Department of BIOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Net positive outcomes: goals for nature based on performance against counterfactuals

Joe W Bull

Credit: J W Bull

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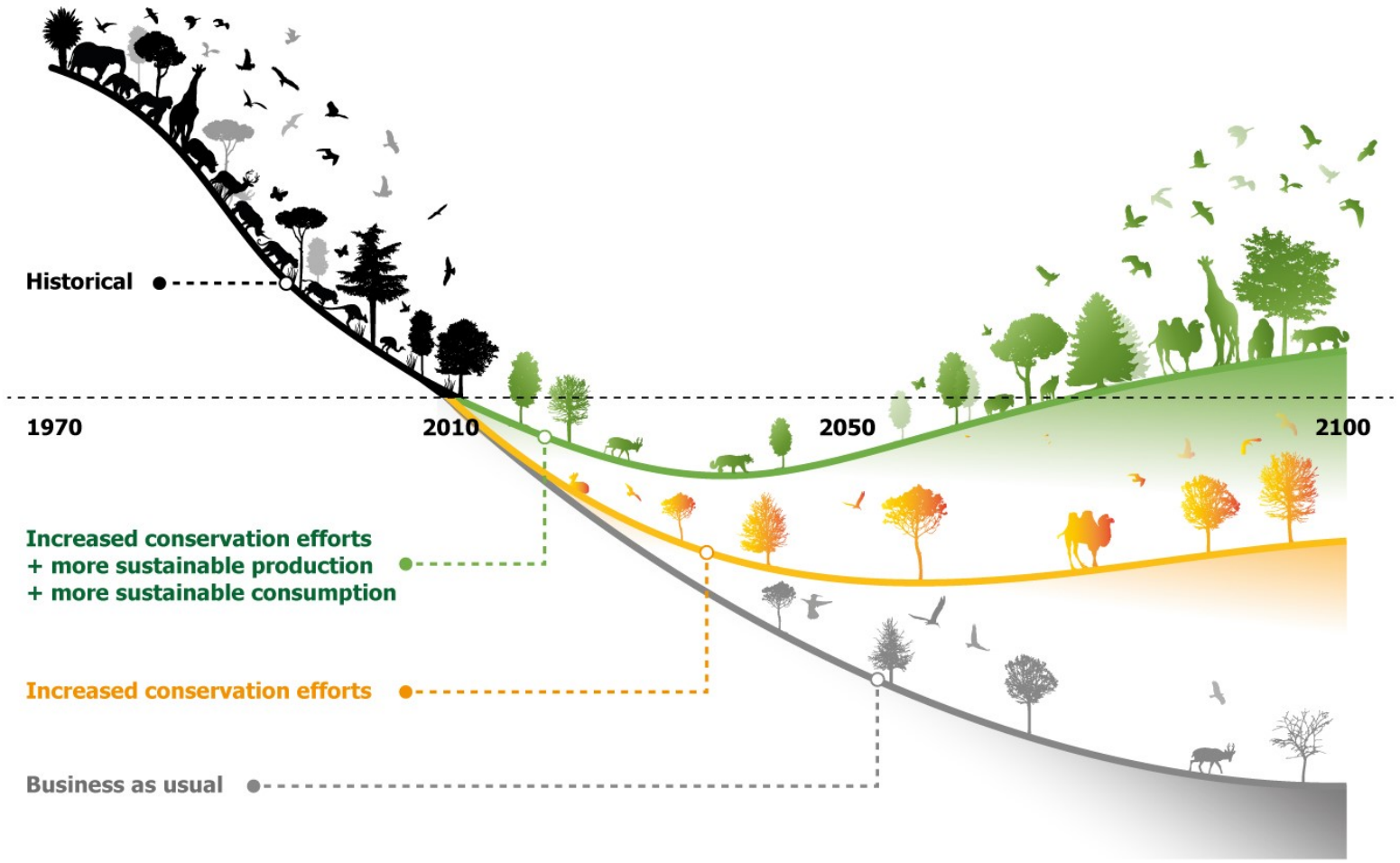
Nature Positive



Leclère et al. (2020) *Nature*, **585**, 551-556

Nature Positive principles

Nature Positive needs:

- a measured biodiversity baseline
- a timeframe
- a target (e.g. biodiversity 20% above baseline)
- a clear set of actions to be carried out, costed and sequenced
- an analysis of how these actions will add up to get us to net gain
- regular monitoring and disclosure of progress towards our goal

