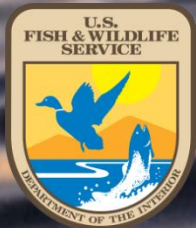
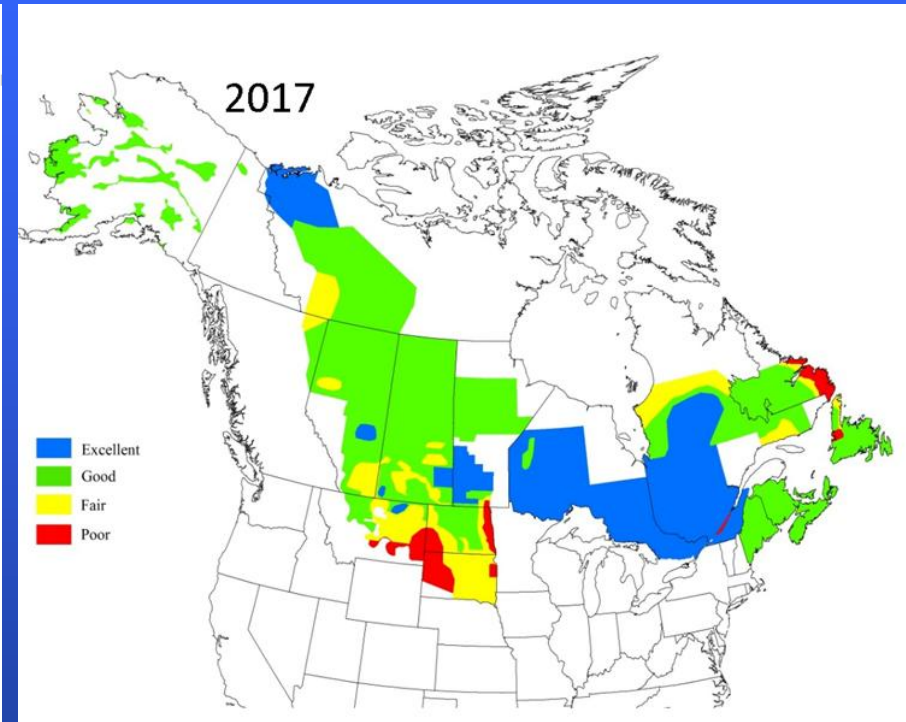
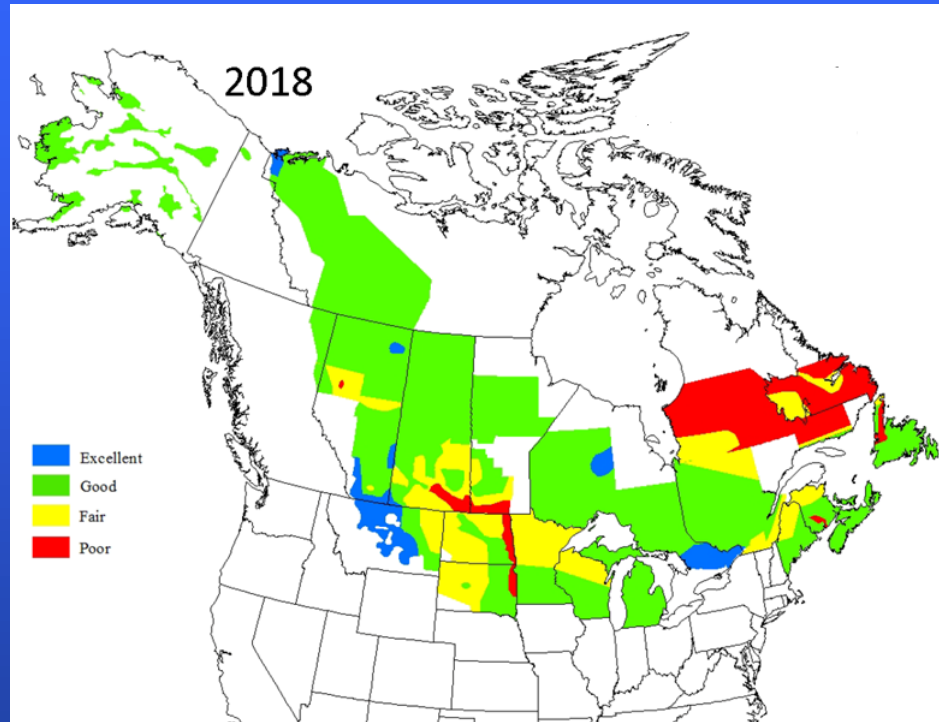


# Migratory Game Bird Status Update and Proposed Hunting Seasons for 2019-20



# Breeding Waterfowl Habitat Conditions

(assessed by biologists during spring surveys)



- Total Ponds in U. S. and Canada – 5.2 M
- 14% below 2017 (6.1 M) and similar to the LTA (1955-2018)

# 2018 Breeding Ducks in North America (millions)

Species	2018	2017	% Change from 2017	% Change from LTA
Mallard	9.3	10.5	- 12	+17, 7.9 M
Gadwall	2.9	4.2	-31	+43, 2.0 M
American wigeon	2.8	2.8	0	0, 2.6 M
Green-winged teal	3.0	3.6	-16	+42, 2.1 M
Blue-winged teal	6.4	7.9	-18	+27, 5.1 M
Northern shoveler	4.4	4.4	0	+62, 2.6 M
Northern pintail	2.4	2.9	-18	-40, 4.0 M
Redhead	1.0	1.1	-10	+38, 0.7 M
Canvasback	0.7	0.7	0	0, 0.6 M
Scaup	4.0	4.4	-9	-20, 5.0 M

## 2018 Breeding Ducks in the Eastern Survey Area (millions)

Species	2018	2017	% Change from 2017	% Change from LTA
Mallard	1.0	1.1	- 4	- 15, 1.3 M
Black duck	0.71	0.78	- 9	- 20, 0.89 M
Wood duck	0.39	0.39	-0.5	+2.5, 0.38 M
Green-winged teal	0.34	0.35	- 1	- 9, 0.38 M
Ring-necked duck	0.63	0.62	+ 2	-10, 0.69 M
Common goldeneye	0.49	0.56	- 13	-17, 0.59 M

# **“Multi-Stock” Approach for Duck Harvest Management**

- **4 species: wood duck, ring-necked duck, green-winged teal, common goldeneye.**
- **Represent wide range of species life histories; wider range of flyway distribution.**
- **Approved by USFWS spring 2018 as the method by which general duck season will be determined in the Atlantic Flyway.**



