



Seabird bycatch in Spain. Demersal long-liners in the Catalan coast



Albert Cama SEO/BirdLife Marine Programme

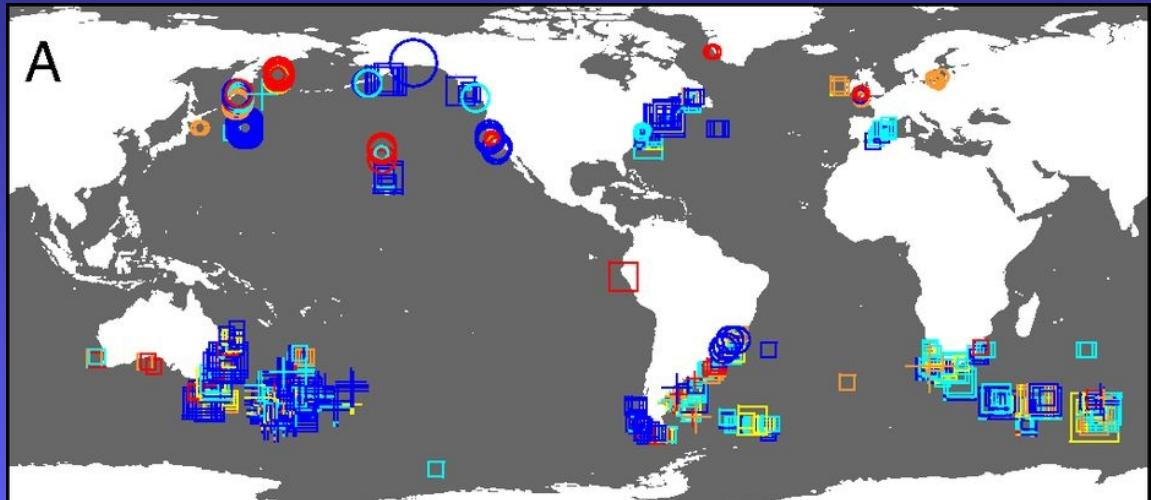


Mediterranean Seabird Workshop
23rd-25th November 2015 Malta



By catch, a global problem

- Big threat for albatrosses in the Southern seas
- Concern extended to other seas



Lewison *et al.* 2014 - PNAS



- Global estimates: >160.000-320.000 long liners, >400.000 nets (...)



- Effective mitigation programmes -- bycatch reduced >90% (FAO; BirdLife International – Albatross Task Force)

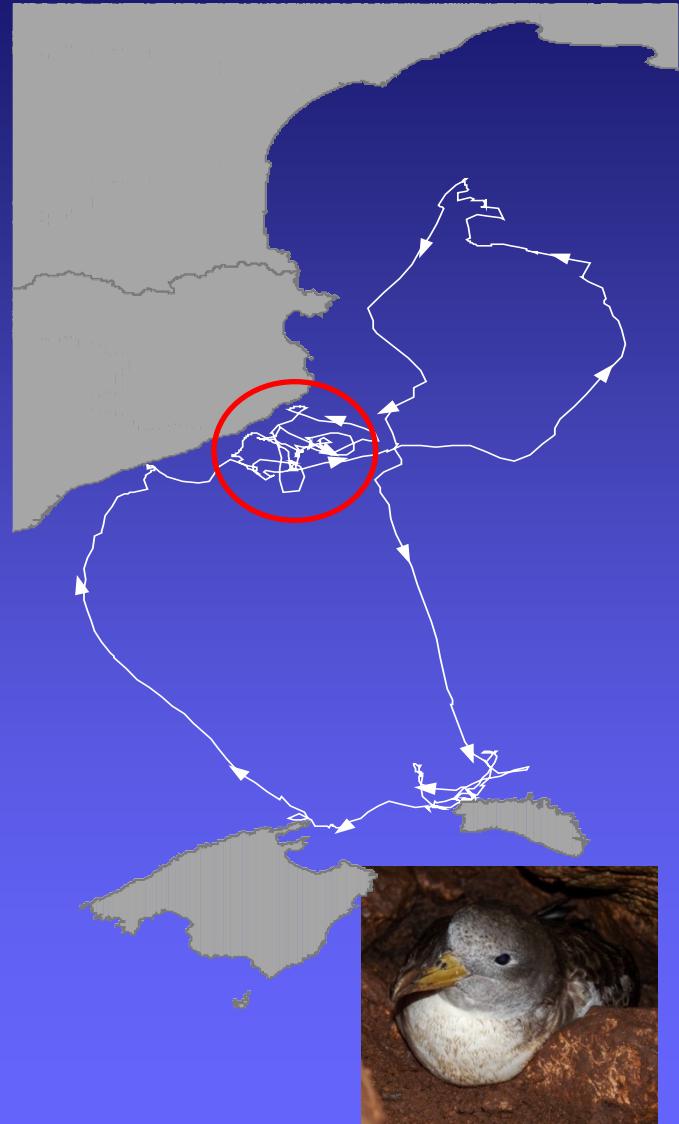
Why Catalonia?



