



## *Anser anser*

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<b>Annex I</b>	No
<b>International action plan</b>	No

Greylag Goose, *Anser anser*, is a species of goose found in cropland, grassland, wetland, unvegetated or sparsely vegetated land and river and lake ecosystems. It is a widespread but patchily distributed breeder across much of Europe. During the breeding season the species inhabits wetlands surrounded by fringing vegetation in open grassland, sedge or heather moorland, arctic tundra, steppe or semidesert from sea-level up to 2,300 m. It nests near streams, saltmarshes, river flood-plains, reedy marshes, grassy bogs, damp meadows, reed-lined freshwater lakes and estuaries close to potential feeding sites such as meadows, grasslands, stubble fields and newly sown cereal fields. It requires isolated islands out of reach of land predators for nesting. In the autumn (before migration) the species also frequents agricultural land. In the winter the species inhabits lowland farmland in open country, swamps, lakes, coastal lagoons, reservoirs and estuaries (European Red List 2015).

*Anser anser* has a breeding population size of 197000-344000 pairs and a breeding range size of 942000 square kilometres in the EU27. The breeding population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term. *Anser anser* has a winter population size of 798000-1110000 individuals in the EU27. The winter population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

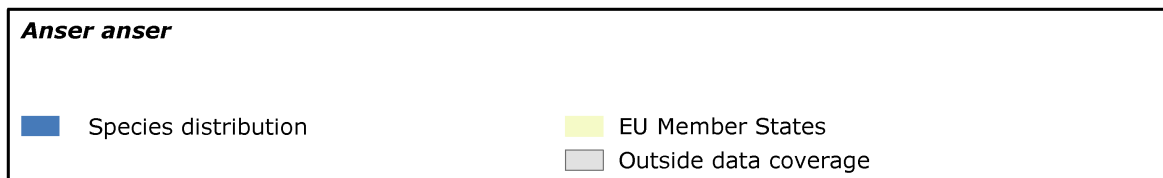
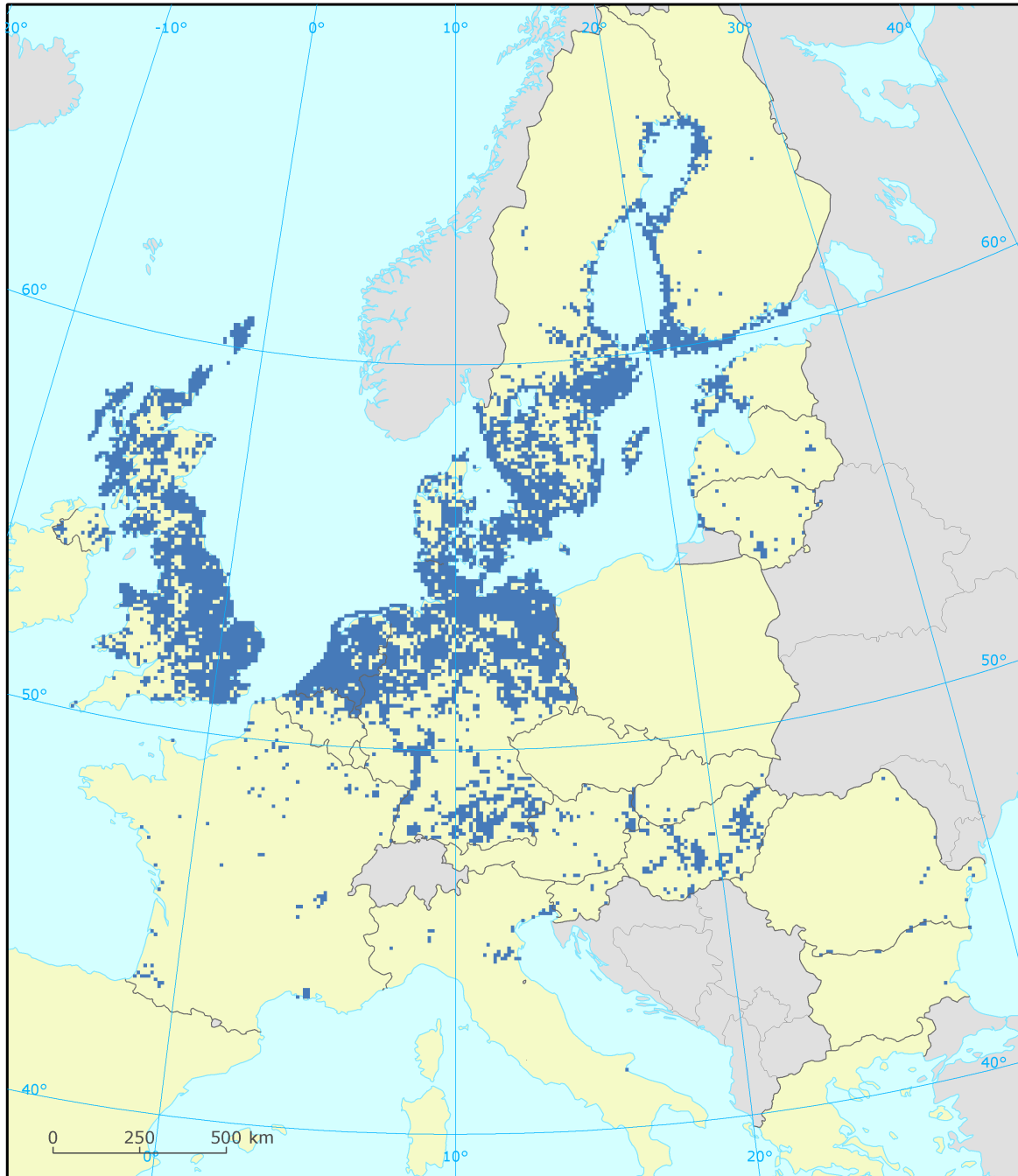
The EU population status of *Anser anser* was assessed as Secure, because the species does not meet any of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened or Near Threatened, or the criteria for Depleted or Declining (the EU27 population or range has not declined by 20% or more since 1980).

