



**PANACHE**

Protected Area Network Across  
the Channel Ecosystem

THE ENGLISH CHANNEL  
one  
ecosystem two  
projects

FINAL CONFERENCE - MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2015 - TORQUAY



# PANACHE

Protected Area Network Across  
the Channel Ecosystem

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## **Assessing the Ecological Coherence of the Channel MPA Network**

# PROJECT FRAMEWORK

## PANACHE - Protected Area Network across the Channel Ecosystem



### WORK PACKAGES

WP1

Assess the existing MPA  
network and its  
ecological coherence

WP2

Coherent approach in the  
monitoring of MPAs

WP3

Consistent management plan  
framework in the Channel region

WP4

Awareness of MPAs through  
engagement in joint citizen science  
programs

WP5

GIS database portal

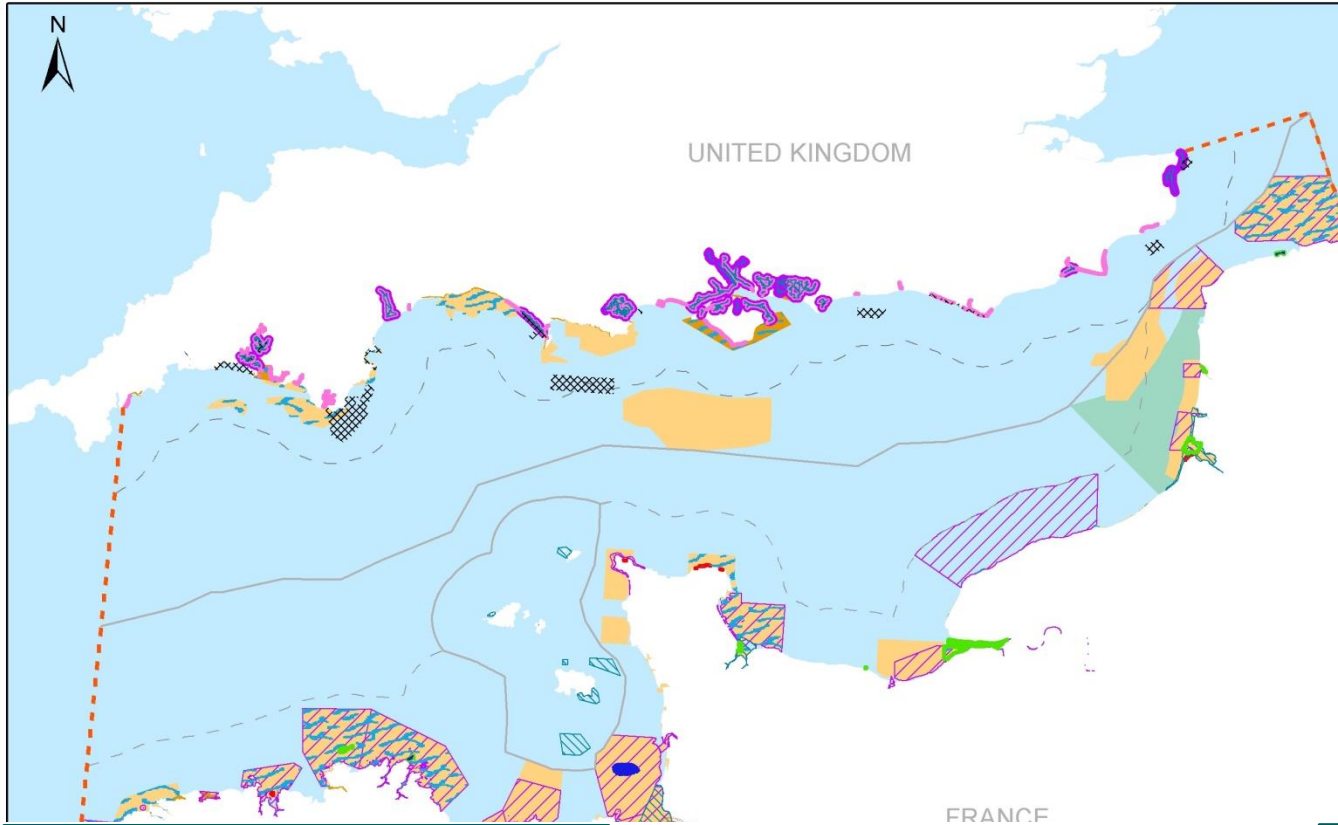


# PANACHE STUDY AREA



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## Marine Protected Areas Network PANACHE Project

### National Marine Protected area

- Parc naturel marin
- Réserves naturelles nationales et régionales
- Aire de protection de biotope
- Domaine public maritime relevant du Conservatoire du Littoral
- Site of Special Scientific Interest SSSI
- Marine Conservation Zone

### International Marine Protected Area

- Site d'importance communautaire SIC
- Site of Community Importance SCI
- Zone spéciale de conservation ZSC
- Special Area of Conservation SAC
- Zone de protection spéciale ZPS
- Special Protection Area SPA
- W World Heritage Site
- MAB Biosphere Reserve
- M Marine Protected Area OSPAR
- Wetlands of international importance RAMSAR

### Maritime boundaries

- Territorial waters (12 nm)
- Territorial sea boundary or continental shelf under law and bilateral agreement (or fisheries agreement (Guernsey))
- PANACHE project

Data source :  
- Sites Natura 2000 : INPN-MNHN/AAMP, octobre 2012 -

## France

- Parcs Naturels Marins (2)
- Réserves Naturelles (9)
- Arrêtés préfectoraux de protection du biotope (4)
- Parties maritimes du domaine relevant du Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres (3)

## Common designations

- |                                      |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| (77) Natura 2000 sites (SACs & SPAs) | (25) |
| (18) OSPAR sites                     | (13) |
| (3) RAMSAR sites                     | (10) |

## Channel Islands

RAMSAR sites (7)

## England

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (39)
- Marine conservation Zones (12)

**222 MPAs assessed**

# WHY ECOLOGICAL COHERENCE?

- MPAs typically established individually, over varying timescales and with different objectives

## International commitments:

- **CBD:** Aichi targets, beyond the 10%: *...ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas...*
- **Natura 2000:** *...A coherent European ecological network of special areas of conservation shall be set up under the title Natura 2000... (Habitats Directive)*
- **OSPAR:** *... (the network of OSPAR MPAs) by 2012 it should be ecologically coherent, and include sites representative of all biogeographic regions in the OSPAR maritime area...*

# WHAT IS ECOLOGICAL COHERENCE?

- A marine protected area (MPA) network is a group of MPAs that when connected helps protect the habitats and species within them to a greater degree than a single MPA
- Features are protected in multiple locations
- Ecological coherence assessments are one way of determining if MPA networks are ecologically sound
- First step in MPA networks being effective
- An ecologically coherent MPA network (OSPAR, 2007):
  - i. Interacts and supports the wider environment
  - ii. Functions as a whole so that individual MPAs benefit from one another
  - iii. Is resilient to changing conditions

# What is a coherent MPA network and how do we assess it?

| <b>Criteria</b>         | <b>A network of MPAs that...</b>                              | <b>Assessment</b>  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Representativity</b> | ...contains representative samples of the features at risk... | Presence/absence   |
| <b>Replication</b>      | ...has features replicated across the network...              | Number   |
| <b>Adequacy</b>         | ...has large enough habitats...                               | Area of habitat  |
| <b>Viability</b>        | ...is large enough to be viable...                            | MPA size, area of habitat  |
| <b>Connectivity</b>     | ...is well connected...                                       | Areas of ecological importance: source, sinks, stepping-stones, distance ... |

# PANACHE ECOLOGICAL COHERENCE ASSESSMENT

## Methods

## Criteria

Matrix/spreadsheet  
analysis

Representativity  
Replication

Qualifying species  
EUNIS level 3 habitats  
OSPAR habitats  
Annex I habitats

Spatial analysis

Representativity  
Replication  
Adequacy  
Viability  
Connectivity

Geography, biogeography,  
bathymetry  
FCOI, EUNIS level 3 habitats  
Area of HOCl, EUNIS level 3  
habitats  
MPA size & shape  
Size distribution of EUNIS Level  
3 habitats  
MPAs & EUNIS level 3 habitat  
patches, HOCl

Expert-based  
questionnaire

Management  
effort

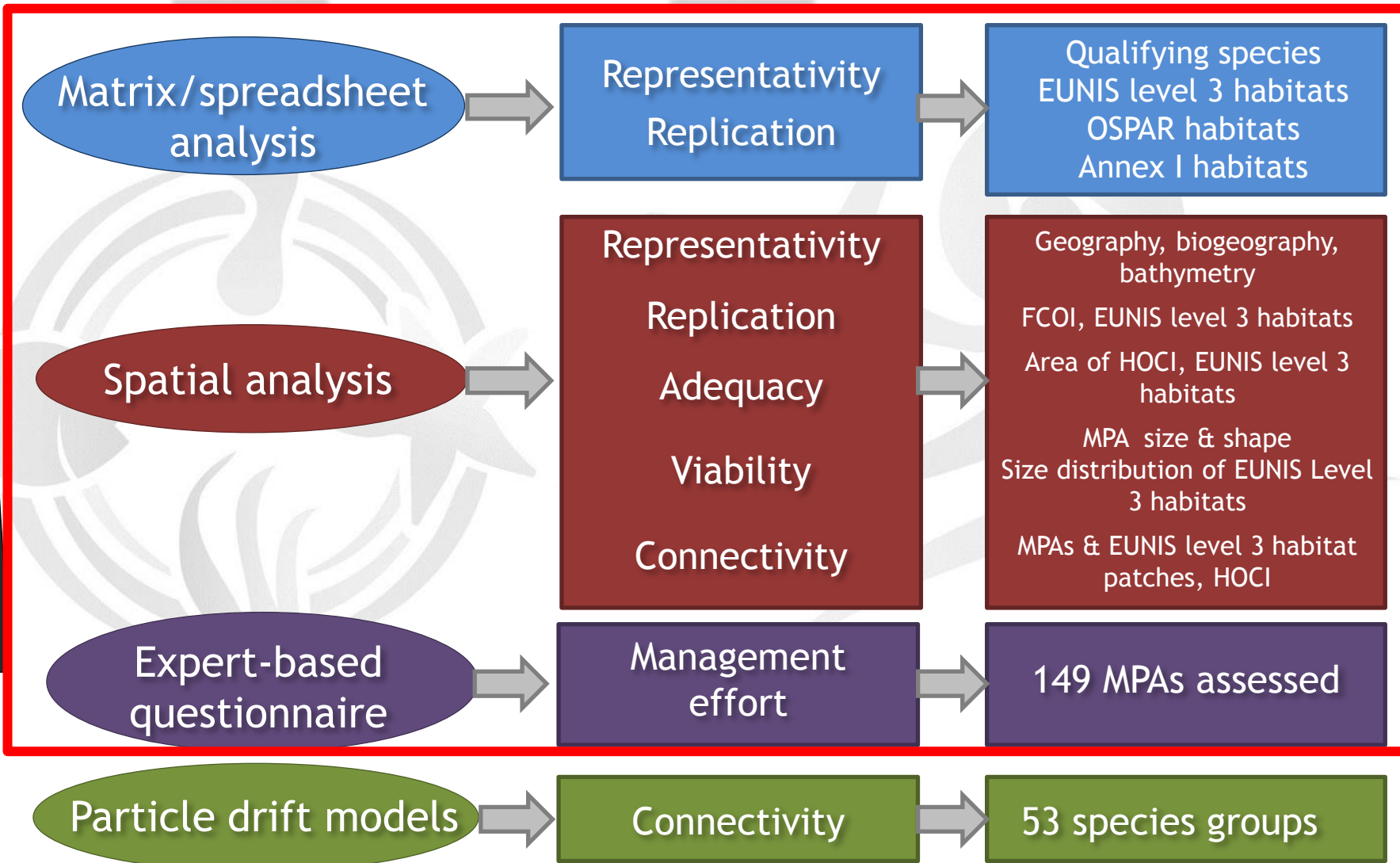
149 MPAs assessed

Particle drift models

Connectivity

53 species groups

Data requirements





# DATASETS



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## Habitats and species selected based on availability of data

The collage features several key environmental data and policy websites:

- DASSH** (The Archive for Marine Species and Habitats Data): Aims, My DASSH, Data, Search Catalogue.
- CHARM** (Channel Integrated Approach for Marine Resource Management): Home, About, Themes, Tools, Communications, Contact us, Reports.
- EMODnet** (European Marine Observation and Data Network): Home, EUSeaMap, Pilot portal for broadscale modelled seabed habitats.
- MESH** (Mapping European Seabed Habitats): Home, Scope of Project, Product Library, Contribute, Partners.
- PACOMM** (Programme d'Acquisition de Connaissances sur les Mammifères Marins en France métropolitaine): Action programme on Seabirds and Marine Mammals in Mainland France, 2011 - 2014.
- JNCC** (Joint Nature Conservation Committee): Home, Marine, Marine Conservation Zone Features.
- English Nature**: Management of Dawlish, Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.
- Other documents**: Formal advice under Regulation 35(3) of The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012; Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS); Electronic OSPAR MPA Nomination Form.

