



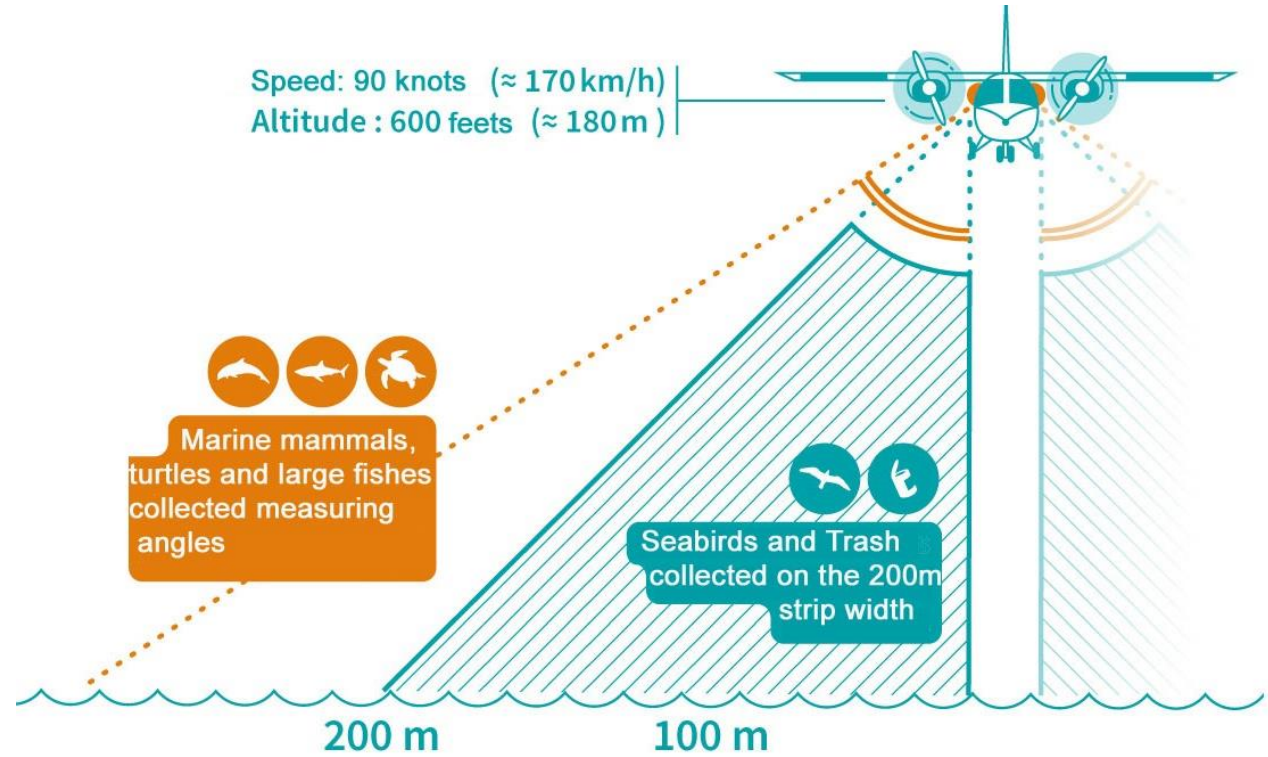
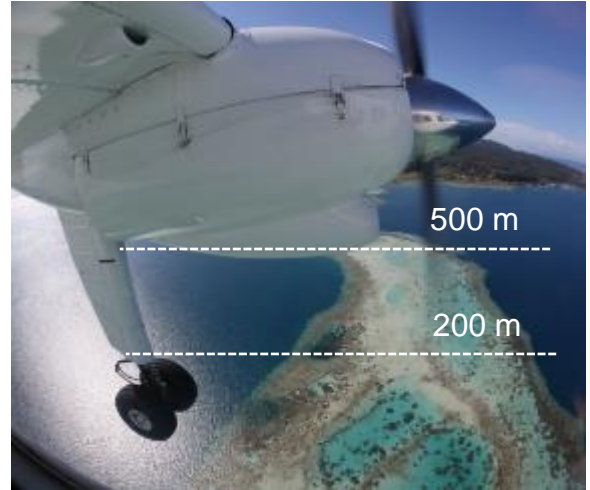
Aerial surveys for megafauna *[2021-2022]:* Results for Common dolphins

Matthieu AUTHIER,
Ariane BLANCHARD,
Florence CAURANT,
Ghislain DOREMUS,
Mathieu GENU,
Charlotte LAMBERT
Sophie LARAN,
Thierry SANCHEZ,
Jérôme SPITZ,
Olivier VAN CANNEYT



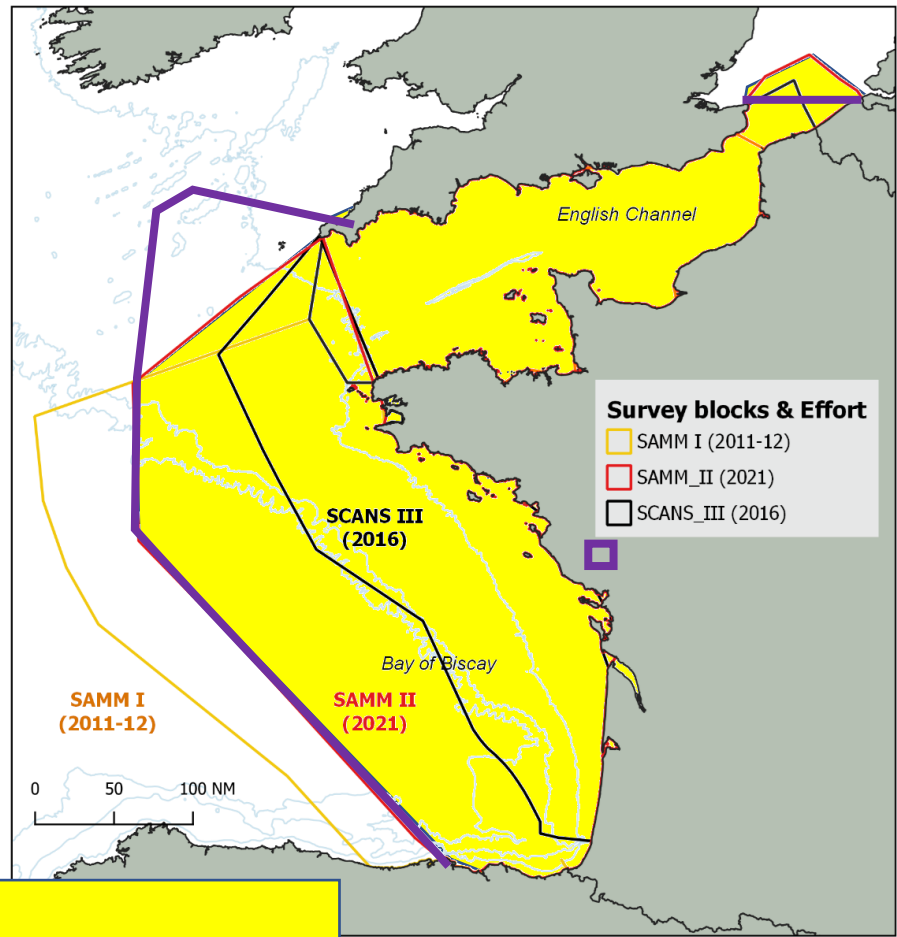
Aerial surveys for megafauna [Protocol]

- High-wings aircrafts
- bubble windows
- Standardized methodology along surveys
- Observer training
- Multi-target protocol* :
several taxa + human activities



*Lambert et al, 2019
<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.c.4638350>

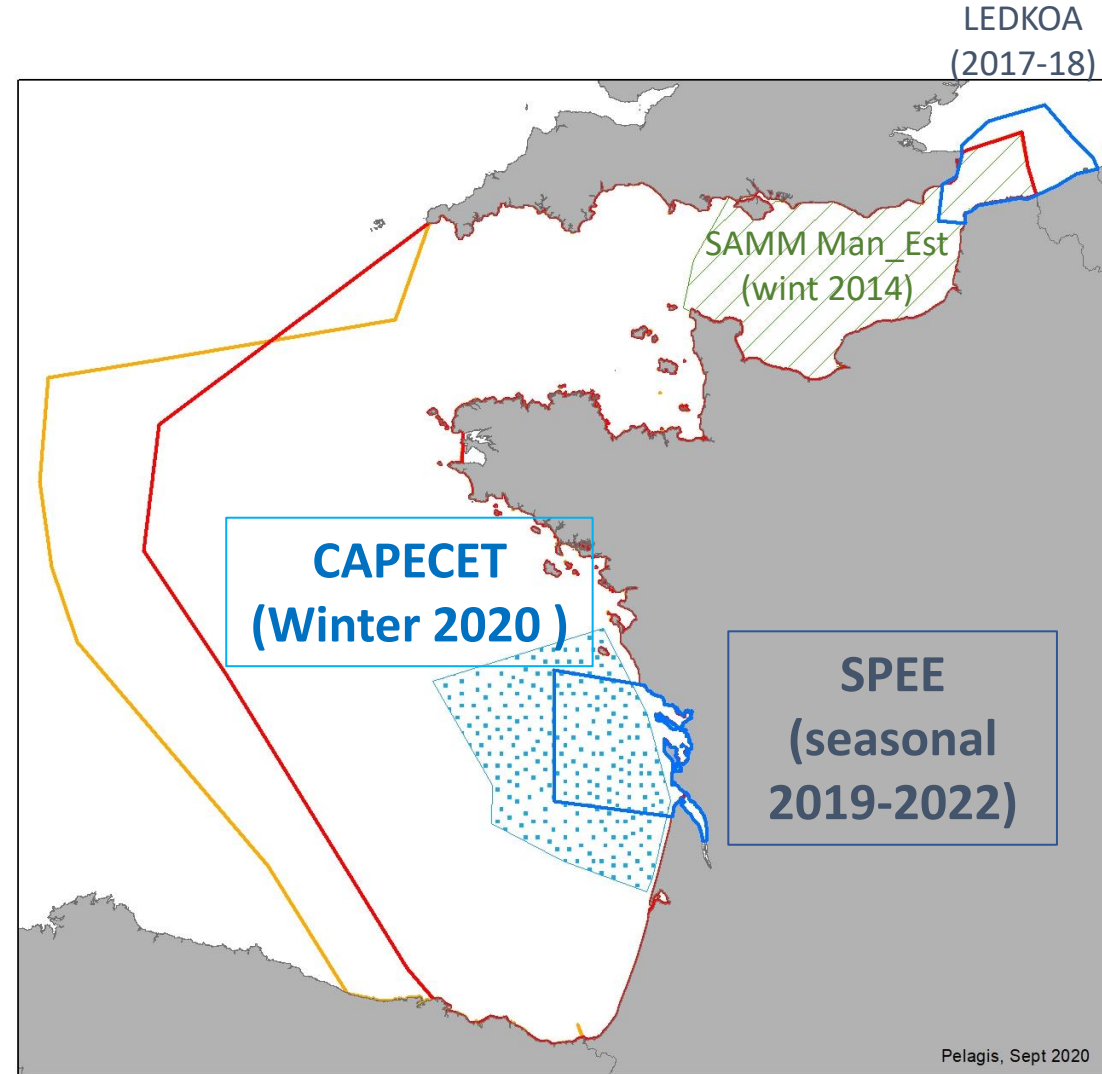
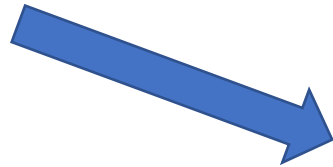
Aerial surveys for megafauna [since 2011]



