



Valuing the Objectives: Results from Yesterday



Round 2 Workshop
Presentation 2

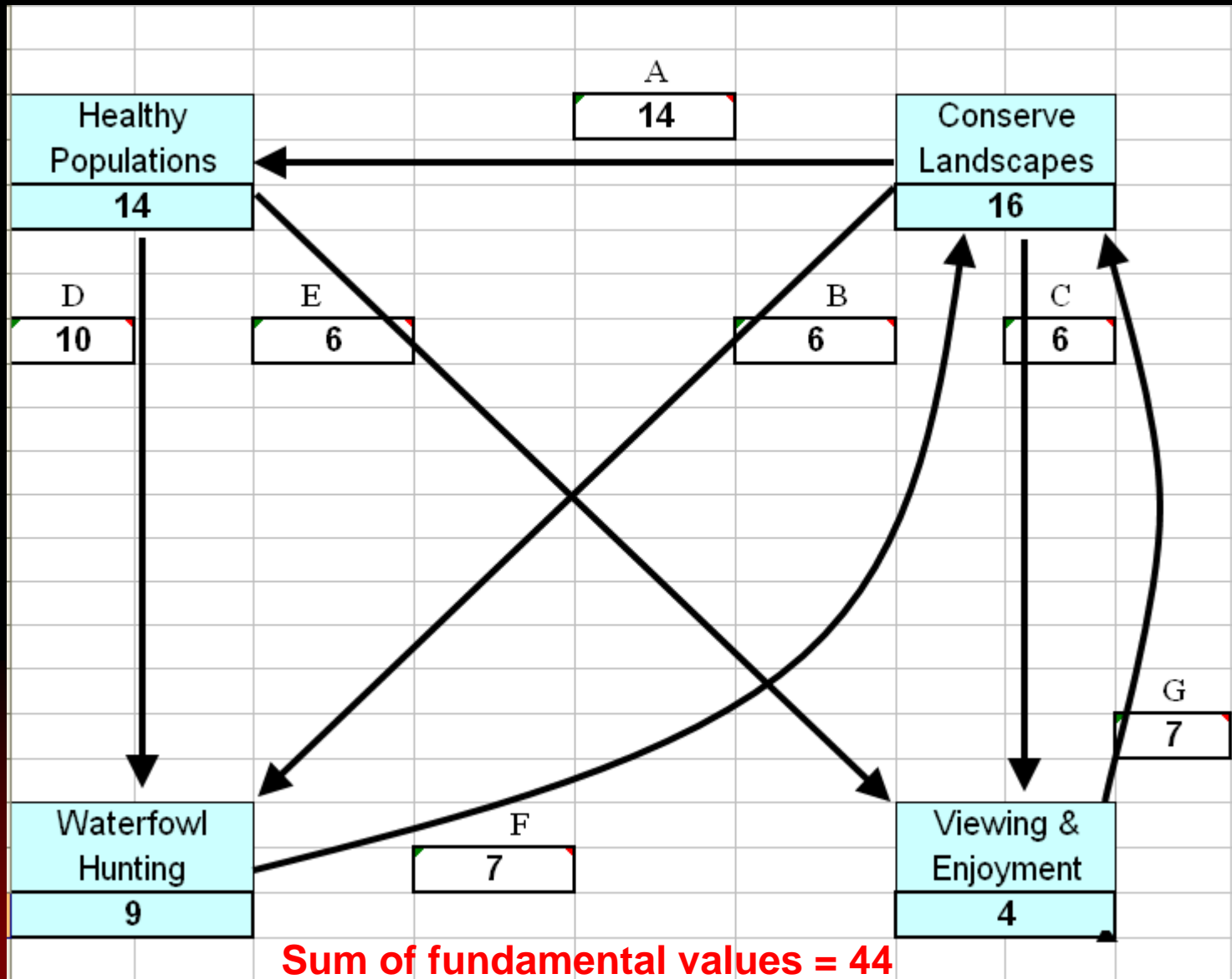


Valuing “Fundamental” Objectives

- How important are each of the objectives?
- Should they all be “valued” the same?
- Base responses on personal beliefs about the waterfowl management enterprise as it exists today

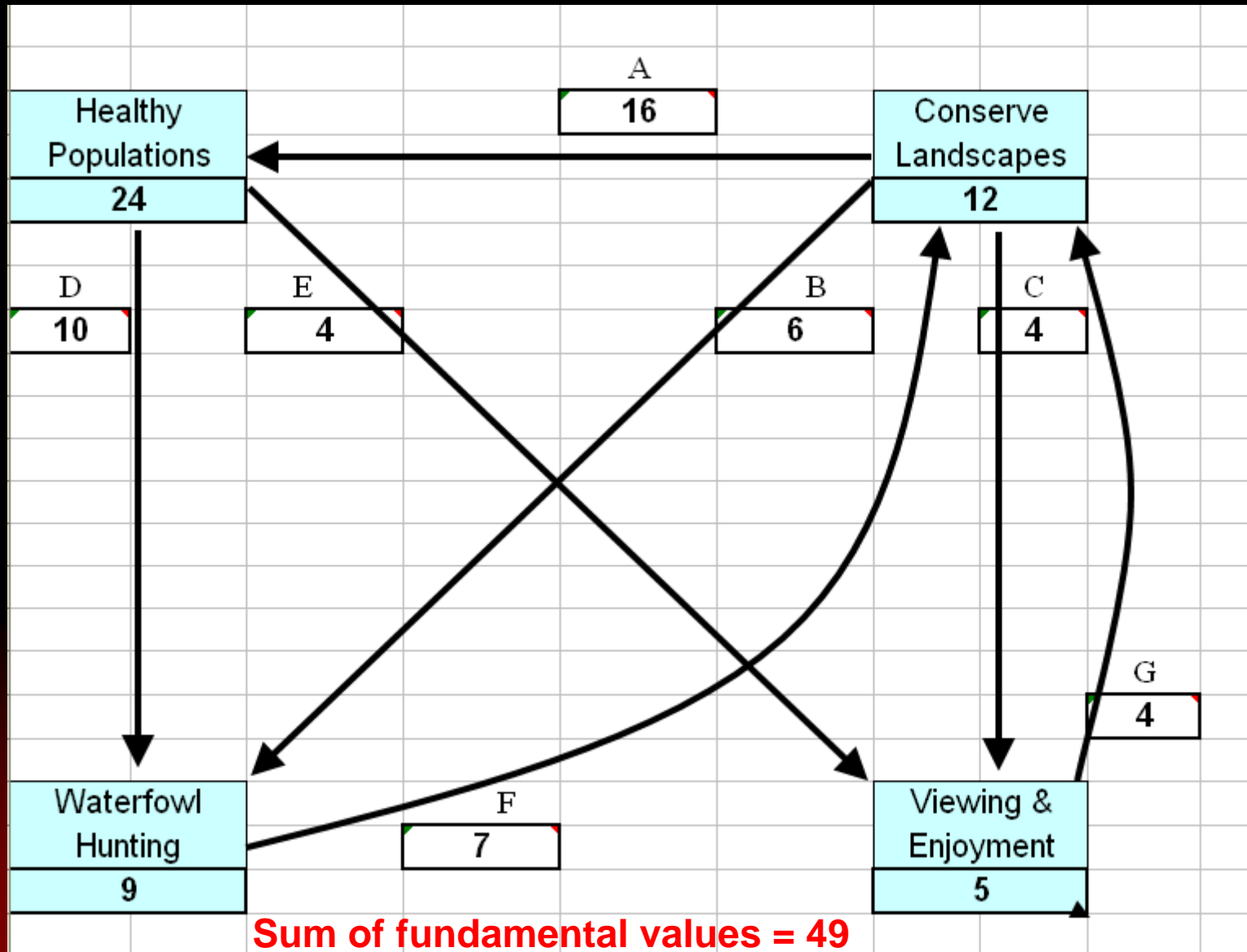


Results from Edmonton 2011 (N=19)