# THRESHOLDS

## Representativity<sup>1</sup>

- 10% of marine areas & biogeographic provinces

## Replication<sup>2</sup>

- 2 replicates for EUNIS Level 3 habitats
- 3 replicates for OSPAR T&D habitats and species

## Adequacy<sup>3</sup>

- Habitat-specific threshold values from Dordini (2010)

- <20% of questioned

Thresholds can be applied at different levels:

- whole study area
- biogeographic province
- east and west Channel

## Viability<sup>4</sup>

- Minimum MPA size of 0.2 km<sup>2</sup> & 10 km<sup>2</sup>
- Optimum MPA size of 10-100 km<sup>2</sup>

## Connectivity - maximum distance<sup>5</sup>

- 40 km for EUNIS habitats
- 40, 45 & 50 km for Maerl beds, *Sabellaria* reefs & *Zostera* beds

# Broadscale Analyses



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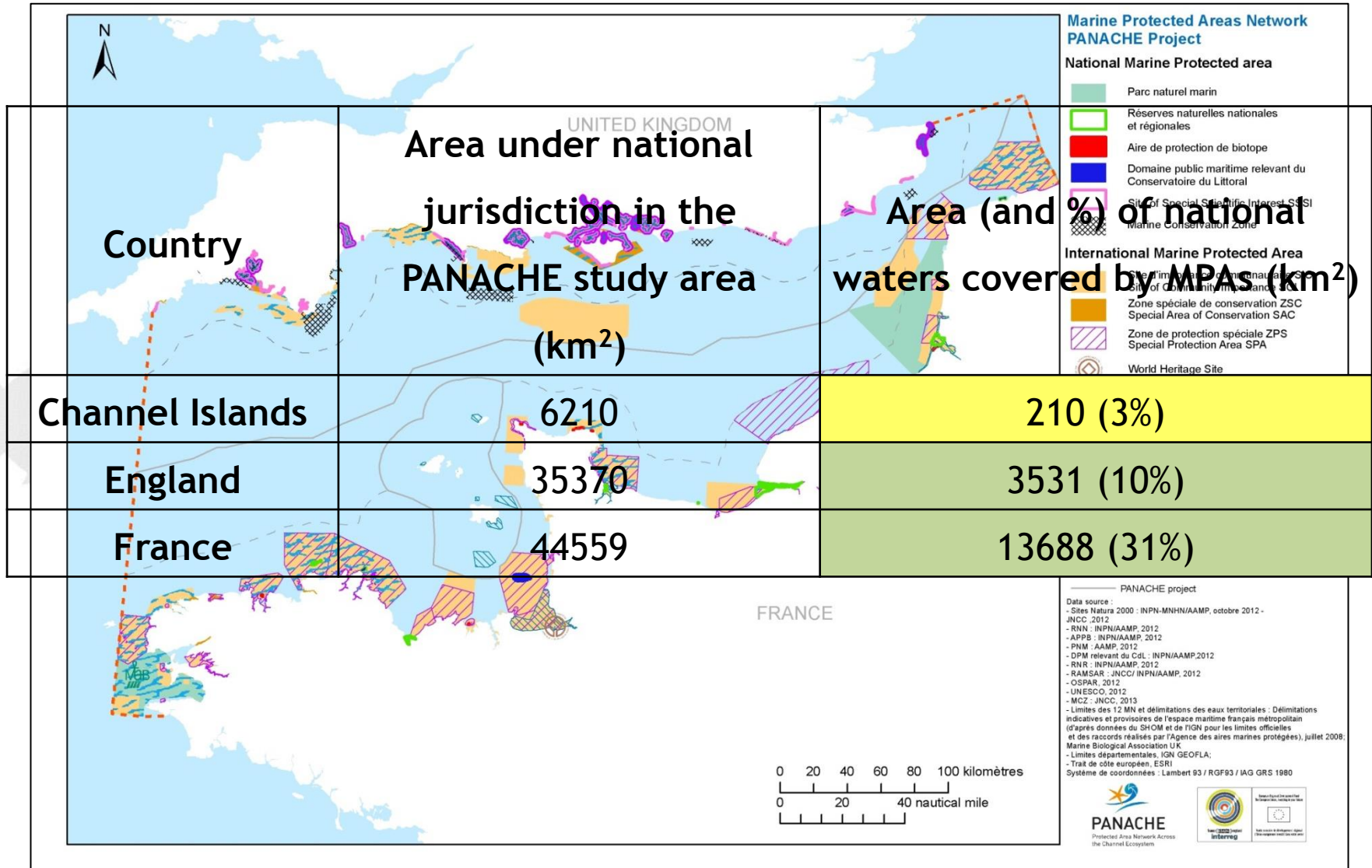


# GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATIVITY



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- 20% of study area is enclosed within MPAs



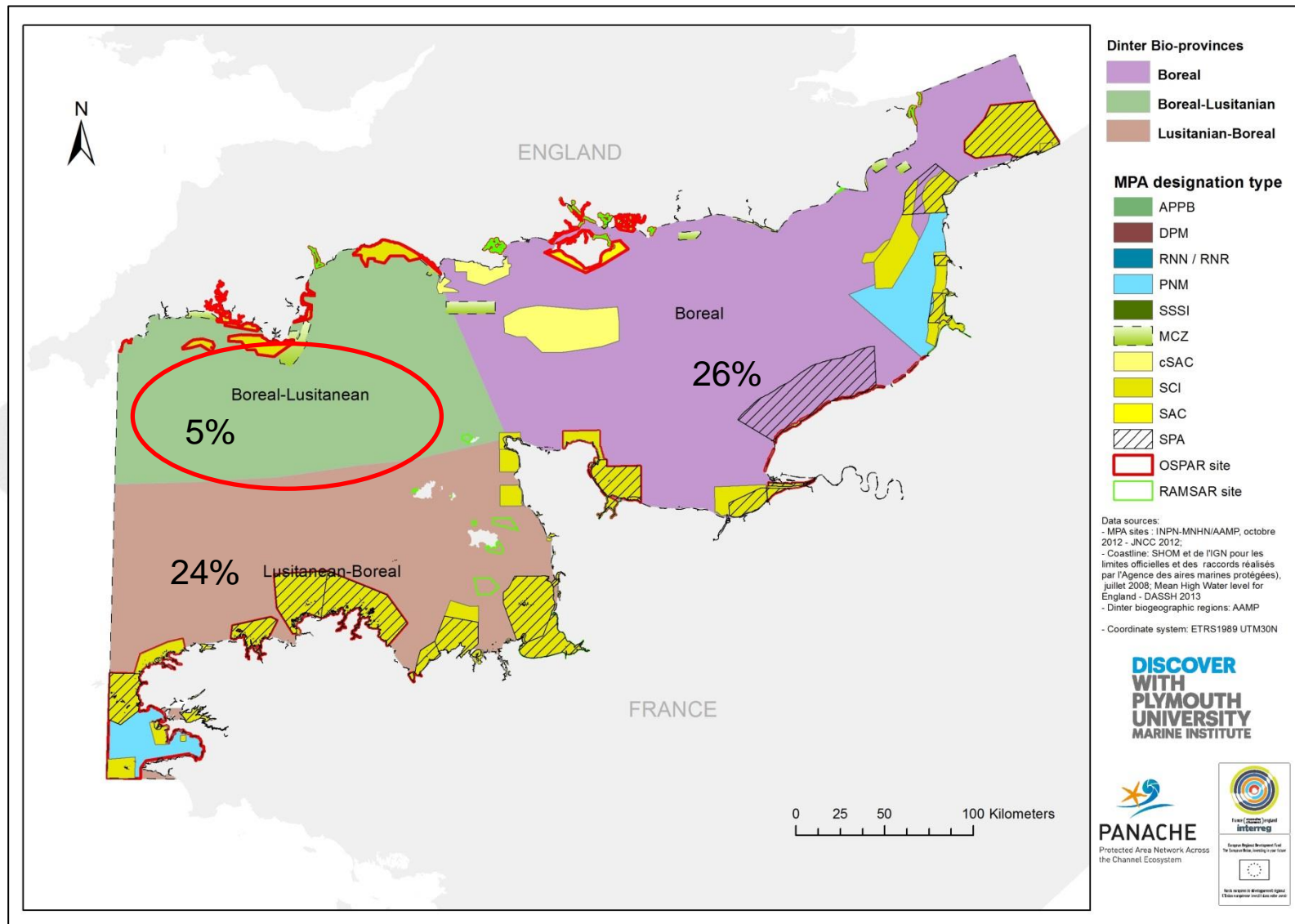


# BIOGEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATIVITY (DINTER'S CLASSIFICATION)



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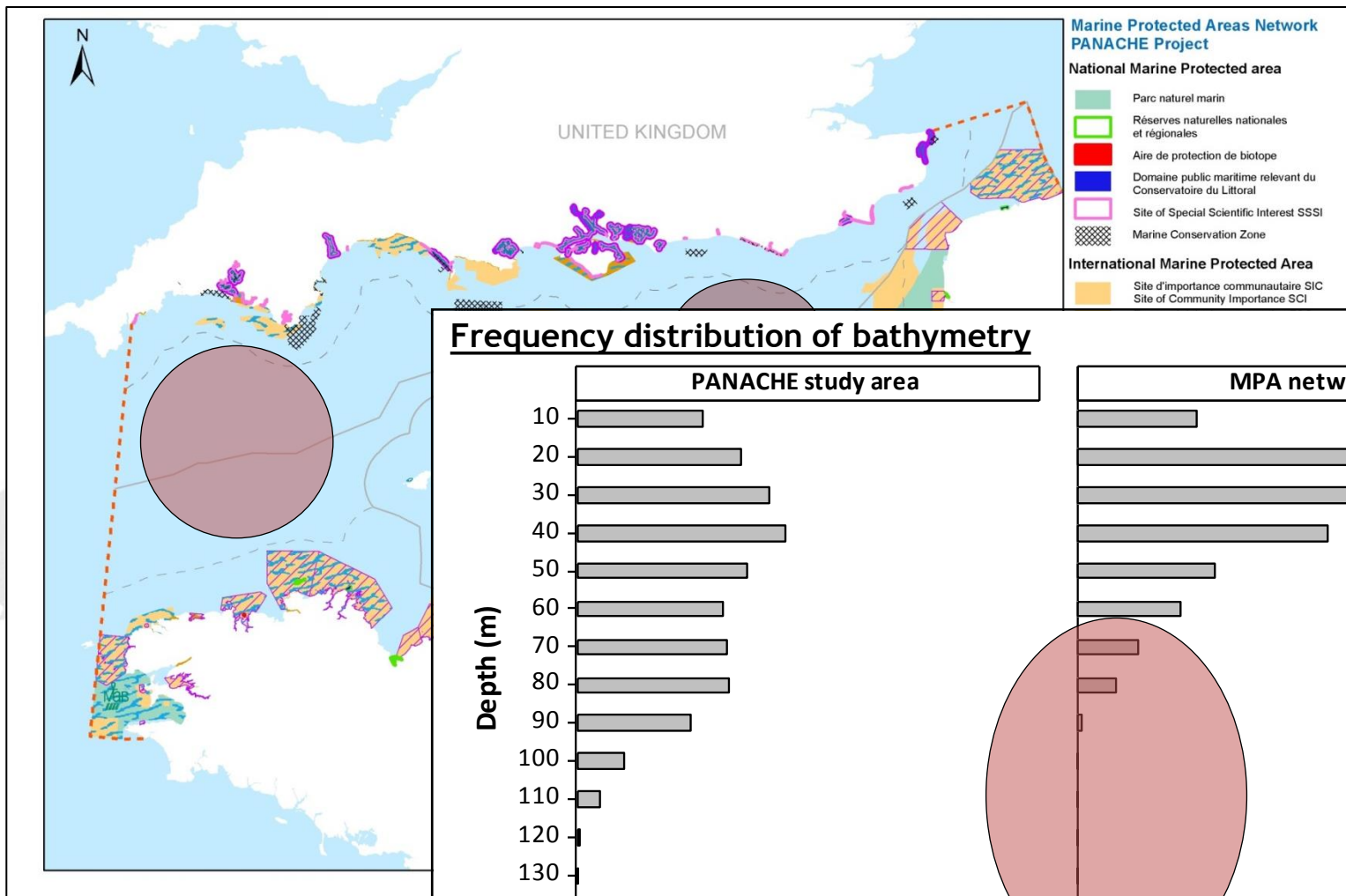
# BATHYMETRIC REPRESENTATIVITY



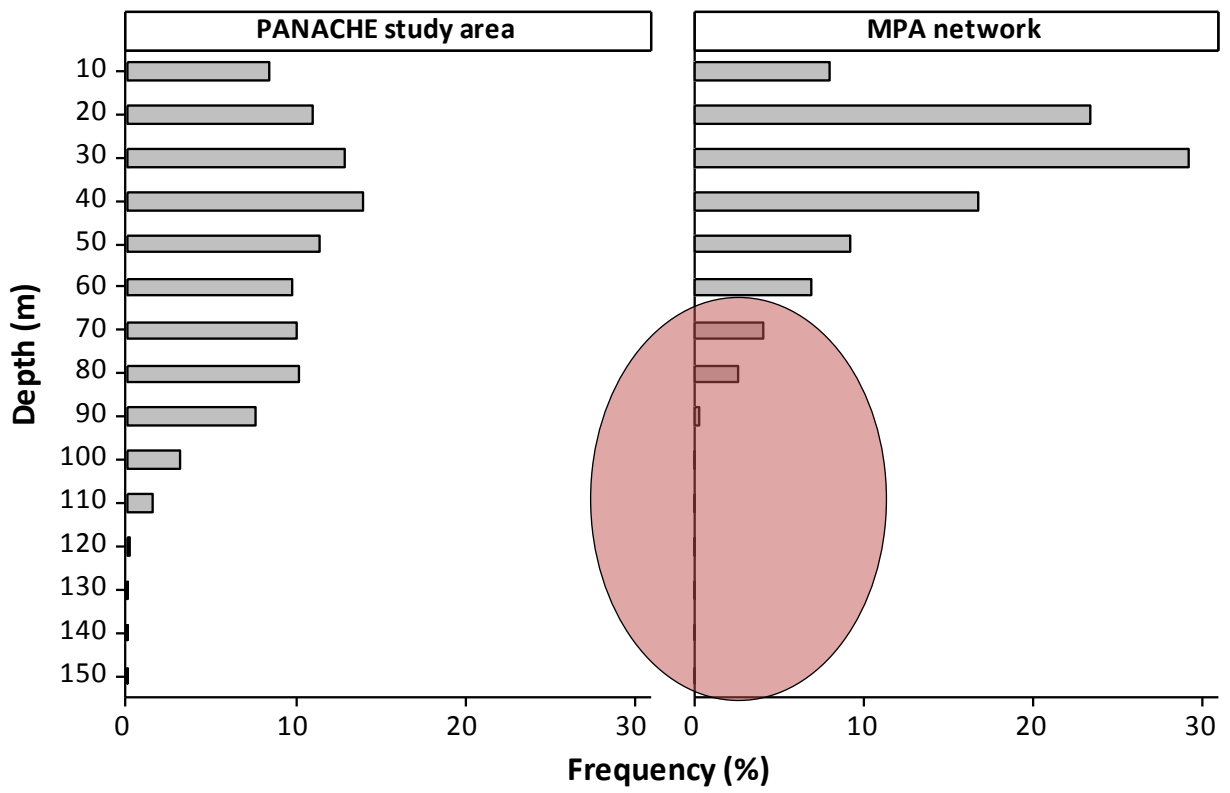
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218 inshore MPAs, just 4 offshore MPAs



## Frequency distribution of bathymetry



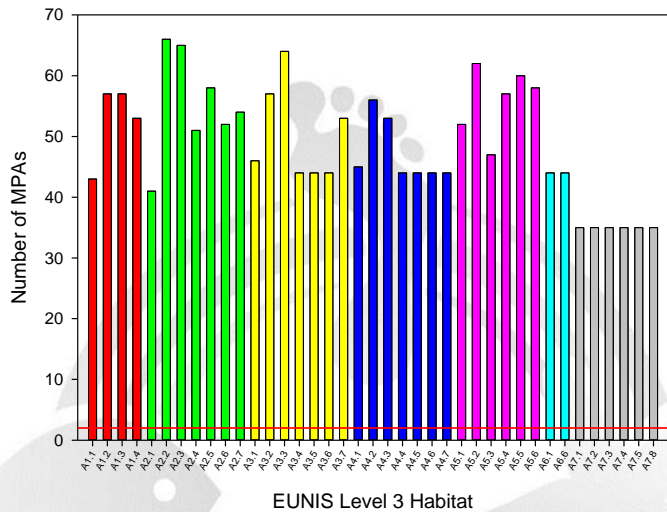
Only 14% of network occurs in water deeper than 60 m