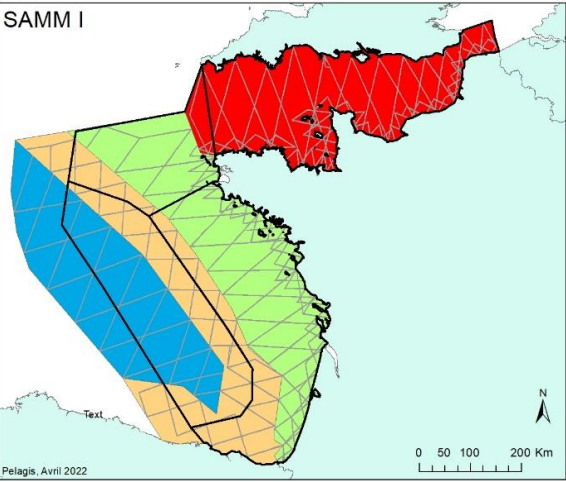
SAMM II winter 2021

Aerial megafauna SCANS IV (Summer 2022)

Large to small-scale surveys

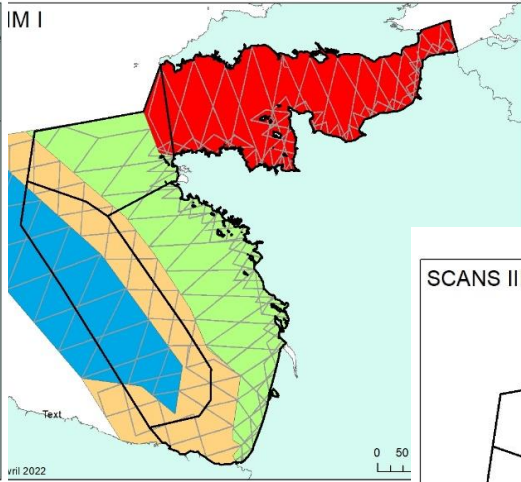


Aerial surveys for megafauna [Long term]