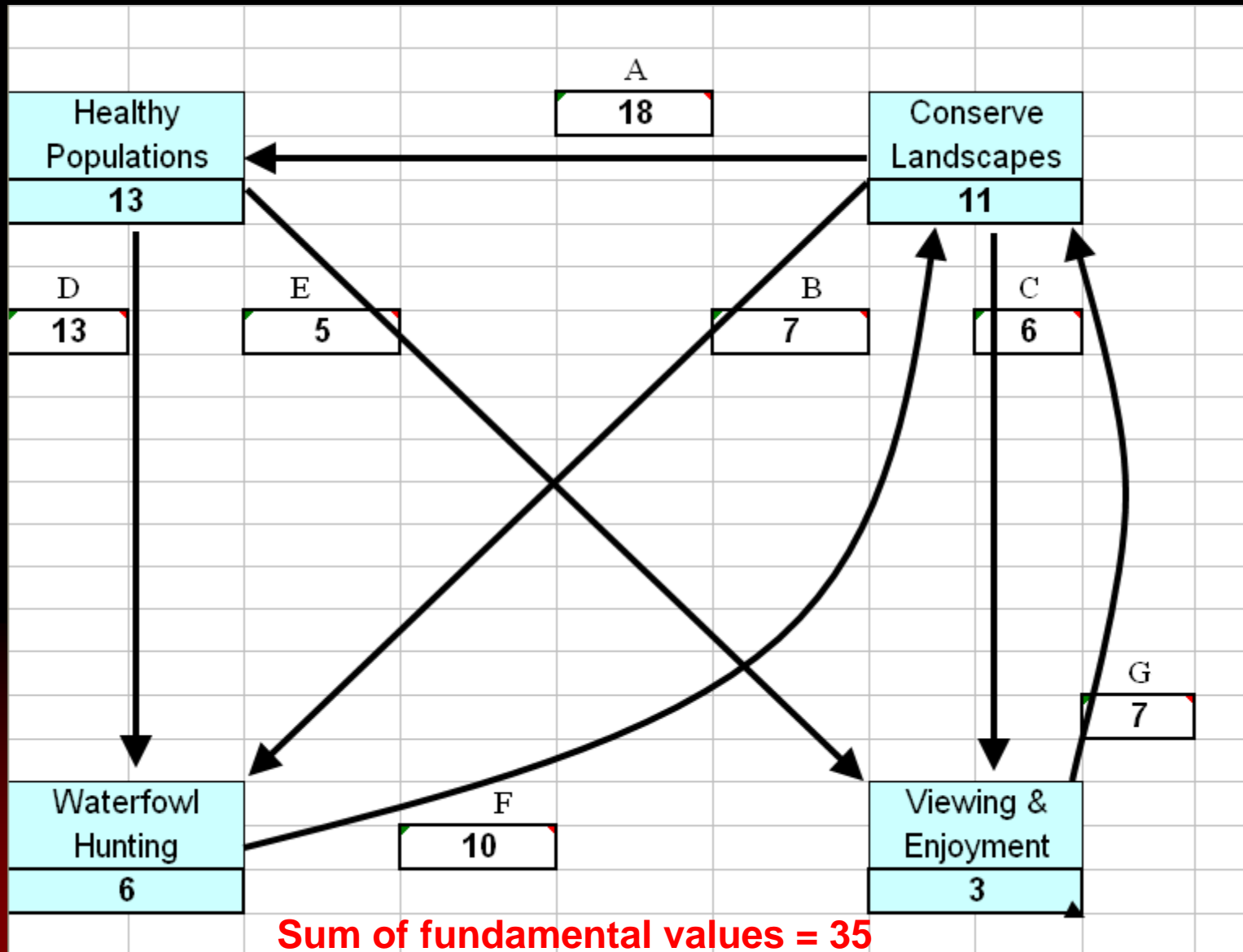


Results from New Orleans (N=24)



