



# Introducing adaptive goose management in Europe

## a way to improve the implementation of the Nature Directives?

*Jacques Trouvilliez*

Executive Secretary

UNEP/AEWA Secretariat

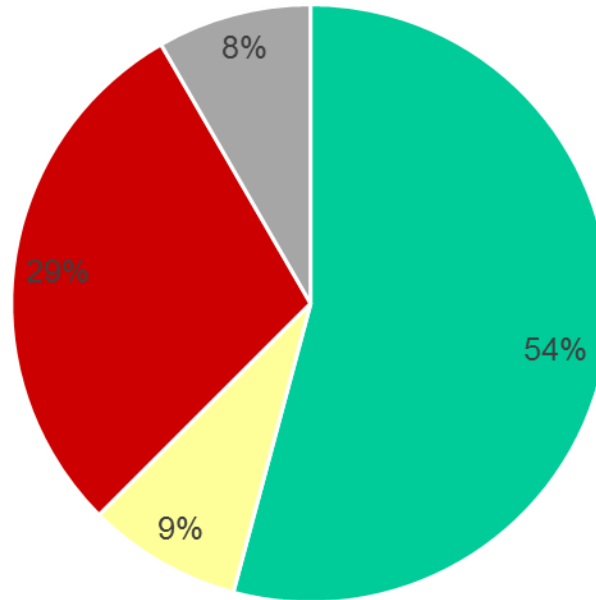




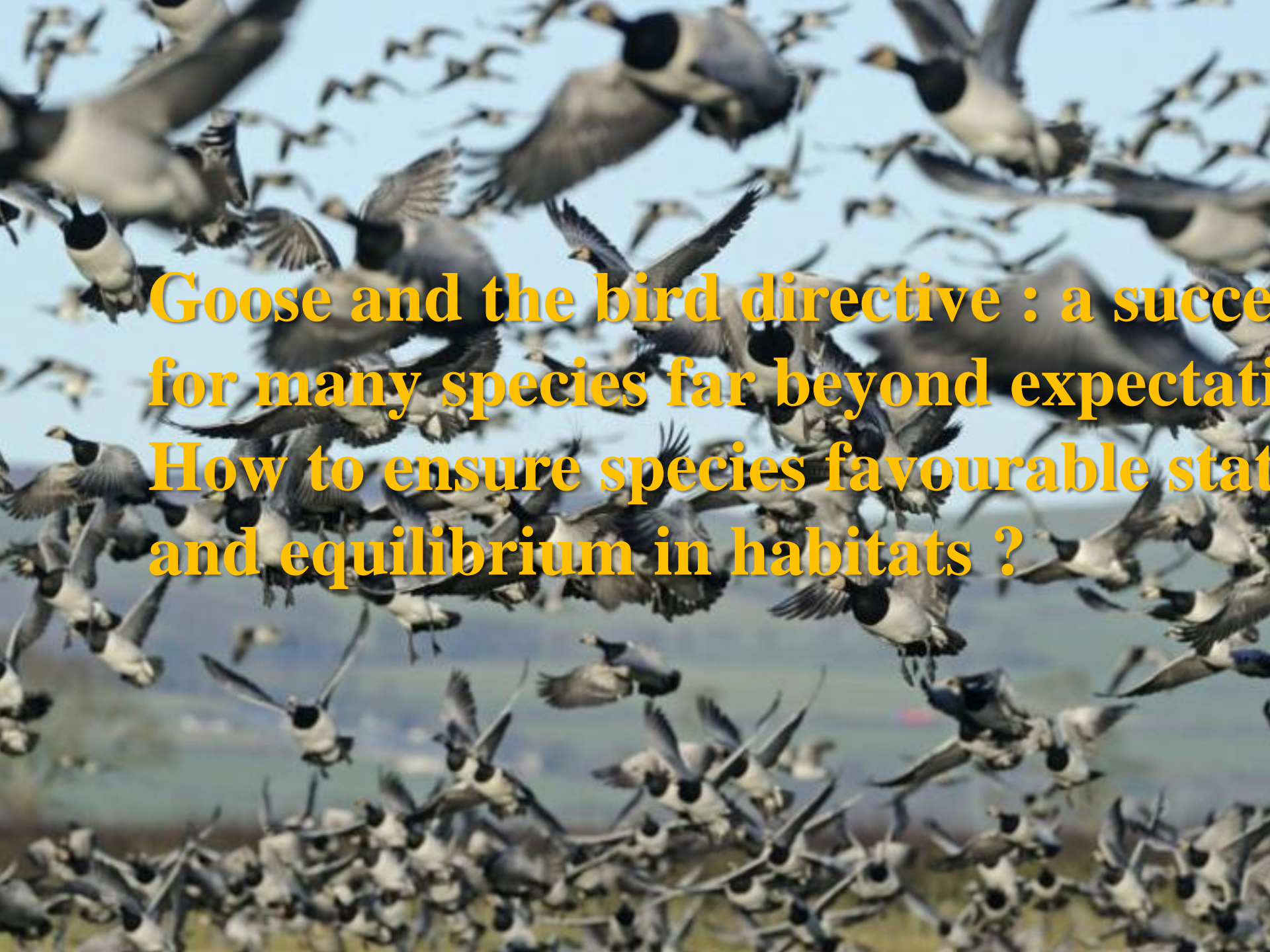
# AEWA goose species

8 species, 24 populations = 5.2-5.7m birds

Population trends

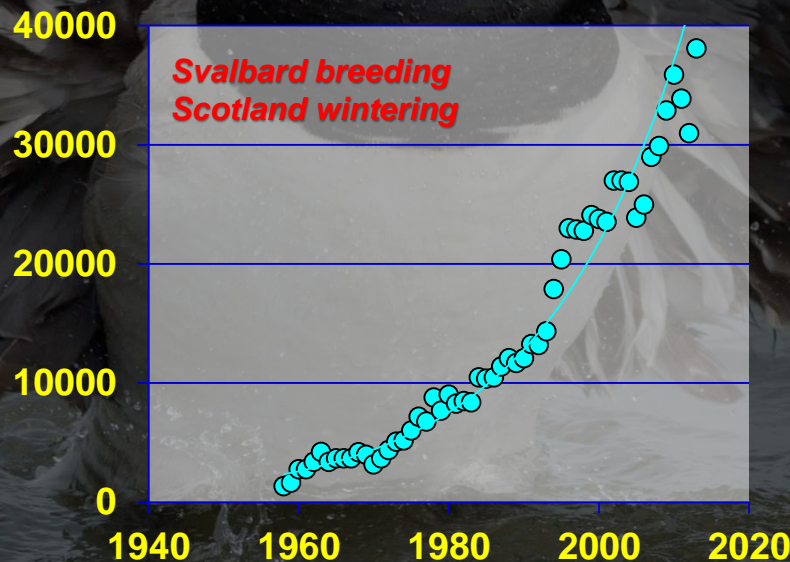
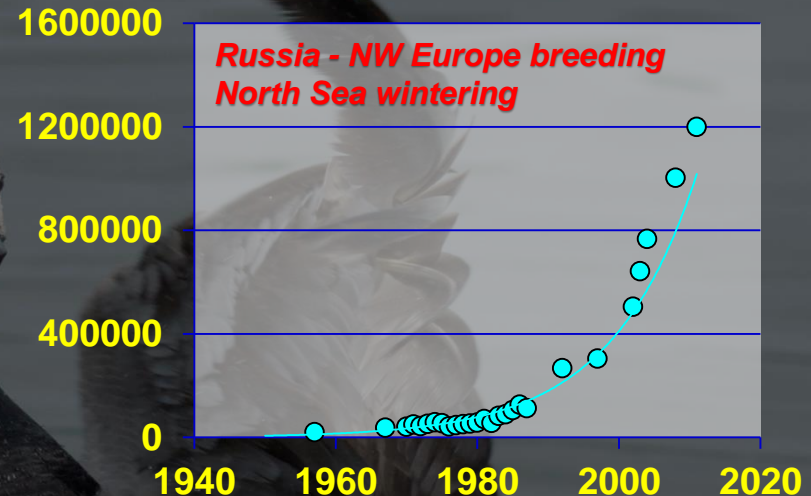
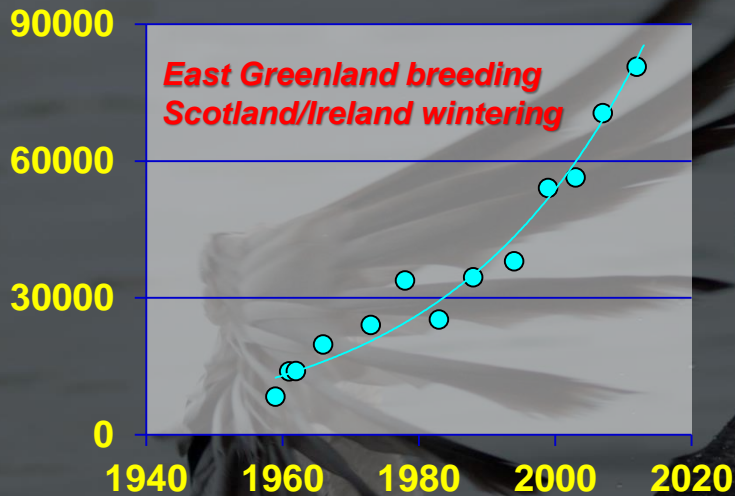