Milner-Gulland (2022) *Nature E&E*, **6**(9), 1243-1244

Nature Positive principles

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- ow these actions will add up to get gain
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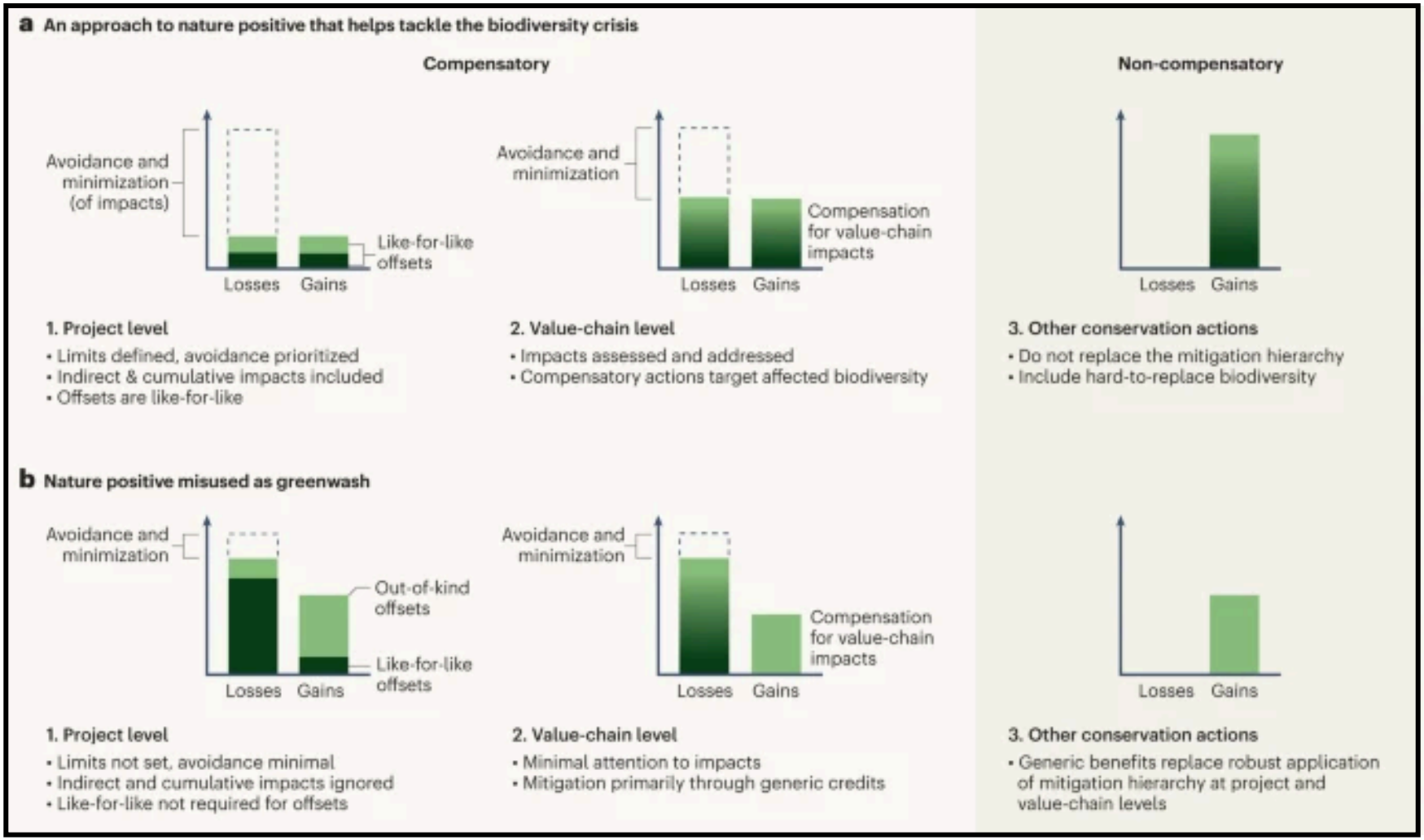
29. The mission of the framework for the period up to 2030, towards the 2050 vision is:
To take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet by conserving and sustainably using biodiversity, and ensuring the fair

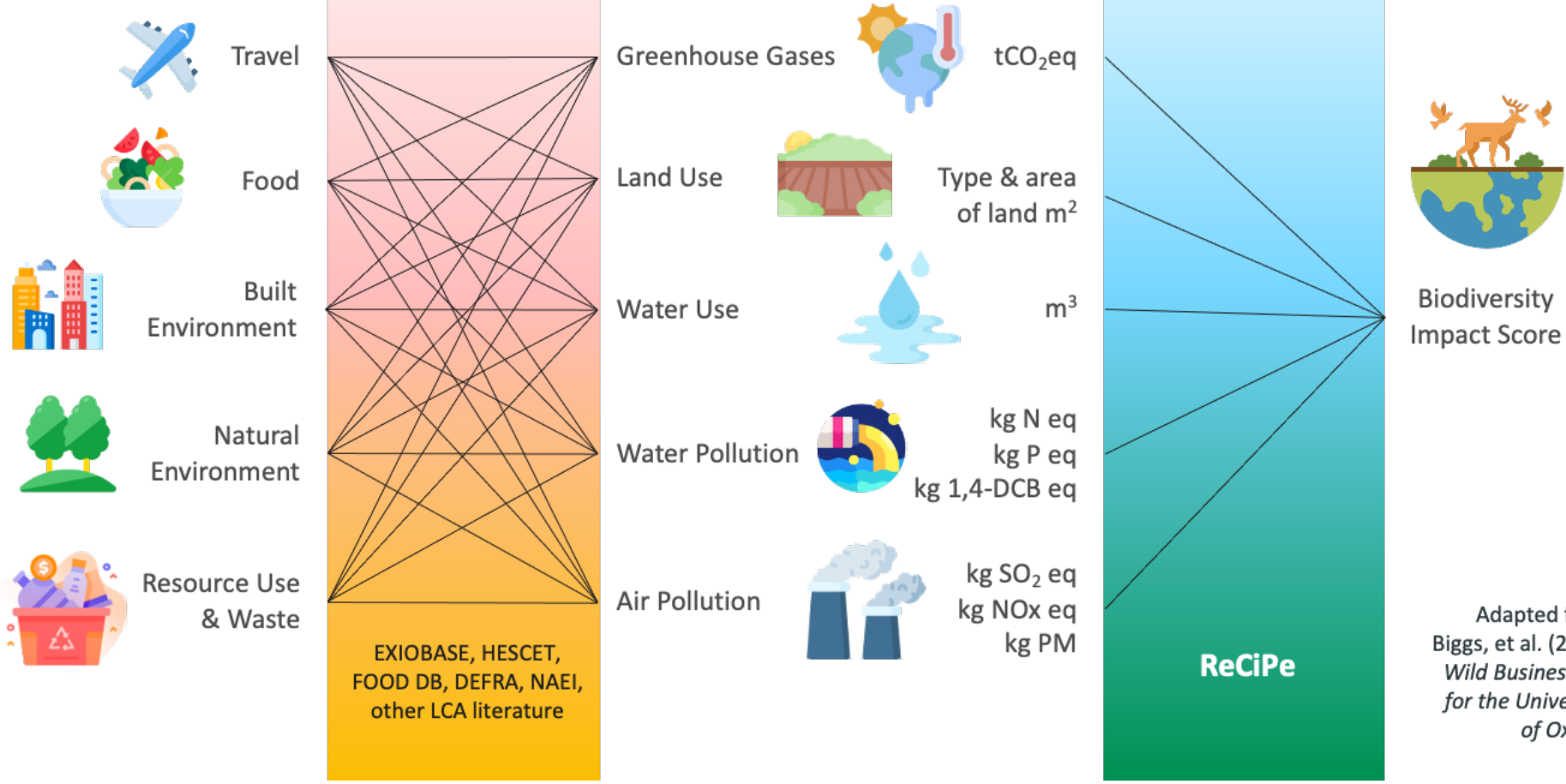
Milner-Gulland (2022) *Nature E&E*, **6**(9), 1243-1244