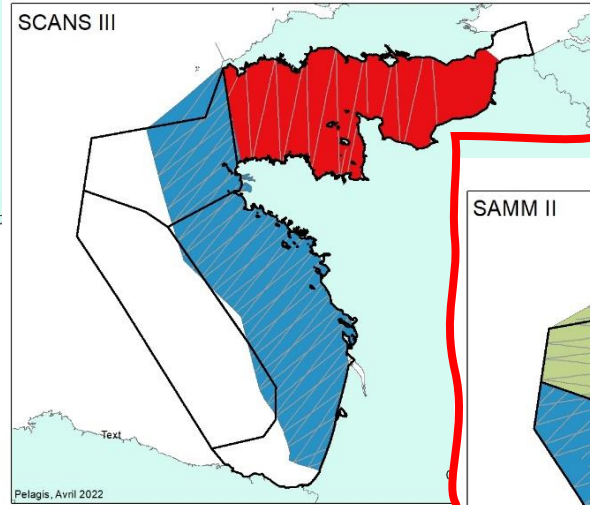
SAMP I
Winter 2011-12

20 500 Km



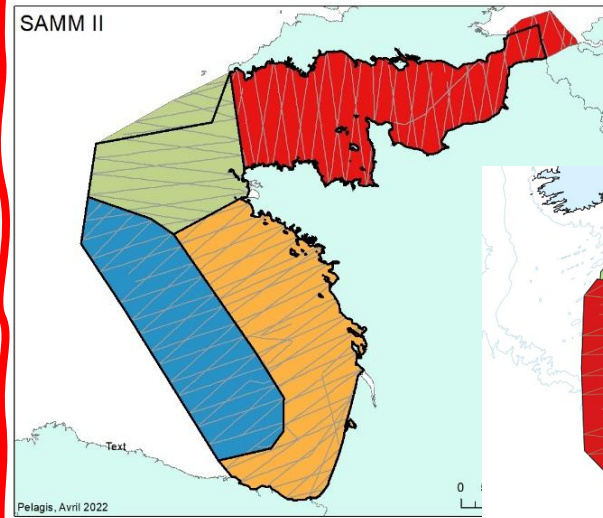
SAMP I
Summer 2012

23 800 Km



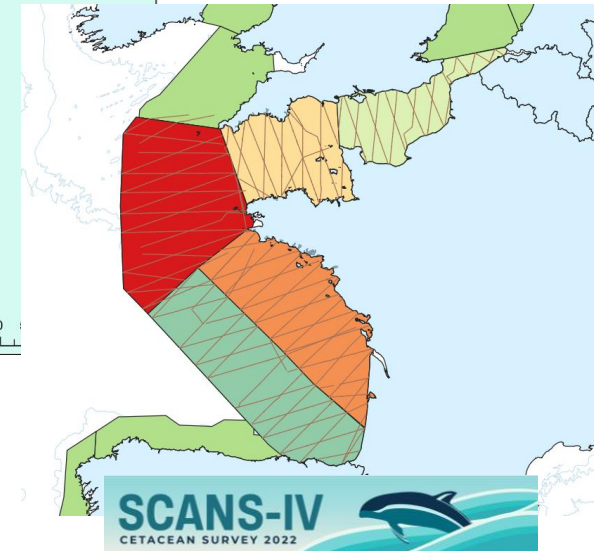
SCANS-III
Sum 2016

9 400 Km



SAMP II
Winter 2021

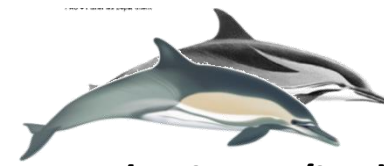
19 100 Km



Summer 2022

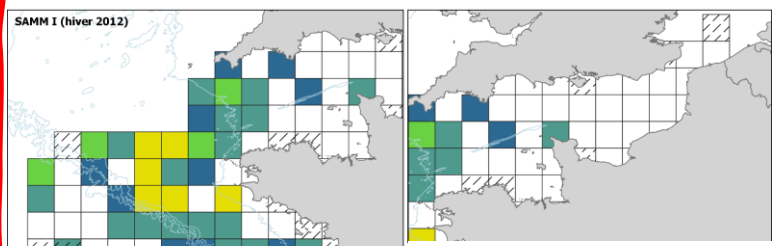
16 300 Km



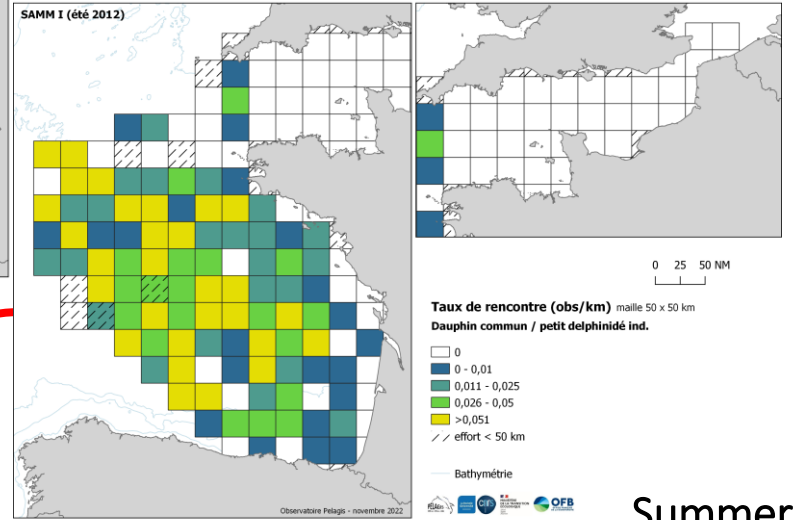


Encounter rate (sighting/km) Small delphininae

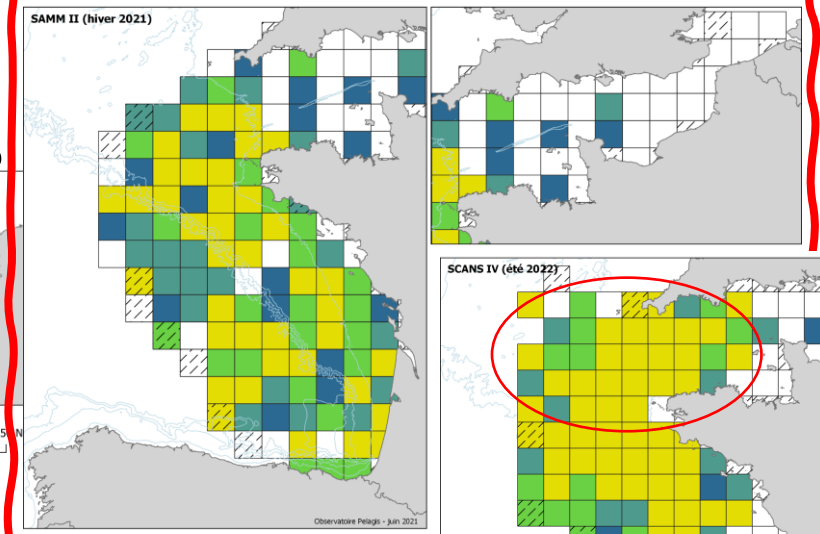
Winter 2012



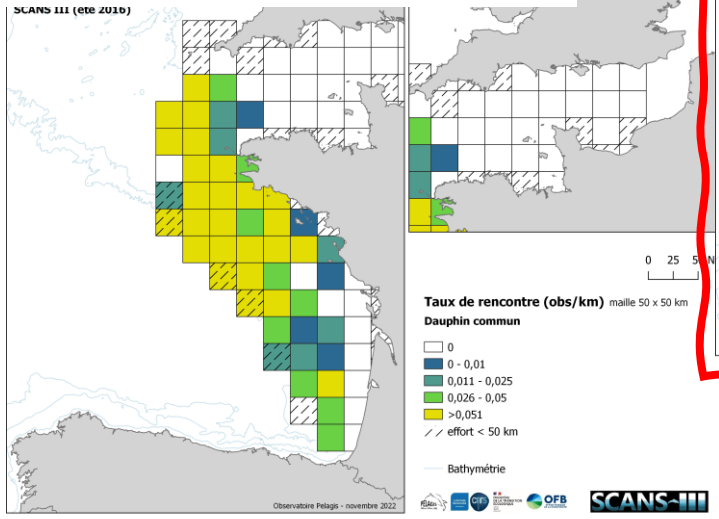
Summer 2012



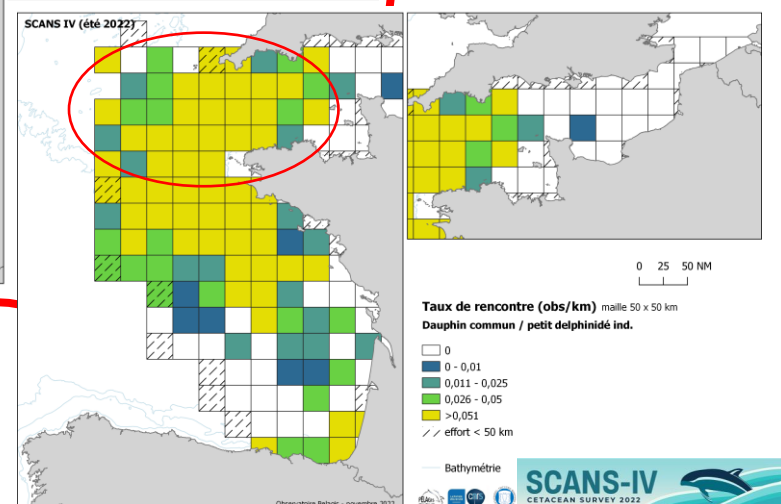
Winter 2021

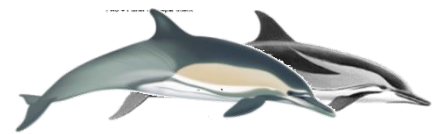


Summer 2016



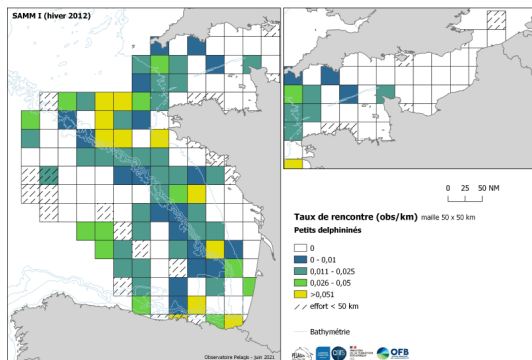
Summer 2022



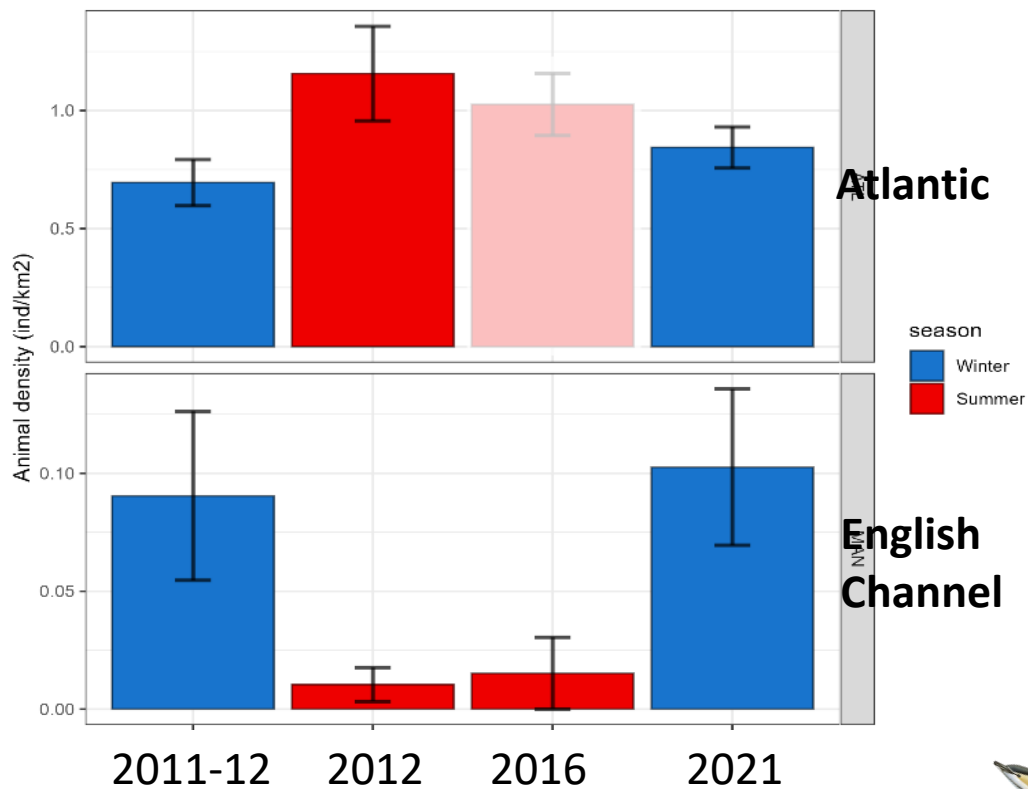
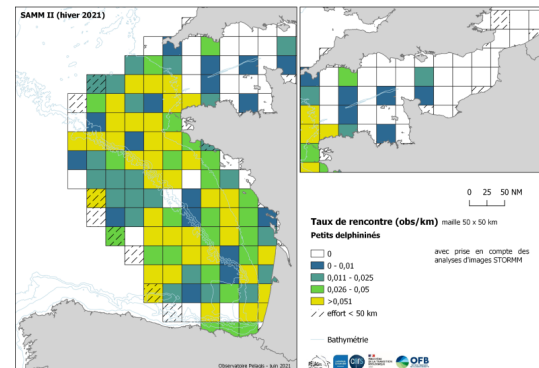


Small delphininae in winter: 2012 and 2021

Winter 2012



Winter 2021



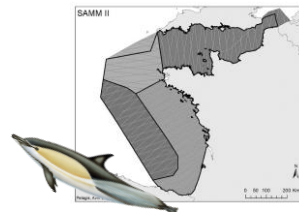
- Density reduced in the northern shelf Atlantic, but group spread over all Atlantic strata

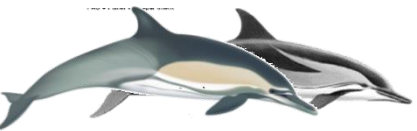
- Relatively stable winter abundance in the area :

→ 164 100 small delphininae (IC 95 % :97 400-278 800) in 2012 to 195 600 individuals (138 900 - 277 200) in 2021

From digital analysis (<- proportion of Common dolphins among small delphininae)

→ 181 000 common dolphins in winter 2021 (IC 95% : 128 000- 258 000) for the area (131 200 Km²)

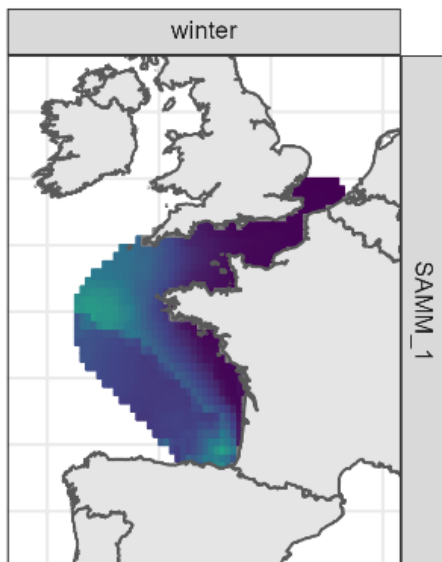




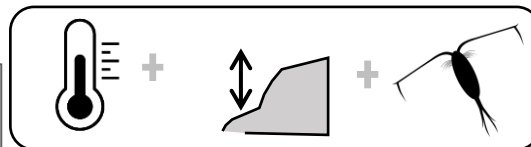
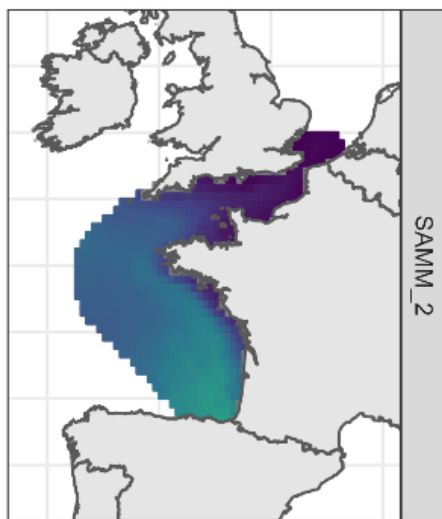
Small delphininae

Global (winter&summer) model

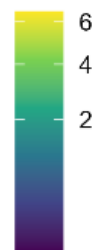
Winter
2011-12



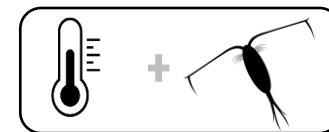
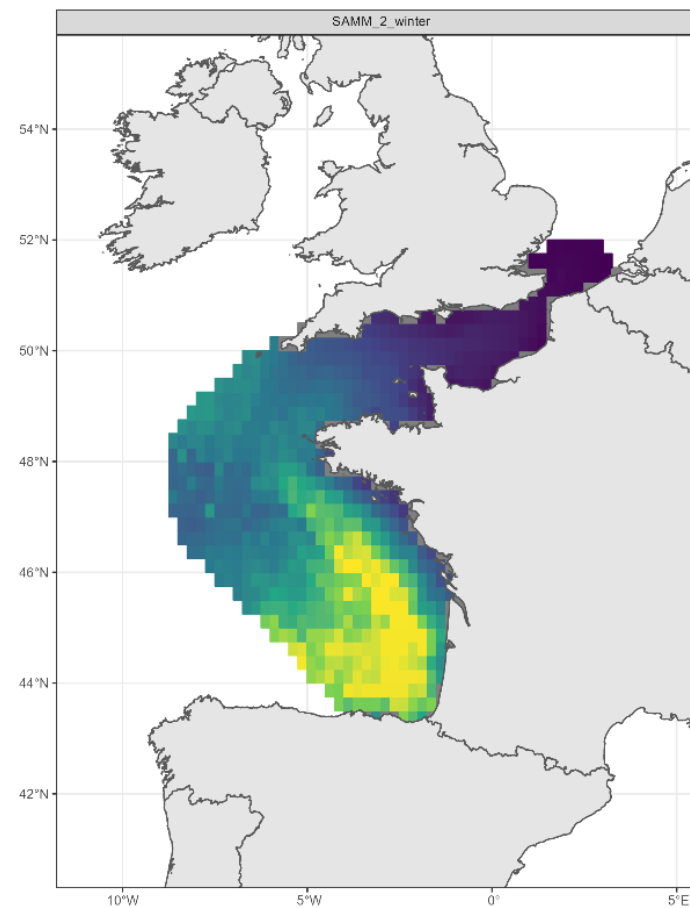
Winter
2021



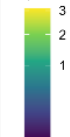
Densité prédite
(ind/km²)