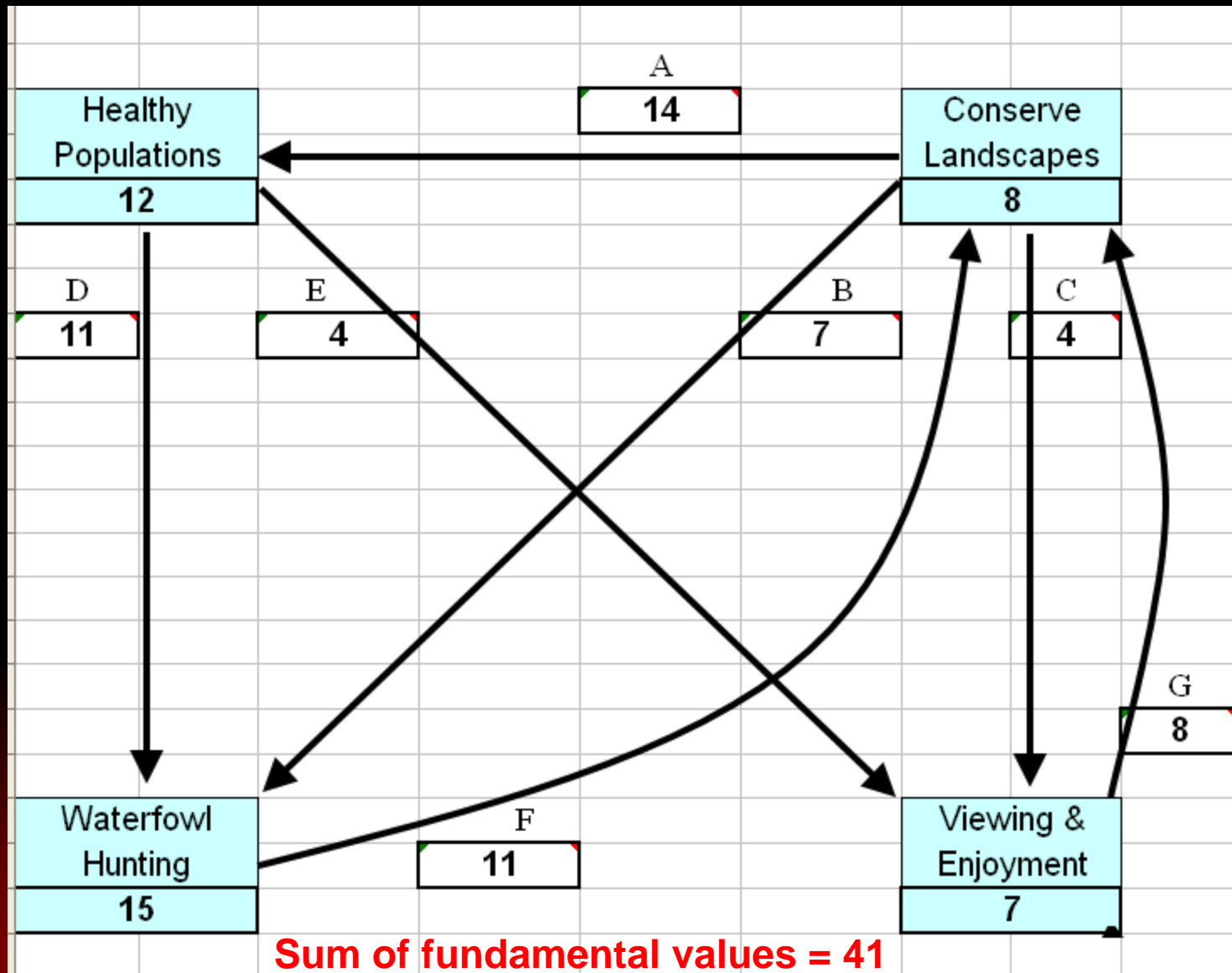


Results from first Denver workshop (N=15)





Results from Denver 2011 (N=9)





Implications of “Valuing Objectives” Exercise

- Evidence that current objectives are not truly “fundamental” (a possible complication for structured decision making approaches)
- Illustrates the strong linkages within the waterfowl management enterprise
- Provides a sense of the magnitude of dependencies
- Underscores the need for a coherent management system
- Hopefully a valuable heuristic exercise



Some Practical Implications

If we “conserve landscapes”...

... to provide healthy populations, then we should target landscapes with greatest demographic impact

... to perpetuate hunting, then target landscapes in areas with greatest number of hunters

... to perpetuate viewing/enjoyment, then target landscapes near urban centers

... just because we like to watch sunrise in a marsh, then can work almost anywhere



Numerical Objectives and NAWMP

Where do we stand?

What makes sense for the future?



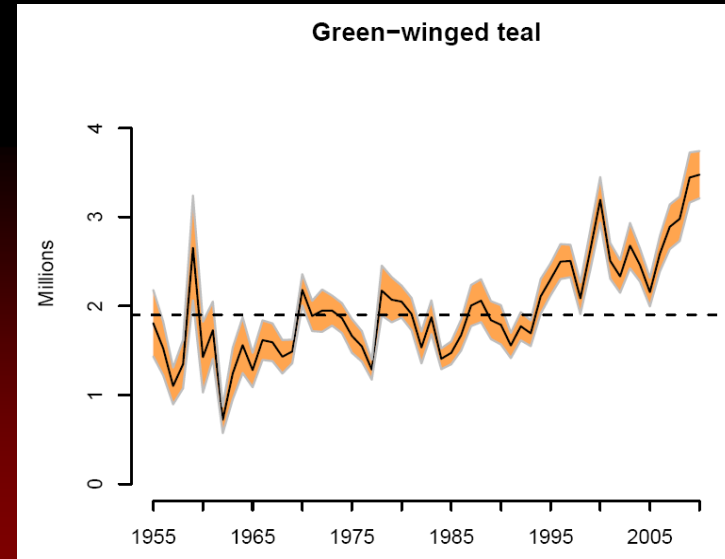
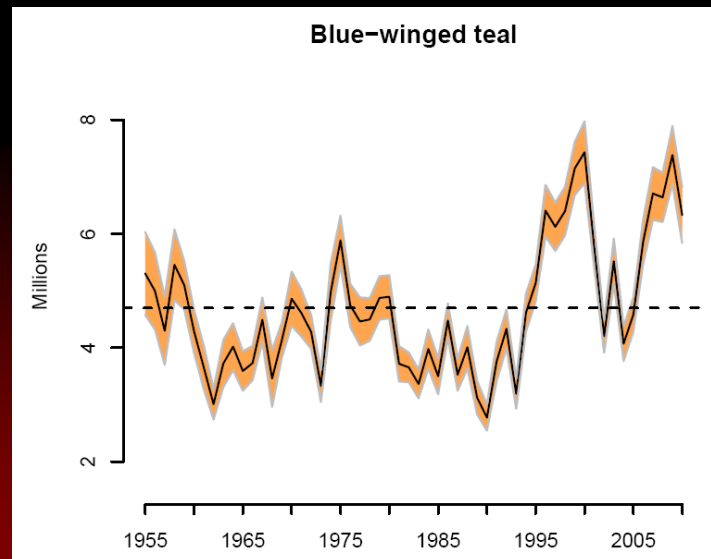
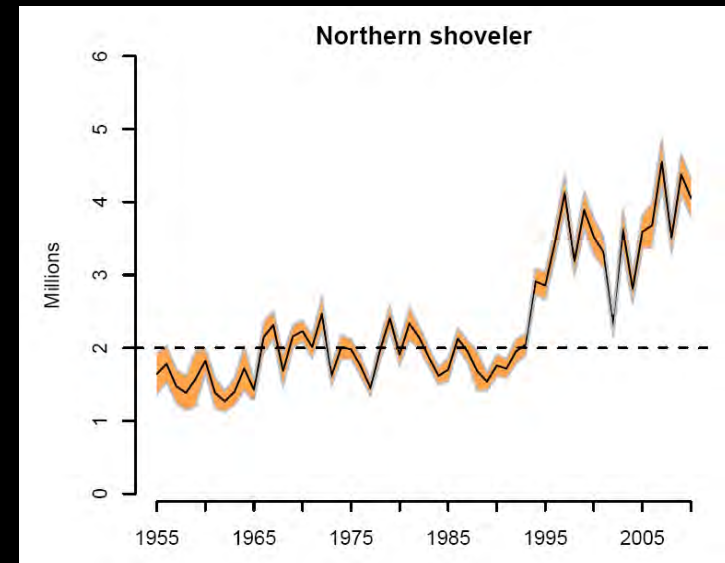
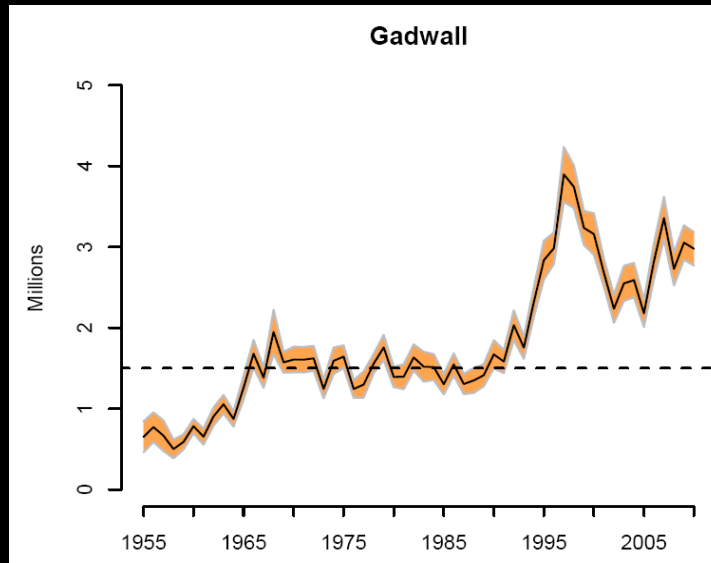


