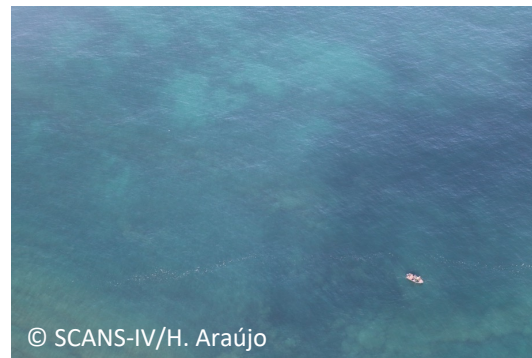


# SCANS-IV

Small Cetaceans in European Atlantic  
waters and the North Sea 2022



ASCOBANS AC 27  
Presentation by **Anita Gilles**<sup>1</sup>  
Coordinator SCANS-IV  
29 Sep 2022



<sup>1</sup>University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover (TiHo), Germany

# Context

**SCANS-IV** is the fourth SCANS survey (1994, 2005/2007, 2016). It is covering shelf and offshore waters of the European Atlantic.

The main objectives are:

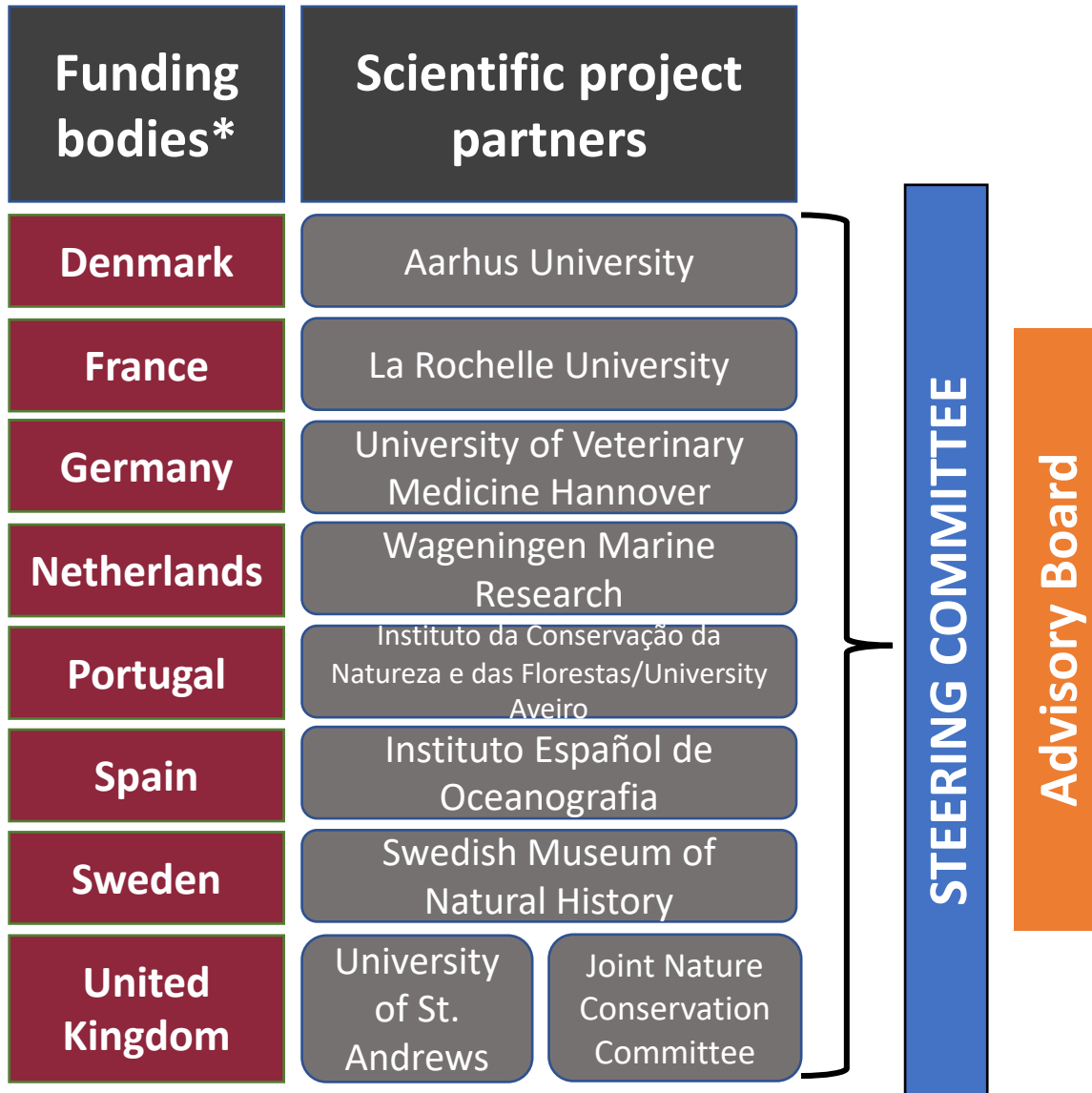
**Abundance estimates and trend assessment** of the regularly occurring cetacean species by population-wide surveys