Challenges: framework



Maron, et al. (2023) *Nature Ecology & Evolution*

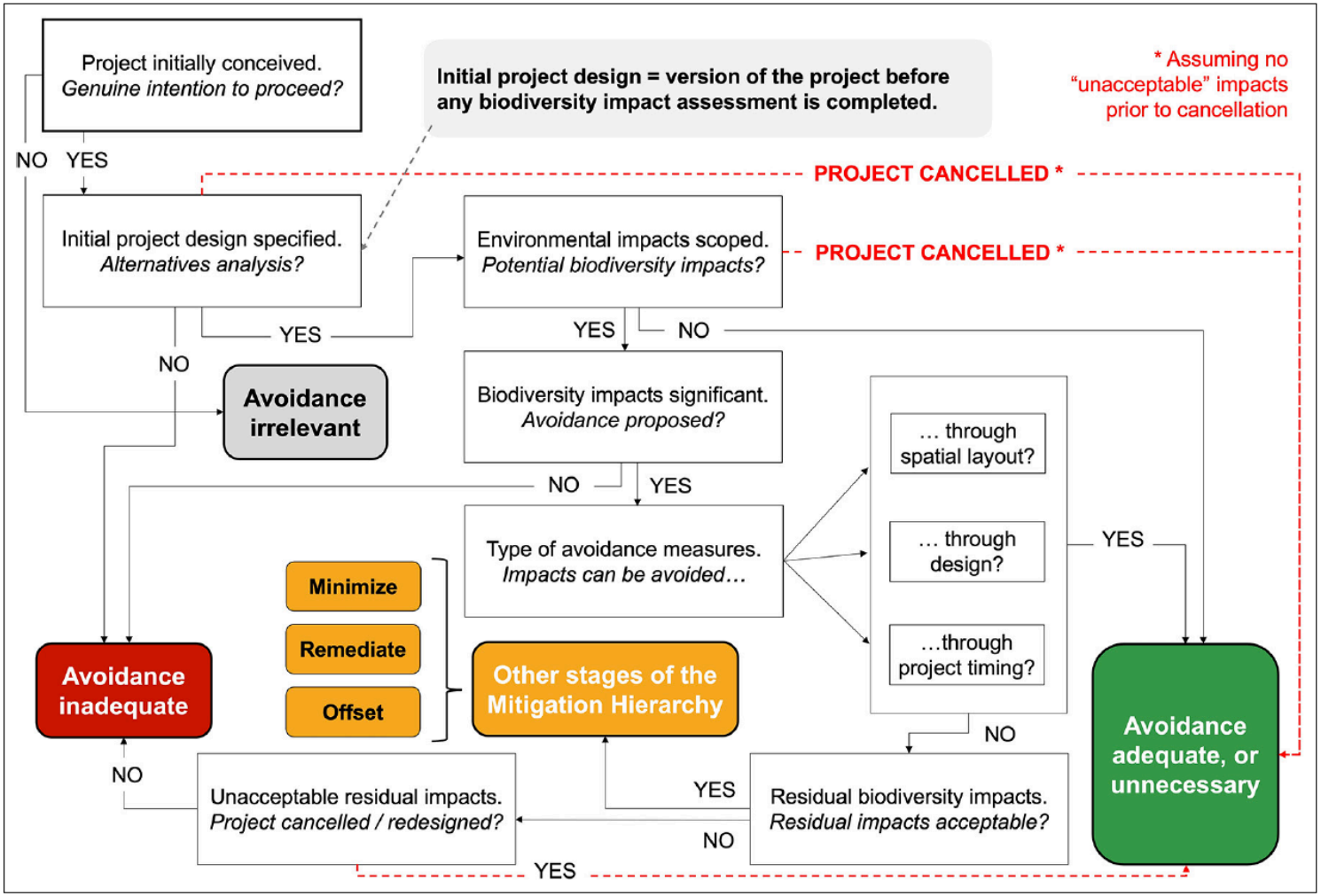
Challenges: measurement



Adapted from Biggs, et al. (2021) *Wild Business Ltd for the University of Oxford*

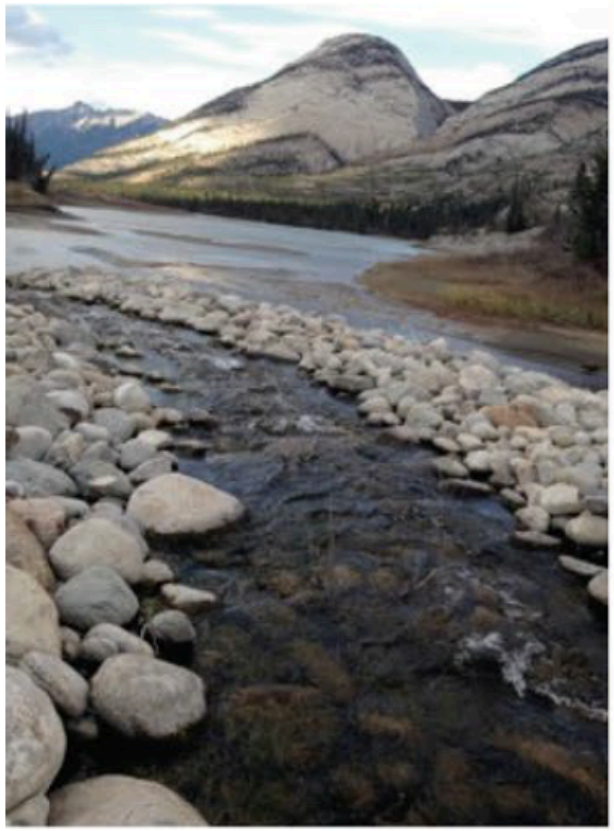
See also: Bull, et al. (2022) *Nature*, **604**(7906), 420-424