Why Catalonia?

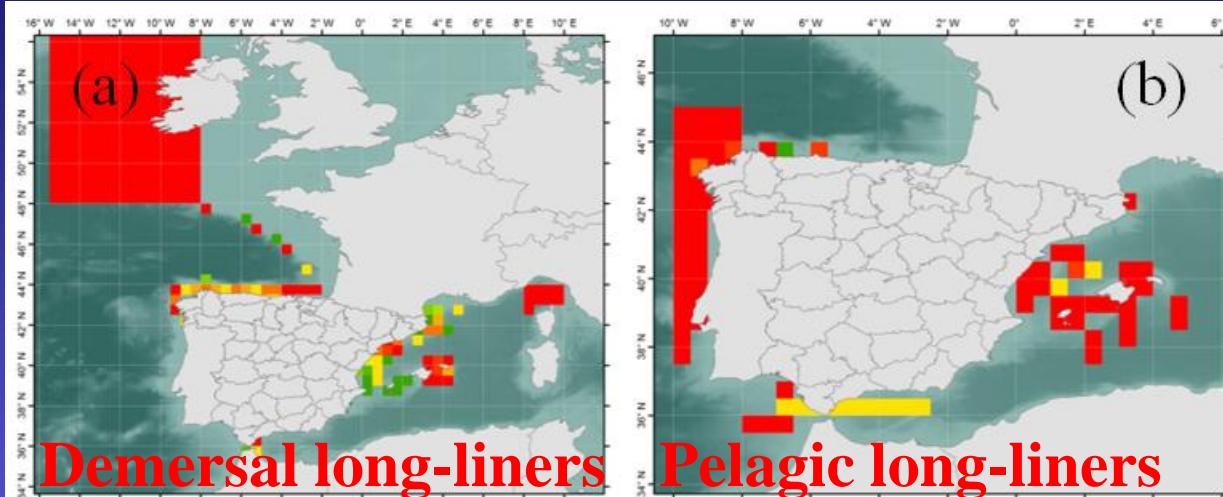


Why Catalonia?



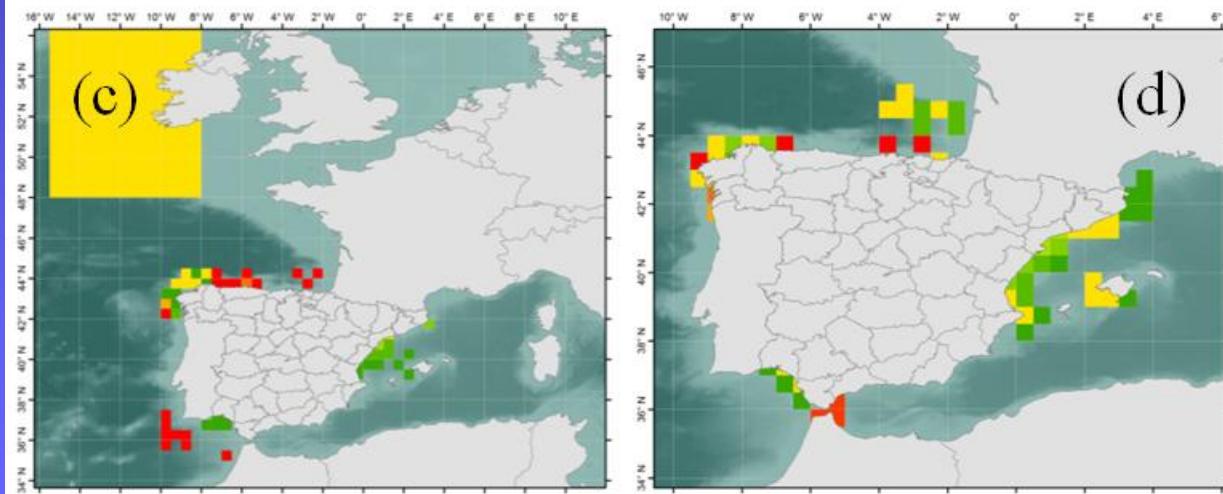
Why demersal long-liners?