Provide outputs for Member States to report under the **Marine Strategy Framework Directive** (Article 8: due 2024), the **Habitats Directive** (Article 17: 2019 - 2024) and for **OSPAR/HELCOM** assessments.

Provide outputs for **impact assessments** of offshore industries and fisheries.

Development of a **governance framework** for future SCANS surveys conducted in 6-year cycles to ensure long-term implementation.

# Project structure



\*can be several agencies per country





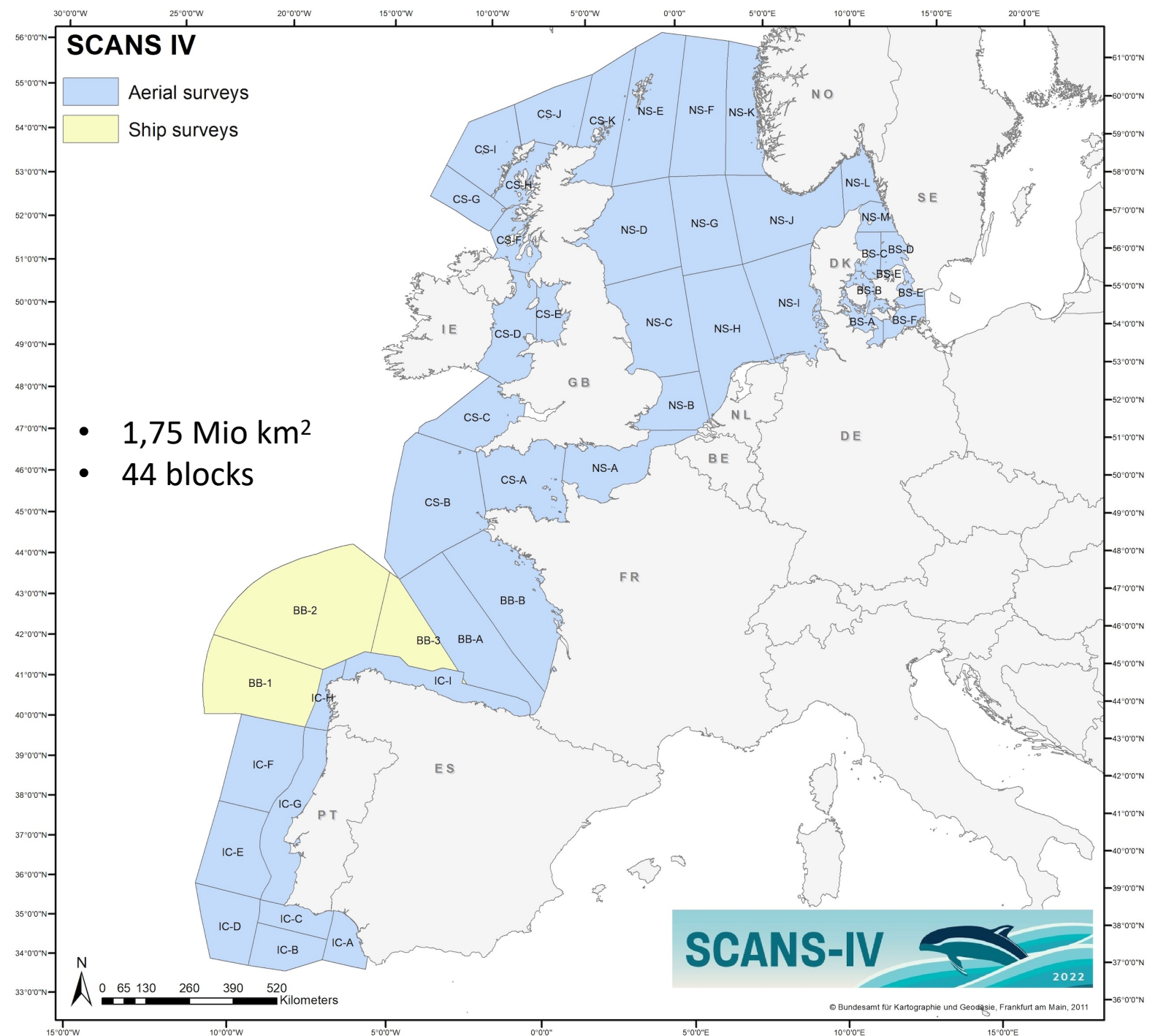
# Survey area

## Aerial surveys

- 8 planes (all P68s and 1 BN)
- Using regional (existing) survey teams where available

## Shipboard survey(s)

- 1 vessel in 2022 (Ramón Margalef)
- Covering primarily offshore waters





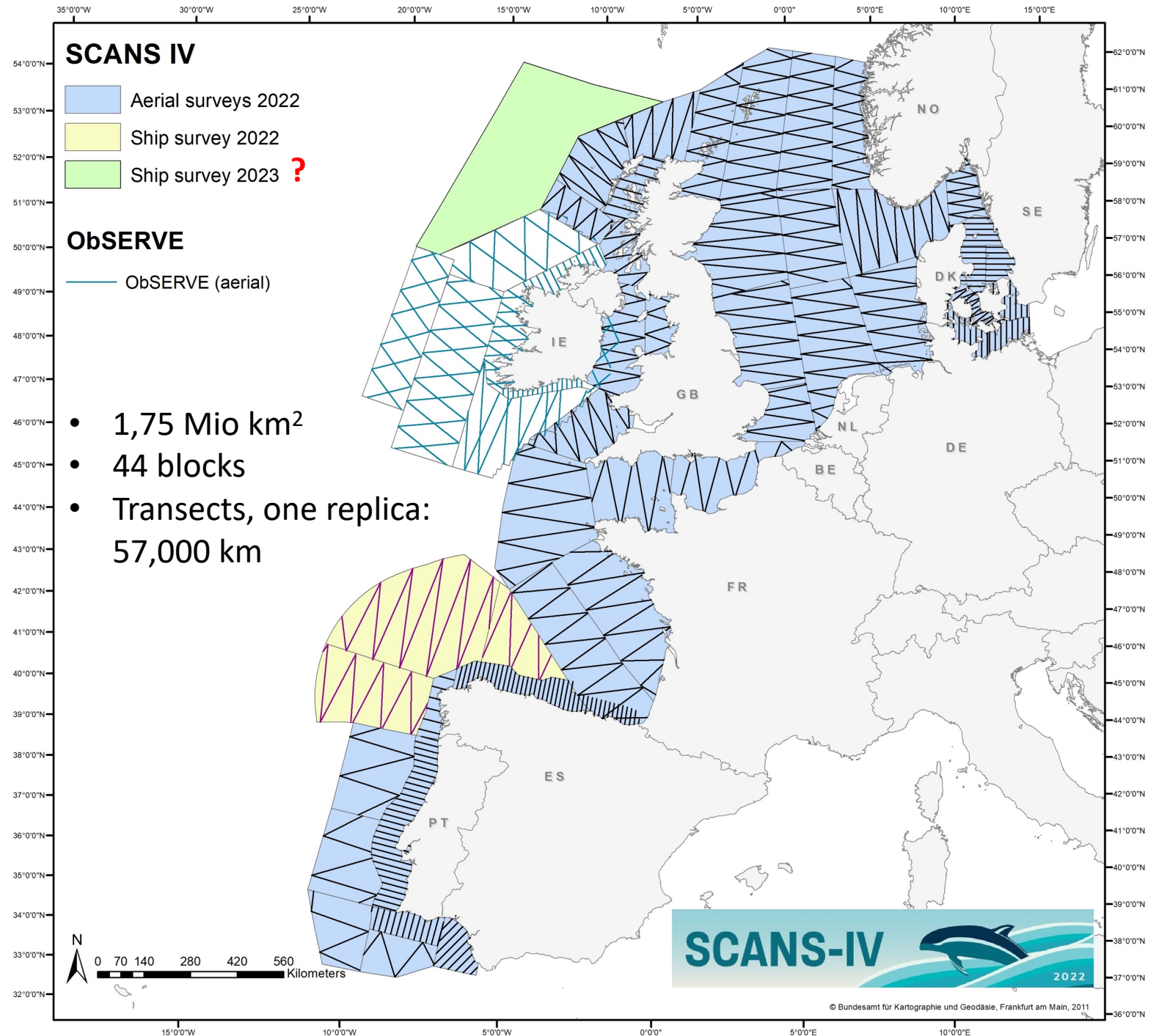
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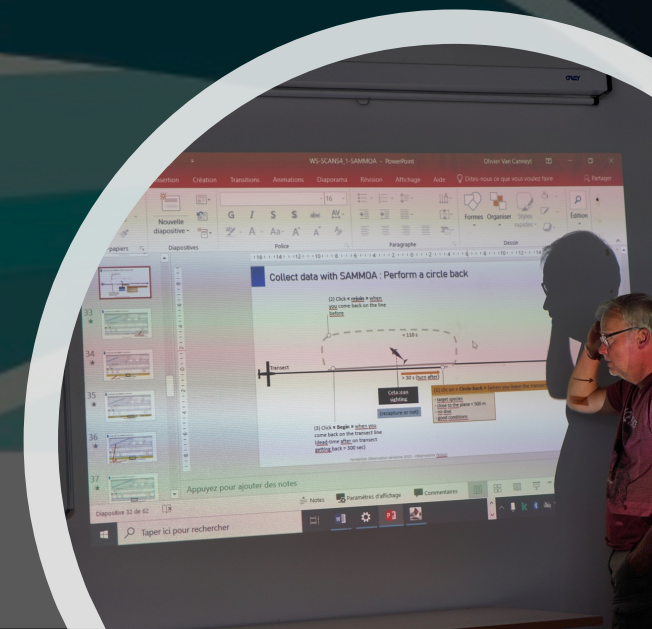
- 1 vessel in 2022 (Ramón Margalef)
- Covering primarily offshore waters







