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Goose Management in the Prairie & Northern Region

**Population Management Unit
Canadian Wildlife Service**

Cape Dorset ACMC Meeting
Cape Dorset, NU
March 18, 2012



Arctic Goose Banding Sites

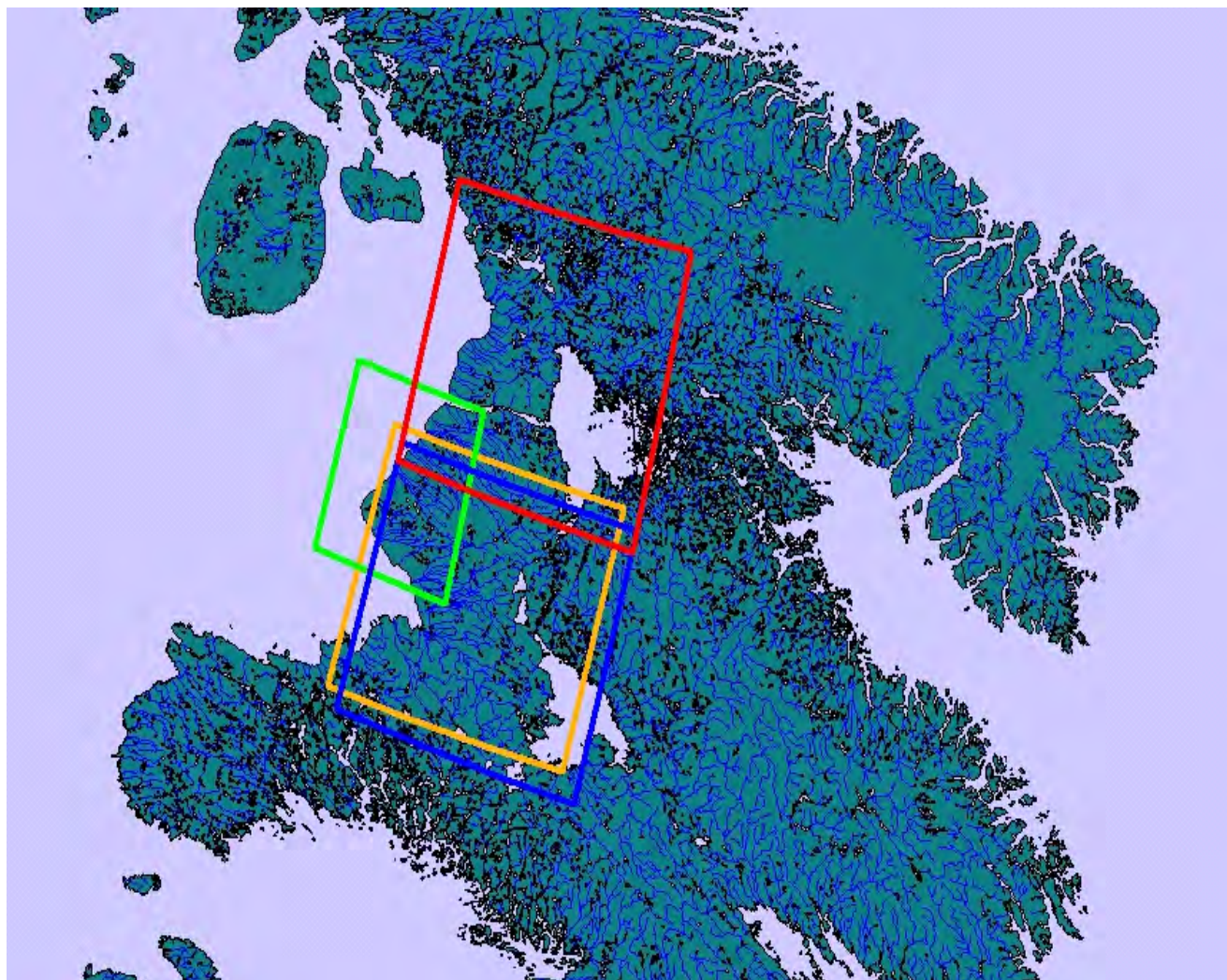




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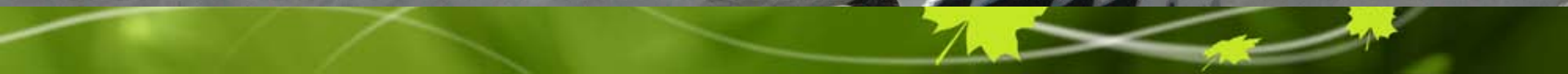
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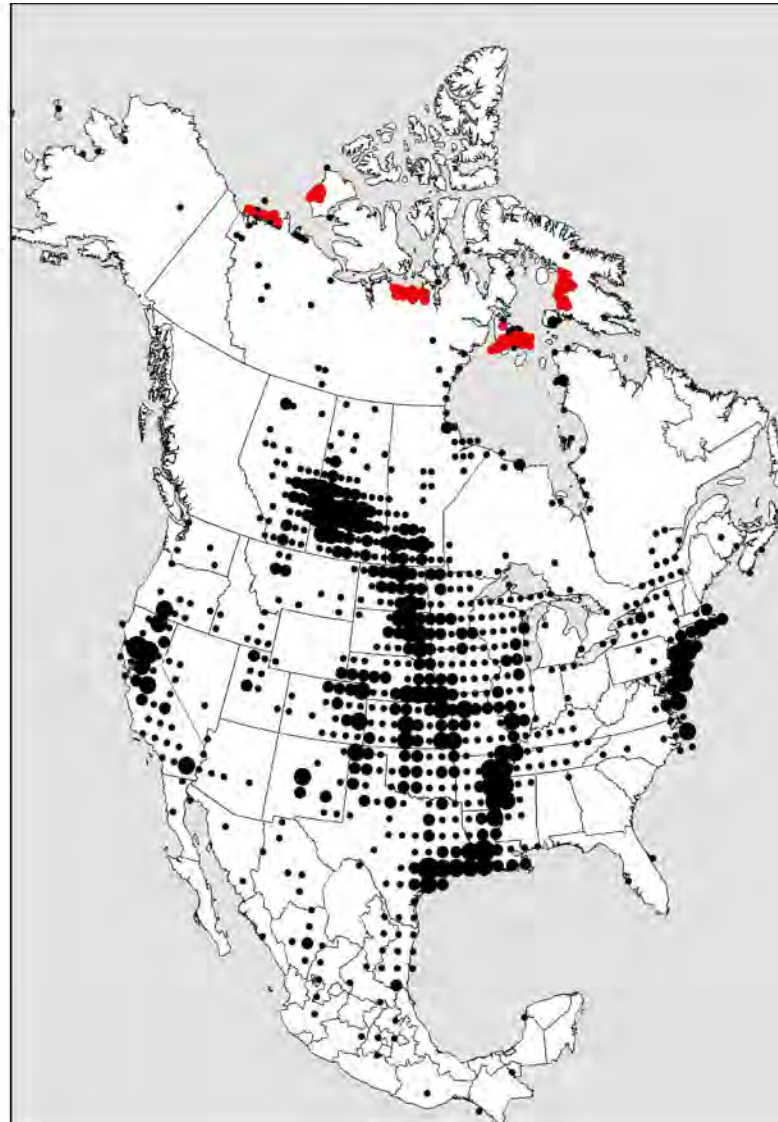




Atlantic Brant, Cackling, Greater White-fronted, Ross's and Lesser Snow geese

Number of recoveries
by degree block

- 1 - 5
- 6 - 25
- 26 - 125
- >125



White-Fronted Geese









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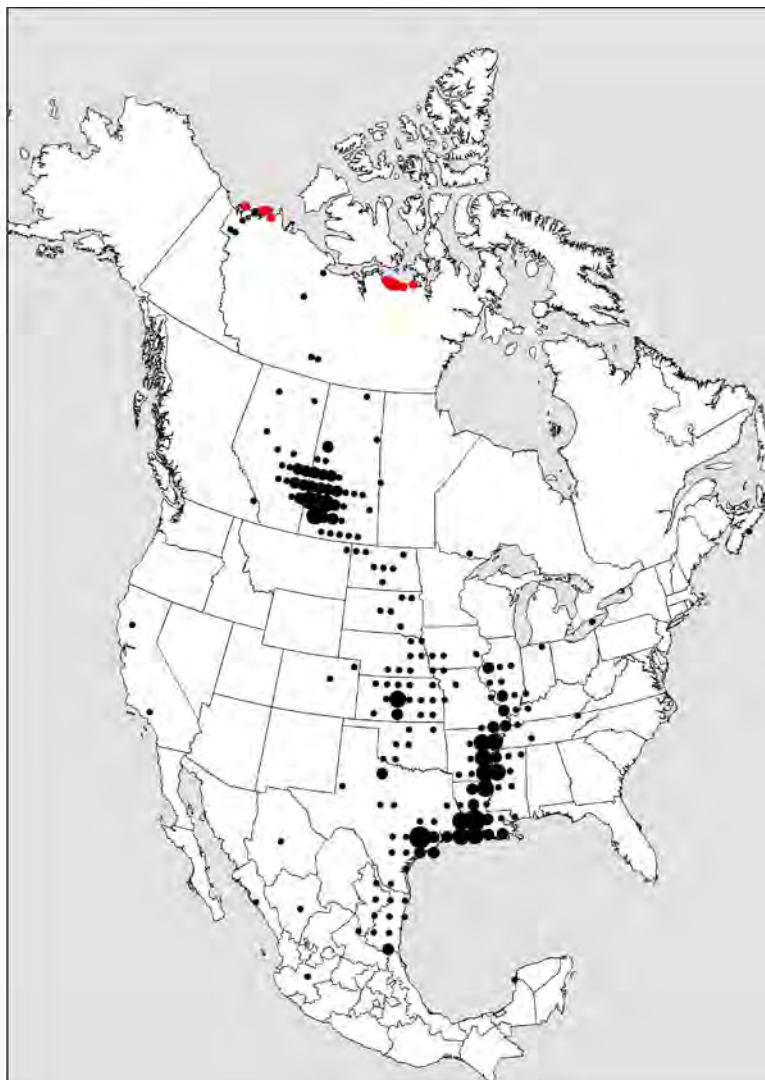
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White-fronted Geese