Questionnaire survey Seabird by catch risk in Spain



Demersal long-liners

Pelagic long-liners

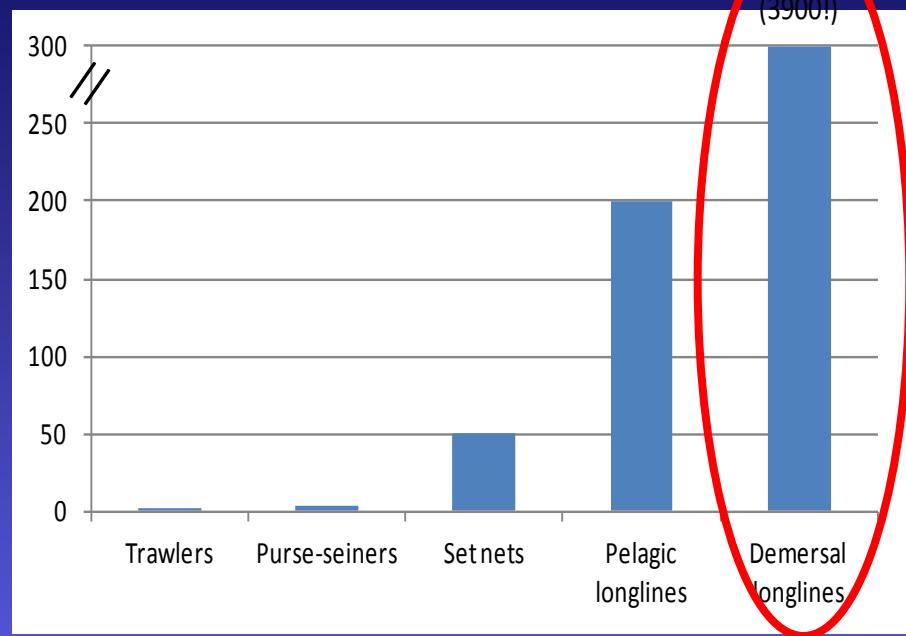


614 questionnaires (FAME & INDEMARES)

67 harbours (Atlantic + Mediterranean)

- (a) Demersal long-liners
- (b) Pelagic longliners
- (c) Trawlers
- (d) Purse seiners

Questionnaire overall results

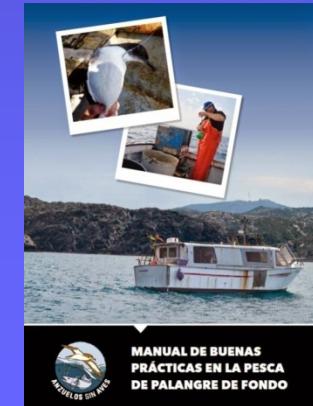


Concern that goes back a long way

- 90's first on-bord surveys and evidences of higher impact of demersal long-liners
- 2000's collection of data of massive by catch events
- 2010's collaboration with UB