## 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	
197000 - 344000 p	+	+	942000			798000 - 1110000 i	+	+	Secure

See the endnotes for more information<sup>i</sup>

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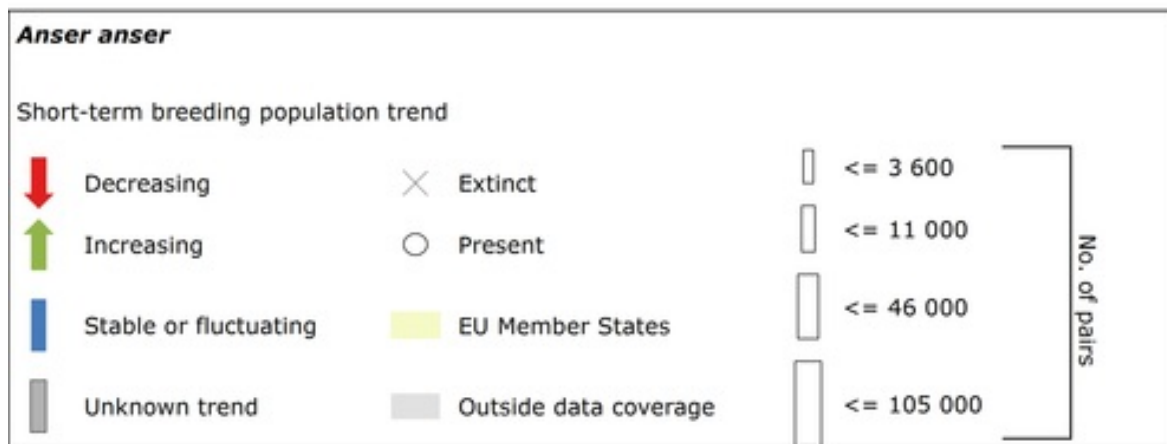
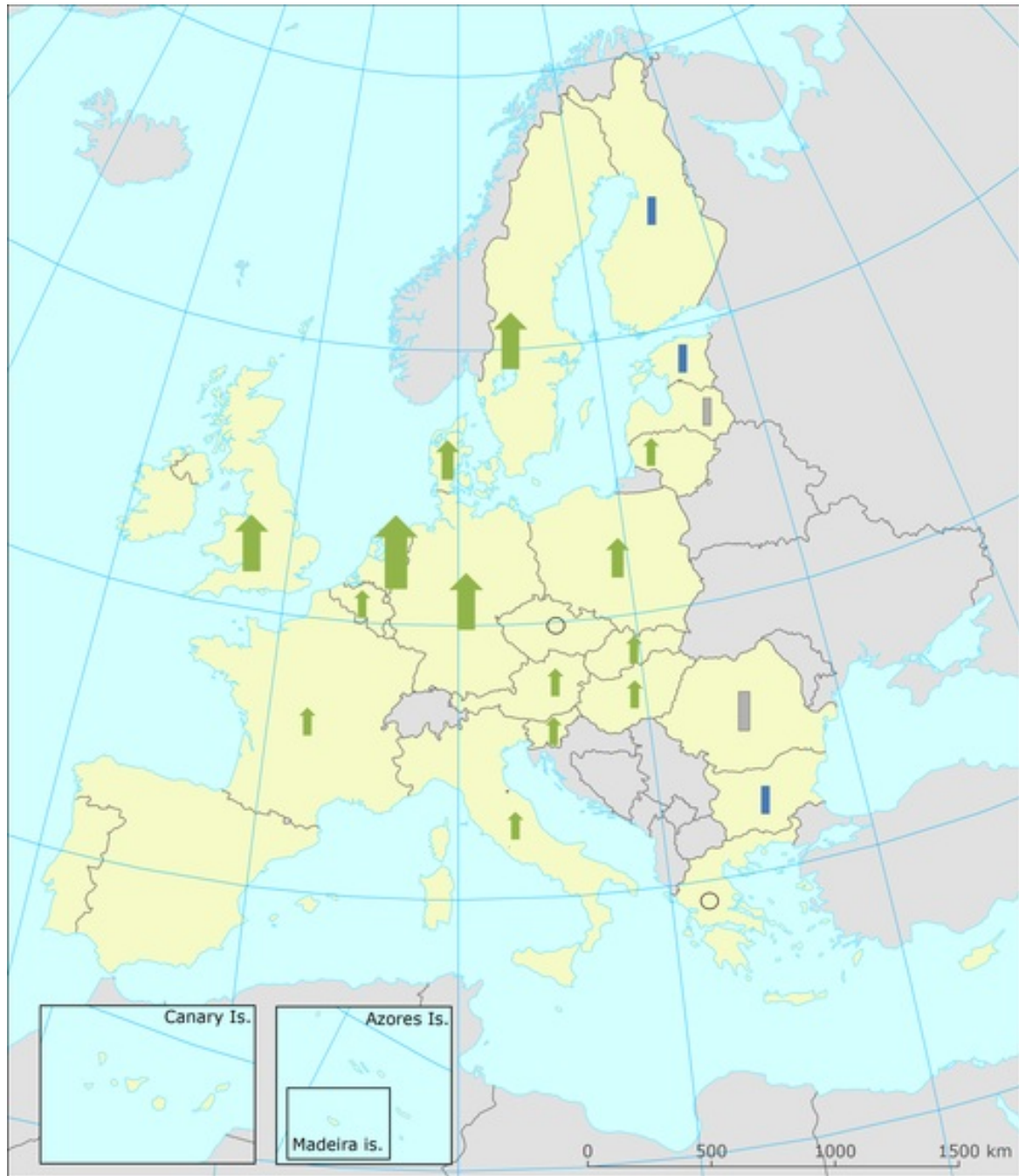