■ Increasing ■ Stable ■ Decreasing ■ Unknown



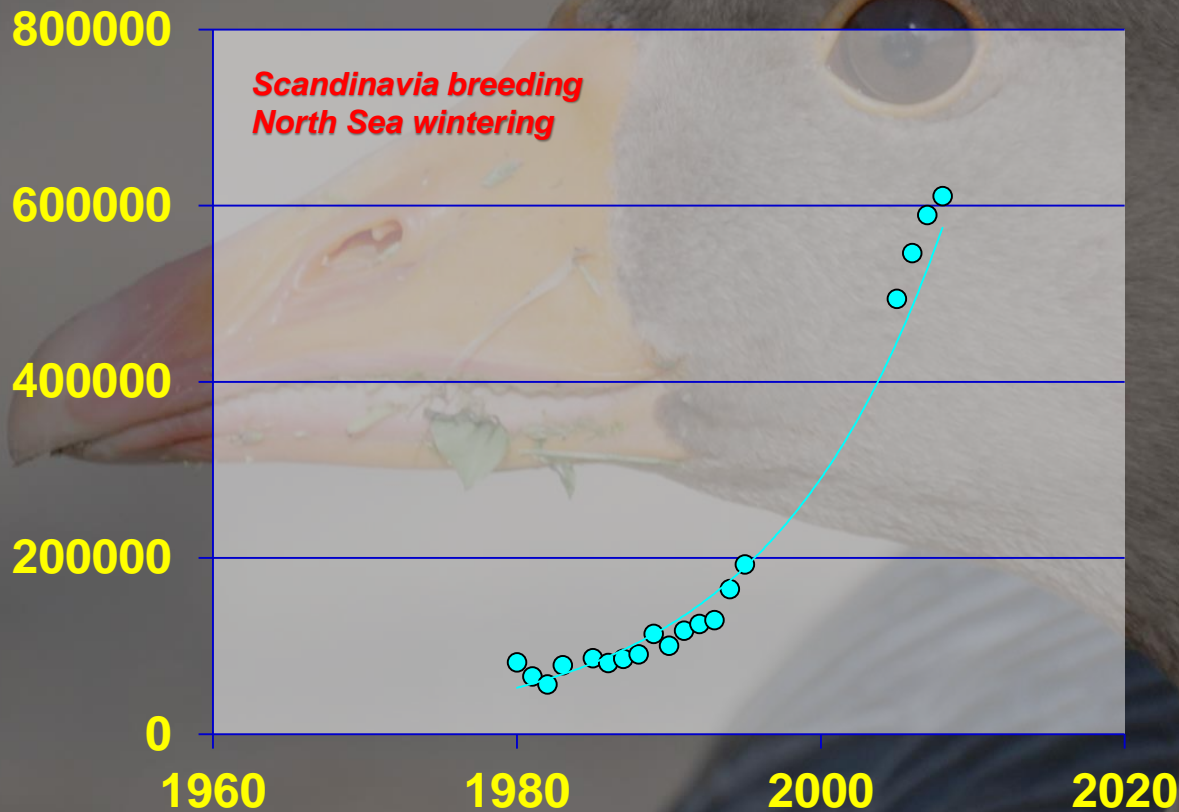
**Goose and the bird directive : a success  
for many species far beyond expectations  
How to ensure species favourable status  
and equilibrium in habitats ?**

# Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*



Data courtesy of Carl Mitchell and Larry Griffin (WWT, United Kingdom), Alyn Walsh (National Parks & Wildlife Service, Ireland), Barwolt S. Ebbinge, (Alterra, The Netherlands), Kees Koffijberg (Sovon, The Netherlands)

