

Review of Terrestrial and Marine Birds

Steve Matsuoka, David Irons, and Vernon Byrd

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Colleen Handel and John Terenzi

USGS-Alaska Science Center

Objectives

- Review list of priority species for monitoring.
- Identify geographic locations for sampling in Alaska.

Priority species

Terrestrial birds

Eastern Yellow Wagtail **17.5**

Arctic Warbler **17.0**

Bluethroat 15.0

Northern Wheatear 14.0

Gray-cheeked Thrush **12.0**

Gyr Falcon 8.5

Marine birds

Aleutian Tern 13.0

Black-legged Kittiwake 12.0

Glaucous Gull **11.5**

Glaucous-winged Gull 10.5

Pelagic Cormorant 8.0

Priority species

Terrestrial birds		Marine birds	
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	17.5	Aleutian Tern	13.0
Arctic Warbler	17.0	Black-legged Kittiwake	12.0
Bluethroat	15.0	Glaucous Gull	11.5
Northern Wheatear	14.0	Glaucous-winged Gull	10.5
Gray-cheeked Thrush	12.0	Pelagic Cormorant	8.0
Gyr Falcon	8.5		

Species priorities: terrestrial birds

Species	Score
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	17.5
Arctic Warbler	17.0
Bluethroat	15.0
Northern Wheatear	14.0
Gray-cheeked Thrush	12.0
Gyr Falcon	9.5

