Managing goose populations: the flyway approach and the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)

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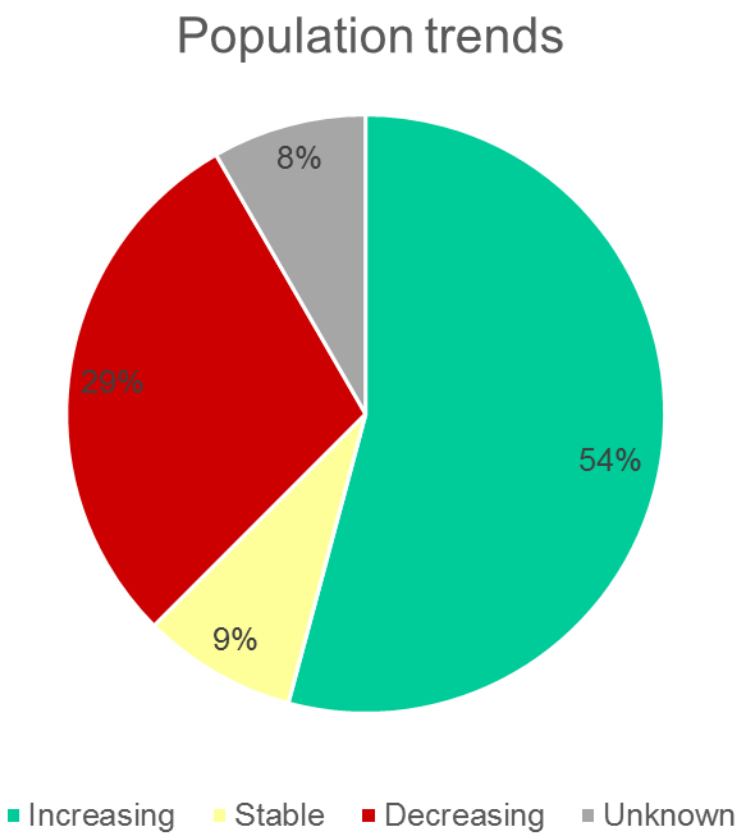
Presentation overview

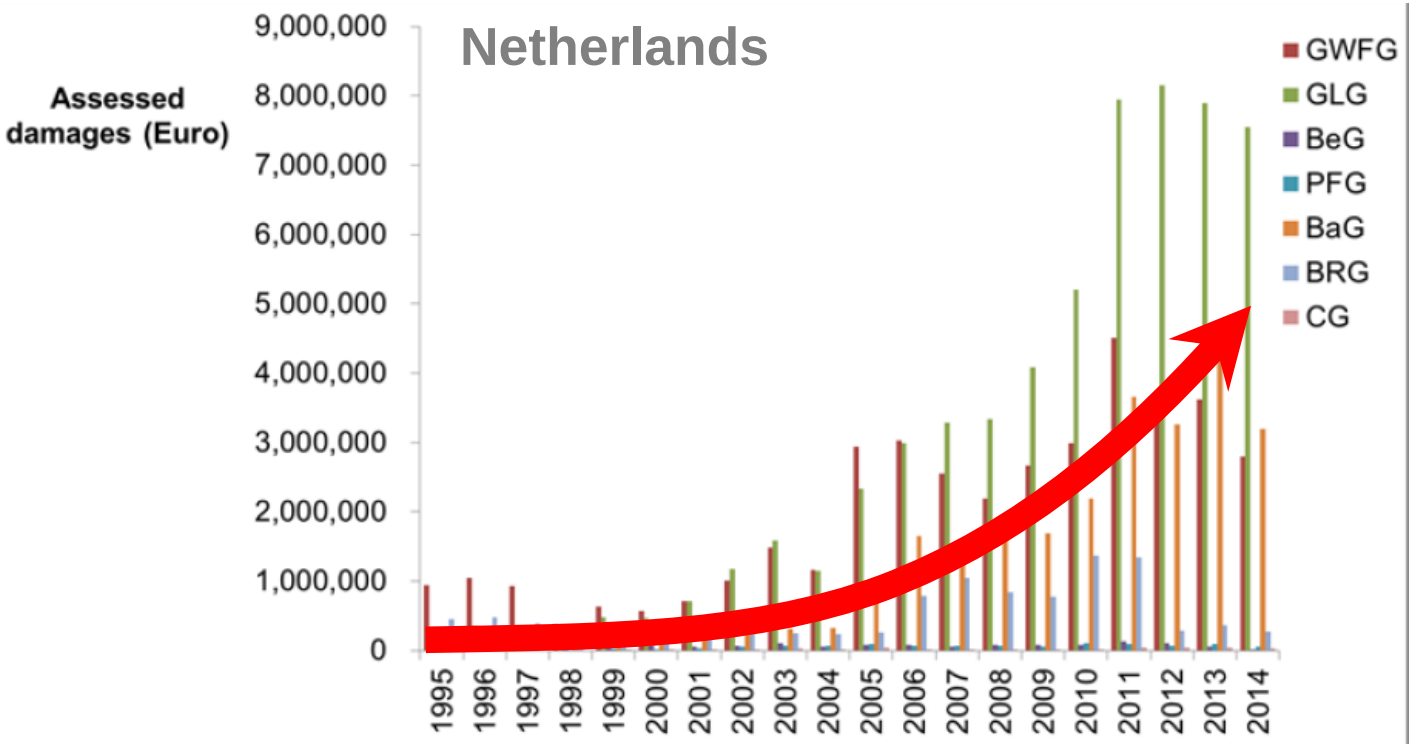
- Pink-footed Goose management
- Other goose management processes
- European Goose Management Platform

AEWA goose species

8 species, 24 populations = 5.2-5.7m birds



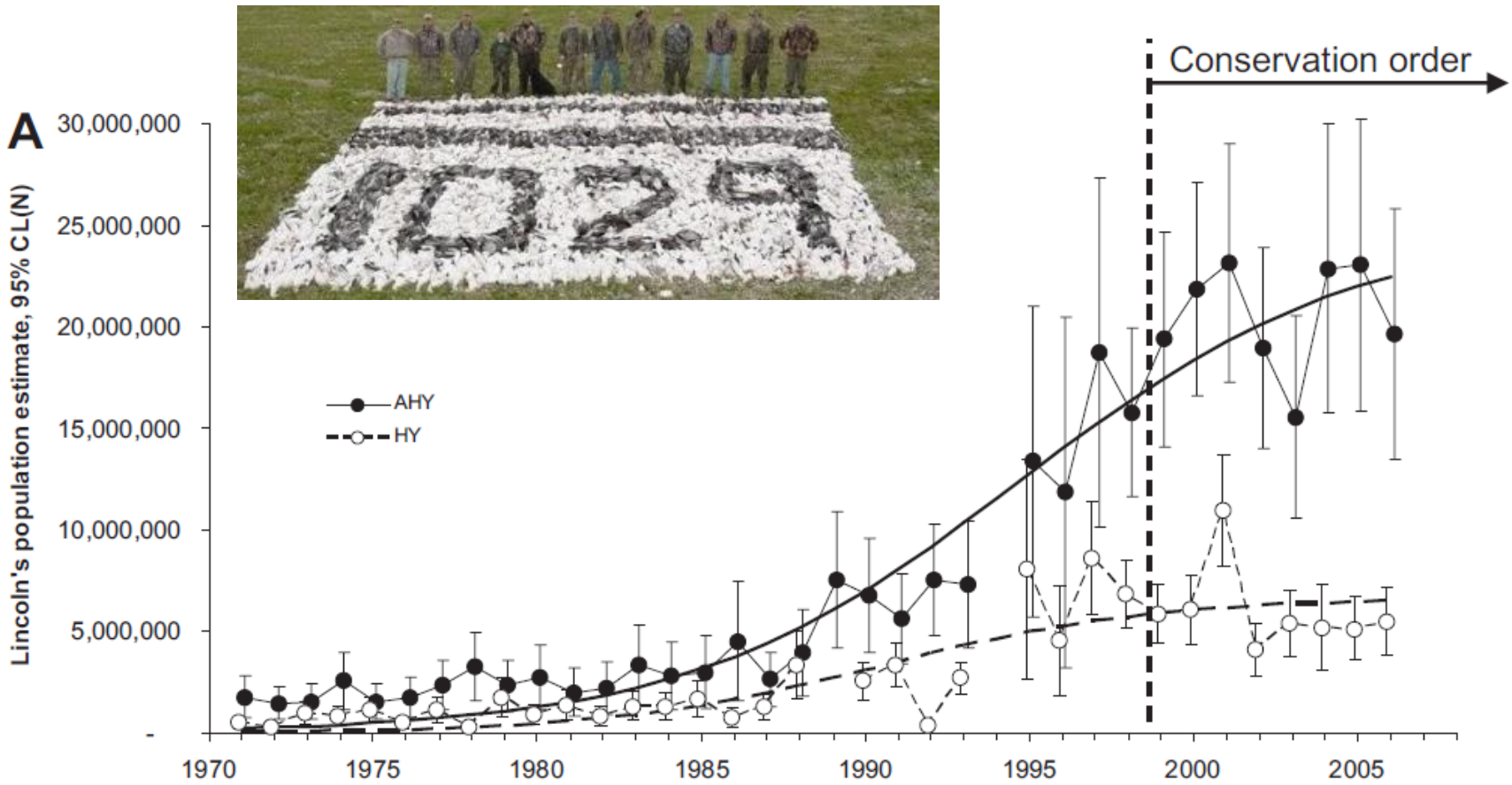
Agriculture damage compensations



But increasing goose numbers are not just about agricultural conflict

Proceedings of a meeting held in Gram Slot, Denmark October 2015, to be published in *Ambio in 2017*