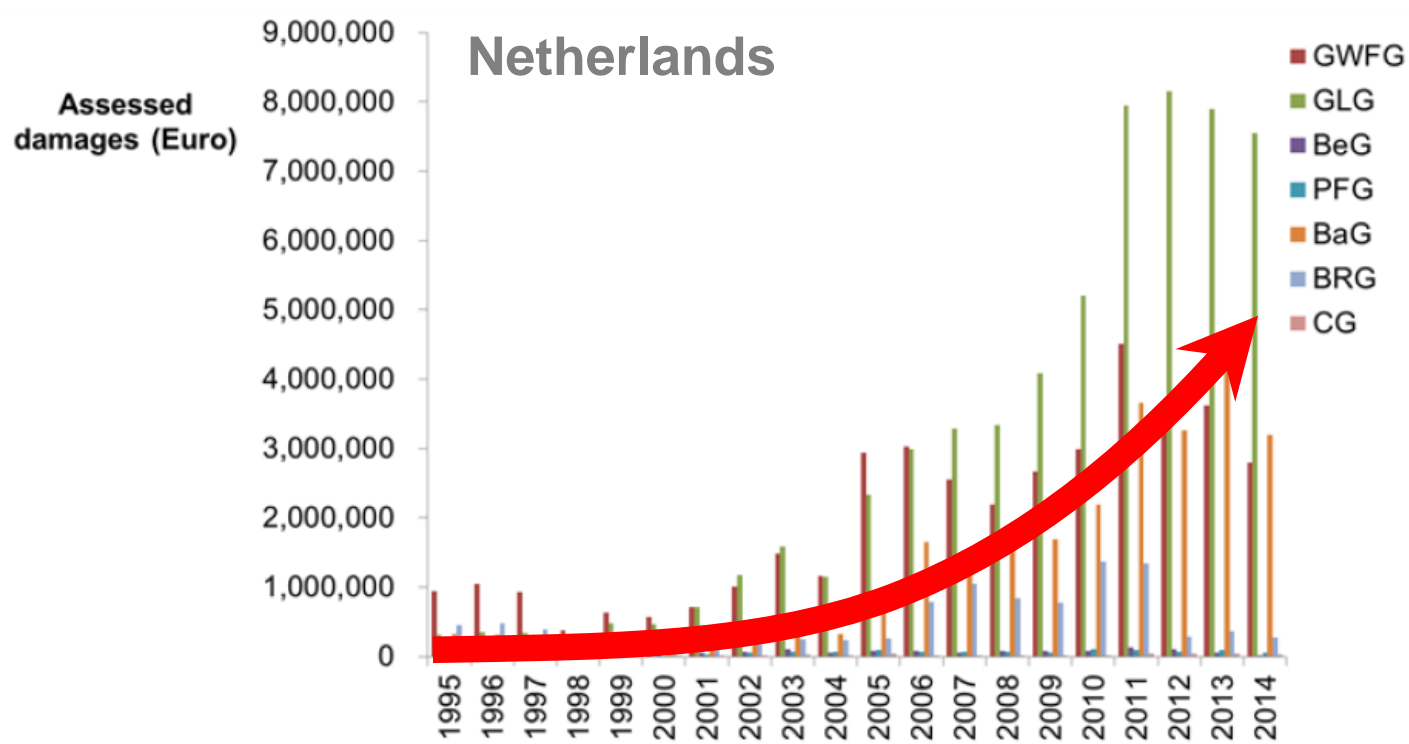
# Greylag Goose *Anser anser*



Data courtesy of Leif Nilsson  
(Lund University, Sweden)



# 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





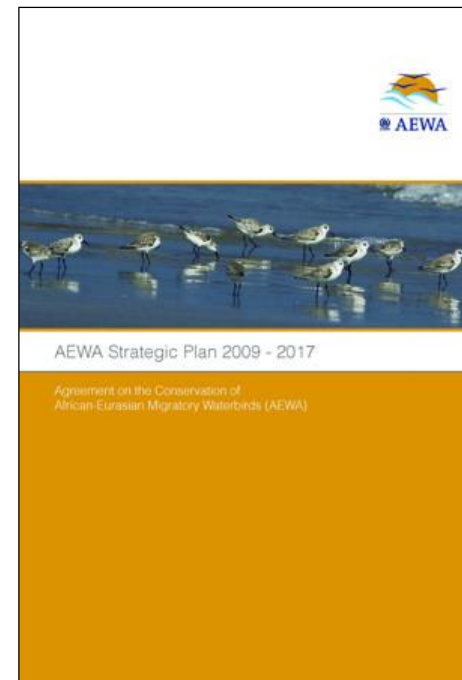
# AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017

## 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 at the flyway level



TECHNICAL SERIES No.48



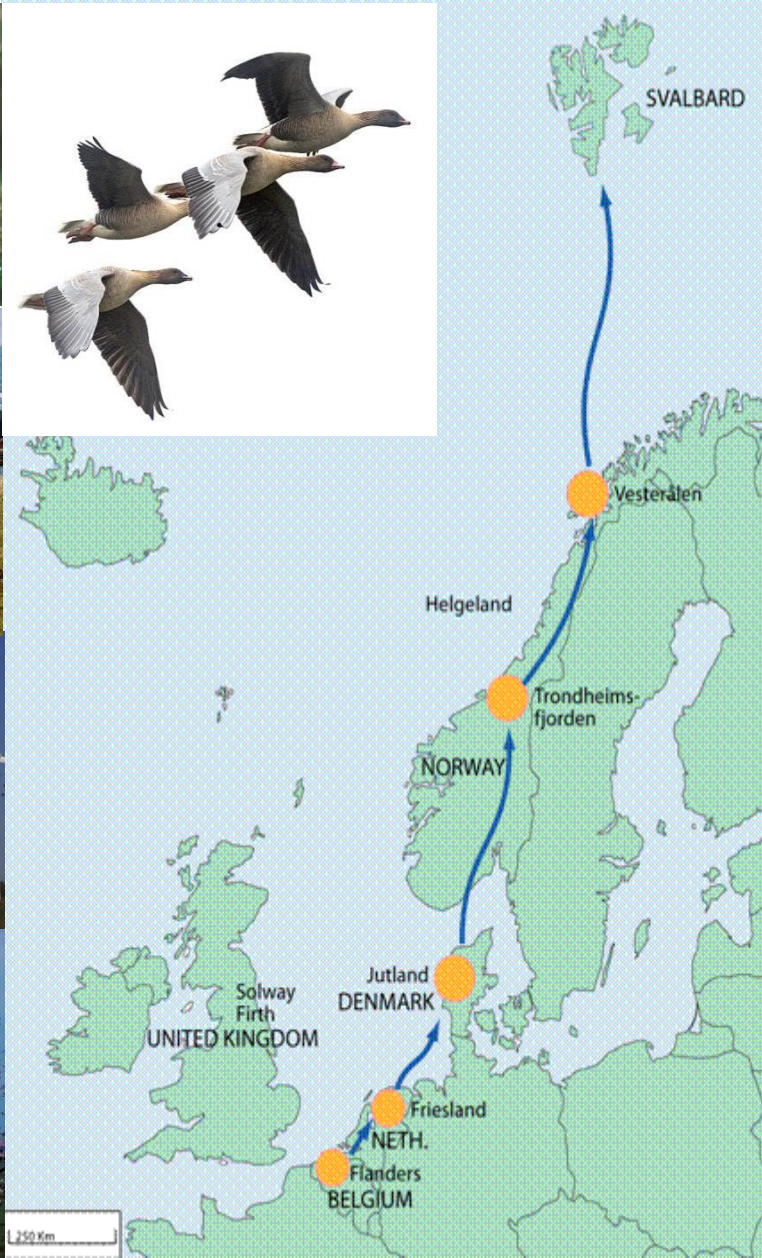
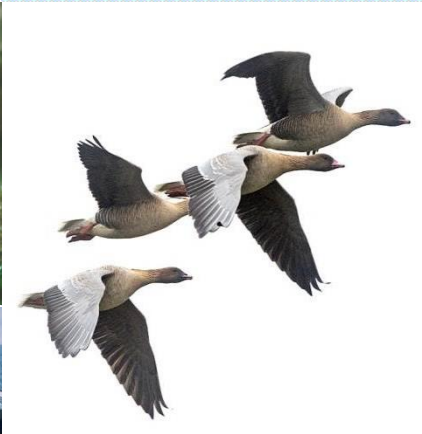
International Species Management Plan  
for the Svalbard Population of the  
Pink-footed Goose

