of the Meeting of the AEWA Parties in 2008 and remains the internationally agreed conservation framework for the conservation of the species within the Western Palearctic. The implementation of the International Action Plan will continue to be coordinated by the inter-governmental AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group, as facilitated by the International Lesser White-fronted Goose Coordinator situated at the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. Urgent conservation activities as prioritized by the Working Group on the basis of the International Action Plan are captured in the 2016-2019 Work Plan (adopted after the 3rd Meeting of the AEWA LWfG IWG in April 2016) and form the basis of the international work going forward. International actions/projects outlined in the Work Plan that have been implemented, include the autumn 2016 Kazakhstan expedition to assess the current status of the Western main Lesser White-fronted Goose and global Red-breasted Goose populations as well as upcoming projects to determine the reasons for illegal killing of Lesser White-fronted Geese in Northern Kazakhstan and adjacent Russia, the establishment of a regional process to strengthen the monitoring of waterbirds around the Caspian Sea as well as international expeditions to locate additional wintering sites of the Western main population in Uzbekistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Iran. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat also continues to provide the link between the International Working Group and various other international processes and projects related to the conservation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose, such as the Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative (AMBI) and the AEWA Red-breasted Goose International Working Group. Funding for the Coordinator post situated at the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat has been secured until the end of 2019, with the potential to be continued further still. As such the crucial coordination of international conservation action for the species will continue to be provided for by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

1.3.4 Monitoring and research

1.3.4.1 Maintenance of the network of coordinated counts (Action A1)

WWF Finland will continue maintaining the email list of the LWfG monitoring network, and encouraging the new national / regional teams to go on also after the end of the project. BirdLife Norway and WWF Finland will also continue maintaining and developing the international portal for the LWfG (www.piskulka.net), including the LWfG observation database and the LWfG literature database.

1.3.4.2 Monitoring of LWfG and other parameters at staging/wintering sites (Action E2)

Greece: LWfG monitoring will continue to take place by the Management Authorities (MAs) of the LWfG sites (Kerkini Lake, Ismarida Lake, and Evros Delta). During the LIFE project, monitoring was also conducted by the MAs and coordinated by the HOS and as a result the MAs have developed additional expertise for LWfG identification and also more advanced monitoring and data collection methods. The HOS will continue the coordination of the LWfG monitoring on a national level through its wide volunteer network and also in collaboration with the MAs. Monitoring will now begin earlier than previously due to the apparent change in the LWfG arrival time in Greece. During the LIFE project implementation the LWfG shifted their arrival in Kerkini Lake by almost a month, and as a result monitoring now commences by September. The MAs of Kerkini Lake and Evros Delta will also utilize the LWfG portal piskulka.net and will upload data on LWfG observations in their areas. The HOS will be responsible for uploading observations from other areas. LWfG monitoring is also foreseen in the Greek LWfG NAP in additional LWfG sites (Koronia-Volvi Lakes SPA (GR122009) and the Nestos Delta SPA (GR1150001).

Monitoring of hunting activity and illegal killing will be continued at Evros Delta as part of the LWfG NAP. The monitoring will follow the methodology developed during the LIFE project (Action A3) and will contribute to the Greek LWfG NAP implementation. During the project, the extent of the protected area in the Evros Delta was considered potentially unsuitable in size and as a result the assessment of the extent of the hunting-free area in the Evros Delta SPA is foreseen in the NAP.

Bulgaria: A Bulgarian system for monitoring and research has been established in order to obtain additional data on LWfG wintering and movement across the country. The network of volunteers and birdwatchers will take part into organized international counts and eventually check some sites when information for LWfG movement is received by other members of the network from abroad. The monitoring scheme that was developed under the project will be maintained and local BSPB staff and volunteers will be responsible for the monitoring of the wintering geese in Bulgaria. This action will start in the late autumn and continue up to the end of February. In order to mediate the process a list of birdwatchers and experts will be created so that the information of the LWfG movements in Bulgaria can be followed, especially along the Black sea coast. Where needed, the BSPB will organise field identification training.