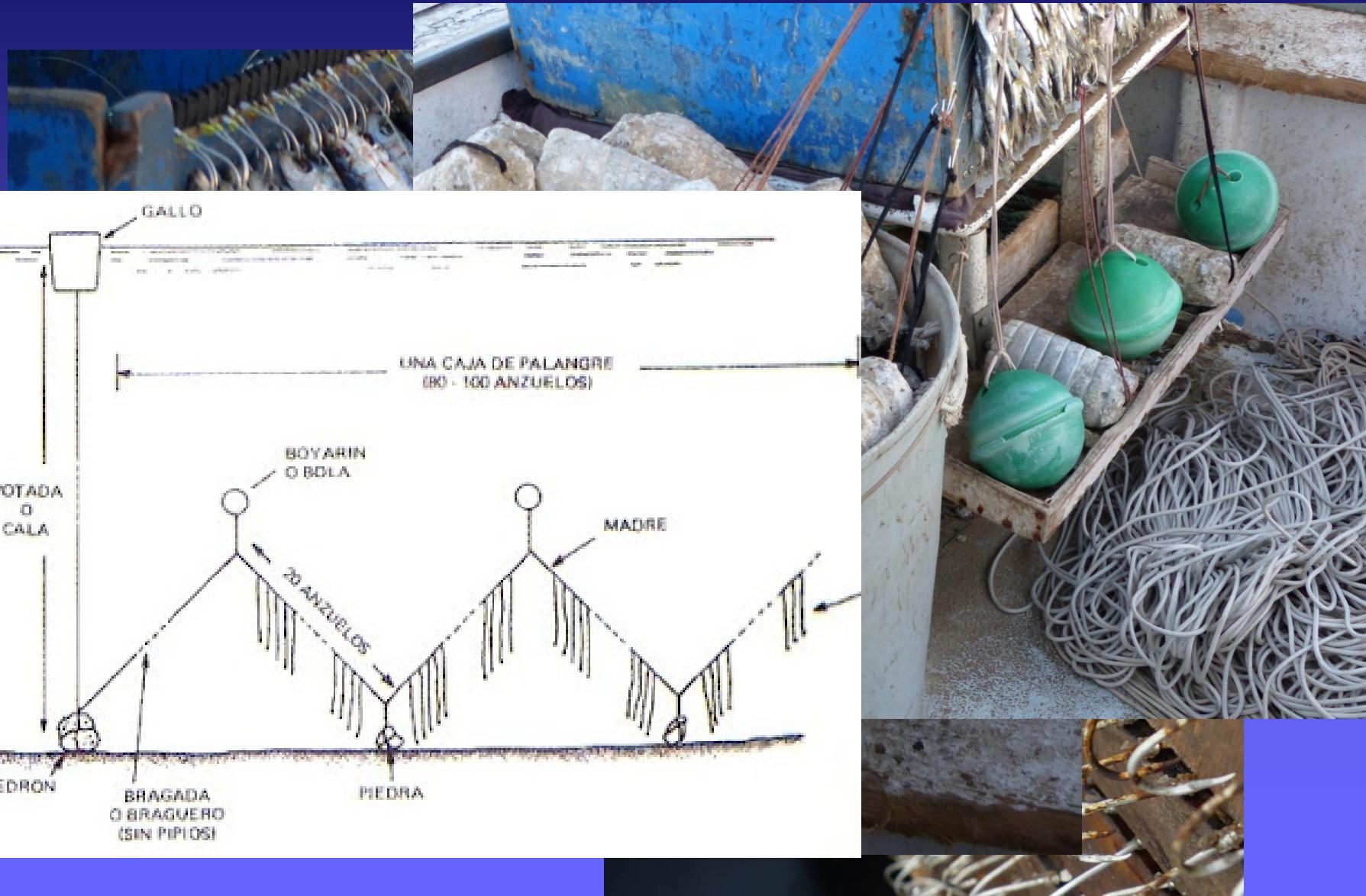
<http://www.seo.org/aves-marinas/>



<http://seabirdbycatch.com/>

<https://www.copy.com/s/NzuI3LFcr0NcQgpZ>

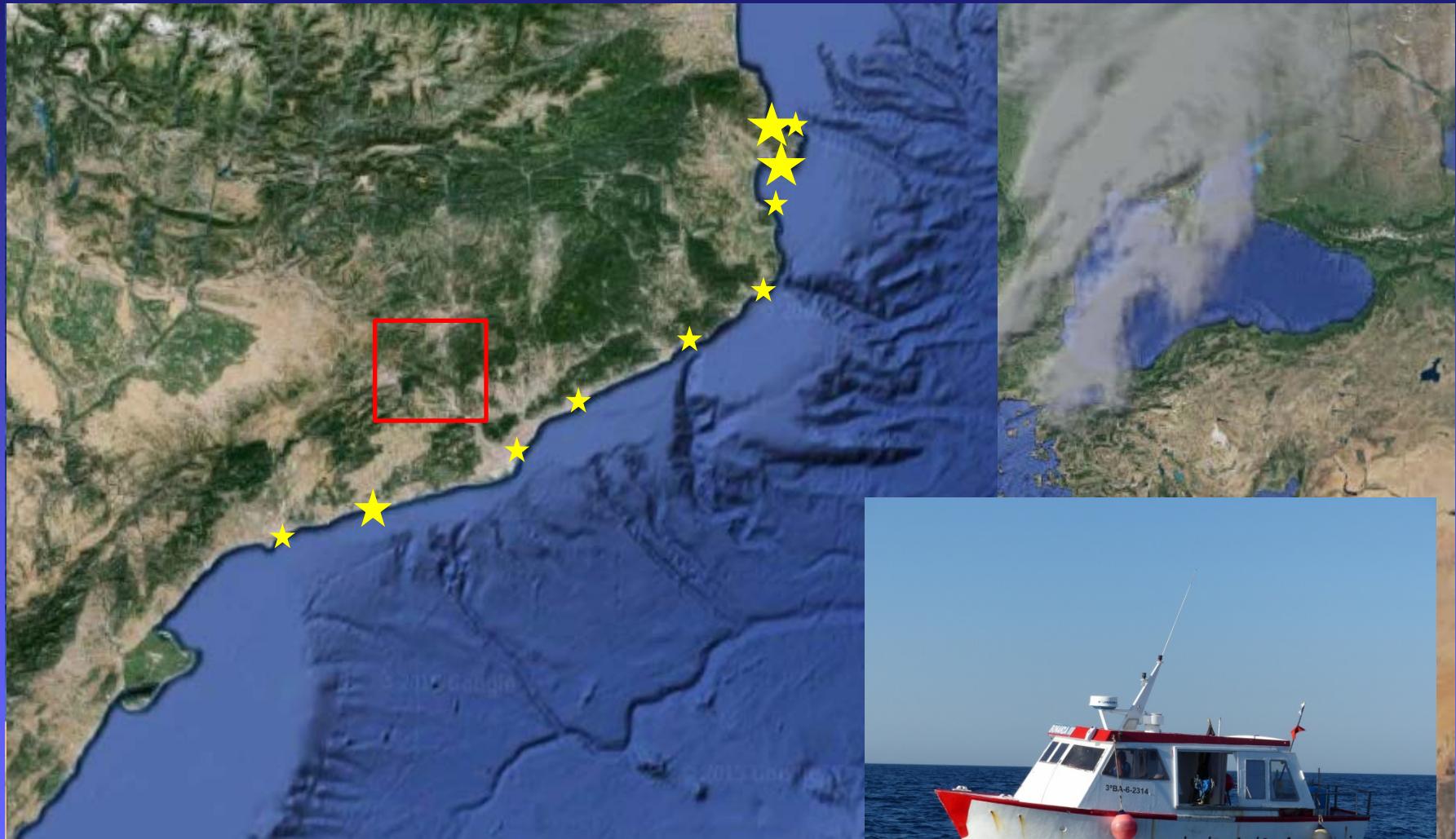
Demersal long-lining



Demersal long-lining



Demersal long-lining in Catalonia



15 boats in the study area

The observers programme



Collaboration with 6 boats, allowing observers

