

# Terms of Reference for EAAF Working Group (ANATIDAE)

## 8 January 2008

### 1. Back ground

The Working Group for the ANATIDAE Site Network in the East Asian Flyway was established in May 1999 to oversee the implementation of Action Plan for the Conservation of Migratory ANATIDAE in the East Asian Flyway under the Asia Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy.

With the development of the Flyway Partnership the Working Group was invited to consider taking an ongoing role to support achievements of the objects of the Partnership. This TOR is based on the guidelines developed for Working Groups at MoP2.

### 2. Goal of Working Group

To coordinate, facilitate and promote collaboration on ANATIDAE conservation, management, education and research activities, across the East Asian–Australasian Flyway.

### 3. Taxonomic and geographic scope of activities

**Taxonomic scope:** ANATIDAE (Ducks, Geese and Swans)

**Geographic scope:** The Working Group covers the geographic areas of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

### 4. Well-defined objectives for the Working Group

- To increase the Flyway Network Sites of international importance for migratory waterbirds, especially for ANATIDAE. Also to preserve important breeding, staging and wintering habitats for ANATIDAE.
- To promote sharing of information on ANATIDAE, especially population data.
- To carry out studies and research on the requirements related to ANATIDAE conservation. Especially, the impacts of climate changes to ANATIDAE shall be noticed.
- Endangered ANATIDAE, especially decrease the population in East Asian Flyway shall be noticed.
- To encourage joint and coordinated management efforts between reserves on national borders. Also to encourage joint and coordinated management efforts among protected areas, agencies and organizations along the East Asian-Australasian migration routes.
- To promote the sustainable use of wetlands in the region, especially rice paddy project (Fuyu-Mizu-Tambo).
- Insure the international exchange and cooperation with the Avian Influenza Working Group under EAAF and run Special Surveys if needed/requested.
- To promote public awareness and education in the region, especially at the Network Sites.

### 5. Membership

The membership is open to representatives of Government agencies, International organizations, Convention Secretariats, International NGO's and invited independent experts involved in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

### 6. Chairing / Coordination arrangement

The objectives of the Working Group do not require it to meet on a regular basis. The Working Group will have a Leader and a coordinator. The role of the Coordinator will be to provide administrative support to the Working Group.

### 7. Modus operandi / Meeting

The Working Group will conduct most of its business by e-mail and web site, and other traditional communication methods. In-person meetings will be open but only be held when funding is available.

### 8. Financing

Funding is currently approach to Nippon Keidanren and GEF, but needs to be secured on an annual basis to continue to support the activities of the Working Group.

## 9. Other

The tables of species name, name of researcher, status of species etc. shall be established (Please refer to Attached table). The coordinator of ANATIDAE Working Group will obtain the fund depend on the table.

## 10. Priority action / task list

- 1) The impacts of climate changes to ANATIDAE shall be noticed.
- 2) ANATIDAE Working Group shall update the population estimates and clarify the status of ANATIDAE not only in East Asia especially PR CHINA, but also SE Asia and Australasia.
- 3) Existing task force under APMWCS for endangered ANATIDAE, such as Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides* and Baikal Teal *Anas formosa* shall be maintained as a project team.
- 4) Endangered ANATIDAE, especially decrease the population in East Asian Flyway as follows species shall be noticed;
  - Lesser White-fronted Goose *Anser erythropus*
  - Black Brant *Branta bernicla*
  - Aleutian Canada Goose *Branta canadensis leucopareia*
  - Lesser Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*
- 5) Follows ANATIDAE species shall be grasped the status, such as population etc.
  - Baer's Pochard *Aythya baeri*
  - Falcated Duck *Anas falcate*
  - Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*, Whistling Swan *Cygnus columbianus*
- 6) Improve knowledge on the population/sub population difference of ANATIDAE in East Asia using,
  - (1) DNA analysis
  - (2) satellite tracking
  - (3) individual marking
  - (4) stable isotope
- 7) As an example of the public awareness actions, local people including local stakeholders should be encouraged to obtain the feathers at the network sites. These actions will be useful improvement of population conservation planning of ANATIDAE (link to 6)(1)).
- 8) Information exchange shall be more increased to use the EAAF Network Site for ANATIDAE (the site of Flagship Species will be ANATIDAE), especially using the "Sister ship concept" under EAAF for conserve the ANATIDAE.
- 9) Evolution of threats, including hunting and catching, poisoning of ANATIDAE.

## Attachment

List of ANATIDAE for which will be requested the Conservation Action under EAAF				
Species	English name	EAAF		note
		Task Force/Project	Person in charge (if required)	
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Whooper Swan	(if required)	(China: Dr. Ding Chang-Qing, if required)	This species is listed depend on TOR. China Anatidea Network ( <b>CAN</b> ) will join the population and habitat monitoring.
<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Tundra Swan / Bewick's Swan	(if required)	(China: Dr. Ding Chang-Qing, if required)	This species is listed depend on TOR. <b>CAN</b> will join the population and habitat monitoring.
<i>Anser cygnoides</i> EN	Swan Goose	existing	Prof.Poyalkov (China: Dr. Ding Chang-Qing, if required) Mr. KURECHI	TF under APMWSC was established in 2002. <b>CAN</b> will join the population and habitat monitoring.
<i>Anser erythropus</i> VU	Lesser White-fronted Goose	Project team will be established, if AWG will be able to obtain the fund)	Dr. Evgeny Dr. Ding Chang-Qing Mr. Kurechi Mr. Kishimoto	This species is listed depend on TOR. <b>CAN</b> will join the population and habitat monitoring.
<i>Chen (Anser) caerulescens</i>	"Lesser" Snow Goose	(if required)		This species is listed depend on TOR.
<i>Chen (Anser) canagica</i> NT	Emperor Goose			
<i>Branta canadensis leucopareia</i>	Aleutian Canada Goose	(if required)		Russian Academy of Sciences and Yagiyama-zoo released (Aleutian Canada Goose <i>Branta canadensis leucopareia</i> ) at Ekaruma from 1995 - 2006. This species is listed depend on TOR.
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Brent Goose "Black Brant"	(if required)	(Mr. Kurechi, Dr. Evgeny)	This species is listed depend on TOR.
<i>Anas falcata</i> NT	Falcated Duck	(if required)	(China: Dr. Ding Chang-Qing, if required)	This species is listed depend on TOR.
<i>Anas Formosa</i> VU	Baikal Teal	existing	Mr. TAJIRI (China: Dr. Ding Chang-Qing, if required)	TF under APMWSC was established in 2002. <b>CAN</b> will join the population and habitat monitoring.
<i>Aythya baeri</i> VU	Baer's Pochard	(if required)		This species is listed depend on TOR.

**List of ANATIDAE for which will be requested the Conservation Action under EAAF**

<i>Aythya nyroca</i> NT	Ferruginous Duck			
<i>Polysticta stelleri</i> VU	Steller's Eider			
<i>Mergus squamatus</i> EN	Scaly-sided Merganser	(if required)	(China: Dr. Ding Chang-Qing, if required)	<b>CAN</b> will establish Action Plan.
<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> EN	White-headed Duck			New site records in Northwest China.