*Anser brachyrhynchus*





# A well-defined flyway with few range states



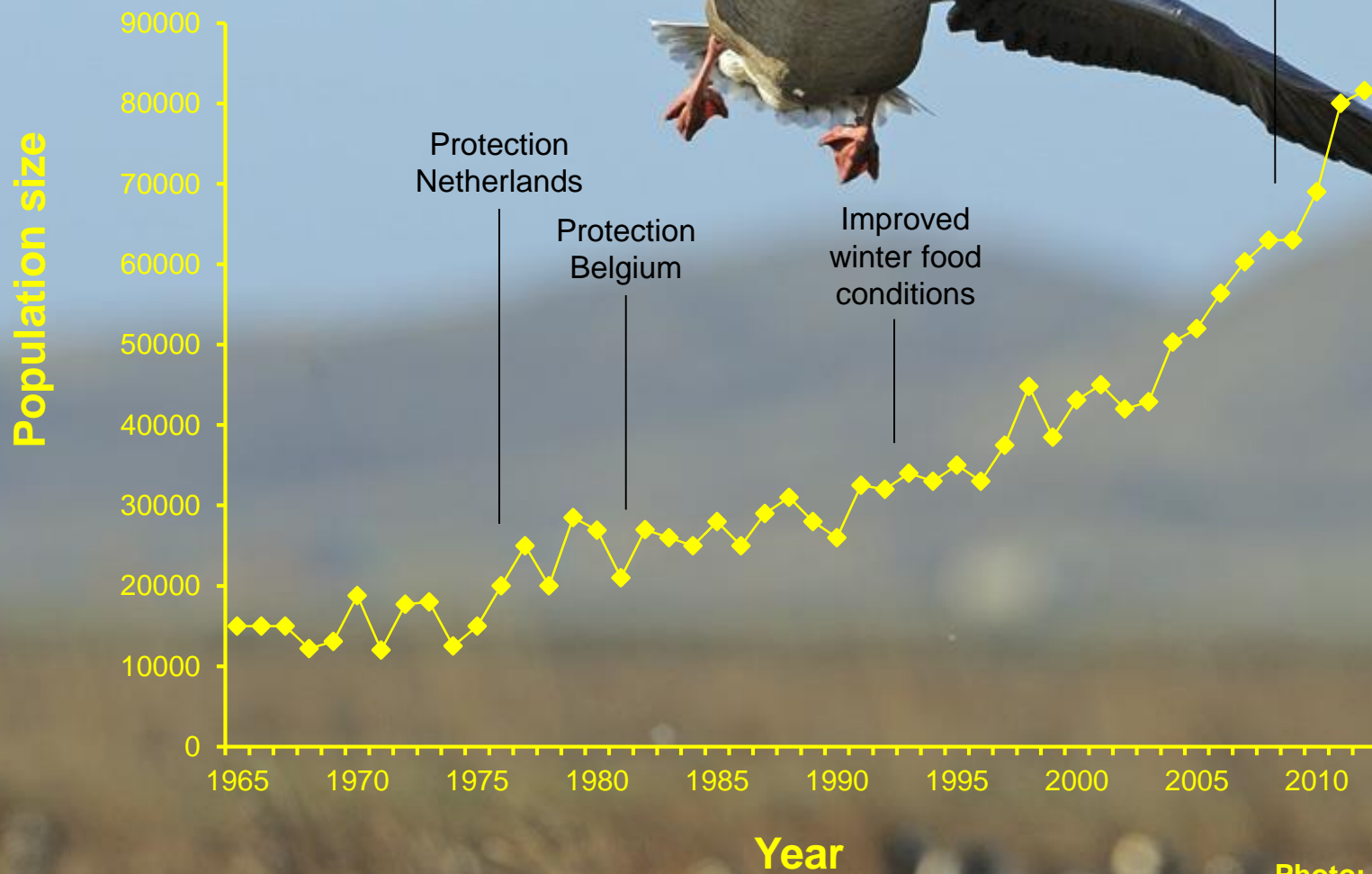


Photo: Magnus Elander

# Conflicts with agricultural interests



## Trønder-flvisa

Tirsdag 18. april 2006 • UKE 16 • NLE 98 • Lønning kr 15,00

**NYHETER**  
Milliondryss  
på Elvebredden  
i Steinkjer  
Side 18 og 19

**SPORT**  
Alexander  
odela festen  
for SFK  
Side 26 og 27

**KULTUR**  
Sissy Wish  
trives i  
Rock City  
Side 24 og 25

**Mer bilbråk**  
  
LEVMØEL: John Thomas Krogstad i Westside Racing oppfører myndighetene ut å oppheve kjøreforbudet i Kirkegata. I mistant full frykt for Krogstad mye ure da neste månedene. Side 8

**Tilstår incest**  
STENHUB: Den tidligere barneserieredaktøren er tiltalt for vedtatt, incest og seksuelle overgrep mot begge døtre sine. Maroon i 60-åra skal ved et tilfelle ha tilbudt døtrene 400 kroner for å ha samleie med ham. Side 9

**Terrassehage for Liv Marit**  
  
STENHUB: Terrassen gir meg følelsen av å bo i et bolig med hage, synes Liv Marit Bønn. Vår i hagen side 32-49

**43.000 kortnebbgås kommer snart til å okkupere jordene på Innherred:**  

# Jager kortnebbgås

  
Våpnet med firehjul, hagle og gasskanon, verter gårdbrukerne Perry Frøysdal og Lars Bardal Flakkenberg på Sandvollan i Inderøy på kortnebbgås.  
Side 4 og 5