# Training & equipment setup in La Rochelle





# Survey action & some “issues”



Broken planes



Fog in Scotland



Extreme heat in PT



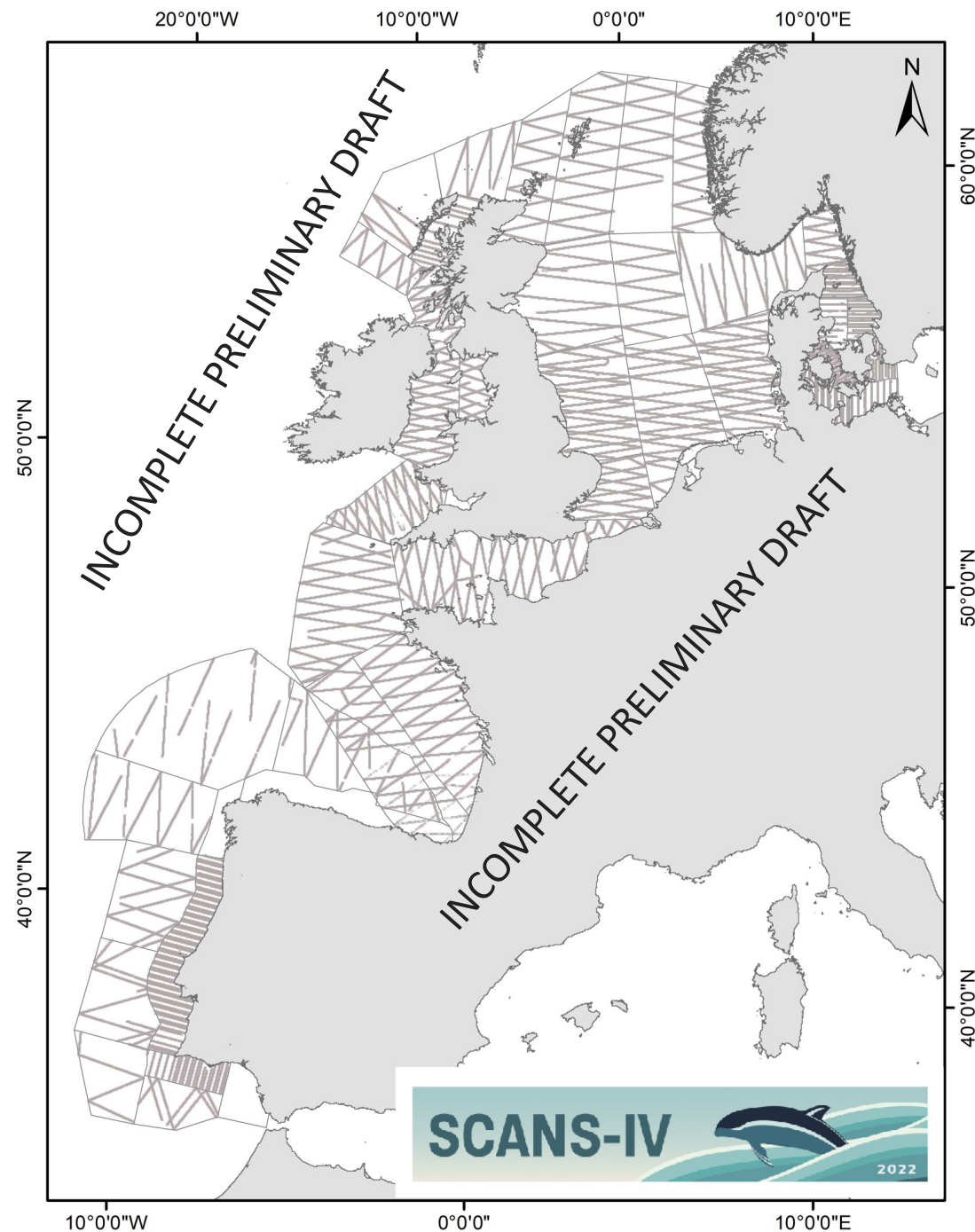


# Realised effort

- 28.06. - 15.08.2022
- 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt NW Scotland: 07.-12.09.2022
- Spanish aerial survey ongoing (Sep 2022)



