



Arctic Biodiversity Coalition (ABC)

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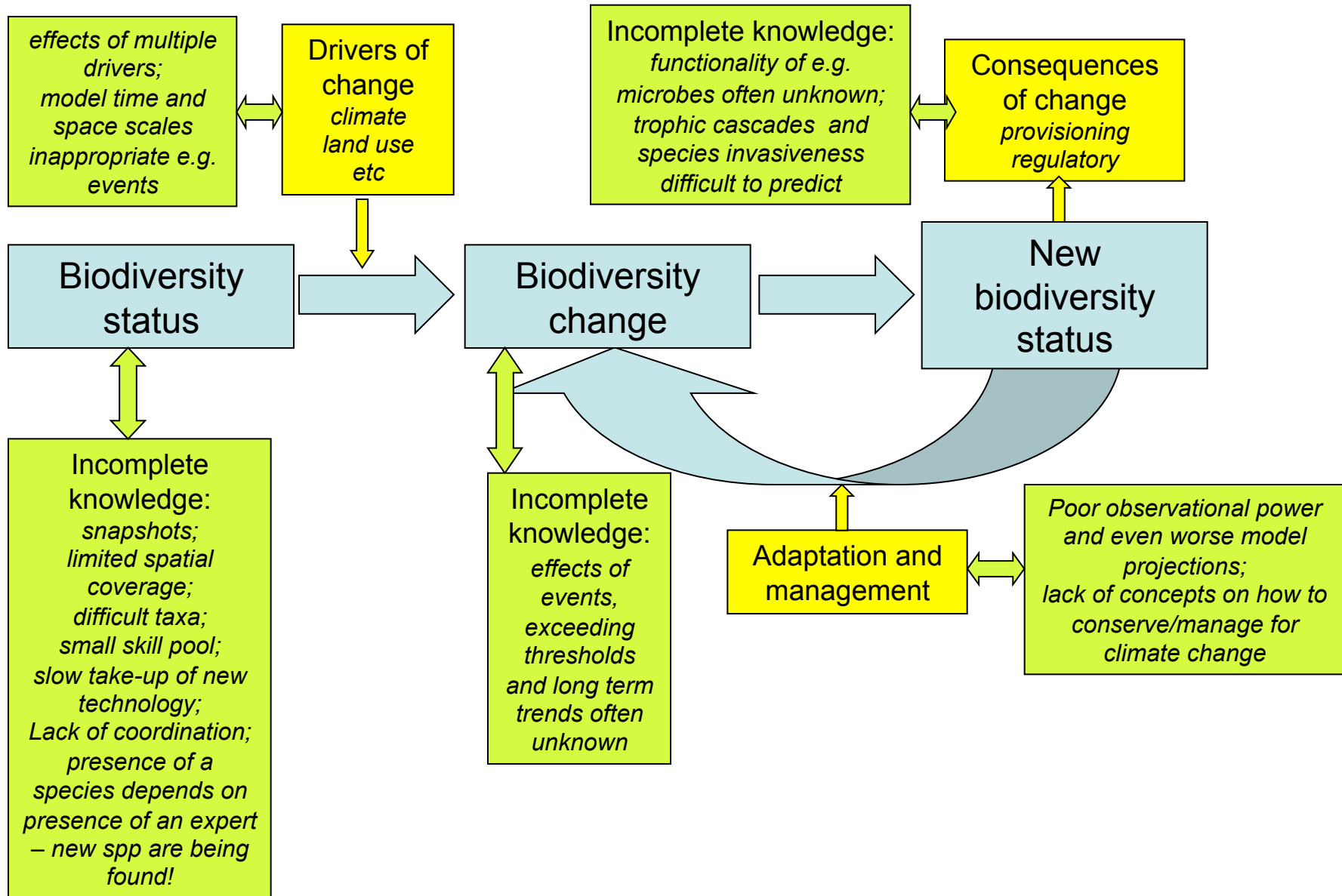
Mike Gill