**Kostbar russefeiring**  
Million 0200

**Moteplassen**  
Velkommen til .....  
**MOTESHOW**  
... "På reise"  
Dancehall, Julebus

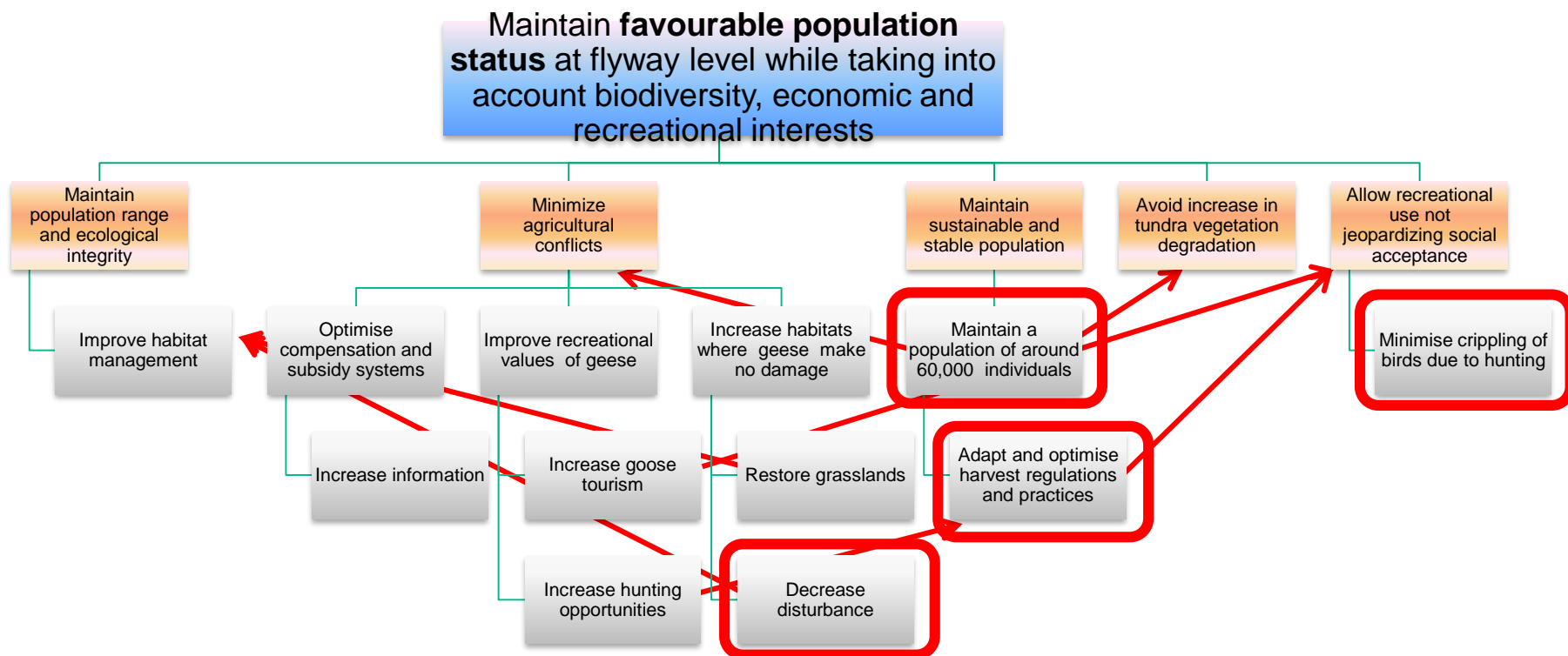
**Vår i lufta!**  
Tilbud denne uka:  
**SOFT-IS**



Signs of grazing impacts on tundra vegetation



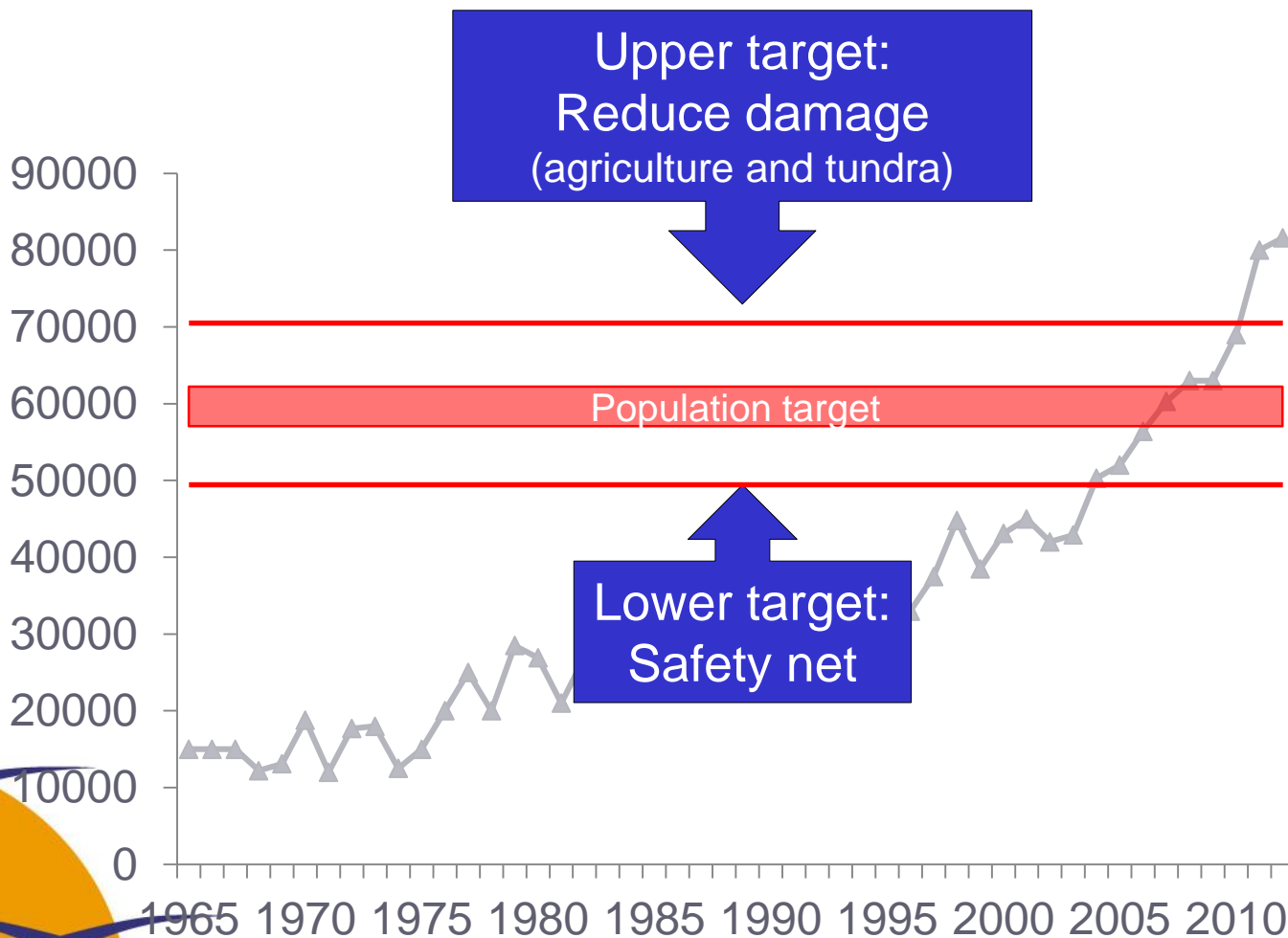
# PfG management framework: goal and objectives