© SCANS-IV/B. Unger

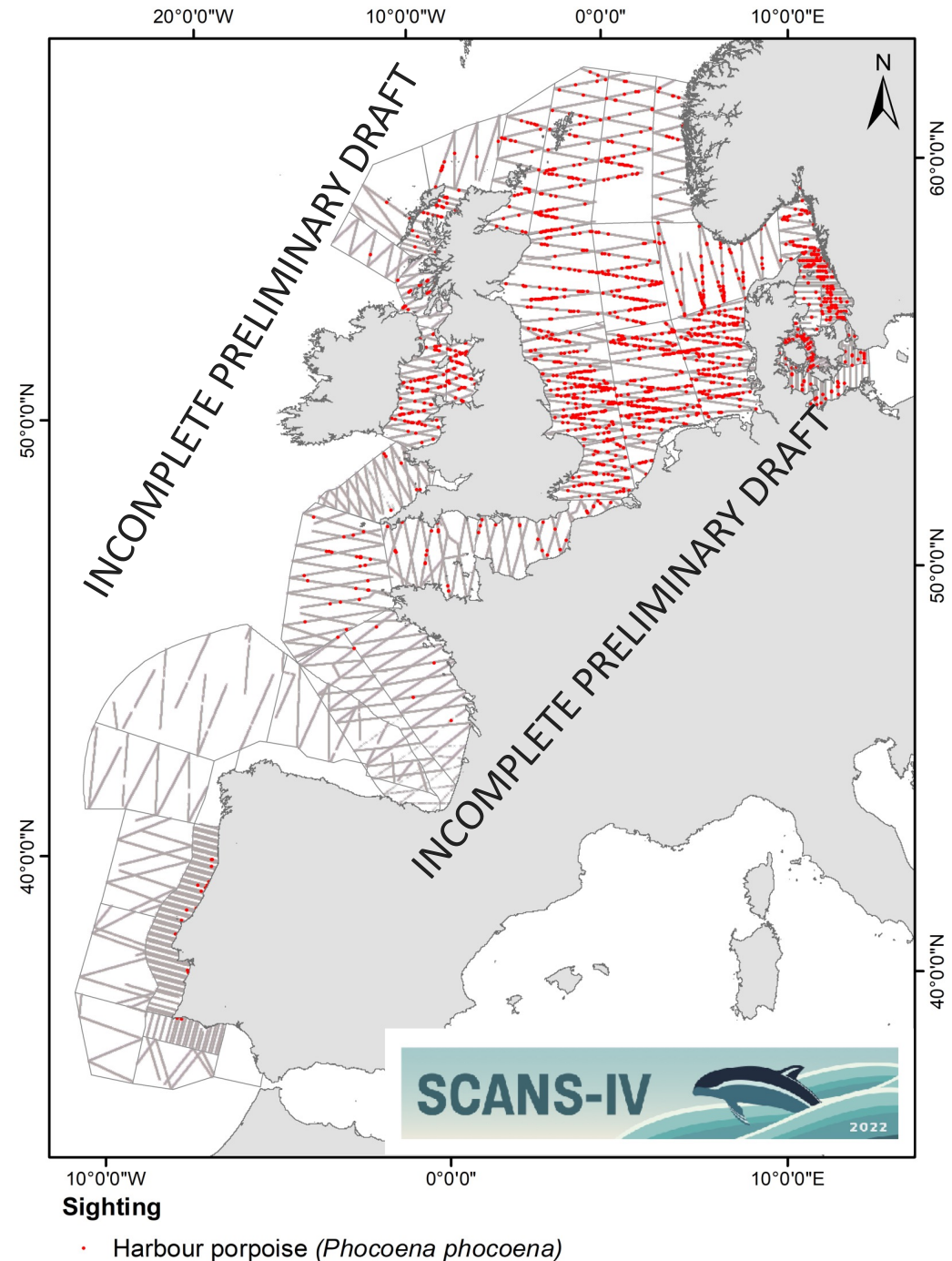


# DRAFT Map harbour porpoises

Note: this is a first incomplete preliminary overview.  
Data validation is ongoing.  
DO NOT use without consent of coordinator  
[anita.gilles@tiho-hannover.de](mailto:anita.gilles@tiho-hannover.de)