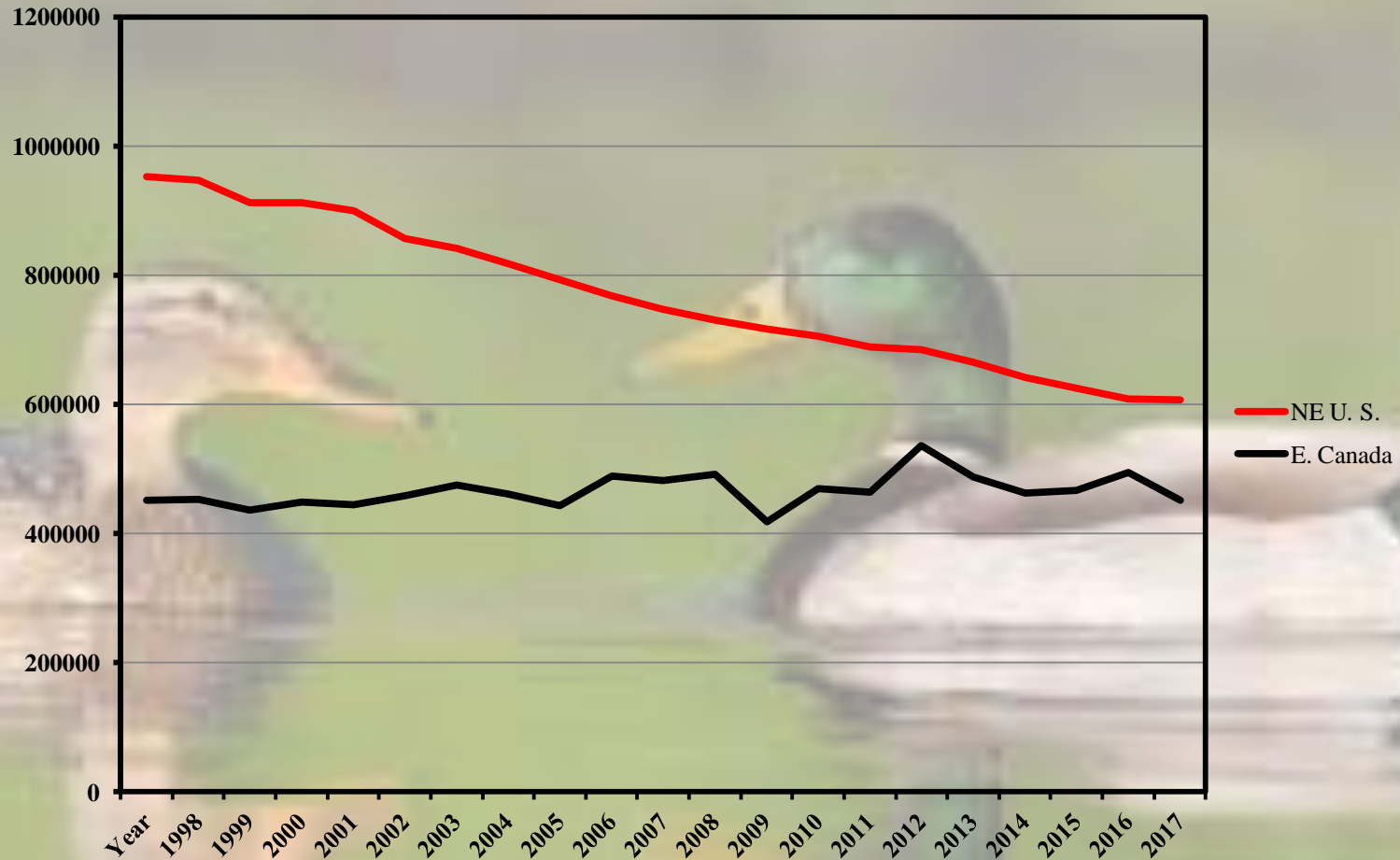


# Mallard Management Update



- Current provisional mallard strategy allows 2 bird daily bag in framework with no ability to adjust up or down.
- Atlantic Flyway Mallard Committee working on a Mallard Harvest Strategy.
- AFC and USFWS have approved a recommendation for a 1 hen mallard/day as part of 2 bird daily bag.

# Eastern Mallard Breeding Population



Data from the AF Breeding Waterfowl Survey (NE U. S.) and Eastern Survey Area (E. Canada)

# Duck Season Framework Extension

- The USFWS has approved January 31<sup>st</sup> as the ending date for all 4 flyways beginning 2019-20 season.
- Addresses the increasing number of public comments to hunt later into winter.



# Atlantic Brant Hunting Season



## Federal Framework

30-day season between the Saturday nearest Sept. 24 (Sept. 27) and Jan. 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit.

## Proposed Season

Dec 28 - Jan. 31

**Daily Bag Limit 2**

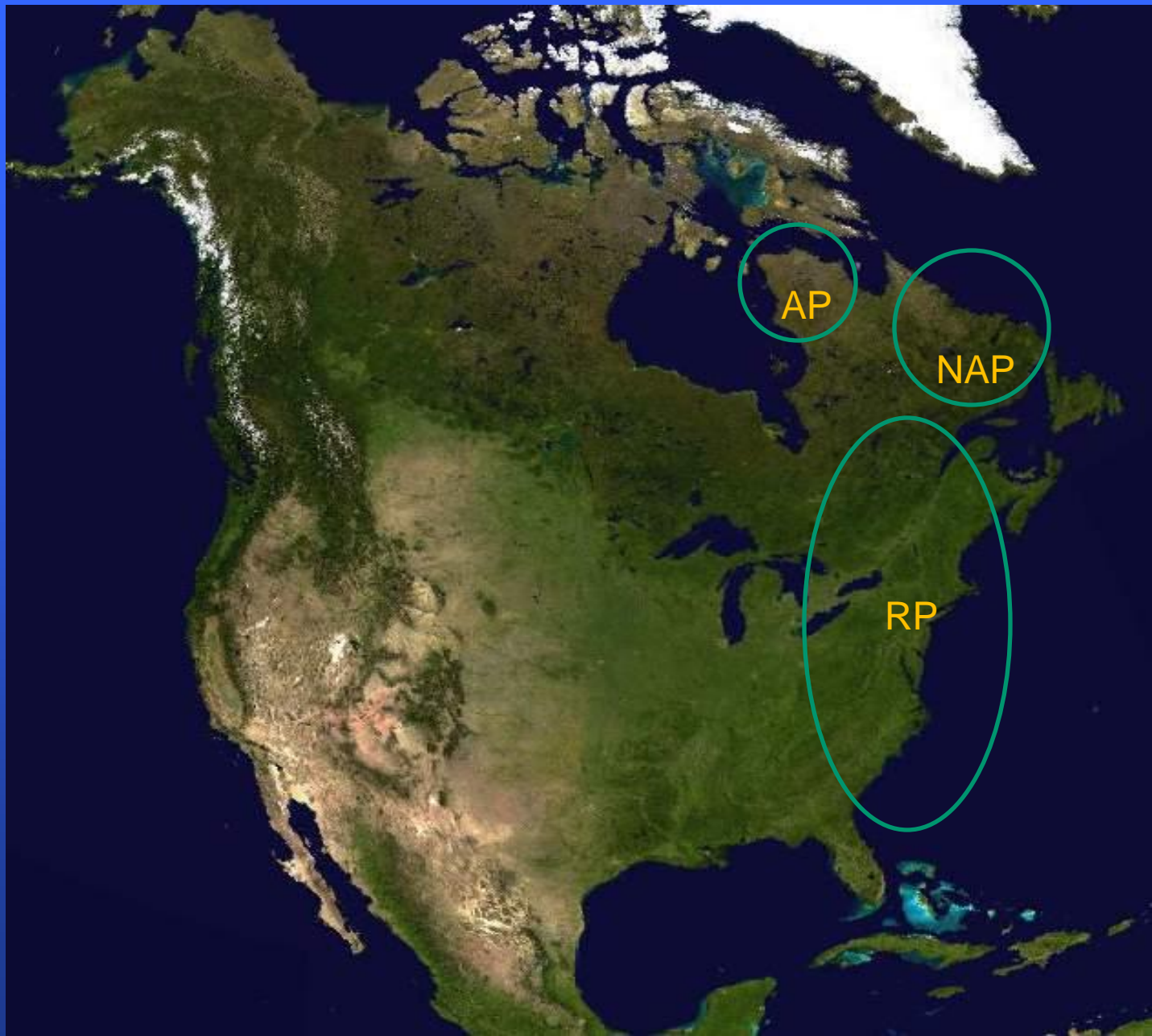
# **Proposed 2019-20 AP Canada Goose Season**

