



MINISTERIO
PARA LA TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA
Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO

TARGET ON PROTECTED AREAS

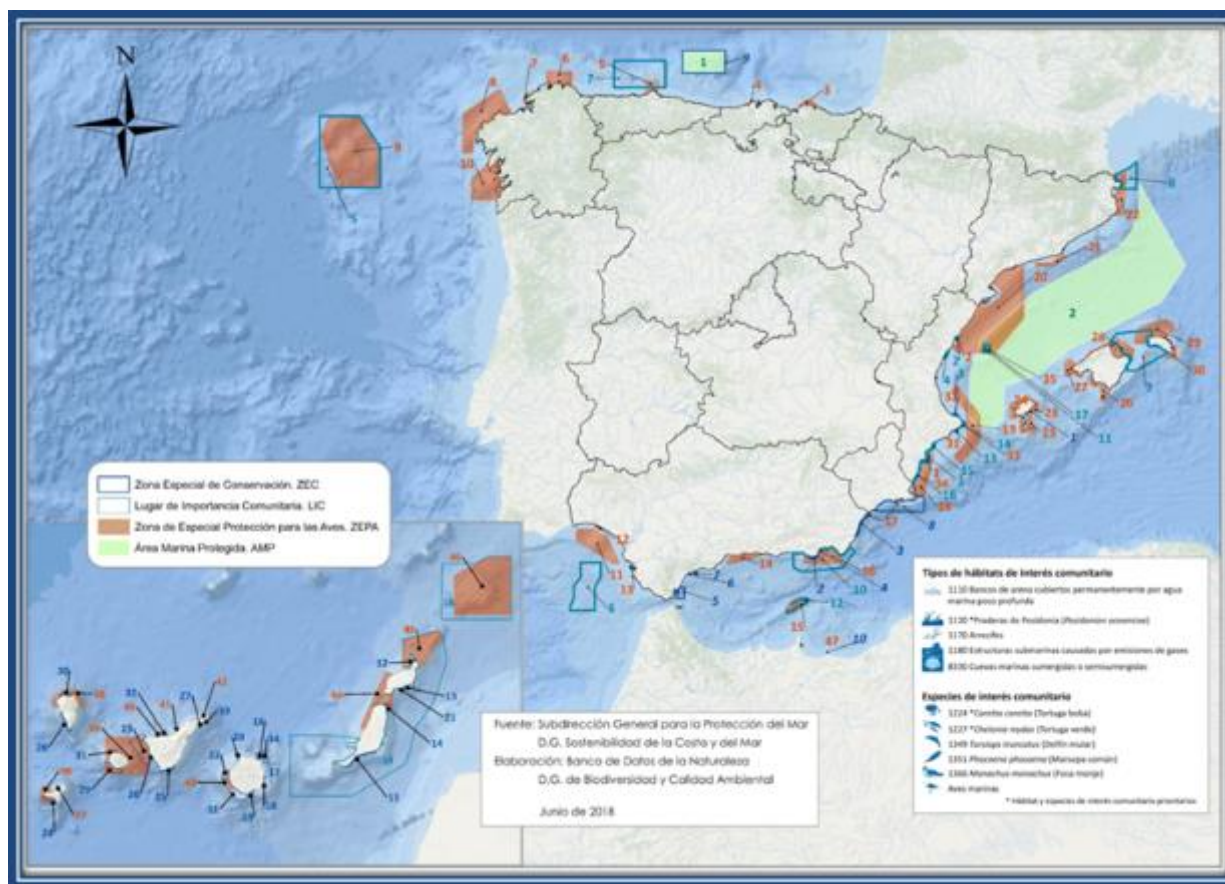
3rd biogeographical seminar for the Atlantic and the
Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions

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Spanish contribution to EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Key commitments EU Strategy for Biodiversity:

1. 30% of marine protection (with 10% of strict protection) of EU sea areas
2. Effectively manage all protected areas, defining clear conservation objectives and measures, and monitoring them appropriately



1. Protection:

- 30% of effective marine protection is a national governmental commitment since January 2020
- Spanish marine protected surface evolution:
 1% (2009) ➔ 8% (2015) ➔ **12% (2018)**
- However, less than 1% under strict protection

2. Effective management:

- Our major challenge:
 - ✓ Only a third of MPAs have an approved management plan
 - ✓ Monitoring and surveillance recently in place