The observers programme

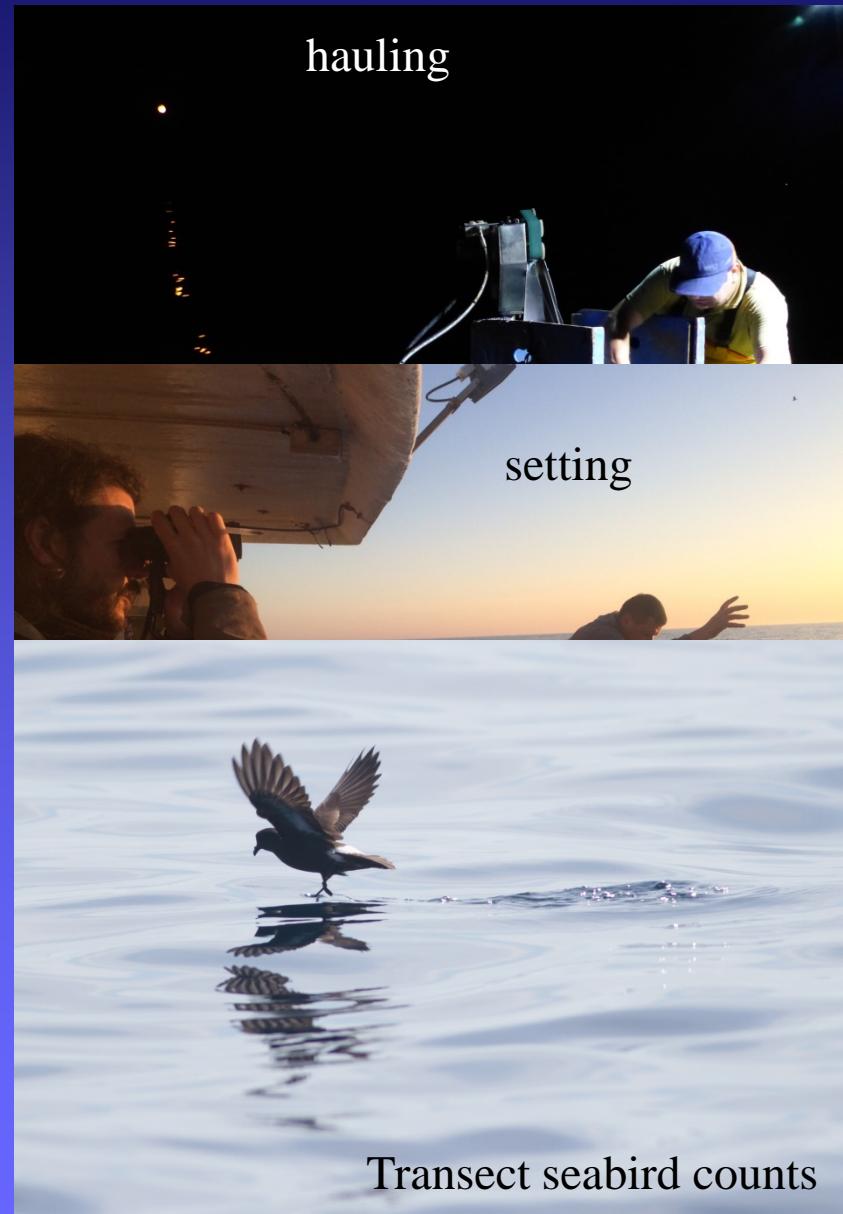


Main fishing grounds

The observers programme



The observers programme



The observers programme

- 68 days at sea
- 150,000 set hooks monitored
- 200 operations monitored
- 1,500 seabird census during operations (10 minutes)
- 1,200 attacks to the bait recorded
- 6 birds caught
 - 3 Scopoli's Shearwaters
 - 3 Yellow legged gull