Number of recoveries
by degree block

- 1 - 5
- 6 - 25
- 26 - 125
- >125



Cackling Geese







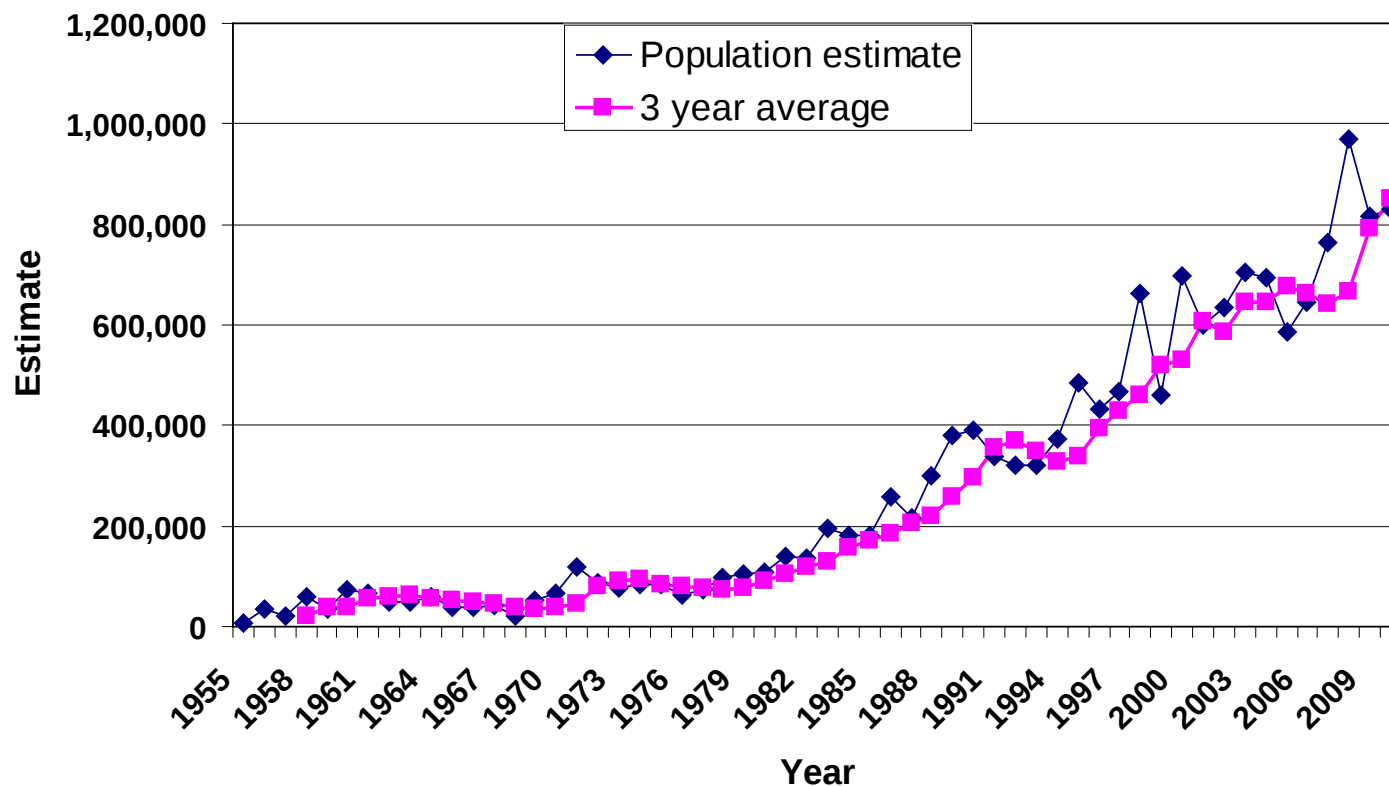


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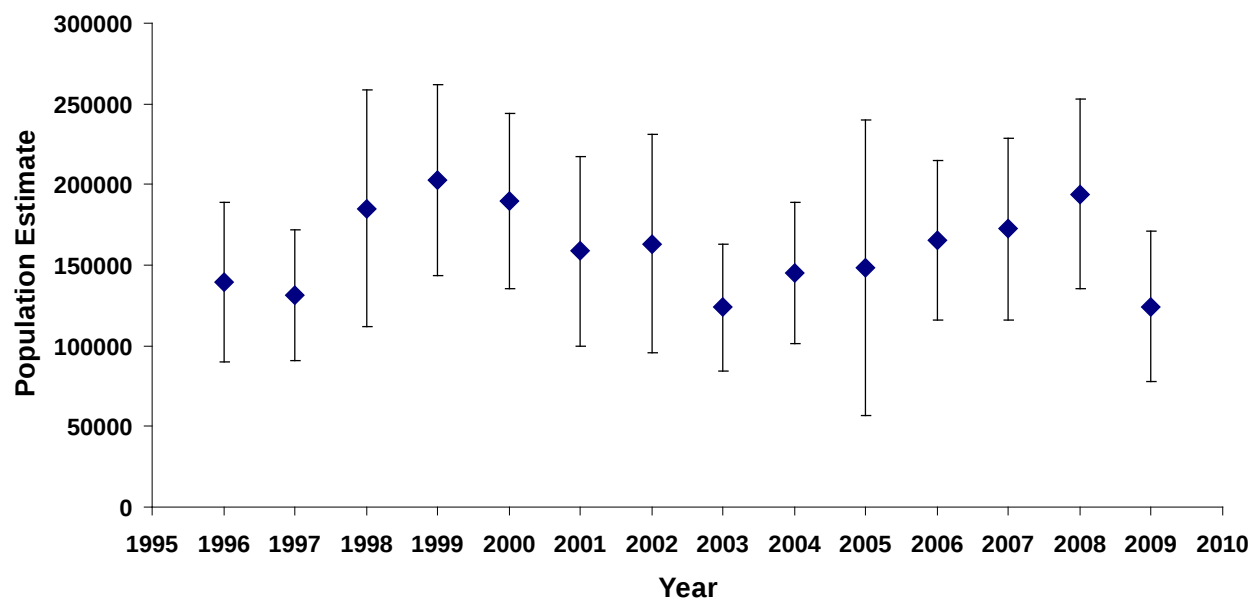
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Canada Goose Population Estimate, Strata 26-40, Prairie Canada (1955-2010)





Number of Cackling Geese on Baffin Island, Great Plain of the Koukdjouak, 1996-2009





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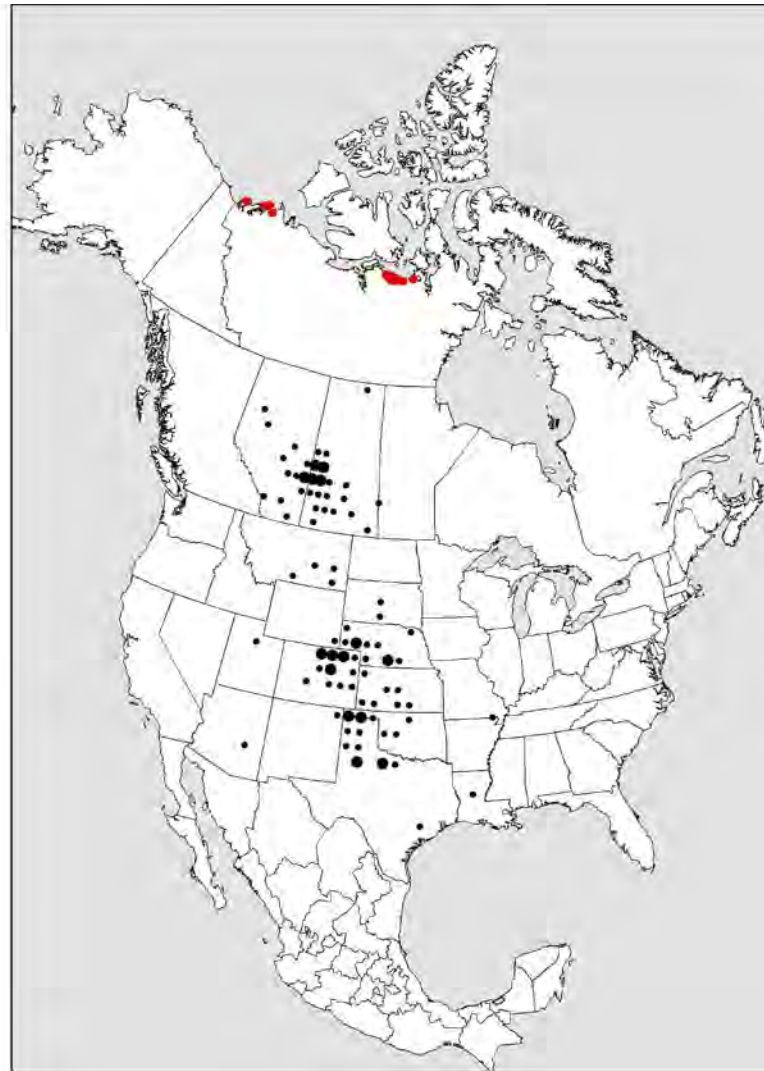
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Cackling Geese

Western, Central Arctic

Number of recoveries
by degree block

- 1 - 5
- 6 - 25
- 26 - 125
- >125





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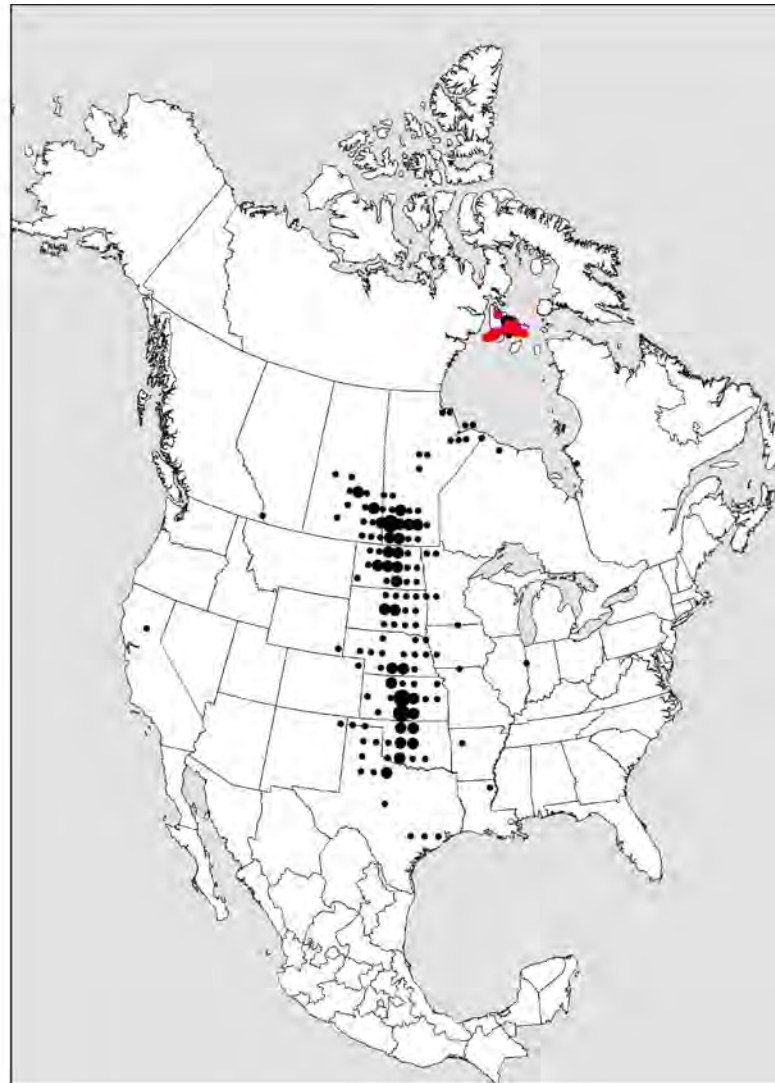
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Cackling Geese Southampton Island