North American Lesser Snow Goose population size and trends



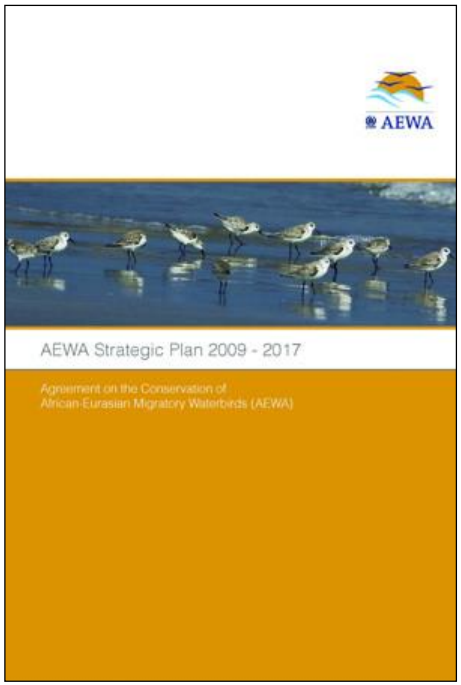
AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017

Target 2.5

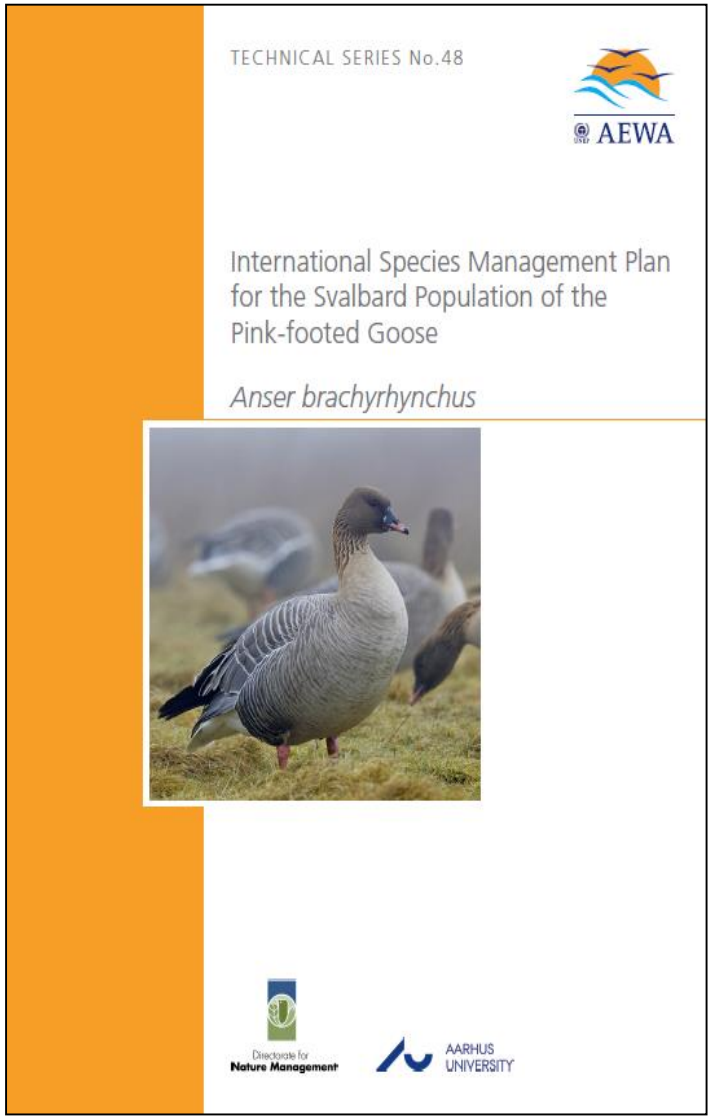
"Adaptive harvest management of quarry populations is ensured at international level."

Indicator

"International harvest management plans for two quarry populations are developed and implemented"



The first European trial of adaptive management of a migratory population



PfG – two discrete populations

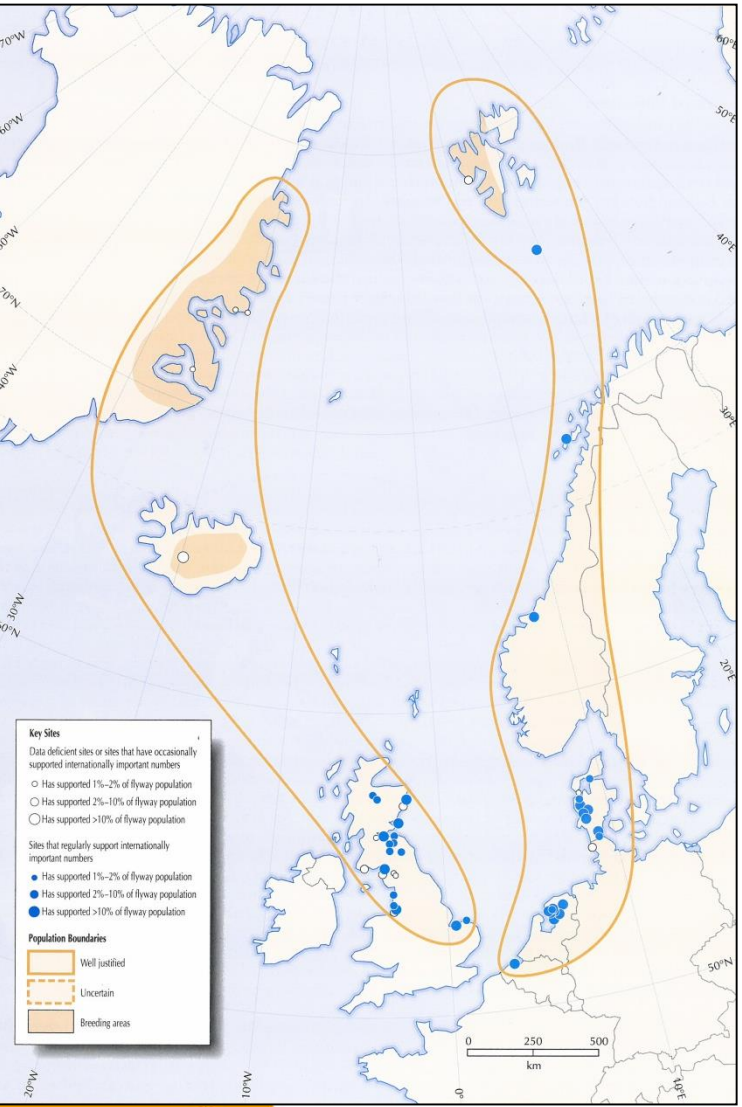
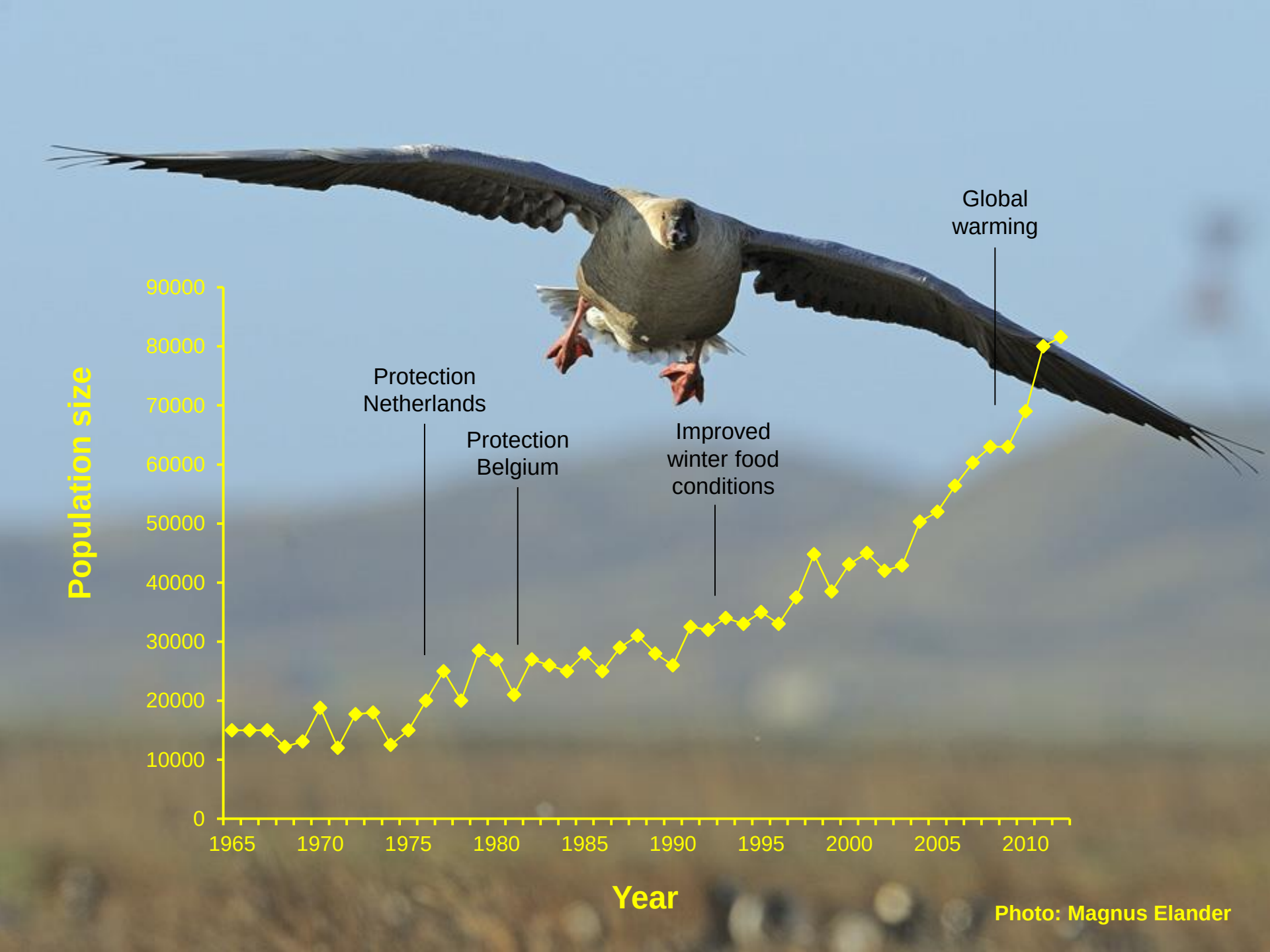