Eastern Yellow Wagtail = 17.5

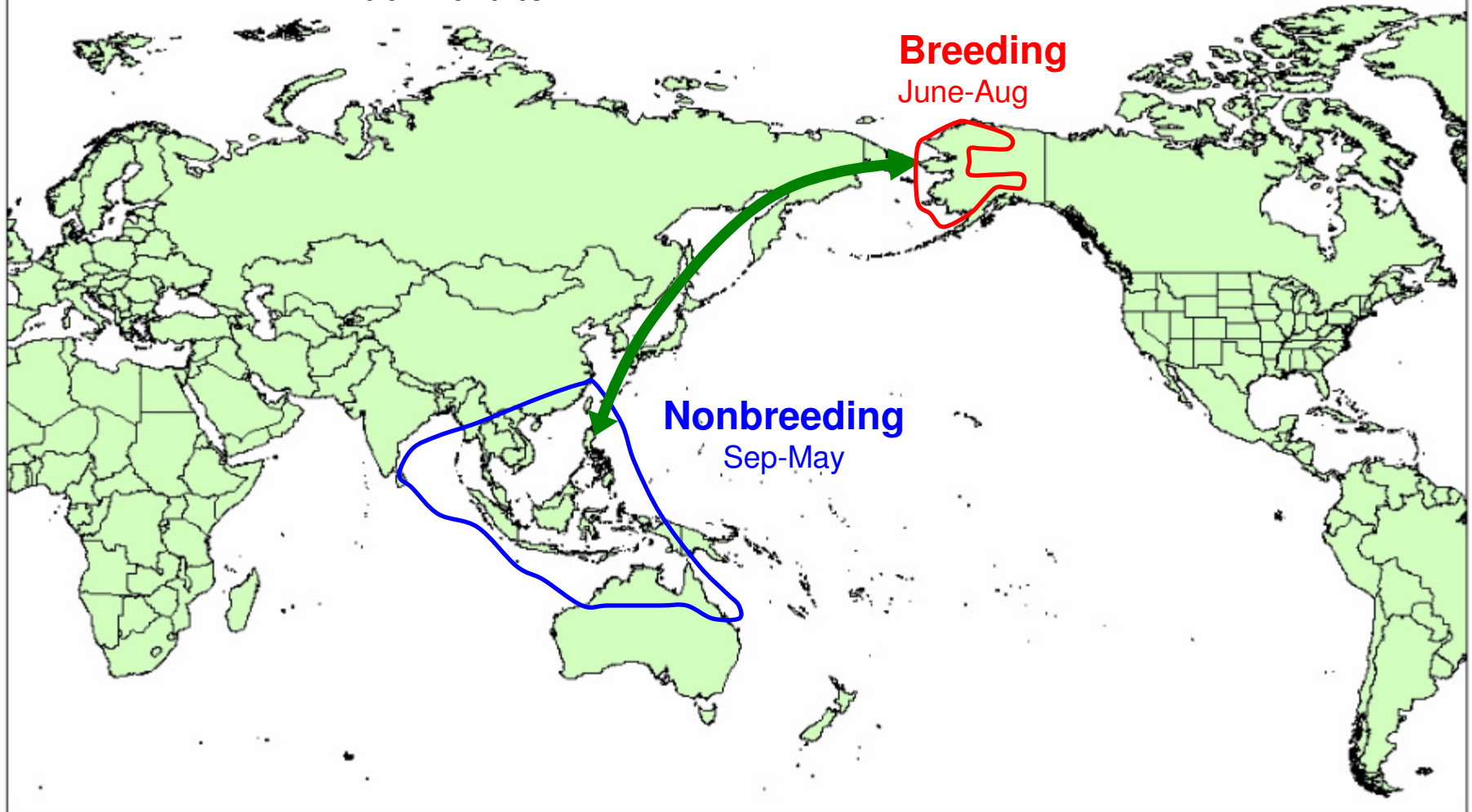
1.4 million birds in Alaska

Arctic Warbler = 17

2.7 million birds

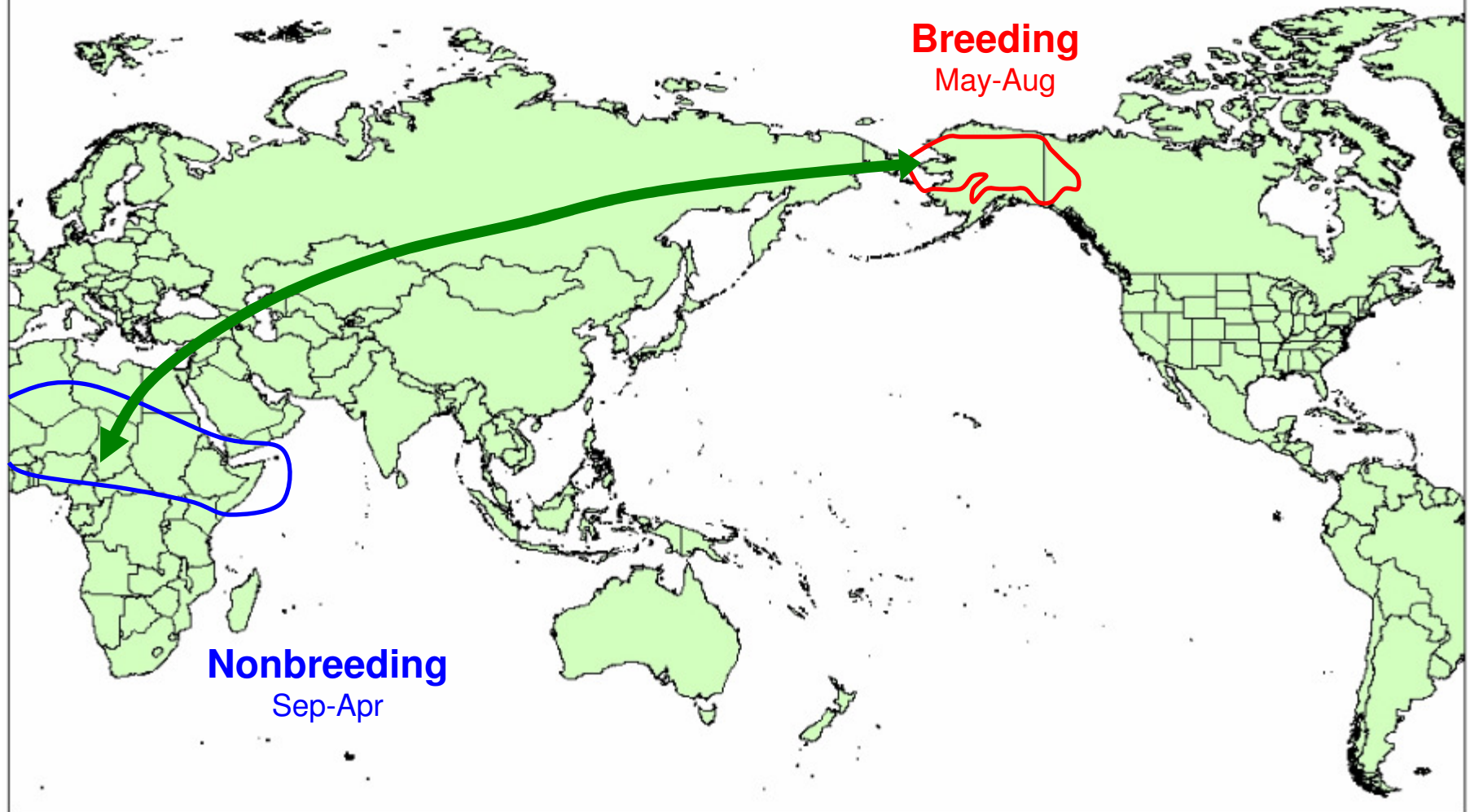
Bluethroat = 15

0.6 million birds



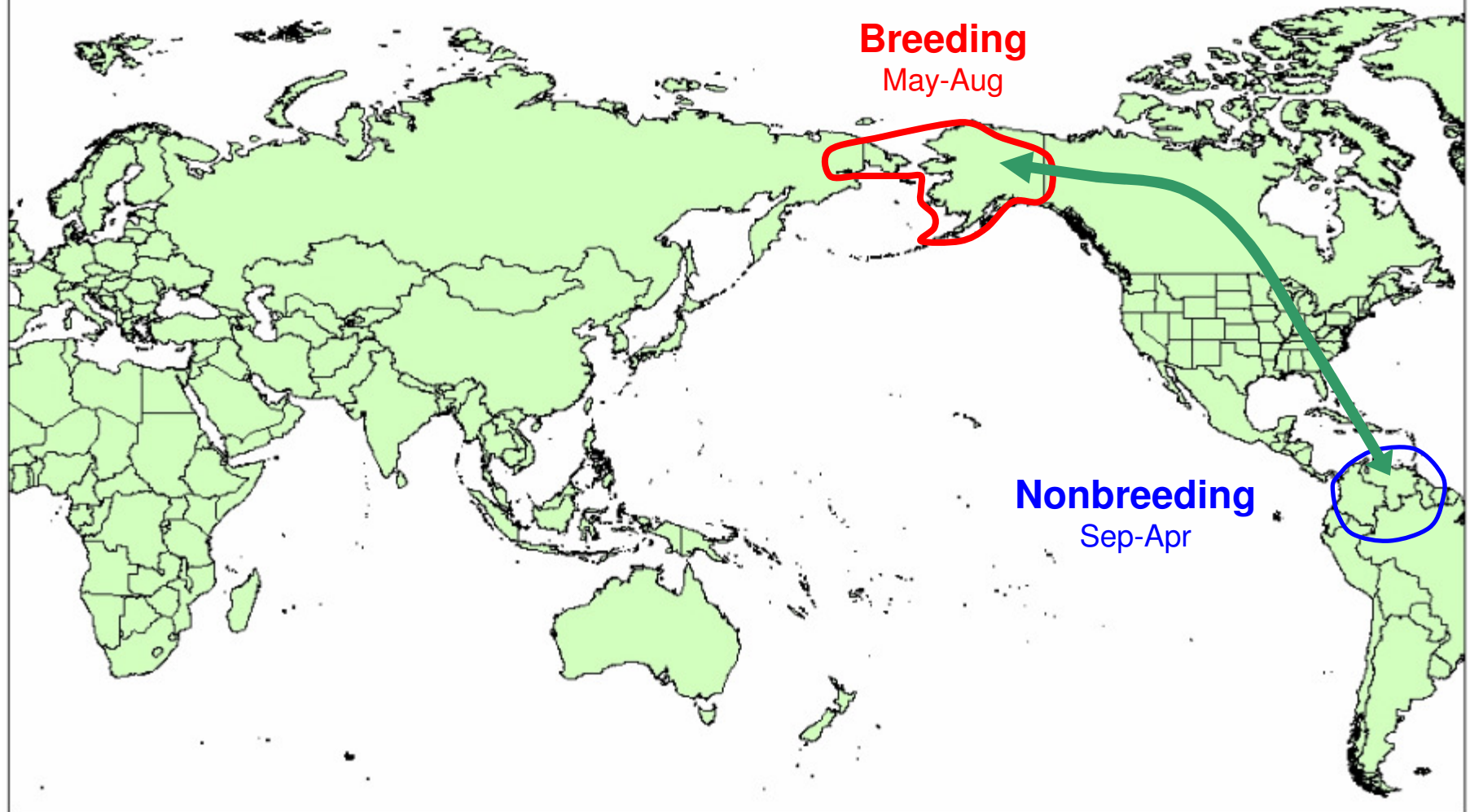
Northern Wheatear = 14

0.5 million birds in Alaska



