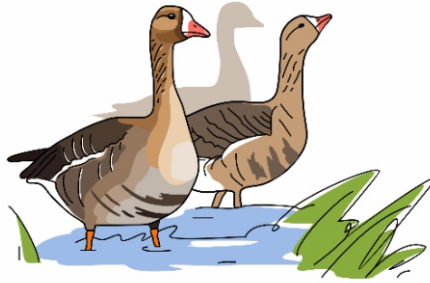


18th Conference of
Goose Specialist Group
27 – 30 March 2018
Klaipėda, Lithuania

Conference abstracts



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USING REMOTE SENSING METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF CHANGES IN GOOSE FEEDING AREAS IN NEMUNAS DELTA

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Nemunas delta has a great importance for migratory waterbirds during spring season, which stop in flooded areas for resting and feeding on their way back from wintering areas to breeding grounds. The most abundant migratory geese species using Nemunas delta are greater white-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons*), bean goose (*Anser fabalis*), and barnacle goose (*Branta leucopsis*).

The main goal of this work is to evaluate temporal size changes of the potential feeding areas, which are important for geese in Nemunas Delta. We used SAR images and shoreline change detection analysis for a period of February to May 2017, which cover the most important known areas for geese in the region. Geese mostly use flooded areas for roosting, while they feed away from the flooded areas. As the flood water shrinks, geese use freshly opened areas which were not reachable for them previously.

This work present potentials to use remote sensing methods to evaluate temporal changes of important areas for waterbirds.