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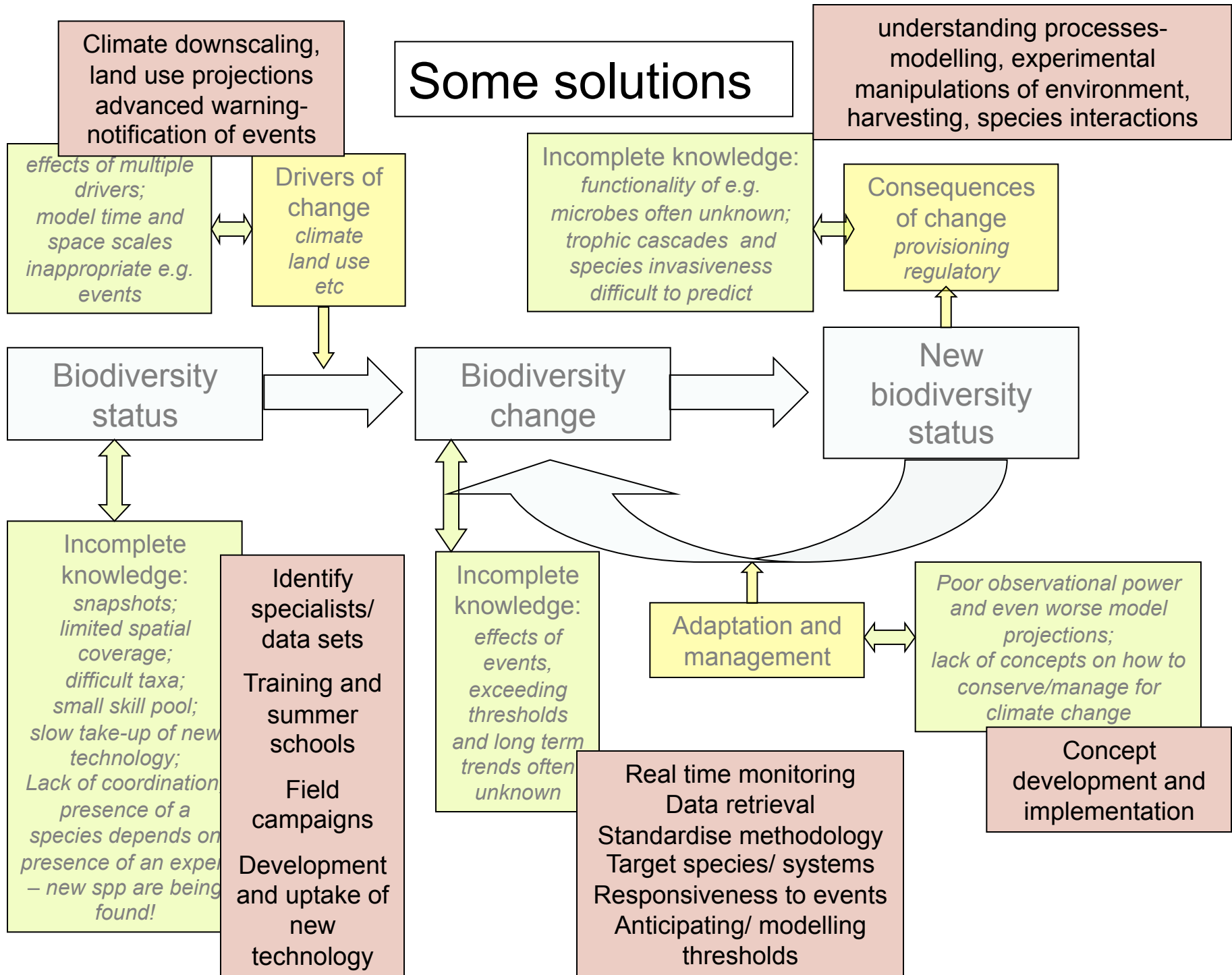
Monitoring Program

