

# Sheep grazing semi-natural pastures on islands in Northern Norway

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## Aim

Describe lamb daily weight gain on three islands of varying pasture quality and stocking rate

## Introduction

Norwegian land are: 3% cropland; potential 50% for livestock pasture  
Losses of sheep during summer due to large carnivores in some mountainous areas  
Alternative areas - Islands along the Norwegian coast  
Phenological stage of plants on islands species-specific and depending on water

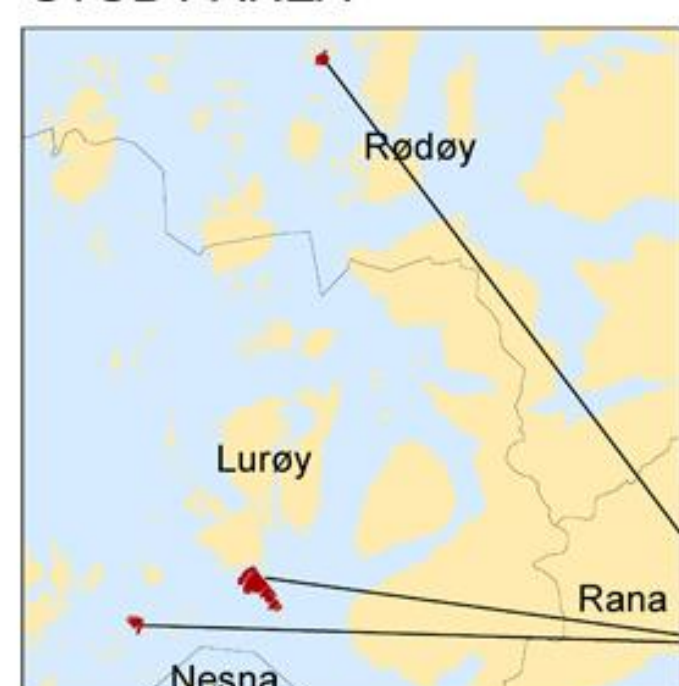


Photo: V. Lind

Stocking rates and management defined by farmers

## Material and Methods

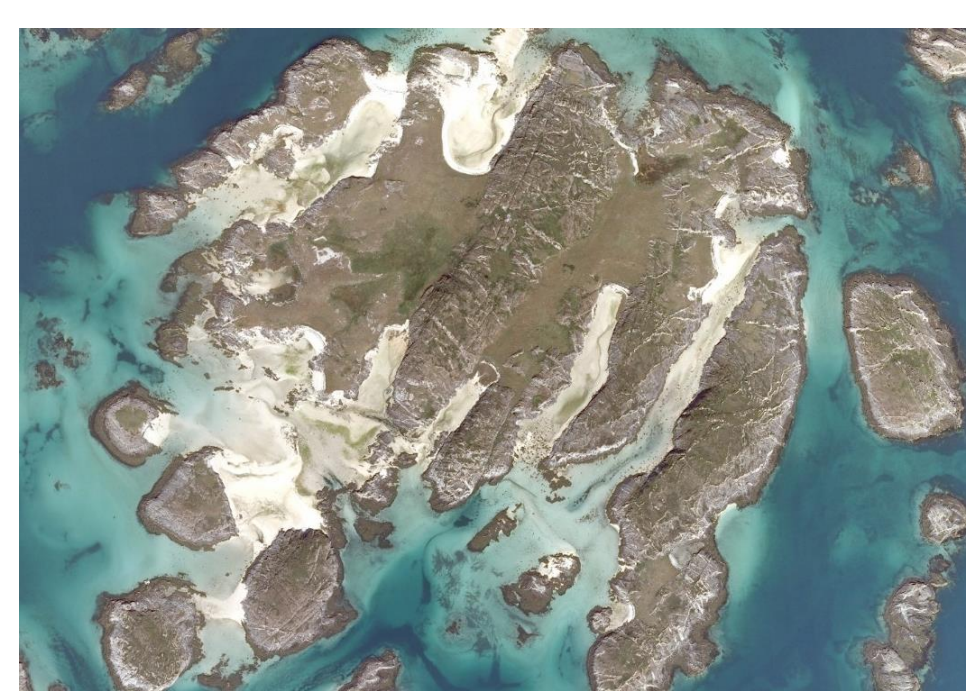
### STUDY AREA



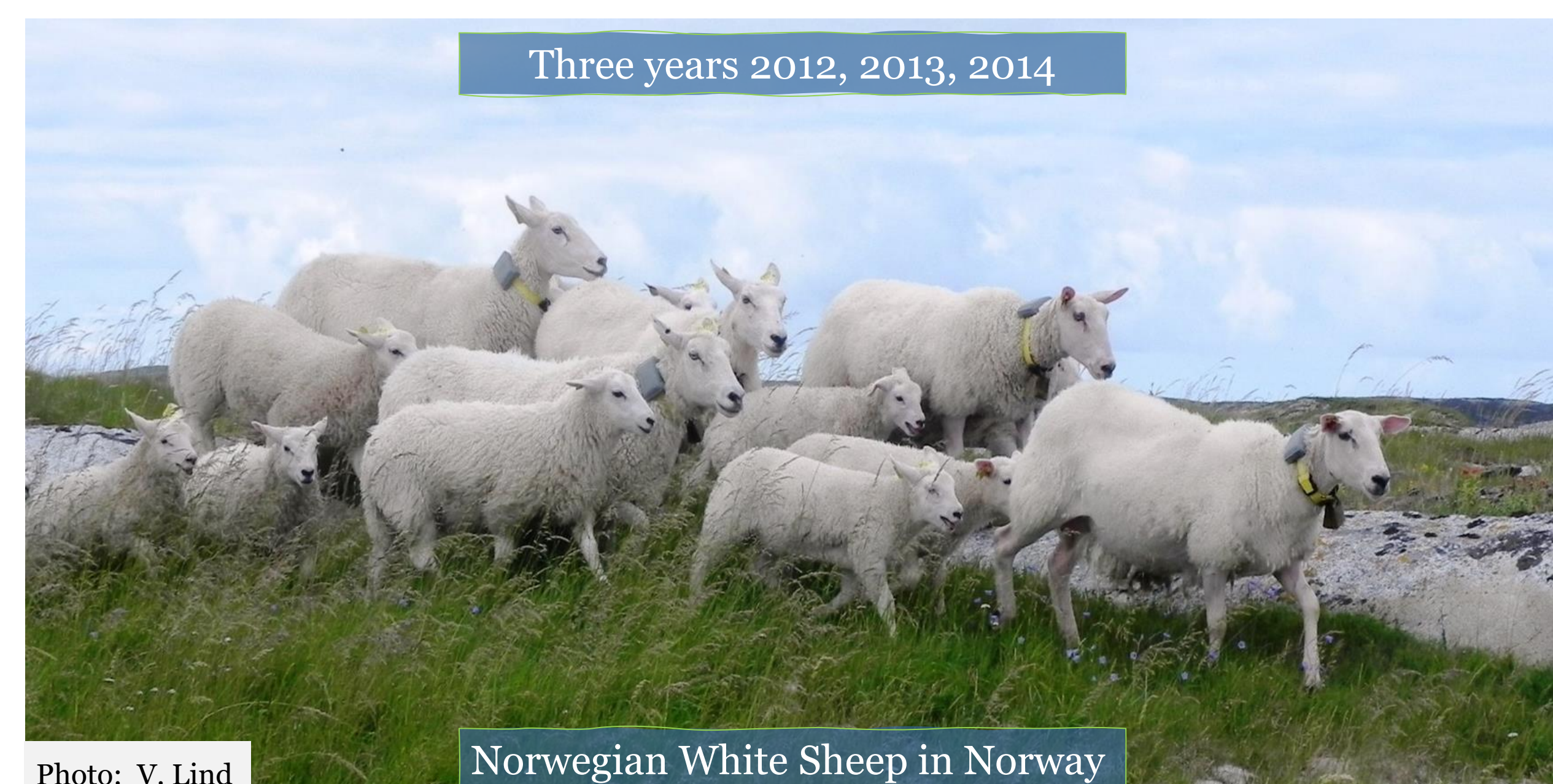
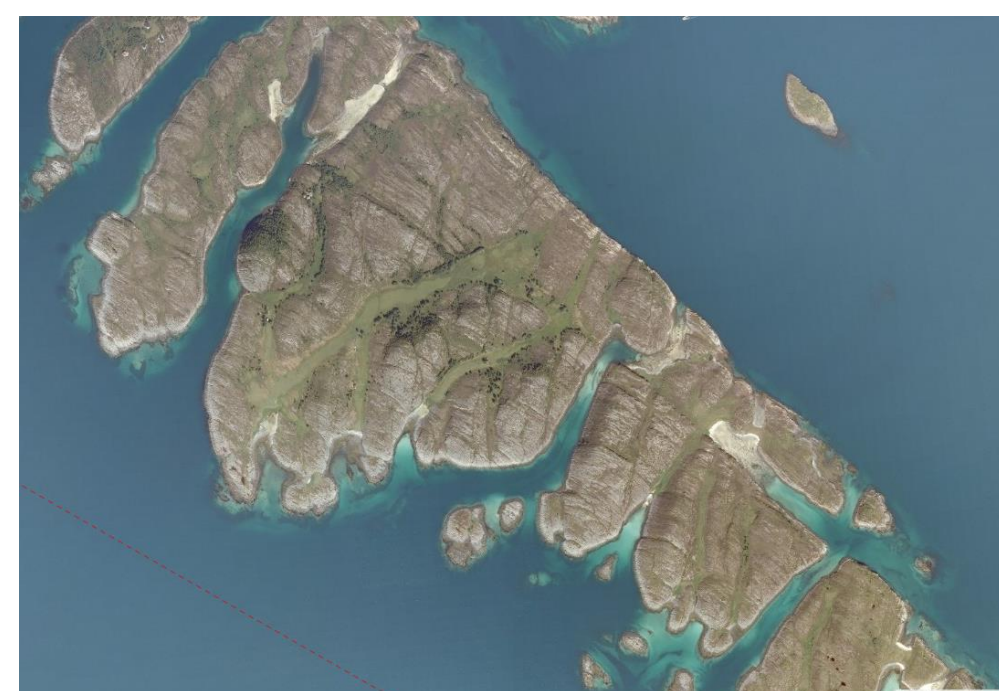
Buøya 66°37' N, 12°56' E