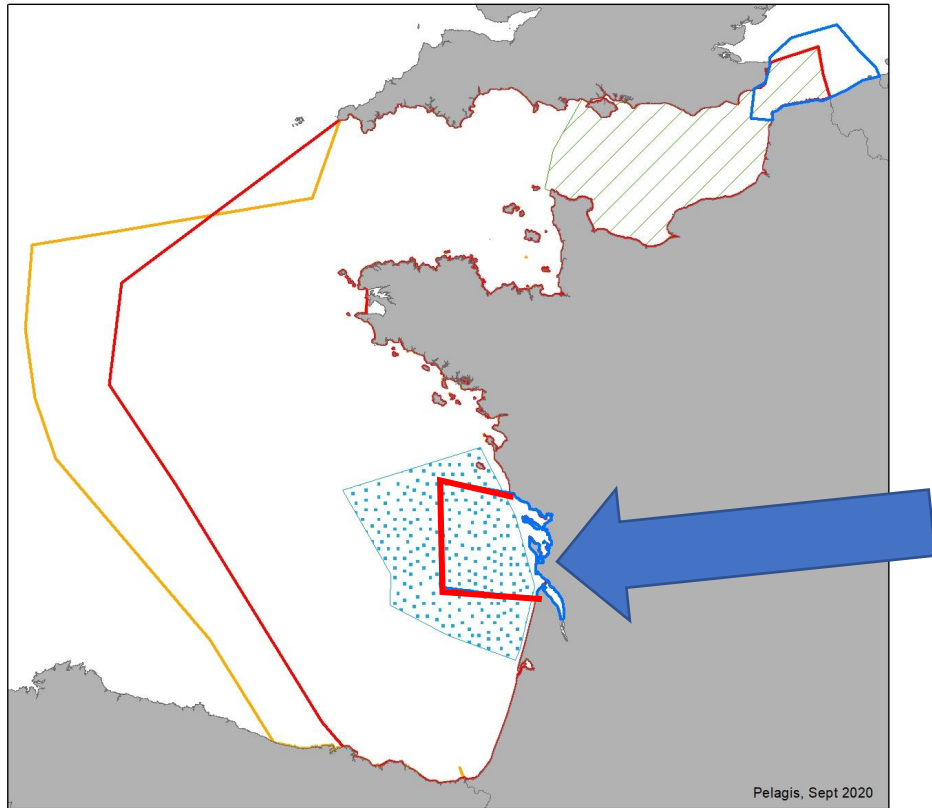
Single winter 2021 model



Densité prédite
(ind/km²)

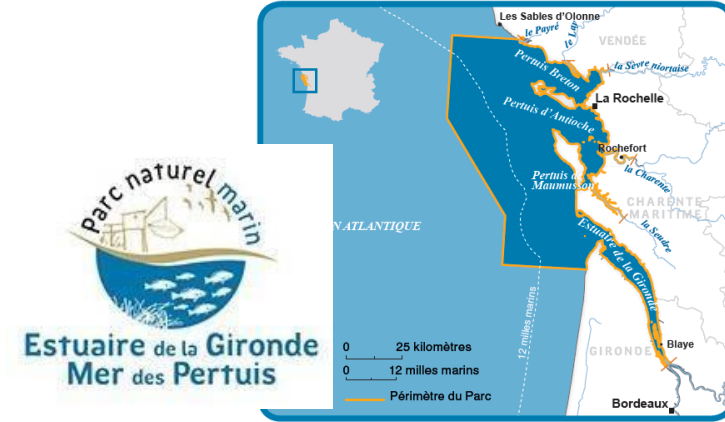


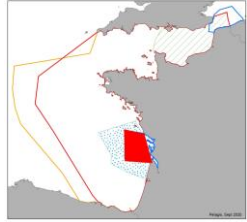
Seasonal variation at small-scale



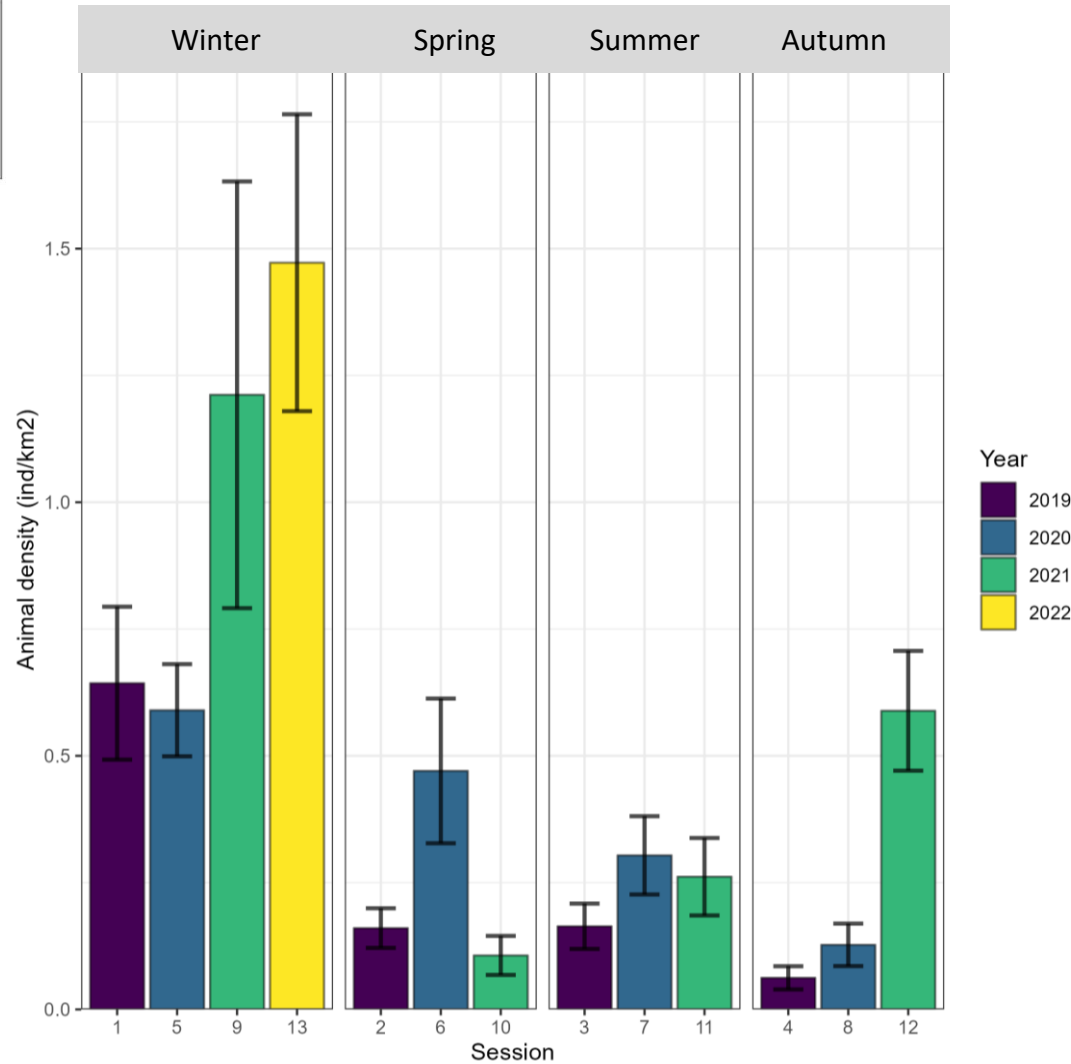
SPEE seasonal surveys for a MPA (2019-22)

Area : 15 000km²
2,500 km/ session
4 sessions /year
2 years

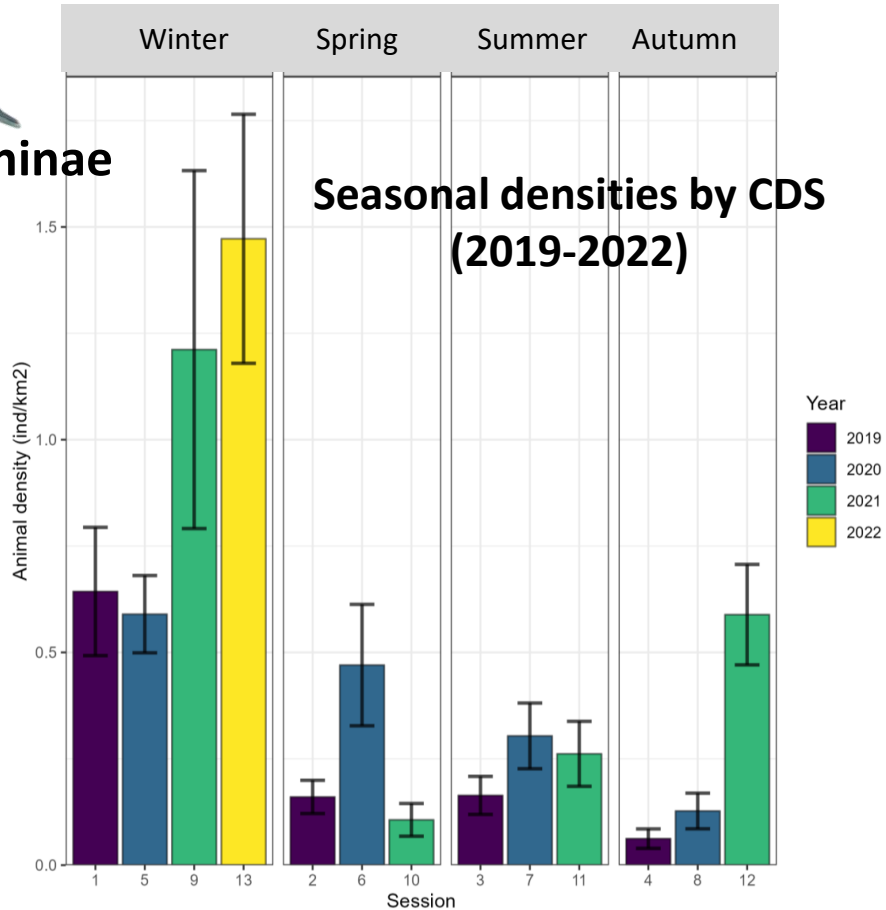
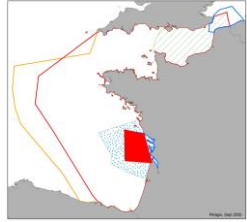




Seasonal densities in the area by CDS (2019-2022)



- Maximum in winter
- Interannual variation

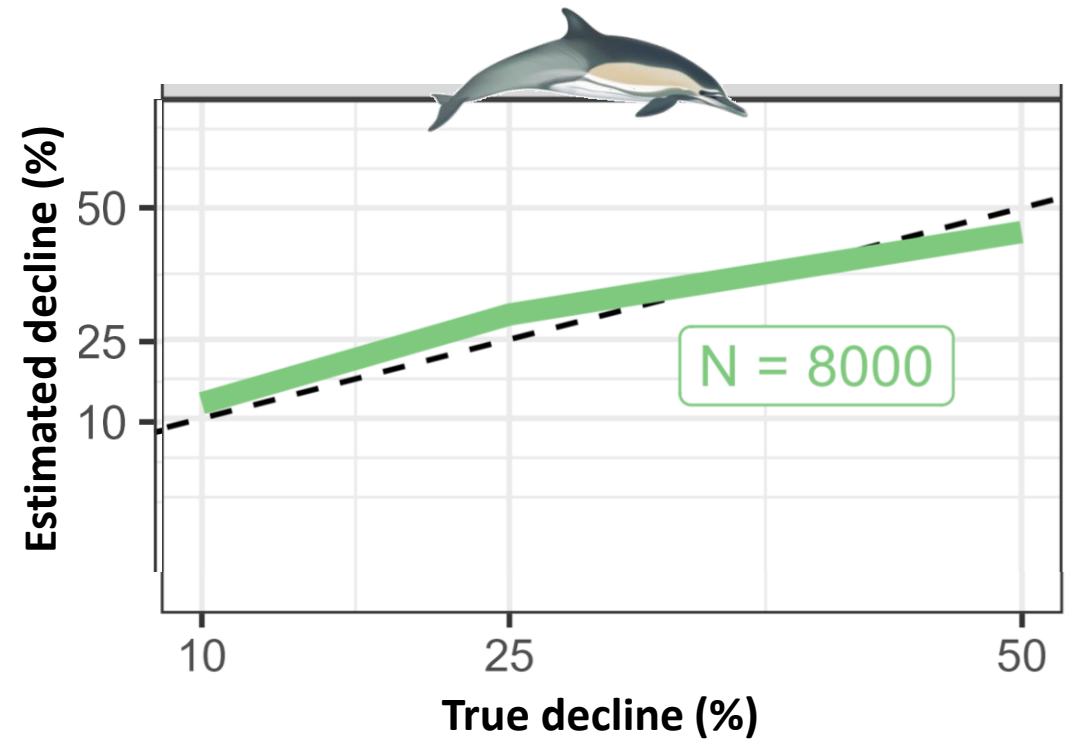


Power analysis

- Simulation of their distribution (← from the 2 first years)
- Simulation of decline (10, 25, 50% tested)
- → Statistical power to detect decline with 6 years of survey