Number of recoveries
by degree block

- 1 - 5
- 6 - 25
- 26 - 125
- >125





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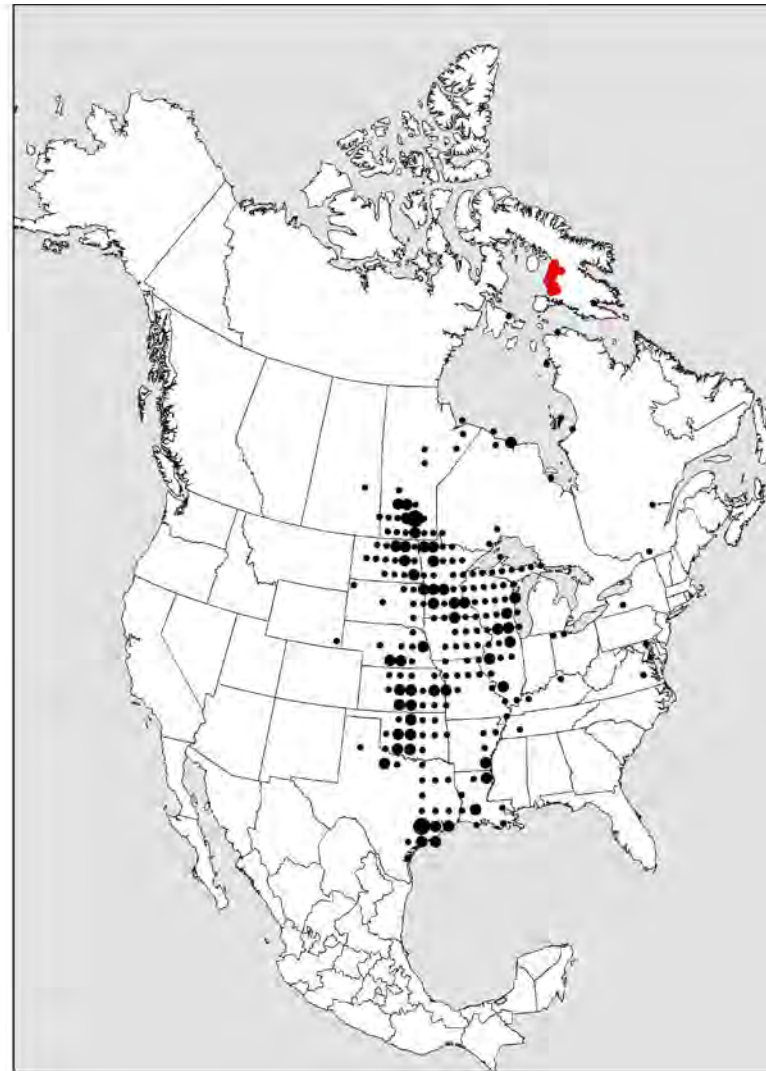
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Cackling Geese Baffin Island

Number of recoveries
by degree block

- 1 - 5
- 6 - 25
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- >125



Atlantic Brant



Intertidal zone, western Baffin Island





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Atlantic Brant

Number of recoveries
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Ross's Geese

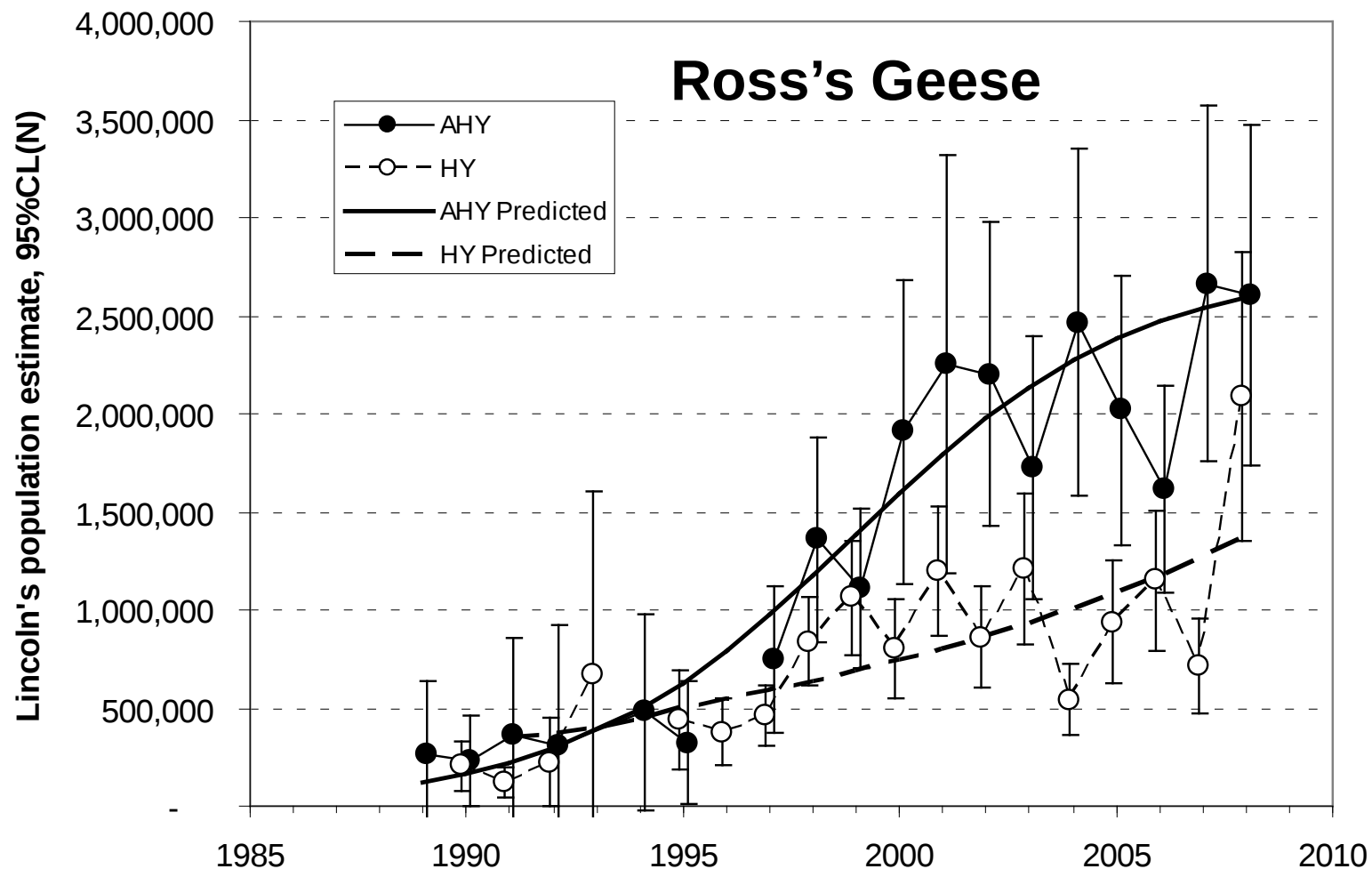




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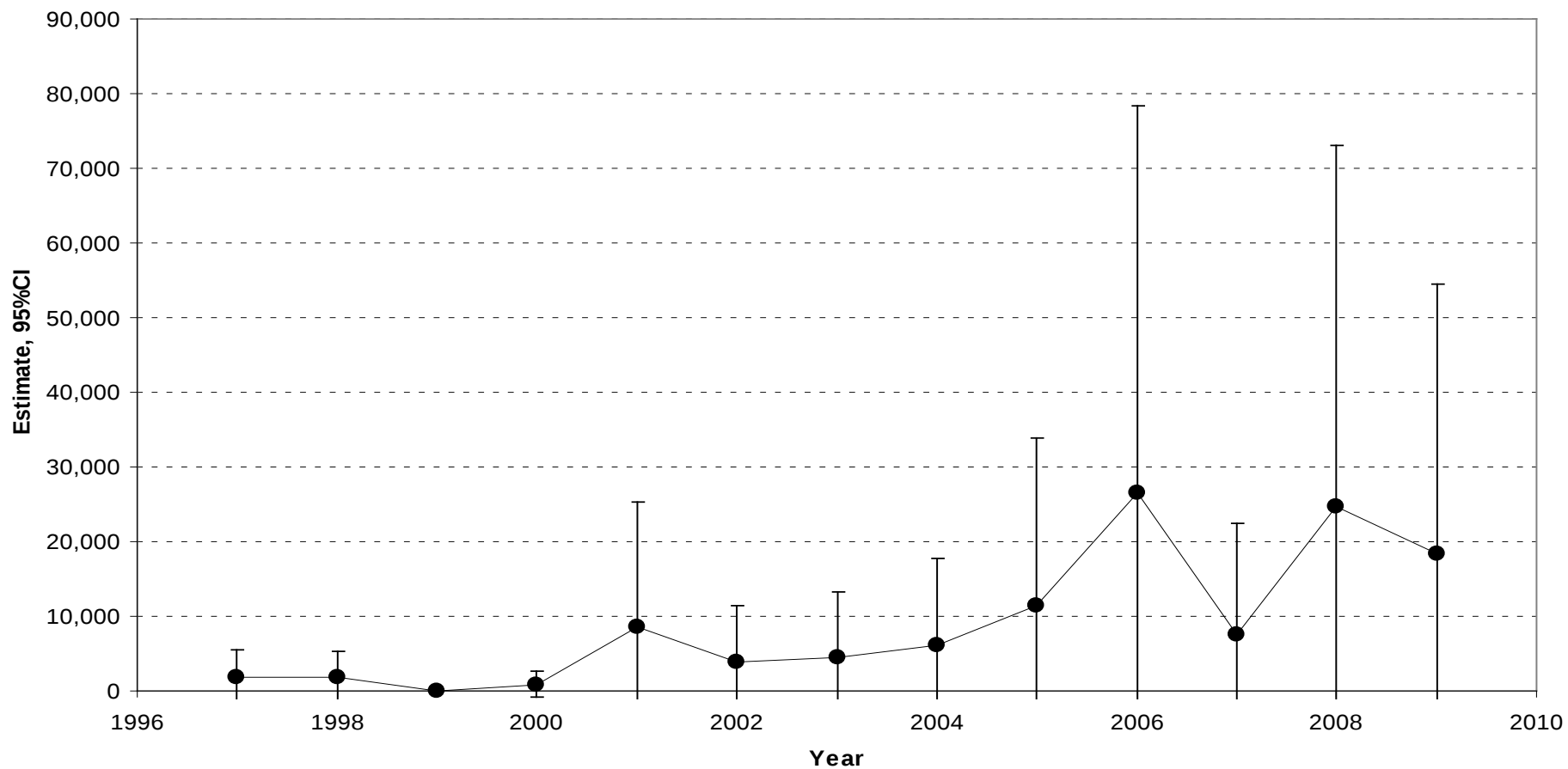
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Ross' Goose Population Estimate, Baffin Island (1996-2009)