**(Federal Framework 30 day season, 2 segments, 1 bird/day)**

- **December 21, 2019 – January 4, 2020  
January 17 – February 5, 2020.**
- **Contain 6 Saturdays and 3 holidays  
(Christmas, New Years, MLK).**
- **Runs to the end date of the framework.**
- **Eliminates the traditional Thanksgiving segment.**

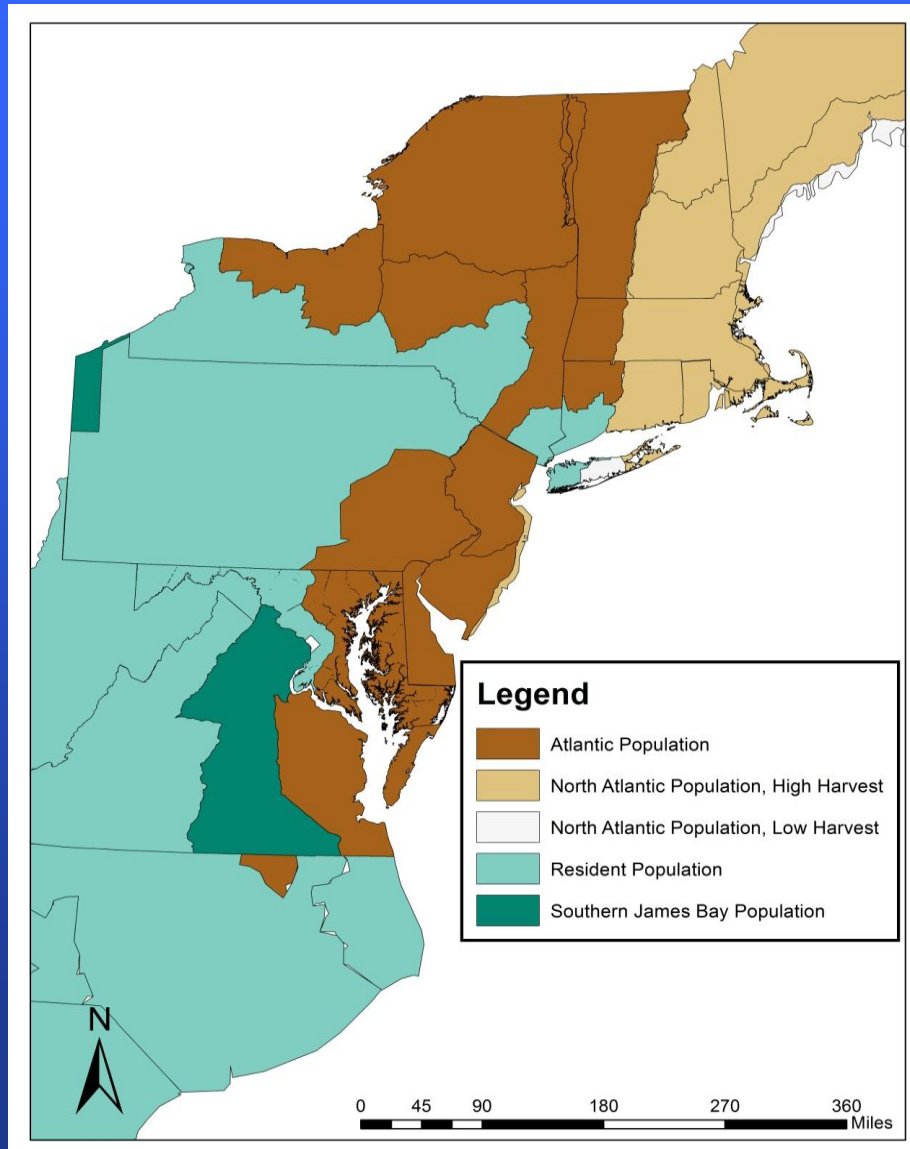
A large flock of Canada geese is captured in flight against a clear, bright blue sky. The geese are arranged in a loose V-formation, with many birds in various stages of wing beats. Their dark brown wings and white bodies with black necks and heads are clearly visible. The text "Canada Goose Management In The Atlantic Flyway" is overlaid in the center in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

# **Canada Goose Management In The Atlantic Flyway**





# AF Canada Goose Harvest Zones





# AP Monitoring

- **Breeding Pair Survey (mid-June)**
  - Estimate number of breeding pairs and total population
- **Pre-season Banding**
  - Harvest rate
  - Survival rate
  - Recovery distribution
  - Productivity (young/adult of captured birds)