# REPLICATION OF HABITATS

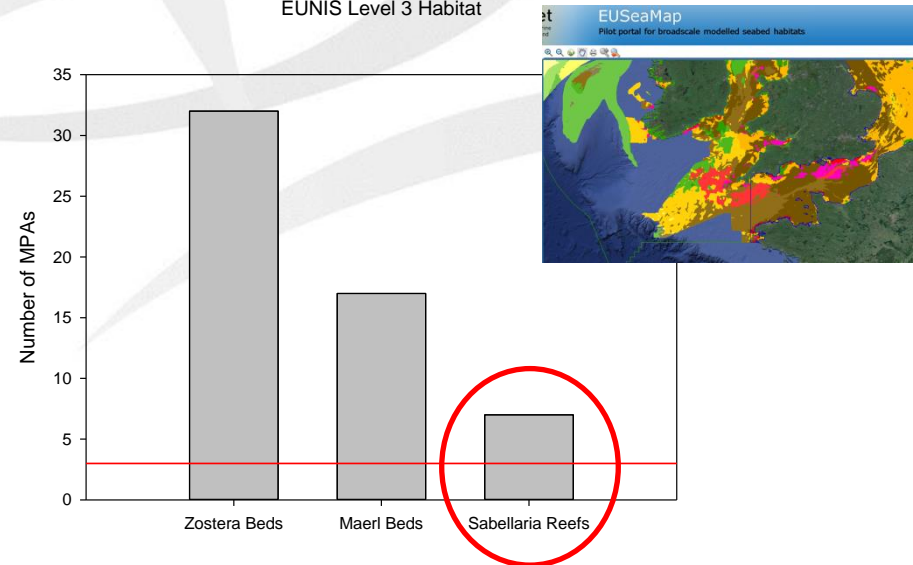
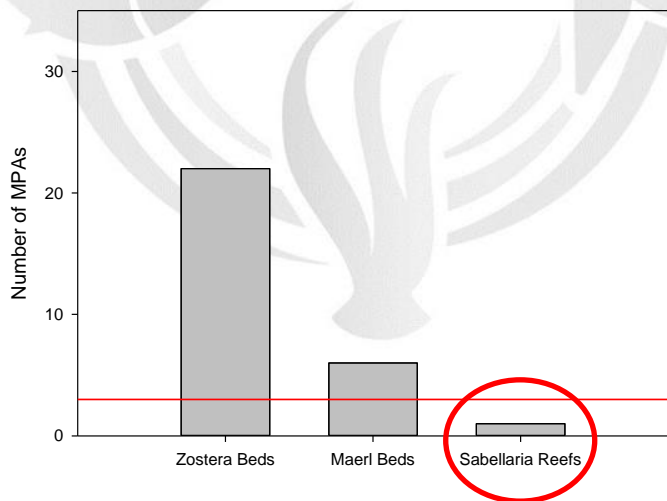
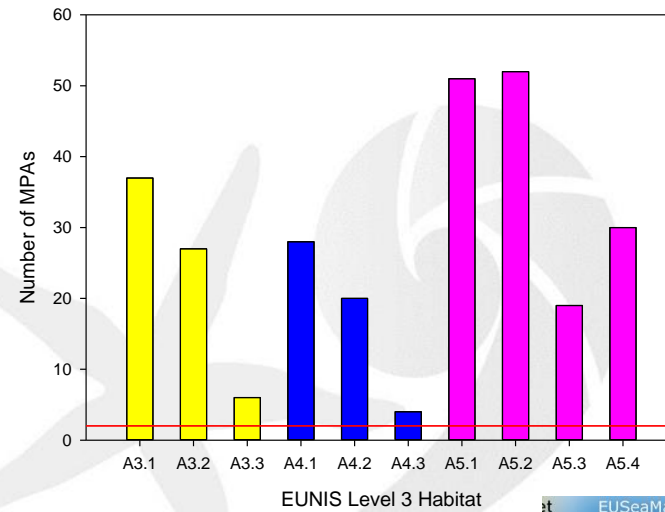


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## Matrix Analysis



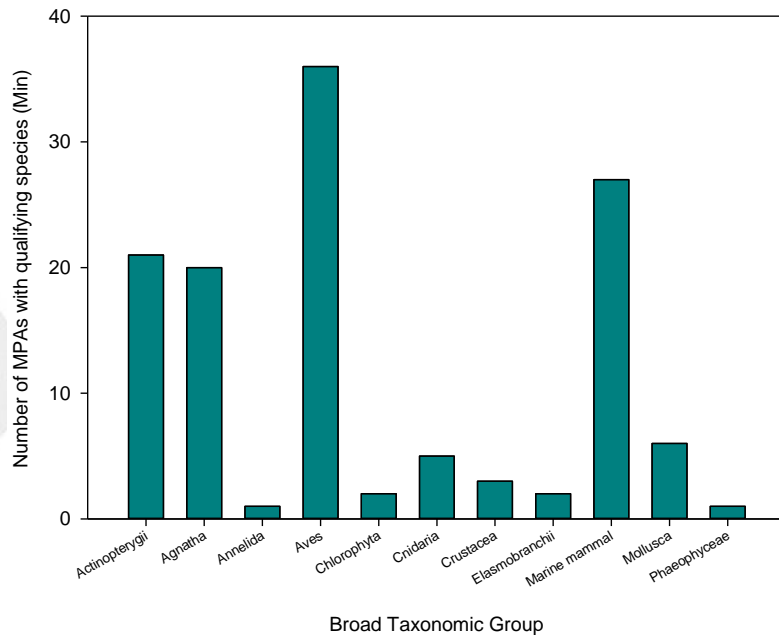
## Spatial Analysis



# REPLICATION OF SPECIES

## Matrix Analysis

- 121 qualifying species assessed



- 68% of species listed in 3 or more MPAs, 32% listed <2 MPAs

- Pink sea fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*) recorded in 7 MPAs using spatial analysis, but only listed in conservation objectives of 3 MPAs

## Spatial Analysis

- 7 species of conservation importance assessed

| Species                        | Number of occurrences in MPAs in England |              | Total occurrence in MPAs |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------------------|
|                                | West Channel                             | East Channel |                          |
| <i>Arctica islandica</i>       | 3  | 1            | 4                        |
| <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>     | 6  | 1            | 7                        |
| <i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>  | 2  | 2            | 4                        |
| <i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i> | 3  | 3            | 6                        |
| <i>Homarus gammarus</i>        | 7  | 7            | 14                       |
| <i>Mytilus edulis</i>          | 2  | 3            | 5                        |
| <i>Ostrea edulis</i>           | 5  | 12           | 17                       |

- All 7 species occur in 4 or more MPAs



# ADEQUACY: HABITAT COVERAGE



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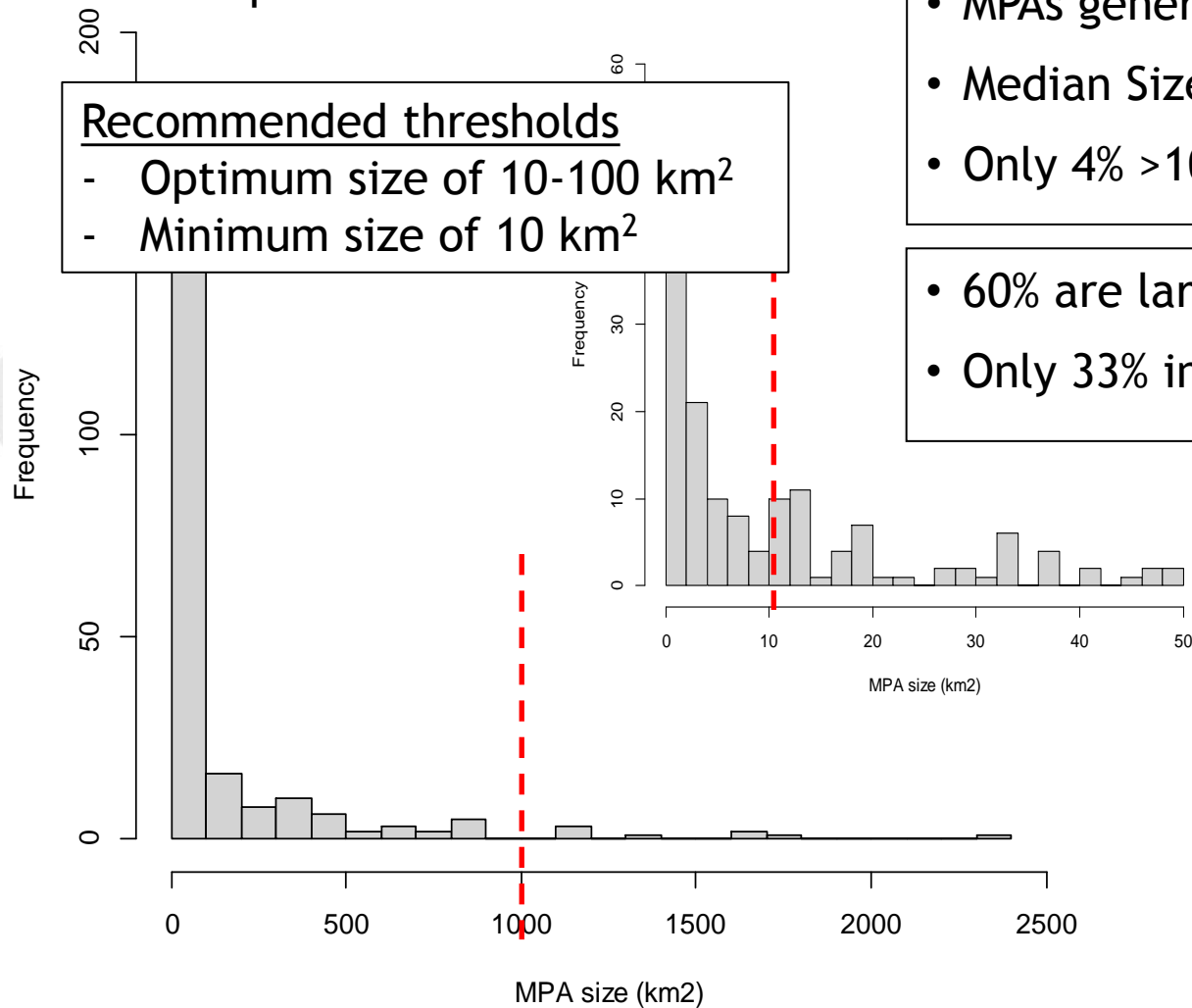
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60% of EUNIS Level 3 habitats have >30% of area within network

| Habitat                            | Area inside PANACHE study area (km <sup>2</sup> ) | Area (and %) of habitat inside MPA network (km <sup>2</sup> ) | Recommended habitat coverage (%) to maintain 80% of species | Recommended habitat coverage (%) to maintain 90% of the species |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| High energy infralittoral rock     | 1993  | 1000 (50%)  | 31  | 57  |
| Moderate energy infralittoral rock | 1055  | 446 (42%)   | 32  | 59  |
| Low energy infralittoral rock      | 10  | 6 (55%)   | 32  | 59  |
| High energy circalittoral rock     | 1659  | 546 (33%)   | 25  | 52  |
| Moderate energy circalittoral rock | 9996  | 1389 (14%)  | 28  | 55  |
| Low energy circalittoral rock      | 601   | 1.5 (0.3%)  | 32  | 58  |
| Sublittoral coarse sediment        | 44971   | 5866 (13%)  | 33  | 59  |
| Sublittoral sand                   | 9652  | 3583 (37%)  | 30  | 57  |
| Sublittoral mud                    | 1099  | 361 (33%)   | 30  | 57  |
| Sublittoral mixed sediments        | 13079   | 3152 (24%)  | 32  | 58  |

# VIABILITY: SIZE OF MPAs

- A viable MPA - large enough to encompass most naturally occurring ecological processes & home ranges of species - self-perpetuating (dispersal/recruitment)
- Hill et al (2010) suggest MPAs >1000 km<sup>2</sup> are necessary for species with long-distance dispersal



- MPAs generally small
- Median Size = 15.14 km<sup>2</sup>
- Only 4% >1000 km<sup>2</sup>

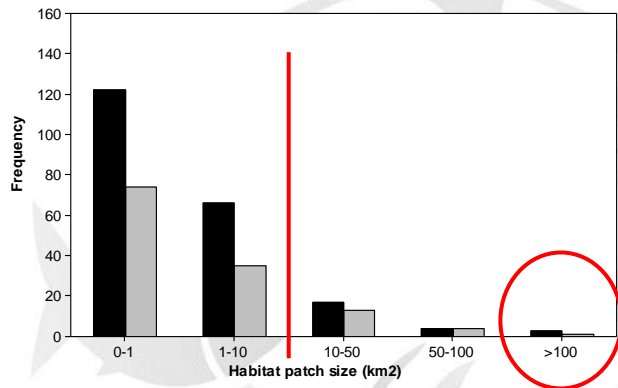
- 60% are larger than 10 km<sup>2</sup>
- Only 33% in optimal range 10-100 km<sup>2</sup>

\* Hill et al (2010). *Meeting the MPA Network Principle of Viability: Feature specific recommendations for species and habitats of conservation importance*. Natural England Commissioned Reports, Number 043.