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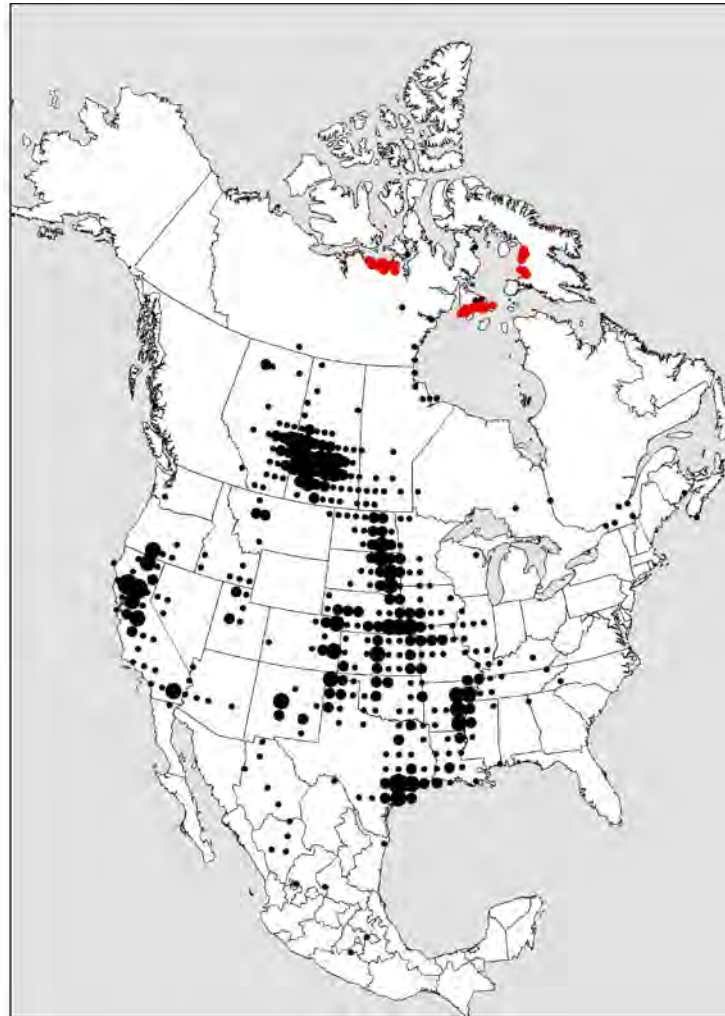
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Ross's Geese

Number of recoveries
by degree block

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- >125



Lesser Snow Geese









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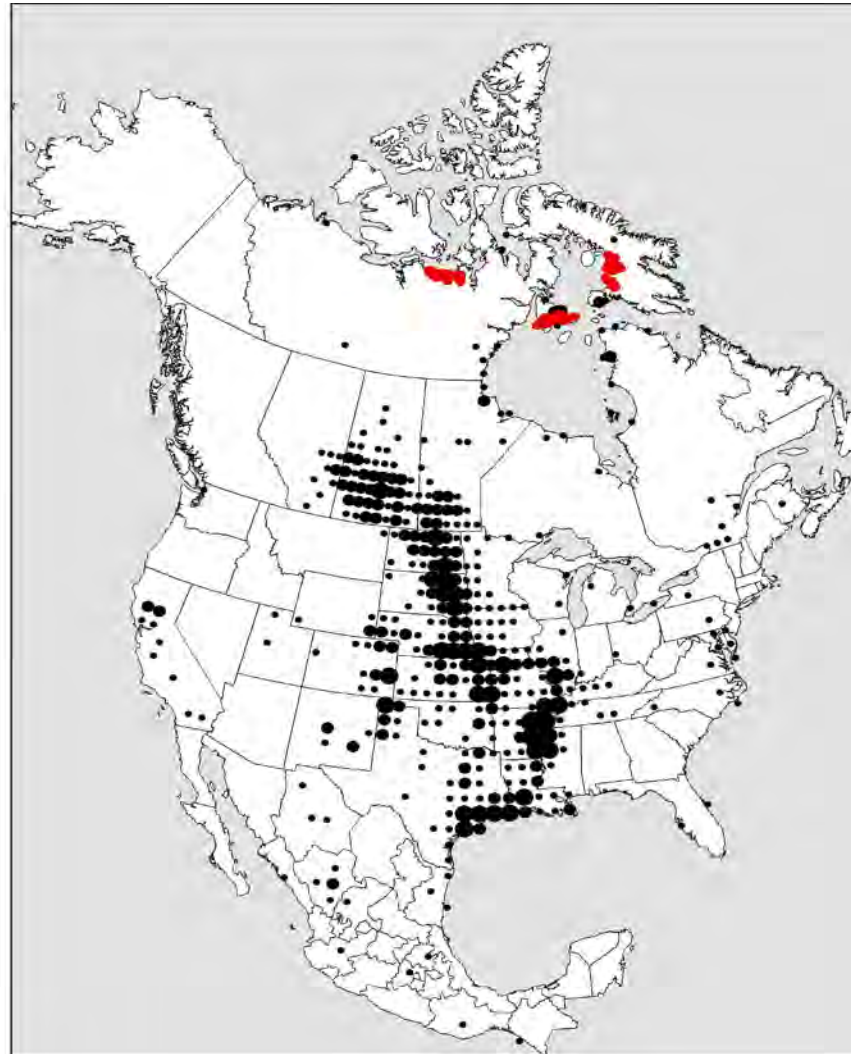
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Lesser Snow Geese

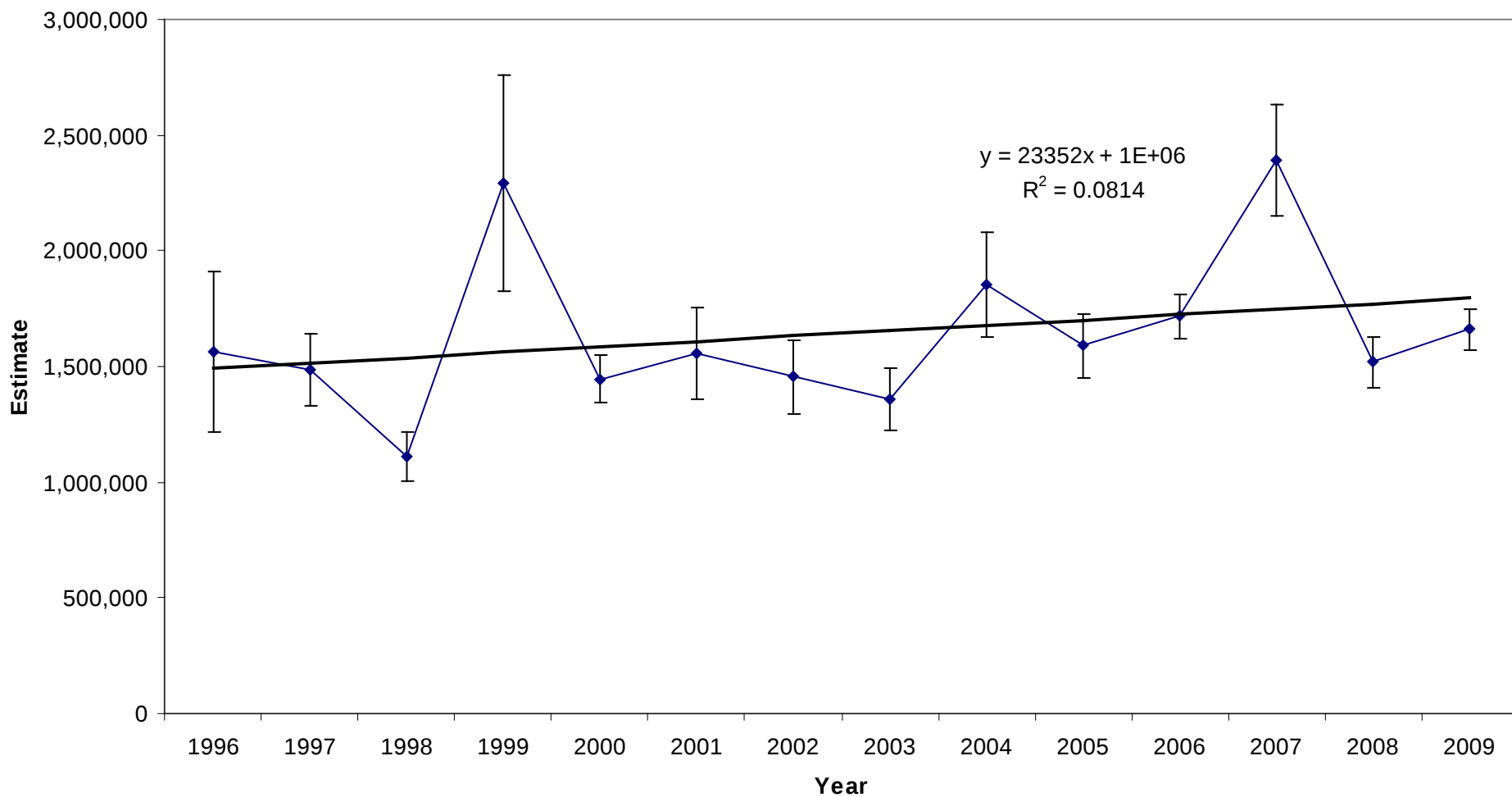
Number of recoveries
by degree block

- 1 - 5
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- >125





Lesser Snow Goose Population Estimate, Baffin Island (1996-2009)