Spanish contribution to EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

1. Effective protection:

- Approval of the **management plans** of all Natura 2000 sites through **participatory process** including SMART objectives and associated measures (zoning)
- Ecological **monitoring** and **surveillance** in place

2. Towards the protection of 30% by 2030: Commitment since January 2020

- **Oceanographic campaigns and surveys** to identify new marine areas to be included in Natura 2000
- **Gap analysis** has been made for the identification of proposals for potential new designation



With the support of the LIFE IP INTEMARES project

INTEMARES

Spanish contribution to EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Actions in place to contribute the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030.

Oceanographic campaigns and surveys to **identify new marine areas** to be included in Natura 2000 (6 new areas that represent **around 3%** of spanish marine area, pending to be declared by 2024)

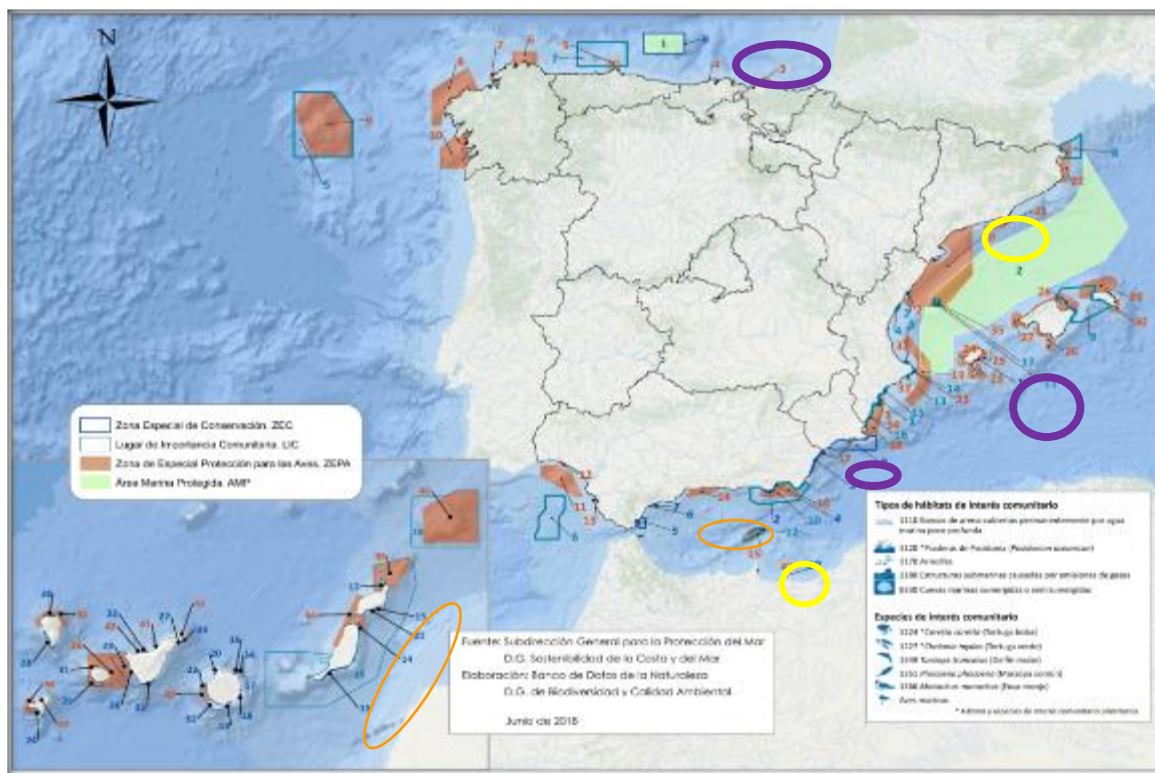


Figura	Nombre
 <p>SCI (IHC)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submarine mountains in Mallorca Channel 2. Submarine canyons from Tiñoso Cape to Palos Cape 3. Cap Breton
 <p>SCI (ISC)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eastern area of Lanzarote-Fureteventura 2. Alboran Sea's banks and gorges
 <p>SPA</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central coast of Catalonia

Spanish contribution to EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Actions in place to contribute the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030.

Gap analysis has been made for the identification of proposals for potential Natura 2000 sites

How?