Photo: Magnus Elander

A well-defined flyway with few range states


Global warming
Protection Netherlands
Protection Belgium
Improved winter food conditions
Population size
90000
80000
70000
60000
50000
40000
30000
20000
10000
0
1965
1970
1975
1980
1985
1990
1995
2000
2005
2010
Year
Photo: Magnus Elander

Internationally co-ordinated long-term studies

- Population monitoring
- Hunting bag statistics
- Capture-recapture study
- Year-round studies
- Experimental work
- Population modeling
- Individual based modeling

Conflicts with agricultural interests

Trønder-Avisa

Tirsdag 18. april 2006 • UKE 16 • nr. 86 • Løsnr kr 15,00

NYHETER
Millionbryss på Elvebredden i Steinkjer
Side 18 og 19

SPORT
Alexander ødela festen for SFK
Side 26 og 27

KULTUR
Sissy Wish trives i Rock City
Side 24 og 25

Mer bilbråk

LEVNNGER: John Thomas Krogstad i WestSide Racing oppfordrer myndighetene til å opphøve kjøreforbudet i Kirkegata. I mesteparten fall frykter Krogstad nye uro de nærmeste månedene. Side 8

Tilstår incest

STEINKJER: Den tidligere barnevernsarbeideren er tiltalt for voldtekt, incest og seksuelle overgrep mot begge døtrene sine. Mannen i 60-åra skal ved et tilfelle ha tilbudt datteren 400 kroner for å ha samleie med ham. Side 9

Terrasse-hage for Liv Marit

STEINKJER: Terrassen gir mag fridsen av å bo i enebolig med hage, synes Liv Marit Bomo. Vår i hagen side 32–43

Million-gave

43.000 kortnebbgås kommer snart til å okkupere jordene på Innherred:

Jager kort-nebb-gåsa

Væpnet med firehjuling, hagle og gasskanon, venter gårdbrukerne Perry Frøysadal og Lars Bardal Flakkenberg på Sandvollan i Inderøy på kortnebbgåsa.

Side 4 og 5

Kostbar russefeiring

Velkommen til .....
MOTESHOW
... "På reise"

Vår i lufta!
Tilbud denne uka:
SOFT-IS

Signs of grazing impacts on tundra vegetation

The Flyway Plan process and timeline

- Initial workshop, Nov. 2010
- First draft Plan, Mar. 2011
- Consultation range states, spring 2011
- AEWA consultations, autumn 2011
- AEWA MOP5 endorsement, May 2012
- Implementation workshop, Aug. 2012
- Working Group est., Nov. 2012
- AHM starts, autumn 2013