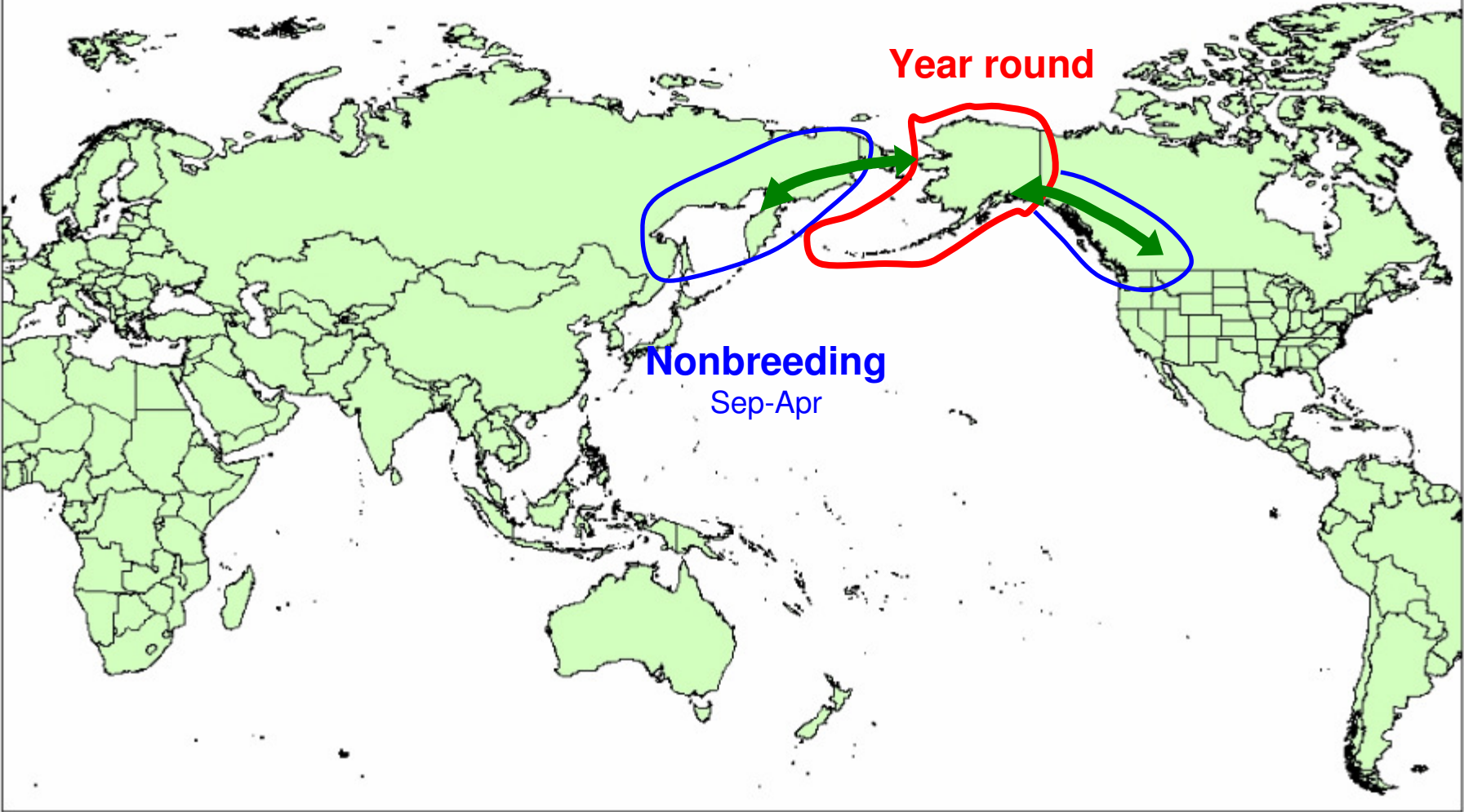
Gray-cheeked Thrush = 12

5 million birds in Alaska

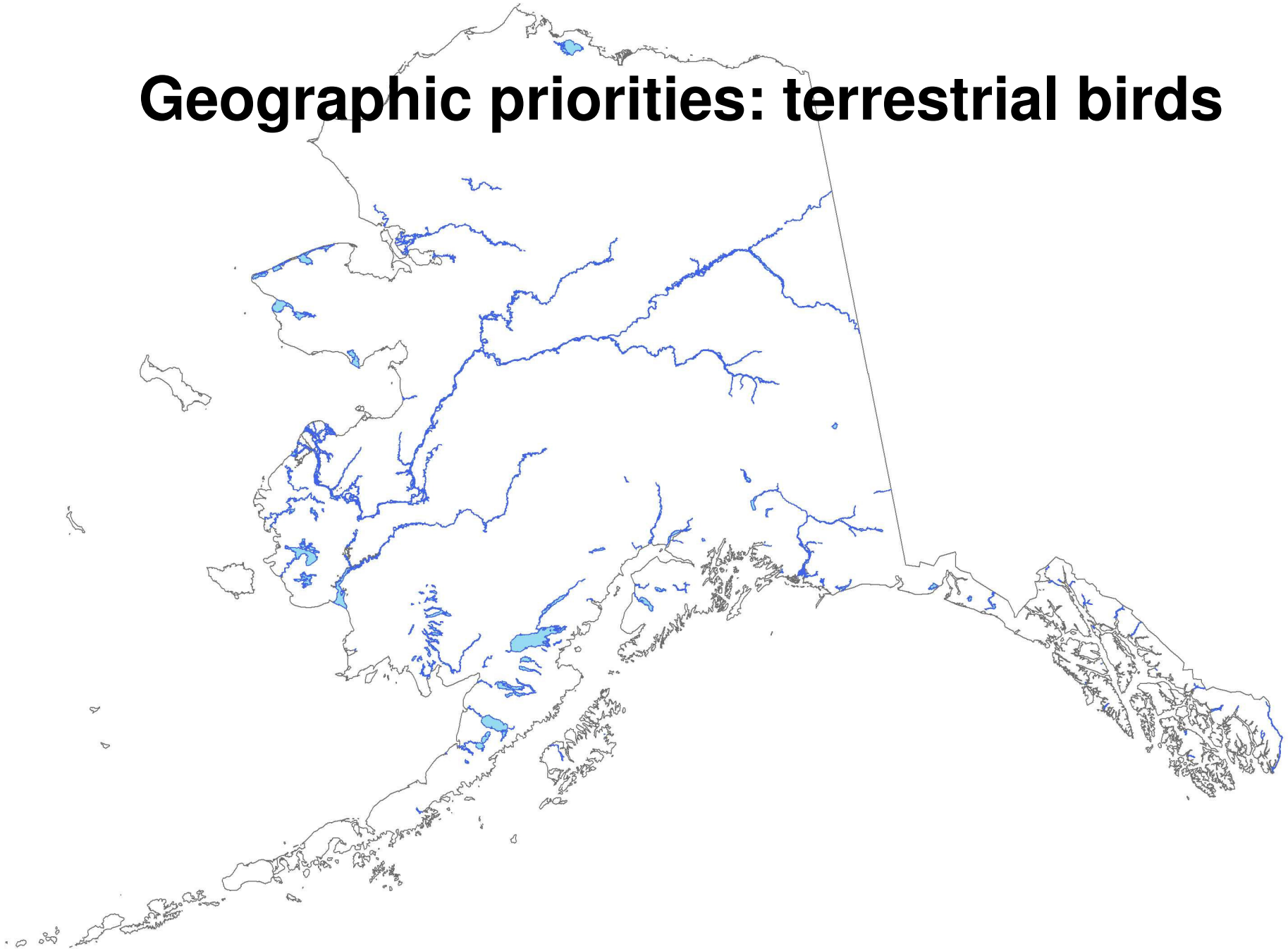


Gyr Falcon = 8.5

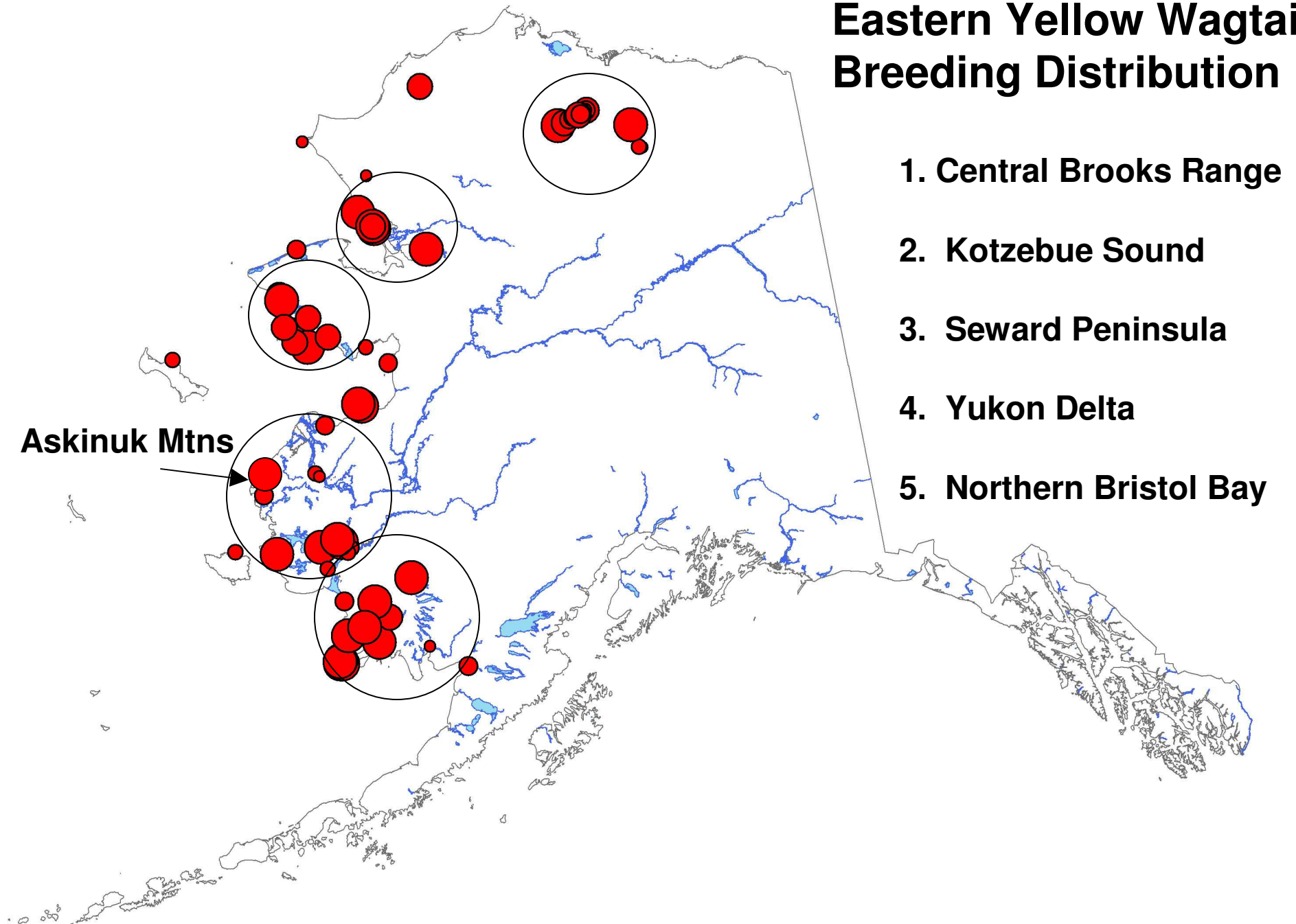
1,500 birds in Alaska



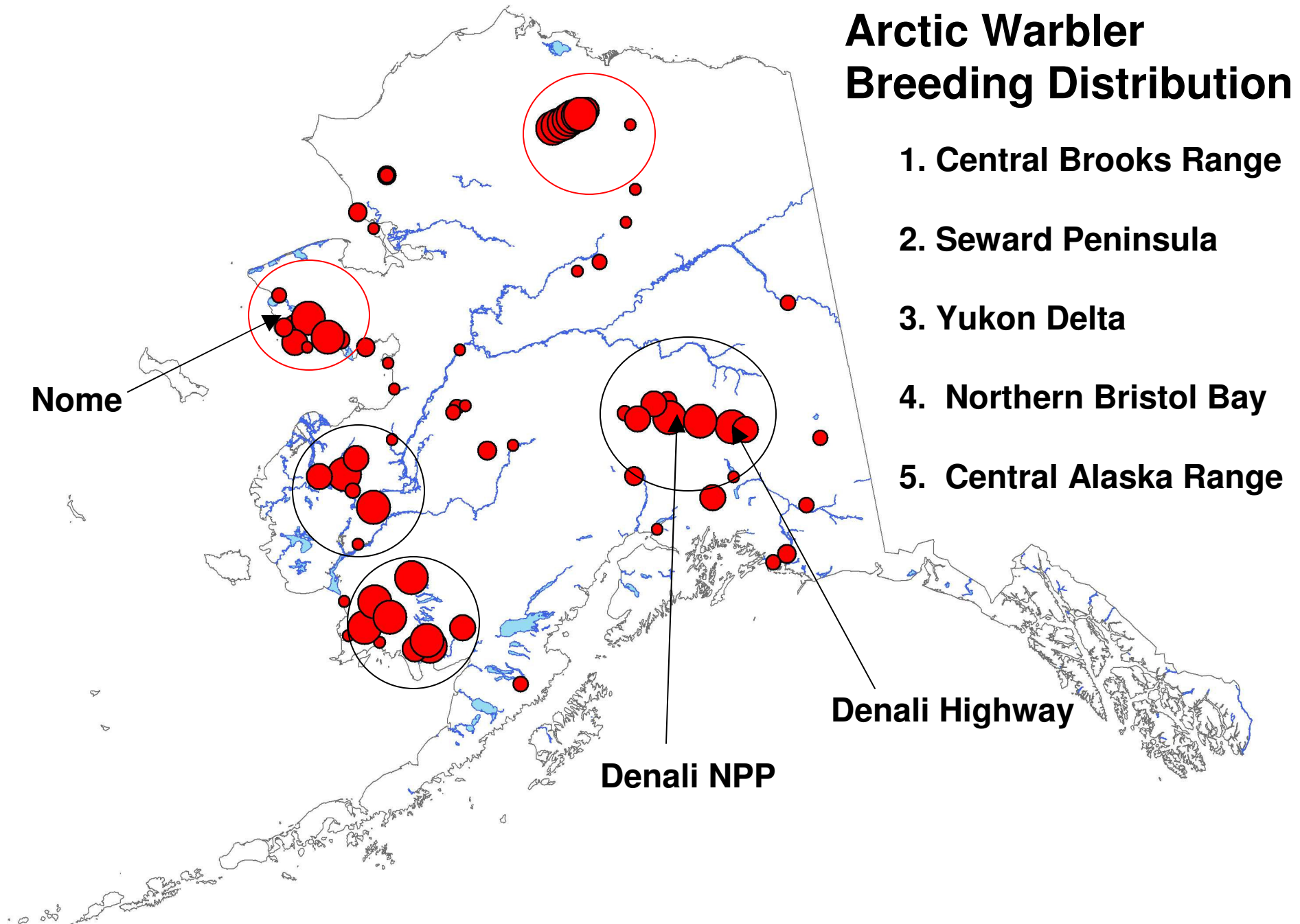
Geographic priorities: terrestrial birds