0.04 birds/ 1,000 hooks

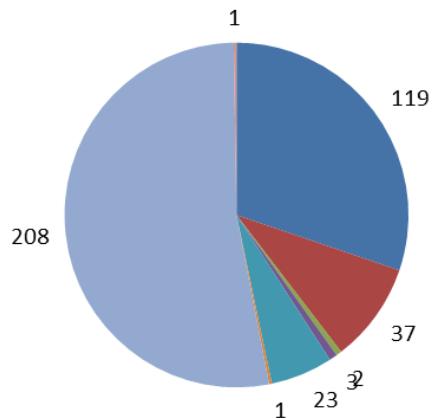
The observers programme

Some results

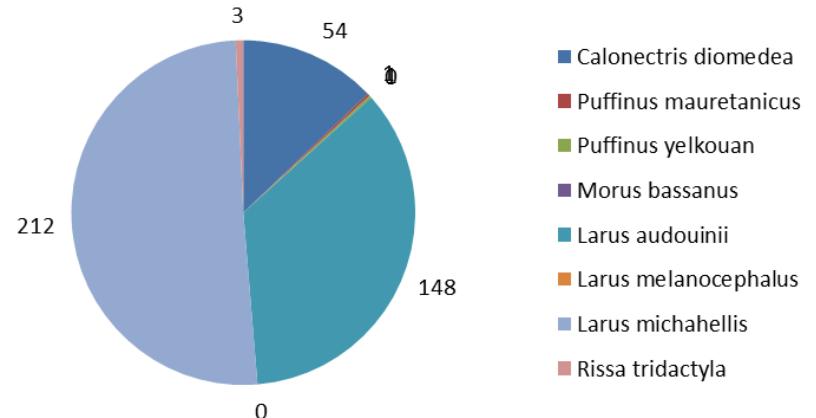
Attacks to bait or discards



Set



Haul

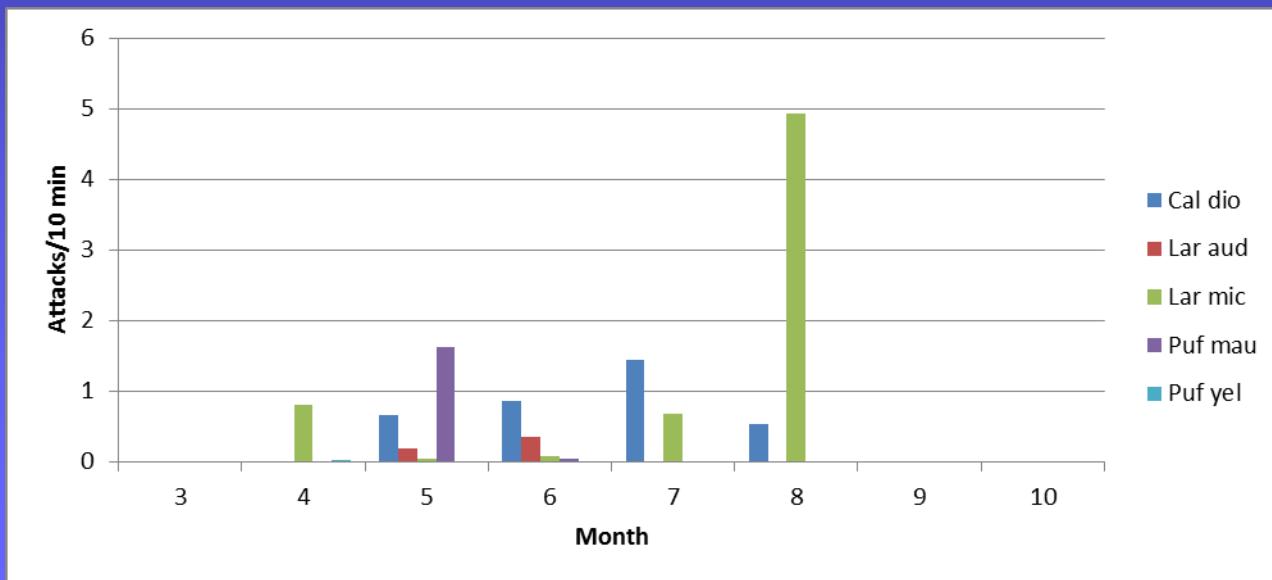


The observers programme

Some results