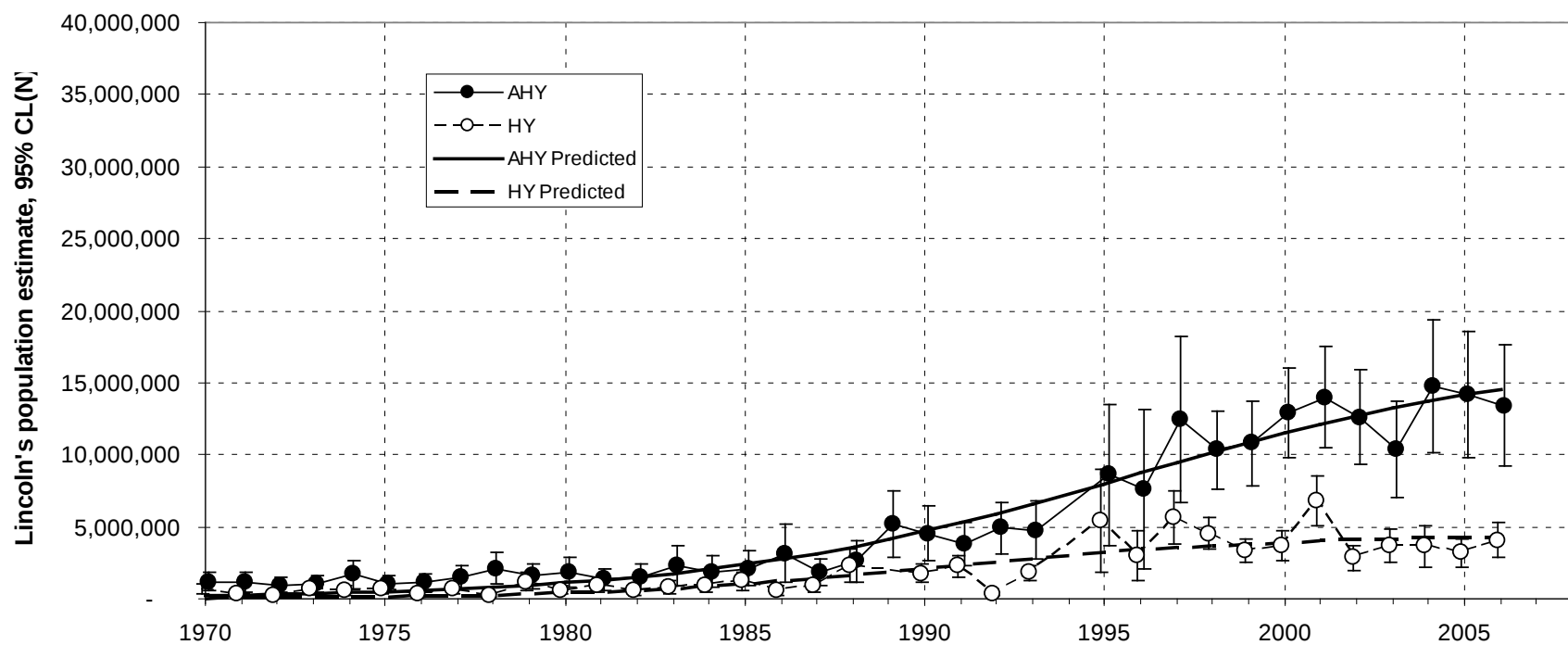


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Lesser Snow Geese



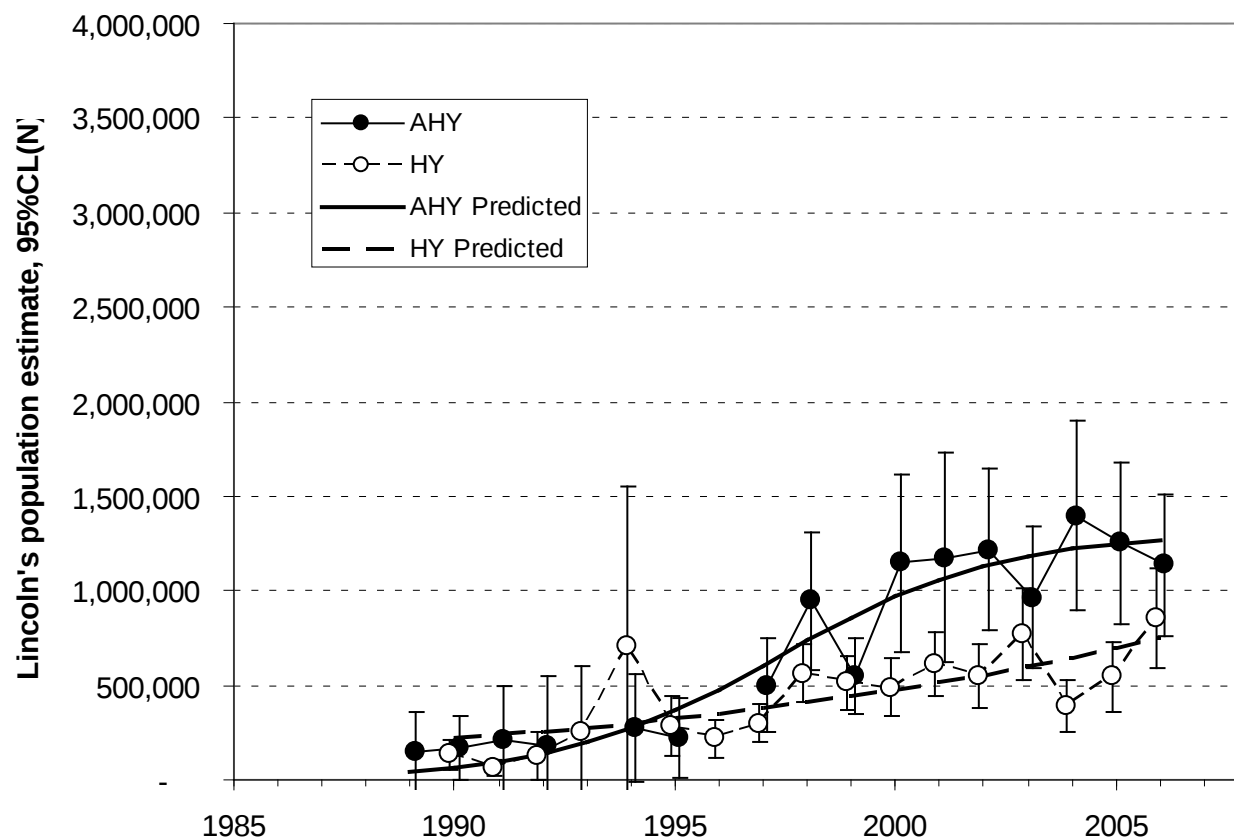


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Ross's Geese





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Why So Many Geese?

- Refuges
- Declining number of hunters
- Agricultural food supply





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Refuges and Sanctuaries



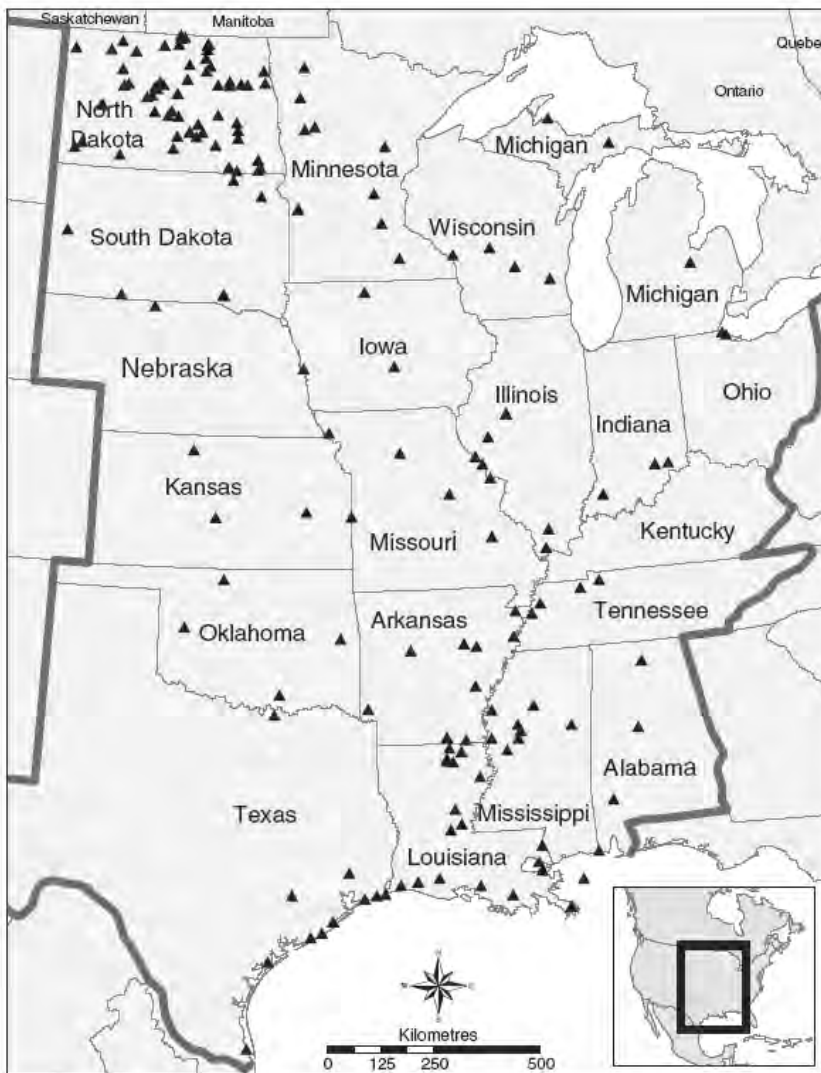


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U.S. Refuges









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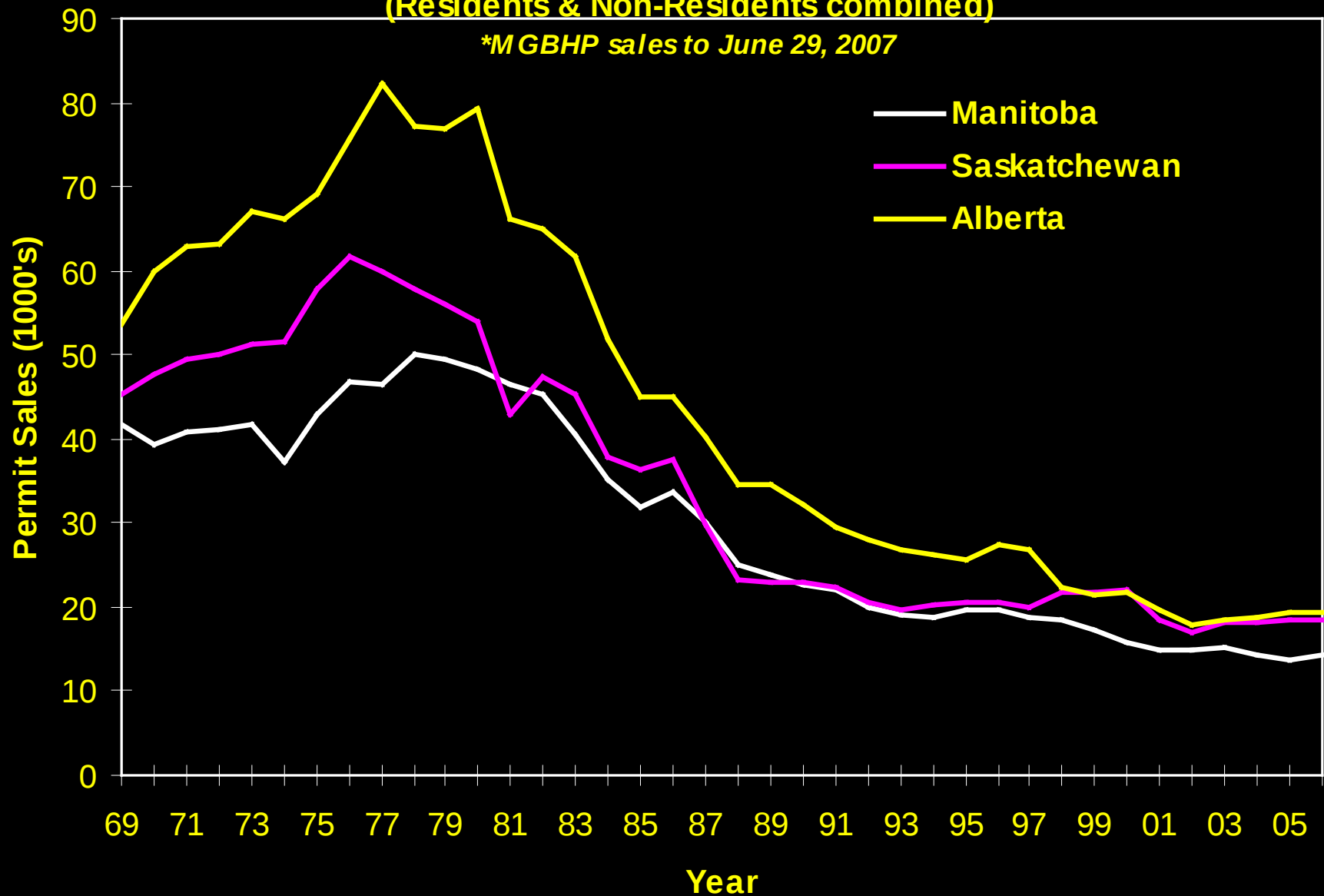
Declining Hunters