About Numerical Objectives

- Current population objectives essentially unchanged since original (1986) plan
- Habitat objectives have increased
- This session focuses on...
 - A quick review of population objectives
 - Discussing why we would want numerical objectives
 - Describing the desirable characteristics of quantitative objectives
 - Seeking input on how objectives should be developed

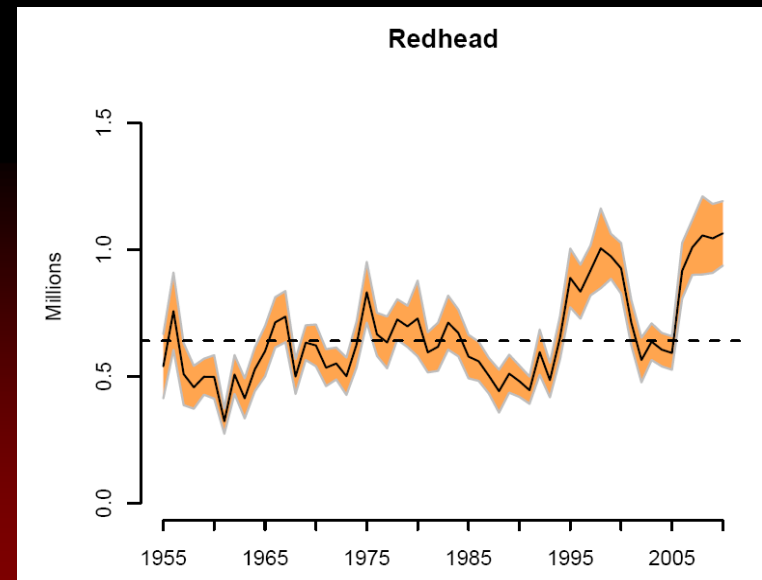
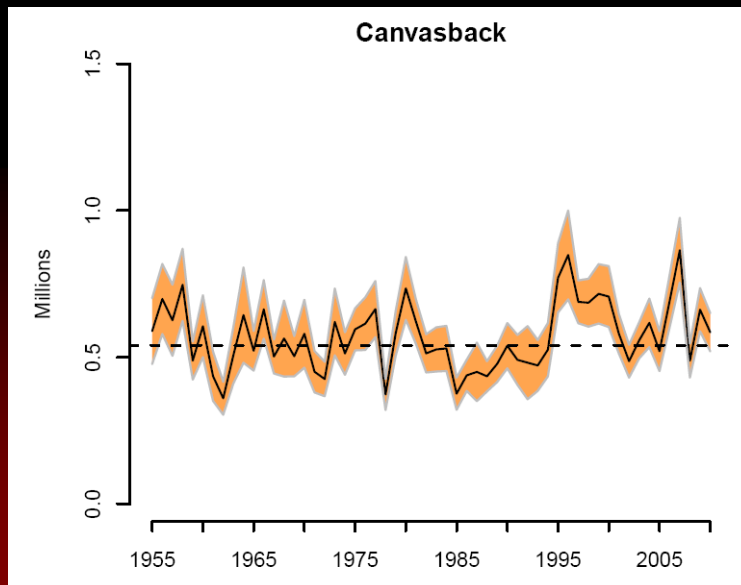
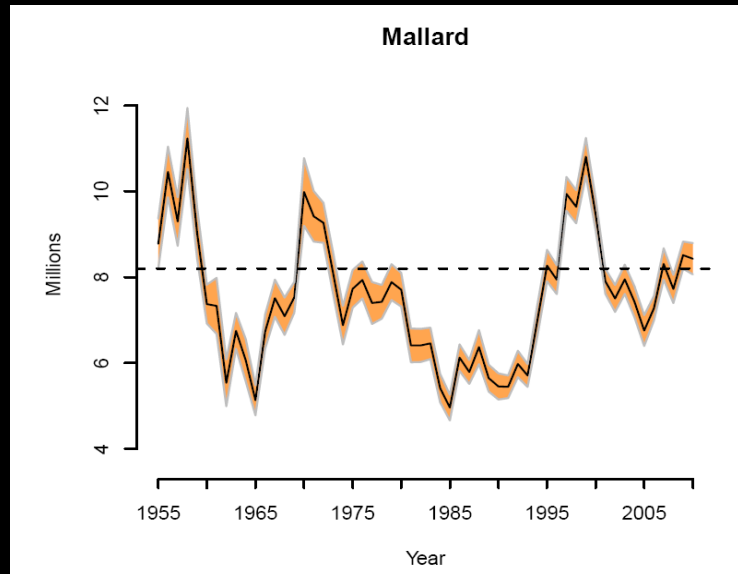


