**EAST ASIAN - AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY PARTNERSHIP**

**BAER’S POCHARD TASK FORCE**

**Terms of Reference**

**Goal**

To restore the Baer’s Pochard *Aythya baeri* to favourable conservation status and to remove it from the threatened categories on the IUCN Red List.

**Role**

The role of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) Baer’s Pochard Task Force will be to:

1. Produce, coordinate and catalyse the implementation of the International Baer’s Pochard Single Species Action Plan (SSAP);
2. Stimulate and support Range States in the implementation of the SSAP; and
3. Monitor and report on the implementation and the effectiveness of the SSAP.

**Remit**

The EAAFP Baer’s Pochard Task Force will:

* Develop an International Single Species Action Plan for the Baer’s Pochard, in accordance with the EAAFP Action Planning Guidelines (as adopted at the 5th Meeting of Partners, Siem Reap, December 2010: agenda 3.5.1) and consistent with the agreed process. The plan will be produced under the framework and branding of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the EAAFP, in consultation with and support from the Anatidae Working Group, and will follow the agreed CMS process for action plan production;
* Set priorities for action and implement them;
* Coordinate the overall international implementation;
* Raise funds for development and implementation;
* Assist Range States in producing national action plans;
* Ensure the Task Force is open to governmental and expert members from all key Range States and other Partners.
* Ensure regular and thorough monitoring of the species populations;
* Stimulate and support scientific research in the species necessary for conservation;
* Promote the protection of the network of critical sites for the species, by assisting Partners to develop new Flyway Site Network nominations, and encourage the designation of new protected areas by Partners;
* Facilitate internal and external communication and exchange of scientific, technical, legal and other required information, including with other specialists and interested parties;
* Assist with information in determination of the IUCN Red List status and population size and trends of the species;
* Regularly monitor the effectiveness of implementation of the SSAP and take appropriate action according to monitoring results;
* Regularly report on the implementation of the SSAP to the EAAFP Meeting of the Partners;

**Membership**

The Lead Organization for the EAAFP Baer’s Pochard Task Force is the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust. The Chair is Dr. Ding Changqing (Beijing Forestry University / State Forestry Administration) and the global coordinator is Richard Hearn (WWT). Regional and National Coordinators will be appointed, as required, from the Task Force members.

Task Force members shall be identified from:

* EAAFP Governmental Partners of key range states (Bangladesh, People’s Republic of China, Myanmar, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Thailand).
* Representatives of additional key range states (People’s Democratic Republic of Korea, Vietnam).
* the EAAFP Anatidae Working Group.
* national experts and conservation organisations from principal range states.
* other experts (not necessarily from the EAA Flyway).

**Meetings**

The EAAFP Baer’s Pochard Task Force will hold face-to-face meetings at least once every three years. Between meetings, business will be conducted electronically such as via an appropriate Task Force website and list server.

**Reporting**

A report on the implementation of the SSAP will be produced for each EAAFP MOP according to a standard format agreed by the EAAFP Secretariat, with contributions from all major range state Governmental Partners and Task Force members. At each EAAFP MOP, the Task Force Coordinator will present a report on the development and implementation of the International Baer’s Pochard Single Species Action Plan, summarizing progress, lessons learned, challenges, and any adjustments needed.

**Financing**

Funding for the operations of the EAAFP Baer’s Pochard Task Force will be sought primarily by the Lead Organisation, the Task Force members and the organizations they represent.