Eastern Yellow Wagtail Breeding Distribution



Arctic Warbler Breeding Distribution

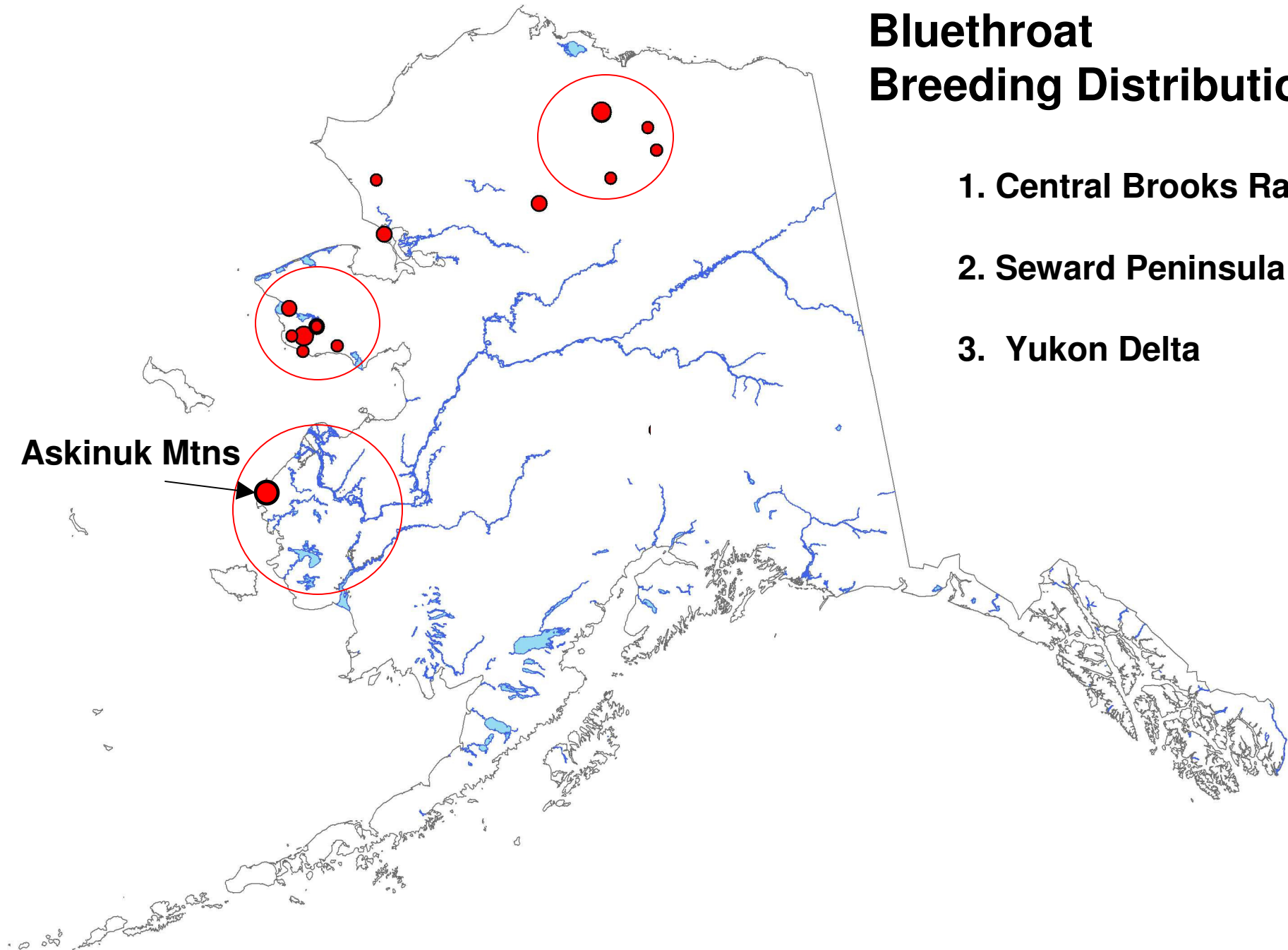


Bluethroat Breeding Distribution

1. Central Brooks Range

2. Seward Peninsula

3. Yukon Delta



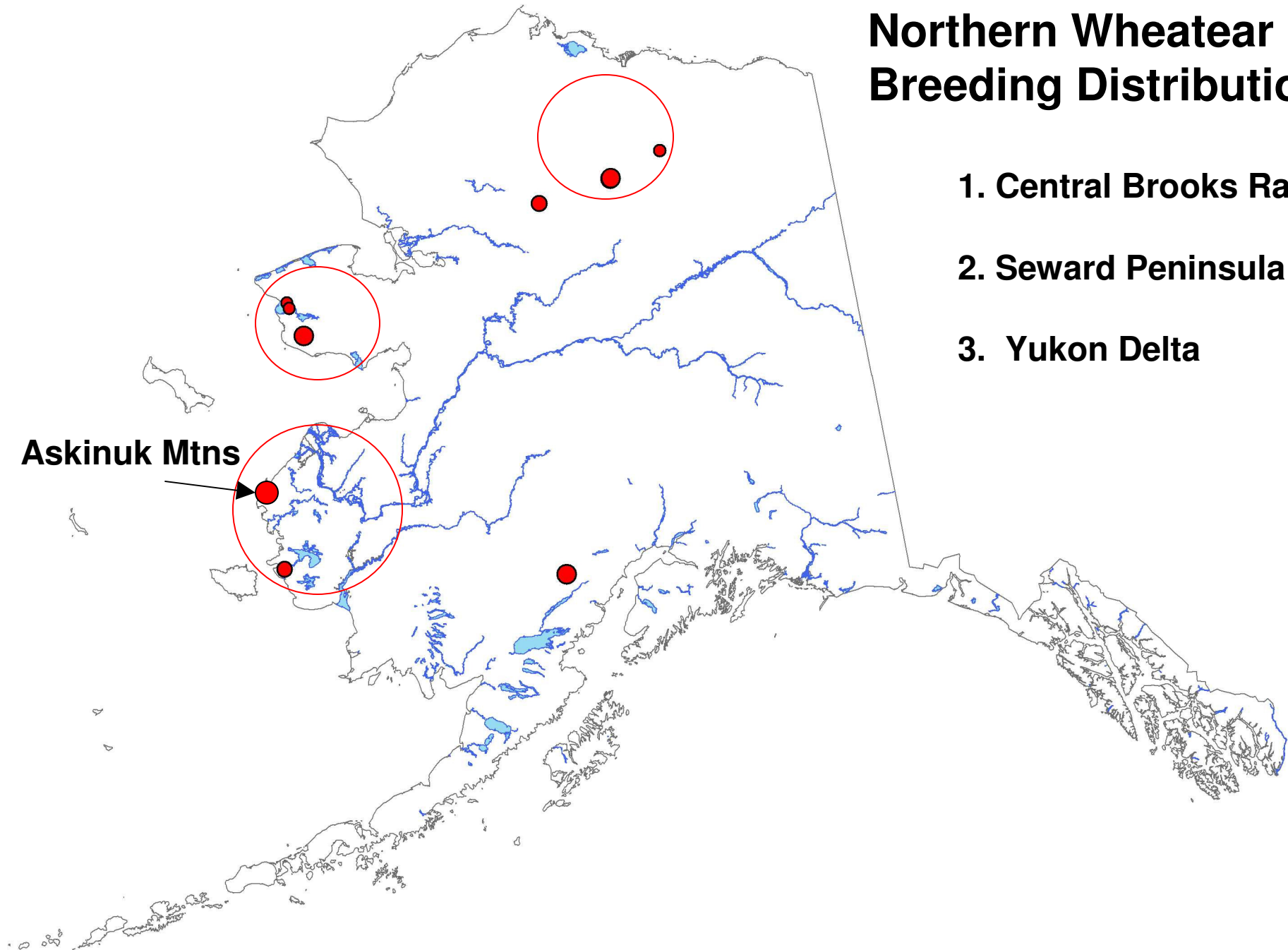
Askinuk Mtns

Northern Wheatear Breeding Distribution

1. Central Brooks Range

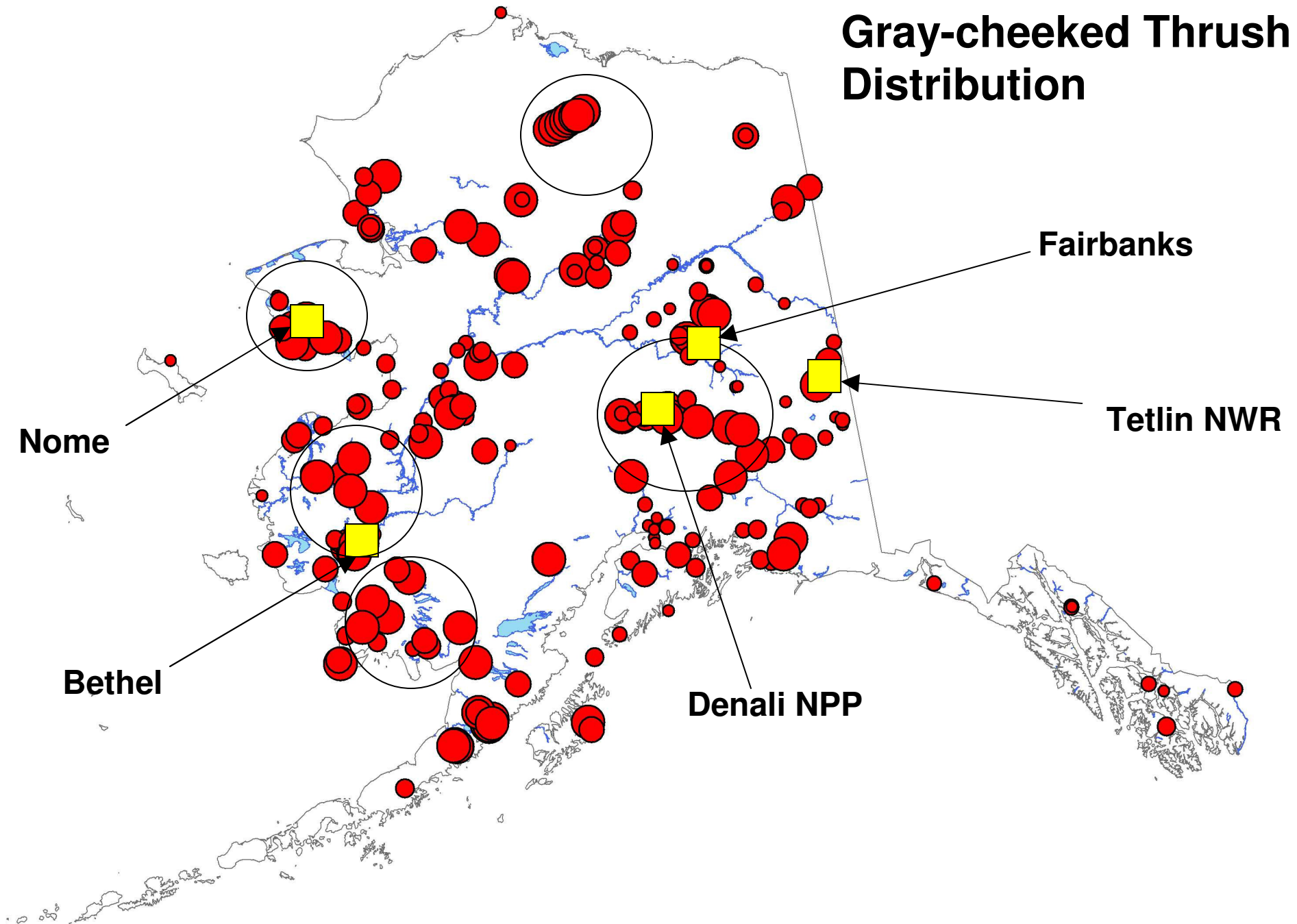
2. Seward Peninsula

3. Yukon Delta

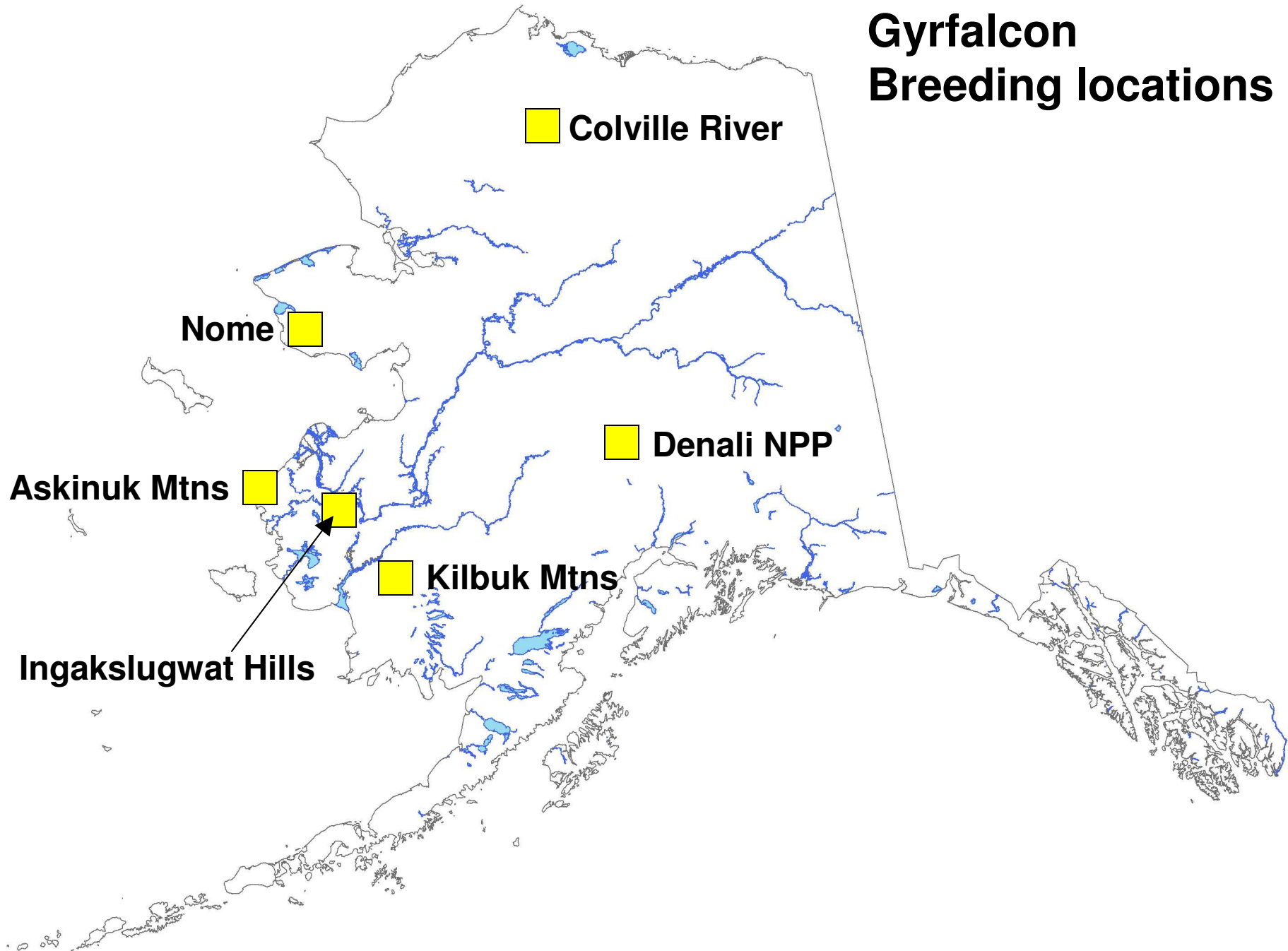


Askinuk Mtns

Gray-cheeked Thrush Distribution



Gyr Falcon Breeding locations



Terrestrial Birds Summary

- **Additional species should be considered for sampling.**
- **Several priority songbirds can captured at the same geographic “site”.**