No Survey Zone

Hudson coast

Ungava coast

Interior

Inukjuak

Kangirsuk

Kuujuuaq

10 23 7 2 4 1 1 0 1

17 18 10 10

15 15 12 9 4

Puvimutq

15 19 19 12

4 2 1 0 0 1 3 3 2 1

13 27 14 18 11 10 7 4

4 2 2 2 1

13 21 21 16 11 14 16

12 10 8 6 11 17

8 6 6 14 12 10 13 6 4 4 3 3 1 1

Inukjuak

7 7 7

9 5 5 4 2 1 1 0

1 3 2

1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0

2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0

1 4 4

3 3

0 0 2 0 3

0 0 0 1 1 2

11

Kangirsuk

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8

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3 8

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0 2 2 2 0

7 8 8

5 5 8 12

0 0 1 1 1 1

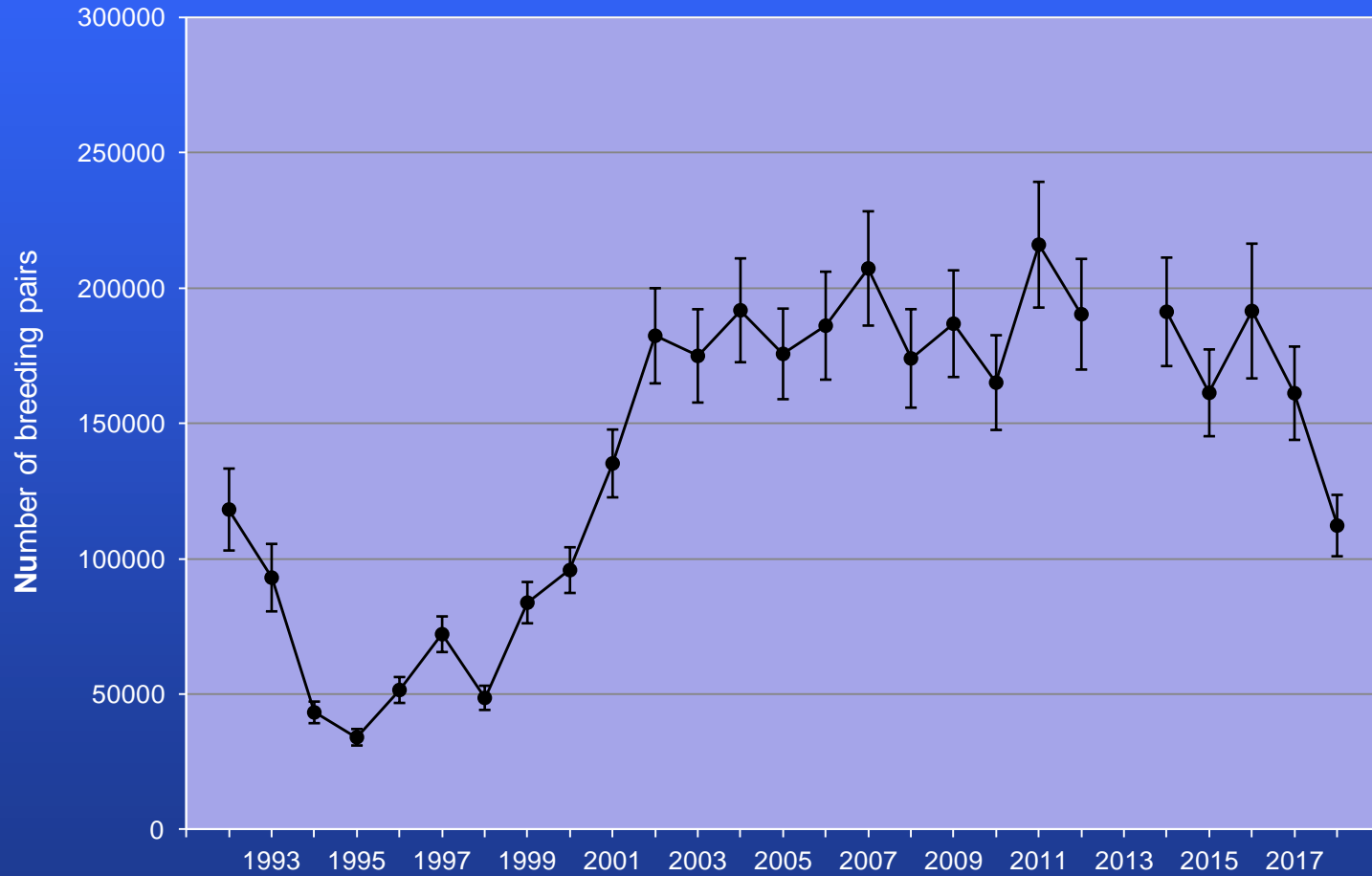
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3 3 2