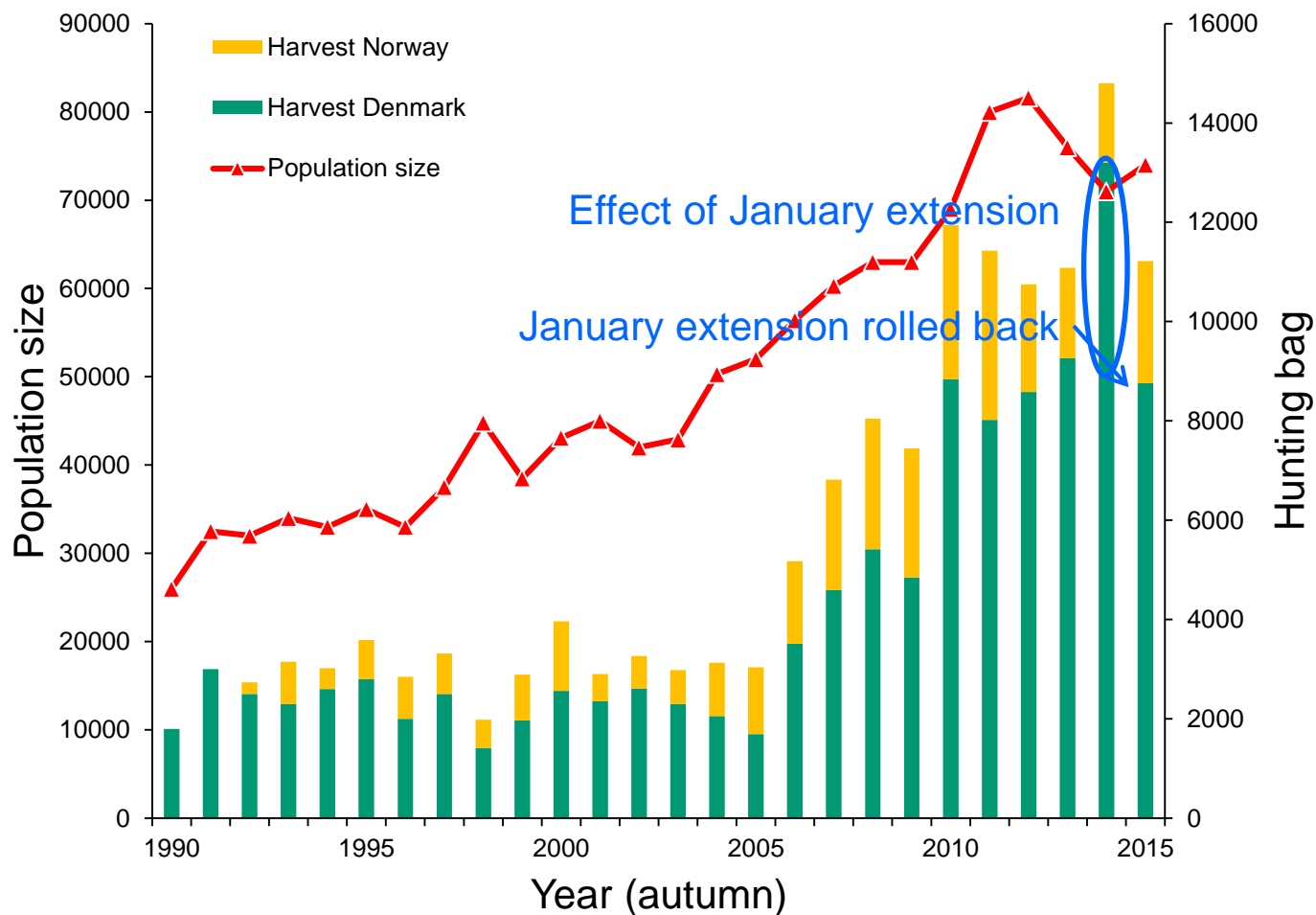
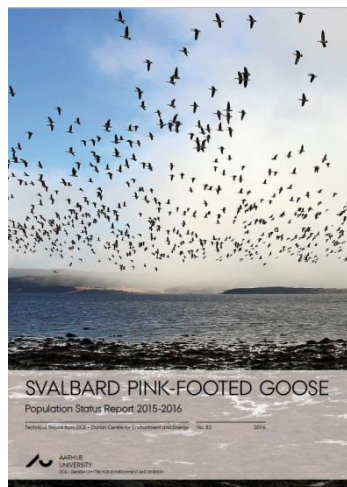
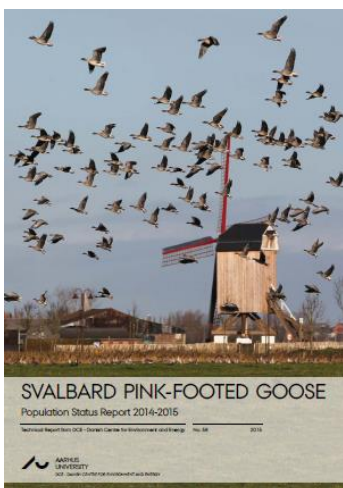
# Setting a population target

A social construct achieving 'least mutual dissatisfaction'





# Recent developments: learning by doing





# 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; Plan approved in November 2015

Adaptive management scheme was developed in 2016, leading to a hunting ban in Finland





## Goose Management: Challenges 2015

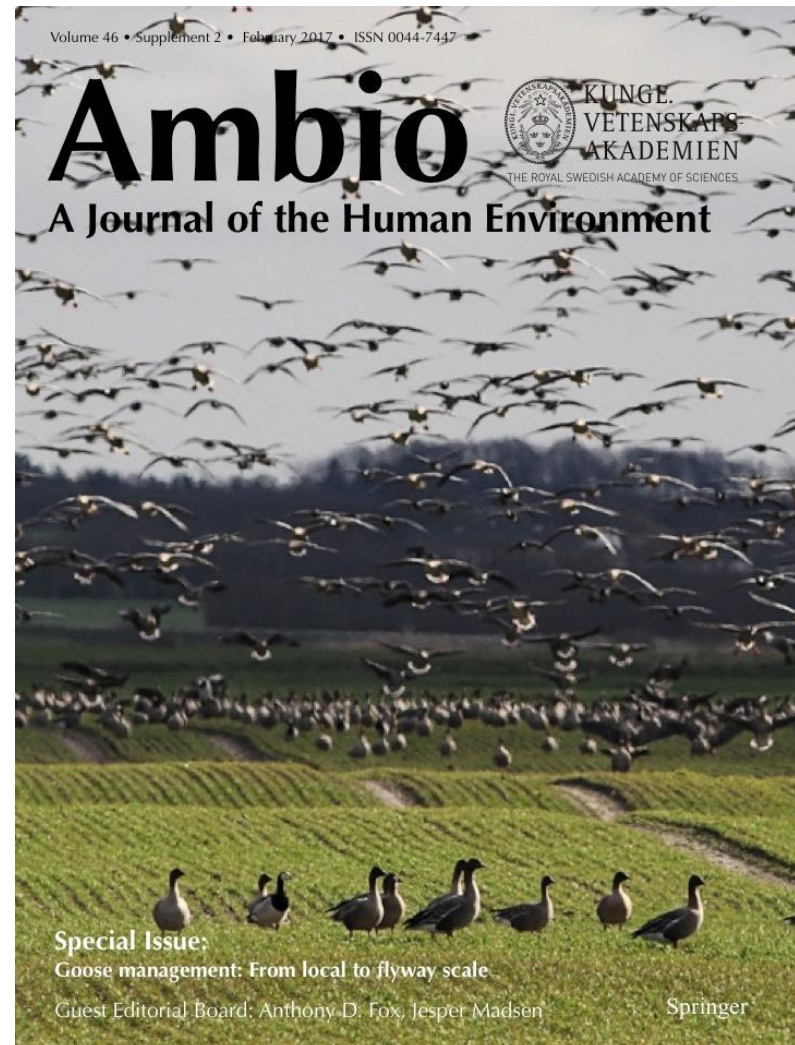
International Conference, Gram Slot, Denmark, 27-29 October 2015