c. Brooks Range

Norton Sound

Seward Peninsula

Yukon Delta

n. Bristol Bay

c. Alaska Range

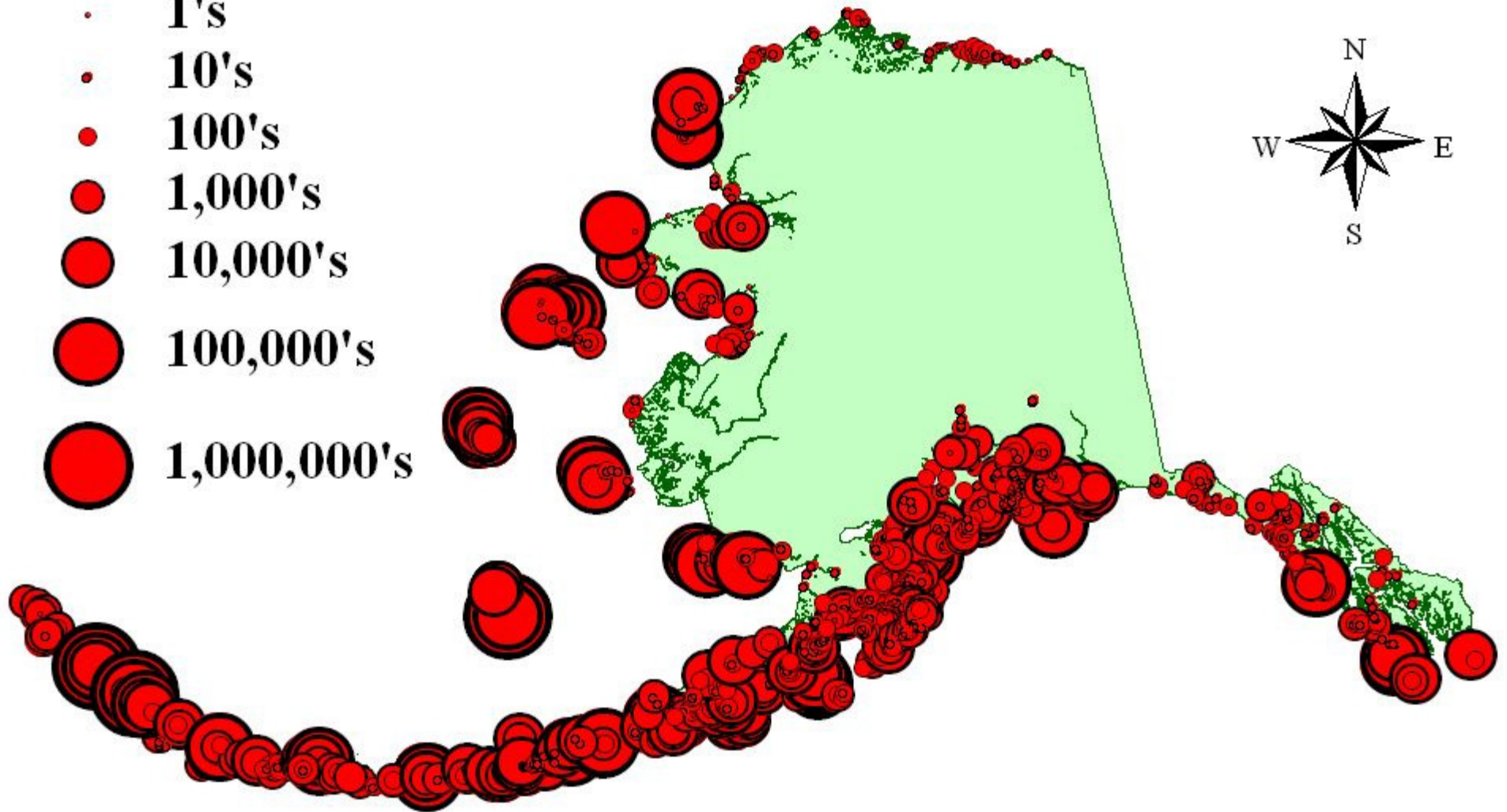
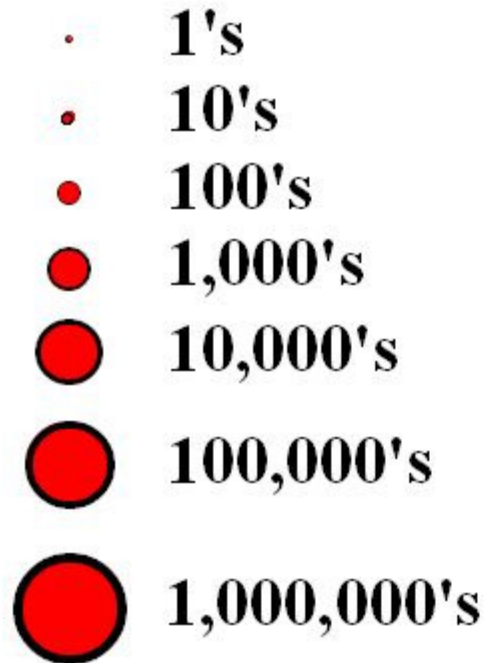
- **Gyrfalcon would require a separate effort.**

Introduction to Marine Birds

- **About 40 species breed in Alaska.**
- **About 40 million total breeding marine birds.**

Seabird Colonies of Alaska

Breeding Population



1000

0

1000

2000 Kilometers





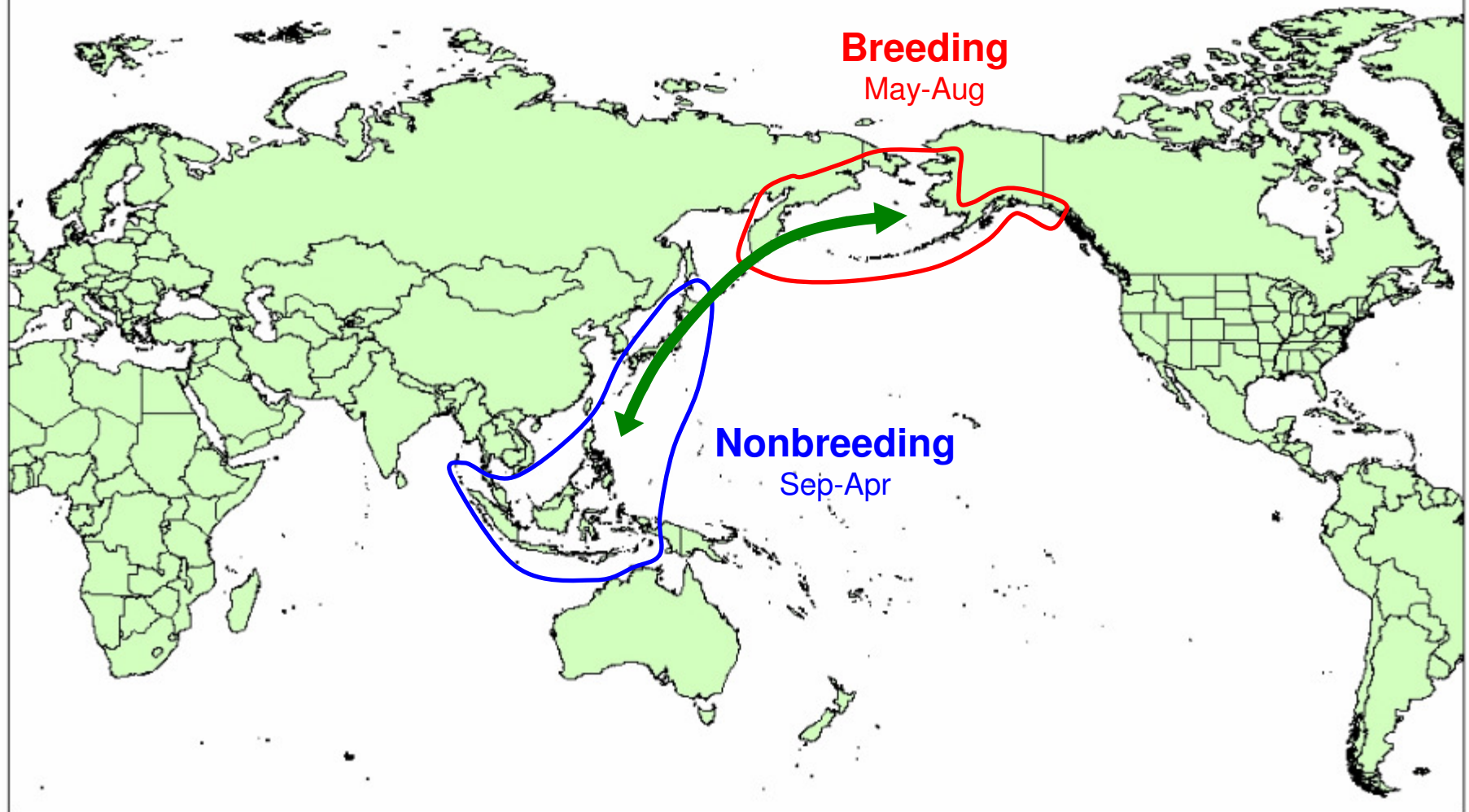


Species priorities: marine birds

Marine birds	Scores
Aleutian Tern	13.0
Black-legged Kittiwake	12.0
Glaucous Gull	11.5
Glaucous-winged Gull	10.5
Pelagic Cormorant	8.0