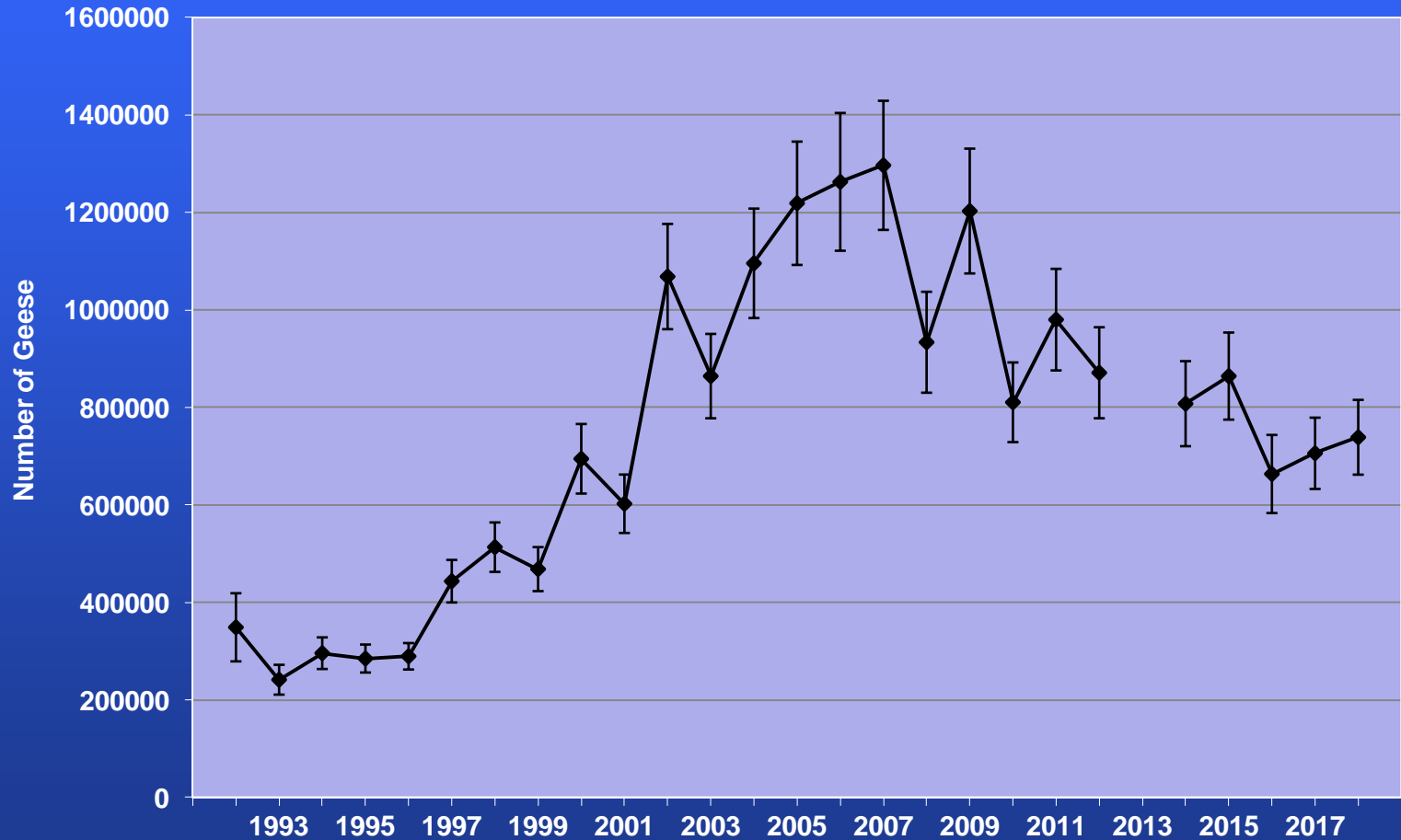
0 0 0 2 1

1 1 1 2 1 2 2 1 2 0 0 0

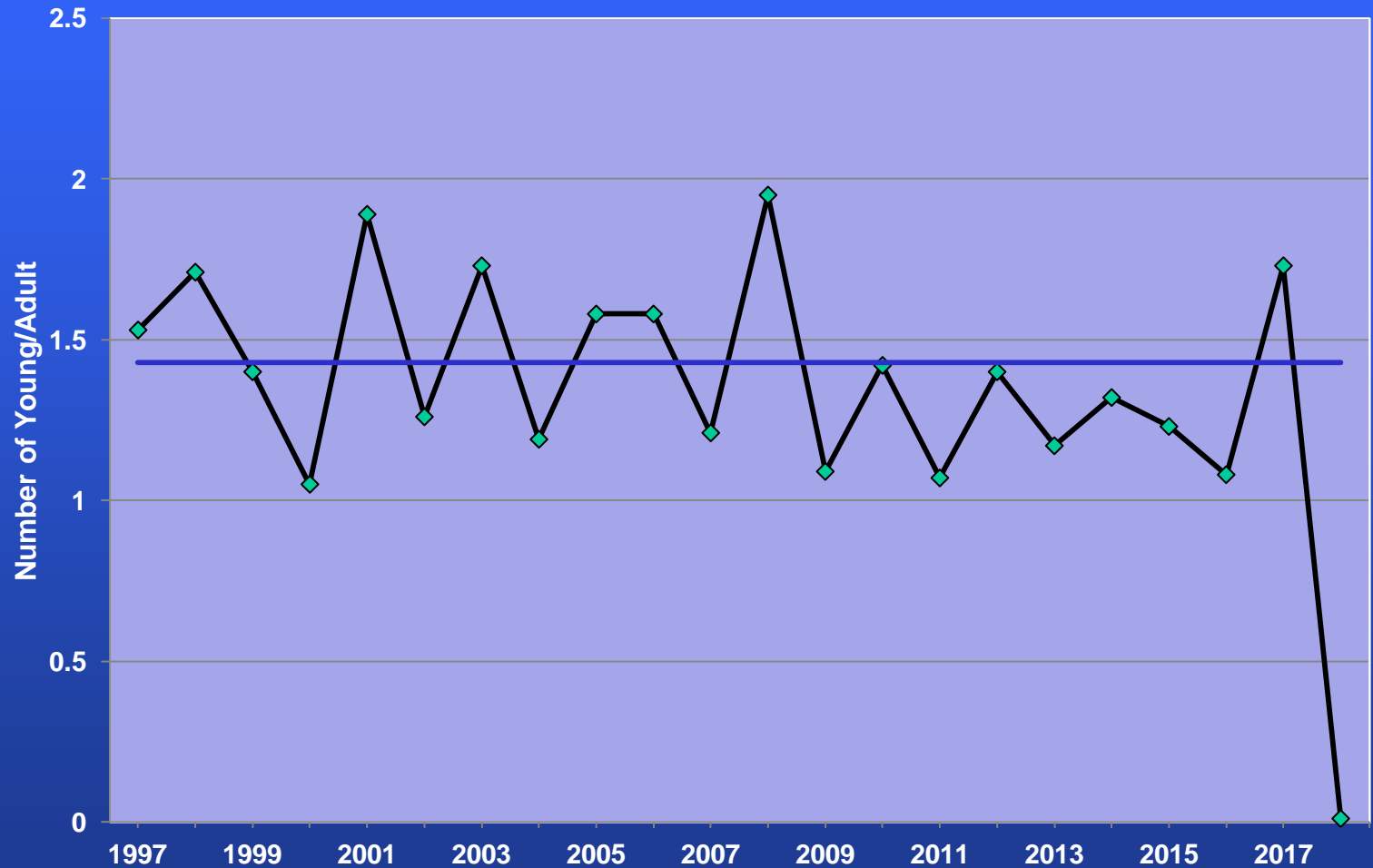
# AP Breeding Pairs



# AP Total Population



# Productivity (Young/adult)





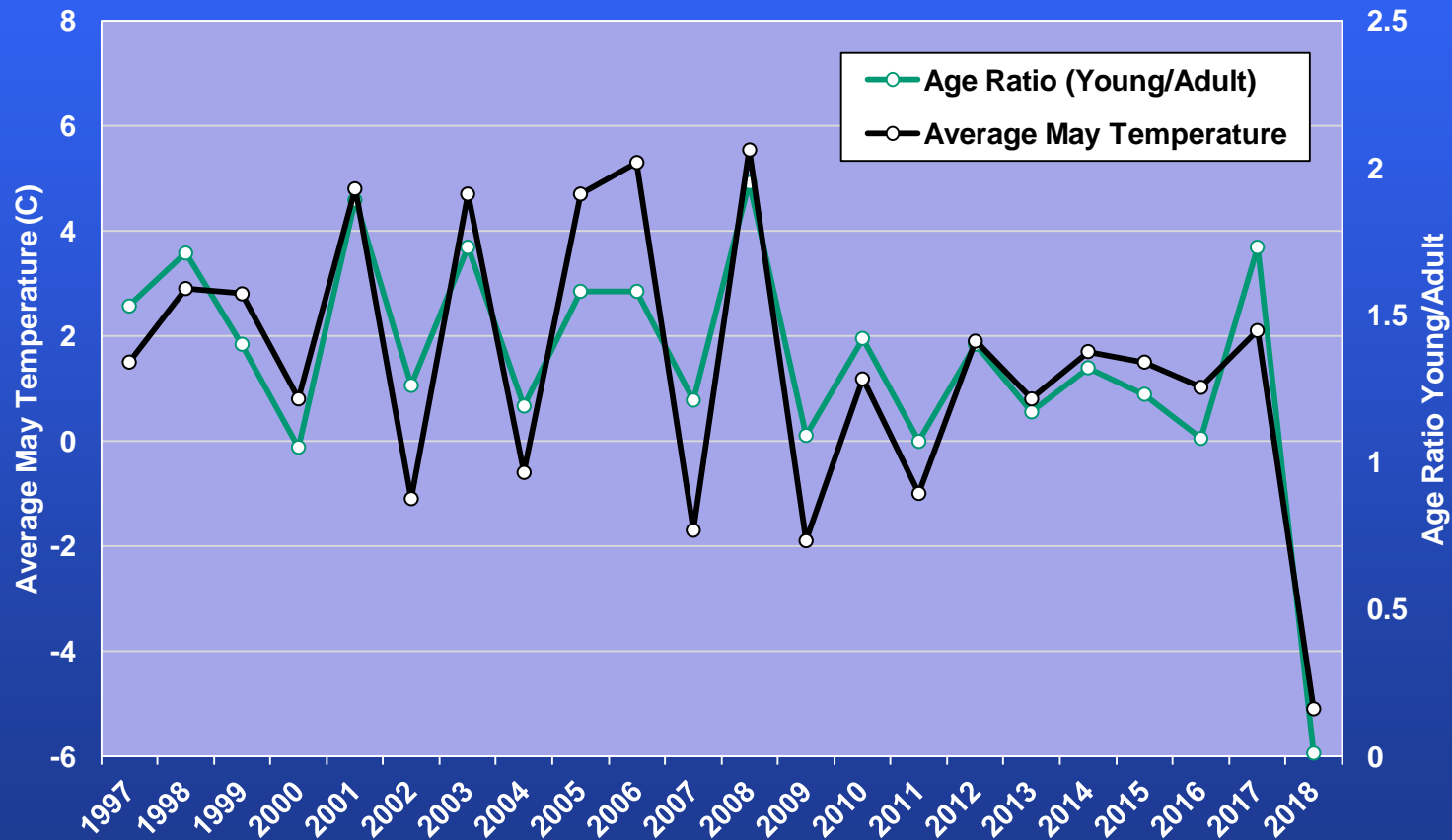
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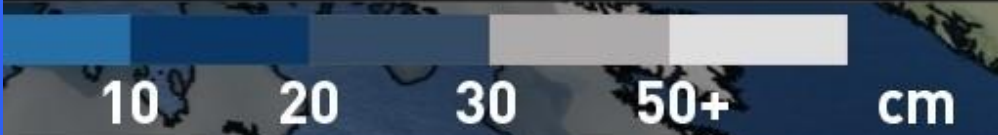
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# Productivity and May Temperature







# AP Harvest Strategy

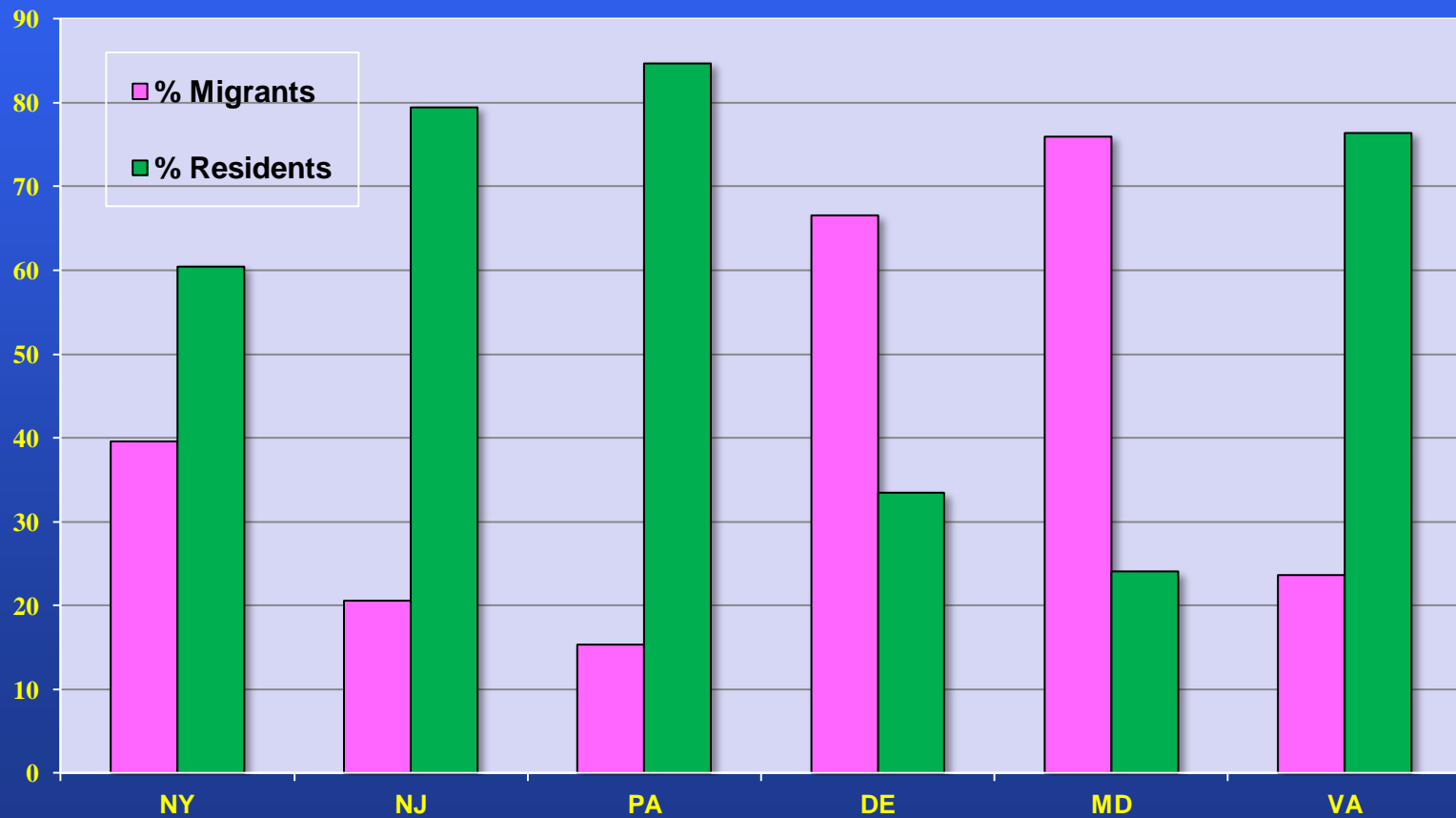
- **Strategy Thresholds:**
  - When 3-Year Average is  $\geq 225,000$  pairs, Liberal regulations may be considered.
  - When 3-Year Average is  $\geq 150,000$  but  $< 225,000$  pairs, Moderate regulations may be considered.
  - When 3-Year Average is  $\geq 60,000$  but  $< 150,000$  pairs, Restrictive regulations may be considered.
  - When pairs are  $< 60,000$ , should consider closure.
- Current 3-Year Average is 155,000 pairs.