Above Objective



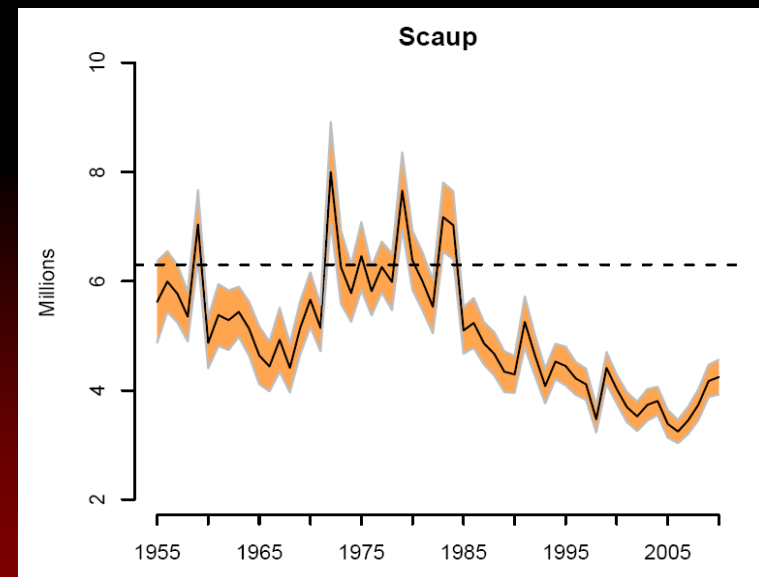
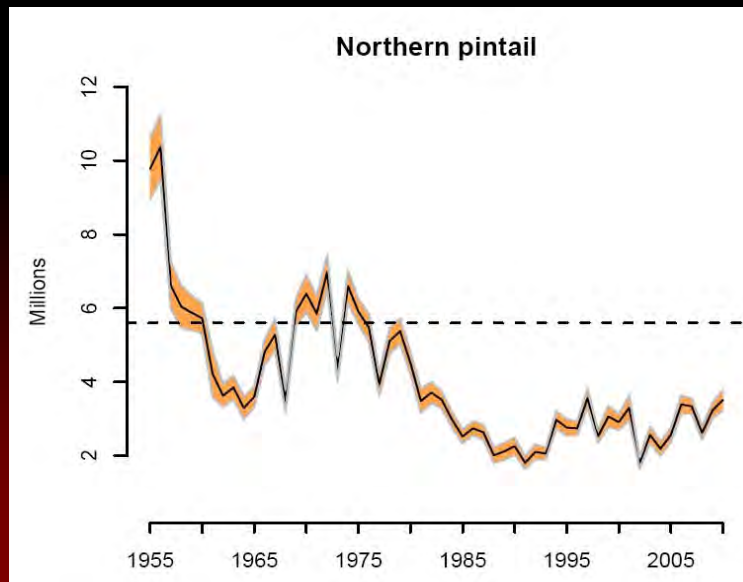
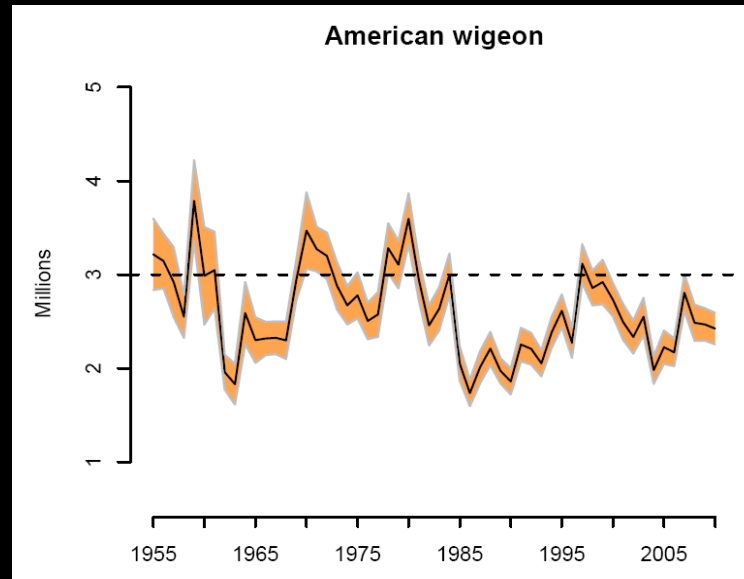


Looking Good





Below or Way Below Objective



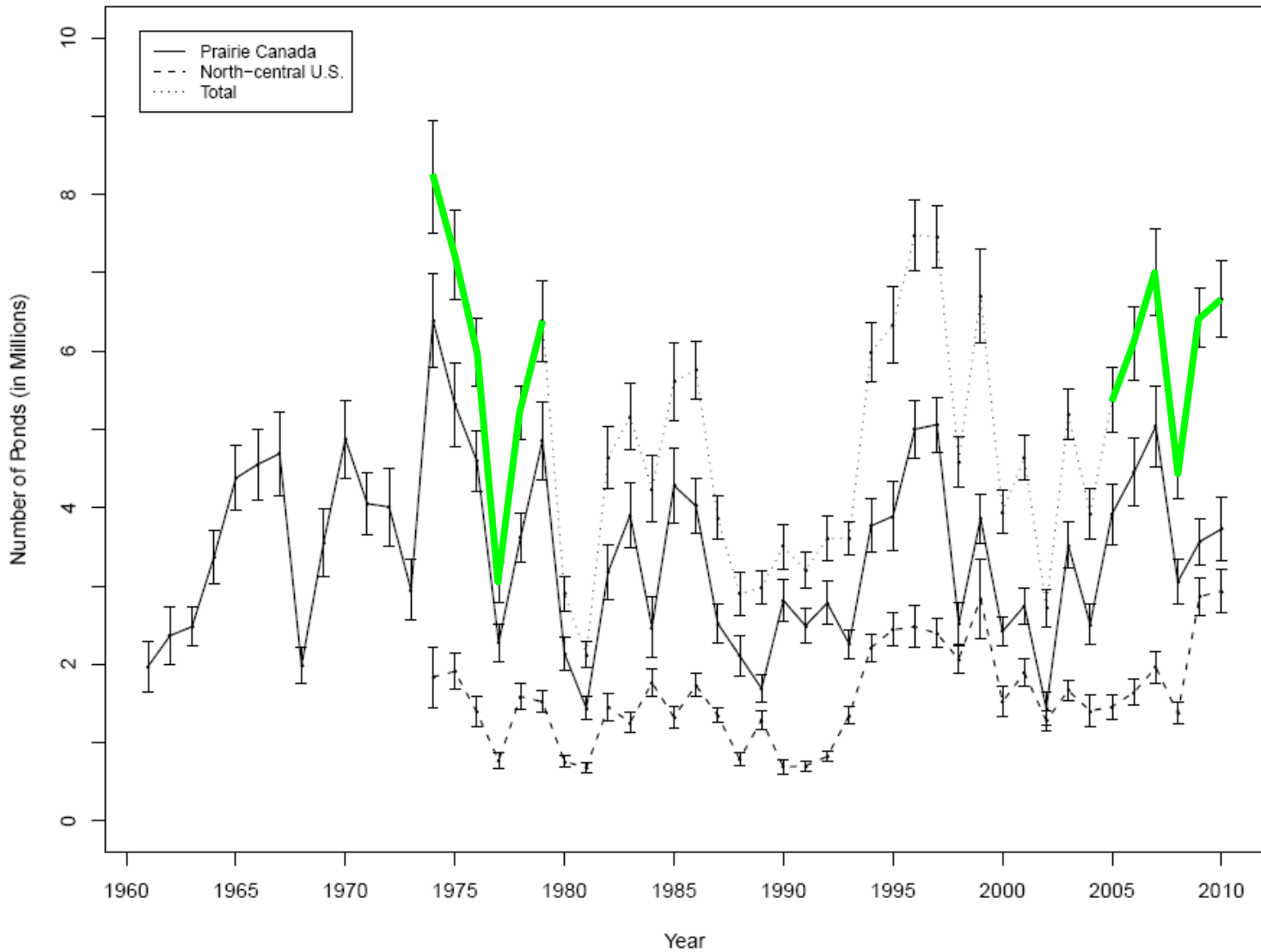


Other Waterfowl and Context Issues

- Most goose populations at or above objectives; many goose management plans
- Sea ducks problematic – difficult to survey, but most thought to be in decline
- Moreover, context is important but sometimes inadequately specified; e.g., objectives to be met:
 - during “years of average environmental conditions”
 - under ? harvest management regime



