

What makes birds abundant in some places and absent in others?

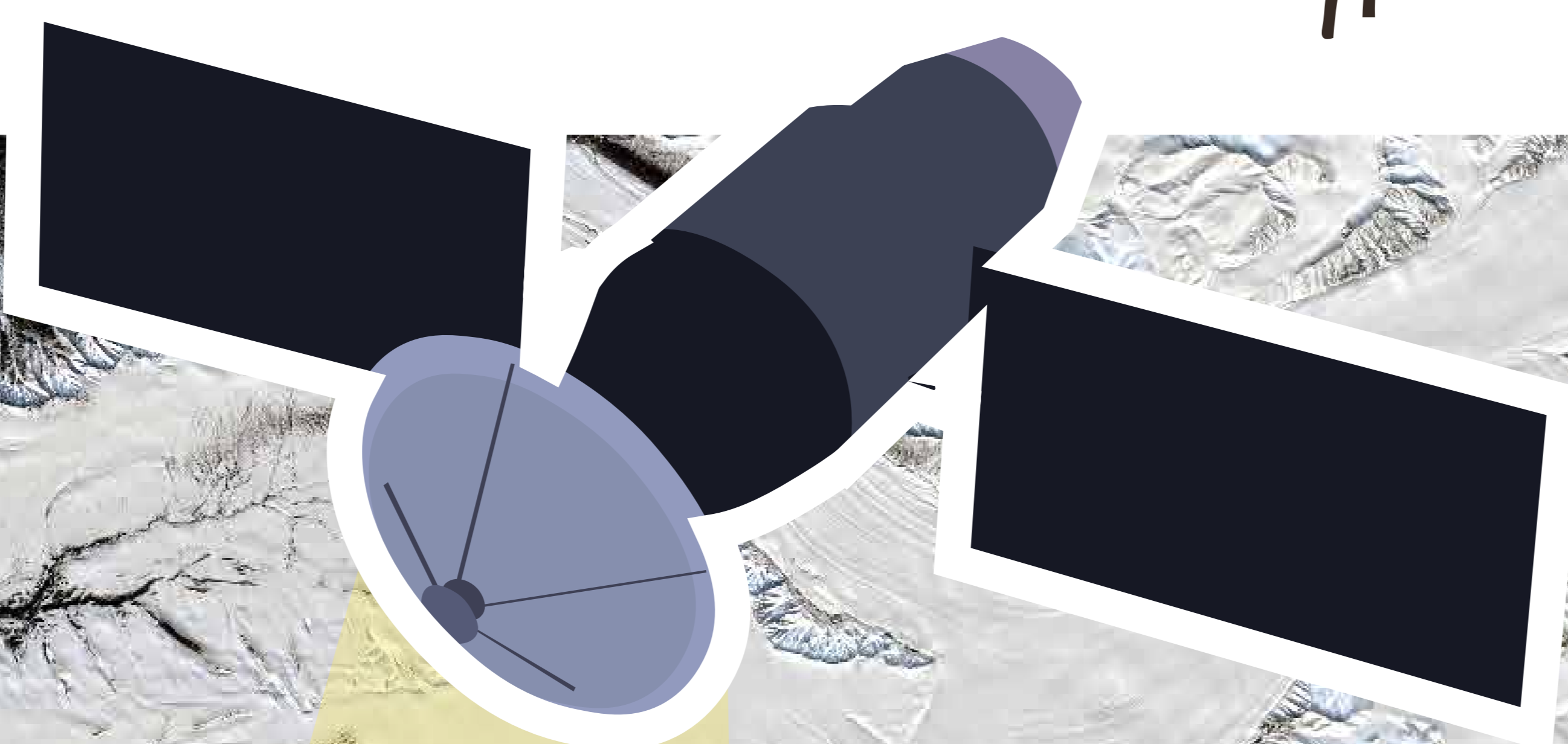


My name is Frédéric! I live in Montreal, love going outdoors, canoeing, and baking bread. The first time I worked in Sirmilik was in 2014. I came a second time in 2019 and then started a PhD in biology at Laval University.



My project will take place from 2020-2024 and is focused on understanding where nesting birds are in the tundra using information collected in Sirmilik. I believe this is important because the health of an ecosystem and our ability to interact with it (hunting, egg picking, wildlife watching) depends on how abundant and where animals are.

1. Are birds confined to places where snow melts early?



Satellite images tell us where there is snow



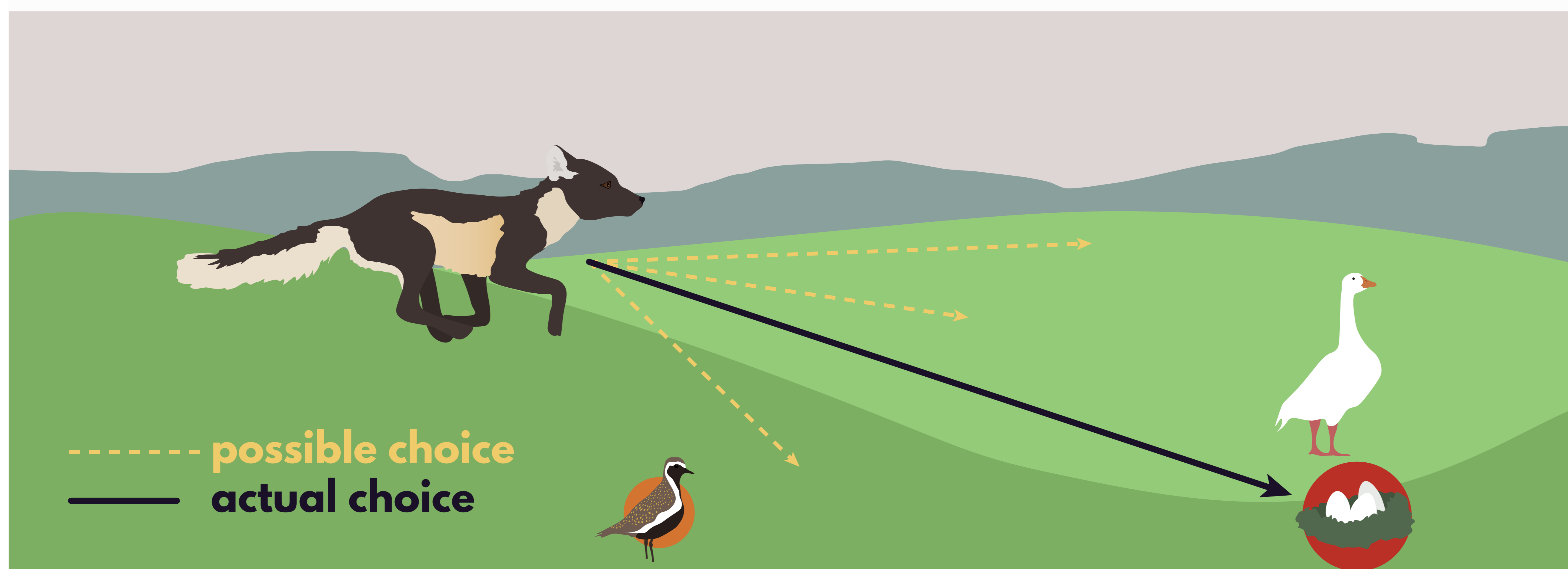
Snow goose colony (~20 000 nests)

2. Why are there so few other bird species in the goose colony?

Every summer, we walk on each path and record the nesting birds we see.

Purple = lots of shorebirds
White = no shorebirds

3. Does high predation by arctic foxes prevent birds from nesting in certain areas?



Mittimatalik/Pond Inlet

N

0 10 20km