



Bird species listed in Annex II not in a secure status: Update on a proposed approach

Nature Directives Expert Group Meeting

Brussels, 27-28 April 2021

Nature Protection Unit, ENV.D.3

Outline

1. Feedback further to the October 2020 NADEG meeting
2. Prioritisation of Annex II species not in a secure status
3. Proposed way forward (action, governance, and funding)

Feedback received after the October 2020 NADEG meeting

1. Broad support for:

- Adequacy of prioritisation criteria
 - Some comments on the criteria: also consider wintering populations, not consider MPs, rather prioritisation at national level
- Six identified strategic actions
- Need for habitat/thematic action plans

2. Addressing agricultural impacts

- Of fundamental importance to status of multiple species
- But agricultural policy needs to be addressed at EU scale
- CAP reform will likely be slow and long-term

3. Hunting

- Support for questionnaire to explore disparity of responses by MS
- Such an assessment should be evidence-based (rather than opinion-based)
- Value in having measurable criteria to assess hunting sustainability

Feedback received after the October 2020 NADEG meeting

4. Scope of prioritisation

- Should consider all unsecure species not just those on Annex II and potential for shared actions

5. Collaborations

- Value of stronger collaboration and experience sharing with AEWA action planning process

6. Geographical scale

- Various different scales (national, sub-EU27, flyway) suggested but data do not allow for consistent “sub-EU regionalisation”

Prioritisation of Annex II species not in a secure status

- **Reminder : Prioritisation based on 6 criteria** (population trend status, minimum size of the EU 27 breeding population, conservation status assessment (EU Red List status), Global Red List status, EU's global responsibility, prior existence of a (former) EU Management Plan)
- **National priorities:** ideally consistent with EU ones
- **Also resident species in the priority list** (need for EU policy action, populations with migratory and non-migratory elements)

Prioritisation of Annex II species not in a secure status

- Priority list (1/2)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Common name	Scientific name	Annex II/1	Annex II/2	Long term trend 2020	Short-term trend 2020	Status 13-18	2020 EU Red List	Main habitats	Three most frequent pressures	Additive index	Observations
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	EN	CH, IW, TMM, WG, RC	A, F, G	12	Existing EU Management Plan; EU multi-species Action Plan; AEWISSAP. Globally IUCN Near Threatened
Willow Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus lagopus hibernica</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	VU	TMM	A, I, B, C, N	12	Endemic to the EU. Restricted to IE
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	CH	G, F, A	10	EU Multi-species Action Plan
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	AIG	A, G, F	10	Existing EU Management Plan; EU multi-species Action Plan
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	CH, IW, TMM, WG, RC	A, F, G	10	Existing EU Management Plan; EU multi-species Action Plan
Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	EN	NWES, CH, TMM	G, D, F, J	10	Existing EU Management Plan
Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	EN	CH, IW, TMM	G, A, F	10	Existing EU Management Plan
Velvet Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	TMM, NWES	G, D, I	9	Existing EU Management Plan; AEWISSAP. Globally IUCN Vulnerable
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>		Y	Dec	Stable	NT	NT	CH, TMM, WG	A, F, G	9	Existing EU Management Plan; AEWISSAP; EU multi-species Action Plan. Globally IUCN Near Threatened
Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	VU	IW	G, F, A	8	Globally IUCN Vulnerable

