

# ENMPG21:

# Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services 2019

## Simulation modelling in conservation decision making

### (1): CASE STUDY EXERCISE

Jeroen Minderman ([jeroen.minderman2@stir.ac.uk](mailto:jeroen.minderman2@stir.ac.uk))

13 March 2019 (*updated: 13/03/19*)

# The "Urban gull problem"

**EXPRESS** Home of the Daily and Sunday Express

LOGIN REGISTER

Apps Puzzles Horoscopes  
Paper

HOME NEWS SHOWBIZ & TV SPORT COMMENT FINANCE TRAVEL ENTERTAINMENT

UK WORLD WEIRD ROYAL POLITICS SCIENCE WEATHER SCOTLAND NATURE SUNDAY

Home > News > UK

## Seagull menace: Boy nearly loses FINGER and pensioner left bloodied by 'cannibal' birds

A TINY boy has nearly lost a FINGER while a pensioner was left with blood pouring down her face as aggressive SEAGULLS continue to menace Britain.

By NICK GUTTERIDGE  
PUBLISHED: 14:36, Thu, Jul 23, 2015 | UPDATED: 15:08, Thu, Jul 23, 2015

SHARE TWEET in p

0



The notorious birds resumed their campaign of terror against British holidaymakers today with a ferocious attack on the terrified four-year-old.

GOV.UK

Search

Departments Worldwide How government works Get involved  
Publications Consultations Statistics News and communications

Home > Environment > Rural and countryside

News story

### Advice on how to deal with problem gulls

Natural England recognises that a number of problems with gulls in urban areas have been highlighted in recent weeks.

Published 30 July 2015  
From: [Natural England](#)



BBC Sign in

News Sport Weather iPlayer TV

## NEWS

Home UK World Business Politics Tech Science Health Family & Education

England Local News Regions Cornwall

### Gull attacks: David Cameron wants 'big conversation'

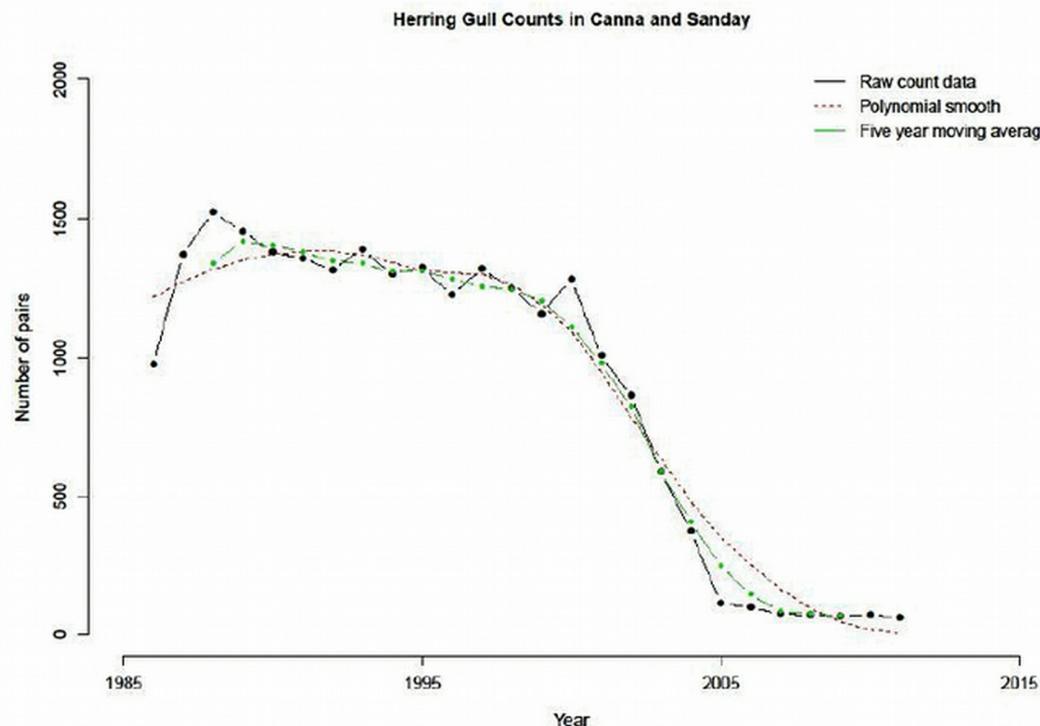
17 July 2015

f t m Share



# The "Urban gull problem"

## 4.5.4.2 Herring gull



Scientific name: **Larus argentatus**

Bird family: [\*\*Gulls and terns\*\*](#)

UK conservation status: [\*\*Red\*\*](#)

Protected by [\*\*The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981\*\*](#)

The Guardian

Search jobs | Dating | Sign in | Search | UK edition

Sport | Culture | Lifestyle | More

India | Society | Law | Scotland | Wales | Northern Ireland

## War on urban gulls may be deadly blow to species in decline

Seagulls are pests to city-dwellers, but the RSPB says their numbers are falling and high-tech control methods will only make this worse



▲ Seagulls are regarded as pests in cities. Photograph: Dan Kitwood/Getty Images

The urban seagull is not one of nature's most popular birds - blamed for scattering litter, damaging vehicles and even attacking humans. Scientists and ornithologists have long battled over the best ways of dealing with this growing inner-city menace.

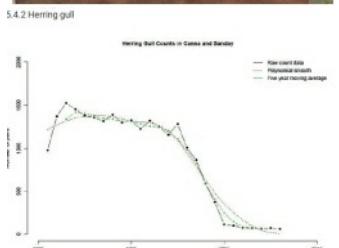
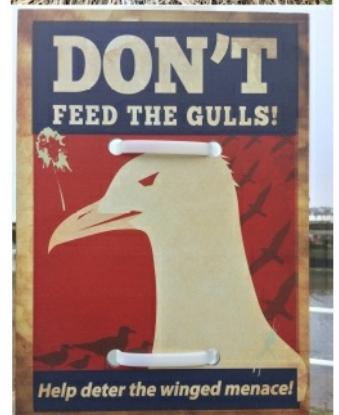


# The "Urban gull problem"

## Key questions

- Population size/trends in different sites?
  - Differences between urban and marine sites?
  - Predictions? Effects?
- Management effects?
  - Culling efforts?
  - Deterrents?
- Socio-economic issues?

# The "Urban gull problem"



## Aims:

- Develop conceptual model in groups
- Aimed at managers/conservationists
- Present/discuss to class at end

## Consider...

- Define question - could be different ones
- Consider parameters available and needed; feasibility
- Scan literature/reports

**Be creative, I don't know the answer!**