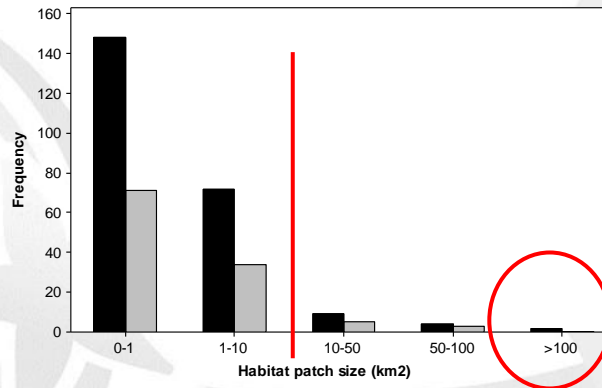
# VIABILITY: SIZE OF HABITAT PATCHES

- 79% of habitat patches in the network are <math><10\text{ km}^2</math> in size - only likely to support low mobility species
- Only 4% of habitat patches within the MPA network are >100 km<sup>2</sup>, but this represents 59% of habitat patches of this size in study area

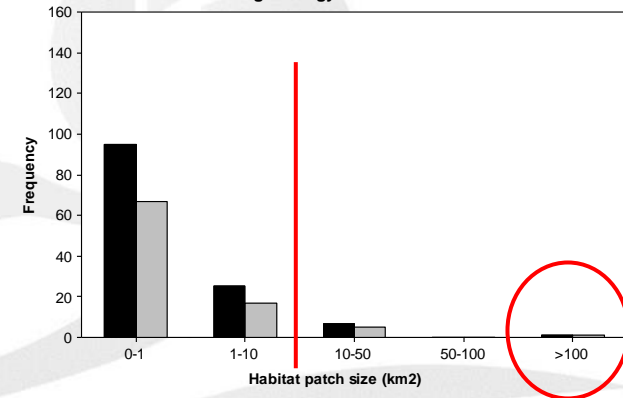
A3.1 - High energy infralittoral rock



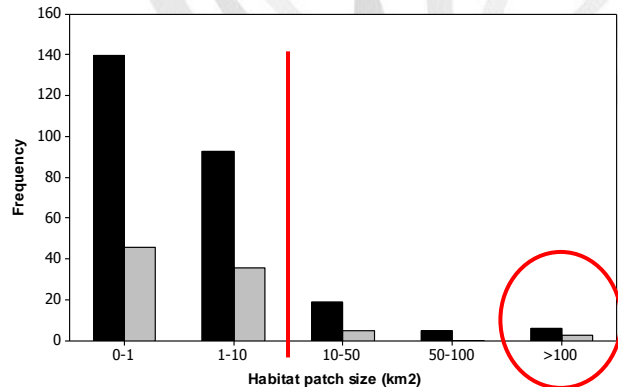
A3.2 - Moderate energy infralittoral rock



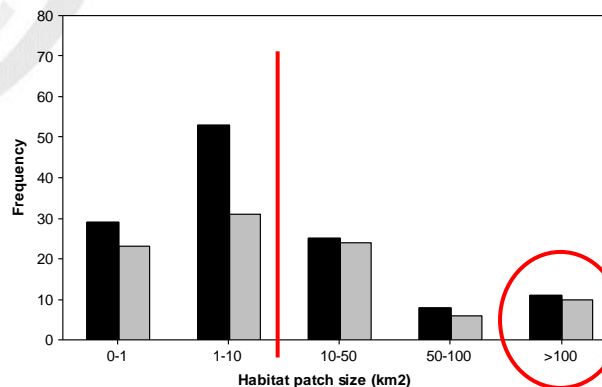
A4.1 - High energy circalittoral rock



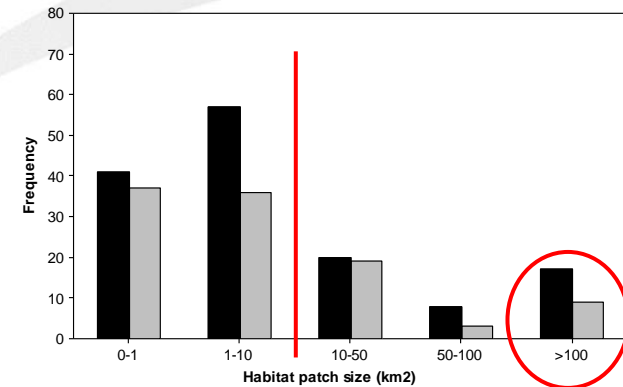
A4.2 - Moderate energy circalittoral rock



A5.1 - Sublittoral coarse sediment



A5.2 - Sublittoral sand



 = Within study area   
  = Within MPA network

# Fine Scale Analyses



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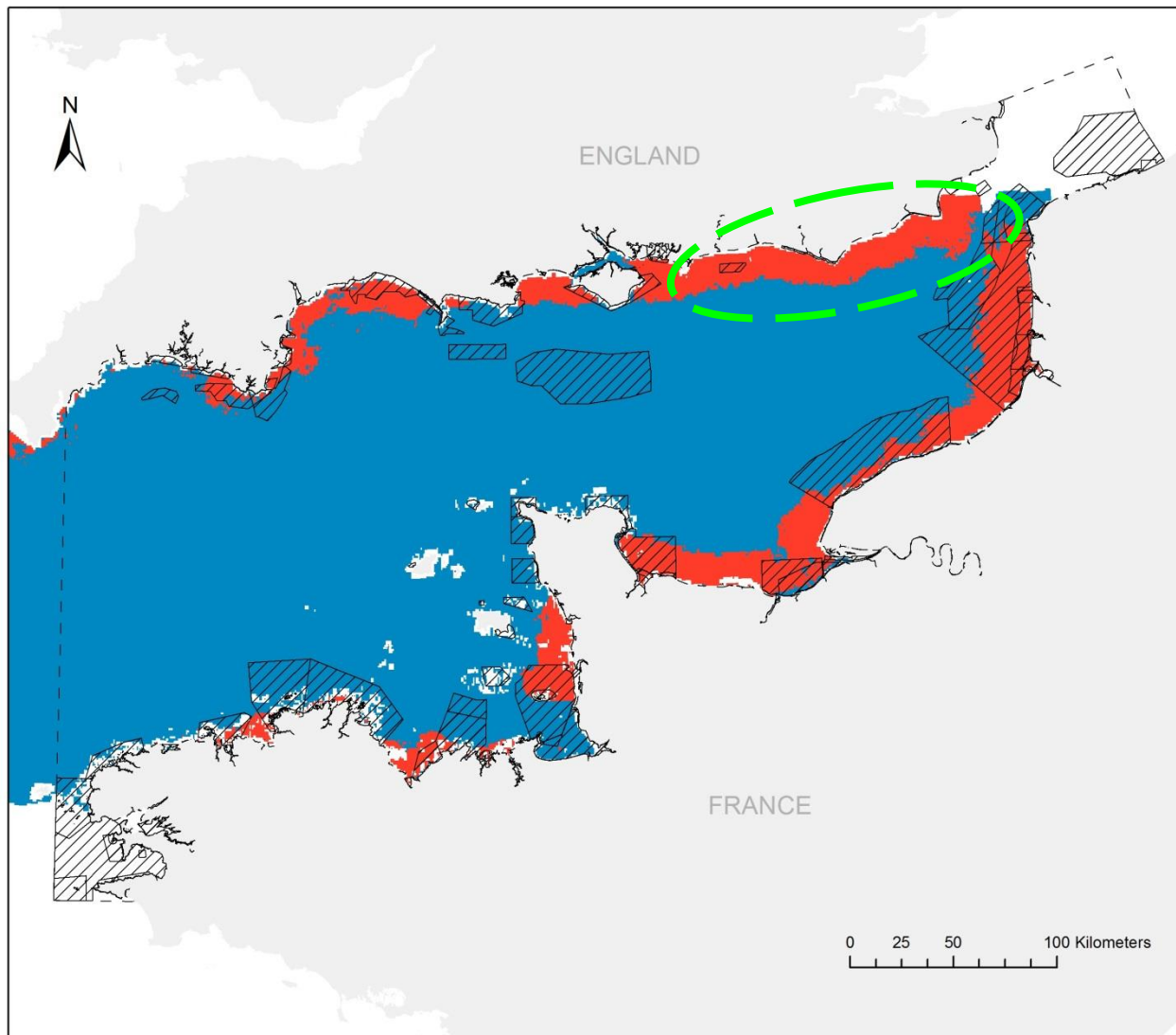


# AREAS OF ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE: SPAWNING AREAS (SEPIA OFFICINALIS)



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## **Sepia officinalis predicted spawning habitat suitability**

Unsuitable habitat

Suitable habitat

PANACHE study area

Channel MPA network

### Data sources:

- MPA sites : INPN-MNHN/AAMP, octobre 2012; JNCC 2012
- Coastline: SHOM et de l'IGN pour les limites officielles et des raccords réalisés par l'Agence des aires marines protégées), juillet 2008; Mean High Water level for England - DASSH 2013
- *Sepia officinalis* predicted habitat data: Dr. Isobel Bloor
- PhD Thesis - The ecology, distribution and spawning behaviour of the commercially important common cuttlefish (*Sepia officinalis*) in the inshore waters of the English channel, Plymouth University.

- Coordinate system: ETRS1989 UTM30N

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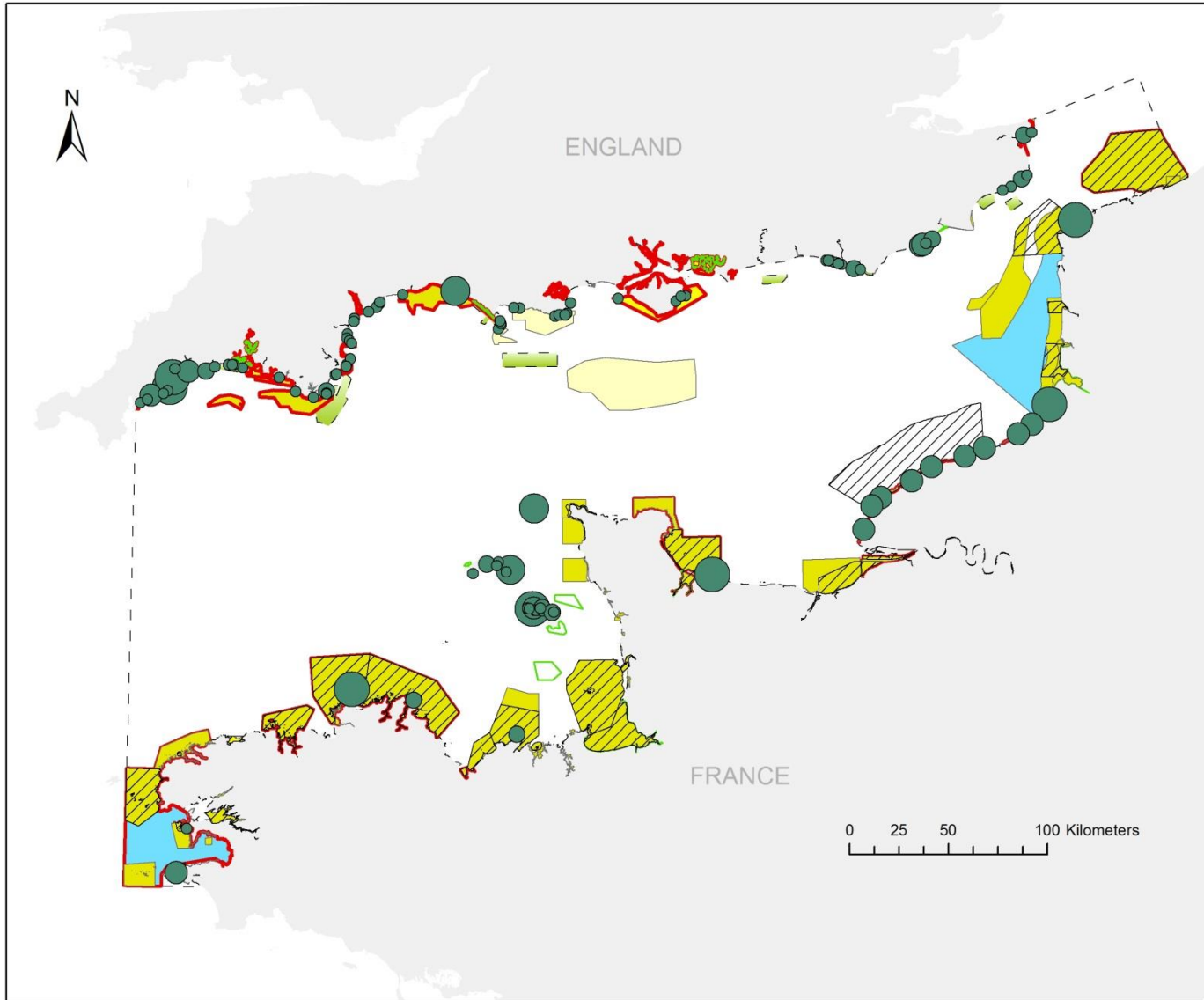


# AREAS OF ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE: SEABIRD BREEDING POPULATIONS



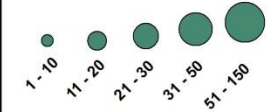
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## *Fulmarus glacialis*

### Number of breeding pairs



### MPA designation type

- APPB
- DPM
- RNN / RNR
- PNM
- SSSI
- MCZ
- cSAC
- SCI
- SAC
- SPA
- OSPAR site
- RAMSAR site
- PANACHE study area

### Data sources:

- MPA sites : INPN-MNH/AAMP, octobre 2012 - JNCC 2012;
- Coastline: SHOM et de l'IGN pour les limites officielles et des raccords réalisés par l'Agence des aires marines protégées), juillet 2008; Mean High Water level for England - DASSH 2013
- *Fulmarus glacialis* data: AAMP, Seabirds2000 (JNCC)

- Coordinate system: ETRS1989 UTM30N

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# AERIAL SURVEYS (PACOMM)