# AP Zone Harvest Packages by Region

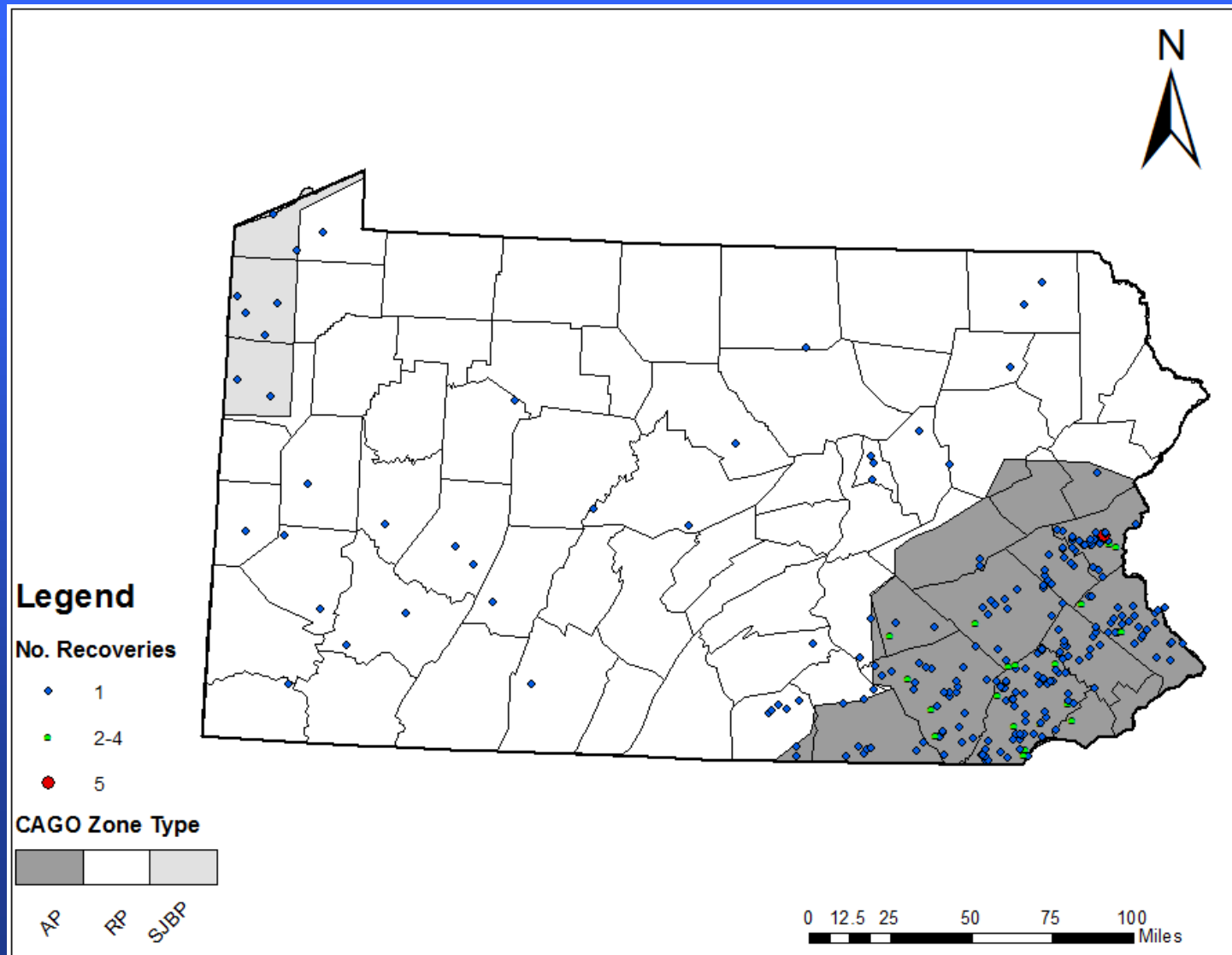
Population Status	New England (VT, MA, CT)	Mid-Atlantic (PA, NJ, NY)	Chesapeake (MD, VA, DE)
< 60k pairs: Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
>60k and <150k pairs: Restrictive	30 days and 2 birds/day	30 days and 2 birds/day	30 days and 1 bird/day
>150k and <225k pairs: Moderate	50 days and 3 birds/day	50 days and 3 birds/day	50 days and 2 birds/day
>225k pairs: Liberal	60 days and 3 birds/day	60 days and 3 birds/day	60 days and 2 birds/day



