

Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative



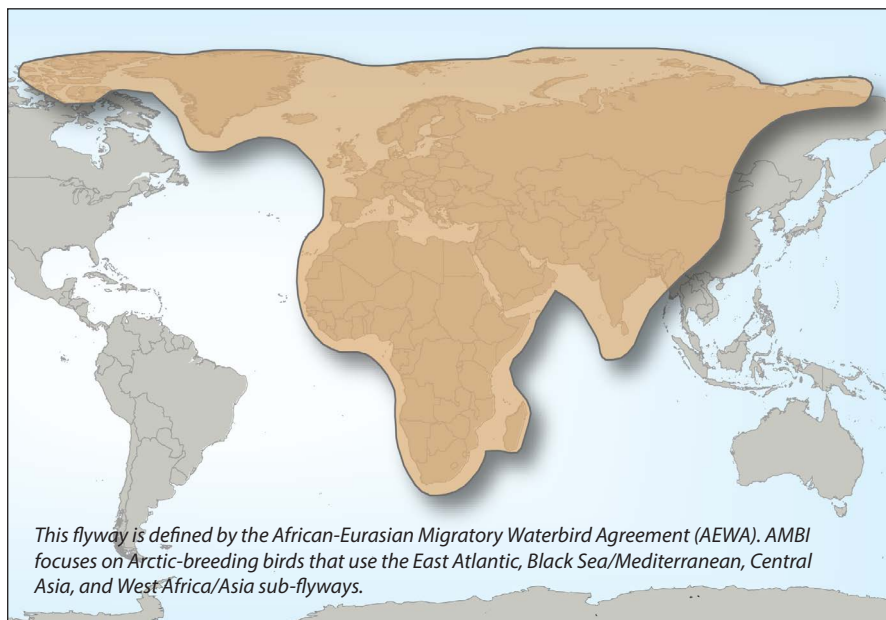
Lesser White-fronted Goose, a priority species for AMBI 2015-2019. Photo: Morten Ekker



Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative

African-Eurasian

Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI): protecting Arctic lifestyles and peoples through migratory bird conservation is a project designed to improve the status and secure the long-term sustainability of declining Arctic breeding migratory bird populations. AMBI has developed the [Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative Work Plan 2015-2019](#) to identify priorities and guide actions.



This flyway is defined by the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA). AMBI focuses on Arctic-breeding birds that use the East Atlantic, Black Sea/Mediterranean, Central Asia, and West Africa/Asia sub-flyways.

Flyway Issues

The **Bijagós Archipelago of Guinea-Bissau** is affected by **unsustainable land use**, such as illegal fishing, mangrove cutting, floodplain conversion to agriculture and coastal erosion, which can affect the **Red Knot** and **Bar-tailed Godwit**.

The **lowland habitats of Iceland** are affected by **afforestation** policies, which can affect the breeding grounds of the **Black-tailed Godwit**, **Dunlin** and other waterbirds.

The **Lesser White-fronted Goose** is affected by unsustainable harvest along its migration route from **breeding grounds in Fennoscandia and eastern Siberia** through to central Asia.

Relevant Regional Initiatives

[African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement \(AEWA\)](#)
[Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative \(WSFI\)](#)
[World Heritage Convention \(WHC\)](#)
[Ramsar Convention](#)



Bar-tailed Godwit, a priority species for AMBI 2015-2019. Photo: Richard Chandler

Priority Conservation Actions

Secure intertidal non-breeding habitat of Arctic waders in Bijagós Archipelago, Guinea-Bissau

- Share experience on World Heritage nomination
- Strengthen international recognition of the site
- Protect the site from damaging developments
- Support development of a site management committee and management plan, to guide management and to ensure that the needs of Arctic shorebirds are fully taken into account
- Mangrove restoration and provision of sustainable surveillance
- Coordination of the implementation of the Bijagós component of the AMBI work plan



Red Knot, a priority species for AMBI 2015-2019. Photo: Richard Chandler



Lesser White-fronted Goose, a priority species for AMBI 2015-2019. Photo: Morten Ekker

Prevent unsustainable harvest of the Lesser White-fronted Goose

- Reduce Lesser White-fronted Goose mortality rates caused by illegal harvest
- Expand international Lesser White-fronted Goose conservation efforts to include the Eastern main sub-population.

Secure breeding habitat of waders in Iceland by ensuring that national afforestation, and other land use policies and practices are sustainable

- Cooperate with Iceland to avoid risk to breeding water birds from changes in land use in the Icelandic lowlands, especially as regards the national afforestation policy.



Black-tailed Godwit, a priority species for AMBI 2015-2019. Photo: Bart van Dorp/Flickr Creative Commons 2.0



Dunlin, a priority species for AMBI 2015-2019. Photo: Richard Chandler

Anders Braa
AMBI African-Eurasian representative
 Norwegian Environment Agency
 Postboks 5672 Sluppen, 7485 Trondheim, Norway
Anders.Braa@miljodir.no



www.caff.is/ambi