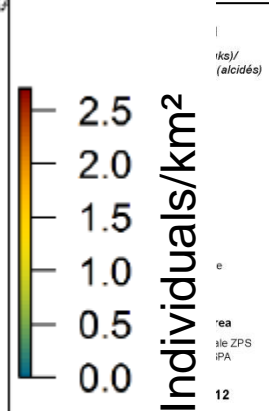
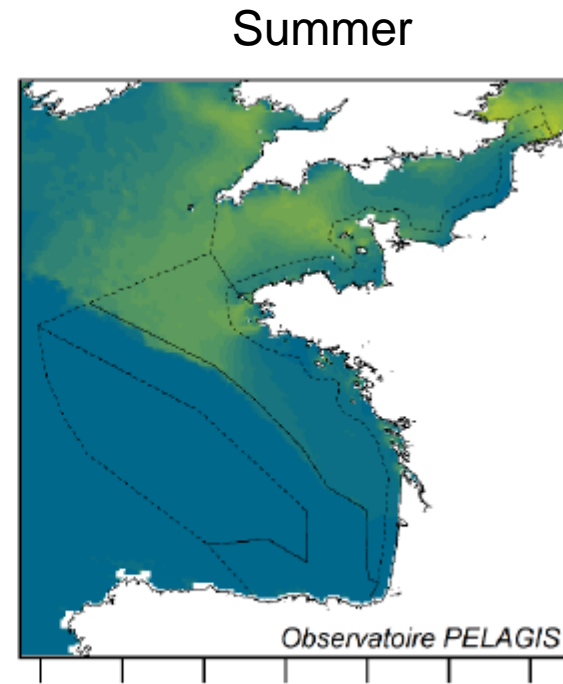
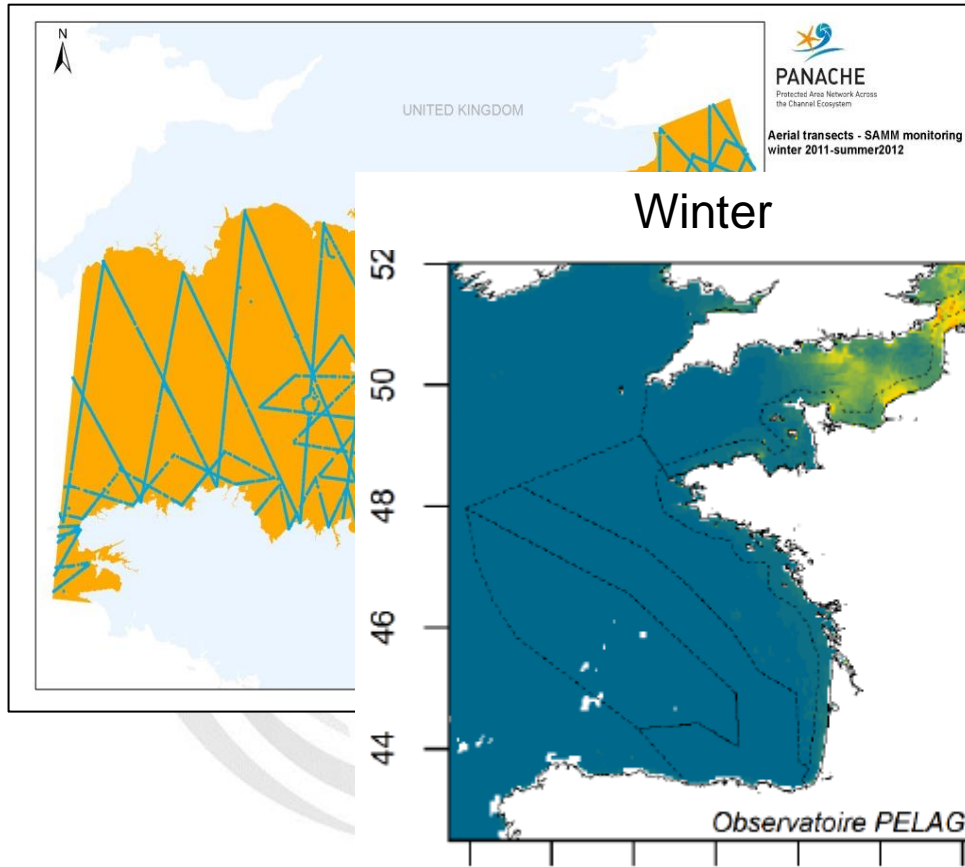
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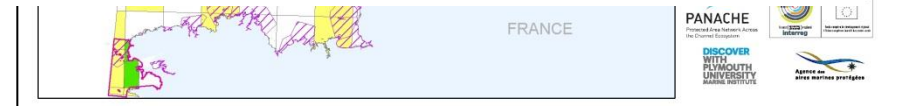
Winter 2011-2012

Summer 2012

Seabirds



Habitat modeling of harbour porpoise



Simulations  
2010  
25  
2010, juillet 2010.

100

# AERIAL SURVEYS: MARINE MAMMALS

| Winter                    | % of observation<br>indices within MPAs | Total observation<br>indices within MPAs | Total observation<br>indices in PANACHE<br>study region |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|
| Rorqual                   | 0%                                      | 0  | 8740  |
| Pilot whales              | 13%                                     | 3508                                     | 27281   |
| Harbour porpoise          | 32%                                     | 368308                                   | 1156736   |
| Seals                     | 34%                                     | 25443                                    | 75785   |
| Small oceanic dolphins    | 9%                                      | 29988                                    | 339597  |
| Common bottlenose dolphin | 5%                                      | 2096                                     | 42507   |
| Summer                    | % of observation<br>indices within MPAs | Total observation<br>indices within MPAs | Total observation<br>indices in PANACHE<br>study region |
| Rorqual                   | 21%                                     | 2747                                     | 13254   |
| Pilot whales              | 15%                                     | 5114                                     | 34218   |
| Harbour porpoise          | 13%                                     | 184367                                   | 1447025   |
| Seals                     | 18%                                     | 19183                                    | 106731  |
| Small oceanic dolphins    | 18%                                     | 6531                                     | 36012   |
| Common bottlenose dolphin | 20%                                     | 10739                                    | 53789   |



# AERIAL SURVEYS: HARBOUR PORPOISE



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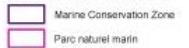
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Encounter rates- summer 2012

Harbour porpoise/Marsouin commun



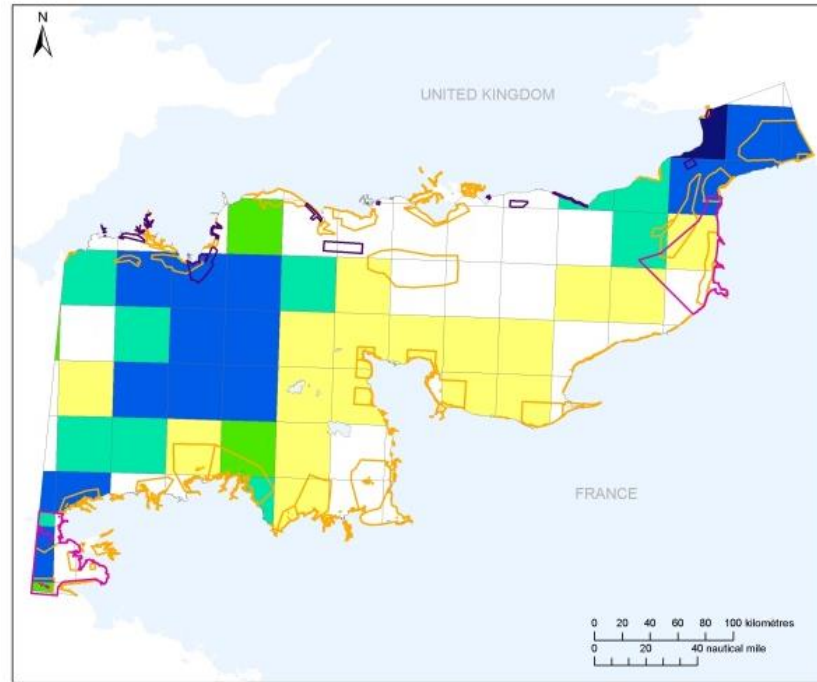
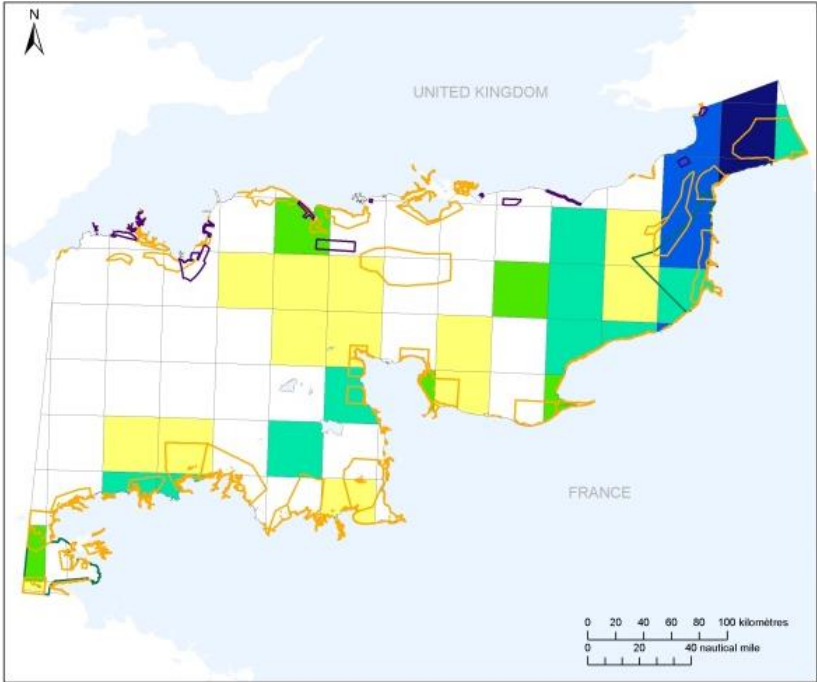
National Marine Protected area



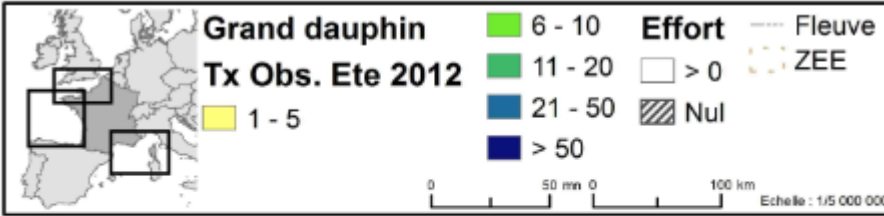
International Marine Protected Area



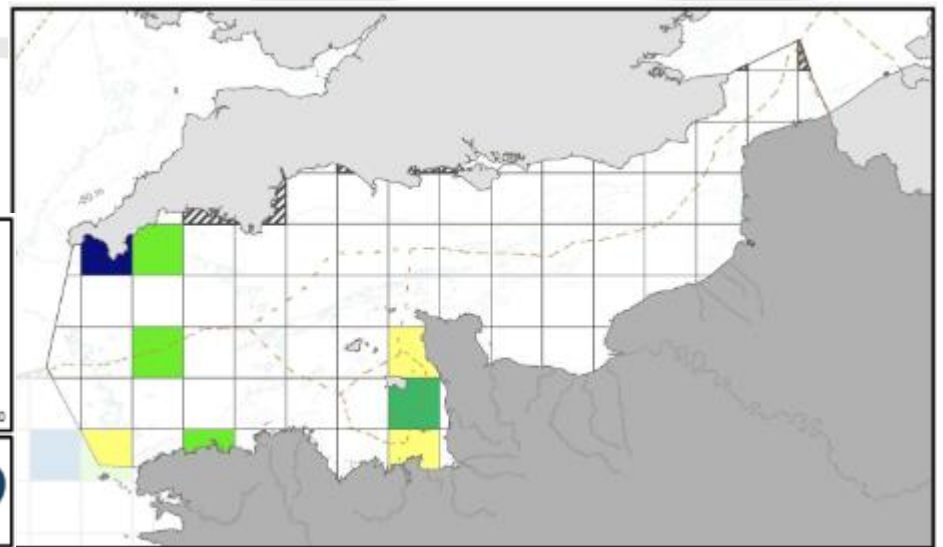
Data source:  
- ONCMM-Globale (Globe) (06/07/2012)  
- Océan Observé 2012 - 10th International Channel 2012 -  
- IFREMER 2012  
- IFREMER 2012  
- IFREMER 2012  
- L'Union des 12 MMs et associations des pays riverains. Description  
inventaire et évaluation de l'état de l'écosystème marin méditerranéen  
- Université de la Méditerranée (UM) et de l'Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation  
de la Mer (IFREMER) - Observatoire de la Méditerranée (OM)  
- Marine Biological Association UK  
- Les Observatoires de la Mer (LOM)  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région PACA  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Île de France  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Bretagne  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Normandie  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Occitanie  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Rhône-Alpes  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Centre-Val de Loire  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Bourgogne-Franche-Comté  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Grand Est  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Hauts-de-France  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Île-de-France  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Normandie  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Bretagne  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Occitanie  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
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- Institut de la Mer de la Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Grand Est  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Hauts-de-France  
- Institut de la Mer de la Région Île-de-France



## Common bottlenose dolphin



Sources des données : SAMM2 ETE 2012  
 - Taux d'observations mailles 40x40 km : Observatoire PELAGIS - UMS 3462, MEDDE, AAMP, CEBC  
 - Fleuves : SANDRE  
 - Pays européens : ESRJ, Bathymétrie : GEBCO, 2008  
 - Zone économique exclusive : VLIZ, 2011  
 Système de coordonnées projeté : World Equidistant conic, Echelle : 1/5 000 000



# AERIAL SURVEYS: SEABIRDS

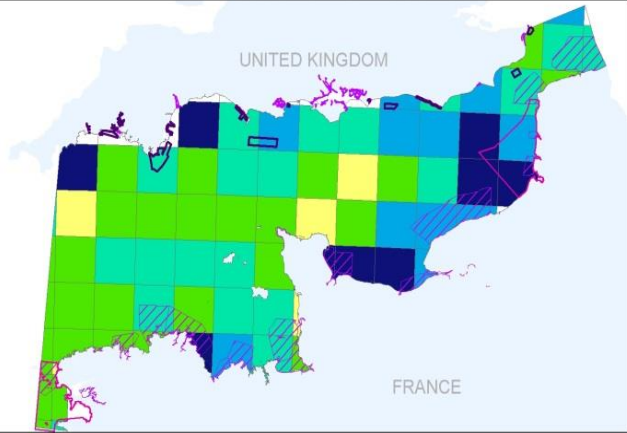
| Species                                     | % of observation indices within MPAs |            | Total observation indices within MPAs |         | Total observation indices within PANACHE study region |          |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---|----------|
|   | Winter                               | Summer     | Winter                                | Summer  | Winter  | Summer   |
| Common Murre or Razorbill (Auks)            | <b>20%</b>                           | <b>8%</b>  | 4867151                               | 146483  | 24092998  | 1949361  |
| Black-headed gull or Mediterranean Gull     | <b>26%</b>                           | <b>32%</b> | 1424472                               | 471396  | 5448677   | 1456961  |
| Great Skua                                  | <b>18%</b>                           | <b>24%</b> | 59544                                 | 30523   | 336540  | 126542   |
| Northern Fulmar                             | <b>11%</b>                           | <b>30%</b> | 204579                                | 95682   | 1891327   | 321465   |
| European Herring Gull or Yellow-legged Gull | <b>31%</b>                           | <b>31%</b> | 733478                                | 1573987 | 2379759   | 5026447  |
| Great or Lesser Black-backed Gull           | <b>32%</b>                           | <b>23%</b> | 1031067                               | 565222  | 3175239   | 2464538  |
| Little Gull                                 | <b>37%</b>                           | <b>0%</b>  | 185151                                | 0       | 499627  | 14205    |
| Storm Petrels                               | <b>3%</b>                            | <b>13%</b> | 861                                   | 59341   | 29941   | 455409   |
| Small Shearwaters                           | <b>0%</b>                            | <b>11%</b> | 1                                     | 67013   | 11650   | 594243   |
| Black-legged Kittiwake                      | <b>13%</b>                           | <b>19%</b> | 1126481                               | 66384   | 8350269   | 349044   |
| Terns                                       | <b>35%</b>                           | <b>41%</b> | 16921                                 | 936253  | 48805   | 2261094  |
| Northern Gannet                             | <b>25%</b>                           | <b>15%</b> | 2981103                               | 1594801 | 11731470  | 10996319 |