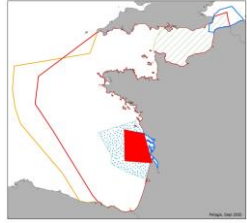
→ Accurate estimation of the decline with 6 years of data

80% for a 50% decline and >50% for a 25% decline

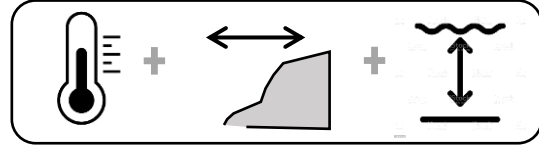




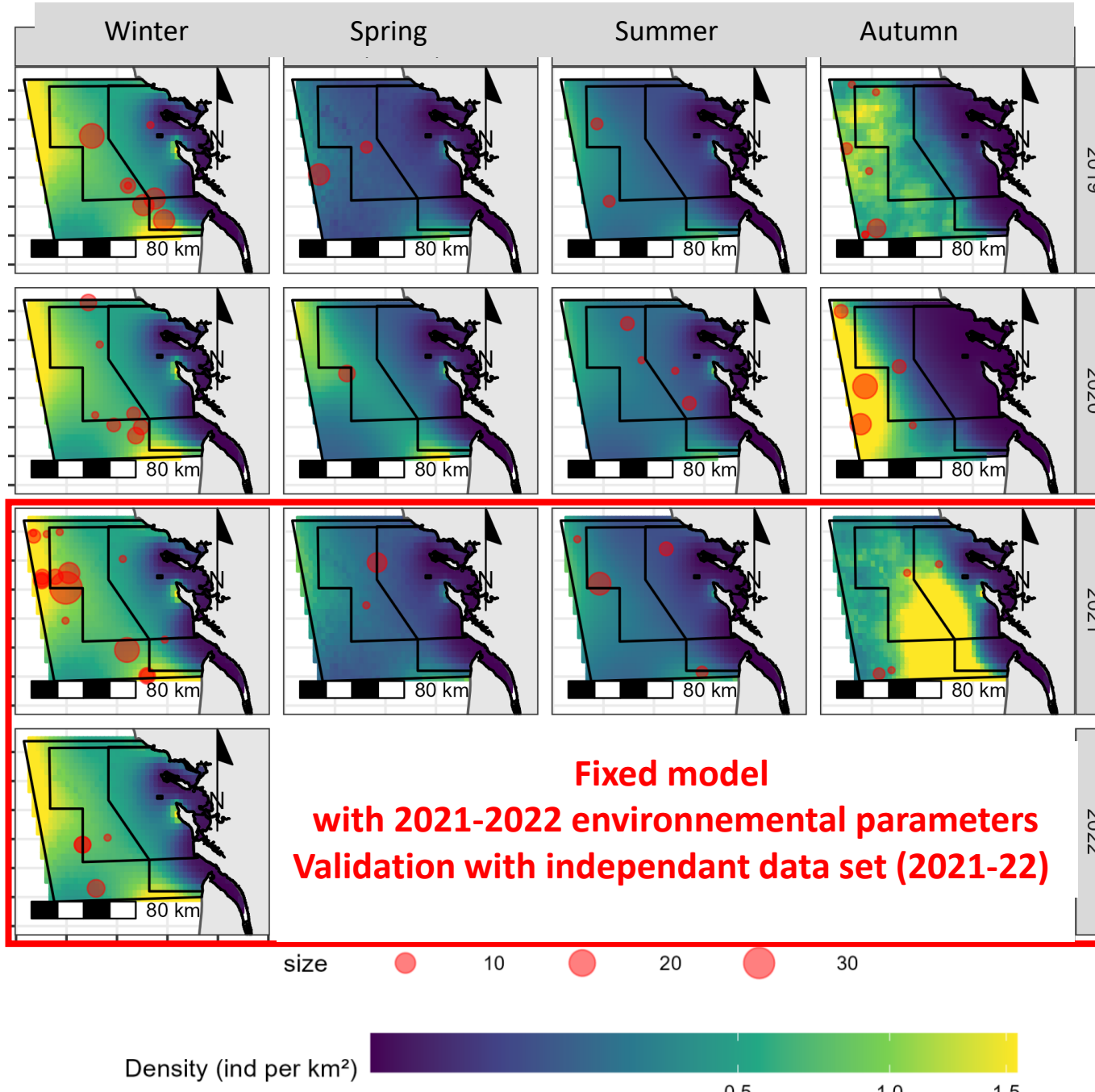
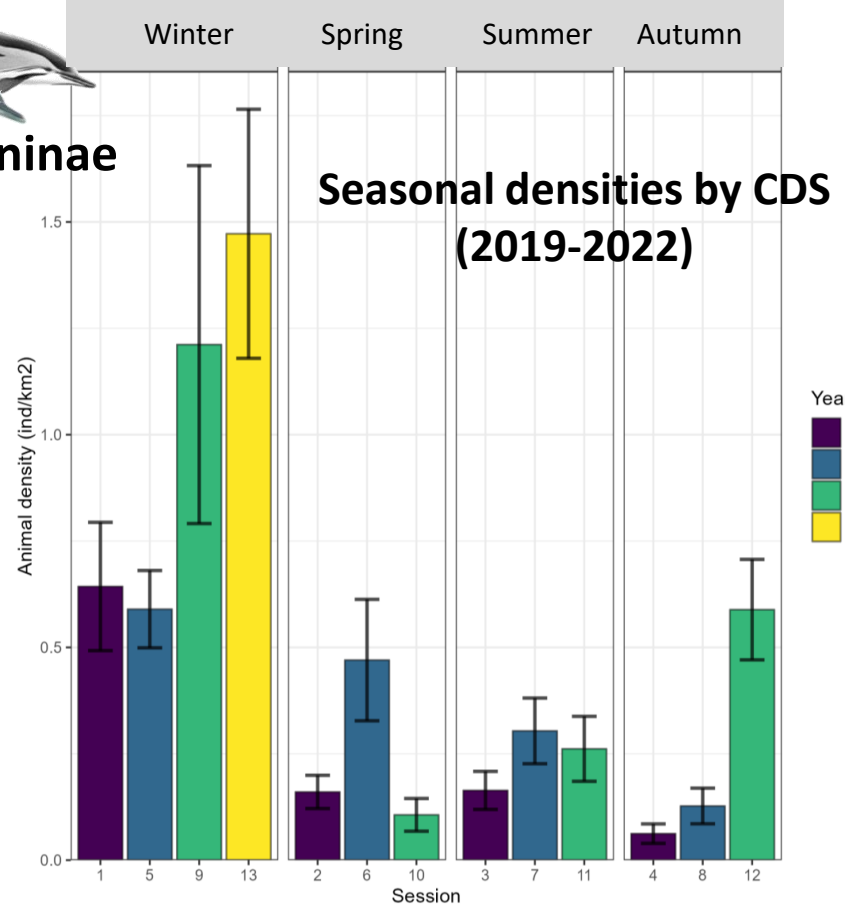
Estuaire de la Gironde
Mer des Pertuis



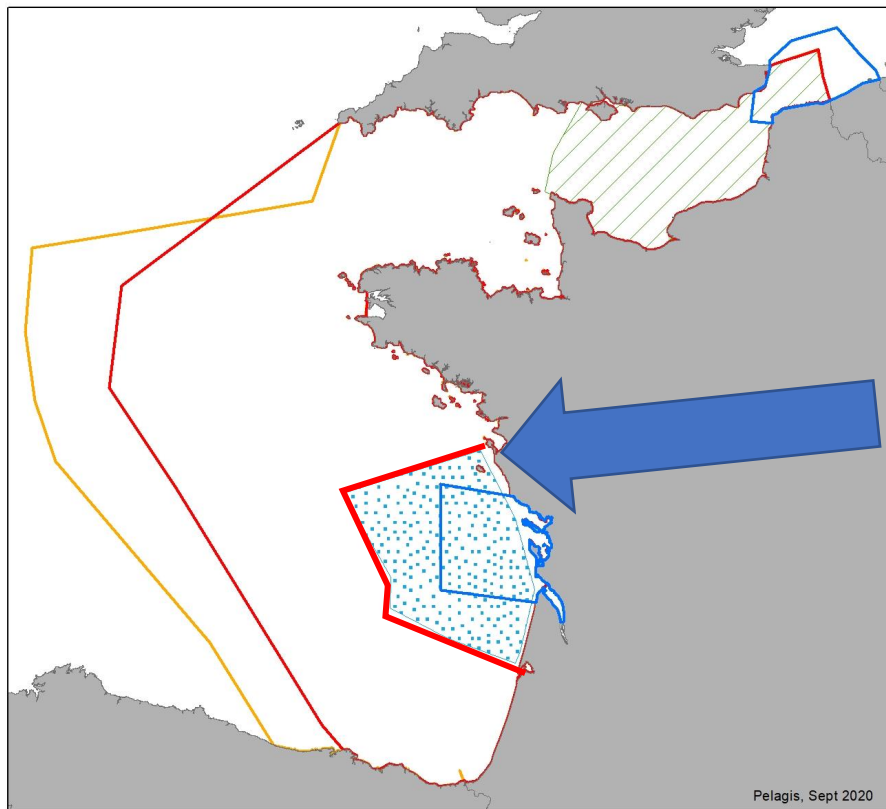
Seasonal DSM (2019-2020)



Small delphininae



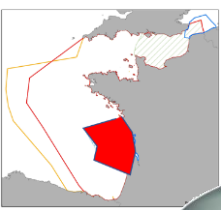
Small-scale change in winter



CAPECET (Jan-Mar 2020 Jan-Mar 2023)