Revision 2022

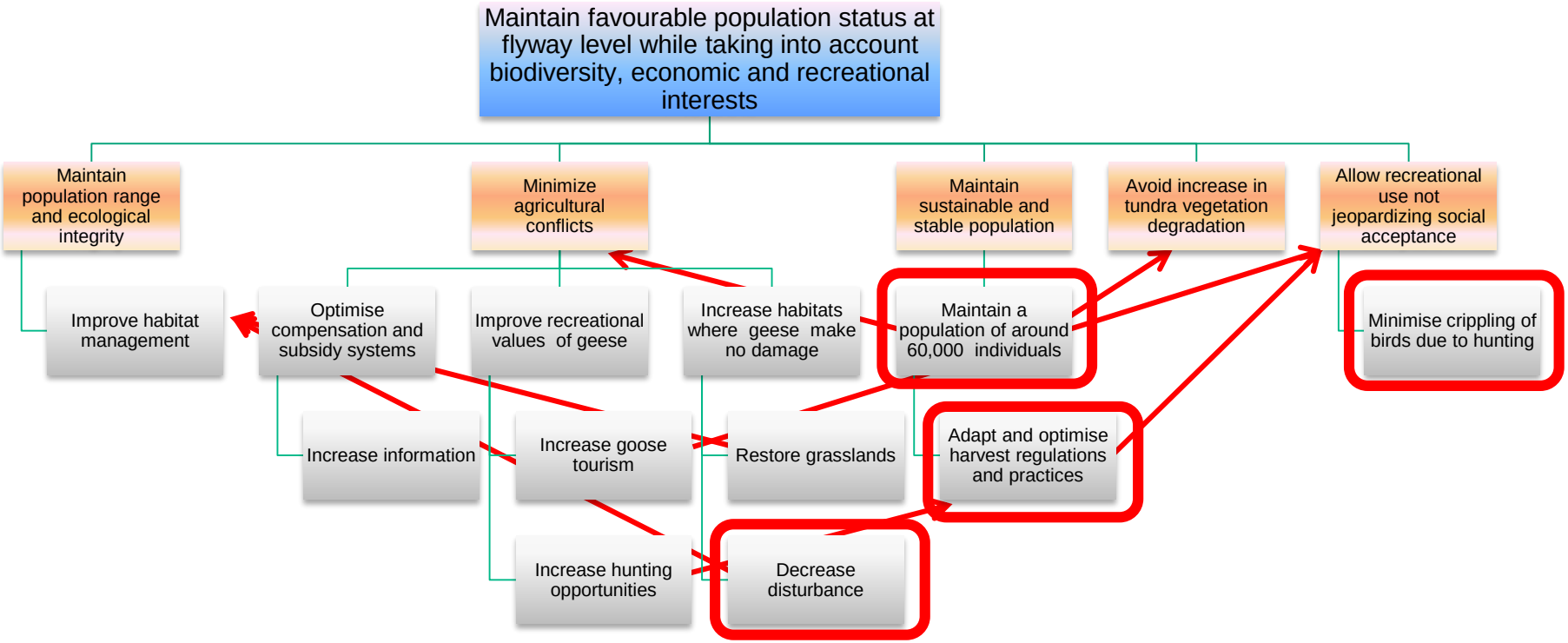
Model developments -

Hunting experiments -

Sociological studies -

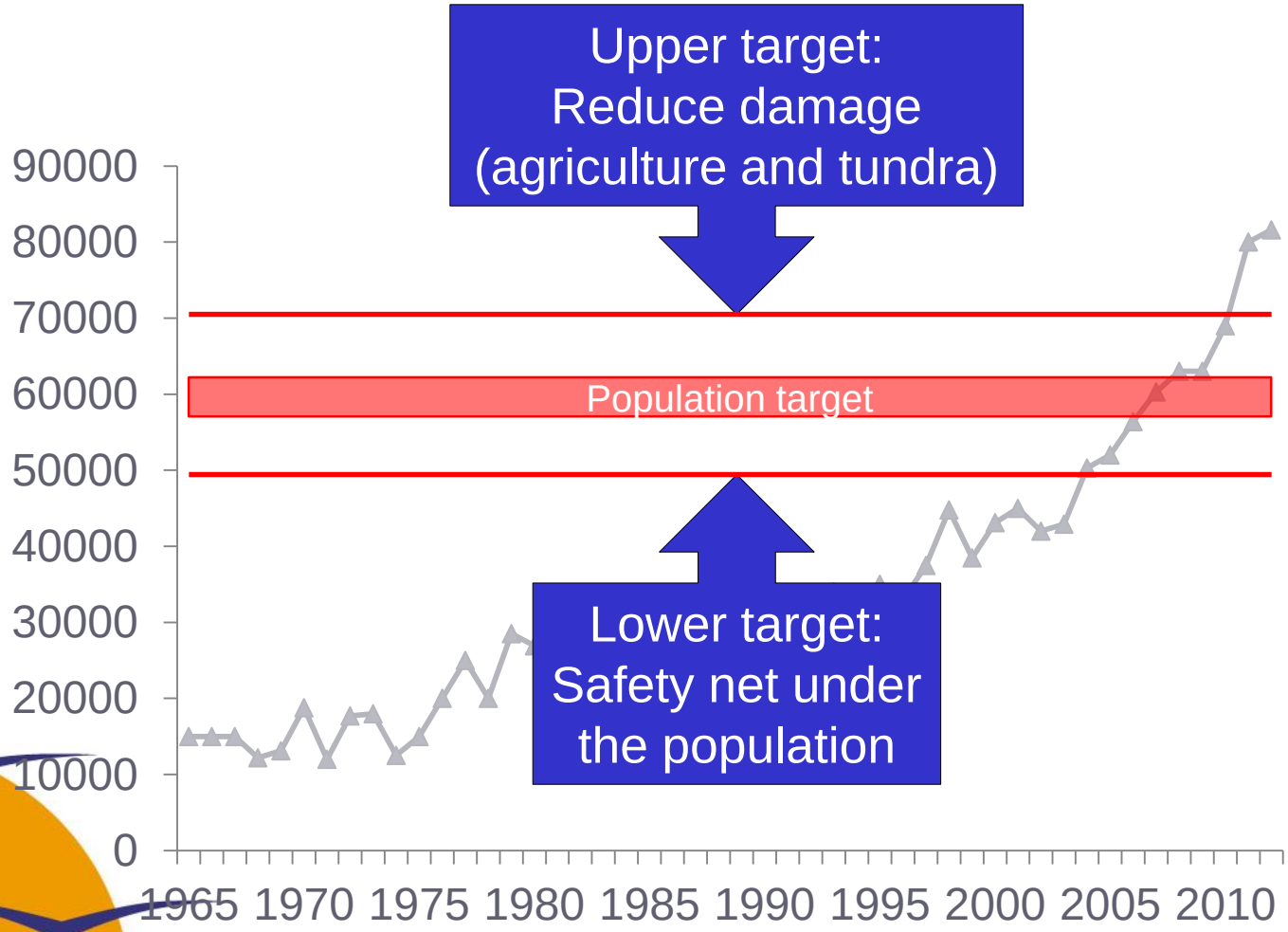
Monitoring tundra impacts -

PfG management framework: goal and objectives

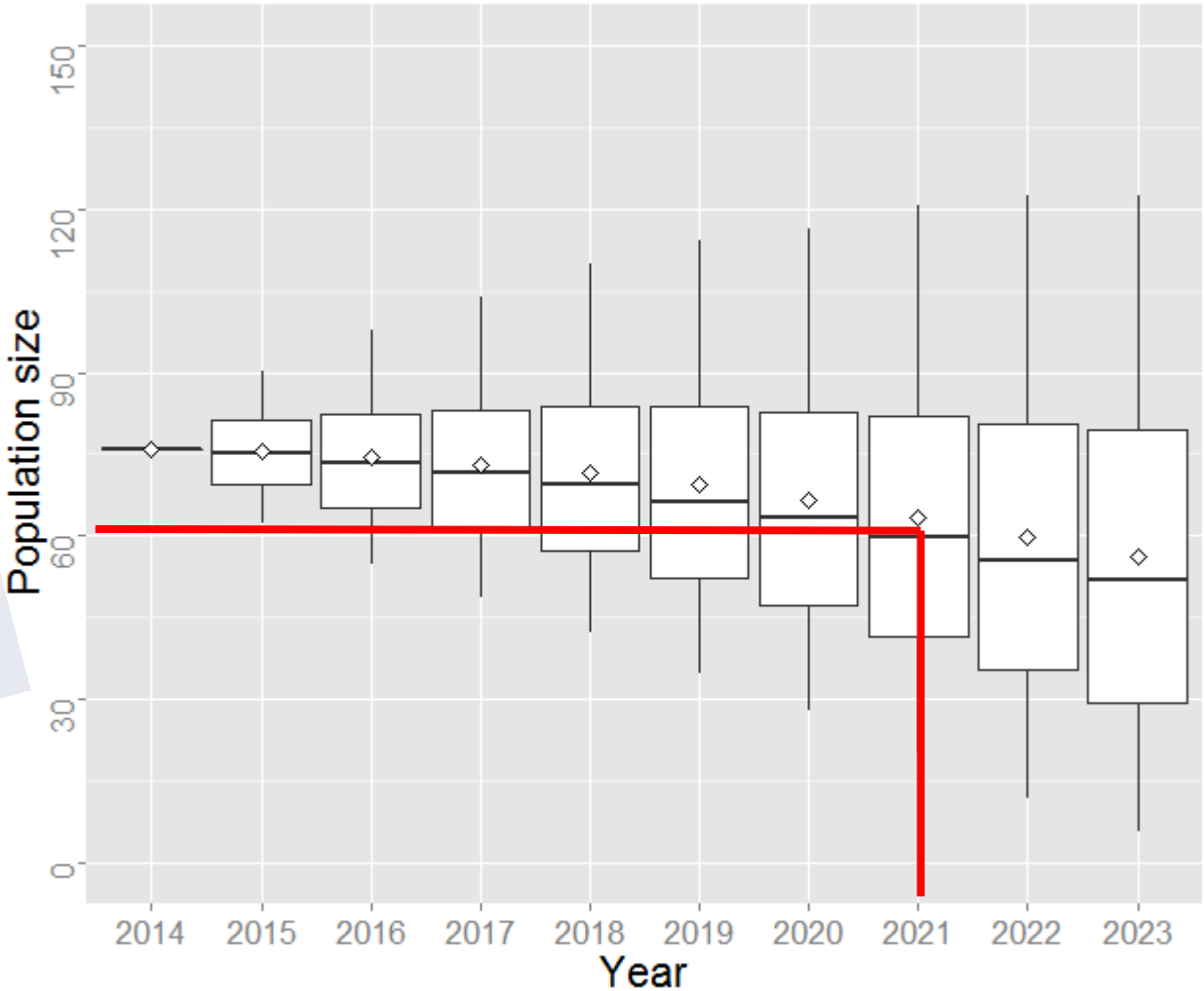


Setting a population target

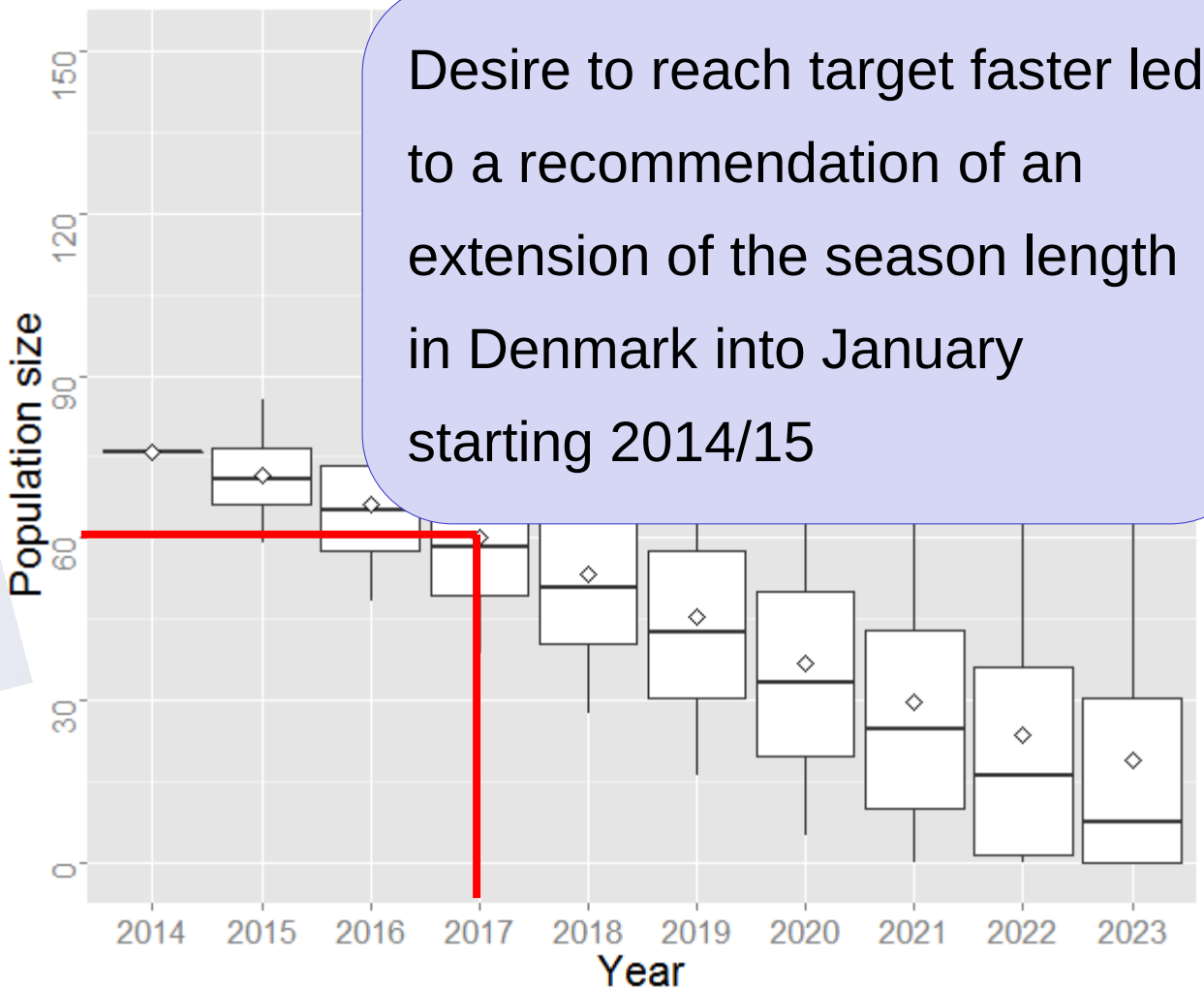
A social construct achieving 'least mutual dissatisfaction'