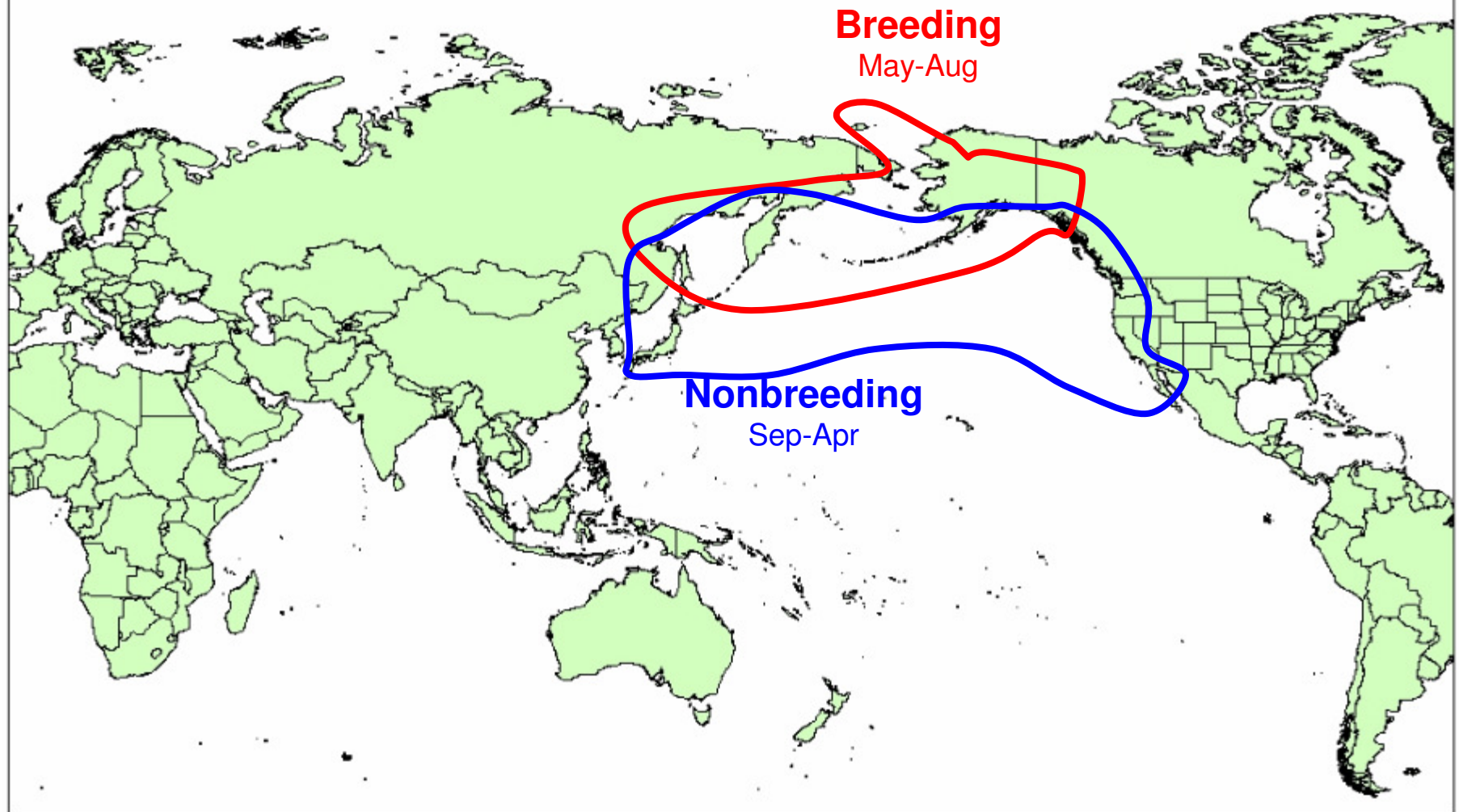
Aleutian Tern = 13

~9,500 birds in Alaska



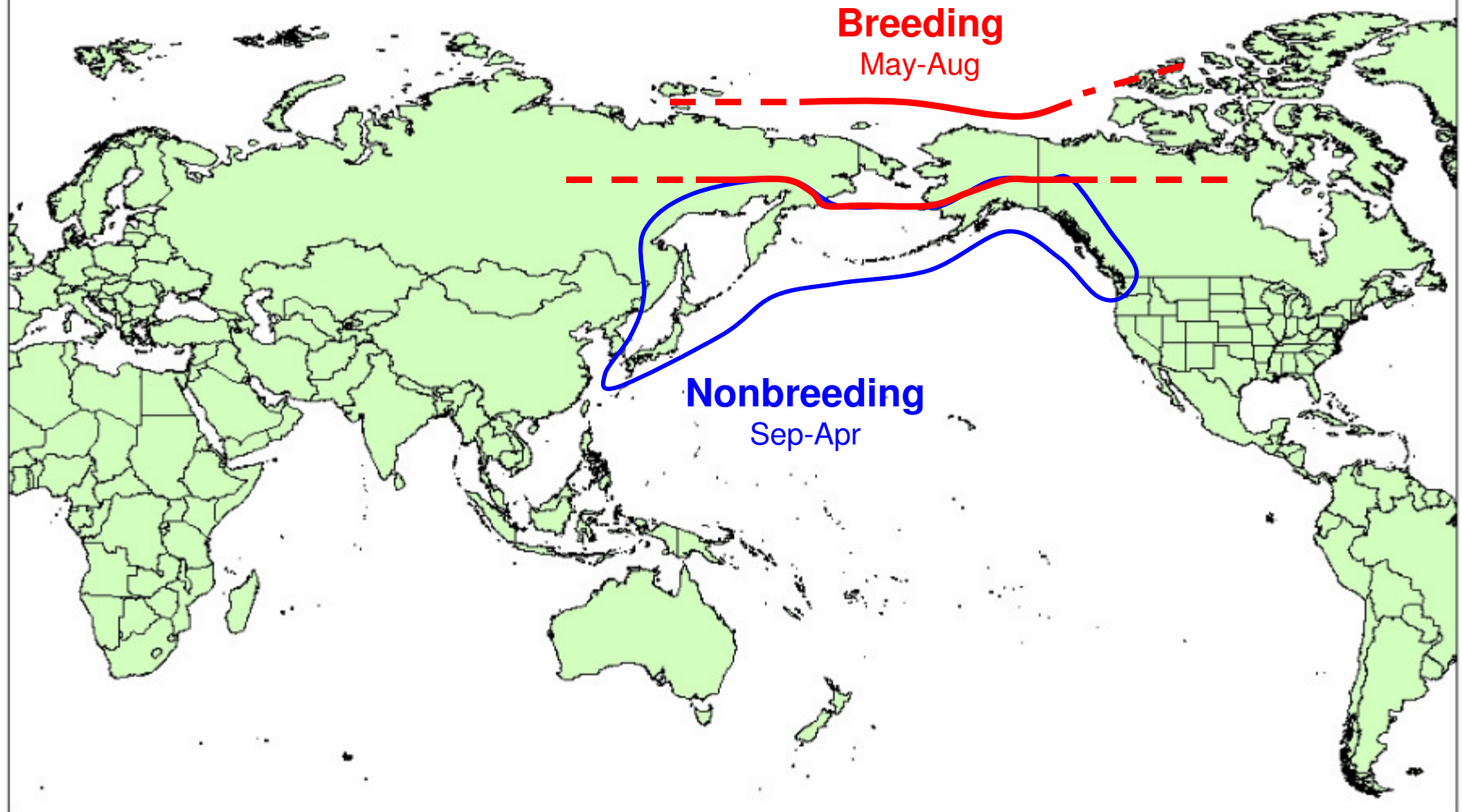
Black-legged Kittiwake = 12.0

~1,300,000 birds in Alaska



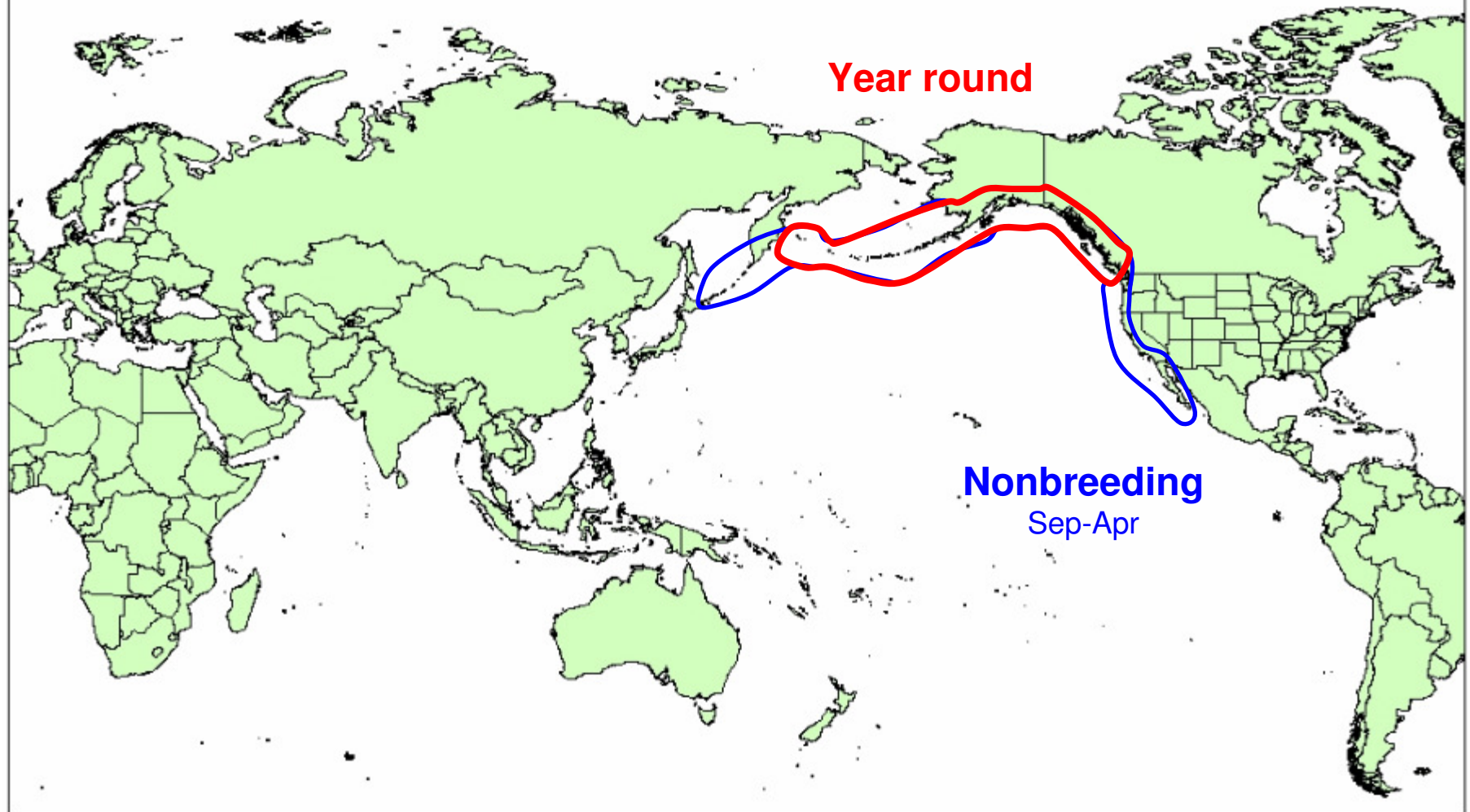
Glaucous Gull = 11.5

~150,000 birds in Alaska



