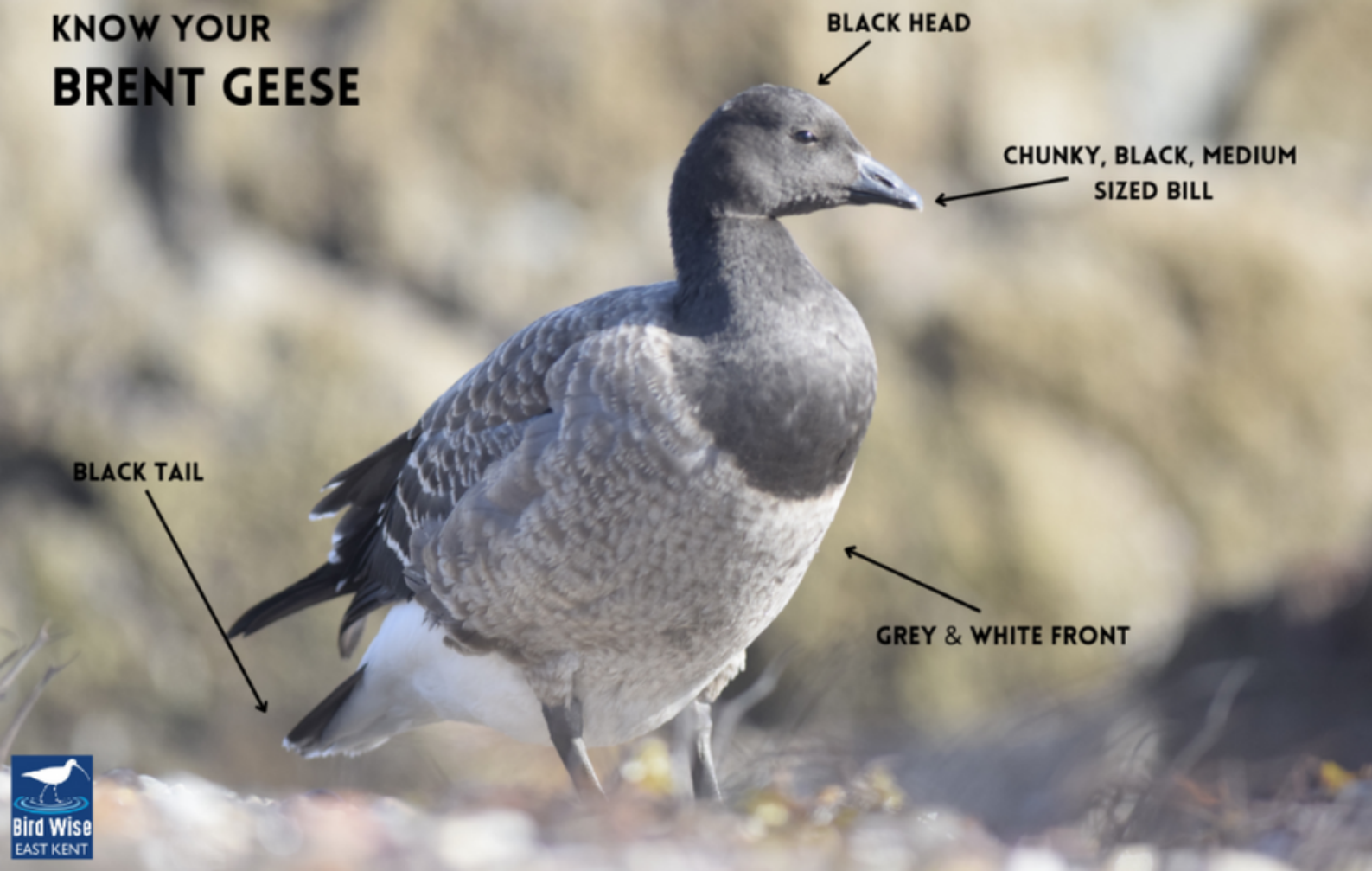


KNOW YOUR BRENT GEESE



Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

Summer: 0
Winter: 91,000

UK conservation status: **Amber**
Protected by The Wildlife and
Countryside Act 1981.

Movements and Migration

Breeding birds leave Russia by early September and start to arrive at their wintering grounds in the UK by October. Their migration takes 3 weeks on average, stopping over in many staging posts in northern Europe along the way.

Voice

A single 'cronk' call mix together in flocks to create a babbling that carries a long way, and the clamour grows louder as flocks take to the air.

Food

Grazes vegetation on land or finds food in water. Traditional food is eel grass that grows in some estuaries. In the UK some birds feed on Sea Lettuce and birds that visit agricultural land graze the shoots of winter cereals, grass and oilseed rape.

Threats

Shortages of Eel Grass in the 1930s had devastating effects on population. Other concerns are sea level change and disturbance by human recreational activity.

Migration:
3,000 miles

**Flight Initiation
Distance:**
66 metres

Wingspan:
110-120 cm

Oldest Bird:
28 years