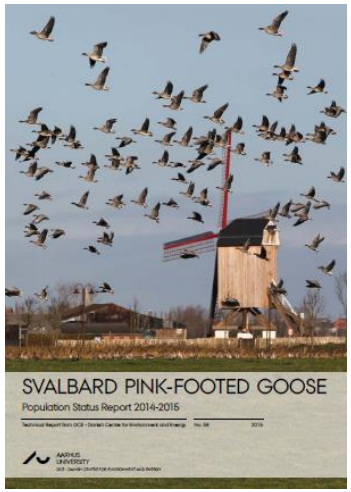
Predicted population trajectory with stable harvest (11,300 per annum)

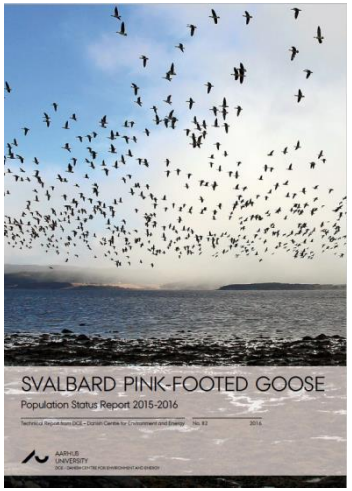


Predicted population trajectory with increased harvest (15,000 per annum)

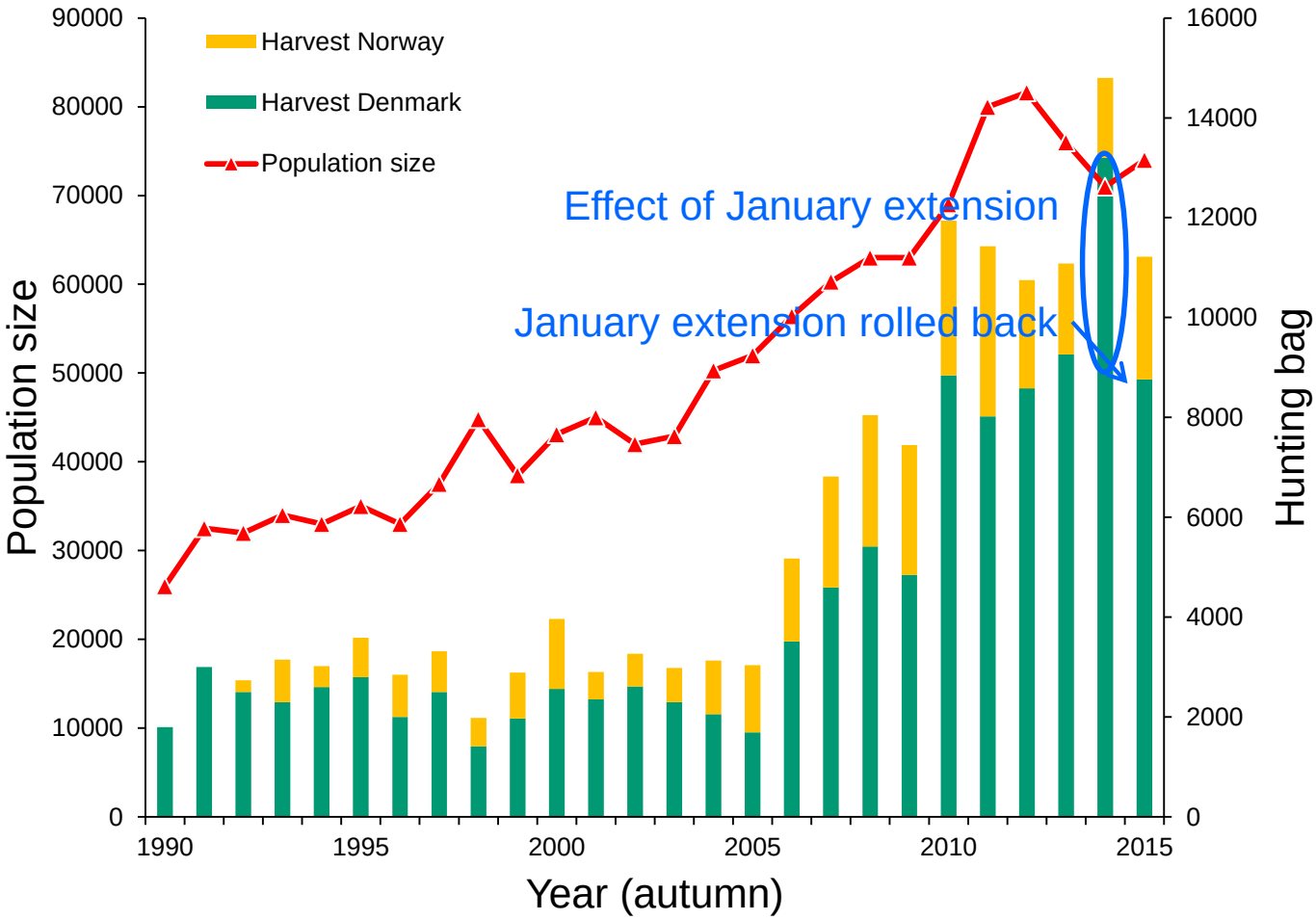


Desire to reach target faster led to a recommendation of an extension of the season length in Denmark into January starting 2014/15