- A. **Analysis of insufficiencies** of the marine Natura 2000 Network process
- B. **Analysis of the coherence** of the marine Natura 2000 Network
- C. **Prioritization of proposals**



Spanish contribution to EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Actions in place to contribute the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030.

A. Analysis of insufficiencies of the marine Natura 2000 Network process

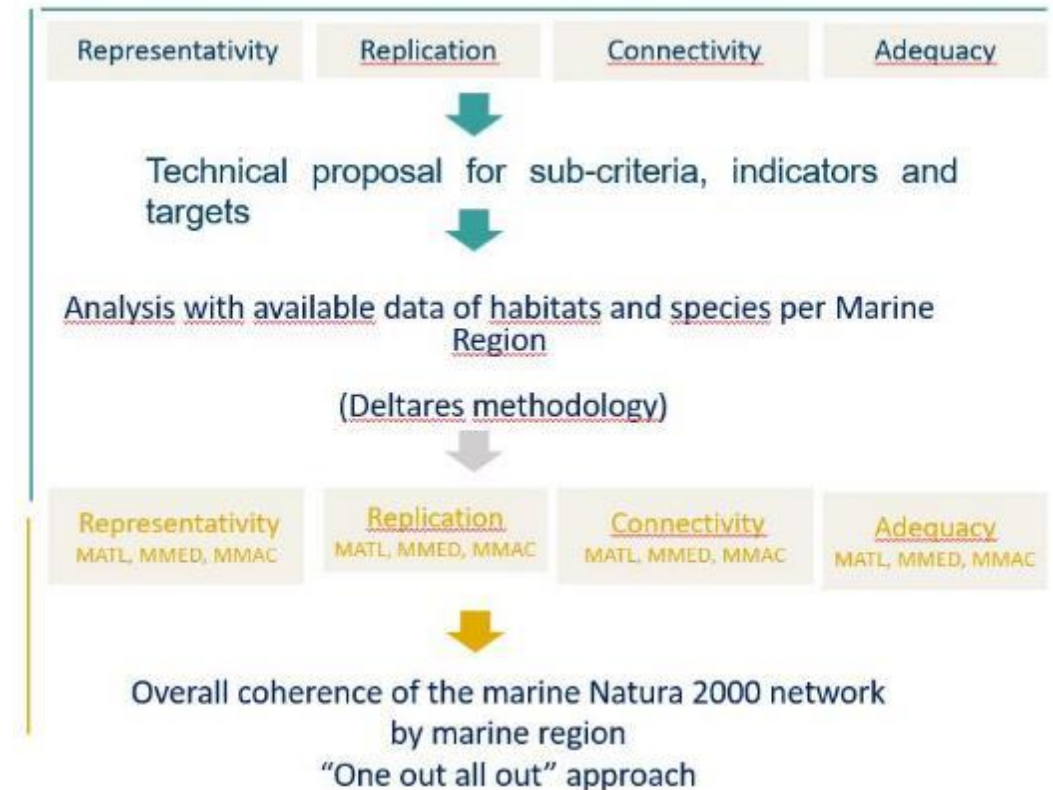
- **Starting point: conclusions** of the last **marine seminar** to assess the sufficiency of SCI, held in Malta in September 2016.
- **Science as a basis for decision-making.**
 - ✓ **4 workshops on habitats and species and a final scientific committee** (between 2018 and 2021)
 - ✓ More than **170 scientists and experts** identified concrete **104 proposals for sites** (71 SCI and 33 SPA) to be analyzed to **contribute to the target of protecting 30% of marine surface by 2030.**
 - ✓ **Scientific proposal by regions:**
 - Atlantic region: 11 SCI (2 need for improvement of knowledge) and 14 SPA (8 need for improvement of knowledge)
 - Macaronesian region: 22 SCI and 8 SPA (5 for improvement of knowledge)

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Actions in place to contribute the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030.