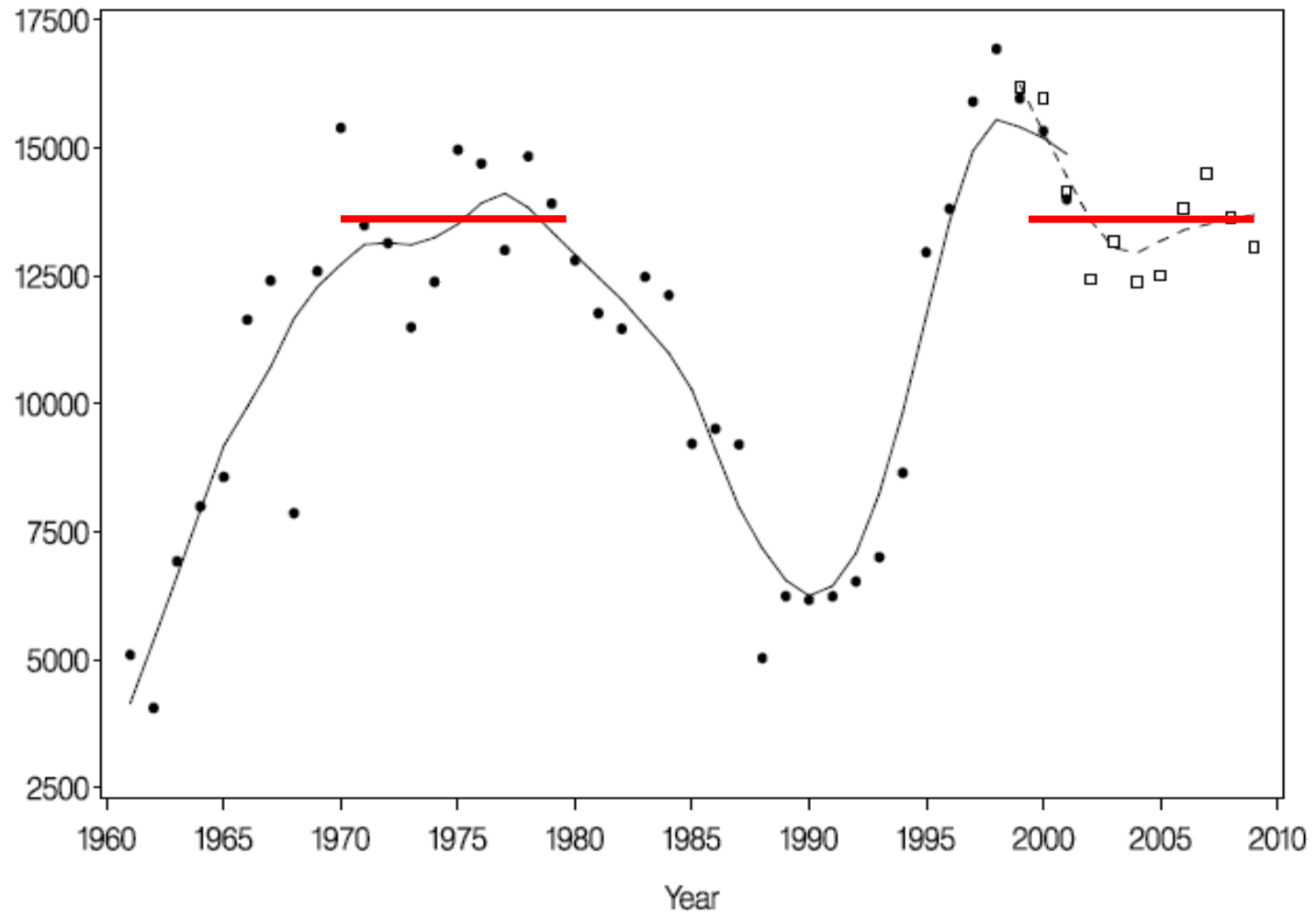
May Ponds (CA and US)