Sales of Migratory Bird Permits in Prairie Canada, 1969-2006*

(Residents & Non-Residents combined)

**MGBHP sales to June 29, 2007*





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Agriculture Crops













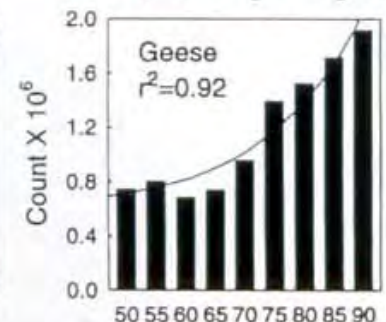
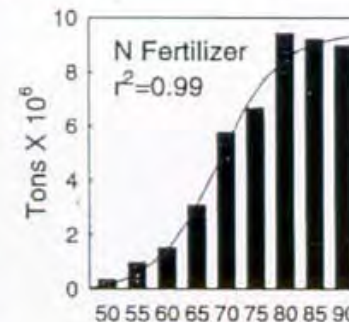
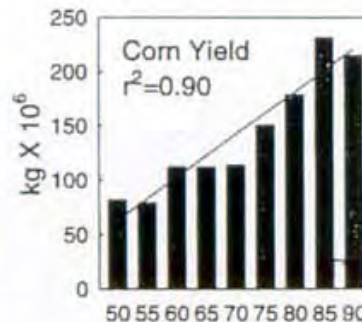
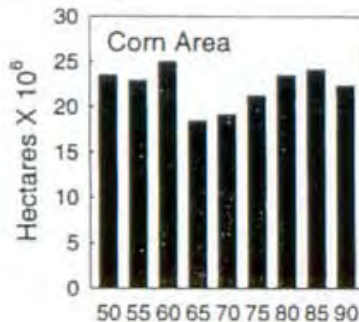




Increases in corn and soybean cultivation area and yield, fertilizer use and snow goose counts, 1950-1990

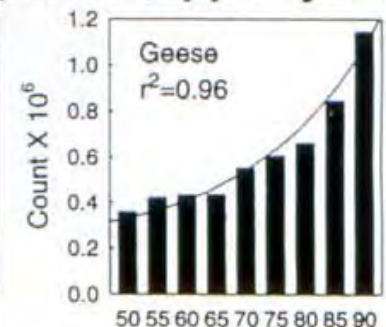
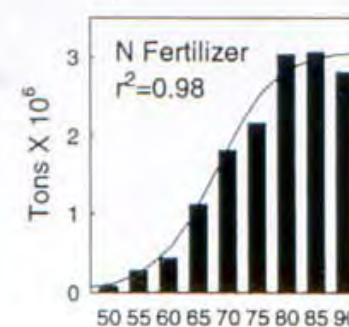
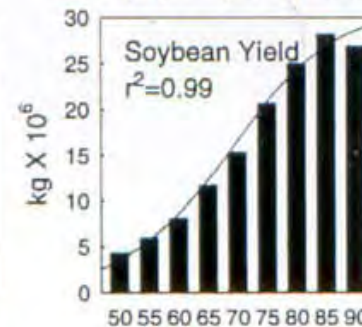
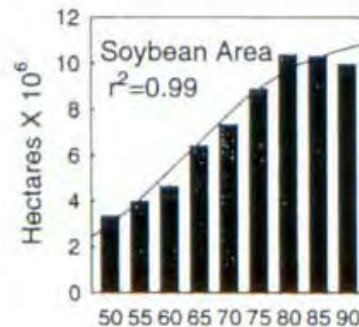
(North Central States)

(Mississippi and Central Flyways)



(OH, IL, IN, IA)

(Mississippi Flyway)



Year



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Why are large snow goose populations a problem?

Degradation of coastal ecosystems

- Impacts on aquatic habitats and soils
- Impacts on vegetation
- Impacts on other species