Area : 35 200 km²
1700 km/ session
4 sessions by winter



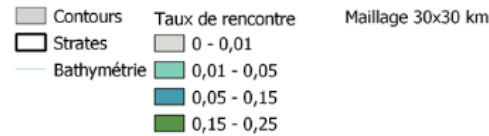
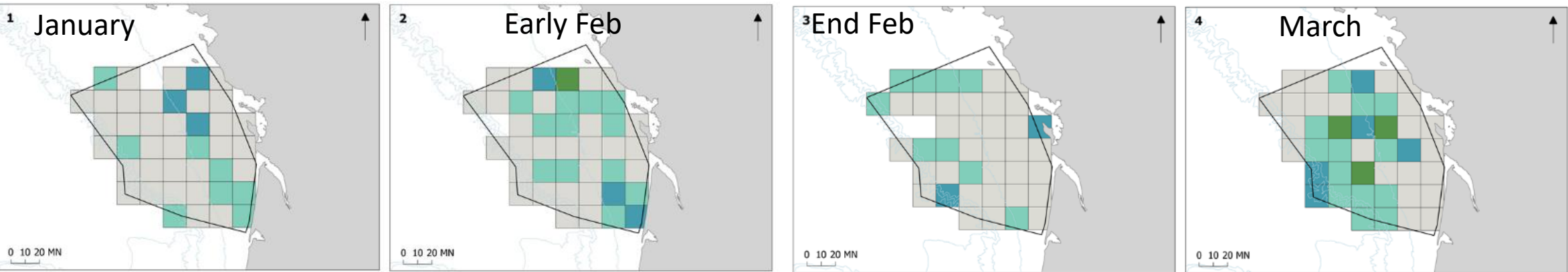


winter 2020



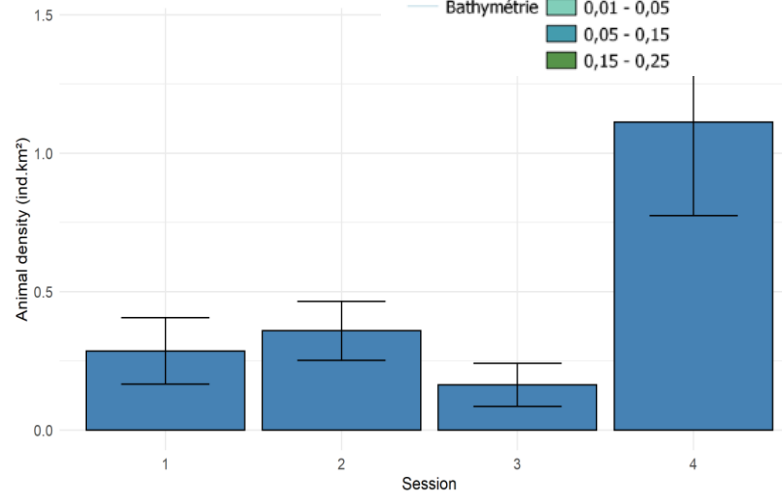
Small delphininae

Encounter rate (sighting/Km)



Observatoire Pelagis - Avril 2020
Projection: Lambert 93
Bathymétrie - Trait de cote : GEBCO14 - GADM

Density (individuals. Km⁻²)



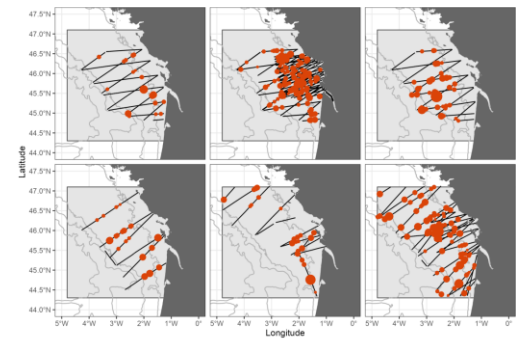
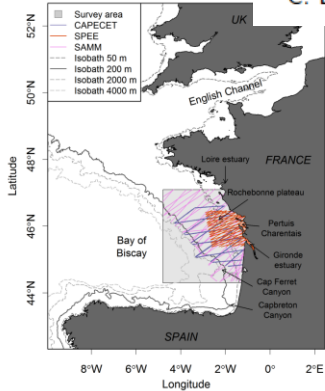
Jan-Mar 2023 same monitoring for **Delmoges** project
(**DEL**phinus **MO**uvements **GEST**ion)



Delayed response to environmental conditions and infra-seasonal dynamics of the short-beaked common dolphin distribution

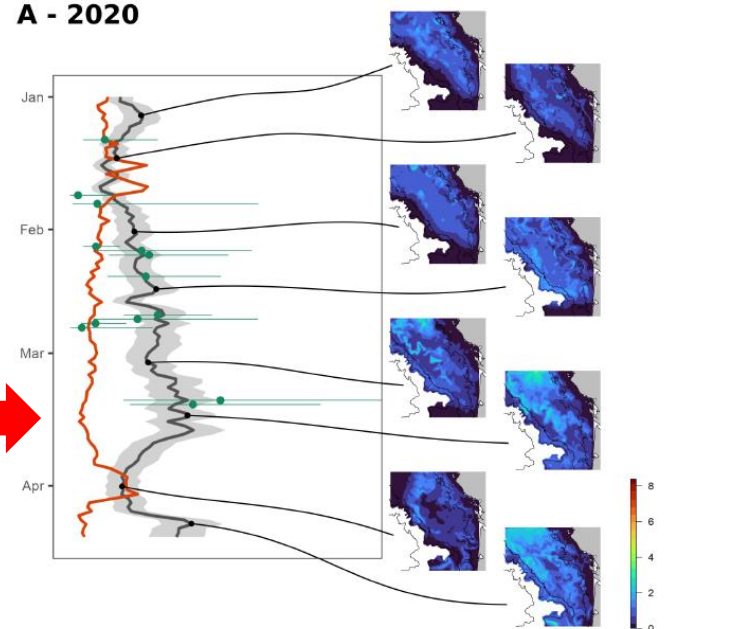
C. Lambert^{1,2}, M. Authier¹, A. Blanchard¹, G. Dorémus¹, S. Laran¹, O. Van Canneyt¹, and J. Spitz^{1,2}