Attacks to bait during hauling

Monthly distribution

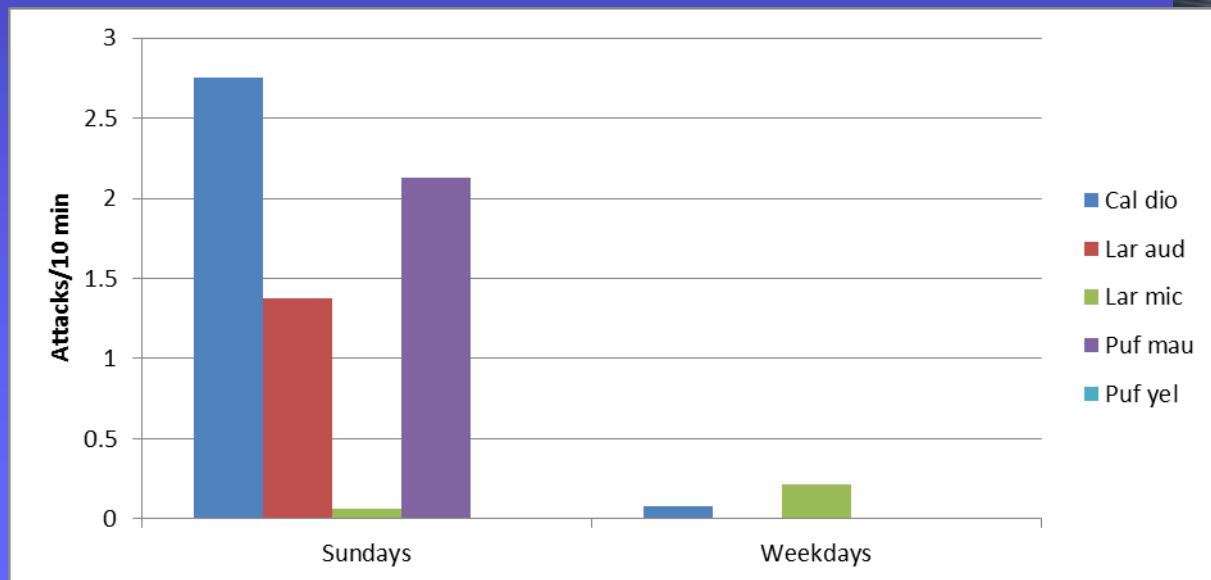


The observers programme

Some results

Attacks to bait during hauling

Sundays vs Weekdays

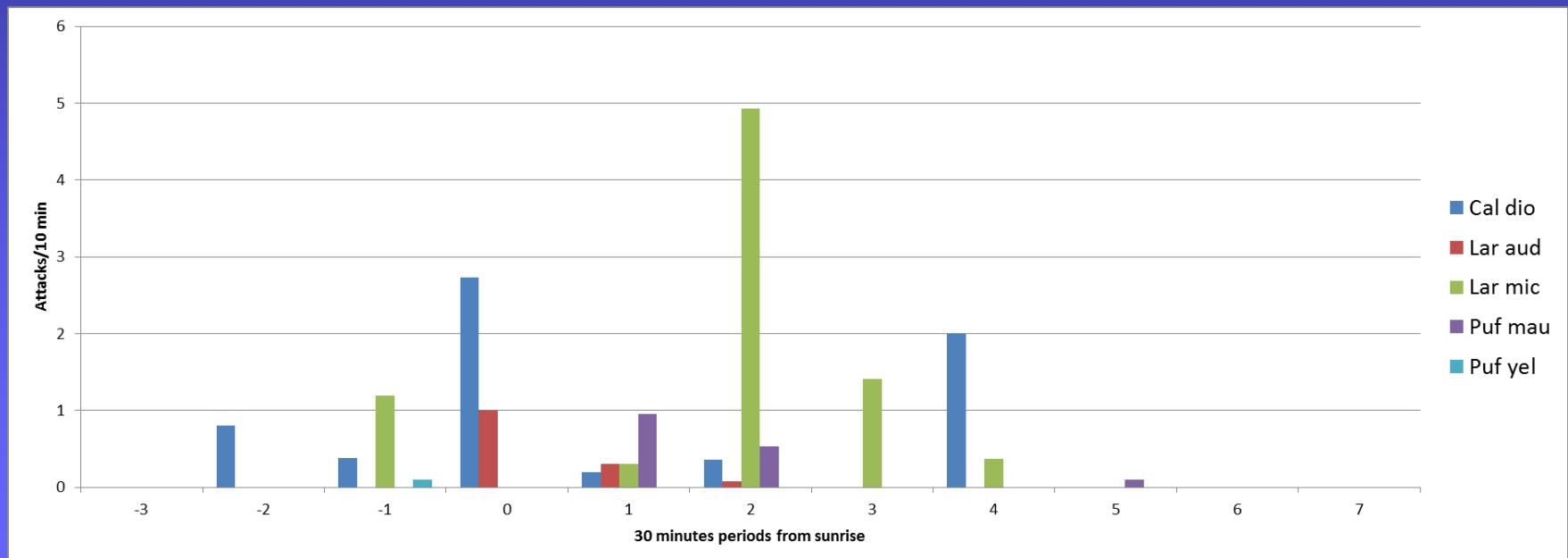


The observers programme