B. Analysis of the coherence of the marine Natura 2000 Network

- All the proposals** (104 from the scientific proposal and the 47 selected after the economic compatibilization study) **where under a coherence analysis.**
- It allows **identifying the extent to which the proposed sites** contribute to solving the shortcomings in achieving a coherent Natura 2000 network.
- Criteria and methodology:** on the basis of the guidelines and technical documents provided by EEA, MRCs and Deltares (2014)



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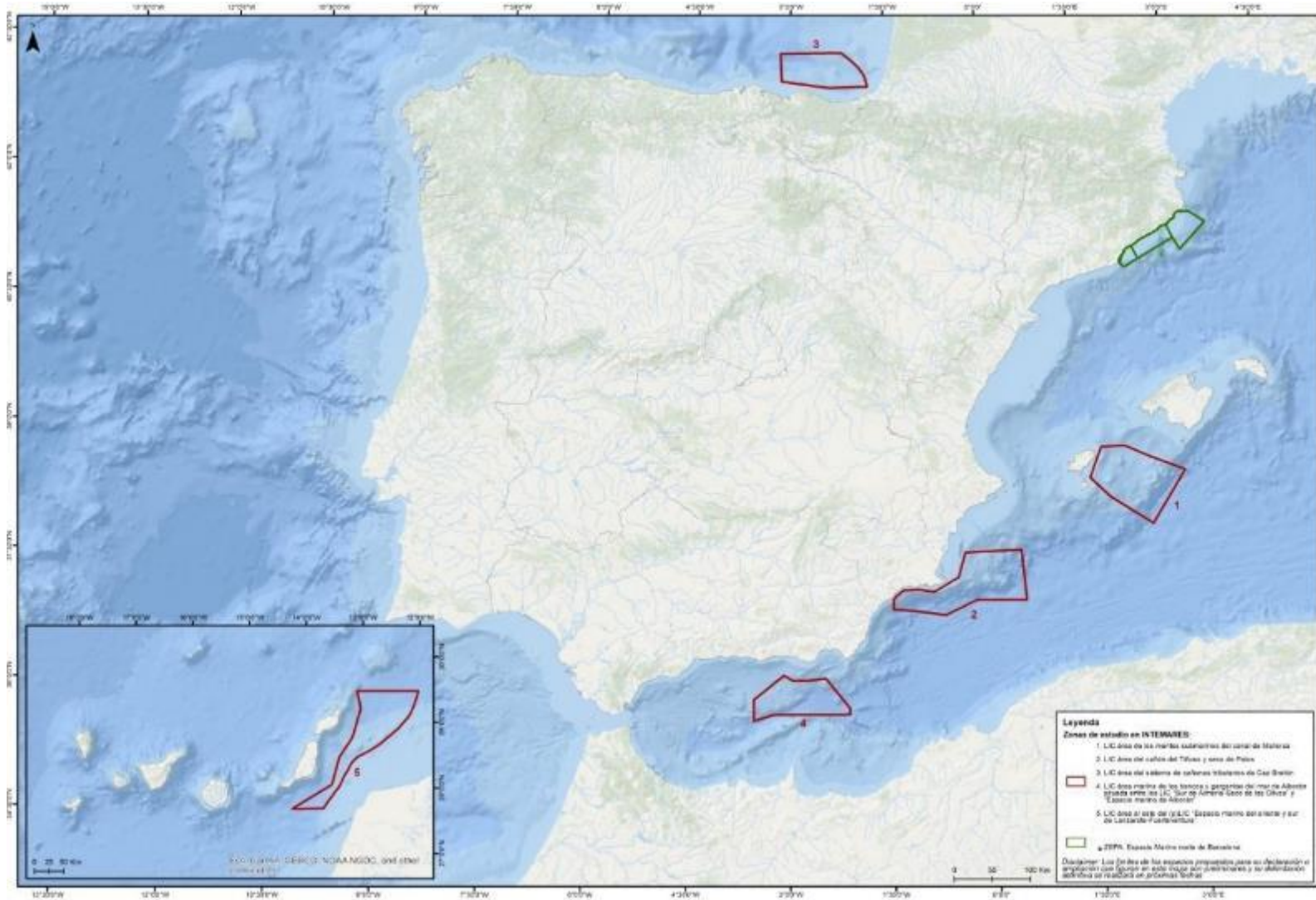
C. Prioritizations of proposals

- Finally, **7 areas** were selected as a **High Priority** → pending to be protected **by 2023** and representing **around 9%** of marine waters
 - ✓ Contributing the most to achieve coherence of N2000 network
 - ✓ Geographical balance
 - ✓ With large surface areas to optimize management.
 - ✓ Socioeconomic impact (specially fisheries) was little