A - Study area



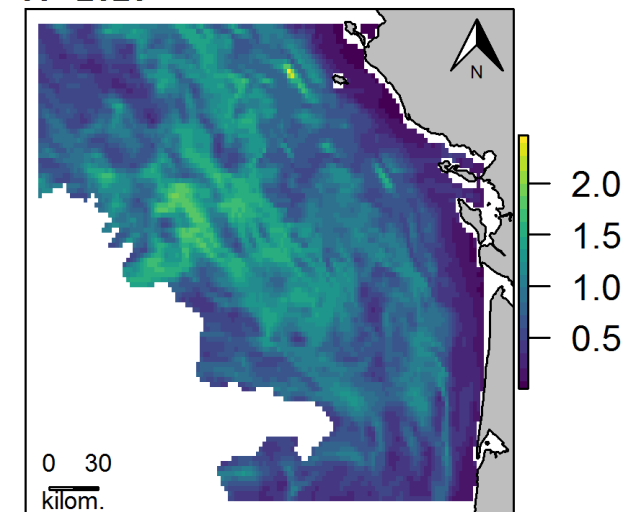
Daily model

A - 2020

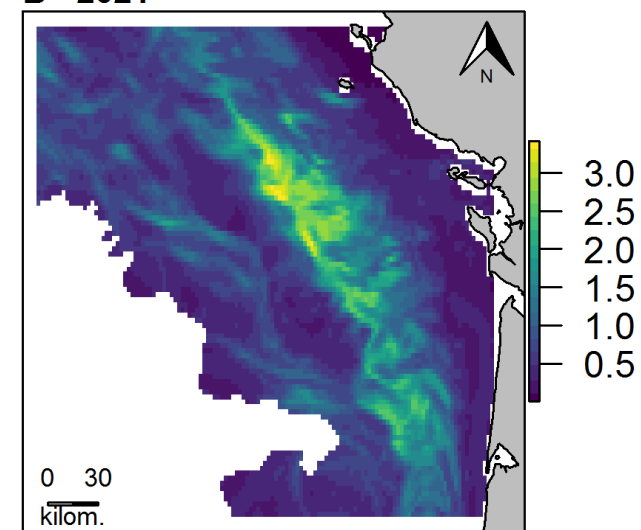


Seasonal model

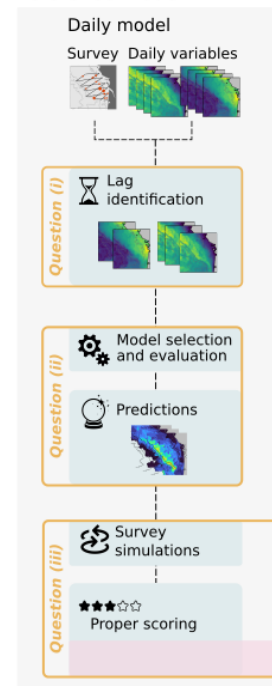
A - 2020



B - 2021



Reference model



Challenger models



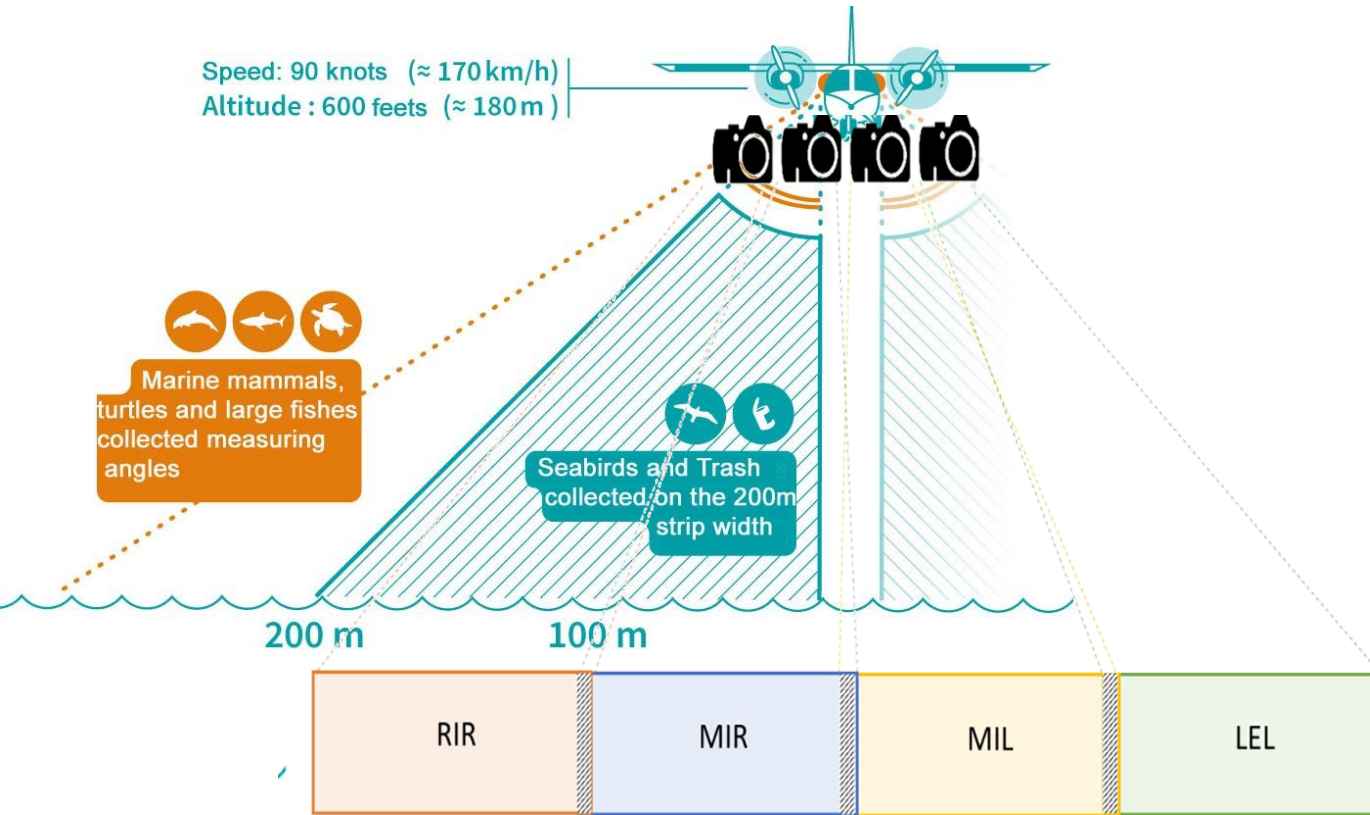
STORMMM

Digital acquisition as support of visual observation



STORMMM

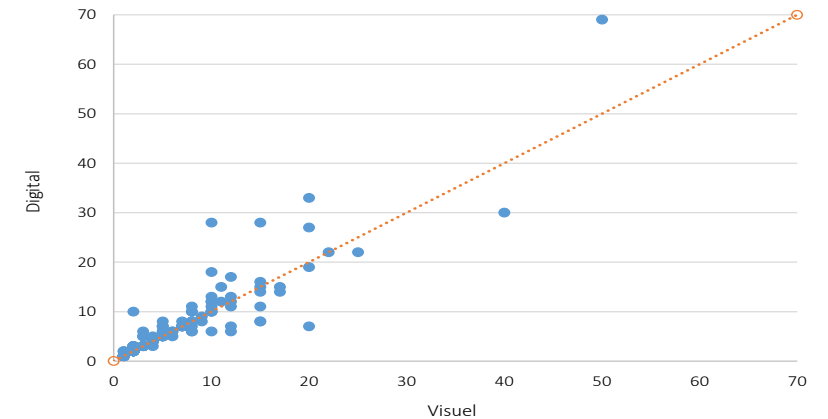
Digital acquisition as support of visual observation



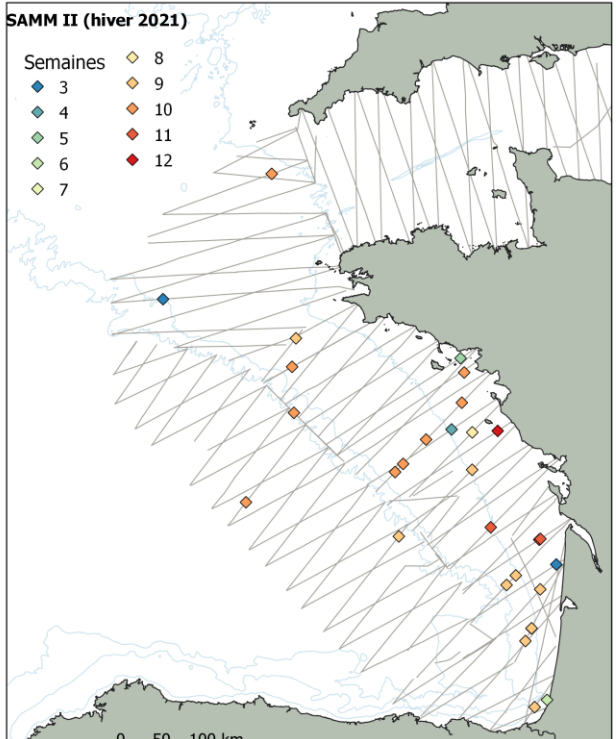
✓ Objectives : Improve the species identification and pod size estimates

→ Proportion of common vs striped dolphins in Winter 2021: 96% of common dolphins for shelf/slope strata and 85 % for oceanic

→ Better estimates of group size (ex: correlation visual/digital)



Using aerial survey to count cetacean carcass floating at sea



Dead cetaceans at sea during SAMM II Winter 2021

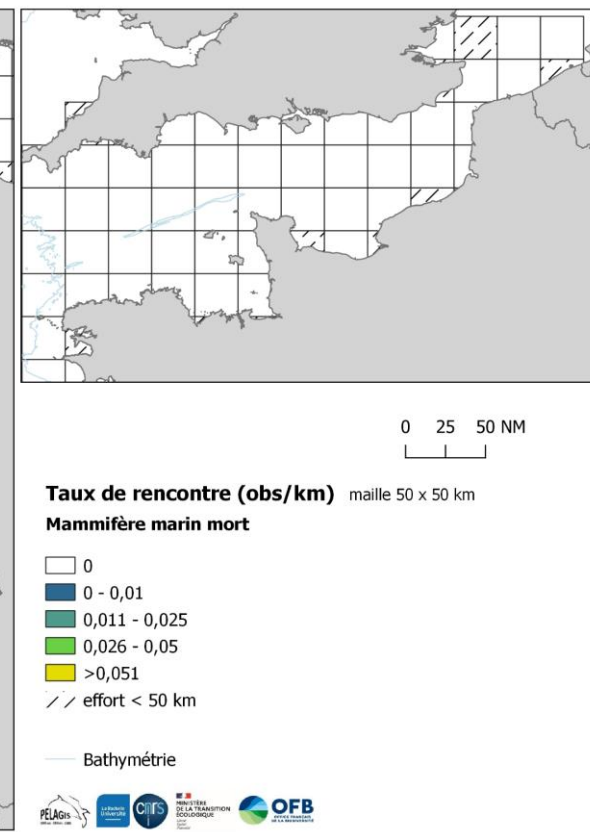
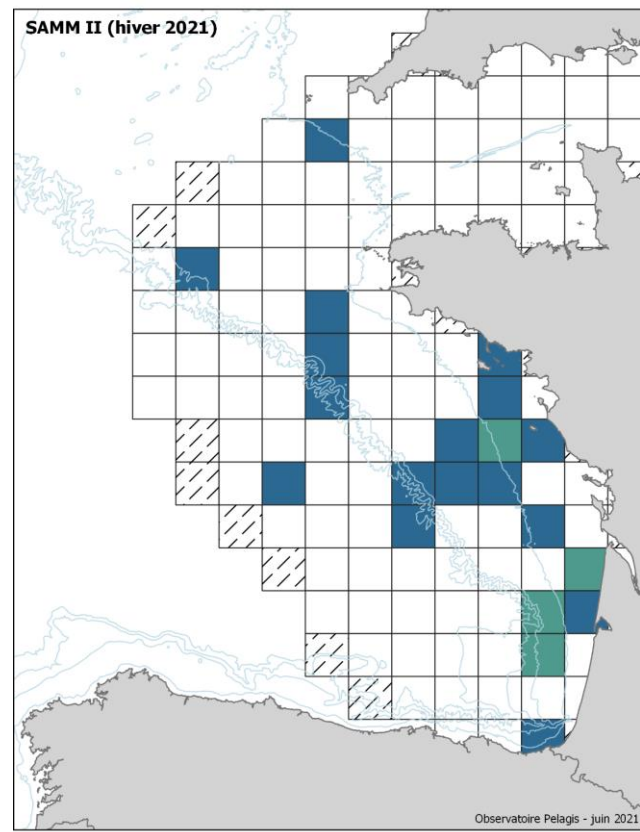
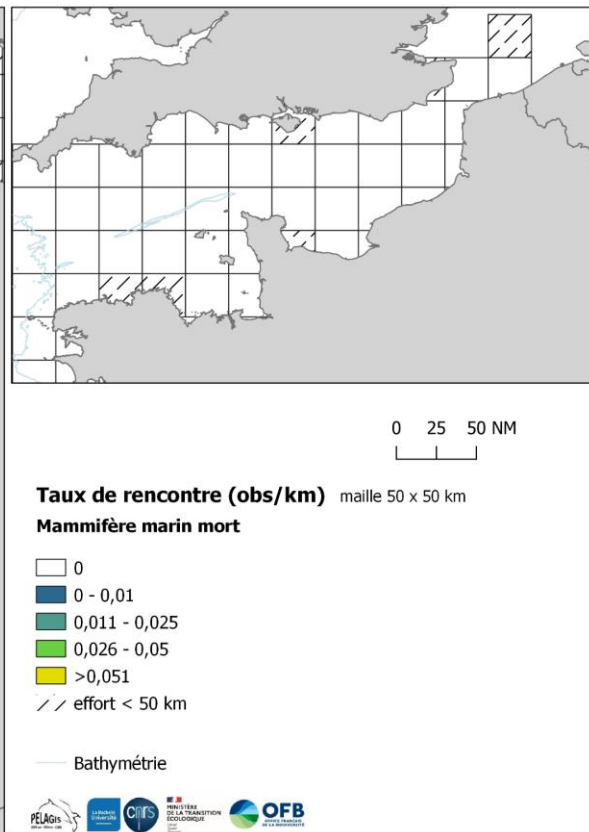
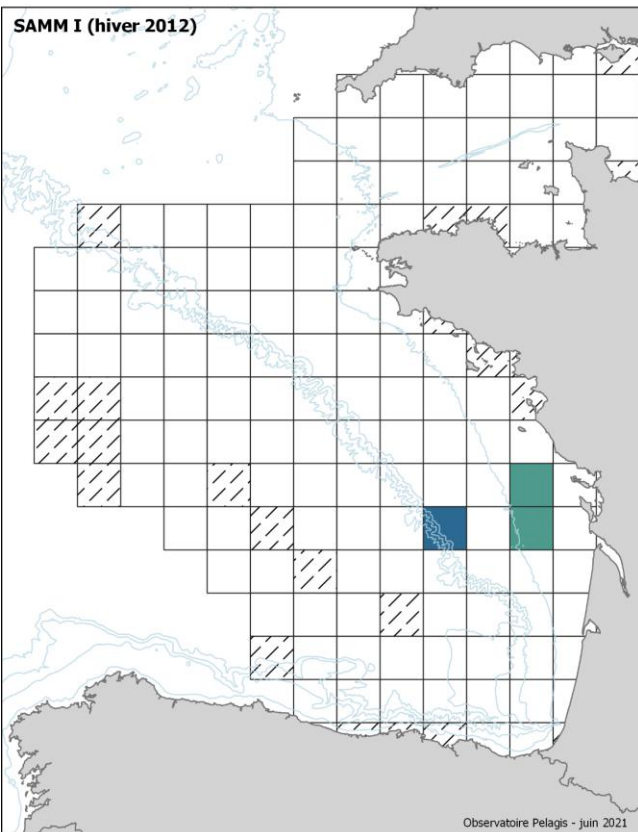