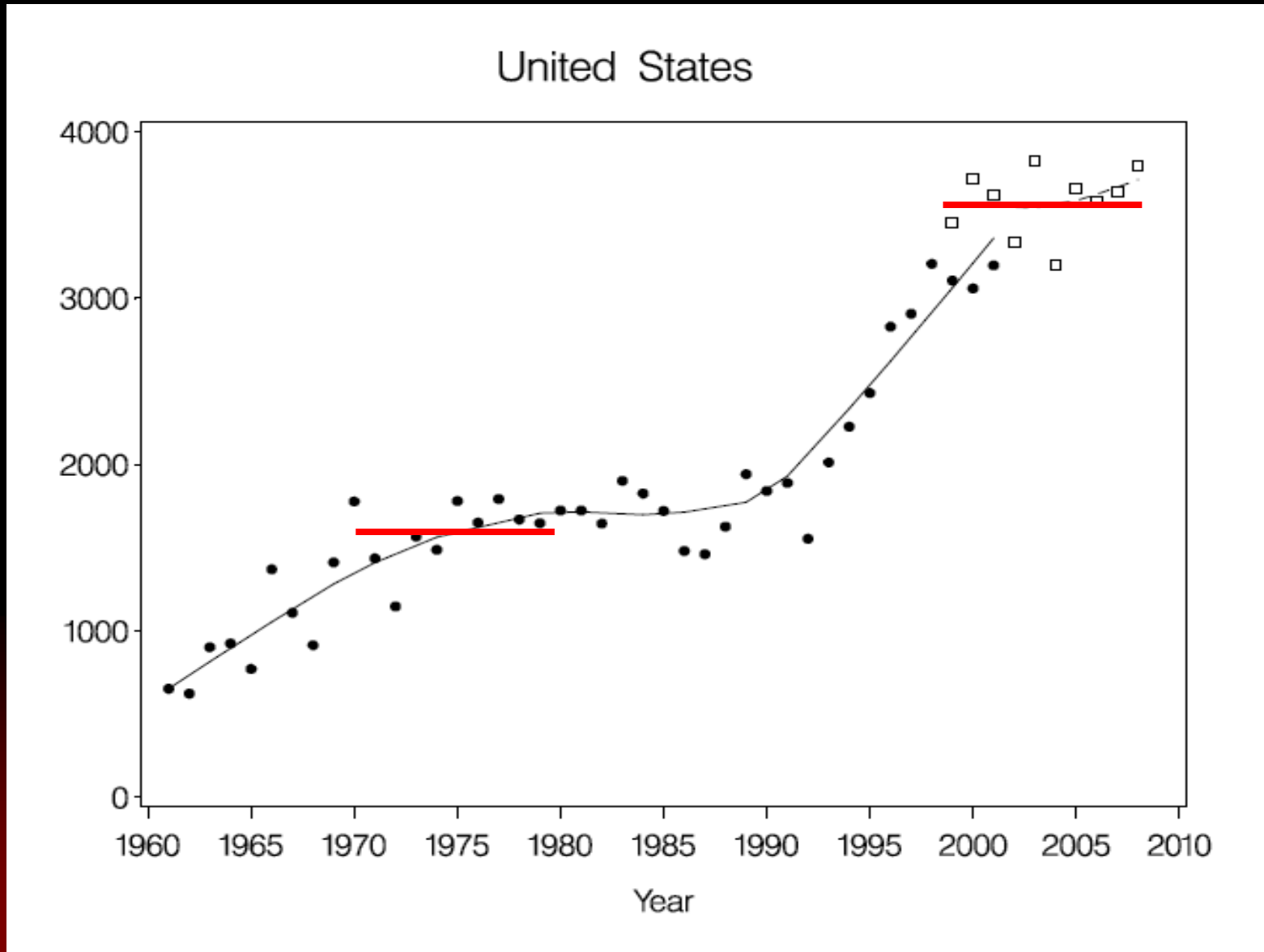
Duck Harvest

United States



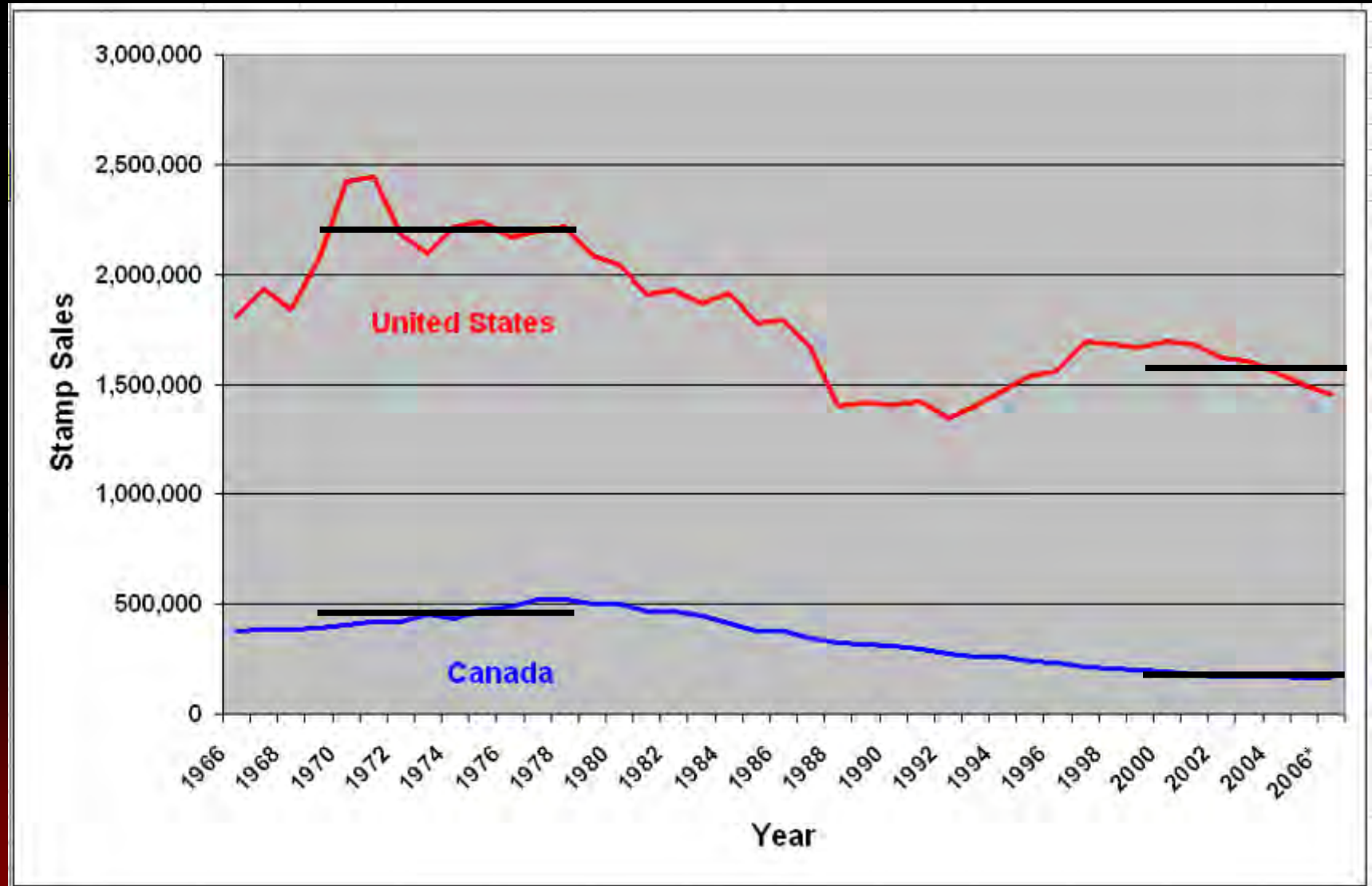


Goose Harvest





Migratory Bird Stamp Sales





Considering Measurable Objectives

Why have quantifiable objectives?

- For conservation planning (i.e., step-down to JV programs)
- To gauge progress (performance metrics)
- To inspire action (stretch goals as motivators)
- To justify resources



Considering Measurable Objectives

Characteristics of useful objectives

- Strong science foundation
- Transparent
- Measurable
- Achievable (with some stretch)



Considering Measurable Objectives

How should measurable objectives be developed?

- Based on input from those charged with achieving them
- Closely tied to goals (“fundamental” objectives)
- With an understanding of inter-relationships among objectives
- Consistent with existing plans(?)



Considering Measurable Objectives

What are special considerations in establishing numeric objectives for waterfowl?

- Boom-bust nature of many waterfowl populations
- Partial controllability in many areas
 - Populations driven by weather (precip)
 - Habitat driven by economic/social drivers
 - Participation in hunting driven by social factors



Considering the Objectives

Turning Point exercise

- Introduce issue
- Conduct poll
- Discuss responses
- No right or wrong answers
- Responses will help inform objective-setting process during 2-year implementation phase



Turning Point Exercise



Institutions and Processes





Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

Two Basic Challenges:

- 1) Setting coherent multiple objectives that flow from the Plan's fundamental goals.
- 2) Managing adaptively toward those objectives in the years ahead.



Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

1) Setting Objectives:

By what social process should we go about setting specific coherent multiple objectives for waterfowl management that may include elements of population size, landscape conditions, and human use? Who would do this? With what technical support?



Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

For instance,

- How might we reconcile a desire for additional harvest opportunity with barriers to increasing carrying capacity?
- How might we decide the most appropriate approach to multi-stock harvest management and plan habitat actions accordingly?
- How might hunter participation goals be set across multiple jurisdictions?



Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

2) Managing Adaptively:

Assuming that we accomplished this objective setting, again from a process point of view, how will we monitor progress toward achieving NAWMP goals and adapt our actions in light of those results? There are both administrative and technical aspects of this challenge.



Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

For instance,

- What recurring decisions would need to be made? How often?
- Who would make such decisions?
- How would decisions be coordinated across scales and among jurisdictions?
- From where would technical support come?



Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

Can we rely on existing institutions and processes to achieve coherent adaptive actions, or might we need some new overarching coordination functions?

If so, what form should that take?