*Organised by Aarhus University and the National Nature Agency, Denmark*



# Goose Management: Challenges 2015

- Proceedings published  
(*Ambio*, Volume 46, Supplement 2)





# European Goose Management Platform

## Mandate (2015)

- 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)

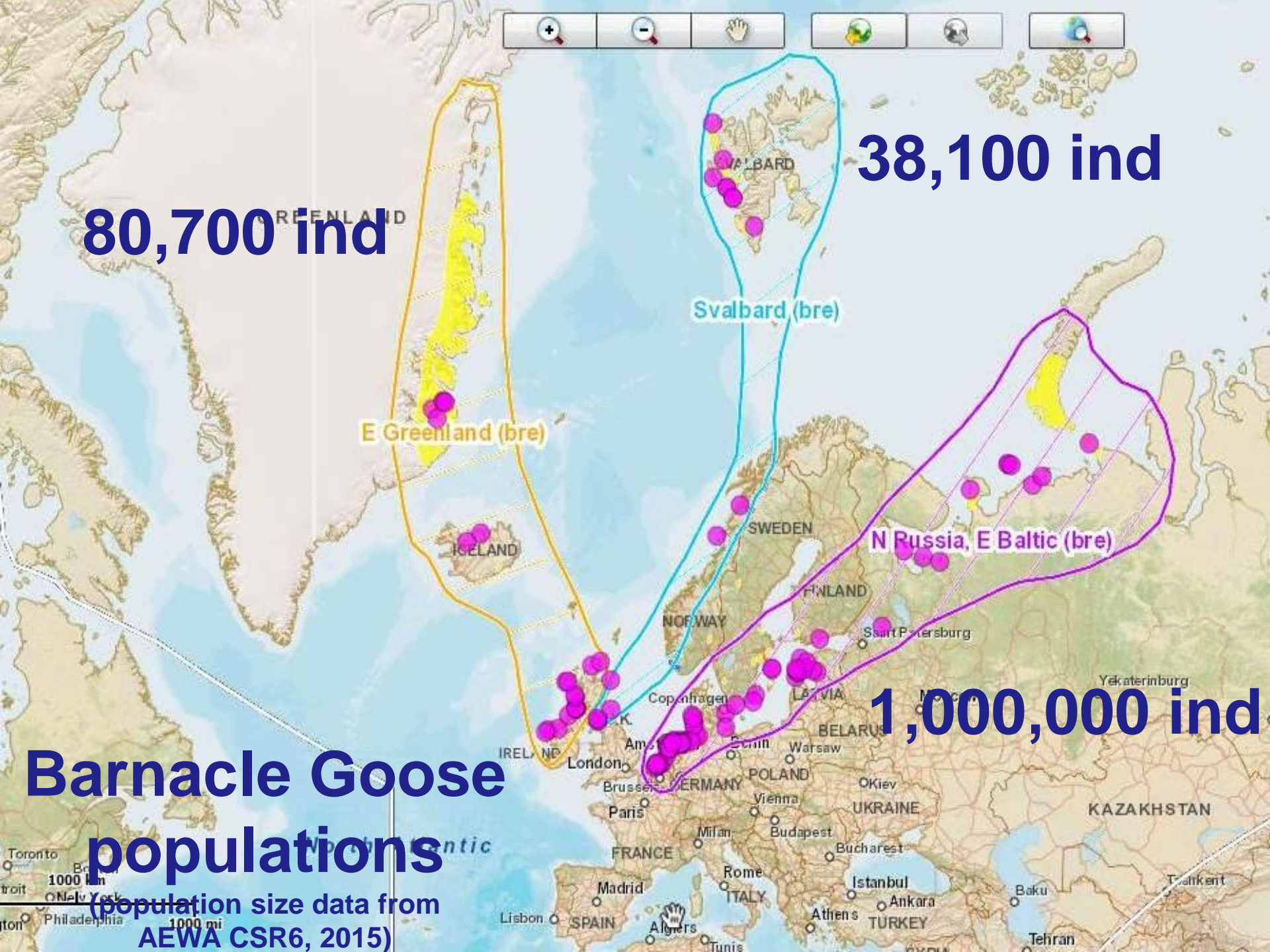




# Populations to be included for a start

- Pink-footed Goose, Svalbard population; implemented since 2012
- Taiga Bean Goose; adopted at AEWA MOP6, November 2015, first actions (hunting ban)
- Barnacle Goose, 3 populations
- Greylag Goose, North-west European population