Sandvær 66°20' N, 12°43' E



Sjonøya 66°21' N, 12°52' E



Three years 2012, 2013, 2014

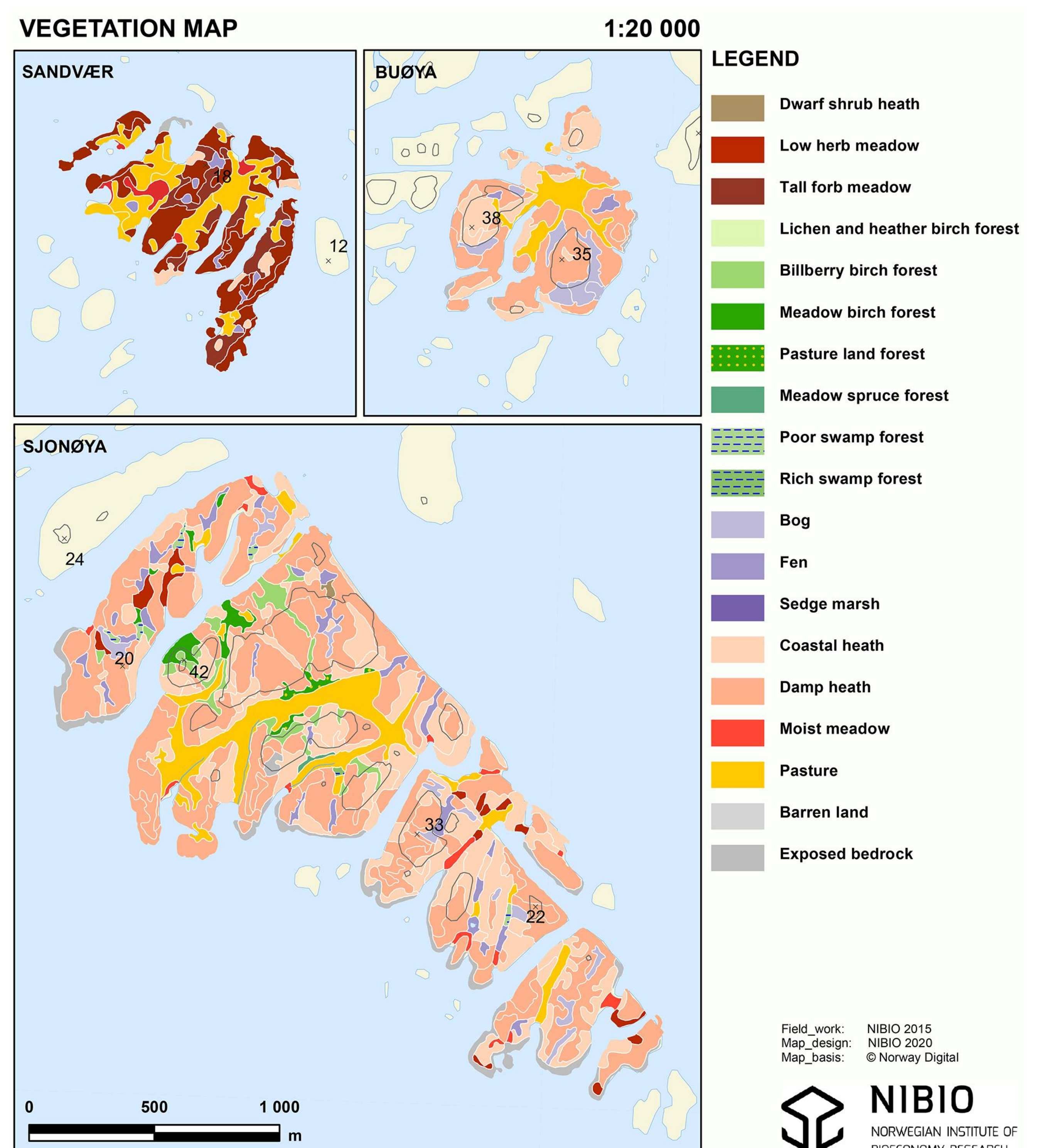
Photo: V. Lind

Norwegian White Sheep in Norway

## Results

Island	Ha total	High nutritional value	Livestock unit	Average weight gain g/d
Sandvær	39	92%	1.3	372a
Sjonøya	208	15%	9.2	285c
Buøya	36	14%	2.7	326b

### VEGETATION MAP



## Conclusion



Photo: V. Lind

There are potential benefits for increasing use of island pastures  
Adaptive management strategy for release and collection is important

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