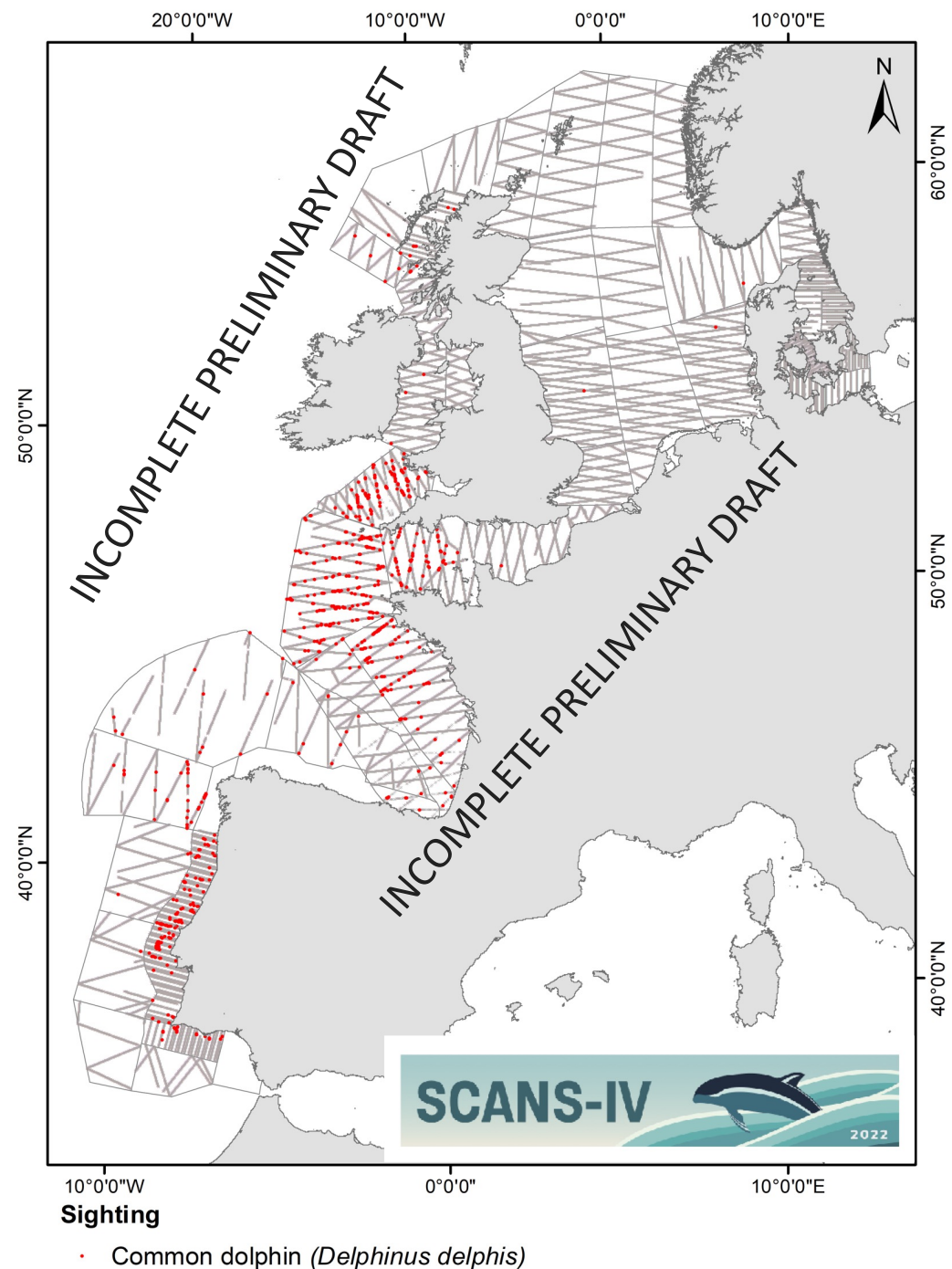
© M. Scheidat





# DRAFT Map common dolphin

Note: this is a first incomplete preliminary overview.  
Data validation is ongoing.  
DO NOT use without consent of coordinator  
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# And much more to come ....



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~ 20 cetacean species

Pinnipeds

Turtles

Sharks

Sunfish

Tuna

Anthropo activities

... and, unfortunately, about 800 flocks of dead seabirds  
(bird flu summer 2022)

# Next steps



© SCANS-IV/H. Araújo



**Dissemination  
of progress and  
results in  
relevant fora**

## Project coordination

## Time line

Survey preparation

Q1 2022

Survey area and transect  
design

Q2 2022

Aerial  
surveys

Ship  
surveys

Q3 2022

Data validation

Q4 2022

Abundance estimates and  
trend analyses for MSFD

Q1 2023

Q2 2023

Model-based estimates of  
abundance and drivers of  
distribution

Q3 2023

Q4 2023

Development future  
governance framework  
SCANS surveys

Q1 2024

Q2 2024

**Final report**

Q3 2024







# Thank you dream teams!!





Follow the SCANS-IV ArcGIS story map

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6435641aed5745d1b2471e5e59e6af94>

In French waters

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/90250af8d1ff48be9a8a40ec63a8476c>

And follow us on twitter

**@scans\_4**

**More questions?** please contact Anita Gilles

[anita.gilles@tiho-hannover.de](mailto:anita.gilles@tiho-hannover.de)

<https://www.tiho-hannover.de/en/clinics-institutes/institutes/institute-for-terrestrial-and-aquatic-wildlife-research-itaw/scans-iv-survey>

# SCANS-IV

**Small Cetaceans in European Atlantic waters and the North Sea 2022**

SCANS is a large-scale ship-based and aerial survey designed to study the distribution and abundance of cetaceans in the northeast Atlantic. The survey is conducted during summer, surveying along predetermined transects for whales, dolphins and porpoises. SCANS-IV built on the previous surveys conducted in 1994, 2005/2007 and 2016.