Some results

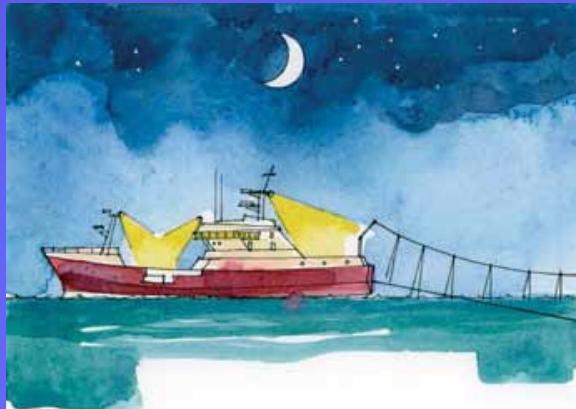
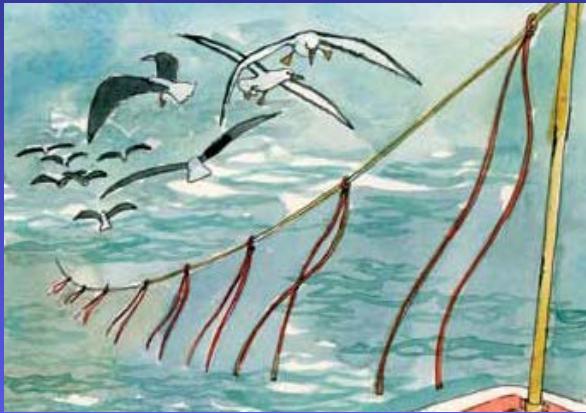
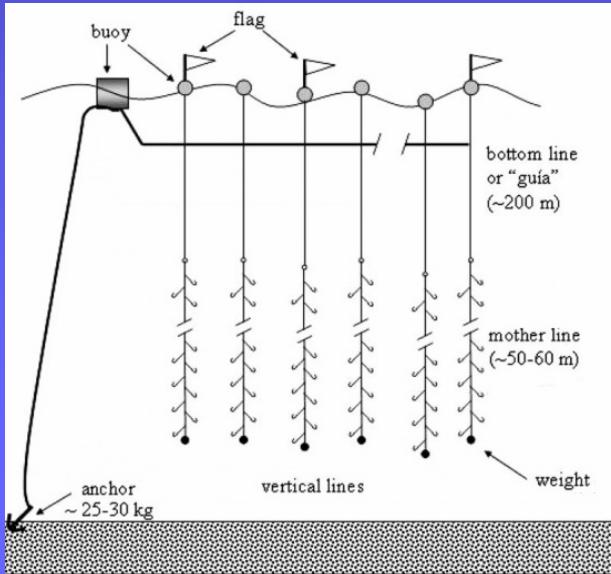
Attacks to bait during hauling

Time respect to the sunrise



Next step

Testing and implementation of mitigation measures



Thanks!

