

MIGRATLANE



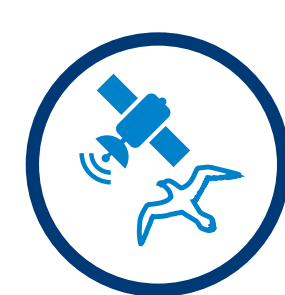
A program for large scale monitoring of flying fauna in the French Atlantic arc

Plenty of bird and bat species occupy the French Atlantic arc, a wide maritime area extending from the Bay of Biscay to the English Channel and the Southern North Sea. There are high knowledge gaps on how these species use this maritime area (to forage, rest and/or migrate), while projects of offshore wind farms are in development. The **MIGRATLANE** program (2023-2027) aims at acquiring precise knowledge on flying fauna in this at-sea area to address ecological challenges (conservation, interactions, etc.).

Budget : 9 millions euros

Combining monitoring methods

Complementary approaches of monitoring means are implemented:

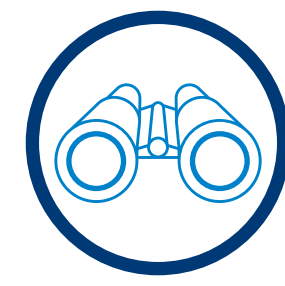


TELEMETRY

- Deployment of GPS or GLS tags on 40 bird species
- Marine birds, wetland birds, passerines, raptors, waders, etc.



ACOUSTIC & OBSERVATIONS



- Acoustic recording at sea (from boats, met mast at sea, buoys) and from the coast (lighthouses, semaphores, etc.)
- Acquisition of nocturnal data
- Observation surveys from the coast and at sea
- Birds and bats (acoustic data)



RADARS

- Ornithological radars ashore (coast) ; fixed and mobile
- Weather radars from the French national network ARAMIS
- All bird species



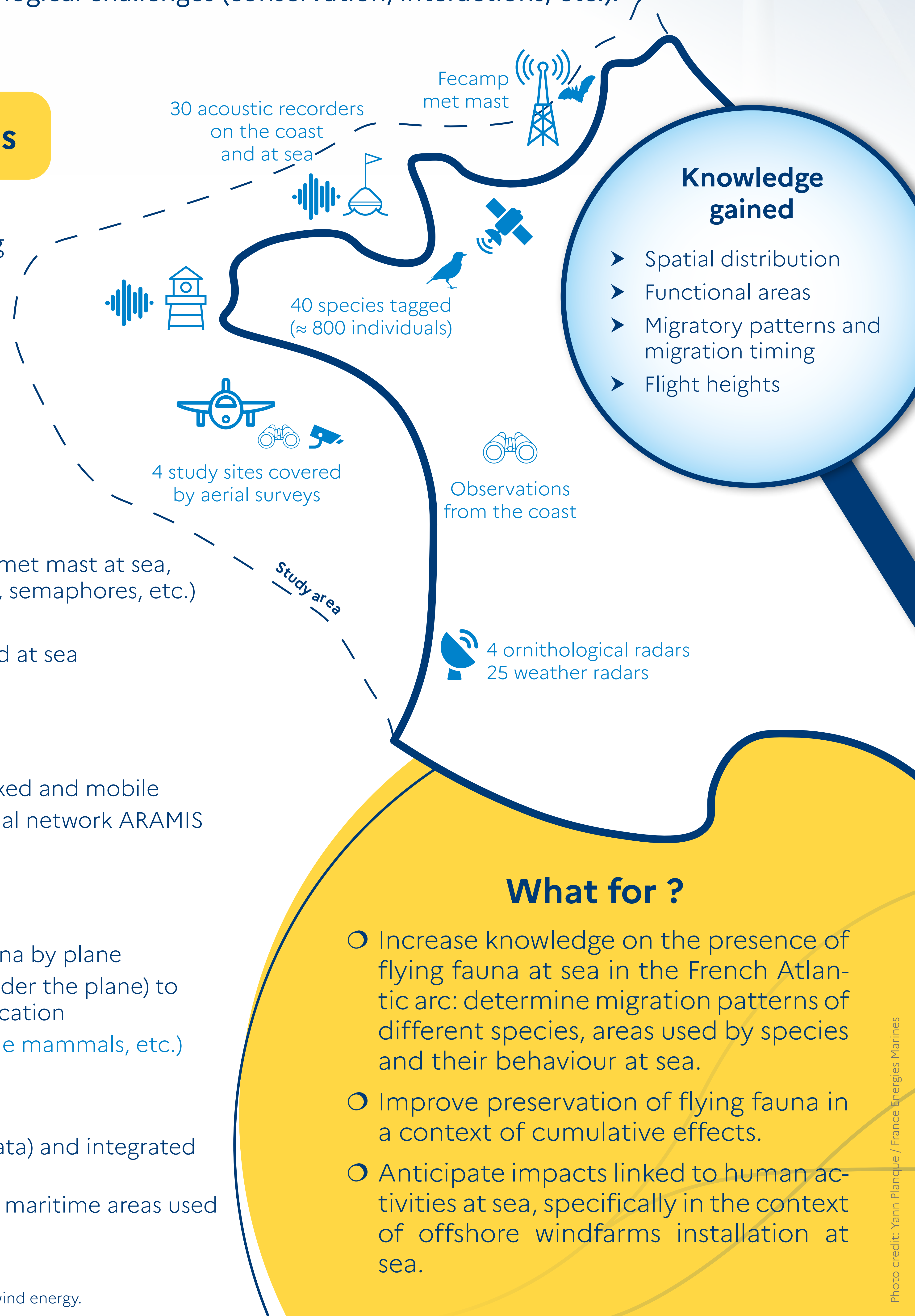
AERIAL SURVEYS

- Visual observations of marine megafauna by plane
- Digital surveys (image from cameras under the plane) to improve detection and species identification
- Marine megafauna (marine birds, marine mammals, etc.)



COMBINED ANALYSES

- Data combining (new data + historic data) and integrated analysis (ex: GPS data + observations)
- Innovative modeling, determination of maritime areas used by avifauna



Knowledge gained

- Spatial distribution
- Functional areas
- Migratory patterns and migration timing
- Flight heights

What for ?

- Increase knowledge on the presence of flying fauna at sea in the French Atlantic arc: determine migration patterns of different species, areas used by species and their behaviour at sea.
- Improve preservation of flying fauna in a context of cumulative effects.
- Anticipate impacts linked to human activities at sea, specifically in the context of offshore windfarms installation at sea.

Research program financed by the French National Observatory of offshore wind energy.

Steering committee

Coordination

Scientific partners

Learn more



Photo credit: Yann Planque / France Energies Marines