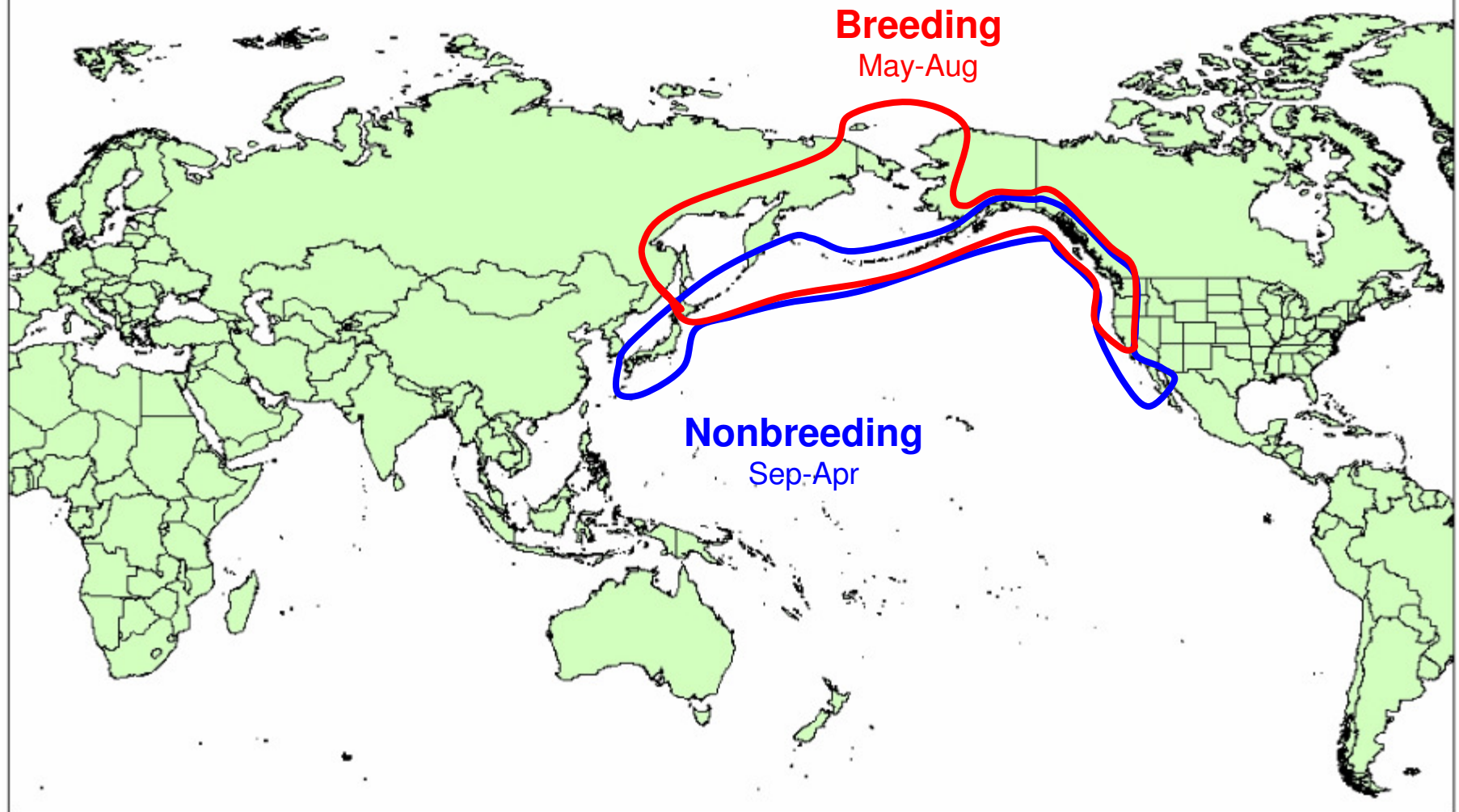
Glaucous-winged Gull = 10.5

~250,000 birds in Alaska



Pelagic Cormorant = 8

~50,000 birds in Alaska



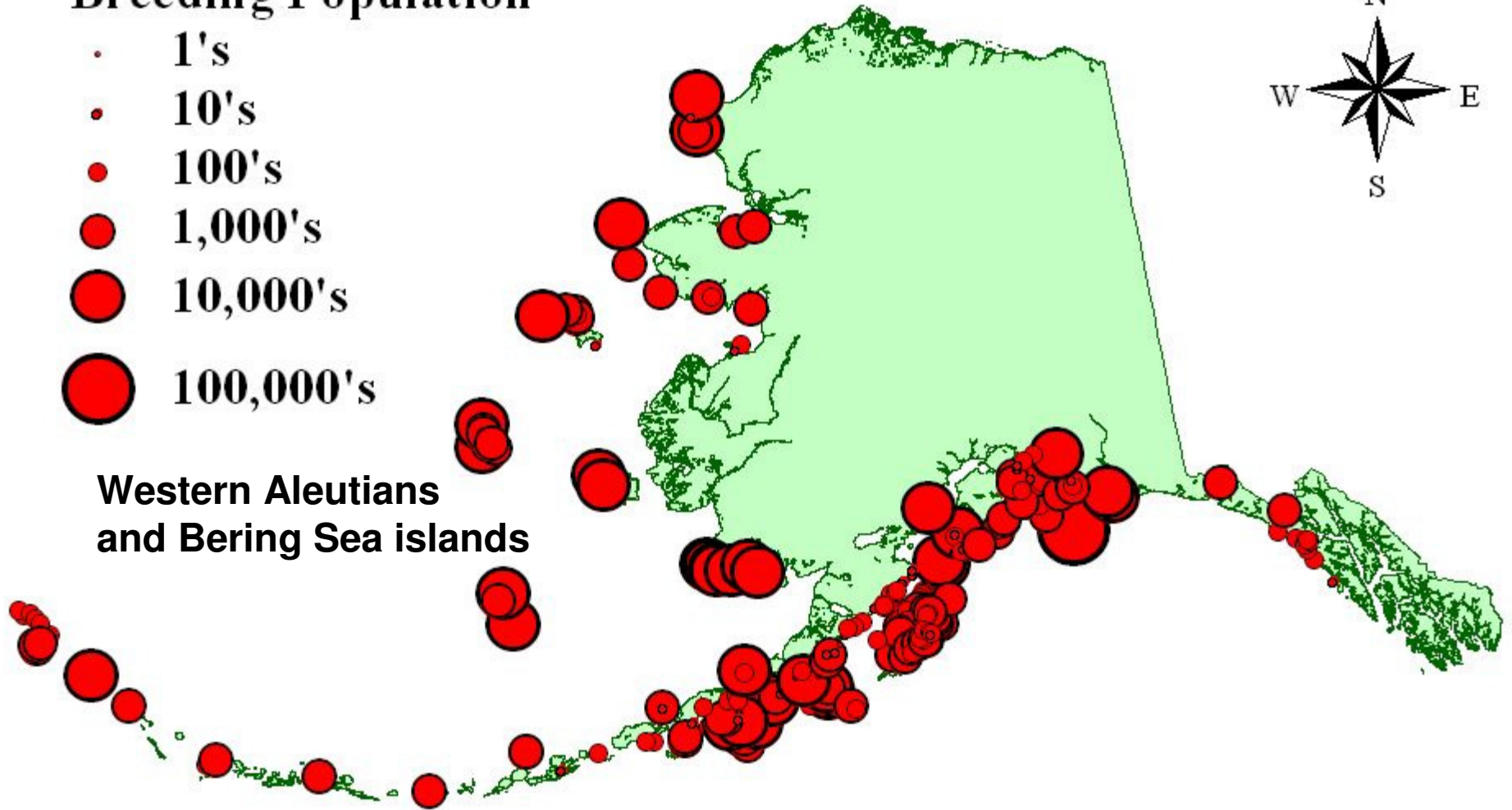
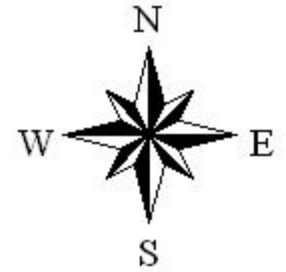
Geographic priorities: marine birds



