

Wildfowl 59: Editorial

The year 2009 has been an exciting one for *Wildfowl*, with two issues of the journal published – this standard edition and also a Special Issue, which presents the proceedings of the Second Pan-European Duck Symposium. Moreover, the standard edition includes five papers given at the 11th meeting of the Wetlands International/IUCN-Species Survival Commission Goose Specialist Group, held at Leh, Ladakh, India in May 2008. These provide further valuable insights into the Eurasian goose populations, such as the migratory strategies used by Bar-headed Geese, the status of Bean Geese in central Asia and changes in the migration phenology for Greylag Geese on passage over France. I am most grateful to Bart Ebbinghe (Chairman of the Goose Specialist Group) for suggesting publishing the papers in *Wildfowl*, to Eckhart Kuijken for his unstinting efforts in collating the papers, and to Ralf Kurvers, Asad Rehmani and Gerard Ouweneel for acting on the editorial board for the Ladakh proceedings.

Although there are therefore a relatively high proportion of papers on geese in this year's edition of the journal, the other papers submitted have covered a diverse range of topics. A paper on management of the upper Mississippi River illustrates how wetland conditions can be improved to provide a food supply for different duck species, results of a satellite-tracking study aimed at assessing the movements of Trumpeter Swans in the Tri-state region of the USA are described, and analysis of Tufted Duck foraging activity adds to the surprisingly little data on their dive patterns in the wild.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those receiving *Wildfowl* who responded to the short questionnaire on the possibility of transferring to electronic *Wildfowl*, which was included with *Wildfowl* 58. About one-third of those receiving the journal replied, and the majority wished to retain the printed version. As a significant proportion (33% of those replying) does not have internet access, and more prefer to read books in the hand, we will be happy to continue producing *Wildfowl* in its current form. Given that about one-third stated that they would prefer to receive the journal electronically, WWT will also investigate the possibility of providing both electronic and printed copies of the journal.

I remain most grateful to the Editorial Board members Matt Guillemain, Tony Fox, Bruce Dugger and Mark O'Connell for their help and support throughout the year and to the referees for their valuable comments on the papers. I'm also grateful to Ellen Matthews for her typesetting skills and to Paul Cockerton at Cambridge University Press for facilitating the printing of the journal. Last, but certainly not least, I thank Maggie Sage, Caroline Grant and Jane Gawthorne for their assistance throughout, in what has been a very busy year for the team involved in publishing *Wildfowl*.

Eileen Rees

**Editor: *Wildfowl*
WWT Martin Mere**

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