Hungary: HNPB will continue the monitoring of the species at the current project area as well as the whole HNPB operated area. The HNPB species expert will be responsible for organising data collection. The collected data will be uploaded to the piskulka.net website. HNPB will generate coordinated counts and data collection across Hungary.

Finland: Metsähallitus and WWF Finland will continue the annual spring monitoring of the Fennoscandian LWfG population on the Finnish Bothnian Bay coast. The regular monitoring was started in 1985 and conducted annually since then.

1.3.5 Dissemination and awareness

1.3.5.1 Dissemination through the web (Action D3 / D6)

WWF Finland will continue maintaining the project website at www.wwf.fi/lwfg for at least 5 years. The HOS project website www.ornithologiki.gr/nanoxina will remain online for at least 5 years. The websites contain all project deliverables and project information. Additionally, the project [Facebook page](#) will remain active. The page is mainly run by the HOS but also co-administered by the project partners. It is now followed regularly by ca. 1,400 persons and serves as the main social media page for the species. Apart from project developments, major news regarding the LWfG and other goose related issues are shared through that page. The project's TV and Radio spot as well as the documentary are and will be available on the HOS YouTube channel. The BSPB main site and Facebook pages will share and update the news and interesting facts along with the LWfG actions (monitoring, patrolling, and observations) in progress.

1.3.5.2 Dissemination through the media (Action D1 / D6)

The HOS will continue to distribute project and LWfG related information through the media. Important milestones in LWfG conservation, like for example the endorsement of the LWfG NAP, or the LWfG arrival in Greece, will be marked by press releases. Furthermore, each year the HOS is allowed to apply to the National Broadcasting Council for a social-message-containing spot to be broadcasted free of charge from all major national and local TV and Radio stations. The HOS will use this opportunity to broadcast the project's TV and Radio spot as part of the illegal killing campaign in northern Greece. Lastly, the illegal killing campaign documentary has been made available to a number of TV channels that broadcast it at least once per year.

1.3.5.3 Environmental Education (Action D5)

An extensive environmental education programme was developed and implemented during the LWfG LIFE project, and in that programme a number of environmental education tools were developed. Two environmental education packages were developed for children aged 4-8 (primary school) and 9-16 (secondary school / high school). Additional tools were developed that included a floor game, a colour book, a memory game, a poster and a story

book. All materials are available online¹ for download. Hard copies of all materials (ca. 600 copies) have been delivered to local schools in the LWfG sites in northern Greece, information centres of National Park Management Authorities, local libraries and Environmental Education Centres. The LWfG Environmental Education Programme includes a separate Teacher's Guide in which the teacher or any adult who wishes to facilitate the proposed activities can obtain the relevant background information and instructions to do so. The Programme itself as well as the material that has been developed has been warmly welcomed by the teachers and used extensively. The attractive layout and the LWfG as an emblem serves as an opportunity for the teachers to discuss a number of environmental and also other social issues (ie. human immigration) and as a result this project action will be carried on by the schools themselves and support from the HOS as and when needed. Lastly, the HOS at the beginning of every school year sends a letter to the Greek Ministry of Education who then informs all the school directorates in Greece regarding the HOS environmental education programs in their area and encourages their implementation.



The project educational material for children aged 4-8 (Primary School)

¹ http://www.ornithologiki.gr/page_cn.php?tID=79393&alD=1633

Part 2: Implementation

| ACTION | | Project Partner | After LIFE organisation | contributors | source of funding | Estimated cost (€) | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Population maintenance | Wintering sites | Patrolling Greece | HOS | MA | Forest Service / Hunting Federations | MAs core budget / state funding foreseen in the NAP | 40,000 / year |
| | | Patrolling Bulgaria | BSPB | RFD, MEW, NGO, BSPB | MEW | MEW / RFD | 2,500 / year foreseen in the NAP |
| | | | | | | | |
| Habitat Management | Wintering sites | Evros Delta habitat & vegetation management | FRI HAOD | MA Evros Delta | FRI HAOD/Forest Directorate | MA core budget / other funding sources | as needed |
| | | Incorporation of successful practice in Evros Delta MA management plan | FRI HAOD | MA Evros Delta | FRI HAOD/Forest Directorate | No funding required | - |
| | Staging sites | Optimal water level management at the HNPД project areas | HNPД | HNPД | | HNPД | as needed |
| | | Vegetation management at the HNPД project areas | HNPД | HNPД | | HNPД | 2,900 |