Institutions and Processes Adequate for Integrated Management

- Start with a blank page.
- Assume federal governments retain the trust responsibility to manage migratory birds in partnership with the states and provinces.
- Recognize that a complex set of public and private entities are major stakeholders in waterfowl management.
- Think freely; remember form should follow function!
- Focus on necessary features more than institutional details



The NAWMP Revision Workshop Wrap-Up





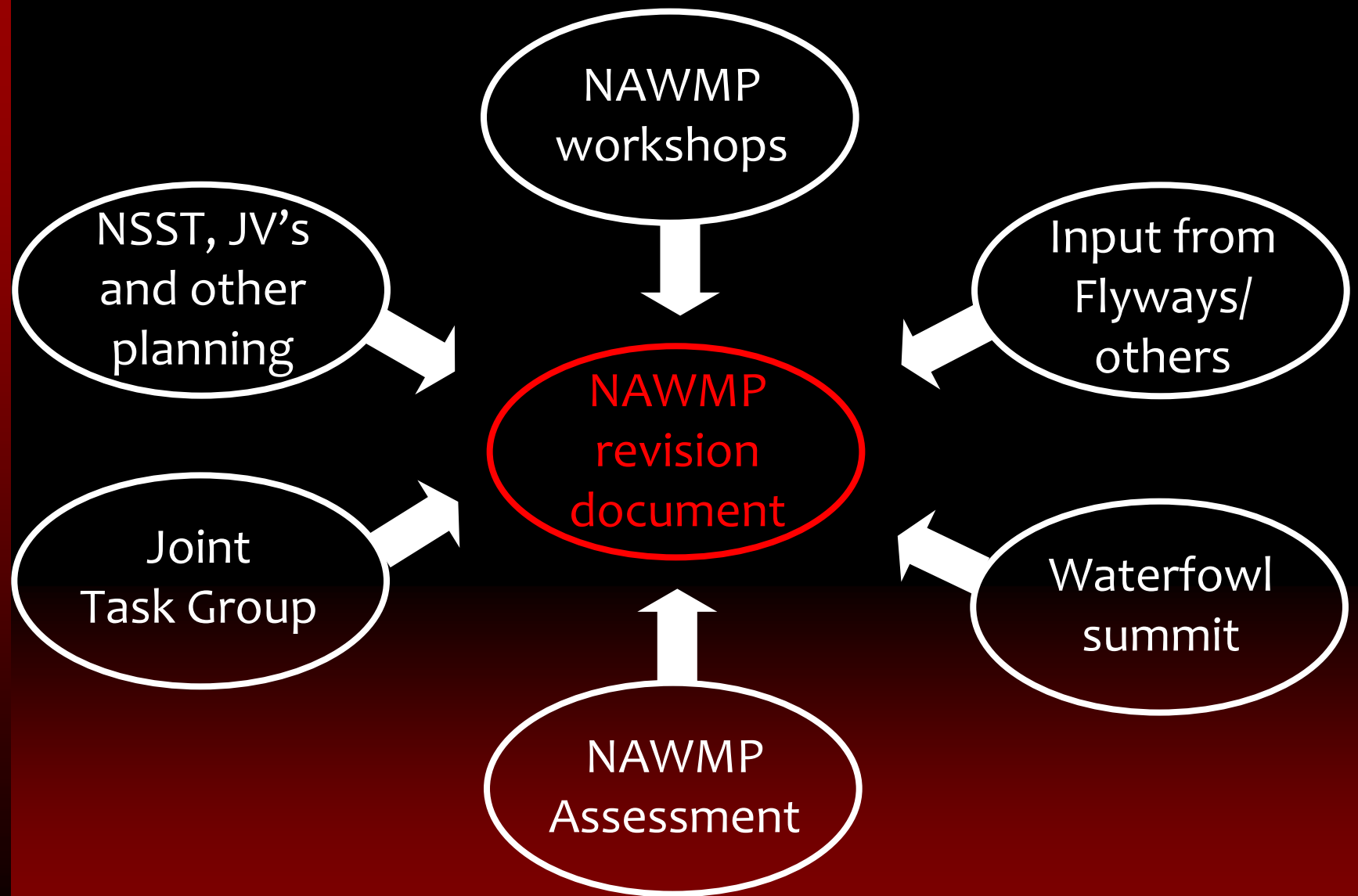
What's the Vision of a Revised NAWMP?

Set in motion changes that will establish an integrated system of waterfowl conservation featuring:

- Explicit and coherent objectives to guide habitat, harvest and human-dimension programs
- Means for coordinated actions to realize those objectives.



Informing Content of the Revision





Keeping Informed, Seeking Input

NAWMPrevision.org

- “Feedback Form” -- on-line questions
- FAQ's
- Workshop summaries
- Relevant reports (e.g., NAWMP Assessment; Joint Task Group)
- Communiqués issued periodically to update progress



Ensuring Coordination with Others

- Many entities are working on related issues. We're aware of them and talking with them.
 - NSST
 - Work Plan being revised
 - Developing demographic objectives at JV scales
 - Developing regional habitat objectives that account for environmental variation
 - Aggregating estimates of carrying capacity (“K”) across populations and space



Ensuring Coordination with Others

- Many entities are working on related issues. We're aware of them and talking with them.
 - Working groups on species life cycle models
 - Northern Pintail
 - Scaup
 - Black Duck
 - Species Joint Ventures
 - Flyway goose & swan management plans



Ensuring Coordination with Others

- Many entities are working on related issues. We're aware of them and talking with them.
- HMWG (Harvest Management Working Group... formerly the AHM WG)
 - On-going AHM analyses and recommendations
 - Considering and responding to new EIS on hunting
 - Various hunter-related work (zones & splits & hunter responses; simple vs. complex regulations)
- The Human Dimensions Working Group



Members of the Writing Team

- Jim Ringelman (Chair) – NAWMP; DU
- Mike Anderson – NAWMP; IWWR/DUC
- Bob Clark – Env. Canada; U of SK
- John Eadie – UC Davis
- Greg Soullierre – UMR/GL JV; FWS
- Andy Raedeke – MO Dept Cons; MS flyway
- Mark Koneff -- USFWS

Proposed Timeline for Plan Preparation and Reviews...

January	Revise and finalize outline approved by the PC in Vancouver; decide roles and responsibilities; develop firmer timeline
	Start drafting preliminary and contextual pieces
February	Work on "new content" text on topics that emerged consistently at workshops
March	
	Face-to-face meeting after RSC digest workshop results (@ North American conference?)
	Prepare and refine "new content" material; complete working draft
April	
May	
	Completed, working draft
	Review of draft by RSC
June	Revise draft based on RSC comments
	Review of draft by PC
July	Revise draft based on PC comments
	Distribute first draft for general review and comment

Proposed Timeline for Plan Preparation and Reviews

	Revise per comments received
October	
November	Second review by RSC
	Revise per second RSC review
December	Second review by PC
2012 dates and events:	
January	Revise per second PC review
	Discussions and final approval at regular PC meeting
February	Final edits and official approvals
March	
	Release new NAVMMP at the North American conference



The NAWMP Revision: Guiding Philosophy, Form and Contents

- Provides strategic guidance; offers substantive content based on wealth of information
- Establishes momentum, and sets clear direction, for a coherent management system
- Companion “Action Plan” recommends “who does what, by when”
- Acknowledges need for coordination with other efforts also underway



The Revised NAWMP

- ✓ Relevant
- ✓ Effective
- ✓ Efficient
- ✓ Adaptable



Thank you for your contributions