## Trends at the Member State level

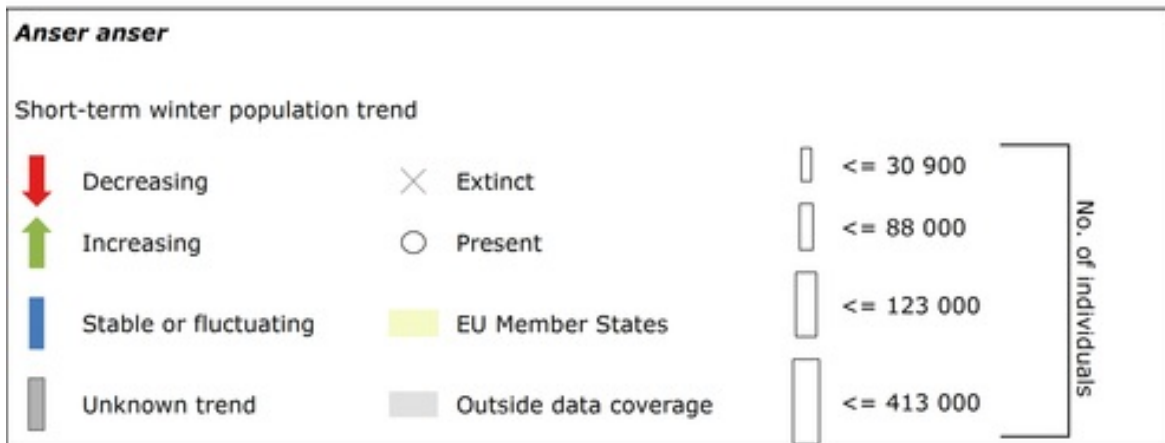
MS/Ter.	% in EU27	Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range area	Breeding range trend		Winter population size	Winter population trend	
			Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term
AT	0.8	1200 - 1500 p	+	+	14392	0	+	5000 - 10000 i	+	+
BE	0.8	1000 - 1500 p	+	x	5535	0	x	15373 - 61944 i	x	+
BG	0.2	15 - 25 p	F	F	1700	0	F	70 - 3000 i	F	F
CZ										
DE	27.6	26000 - 37000 p	+	+	226512	+	+	80000 - 80000 i	+	+
DK	5.4	11000 - 11000 p	+	+	41755	0	+	61000 - 61000 i	+	+
EE	1.4	500 - 600 p	0	-	13200	0	+			
ES								114587 - 131041 i	0	+
FI	5.9	2800 - 4500 p	0	+	66000	x	+			
FR	1.6	176 - 188 p	+	+	22500	+	+	19612 - 19612 i	+	+
GR										
HU	3.0	2100 - 3300 p	+	+	17764	0	+	20000 - 45000 i	F	+
IE								3430 - 3430 i	-	x
IT	0.6	280 - 350 p	+	+	6800	x	+	10928 - 15577 i	+	+
LT	0.6	300 - 400 p	+	+	12500	0	+			
LV	0.3	150 - 200 p	x	+	5195	x	+			
NL	6.0	63900 - 170000 p	+	+	42306	0	+	344610 - 493542 i	+	+
PL		6000 - 8000 p	+	+		x	x	8000 - 10000 i	x	+
PT								2600 - 2600 i	0	+
RO	0.2	3157 - 6769 p	x	x	88400	x	x	10000 - 25000 i	x	x
SE	18.0	32000 - 51000 p	+	+	203800	+	x	12000 - 55000 i	+	+
SI	0.1	2 - 4 p	+	+	683	+	+	10 - 30 i	F	-
SK	0.2	50 - 100 p	+	+	3200	+	+	2100 - 2500 i	-	x
UK	27.3	46000 - 46000 p	+	+	169900	+	+	88000 - 88000 i	-	-

See the endnotes for more information<sup>ii</sup>

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## 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](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
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	28
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	20
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	12
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	8
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	8
A06	Crops of annuals & perennials (non-timber)	4
A11	Other agriculture activities	4
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	4
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	4
H01	Pollution to surface waters	4

## 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
AT	breeding	YES	100
AT	winter	YES	100
BE	breeding	NO	
BE	winter	YES	37.78
BG	breeding	YES	73.03
BG	winter	YES	65.47
DE	breeding	NO	
DE	winter	NO	
DK	breeding	NO	

<b>MS/territory</b>	<b>season</b>	<b>SPA trigger</b>	<b>% coverage</b>
DK	winter	NO	
EE	breeding	YES	89.44
ES	winter	YES	93.51
FI	breeding	NO	
FR	breeding	NO	
FR	winter	YES	61.33
HU	breeding	YES	97.29
HU	winter	YES	70.71
IE	winter	YES	83.35
IT	breeding	NO	
IT	winter	YES	40.56
LT	breeding	NO	
LV	breeding	NO	
NL	breeding	NO	
NL	winter	YES	27.06
PL	breeding	YES	43.45
PL	winter	YES	88.74
PT	winter	YES	96.15
RO	breeding	NO	
RO	winter	YES	87.74
SE	breeding	YES	24.25
SE	winter	YES	47.67
SI	breeding	NO	
SI	winter	NO	
SK	breeding	NO	
SK	winter	NO	
UK	breeding	NO	
UK	winter	YES	23.06

See the endnotes for more information<sup>iii</sup>

## 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



<b>Code</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	22
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	19
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	15
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	15
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	7
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	6
2.2	Adapting crop production	4
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	4
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	2
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	2

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=A043> .

<sup>i</sup> **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.

<sup>ii</sup> **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.

<sup>iii</sup> **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.