# AERIAL SURVEYS: AUKS AND NORTHERN GANNET



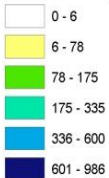
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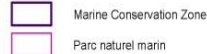


### Encounter rates - winter 2011

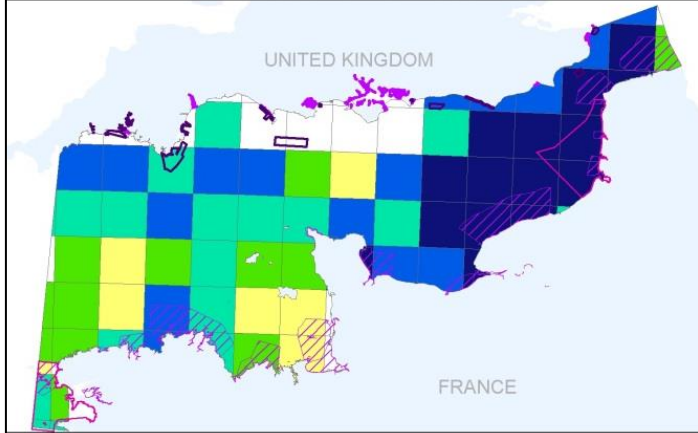
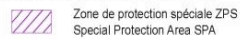
*Common Murres, Razorbills (auks)/  
Guillemot de Troil, petit pinguin (alcidés)*



#### National Marine Protected area

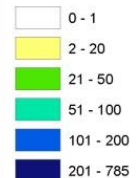


#### International Marine Protected Area

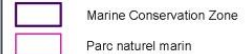


### Encounter rates - winter 2011

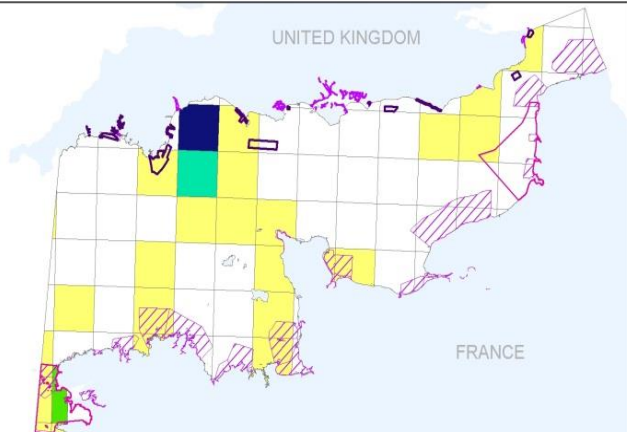
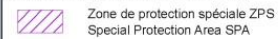
*Gannets/Fou de Bassan*



#### National Marine Protected area

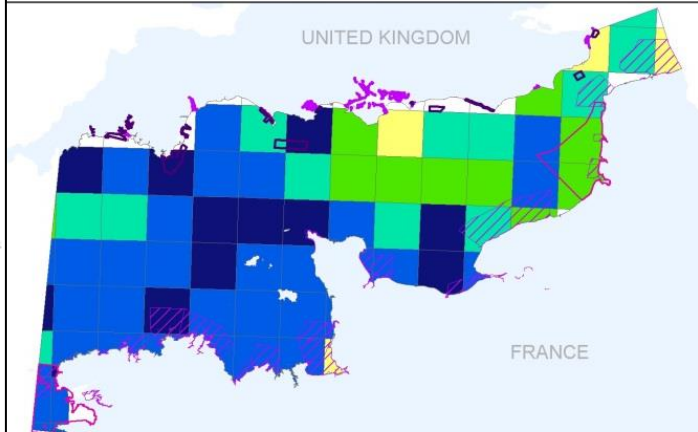


#### International Marine Protected Area



### Encounter rates - summer 2012

Data source  
- PACOMM SAMM 1-SAMM2, UMS Pelagos, AAMP 2012  
- Sites Natura 2000: INFN-MHNH/AAMP, octobre 2012 -  
- ANCC, 2012  
- PNM - AAMP 2012  
- ANCC - ANCC, 2013  
- Limites des LMN et délimitations des eaux territoriales: Délimitations  
indicatives et provisoires de l'espace maritime français métropolitain  
(Figures données du SHOM et de l'IGN pour les limites officielles  
et des relevés réalisés par l'Agence des aires marines protégées), juillet 2009,  
Marine Biologique Association UK  
- Limites départementales, IGN, GEOPLA,  
- Trait de côte européen, ESB1  
Système de coordonnées: Lambert 93 / RGF93 / IAG GRS 1980



### Encounter rates - summer 2012

Data source  
- PACOMM SAMM 1-SAMM2, UMS Pelagos, AAMP 2012  
- Sites Natura 2000: INFN-MHNH/AAMP, octobre 2012 -  
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Système de coordonnées: Lambert 93 / RGF93 / IAG GRS 1980



# Connectivity



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# DISTANCE-BASED CONNECTIVITY



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A4.2



“Connectivity gaps”

ENGLAND

FRANCE



PANACHE

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UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

- PANACHE study area
- Channel MPA Network
- EUNIS A4.2 Buffer
- EUNIS A4.2 habitat

**Degree centrality**

- 0
- 1 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 21 - 30
- 31 - 40
- 41 - 61

Data sources:  
 - MPA sites : INPN-MNHN/AAMP, octobre 2012 - JNCC 2012;  
 - Coastline: SHOM et de l'IGN pour les limites officielles et des raccords réalisés par l'Agence des aires marines protégées), juillet 2008; Mean High Water level for England - DASSH 2013  
 - EUNIS habitat layer: EUSeaMap.  
 Available at  
<http://www.searchmesh.net/default.aspx?page=1974>  
 - Coordinate system: ETRS1989 UTM30N





# MPA CLUSTERING

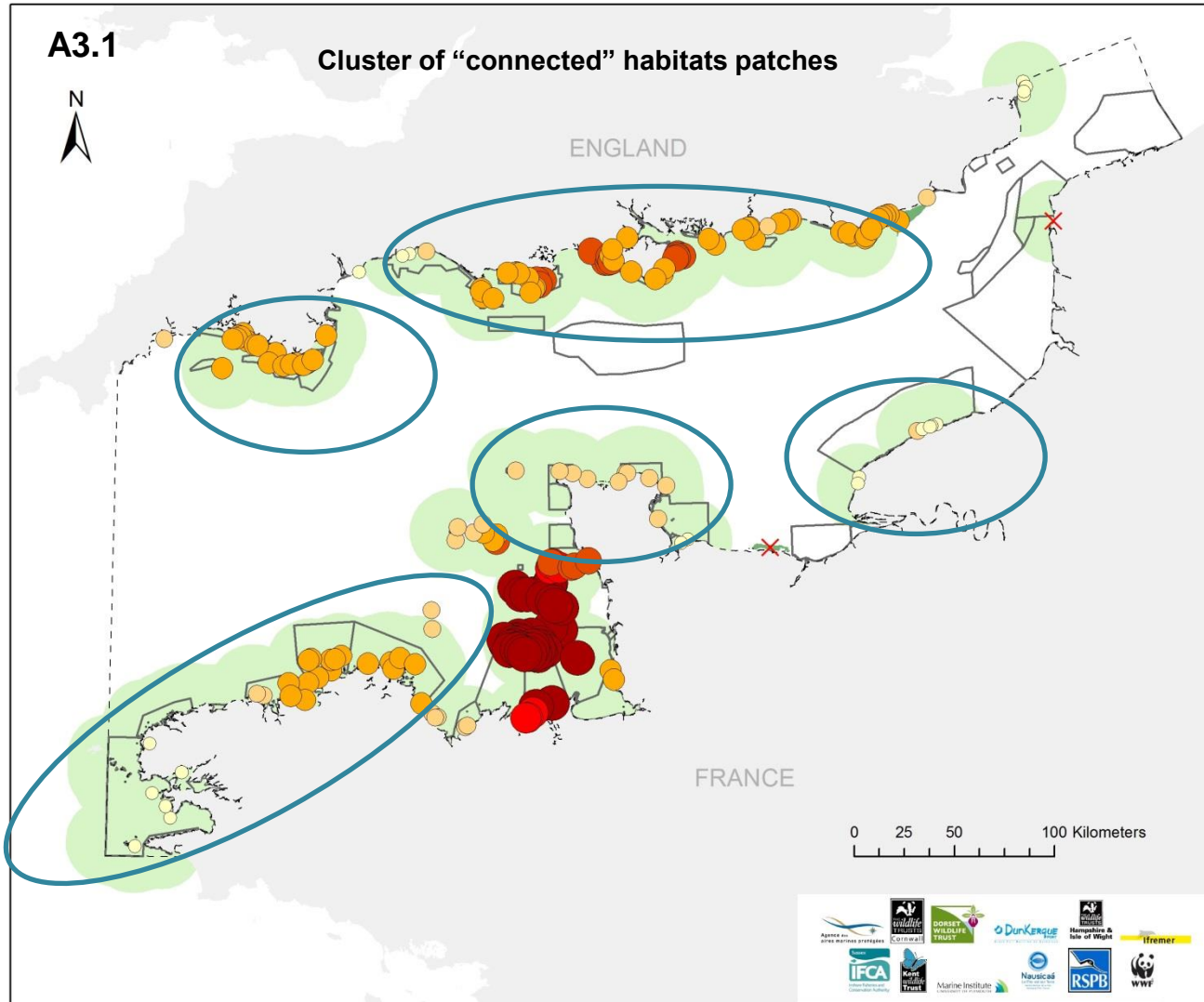


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A3.1

Cluster of "connected" habitats patches



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Marine Institute  
UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

- PANACHE study area
- Channel MPA Network
- EUNIS A3.1 Buffer

**Degree centrality**

- 0
- 1 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 21 - 30
- 31 - 40
- 41 - 61

Data sources:  
 - MPA sites : INPN-MNH/AAMP, octobre 2012 - JNCC 2012;  
 - Coastline: SHOM et de l'IGN pour les limites officielles et des raccords réalisés par l'Agence des aires marines protégées), juillet 2008; Mean High Water level for England - DASSH 2013  
 - EUNIS habitat layer: EUSeaMap.  
 Available at  
<http://www.searchmesh.net/default.aspx?page=1974>  
 - Coordinate system: ETRS1989 UTM30N



# GAPS AND BIAS

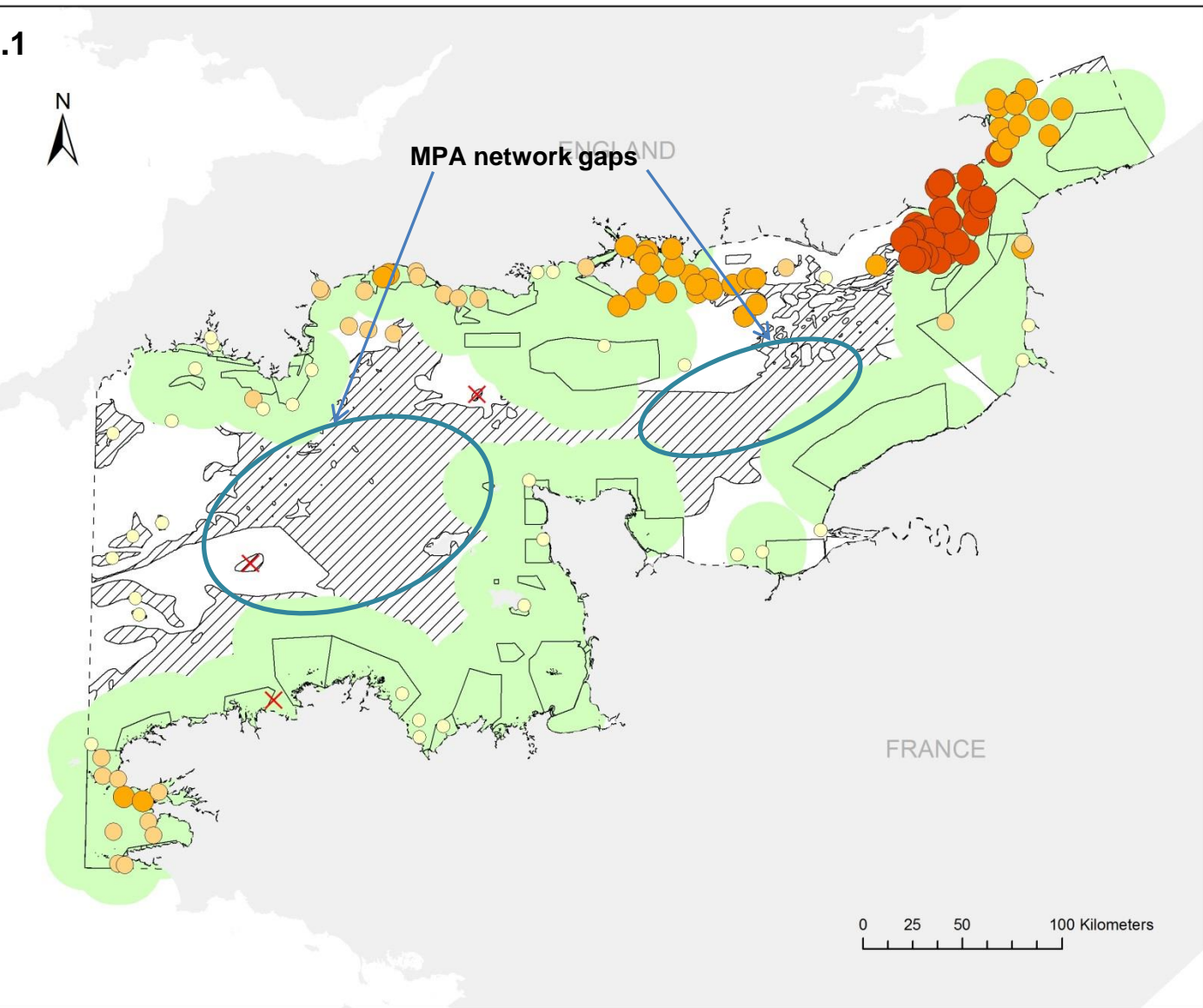


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A5.1



MPA network gaps



- EUNIS A5.1 habitat**
- EUNIS A5.1 habitat
  - EUNIS A5.1 Buffer
  - PANACHE study area
  - Channel MPA Network
- Degree centrality**
- 0
  - 1 - 5
  - 6 - 10
  - 11 - 20
  - 21 - 30

