MIGRATLANE

OFB
OFFICE FRANÇAIS DE LA BIODIVERSITÉ

Monitoring of flying fauna in the French Atlantic arc using **observational** and **acoustic surveys**

The **MIGRATLANE** program (2023-2027) aims at acquiring knowledge on flying fauna in the French Atlantic arc (English Channel/Southern North Sea, Atlantic) in a context of interactions with human activities, especially as offshore wind farm projects are set to be largely developed in this area. Visual and acoustic surveys are some of the methods used to monitor birds and bats. Acoustic surveys allow for species monitoring by night and visual surveys allow for daylight monitoring, to better characterise spatio-temporal migration patterns.

Acoustic recordings

Birds produce specific **vocalisations** depending on species.

Bats produce **ultrasounds** to move and feed (echolocation).

Different **recorders** are installed on the coast and at sea to detect birds and bats passings.

Visual observations

Ornithologists observe and identify seabirds and migratory landbirds from different seawatch spots on the coast and at sea.

DATA COLLECTING PERIODS

By night, from sunset to sunrise

By day

EQUIPMENTS

Solar BAR

or

SM4 (bird)

detect audible sounds (birds)

SM4-FS (bat)

detect ultrasounds (bats)

Binoculars, telescopes

SPATIAL SAMPLING

Recorders fixed on several structures along the entire French part of the Channel/North sea/Atlantic coastline:

coastal building — *lighthouse semaphore* — *buoy* — *met mast* — *offshore wind turbine*

Mobile installations on:

oceanographic ships

ferries crossing the English Channel

Seawatching surveys from fixed locations along the entire Channel/North sea/Atlantic French coastline

Sea transects (via scientific collaborations)

More knowledge on:

- Species at sea during migrations
- Seasonal and daily presence variability
- Behaviours (flying height, etc.)
- Influence of environmental factors

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Photo credit: Yann Planque, S. Provost - Birding msm, Louise / Pixabay, Wildlife Acoustrics, macrovector / Freepik

Steering committee

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