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| ACTION | | Project Partner | After LIFE organisation | contributors | source of funding | Estimated cost (€) | |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Policy and Legislation | Staging sites | Endorsement of Bulgarian NAP | BSPB | BSPB | MEW | BSPB | as needed |
| | | Monitoring the implementation of the Bulgarian LWfG NAP | BSPB | BSPB | | MEW / BSPB as foreseen in the NAP | 20,196 / 9 years or 2,244 /year |
| | | Monitoring the implementation of the Hungarian LWfG NAP | HNPB | HNPB /Ministry of Agriculture | | HNPB /Ministry of Agriculture | 1,200 |
| | Wintering sites | Endorsement of Greek NAP | HOS | HOS | MEE | HOS | 2,000 |
| | | Monitoring the implementation of the Greek LWfG NAP | HOS | MEE | HOS | Budget foreseen in NAP | 5,000 / year |
| | | Lobbying for LWfG favorable legislation | HOS | HOS | Other NGOs | HOS | 4,000 / year |
| | | Local Action Plan for illegal killing in LWfG sites in Greece | MEE | MEE | HOS / Forest Directorates | No funding required | - |
| | All sites | LWfG International Working Group operation | AEWA | AEWA | All Int. Group Members | AEWA voluntary contributions | Varies annually ² |
| | Monitoring and Research | All sites | Maintenance of the international network of coordinated counts / email list | WWF Fi | WWF Fi | All partners | Partners own contribution |
| Maintenance of the Fennoscandian LWG Group meetings (side meeting of the IWG) | | | All partners | All partners | All partners | Partners own contribution | as needed |
| Wintering sites / Greece | | LWfG monitoring | HOS | MA | HOS | MA core funding/ other funds | 12,000 / year |

² The personnel costs for facilitating the coordination of the AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group at the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat are approximately 90,000-100,000€ per year. Office expenses etc. are provided by the German government as part of hosting the entire UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. The implementation costs of concrete international conservation projects and research work vary annually depending on the agreed Working Group priorities as outlined in the Working Group Workplan for 2016-2019 as well as on the availability of funding, but have on average been between 30,000-100,000€ per year during 2009-2017. It should be noted, that most of these funds go towards supporting conservation action along the remaining migratory routes of the Fennoscandian population, thus complementing the ongoing actions in the EU.



After-LIFE Conservation Plan



| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| | | Hunting monitoring in Evros Delta | FRI HAOD | MA | HOS/FRI HAOD/Forest Service | MA core funding/ other funds | as needed |
| | Staging sites | LWfG monitoring in Bulgaria | BSPB | BSPB | | MEW / BSPB | 7,500 / year foreseen in the NAP |
| | | LWfG monitoring in Hungary | HNPB | HNPB | | HNPB | 4,400 / year |

| ACTION | | Project Partner | After LIFE organisation | contributors | source of funding | Estimated cost (€) | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Dissemination and Awareness | Web presence | Maintenance of international portal | WWF Fi/NOF | WWF Fi/NOF | HOS, BSPB, HNPB | WWF Fi/NOF | as needed |
| | | Maintenance of international project site 5 years | WWF Fi | WWF Fi | All partners | WWF Fi | low / as needed |
| | | Maintenance of HOS project site / facebook page | HOS | HOS | All partners | HOS | low / as needed |
| | Media work & Environmental Education | Info campaign / meeting @ project sites for target groups Sept each year | HOS / MEE | Forest Directorates | MEE / MA / Forest Service / HOS | Meeting participants own contribution / other funds | as needed |
| | | Promotion of project objectives through the Greek media | HOS | HOS | | HOS | n/a |
| | | Promotion of Env. Education Programme in N. Greece | HOS | HOS | Ministry of Education / School Directorates | HOS | n/a |