Challenges: prevention



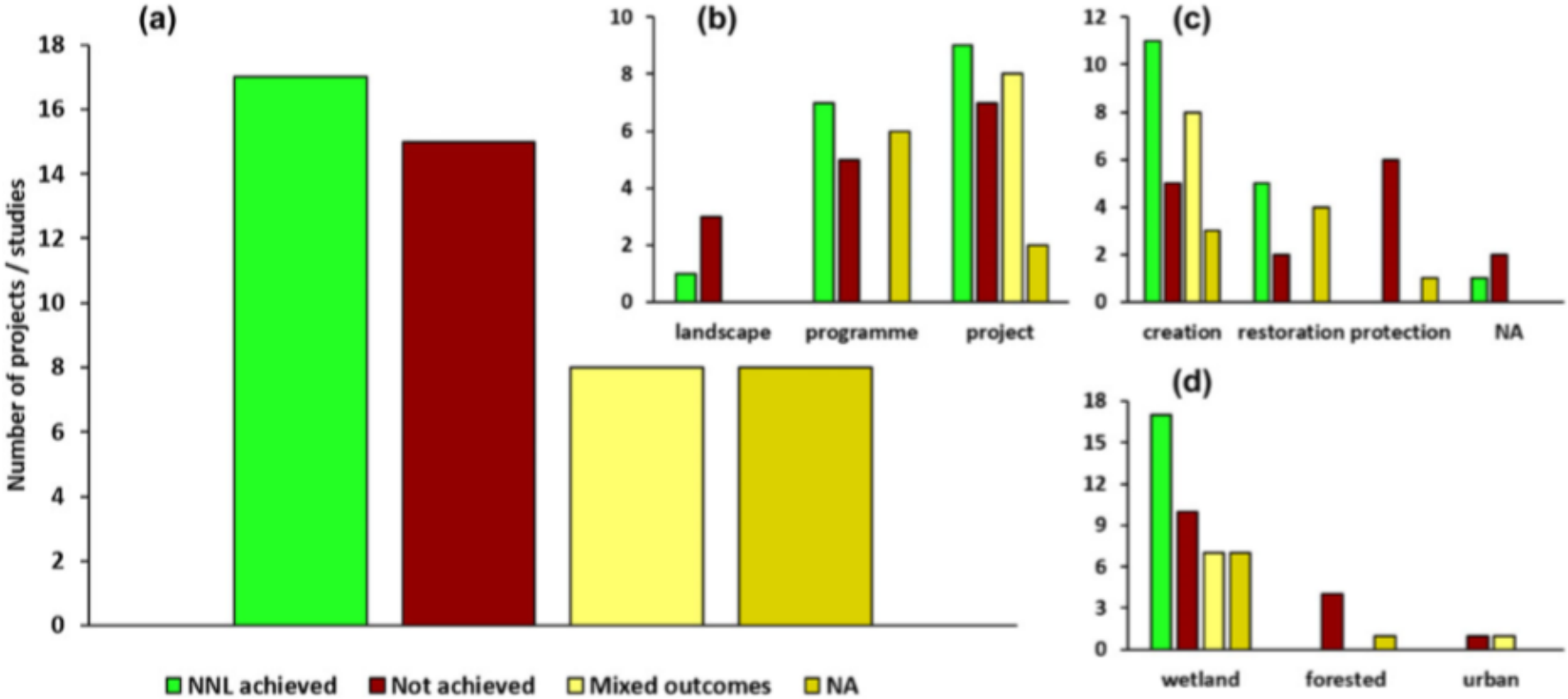
Bull et al. (2022) *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, **20**(6), 370-378