**Overview of a proposed new SAON Task
For discussion at SAON Board meeting
January 2012**

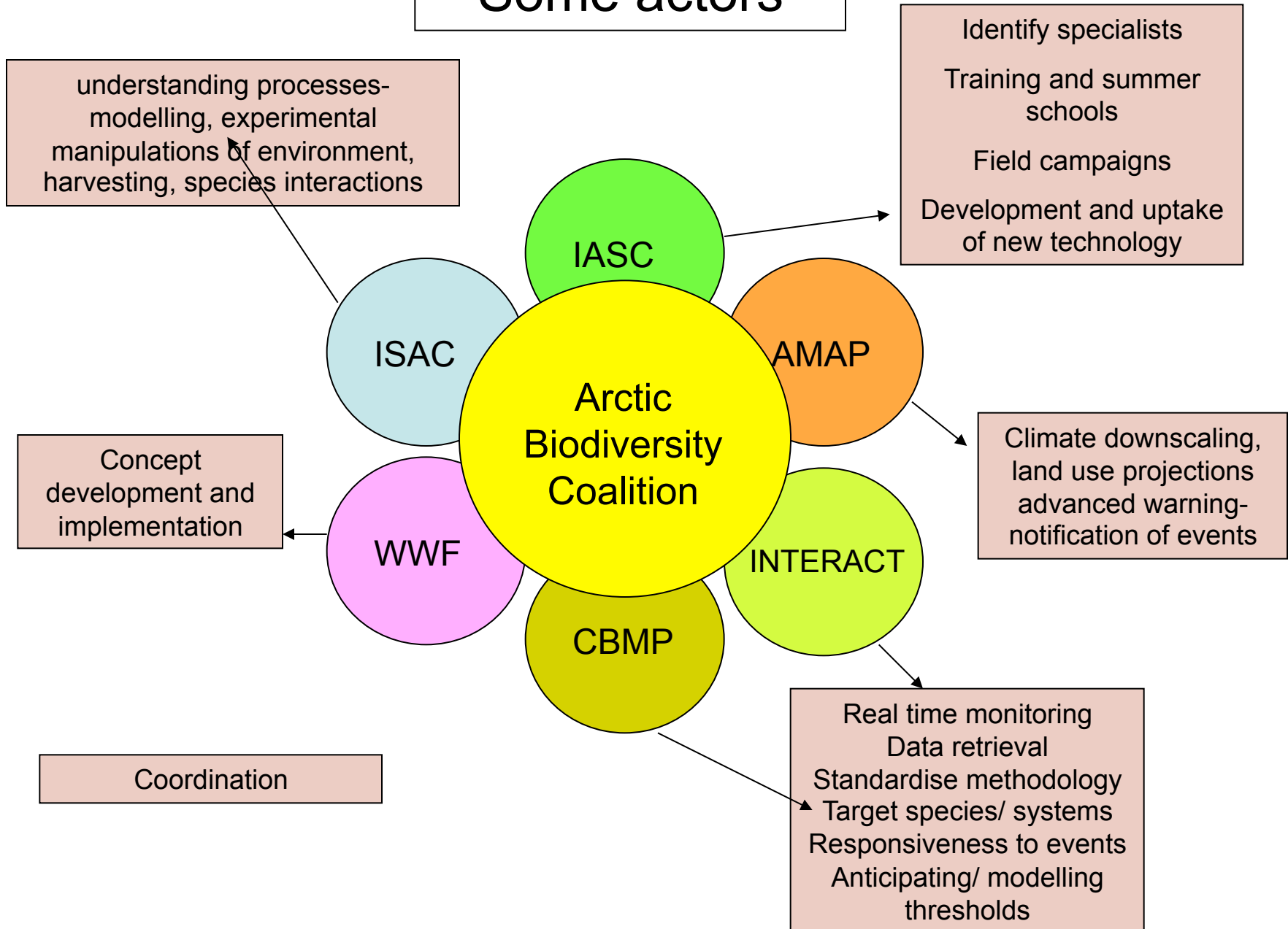
The challenges



Some solutions



Some actors



Some Proposed ABC Activities

a) Building capacity for taxonomic studies/field identification.

The IASC Terrestrial WG could identify experts that would give summer schools etc hosted by INTERACT sites.

b) Cataloguing biodiversity

CBMP would construct inventories that include, but go beyond, the INTERACT sites, building on what exists at the sites and elsewhere.

c) Monitoring biodiversity trends

CBMP would work with INTERACT partners to implement improved monitoring programmes.

d) difficult taxa

INTERACT could sample for difficult taxa and host experts while CBMP and the IASC WG could identify centres of excellence (Universities, museums etc) that could analyse samples.

e) harmonising intensive research station-based monitoring with extensive field surveys.

In practice, there are two ways biodiversity is monitored and two communities that often do not communicate. One deals with wildlife surveys (mainly) and the other with field experiments etc.

ISAC would work with CBMP and INTERACT to bring the two communities together.

f) explaining and predicting biodiversity and its trends

IASC would work with concepts and models while INTERACT would contribute with experiments.

g) determining the roles of biodiversity, e.g. in ecosystem function

This might be outside our field but we should not lose sight of this issue.