Small cetaceans dead at surface in winter

Winter 2012

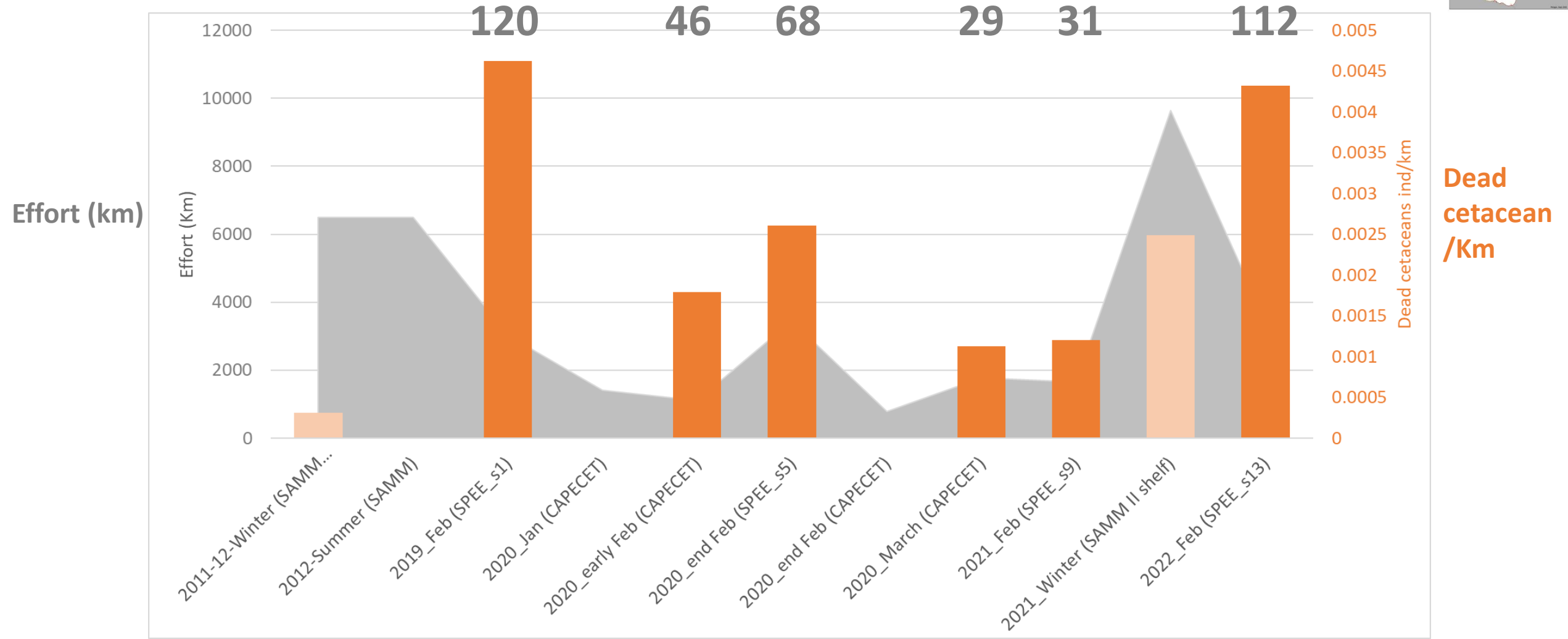
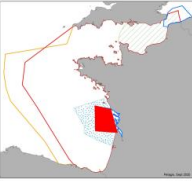
Winter 2021

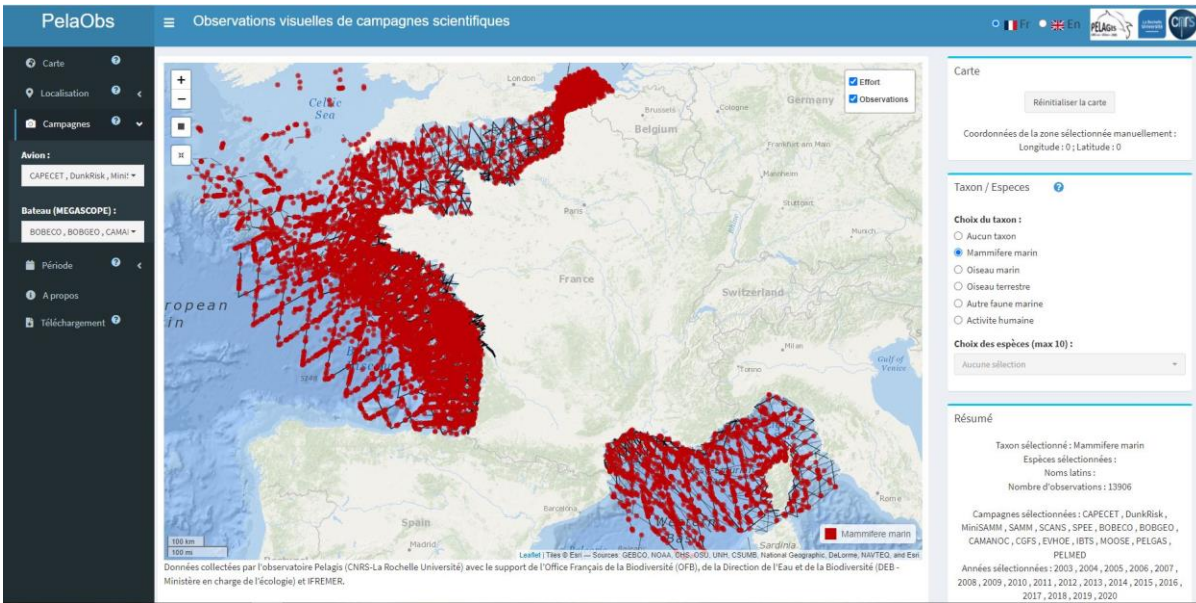




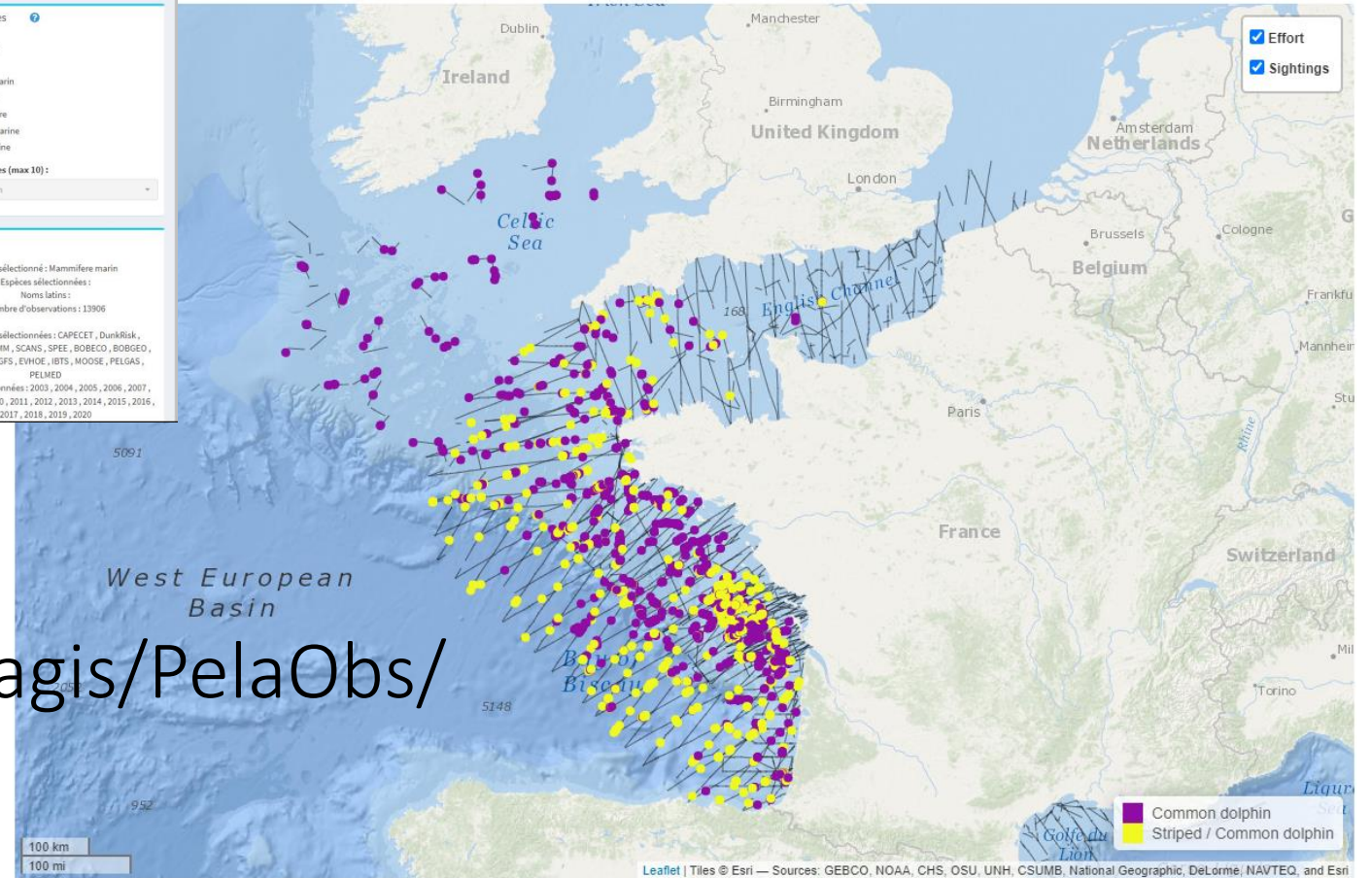
Small cetaceans dead at surface [2019-22]

Estimated number of floating carcasses (CDS for SPEE block area)





2021's sightings already available on line (for boat and aerial surveys)



Data collected by Pelagis (CNRS-La Rochelle University) with the support of the French Biodiversity Agency (OFB), the Department of Water and Biodiversity (DEB - Ministry of Ecology) and IFREMER.

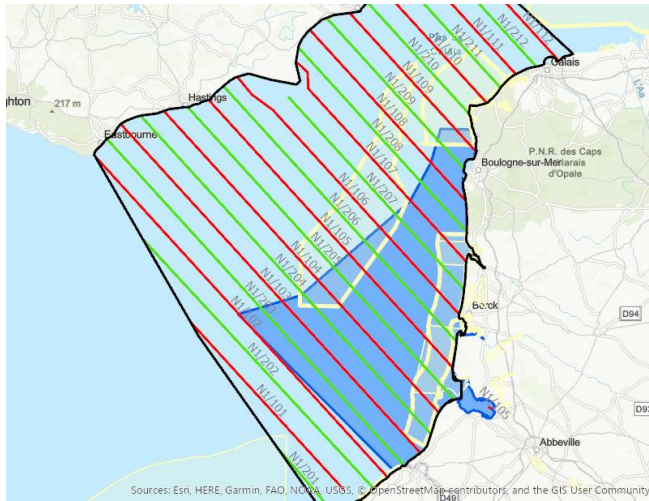
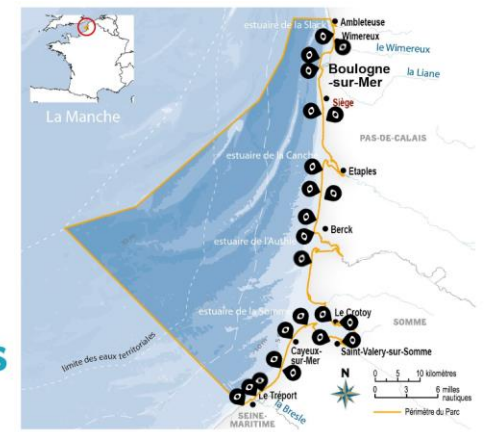
<https://pelabox.univ-lr.fr/pelagis/PelaObs/>

Survey reports available on <https://www.observatoire-pelagis.cnrs.fr/suivis-en-mer/suivis-aerien/>



On going project MAMO survey : New seasonal survey at small-scales

October 2022 – August 2024



Area : 9 100km²
1,500 km/ session
4 sessions /year
2 years



Suspended for now as we are not allowed to fly in most of the English waters