Data sources:  
 - MPA sites : INPN-MNHN/AAMP, octobre 2012 - JNCC 2012  
 - Coastline: SHOM et de l'IGN pour les limites officielles et des raccords réalisés par l'Agence des aires marines protégées), juillet 2008; Mean High Water level for England - DASSH 2013  
 - EUNIS habitat layer: EUSeaMap.  
 Available at <http://www.searchmesh.net/default.aspx?page=1974>  
 - Coordinate system: ETRS1989 UTM30N

**DISCOVER WITH PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY MARINE INSTITUTE**



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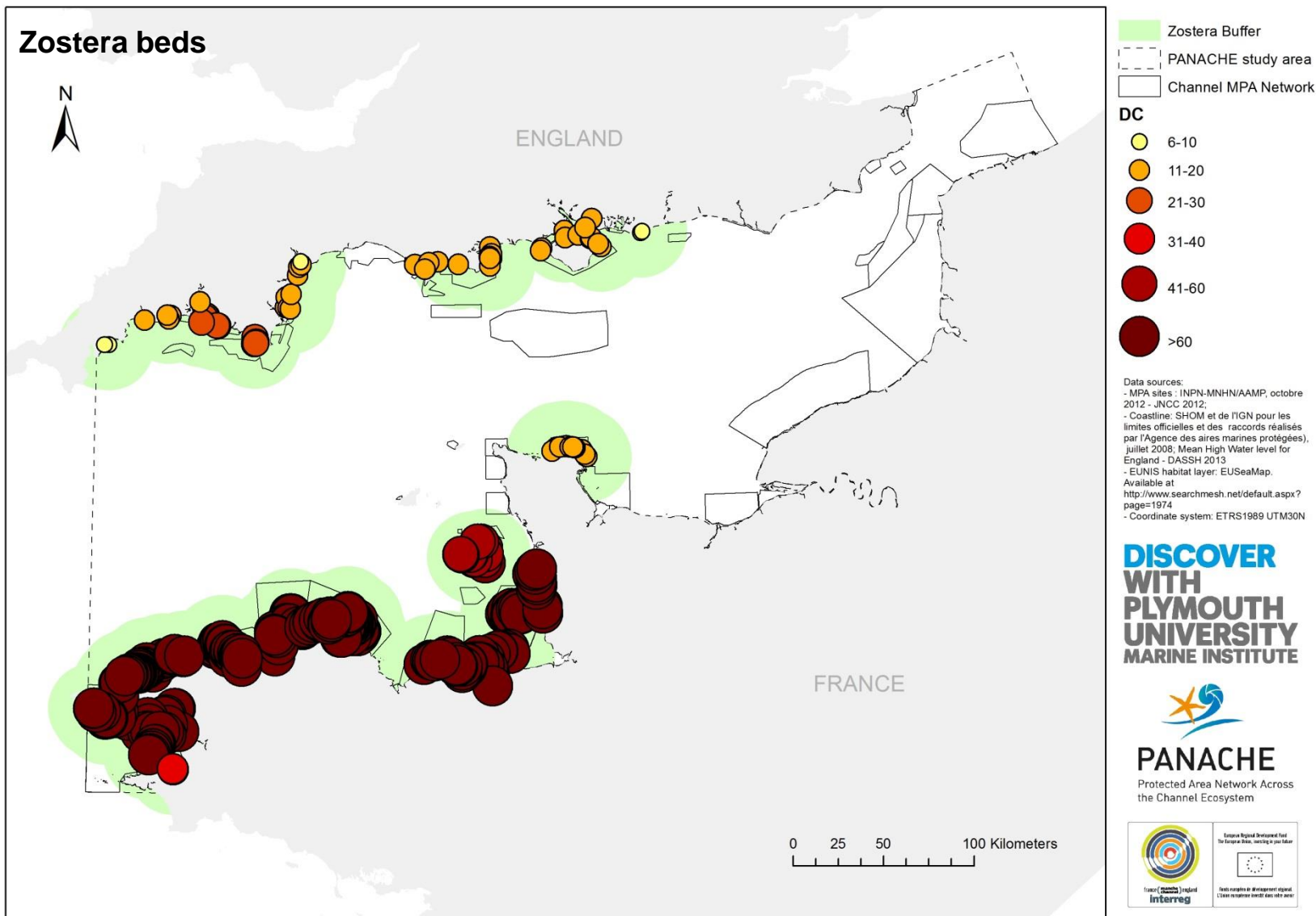


# WHAT ABOUT REAL HABITATS?



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# Management Effort

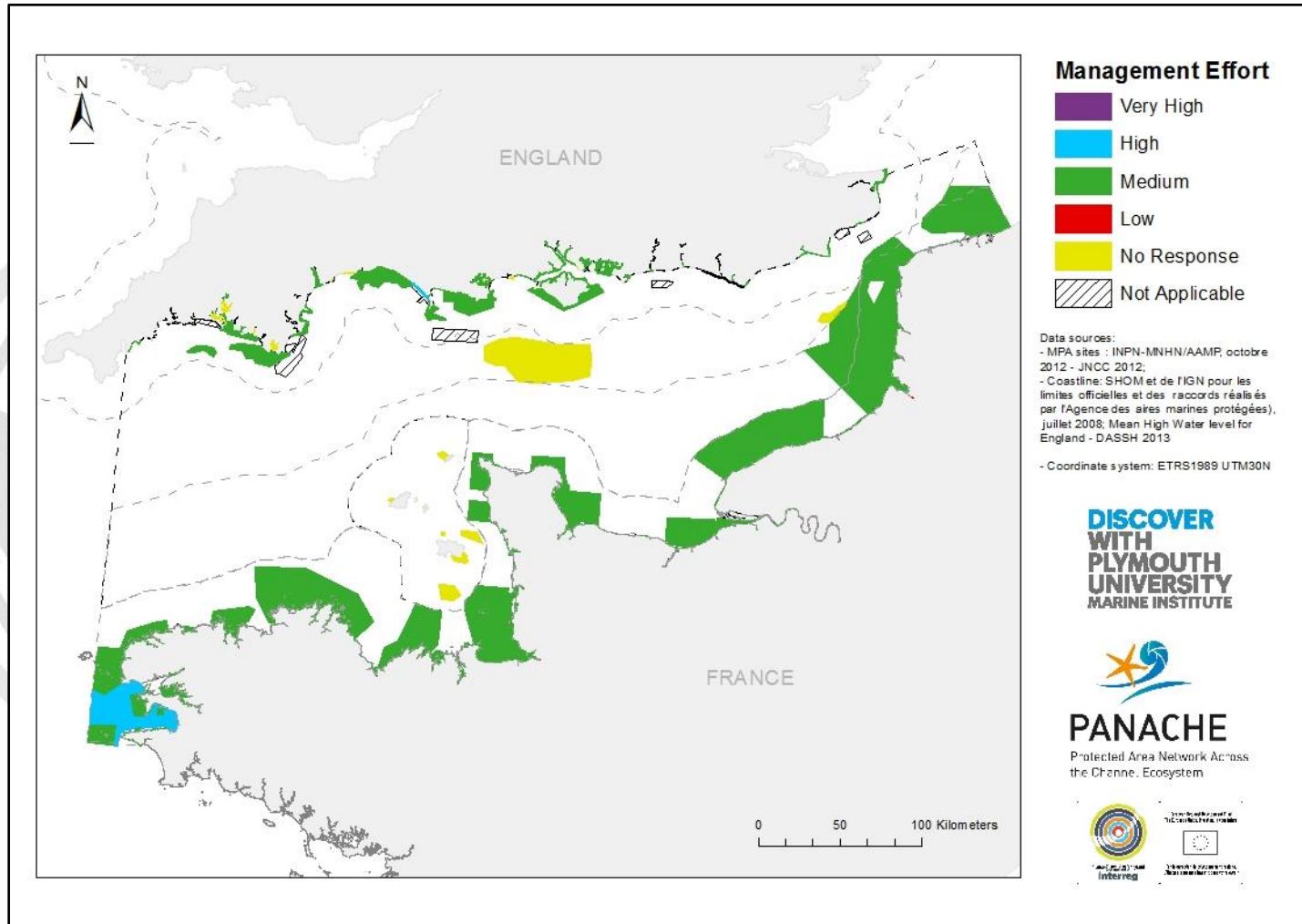


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# MANAGEMENT EFFORT

- Responses received from 149 MPAs
- 11% high management effort, 87% medium effort, 2% low effort



- Rodriguez-Rodriguez et al. (in press). Status of management effort in marine protected areas in the English Channel. Marine Pollution Bulletin.



# Conclusions & Recommendations



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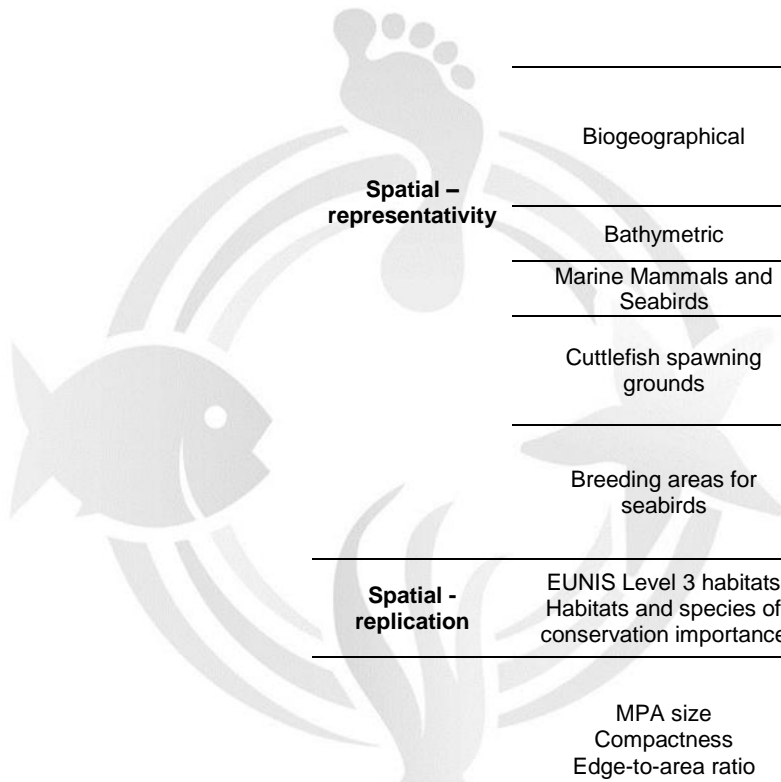
# SUMMARY OF MAIN CONCLUSIONS



**PANACHE**

Protected Area Network Across  
the Channel Ecosystem

| Assessment Type & Criteria        | Feature   | Results  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Spatial – representativity</b> | Geographical  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% of PANACHE study area within MPA network</li> <li>10% of English waters within MPA network</li> <li>30% of French waters within MPA network</li> <li>3% of Channel Island waters within MPA network</li> <li>218 MPAs within 12 nm of shore (inshore)</li> <li>4 MPAs beyond 12 nm of shore (offshore)</li> <li>16% of western Channel within MPA network</li> <li>26% of eastern Channel within MPA network</li> </ul> |
|                                   | Biogeographical   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24% of Lusitanian-Boreal province within MPA network</li> <li>26% of Boreal province within MPA network</li> <li>5% of Boreal-Lusitanian province within network</li> <li>19% of cool-temperate province within network</li> <li>24% of warm-temperate province within network</li> </ul>   |
|                                   | Bathymetric   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only 14% of network occurs in water deeper than 60 m (despite 42% of study area having water deeper than 60 m)</li> </ul>   |
|                                   | Marine Mammals and Seabirds   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gaps in the network were noticeable for offshore or partially offshore species (cetaceans and seabirds with pelagic behaviour)</li> </ul>   |
|                                   | Cuttlefish spawning grounds   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spawning grounds for the cuttlefish well-represented within MPA network along the western Channel and along French coast</li> <li>Spawning grounds for the cuttlefish poorly-represented within MPAs along the English coastline in the eastern Channel</li> </ul>  |
|                                   | Breeding areas for seabirds   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breeding populations of key bird species adequately represented in French MPAs (with bird specific objectives)</li> <li>Breeding populations along English coastline occur predominantly outside MPAs or within the boundaries of SACs (no bird specific objectives)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Spatial - replication</b>      | EUNIS Level 3 habitats<br>Habitats and species of conservation importance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Habitats and species occur in 4 to 52 MPAs</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Spatial - viability</b>        | MPA size<br>Compactness<br>Edge-to-area ratio                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only 33% of MPAs in the optimal size range of 10-100 km<sup>2</sup></li> <li>40% of MPAs are smaller than 10 km<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Only 8 MPAs exceed 1000 km<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Network unlikely to support highly mobile or migratory species</li> <li>Majority of MPAs not circular and have small edge-to-area ratios – less export of individuals</li> </ul>   |
|                                   | Size of EUNIS Level 3 habitats  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>79% of habitat patches within the network are 0-10 km<sup>2</sup> in size – only likely to support low mobility species</li> <li>Just 21% of habitat patches in study area are greater than 10 km<sup>2</sup> – but good proportions of these within network</li> <li>67% of 10-100 km<sup>2</sup> patches are within the network and 59% of patches &gt;100km<sup>2</sup> are within the network</li> </ul>                |



# SUMMARY OF MAIN CONCLUSIONS



**PANACHE**

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the Channel Ecosystem

| Assessment Type & Criteria                 | Feature   | Results  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Spatial - adequacy</b>                  | Area of EUNIS Level 3 habitats  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four habitats have &lt;30% of their area within the MPA network</li> <li>• Six habitats have &gt;30% of their area within the MPA network</li> </ul>  |
|  | Area of habitats of conservation importance   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 65% of <i>Zostera</i> beds occur within the MPA network</li> <li>• 48% of Maerl beds occur within the MPA network</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Spatial - connectivity</b>              | Connectivity among MPAs   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MPAs containing the same habitat typically connected to just 2 or 3 other MPAs</li> </ul>   |
|  | Habitat connections<br>Within versus among MPAs<br>Habitats buffers                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connectivity of habitat patches was found to be greater among MPAs than within MPAs, highlighting potential for replenishment of habitats and species from within the MPA network</li> <li>• Good connectivity among habitats within MPAs along the French and English coasts, respectively</li> <li>• Cross Channel connectivity virtually non-existent</li> </ul> |
| <b>Matrix Approach - representativity</b>  | Qualifying species,<br>EUNIS Level 3 habitats<br>OSPAR habitats<br>Annex I habitats | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good representativity of qualifying species, EUNIS Level 3 habitats, OSPAR habitats and Annex I habitats</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Matrix Approach - replication</b>       | EUNIS Level 3 habitats<br>OSPAR habitats<br>Annex I habitats                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EUNIS Level 3 and Annex 1 habitats listed in 5 or more MPAs within the Channel network</li> <li>• Maerl beds, intertidal mudflats, littoral chalk communities and <i>Zostera</i> beds listed in 3 or more MPAs</li> <li>• <i>Sabellaria</i> reefs, and sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities listed in 2 or fewer MPAs</li> </ul>                             |
|  | Qualifying species  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68% of species listed in 3 or more MPAs</li> <li>• 27% of species listed in 1 MPA</li> <li>• 5% of species listed in 2 MPAs</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Self-assessment – management status</b> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium to high level of management status reported for 98% of MPAs assessed</li> <li>• 75% of the MPAs reported effective enforcement and management of</li> </ul>  |