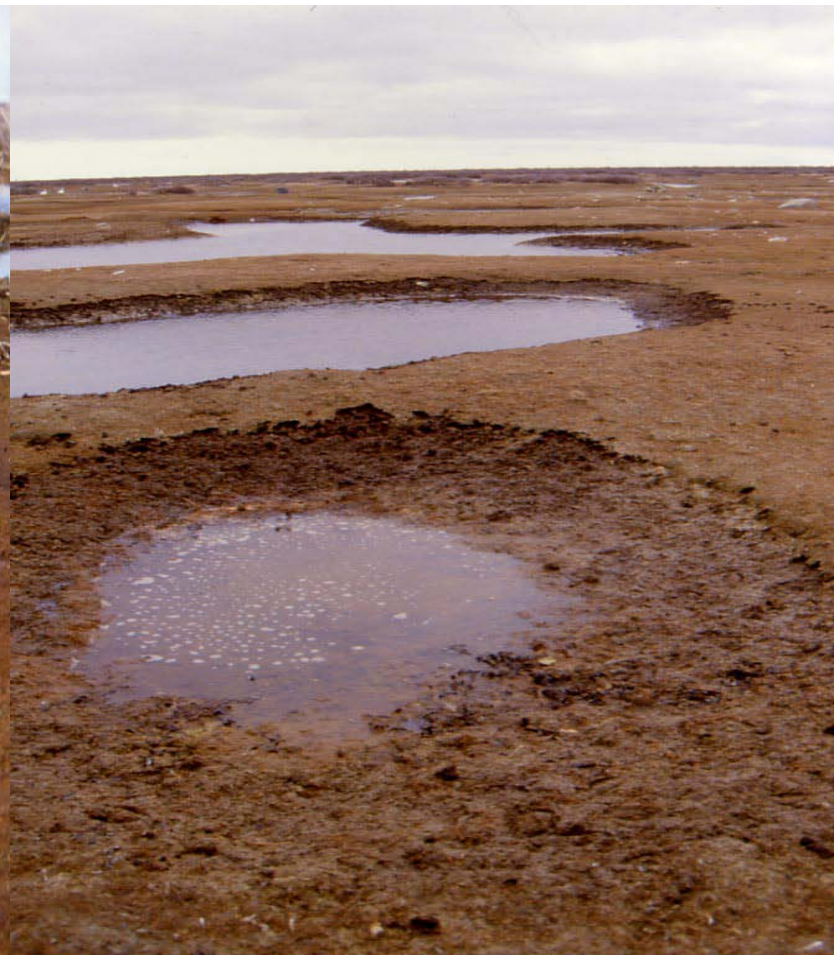




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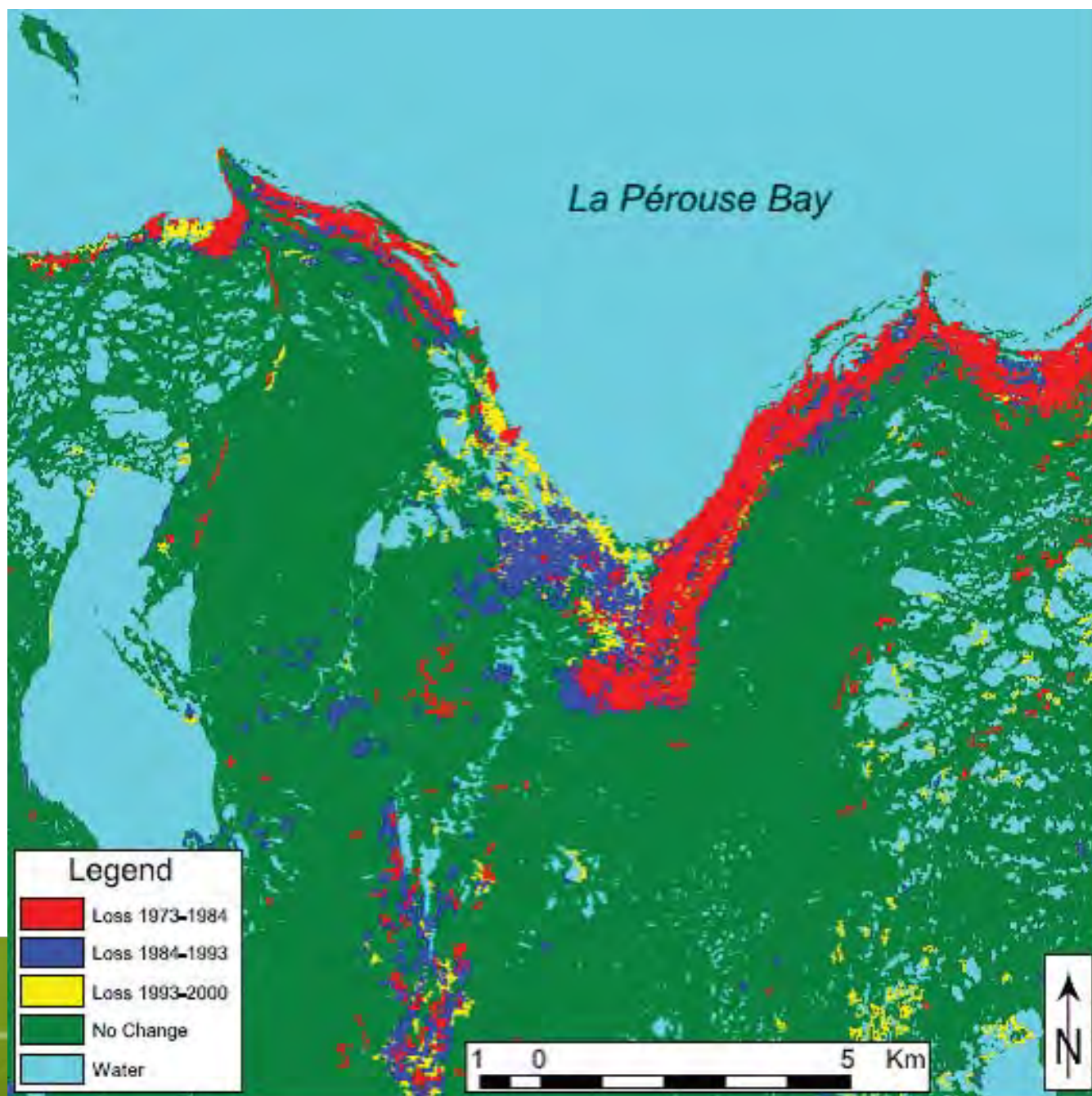
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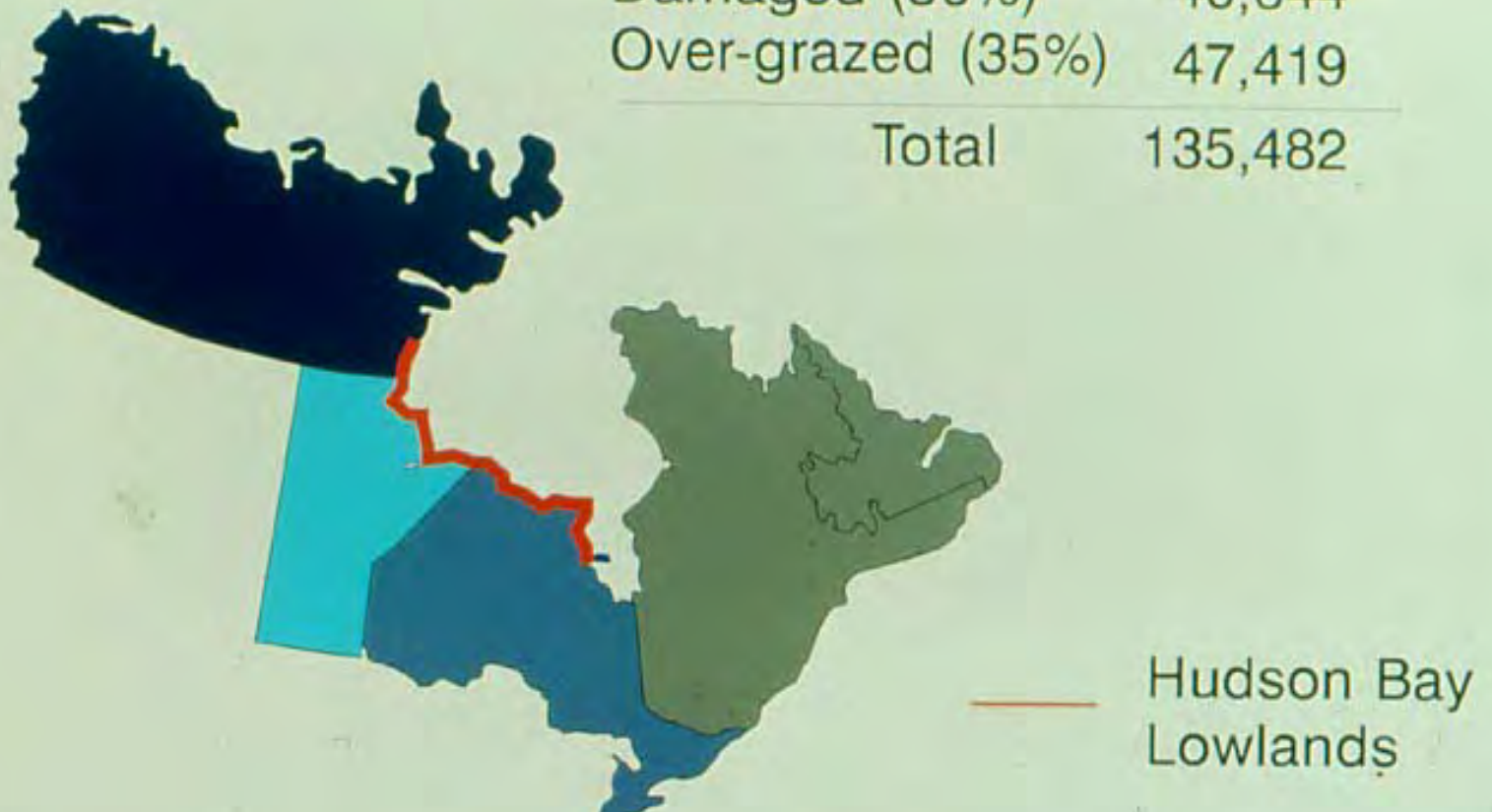






Hudson Bay Coastal Goose Habitat Status

Status	Acres
Destroyed (35%)	47,419
Damaged (30%)	40,644
Over-grazed (35%)	47,419
Total	135,482





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Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary

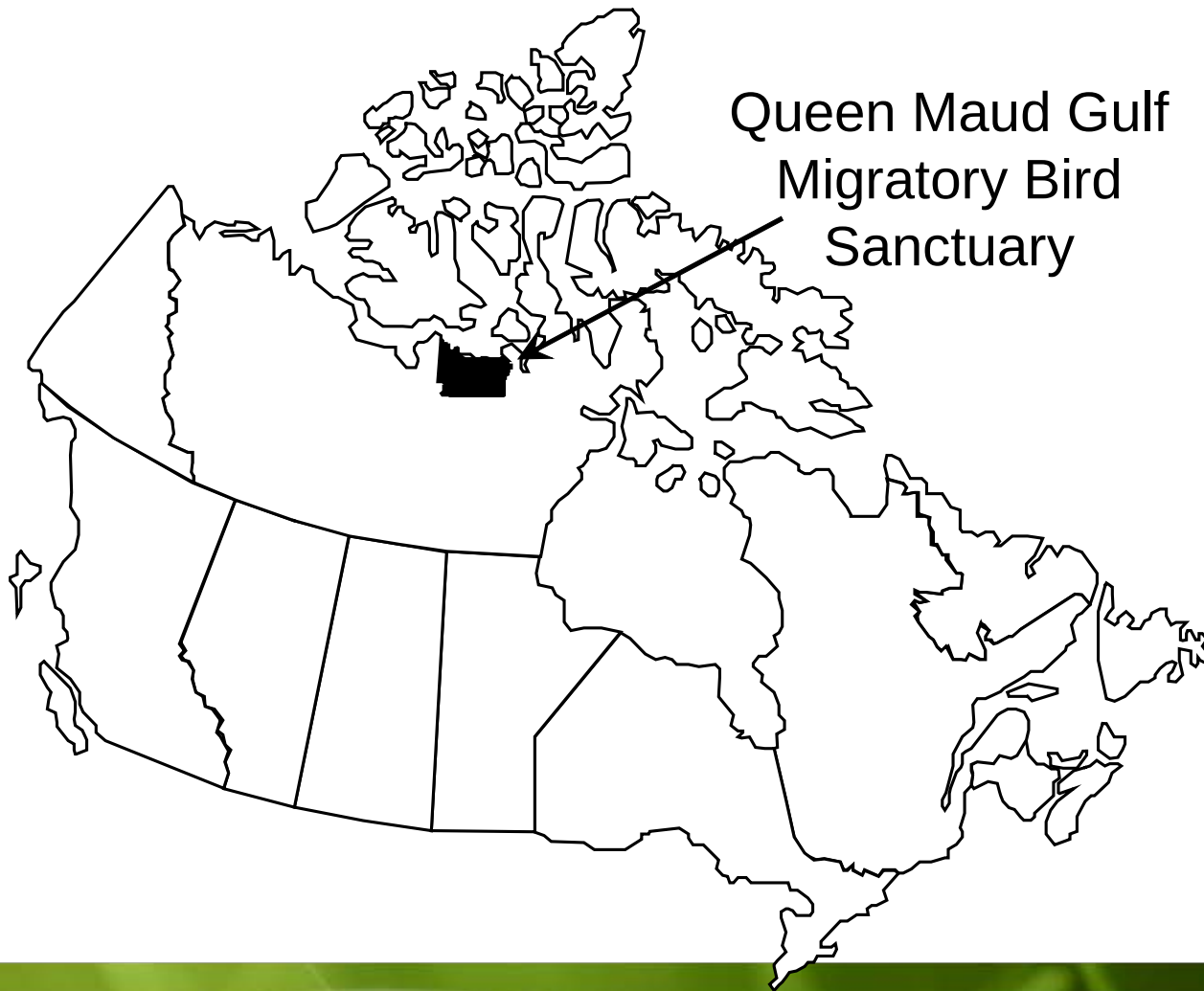




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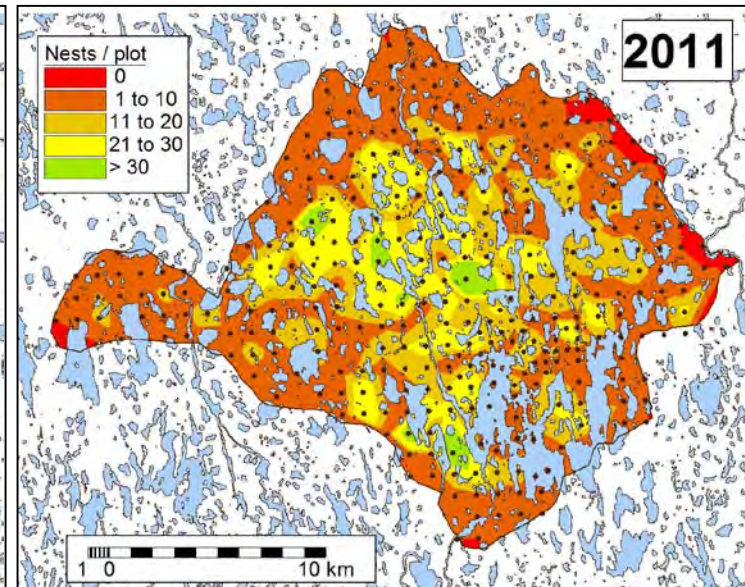
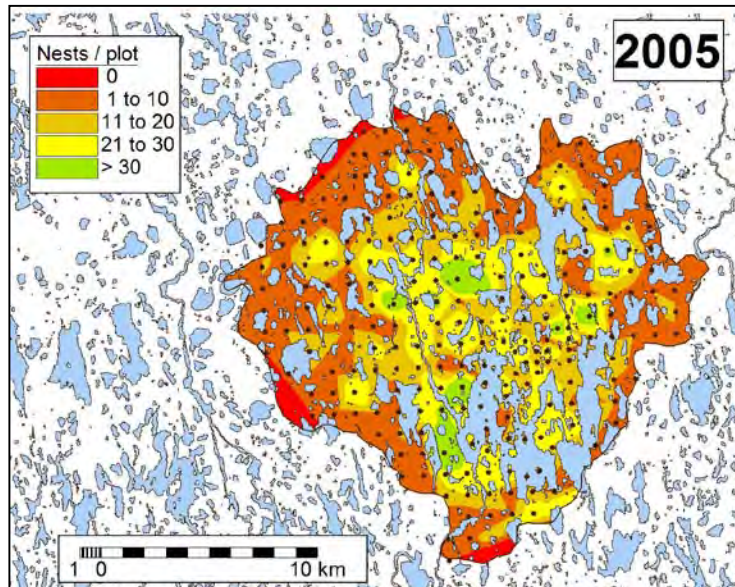
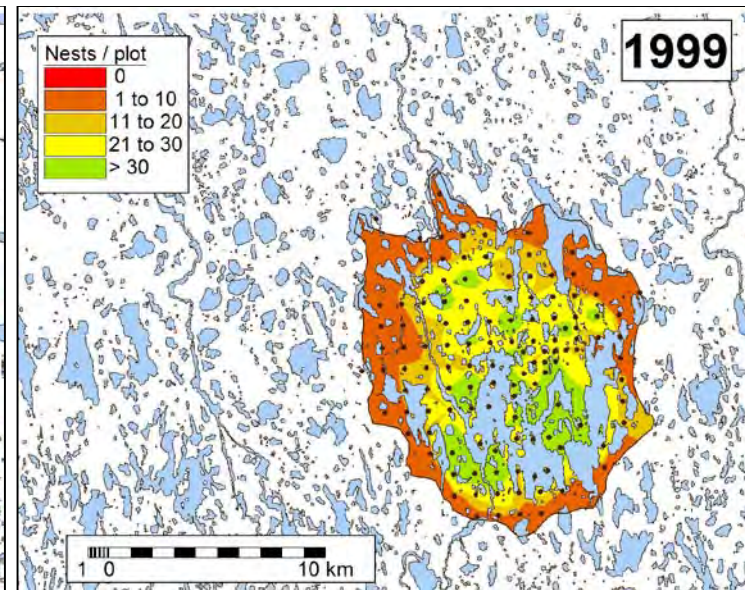
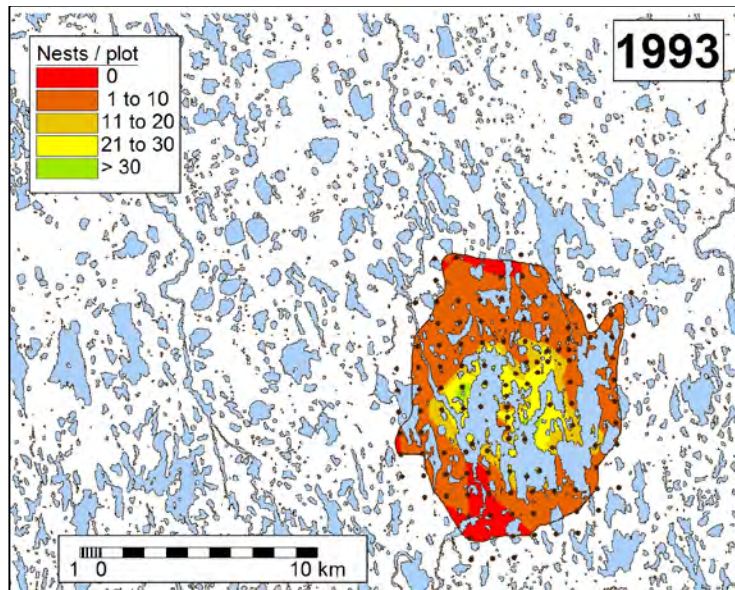
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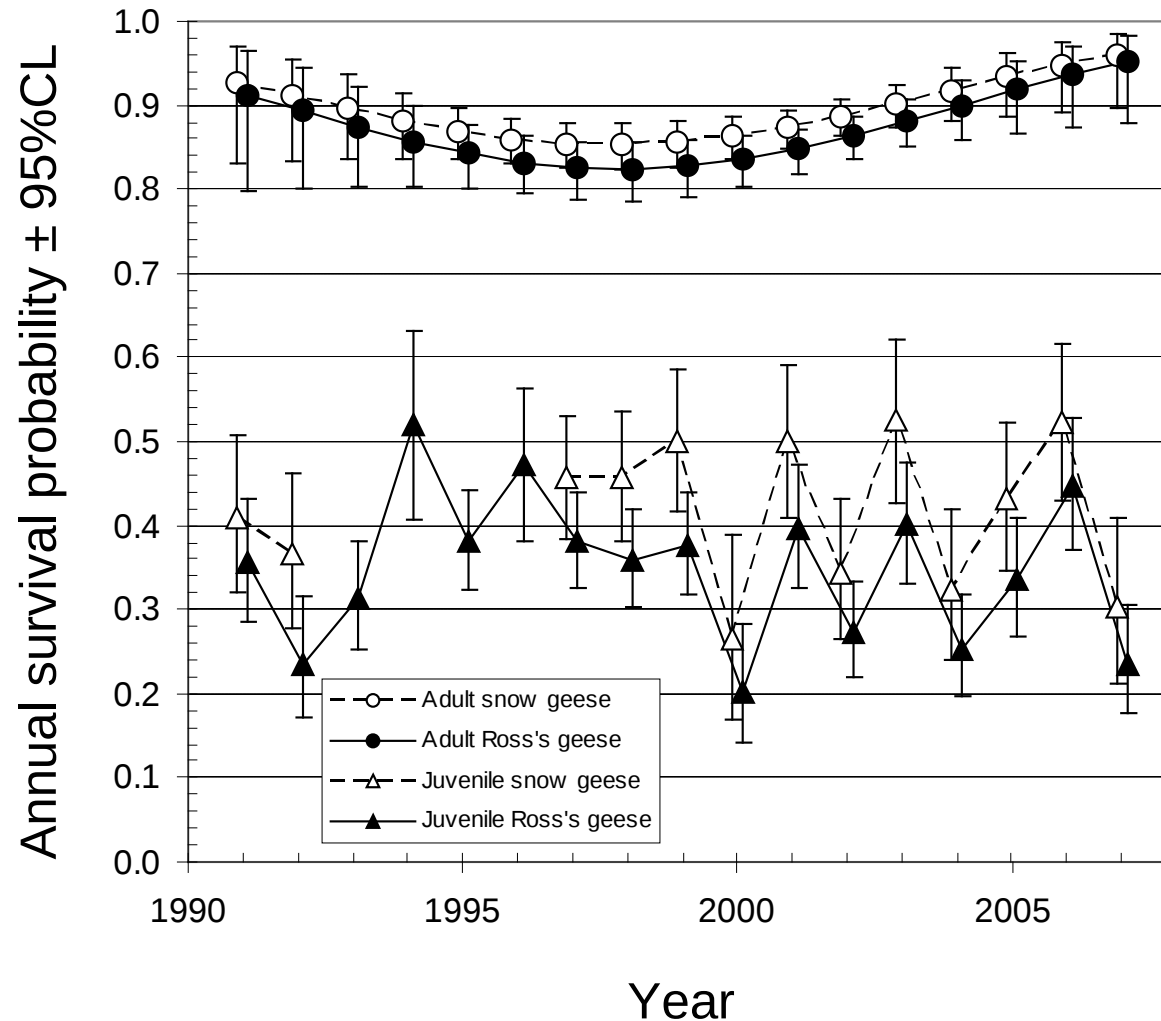


Karrak Lake

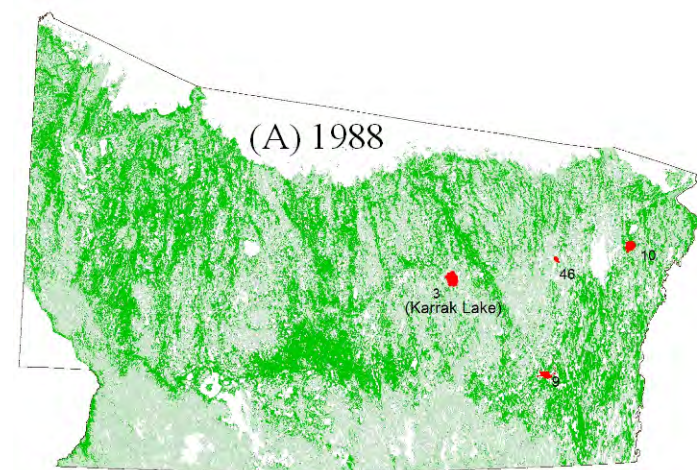


Survival of Karrak Lake light geese

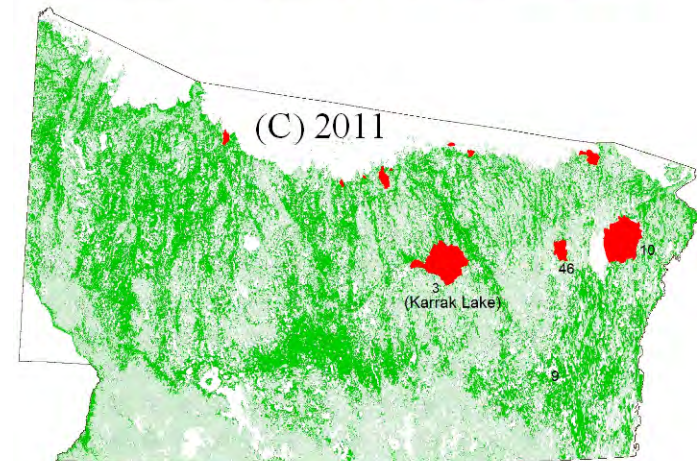
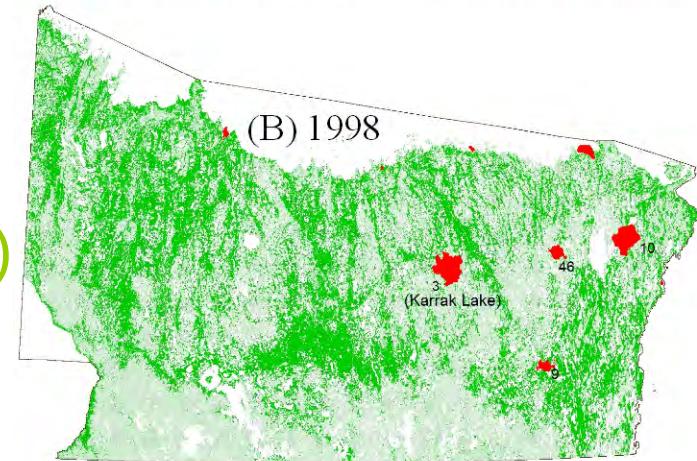
(Traylor et al. 2012, in press)



Growth and Persistence Of Mainland Colonies 1988-2011 (Red)



Distribution of Preferred Goose Habitat (Darker Green)





Exposed Peat 1988 – caused by geese. What is situation in 2011?