Black-legged Kittiwake Breeding Population

- 1's
- 10's
- 100's
- 1,000's
- 10,000's
- 100,000's

Western Aleutians
and Bering Sea islands



1000

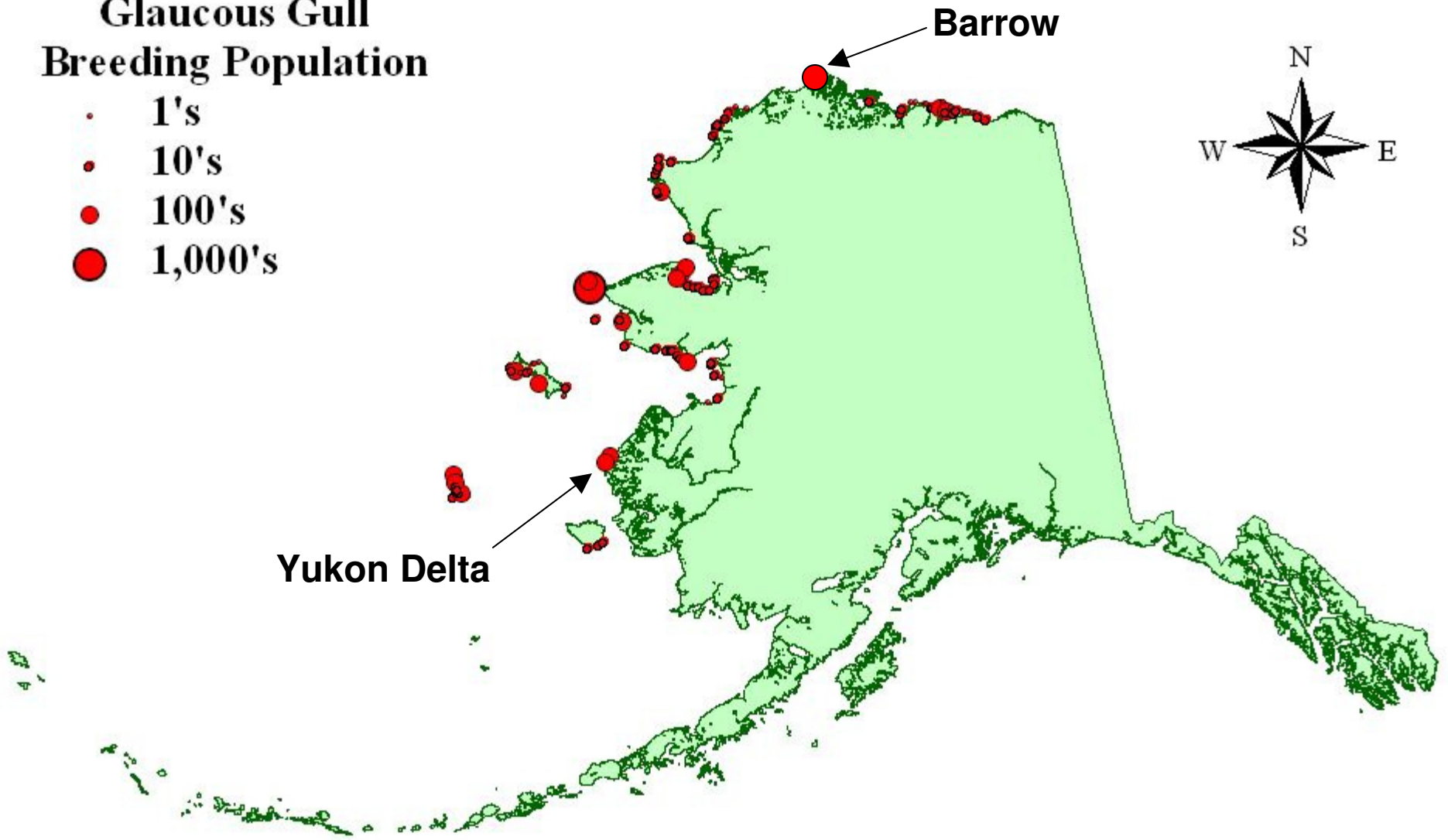
0

1000

2000 Kilometers

Glaucous Gull Breeding Population

- 1's
- 10's
- 100's
- 1,000's



Yukon Delta

Barrow



1000 0 1000 2000 Kilometers

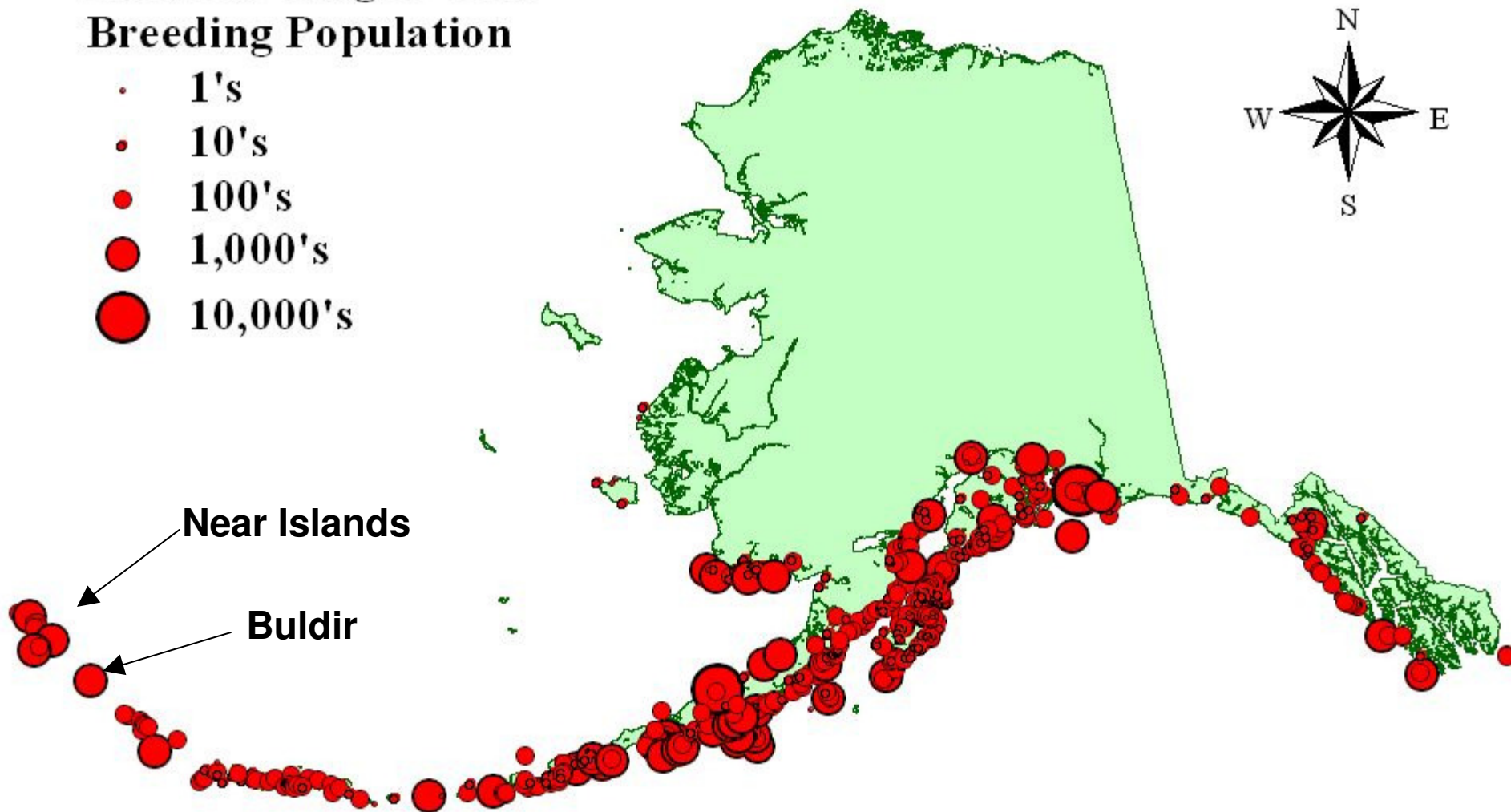
Glaucous-winged Gull Breeding Population

- 1's
- 10's
- 100's
- 1,000's
- 10,000's



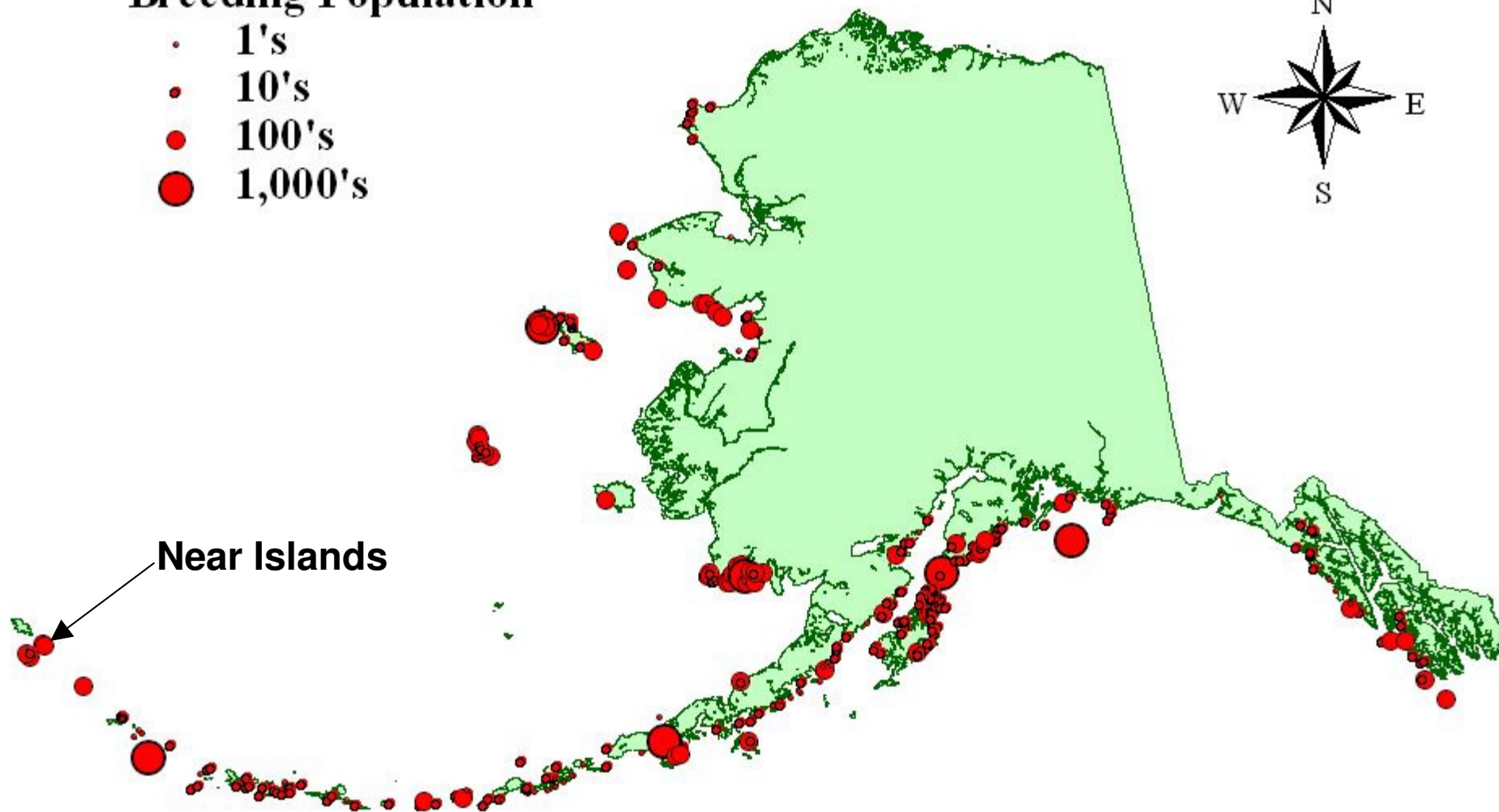
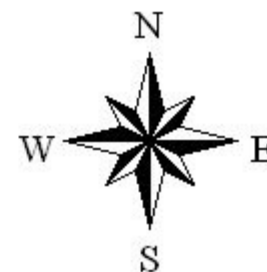
Near Islands
Buldir

1000 0 1000 2000 Kilometers



Pelagic Cormorant Breeding Population

- 1's
- 10's
- 100's
- 1,000's



1000 0 1000 2000 Kilometers

Marine Birds Summary

- Millions of birds breeding in Alaska.**
- Most species stay offshore in the non-breeding season.**
- A few species, notably, gulls, tern, and cormorants go to shore in the winter.**
- Additional species should be considered for sampling particularly if species primarily in marine waters are considered at risk.**

Areas With High Diversity of Asiatic Birds—Western Aleutians

Species Group	Annual	<Annual
Waterfowl	6	8
Shorebirds/ Gulls	13	24
Songbirds	5	50
Other (Hérons/ Birds of Prey	1	13
Totals	25	95