Challenges: compensation

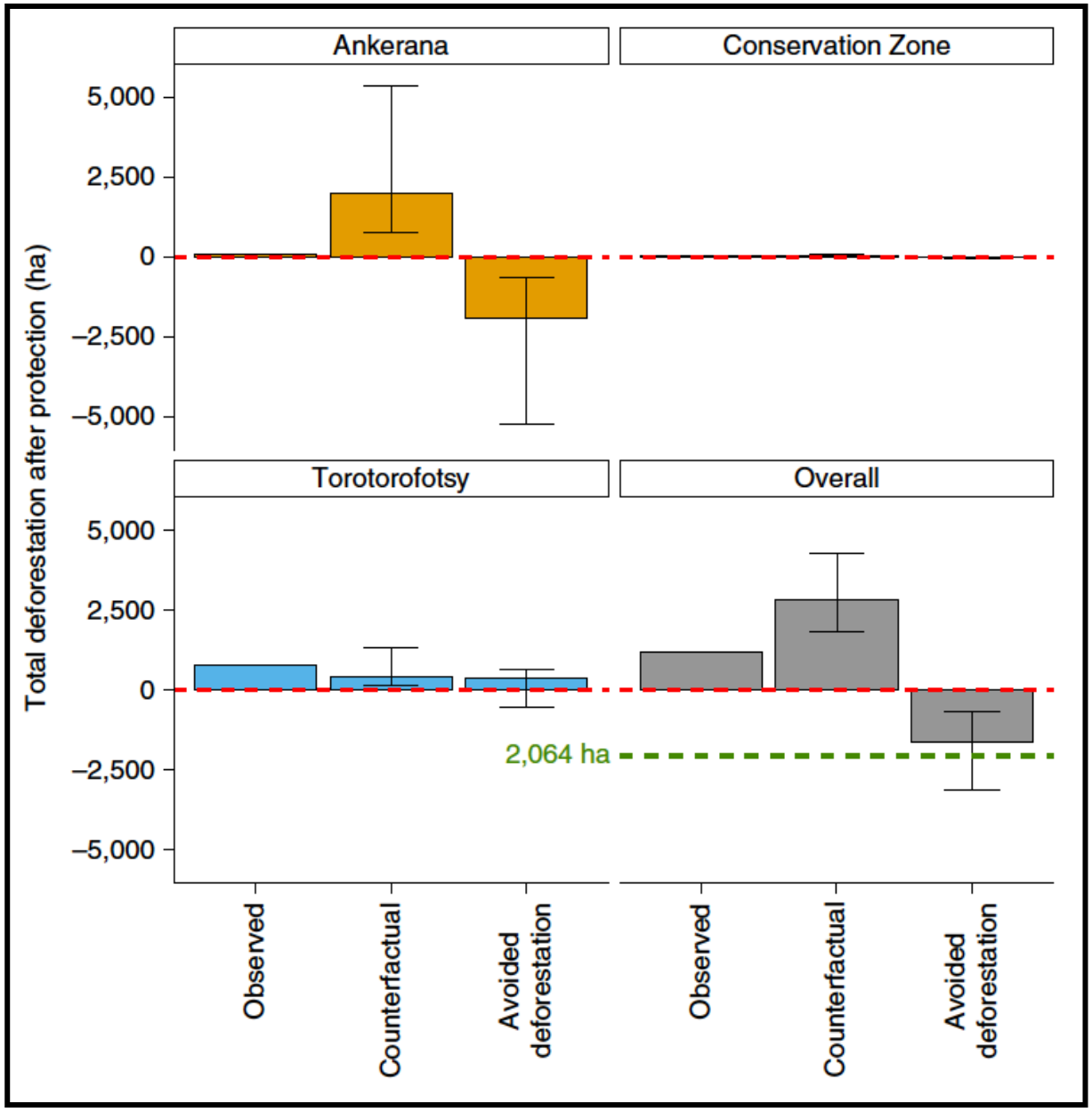


Bull & Strange (2018) *Nature Sustainability*, **1**(12), 790-798

Challenges: compensation

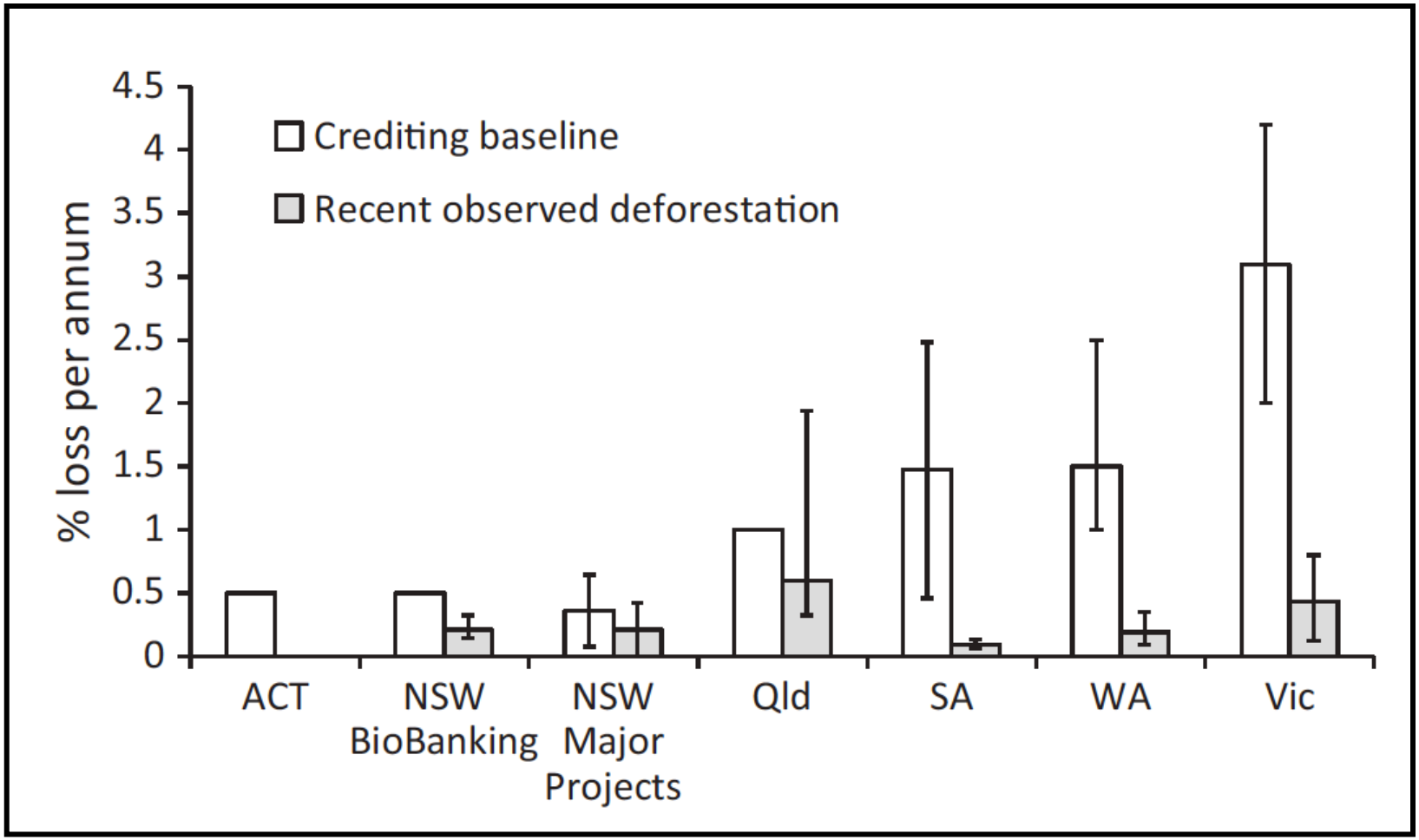


zu Ermgassen, et al. (2019) *Conservation Letters*, **12**(6), e12664