Prioritisation of Annex II species not in a secure status

- Priority list (2/2)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Common name	Scientific name	Annex II/1	Annex II/2	Long term trend 2020	Short-term trend 2020	Status 13-18	2020 EU Red List	Main habitats	Three most frequent pressures	Additive index	Observations
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	NT	NT	TMM	F, G, A	8	
Rock Partridge	<i>Alectoris graeca</i>	Y		Dec	Unknown	NT	NT	MH, MG	A, G, I, L	8	
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	NT	NT	MH, AIG, SH, PC	A, G, L	8	
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	NT	NT	IW, TMM, WG	A, F, G	8	
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>		Y	Unknown	Stable	NT	NT	NWES, TMM	G, E, D	7	AEWA ISSAP. Globally IUCN Vulnerable
Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	NWES, TMM	G, L, E, F, I	7	AEWA International Single Species Action Plan in draft. Globally IUCN Near Threatened
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	VU	LAH, AIG, SH	A, I, L	7	
Hazel Grouse	<i>Bonasa bonasia</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	LTF	B, G, L	7	
Black Grouse	<i>Lyrurus tetrix</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	BF, LTF, MF	A, L, F	7	
Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	Y		Unknown	Dec	THR	VU	TMM	G, A, F, D, B	7	
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	VU	IW	G, F, A	7	
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	VU	IW, WG, RC	A, F, G	7	
Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	THR	VU	CH	G, F, A	7	
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	NT	NT	BF, LTF, RF, MH, AIG	A, G, B, E, F	7	
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	THR	VU	NWES	F, E, G	7	
Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	NT	NT	IW	G, A, F	6	
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	WG	A, G, L	6	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>		Y	Dec	Stable	THR	VU	IW	F, G, A	6	
Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	NWES, CH, IW, TMM, AIG, WG	F, E, D, I, A	6	
Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	NT	NT	NWES	F, G, D	6	
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>		Y	Stable	Dec	THR	NT	NWES	No Pressures	5	
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Y		Dec	Stable	DEP	LC	IW	F, G, A	5	
Barbary Partridge	<i>Alectoris barbara</i>		Y	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	LC	MH	A, G, I	4	
Willow Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus lagopus lagopus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	TMM	C, N	4	
Western Capercaillie	<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>		Y	Dec	Stable	DEP	LC	BF	B, F, L	4	
Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Y		Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	IW	A, G, F	4	
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	AIG, SH	A, G, E	4	
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	LTF, AIG, PC	B, G, N	4	
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		Y	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	LC	AIG, SH	A, G, I, E	3	
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>		Y	Uncertain	Unknown	Unknown	LC	IW	A, G	3	
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	AIG	G, H, F, A	3	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		Y	Dec	Dec	DEC	LC	AIG	A, B, G	3	

Proposed way forward: reminder

- Art. 7: If an Annex II species is not in a secure status => **assessment of hunting needed** (hunting compatible as regards the population of the species? wise use? does not jeopardize conservation efforts?)
- Hunting guide: species not in a secure status => no hunting unless properly running **management plan** with habitat conservation and other measures => to slow and ultimately reverse the decline

Proposed way forward: actions

- Within the priority list, select a 1st set of species
- Step by step approach for the each set of species:
 - Assessment of survival and fecundity on the population growth (based on a **population model**)
 - If survival is critical:
 - Hunting might be a critical element (**case 1**) => **Adaptive Harvest Management Mechanism**
 - Hunting is not a critical element (**case 2**) => Other factors involved (by-catch, predation, etc.) => other actions needed. **Cluster** species.
 - by types of similar threats => **threat-specific action** plan/policy response
 - or by associated habitats => **habitat management plan**
 - possibly a limited off-take, especially if effective measures from the hunting community to improve (fecundity and/or) survival
 - If survival plays a minor role (**case 3**):
 - Priority = improve fecundity. **Cluster** species.
 - better habitat management => **habitat management plan**
 - possibly a limited off-take, especially if effective measures from the hunting community to improve fecundity (and/or survival)
 - If no model for the assessment (**case 4**) => **no hunting** unless compelling evidence shows that the off-take does not play a critical role on survival

Proposed way forward: actions

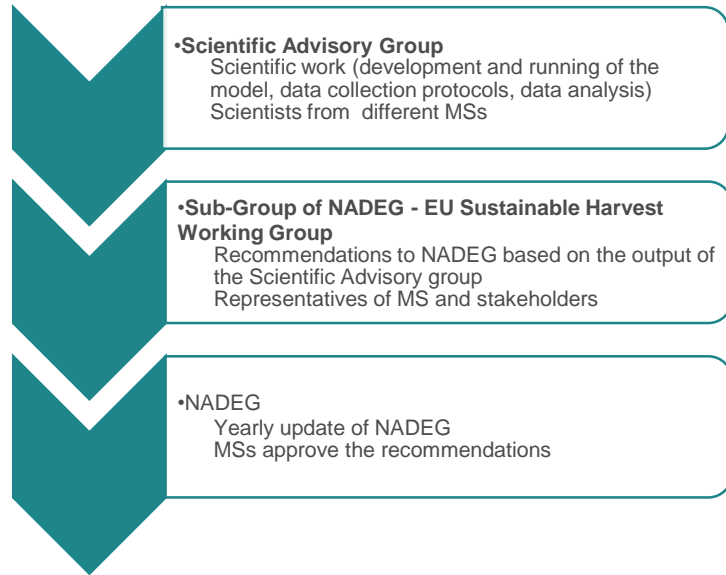
- Four cases + short and medium-long term dimensions:

	1	2	3	4
	<i>The assessment shows that survival is a critical factor on the population dynamic and it cannot be excluded that hunting plays a critical role on survival</i>	<i>The assessment shows that survival is a critical factor on the population dynamic and it can be excluded that hunting plays a critical role on survival</i>	<i>The assessment shows that survival plays a minor role on the population dynamic</i>	<i>No assessment can be made on the role of survival on the population dynamics</i>
<i>Response short term</i>	no hunting until AHMM is in place	limited hunting can take place	limited hunting can take place	no hunting unless it is demonstrated that off-take by hunting does not play a critical role
	other key actions identified if needed, e.g. on habitat management	other key actions identified (e.g. habitat management plan and/or threat-specific action plans prepared)	other key actions identified (e.g. habitat management plan prepared)	
<i>Response medium-long term</i>	AHMM	limited hunting could take place	limited hunting could take place	build knowledge and carry out the assessment (cases 1, 2, 3)
	other key actions implemented if needed, e.g. on habitat management	other key actions implemented (e.g. habitat management plan and/or threat-specific action plans implemented)	other key actions implemented (e.g. habitat management plan implemented)	

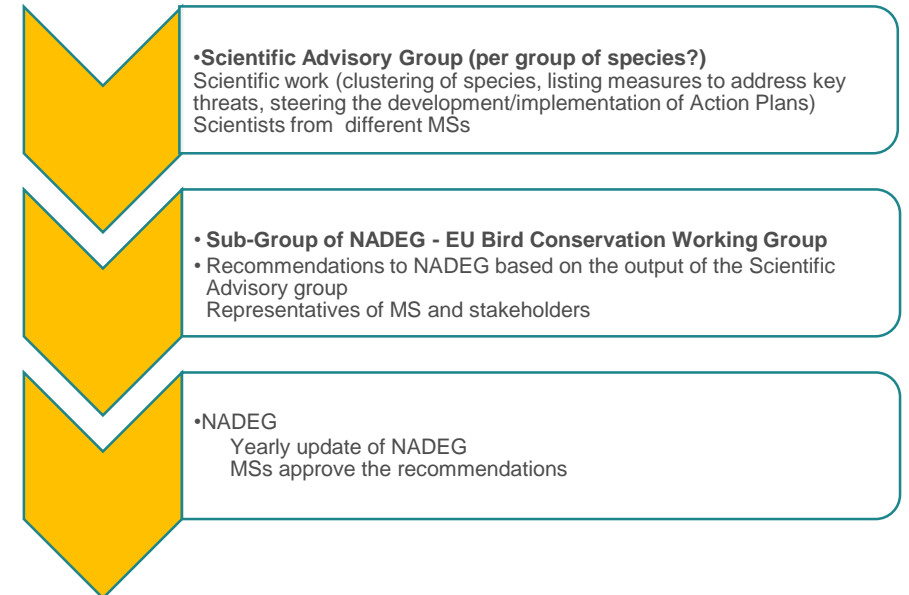
Proposed way forward: governance mechanism & funding

- A governance mechanism to recommend action to MS which then decide

Species with an Adaptive Harvest Management Mechanism (case 1)



Other Annex II species (cases 2 & 3)



- Need to co-ordinate with AEWA
- Co-ordinator to oversee the day-to-day implementation of the AHMM or the recommendations
- **Funding needed (EC's contract?). If no funding, no hunting assessment, all species in "case 4" (no hunting in the short-term)**

Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

Slide xx: **element concerned**, source: e.g. [Fotolia.com](https://www.fotolia.com/); Slide xx: **element concerned**, source: e.g. [iStock.com](https://www.istock.com/)