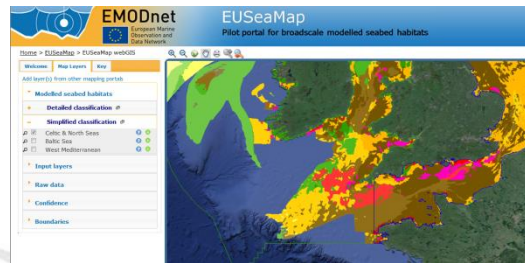
# DATA LIMITATIONS



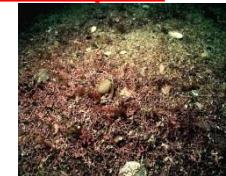
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Limited availability of comprehensive data for features

Broad-scale  
habitat  
analysis



Biotope-  
specific  
analysis



Only possible for 3 biotopes

Species-  
specific  
analysis



Only possible for 7 species

Data resolution & type of data

Polygon vs. point data - Cannot assess 'Adequacy' with point data as proportion of protected habitat cannot be calculated

Presence-absence data - Difficult to establish Minimum Viable Populations

# ANALYSIS LIMITATIONS

## Matrix Analysis

- No standardised reporting of features across:
  - a) different MPA designations
  - b) among the 2 countries
- Different classification systems used
- Different levels of the EUNIS classification system used
- Different directives and conventions used

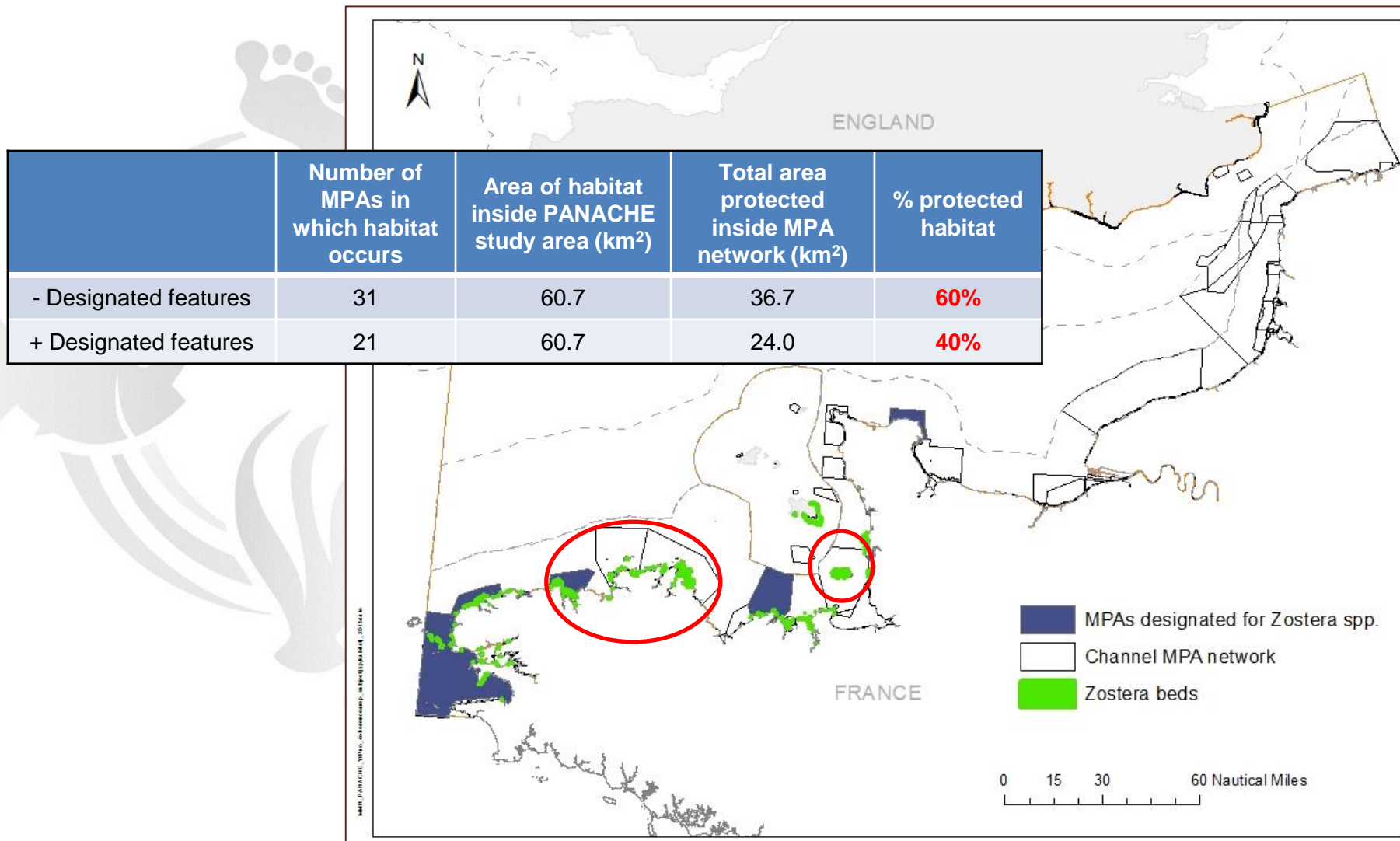
## Overlapping MPAs

- A number of MPA designations overlap
- Features assumed to occur in overlapping area - number of MPAs in which a feature occurs may have been underestimated



# ANALYSIS LIMITATIONS

- Different MPA designations conserve different features, e.g. SPAs
- Conservation objectives of MPAs not considered in spatial analysis



# OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

- Significant coverage of the MPA network
  - mainly coastal
  - driven by European regulations
- Ecological gaps in the network
  - offshore areas (associated species) -> future MPA designation
  - Natura 2000
- Overall, we cannot say with confidence that the Channel MPA network is ecologically coherent
- Assessment has highlighted:
  - limitations in the quality & availability of data
  - areas where improvements can be made when assessing ecological coherence
- Recommendations need to be applied to strengthen assessments of ecological coherence before this approach can successfully be scaled up to cover larger areas

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Agree on a formal, widely accepted definition of ecological coherence
- Agree on indicators & formal thresholds for each criteria
- Improve data coverage, availability, quality & consistency
  - universal reporting systems
  - standardised databases for different MPAs & different countries
  - foster consistent data sharing & gathering
- Use agreed correlation tables to determine EUNIS habitats from those listed in MPA conservation objectives
- Use both the matrix approach & spatial analyses during assessments of ecological coherence to allow:
  - Conservation objectives of the MPAs to be considered when conducting spatial analyses
  - Area of habitat to be considered when assessing replication

# FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT: MPA RESPONSIBILITY



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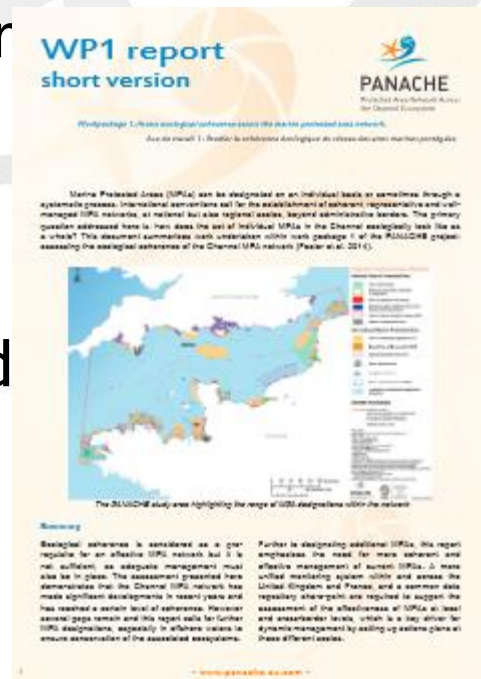
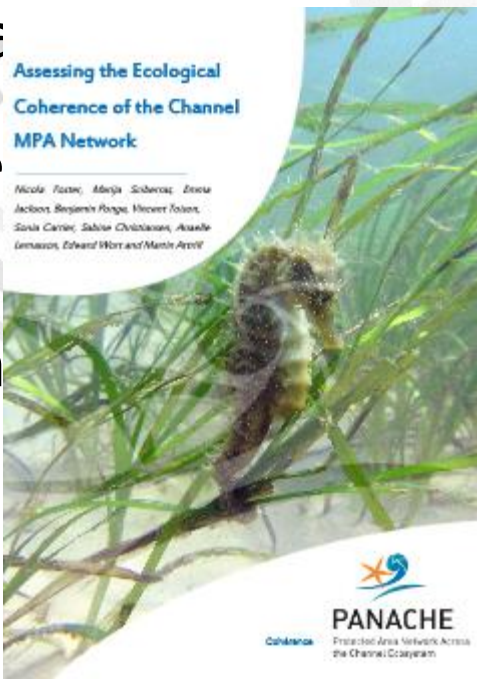
| AMP                                   | Alcidés | Autres mouettes | Grand labbe | Fulmar boréal | Goélands gris | Goélands noirs | Grands puffins | Mouette pygmée | Océanites | Petits puffins | Mouette tridactyle | Sternes | Fou Bassan |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|---------|------------|
| Estuaires picards : baie de Somme     | 0.5%    | 0.2%            | 0.2%        | 0.1%          | 0.5%          | 0.5%           |                | 1.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.2%               | 1.5%    | 0.4%       |
| Estuaire et marais de la basse Seine  | 0.1%    | 0.2%            | 0.2%        | 0.0%          | 0.2%          | 0.2%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.1%               | 0.0%    | 0.1%       |
| Littoral seino-marin                  | 4.4%    | 5.7%            | 6.3%        | 2.9%          | 4.8%          | 5.8%           |                | 12.2%          | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 2.2%               | 2.9%    | 8.5%       |
| Chausey                               | 0.6%    | 1.5%            | 0.2%        | 0.0%          | 1.4%          | 1.2%           |                | 0.9%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.2%               | 3.1%    | 0.1%       |
| Basses vallées du Cotentin et baie    | 0.1%    | 0.1%            | 0.3%        | 0.1%          | 0.1%          | 0.1%           |                | 0.1%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.1%               | 0.0%    | 0.1%       |
| Baie de Seine occidentale             | 1.2%    | 1.3%            | 2.6%        | 1.3%          | 1.0%          | 1.0%           |                | 1.1%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.9%               | 0.0%    | 0.9%       |
| Baie du Mont Saint-Michel             | 0.2%    | 1.1%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.6%          | 0.8%           |                | 1.8%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.1%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Estuaire de l'Orne                    | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.1%    | 0.0%       |
| Falaise du Bessin occidental          | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.1%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Littoral augeron                      | 0.6%    | 0.8%            | 0.7%        | 0.0%          | 0.6%          | 0.5%           |                | 0.5%           | 1.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.4%               | 3.1%    | 0.4%       |
| Landes et dunes de la Hague           | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Hâvre de la Sienne                    | 0.0%    | 0.1%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Estuaire de la Canche                 | 0.1%    | 0.1%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.1%          | 0.3%           |                | 0.1%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.1%       |
| Platier d'Oye                         | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Cap Gris-Nez                          | 0.7%    | 0.9%            | 0.8%        | 0.9%          | 2.5%          | 4.7%           |                | 1.7%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 1.9%               | 0.0%    | 3.6%       |
| Bancs des Flandres                    | 1.3%    | 4.1%            | 0.0%        | 0.5%          | 3.2%          | 2.9%           |                | 5.6%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 2.3%               | 0.0%    | 2.4%       |
| Côte de granit - Sept-Iles            | 0.8%    | 1.5%            | 0.6%        | 0.6%          | 1.6%          | 0.3%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.2%               | 3.9%    | 0.9%       |
| Baie de Saint-Brieuc est              | 0.2%    | 0.2%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.2%          | 0.1%           |                | 0.1%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 1.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Iles de la Colombière, de la Nellière | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.1%    | 0.0%       |
| Îlot du Trévors                       | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Cap Sizun                             | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Trégor-goëlo                          | 1.1%    | 2.7%            | 0.1%        | 0.1%          | 1.2%          | 0.6%           |                | 2.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.2%               | 0.9%    | 0.5%       |
| Ouessant-molène                       | 0.2%    | 0.3%            | 0.2%        | 0.3%          | 1.2%          | 0.5%           |                | 0.1%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.1%               | 1.3%    | 0.1%       |
| Baie de Morlaix                       | 0.1%    | 0.5%            | 0.0%        | 0.1%          | 1.0%          | 0.4%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.2%               | 0.0%    | 0.2%       |
| Cap d'Erquy - cap Fréhel              | 0.7%    | 0.7%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.6%          | 0.3%           |                | 0.3%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.1%               | 3.0%    | 0.1%       |
| Baie de Goulven                       | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.0%          | 0.1%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Camaret                               | 0.0%    | 0.0%            | 0.0%        | 0.1%          | 0.1%          | 0.0%           |                | 0.0%           | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 0.0%               | 0.0%    | 0.0%       |
| Iroise                                | 0.6%    | 0.7%            | 0.7%        | 2.3%          | 4.8%          | 1.9%           |                | 0.4%           | 1.1%      | 0.0%           | 0.5%               | 4.1%    | 0.5%       |
| Estuaires picards et mer d'Onale      | 6.5%    | 3.3%            | 3.9%        | 1.6%          | 6.1%          | 10.8%          |                | 10.3%          | 0.0%      | 0.0%           | 3.4%               | 11.3%   | 6.8%       |

# MOVING BEYOND THE ASSESSMENT

- MPA networks assessments, going beyond science
  - MPA network effectiveness
- Cooperation
  - Cross-border approach (including Channel Islands)
  - Science and MPAs management and stakeholders

• What are the drivers for cooperation?

- Future challenges (MPA and
- Reg
- Dyn



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# PANACHE

Protected Area Network Across  
the Channel Ecosystem



Hampshire & Isle of Wight  
Wildlife Trust  
*Protecting wildlife. Inspiring people.*



LIVE  
SUSTAINABLY  
WITH  
PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY  
MARINE INSTITUTE



MARINE &  
COASTAL POLICY  
WITH  
PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY

PML | Plymouth Marine  
Laboratory



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