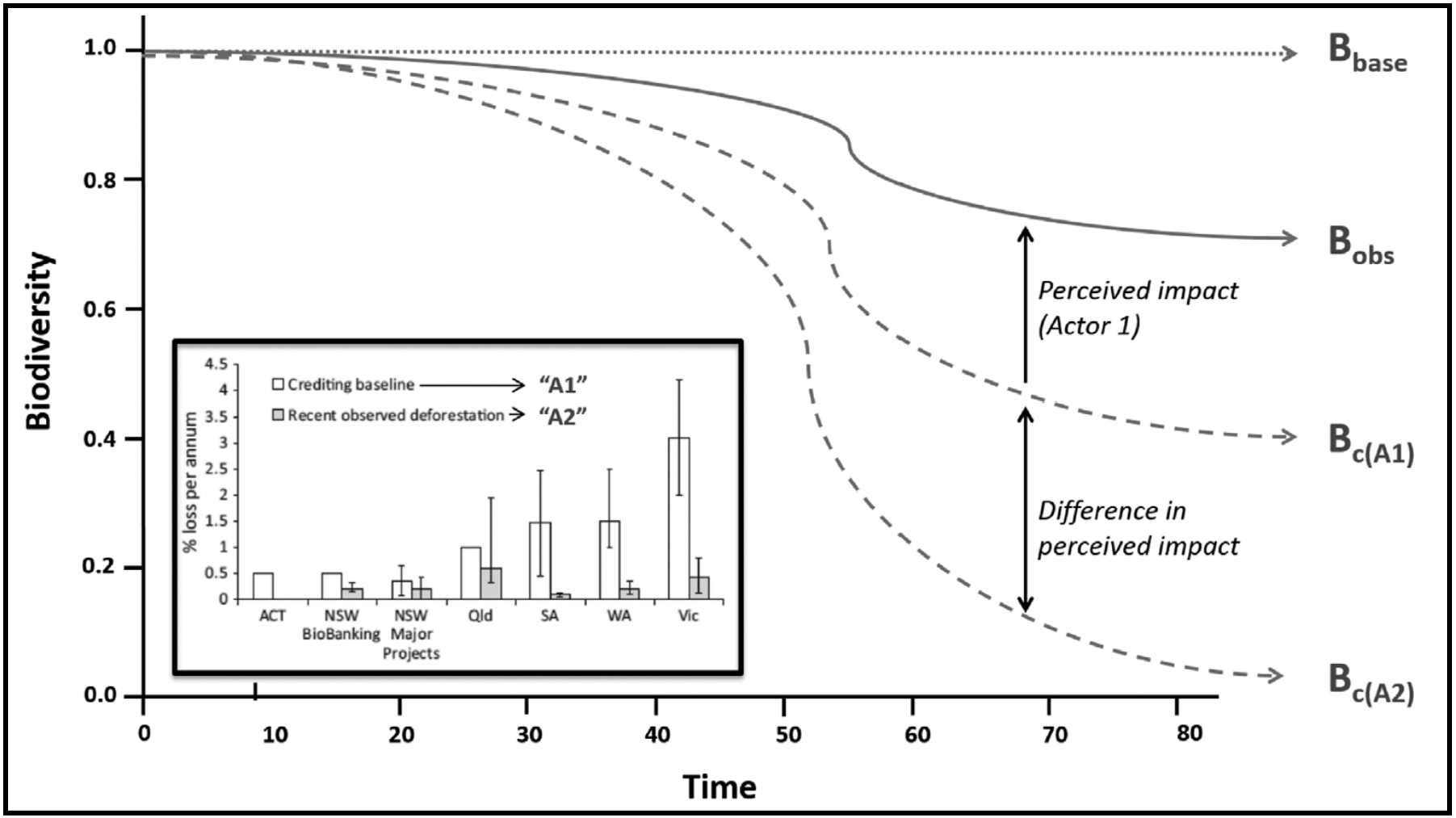
Devenish, et al. (2022) *Nature Sustainability*, **5**, 498–508

Challenges: compensation



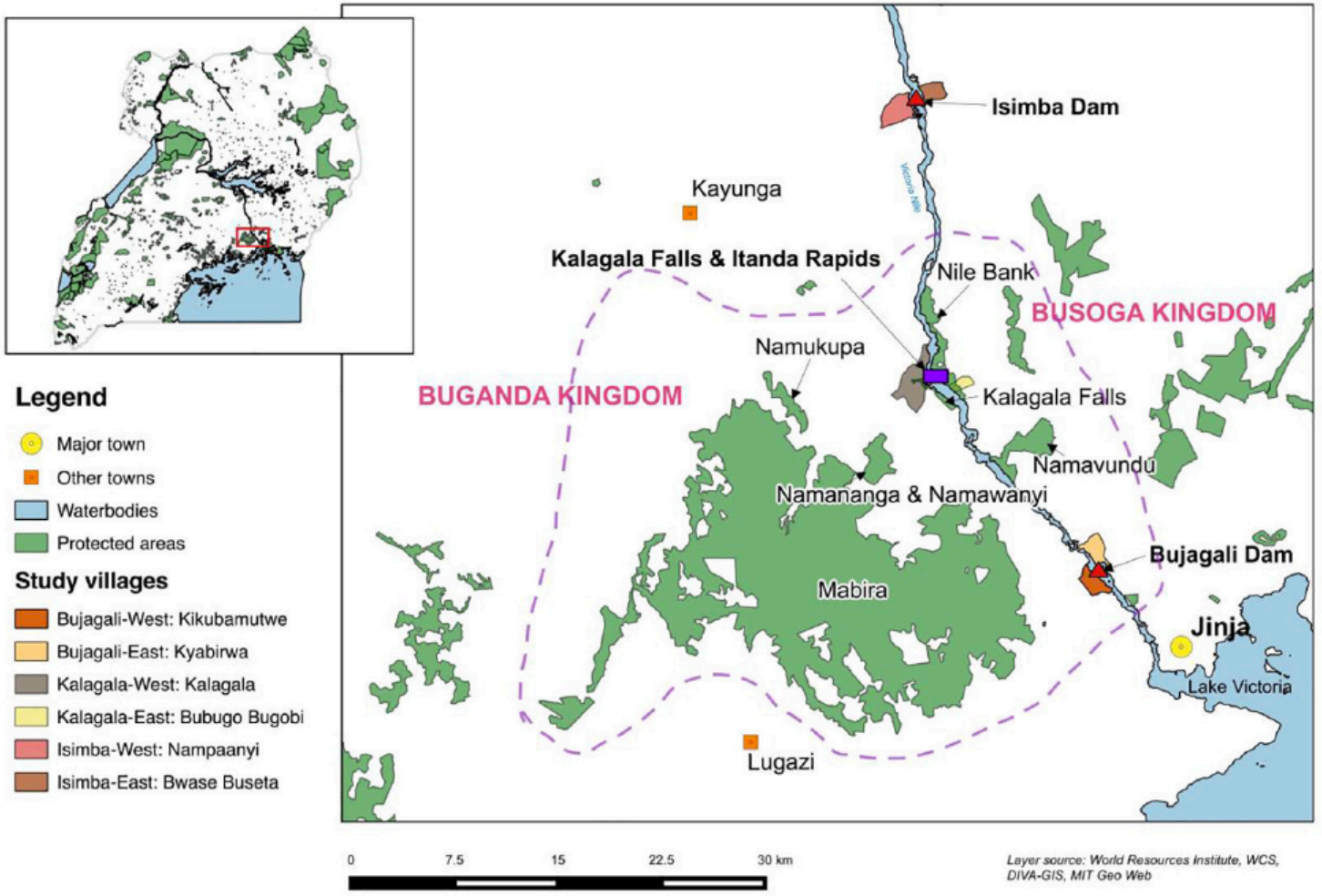
Maron, et al. (2015) *Biological Conservation*