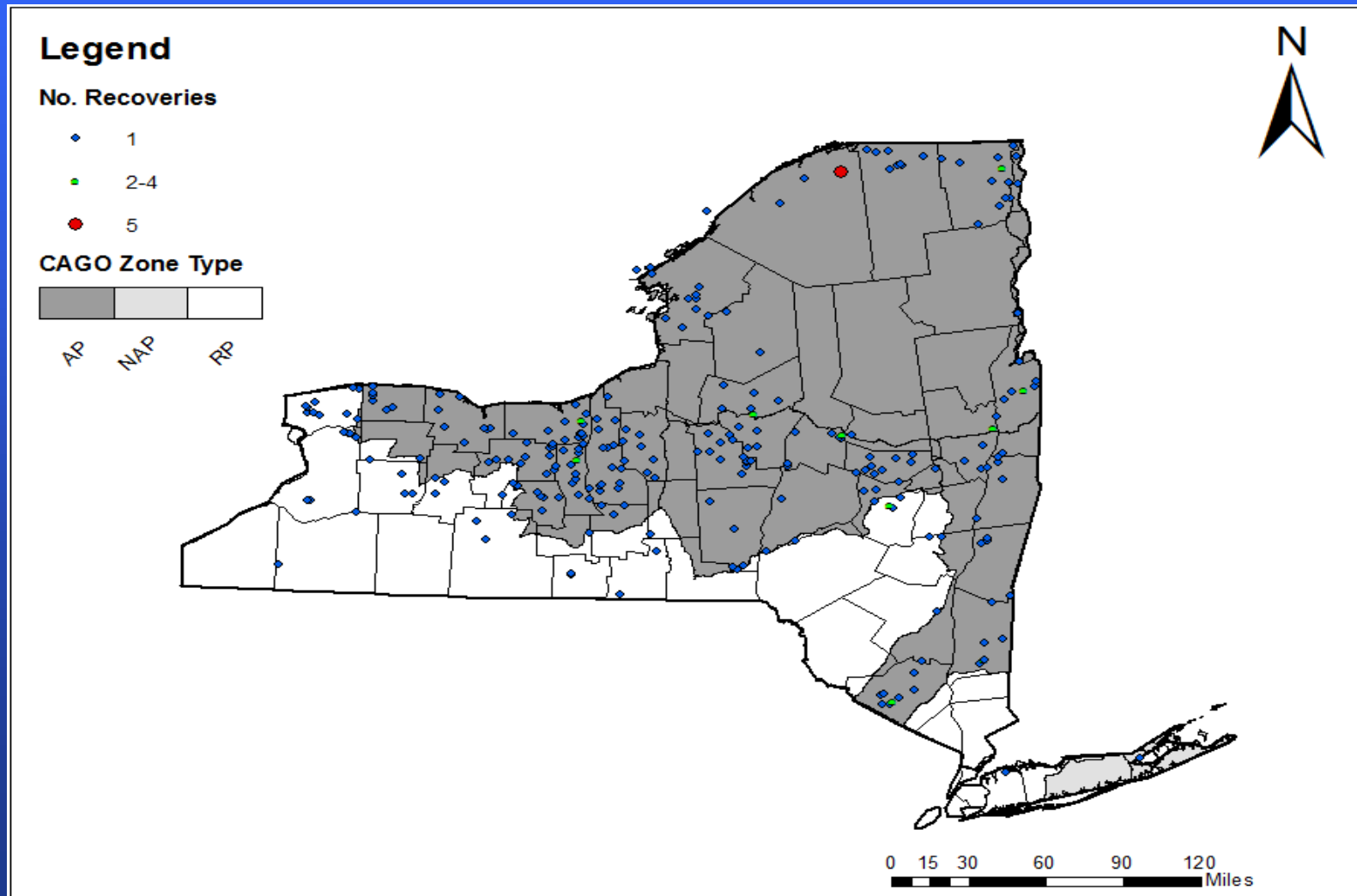
# Composition of Canada Goose Harvest



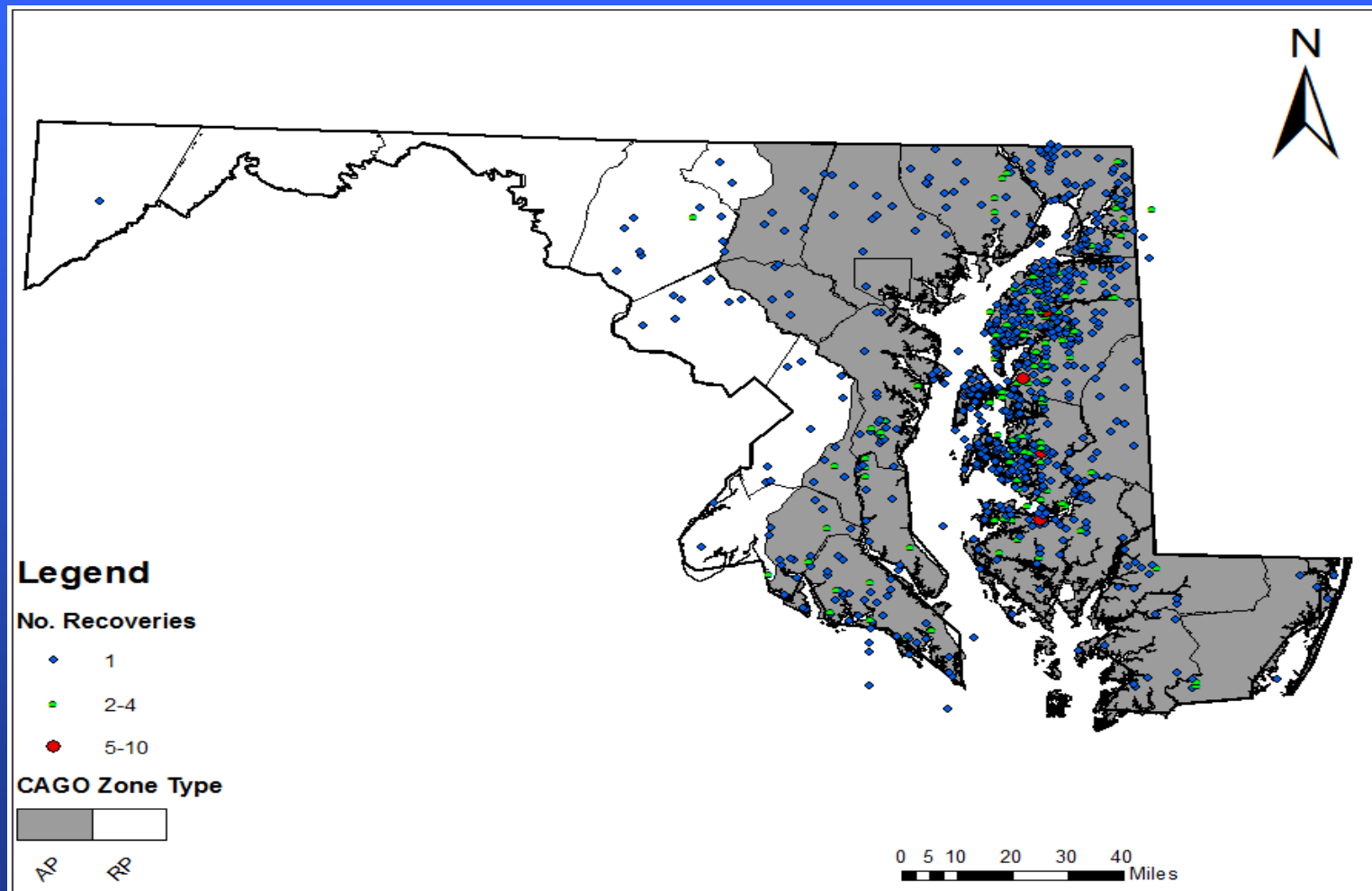
# AP Band Recoveries in PA, 2015-17, during regular AP and Late Resident Seasons



# AP Band Recoveries in NY, 2015-17, during regular AP and Late Resident Seasons



# AP Band Recoveries in MD, 2015-17, during regular AP and Late Resident Seasons



# New York AP Direct Band Recoveries by Month, 2005-2016

