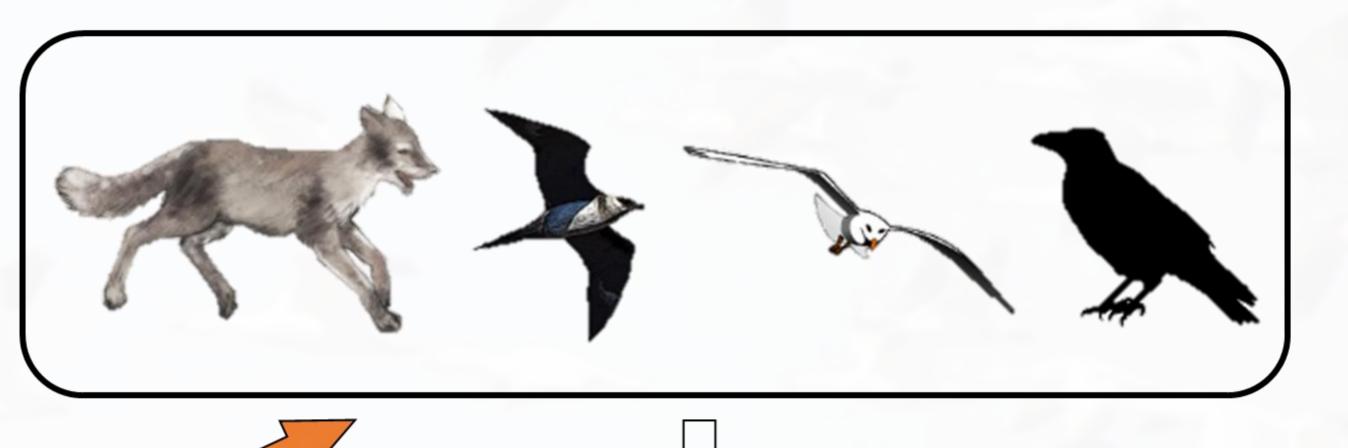
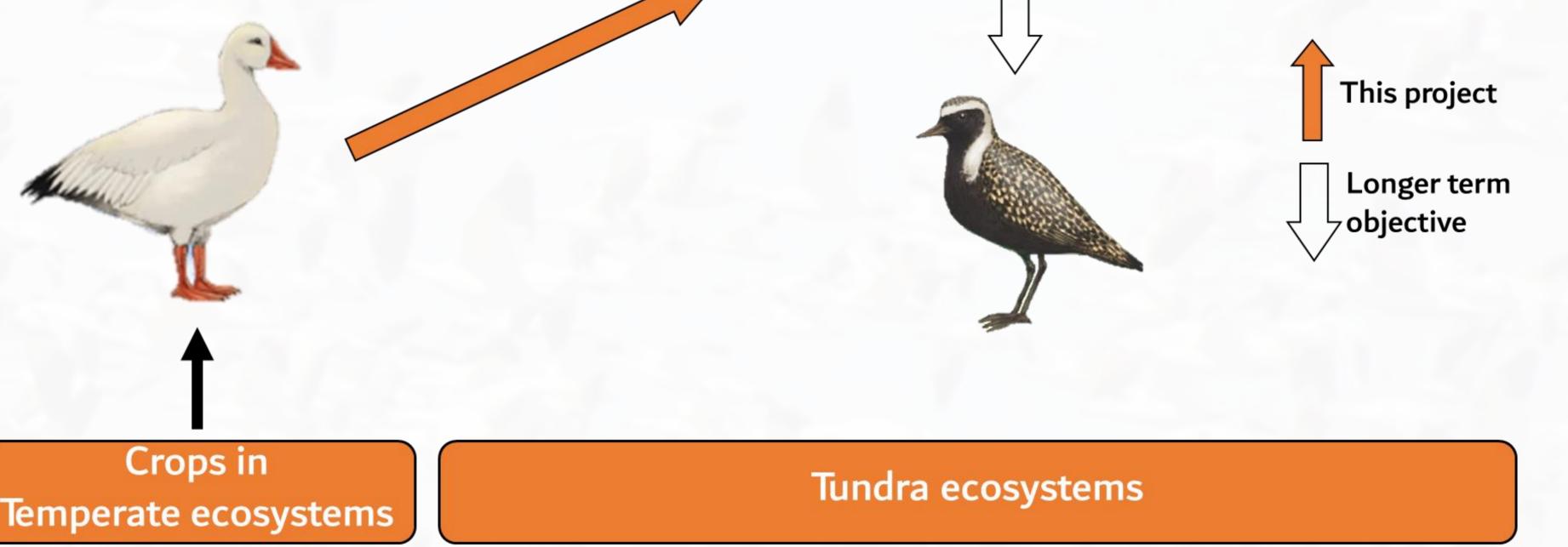
Can goose colonies supported by anthropogenic activities in temperate ecosystems affect the activity of tundra predators? A multi-site comparison conducted at a circumpolar scale Bédard, Audrey ¹ (eab2286@umoncton.ca), M-A. Giroux ¹, J. Bêty ^{2,3}, O. Gilg ^{4,5}, and the Interactions Working Group

Context

- Arctic ecosystems are connected by migratory species
- Some migratory species increased dramatically in the last decades due to human activities



- Demographic explosion in goose populations may contribute to the decline of arctic-nesting shorebirds
- Evidences suggest that geese can support predators at higher abundance in the Arctic, and this can, in turn, increase the predation pressure on shorebirds



Objective

Study the impact of goose colonies supported by human activities on an index of activity and abundance of arctic predators at a circumpolar scale.

Methods

- 12 sites in the circumpolar arctic
- Data from summers 2016, 2017, and 2018
- Protocols
 - ➢ Presence / absence and

Hypothesis

Ressources from temperate ecosystems influence predator activity and abundance in less productive ecosystems (e.g. tundra) Presence/absence and distance to goose colony
Incidental observations of predators Number of observations per unit effort
Incidental observations of lemmings Number of observations per unit effort



Index of activity and abundance of predators



Anticipated results

We predict that the index of activity and abundance of predators is higher in presence than in absence of a goose colony.

Incidences

This ongoing collaborative work will contribute to investigate potential causes of the pronounced decline in populations of arctic-nesting shorebirds. Such decline may be partly attributable to the human-induced increase in other migrating populations connecting