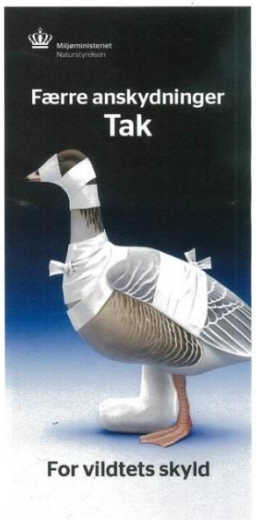


Recent developments



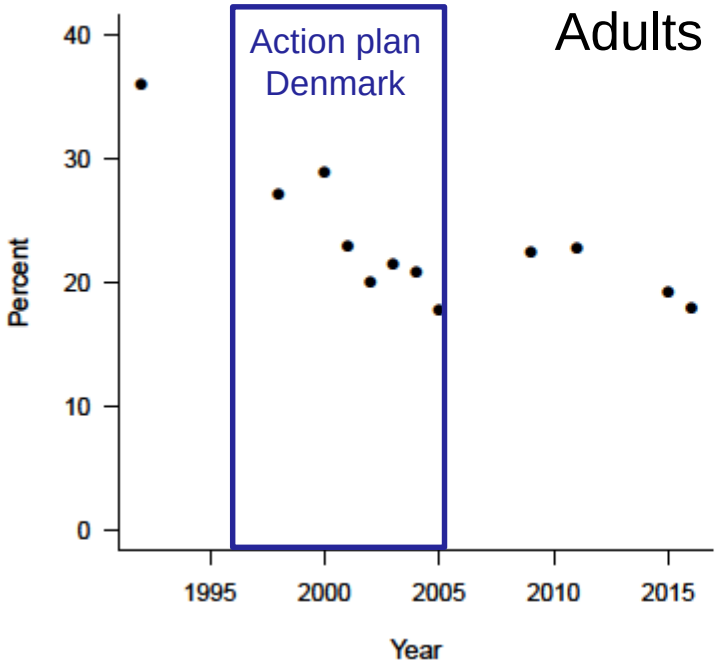
Crippling – a critical issue

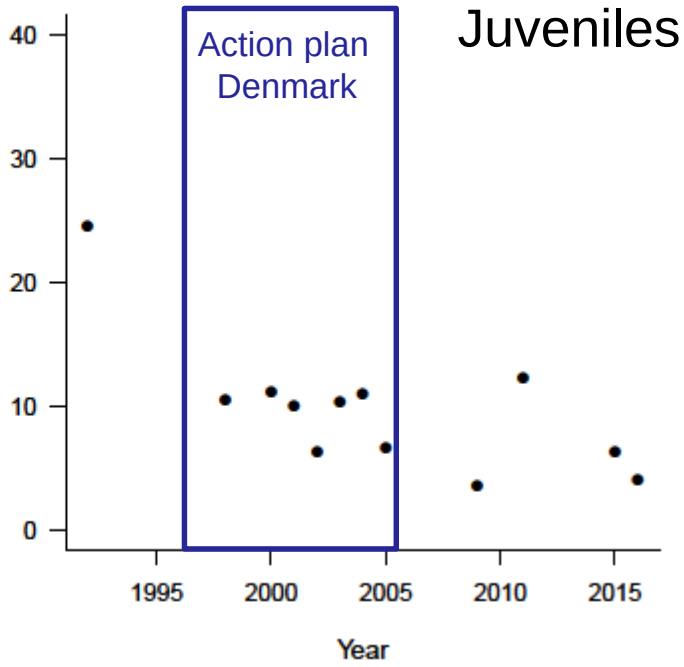
Monitored by X-ray in conjunction with goose catches (canon-netting)



Crippling rate

Agreed objective: continued decline





Taking the increasing harvest rate into account the decline in crippling rate represents a 5-fold improvement in performance

A few lessons learned…..

- Patience: it takes time to set up international adaptive management, tune the operation and test actions
- Be careful with problem framing and objectives
- Commitment and transparency are essential
- Stakeholder engagement => trust-building, ownership
- Process shall be nationally and locally anchored
- Understanding of hunters' behaviour and motivations
- Clear communication and lines of command
- Need for reliable data on population size and harvest

AEWA Taiga Bean Goose Action Plan

Long-term decline (100,000 in the 1990s to 50,000-60,000 nowadays)

Action planning launched in November 2013; AP approved in November 2015

Adaptive management scheme was developed in 2016 and is up for discussion and adoption at this meeting

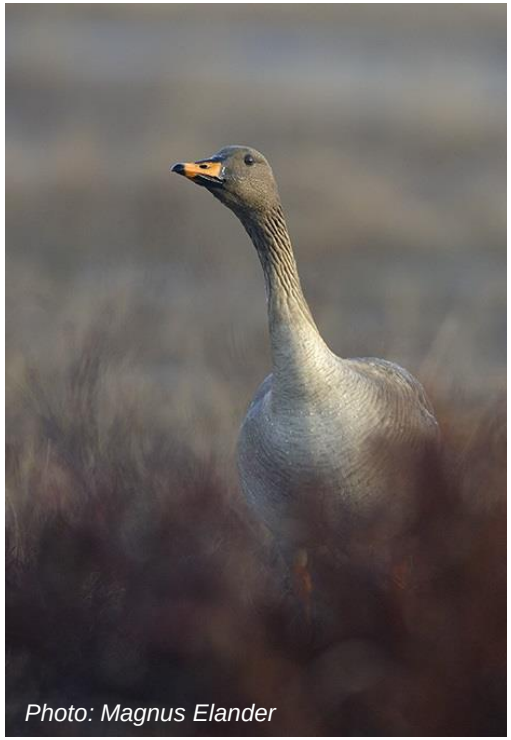


Photo: Magnus Elander

Greylag Goose management

November 2014 – French Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development proposed the development of a GG ISMP

Funding support was pledged and other Range States seconded the initiative

March 2015 – the issue was discussed at the 12th meeting of the AEWA Technical Committee

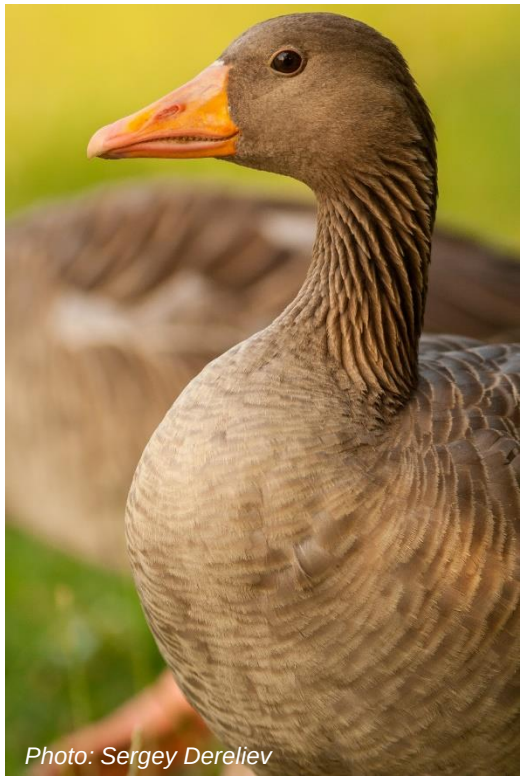


Photo: Sergey Dereliev

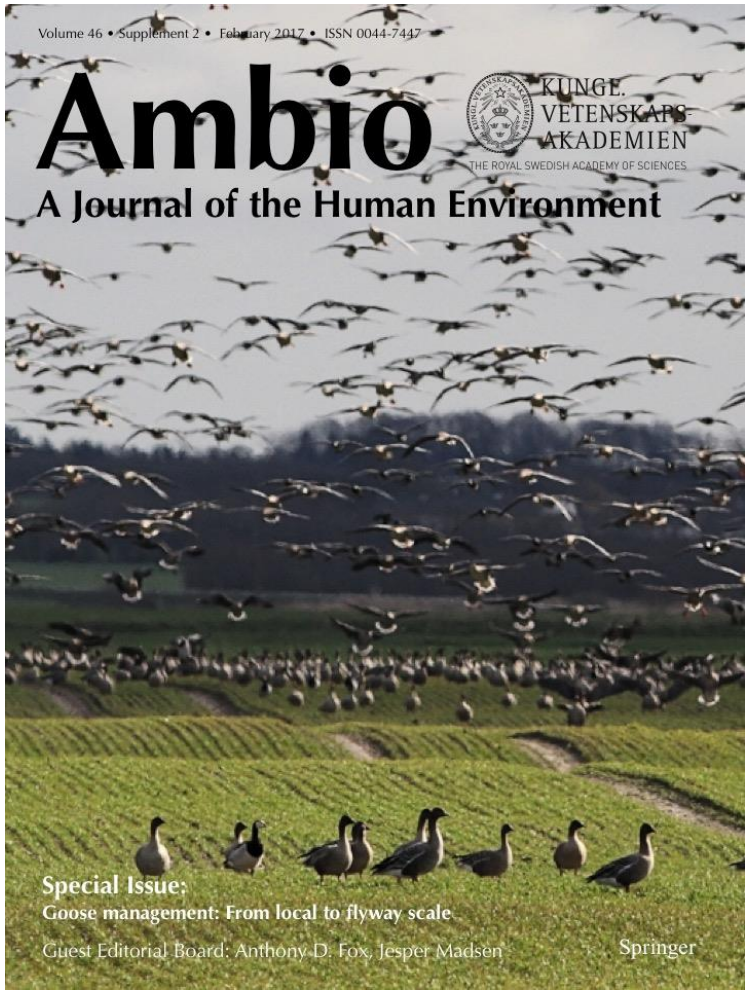
Goose Management: Challenges 2015

International Conference, Gram Slot, Denmark, 27-29 October 2015

Organised by Aarhus University and the National Nature Agency, Denmark

Goose Management: Challenges 2015

- Proceedings expected in February 2017 (*Ambio*, Volume 46, Supplement 2)



