

## **WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY:**

### **FACE PROMOTES WATERBIRD MONITORING AND WETLAND RESTORATION**

**Brussels, 10 May 2017** – This year, the European Federation for Hunting and Conservation (FACE) is celebrating [World Migratory Bird Day](#) as a means to promote the recently established [Waterbird Fund](#). FACE is calling on those who sustainably use and conserve waterbirds to contribute to this important Fund to ensure that we better understand the status of our migratory waterbird populations.

The FACE [Biodiversity Manifesto](#) demonstrates that hunters are already actively involved in managing and creating wetlands that are important for migratory birds in Europe. However, monitoring – long-term, repeated data collection – is the foundation for managing and understanding wetlands and the species they support. For hunters, the Waterbird Fund will help to ensure that we have a solid understanding European waterbird management proprieties. Good monitoring data are essential to develop sustainable hunting frameworks, such as adaptive harvest management, which are already proving to be successful in Europe.

According to Dr. David Scallan, FACE's Senior Conservation Manager: *"The need to promote and implement sustainable harvest frameworks is a fundamental part of ensuring sustainable use. The Waterbird Fund provides a way to ensure that we have quality data on population sizes and trends for huntable waterbird populations in Europe"*.

FACE is one of a number of organisations within the African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership helping to promote this Fund. The Waterbird Fund can be supported via its website: [www.waterbird.fund](http://www.waterbird.fund)

Finally, FACE will continue to work hard to ensure better implementation of the provisions of the Birds Directive via the recently published EU [action plan](#) on the nature directives. Some of the key areas of interest to European hunters include updating the "Key concepts document on the period of reproduction and prenuptial migration of huntable bird Species in the EU". FACE is also engaging with the Commission and other stakeholders to ensure effective approaches are taken to conserve and manage Europe's goose populations in line with the provisions of the Birds Directive.

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

FACE is the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU. Established in 1977, FACE represents the interests of Europe's 7 million hunters as an international non-profit-making nongovernmental organisation. FACE is made up of national hunters' associations from 36 European countries including the EU-28. FACE is supported by 7 associate members and is based in Brussels.

FACE upholds the principle of sustainable use and has been a member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 1987. FACE works with its partners on a range of hunting-related matters from international conservation agreements to local implementation issues with the aim of sustaining hunting across Europe.

[www.face.eu](http://www.face.eu)

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, INTERVIEWS, QUOTES, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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