80,700 ind

38,100 ind

1,000,000 ind

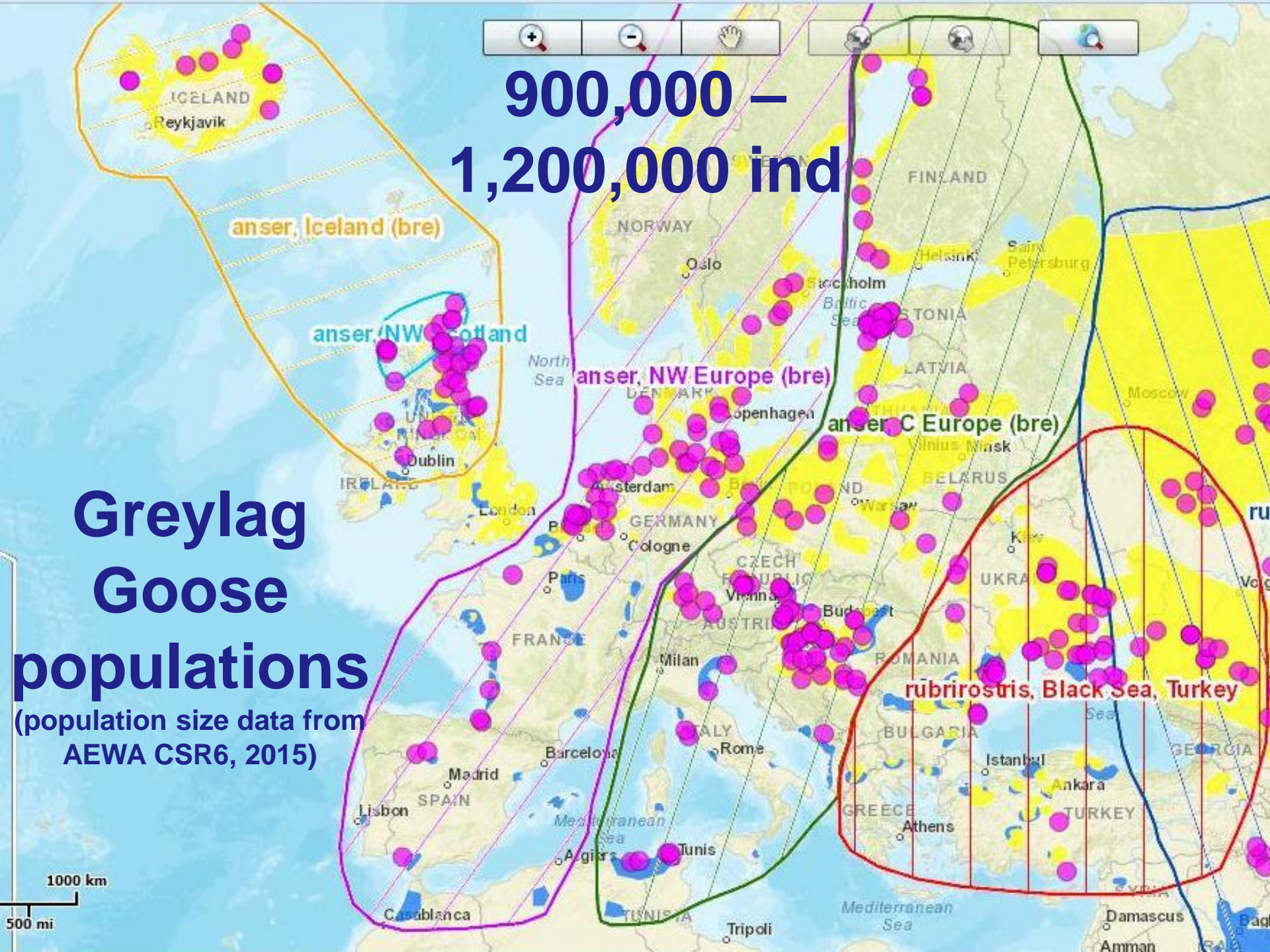
# Barnacle Goose populations

(population size data from AEW CSR6, 2015)

900,000 –  
1,200,000 ind

# Greylag Goose populations

(population size data from  
AEWA CSR6, 2015)

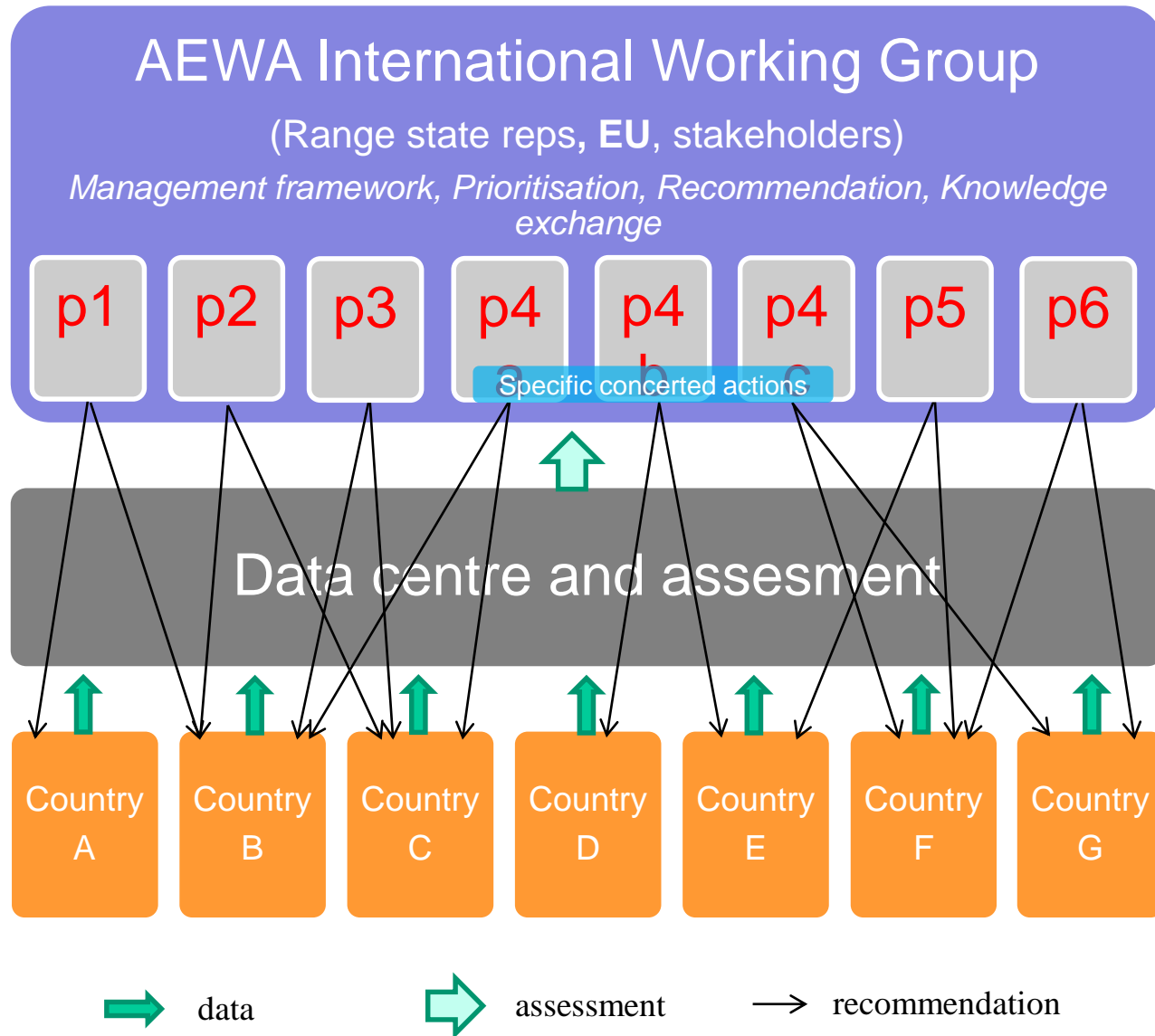




## EGMP goal

*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**.*







# An annual iterative process: monitoring needed and involvement of stakeholders



A large flock of birds, likely geese or similar migratory species, is captured in flight against a clear blue sky. The birds are densely packed in some areas, creating a sense of movement and scale. Below the birds, a flat, open landscape with low vegetation is visible.

# EGMP → European-wide migratory bird management and sustainable use

A good example to ensure favorable  
conservation status through  
sustainable harvest

Acknowledgments:

**Dr. Fred A. Johnson**, USGS, USA

**Dr. Tony Fox**, Aarhus University, Denmark