

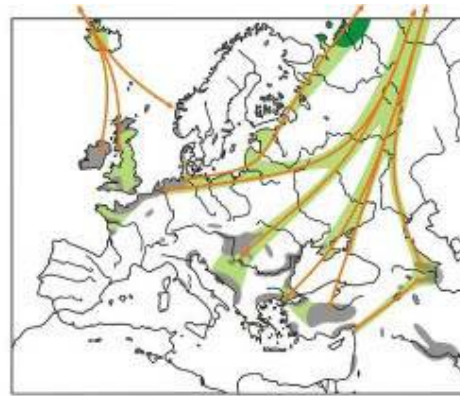
Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) movements

This species breeds at high latitudes in northern Europe, Asia and North America. It is a long-distance migrant with wintering areas in Europe, south and east Asia and southern North America.

The only country in Europe where the White-fronted Goose has been ringed in large numbers is The Netherlands. A reasonable number of recoveries is also available from Britain & Ireland. Recoveries from the winter period (December – February) are mainly reported from western Europe, including Denmark and Germany, and smaller numbers also in central and southeastern Europe as well as in Turkey. The return migration of the White-fronted Goose

starts in March with recoveries being spread eastwards in Europe. In April a large number of recoveries is reported from Belarus and western Russia continuing north in May. In June the birds are found in the breeding area close to the Arctic coast. A small number of recoveries is found in May close to the border of Kazakhstan and they are probably from birds heading for breeding sites on Taymyr Peninsula, where some recoveries are found during the breeding season. Birds of the Greenland breeding form, *A. a. flavirostris* start to appear on Iceland in April and in May recoveries are reported from southeastern Greenland.

Autumn migration from northern Russia starts in August and continues until October. The route followed is more to the north than during spring and birds pass through the Baltic. In September and October recoveries are found in northern Kazakhstan and this probably involves birds from breeding areas on Taymyr on their way to wintering sites in southeastern Europe and Turkey. Birds breeding in Greenland are found on stopover in Iceland until November and they winter mainly in Scotland & Ireland. North Siberian breeders are also found in the Caspian Sea area and in Iraq, while birds from breeding sites further east winter in south and East Asia.



Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*
Distribution Map: Bauer, Bezzel & Fiedler 2006, AULA-Verlag

Figure 1: Map depicting the movements of Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) based on published information and ring recoveries in the EURING Data Bank.

From:

Delany, S., Veen, J. & Clark, J.A. (eds) 2006. *Urgent preliminary assessment of ornithological data relevant to the spread of Avian Influenza in Europe*. Report to the European Commission. Study contract: 07010401/2005/425926/MAR/B4. Authors: Atkinson, P.W., Clark, J.A., Delany, S., Diagona, C.H., du Feu, C., Fiedler, W., Fransson, T., Gauthier-Clerc, M., Grantham, M.J., Gschwend, M., Hagemeijer, W., Helmink, T., Johnson, A., Khomenko, S., Martakis, G., Overdijk, O., Robinson, R.A., Solokha, A., Spina, F., Sylla, S.I., Veen, J. & Visser, D.
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/nature_conservation/focus_wild_birds/avian_influenza/index_en.htm

Table 1: Summary of movements of Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) from literature based on published information and ring recoveries in the EURING Data Bank.

Greater white-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons*)

Distribution: Holarctic, at high latitudes in northern Europe, Asia and North America