European Goose Management Platform

Mandate

- Resolution 6.4: "*Requests the Secretariat to facilitate, funding permitting, the establishment of an European multispecies goose management platform and process to address sustainable use of goose populations and to provide for the resolution of human-goose conflicts, targeting as a matter of priority Barnacle and Greylag Geese populations for which management plans are yet to be developed as well as the Svalbard population of the Pink-footed Goose and the Taiga Bean Goose for which plans are already in place, and invites interested Parties, Range States and other stakeholders to take pro-active role in this initiative, including to ensure necessary resources for the maintenance and the functioning of the platform.*"

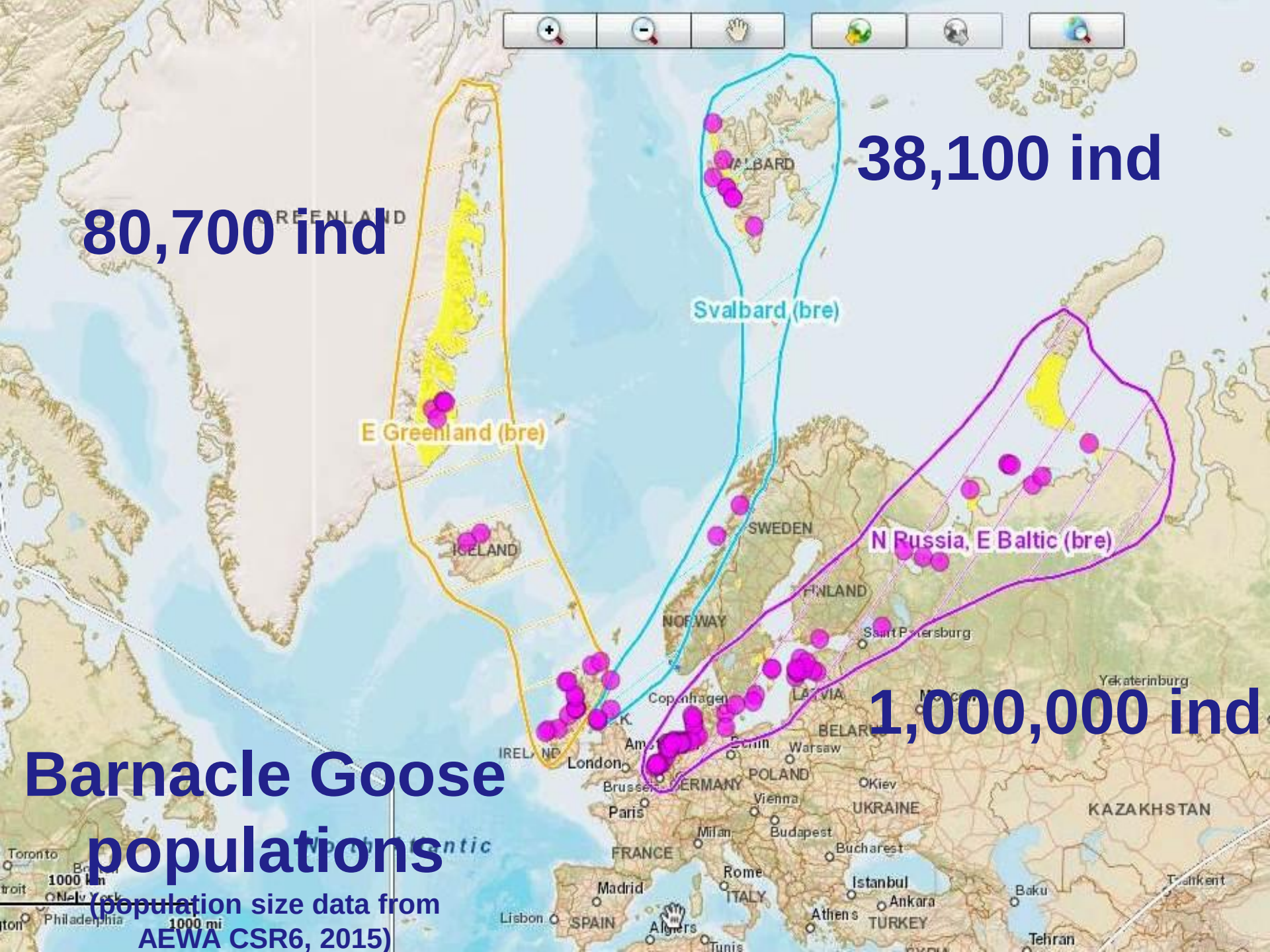
European Goose Management Platform

Paris negotiation meeting (May 2016) – confirmation of commitment and agreement on modalities (Paris Declaration)

Populations to be included for a start

- Pink-footed Goose, Svalbard population; ISMP implemented since 2012
- Taiga Bean Goose; ISAP endorsed at AEWA MOP6, November 2015
- Barnacle Goose, 3 populations
- Greylag Goose, North-west European population



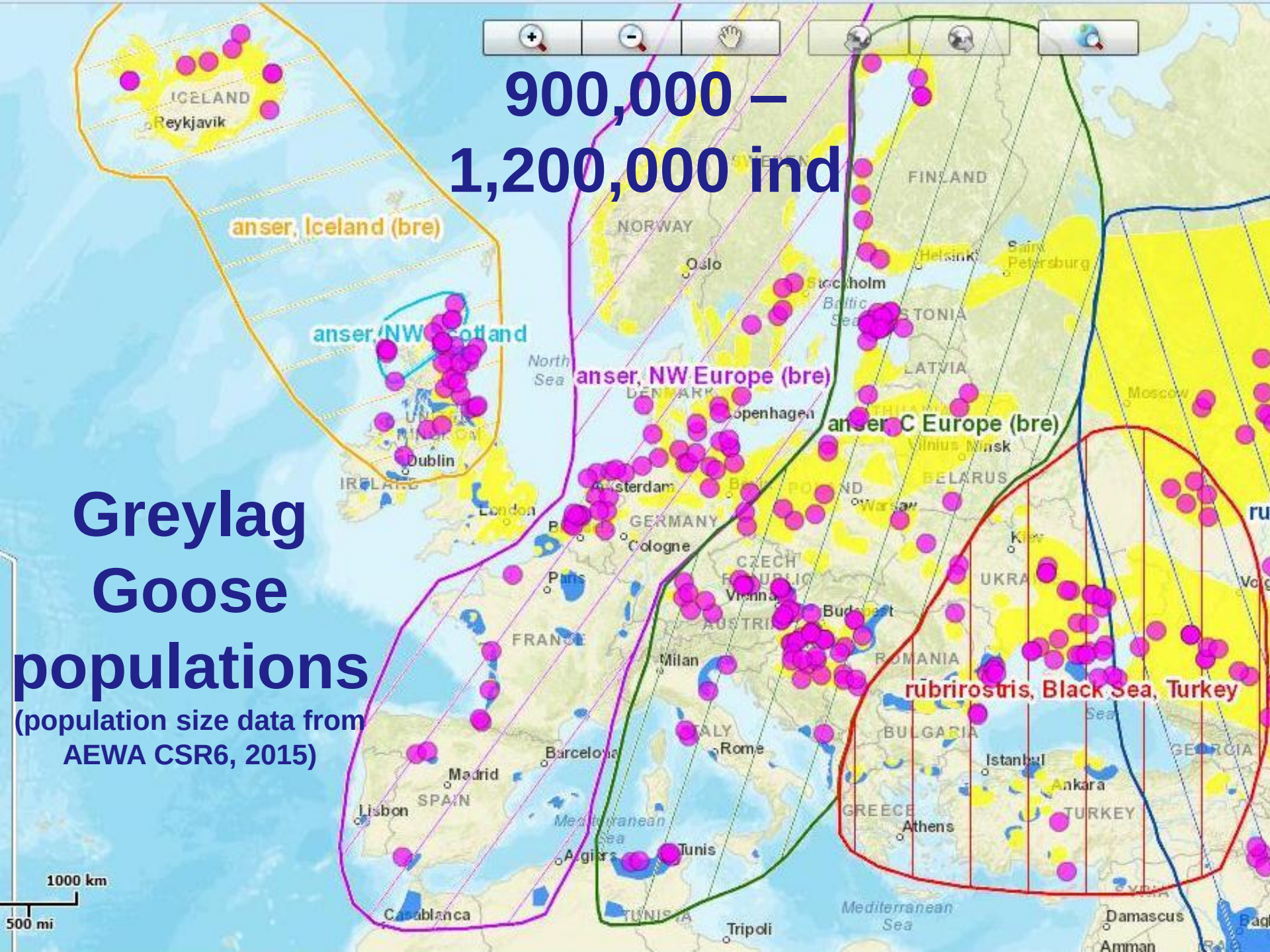



Barnacle Goose populations

(population size data from AEWA CSR6, 2015)