Challenges: perspectives



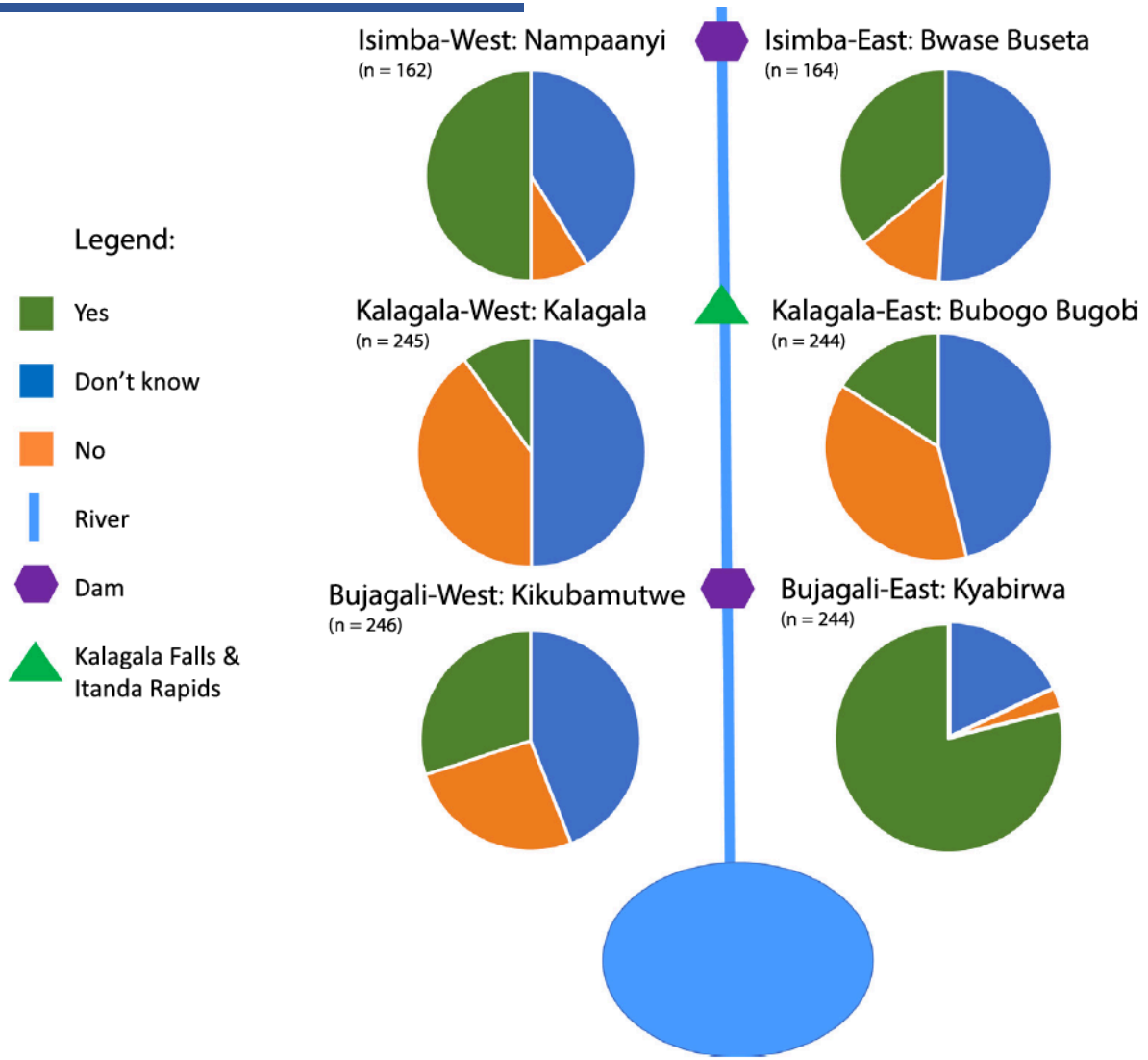
Bull, et al. (2020) *Conservation Biology*

Challenges: perspectives



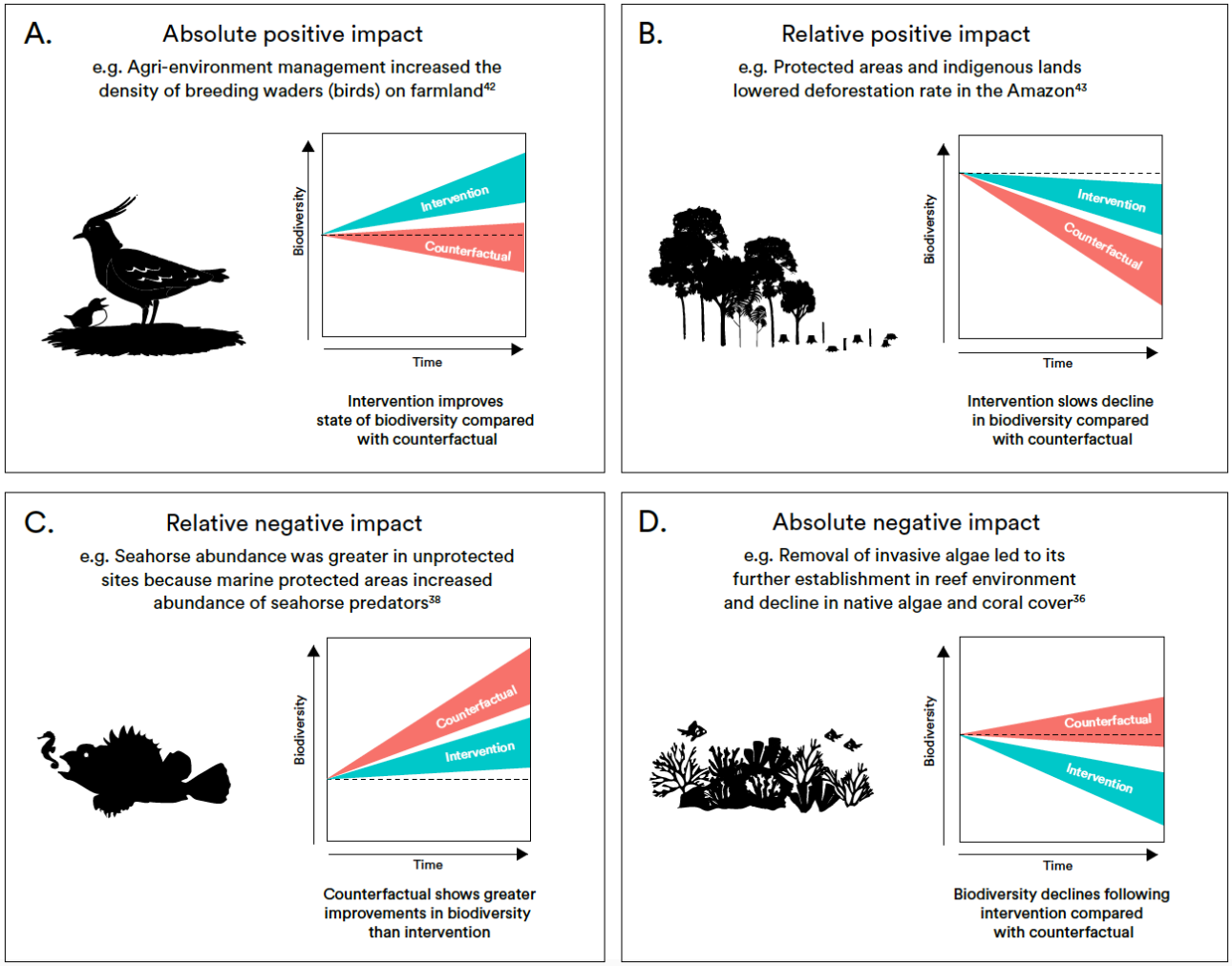
Griffiths et al. (2020) *World Development*, **128**, 104858