Population (or part of population)	Autumn Migration		Wintering / Non-breeding Grounds		Spring Migration		References
	direction / via	during	location	during	direction / via	during	
Two subspecies: nominate form <i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i> in Arctic tundra , <i>A. a. flavirostris</i> exclusively in low Arctic areas of west Greenland from 63° to 72°N.			no overlap of range or migration routes between <i>flavirostris</i> and <i>albifrons</i>		Spring migration tracks probably a bit more south than autumn migration		3, 8
Greenland (<i>A.a. flavirostris</i>)	via S- and W-Iceland, S	end Aug-Sep-Oct	Britain, Ireland, few Denmark, Netherlands, Norway		staging in Scotland	mid Apr-May	1, 5, 2, 8, 9
Western and Central Siberia	Denmark, Finland	Sep-Oct	Northwest and central Europe; N-Spain, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Poland the Baltics, Finland, S-Sweden		Netherlands	Mar	1, 3, 2, 8
Arctic breeding grounds	via SW-Siberia		Southern North Sea, SW Baltic Sea			Feb-Mar	2, 5, 12
Western and Central Siberia ("Panonic population")	Austria, Hungary	Oct-Nov	Hungary, Austria, former Yugoslavia, N-Italy, Albania, N-Greece			Feb-Mar	1
N-Siberia ("Anatolian population")			Black Sea, Danube Delta, West coast Turkey, NE-Greece, central Turkey				1, 3
Northern European Russia							
Taymyr	via Kazakhstan, SW-Siberia, W-SW		Western Black Sea, probably Turkey				3, 8, 12
N-Siberia			Caspian region, Iraq				1, 3, 8
East Palaearctic group	SE		South and East Asia				3

References consulted in drawing up the movement summary tables. Number in tables indicate which reference was used in drawing up each line of data in the tables.

Number in Tables	Reference
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12	Recovery maps from the Italian Bird Ringing Scheme
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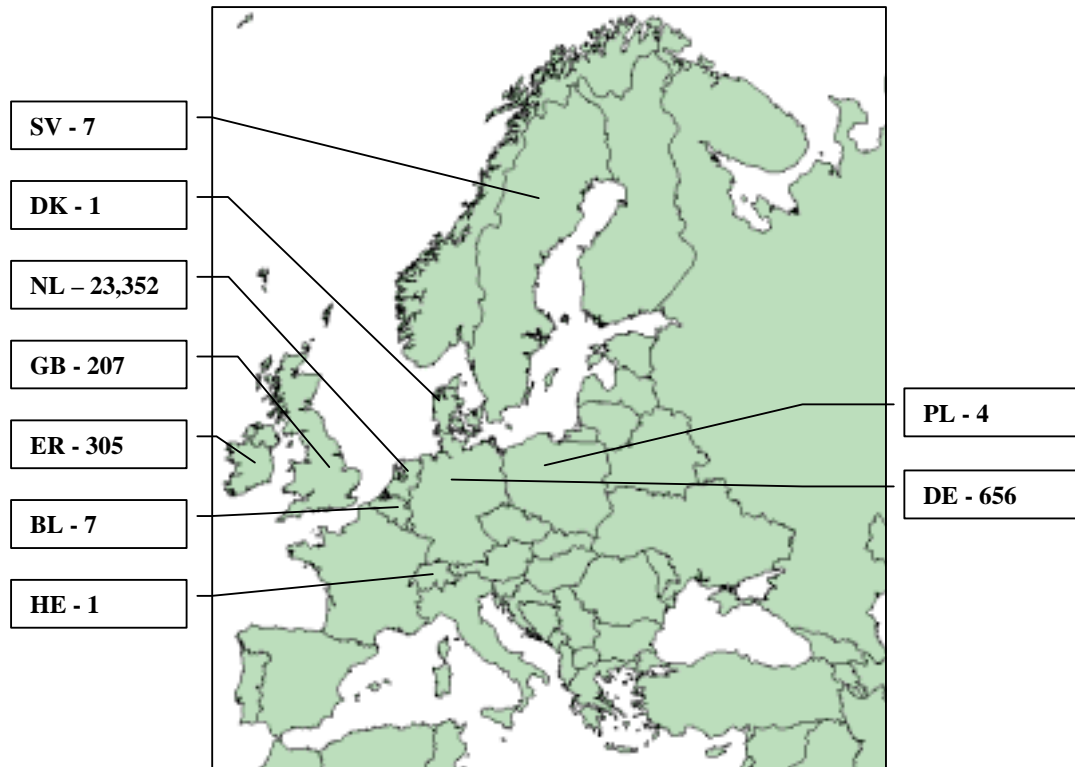


Figure 2. Country of ringing and numbers of recoveries of birds featured in maps of finding locations - Great White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*).