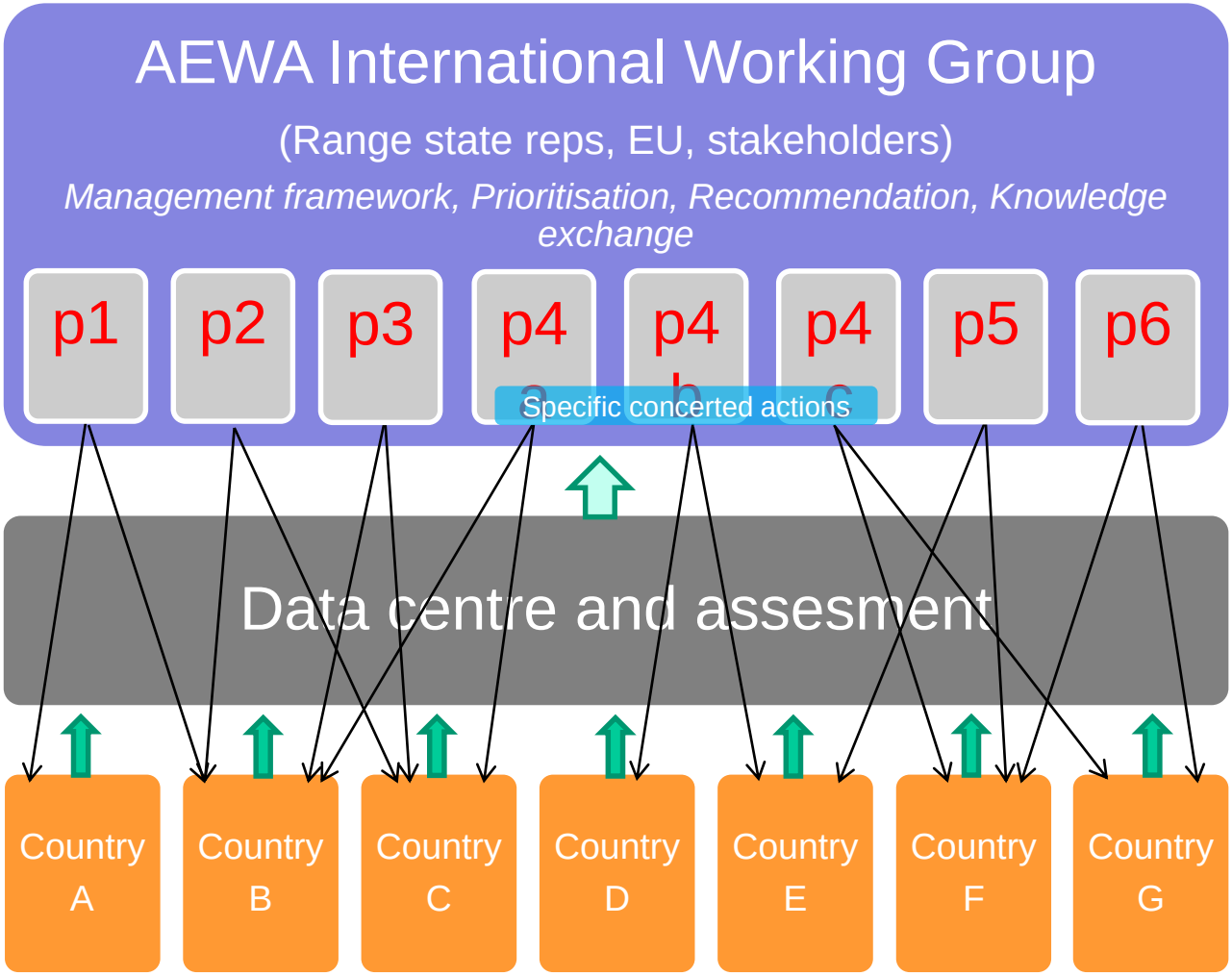
Greylag Goose populations

(population size data from AEWA CSR6, 2015)



EGMP goal

Provide the mechanism for a structured, coordinated and inclusive decision-making and implementation process for the sustainable management of goose populations in Europe, with the objective of maintaining them in a favourable conservation status, while taking into account concerns of relevant stakeholders and the pertinent legislative frameworks and regulations.



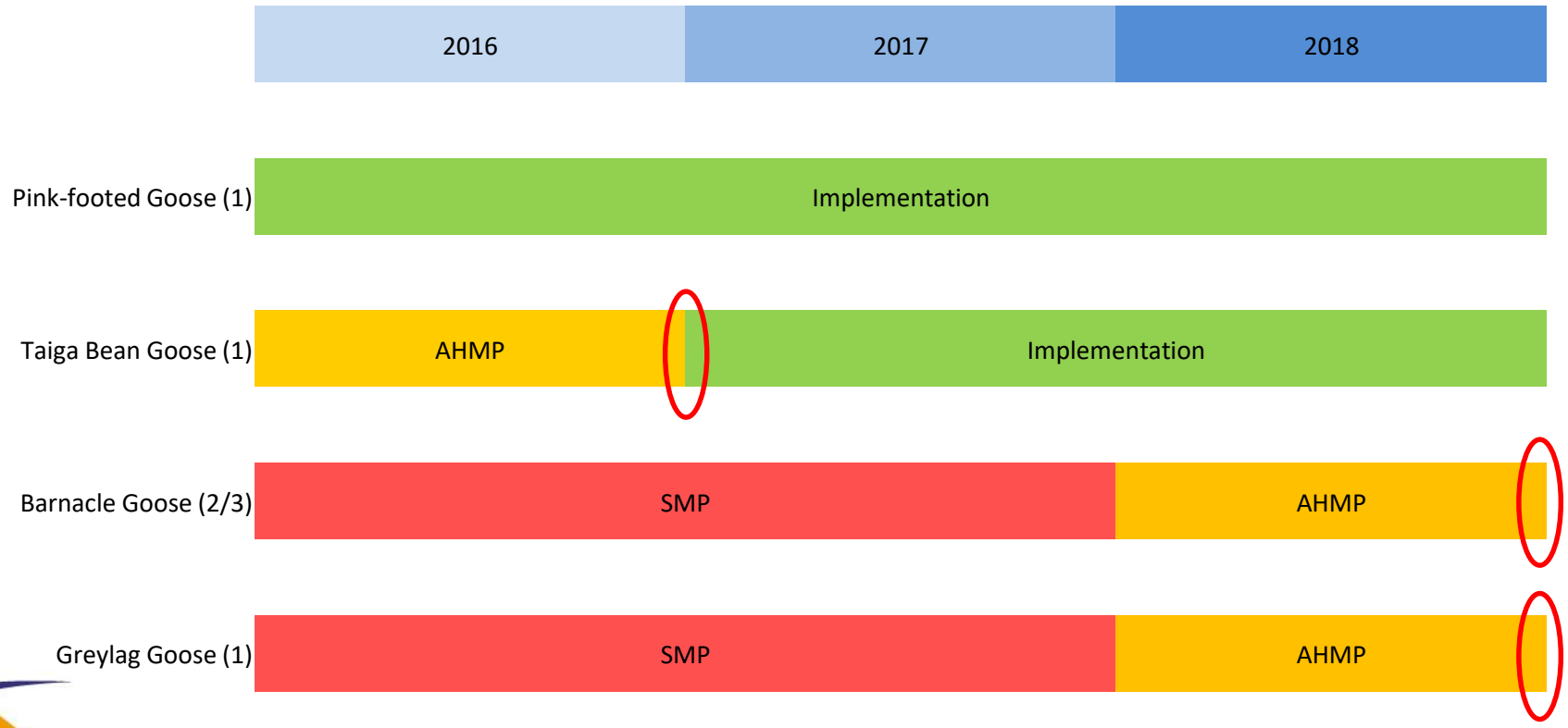
data assessment recommendation

EGMP

Annual iterative process

EGMP

Goose pops and timelines 2016-2018



EGMP range states

Belarus – 1 population	Latvia – 2
Belgium – 3	Lithuania – 2
Greenland – 1	Netherlands – 4
Denmark – 4	Norway – 4
Estonia – 2	Poland – 3
EU - 6	Russia – 2
Finland – 2	Spain – 1
France – 1	Sweden – 3
Germany – 3	UK – 2
Iceland – 1	Ukraine – 1
Ireland – 1	

Post-AEWA MOP6 activities

1st AEWA EGM IWG took place (14-16 Dec 2016, Kristianstad, Sweden)

2nd AEWA EGM IWG forthcoming (15-16 Jun 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark)

Barnacle Goose Management Plan: International Planning Workshop (12-14 Jun 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark)

Greylag Goose Management Plan: International Planning Workshop, autumn 2017


Photo: Jari Peltomäki