Challenges: perspectives



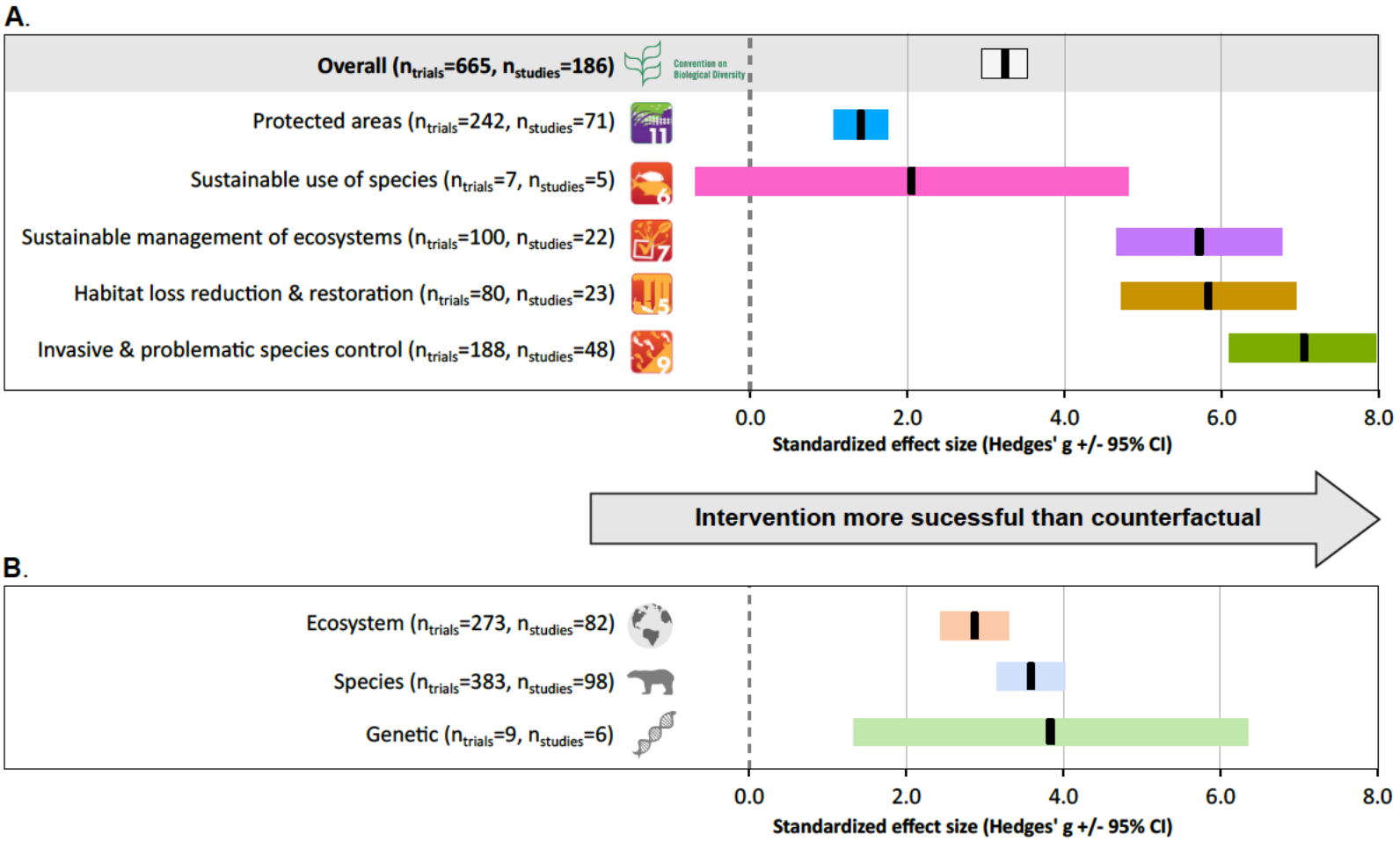
Griffiths et al. (2020) *World Development*, **128**, 104858

Proactive conservation



Langhammer et al. (2024) *Science*, **384**, 453–458

Conservation outcomes



Langhammer et al. (2024) *Science*, **384**, 453–458

Concluding thoughts

- ‘Net outcomes’ approaches (e.g. Nature Positive) have **momentum**, and backing
- The require careful consideration to be given to **counterfactuals**
- Many **challenges**, e.g.: measurement, robust impact mitigation, social considerations
- But conservation interventions **are typically effective** compared to ‘controls’
- Challenge now is to meet the GBF objectives – which requires, at least, more **finance**

NATURE POSITIVE INITIATIVE

Core Stewardship Group

Thank you

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