SPANISH PLEDGES

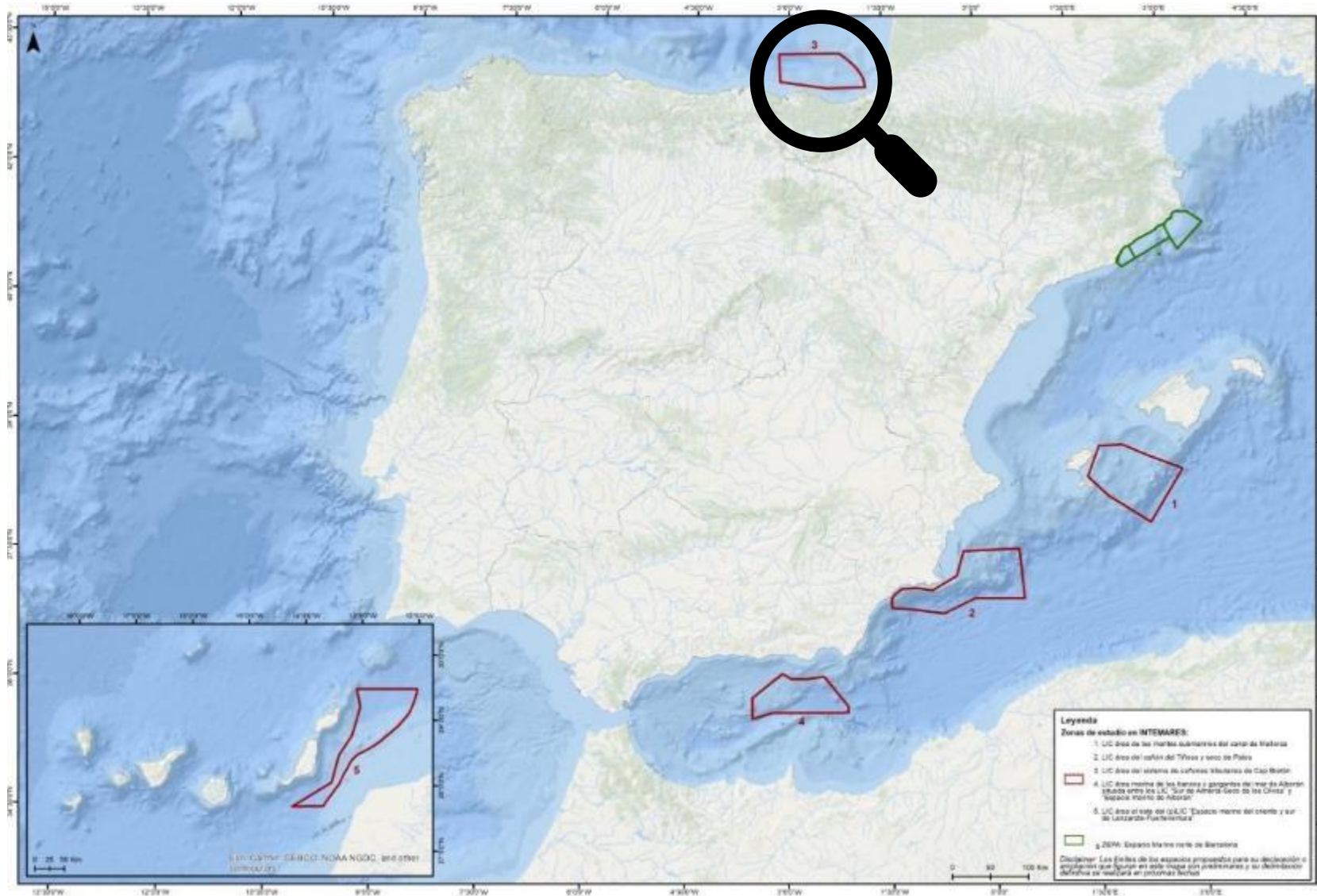


New marine areas identified through oceanographic campaigns (pending to be declared)



1. Submarine mountains in Mallorca Channel
2. Sub. canyons from Tiñoso Cape to Palos Cape
- 3. Cap Breton**
4. Alboran Sea banks and gorges
- 5. Eastern area of Lanzarote-Fuerteventura**
6. Central coast of Catalonia

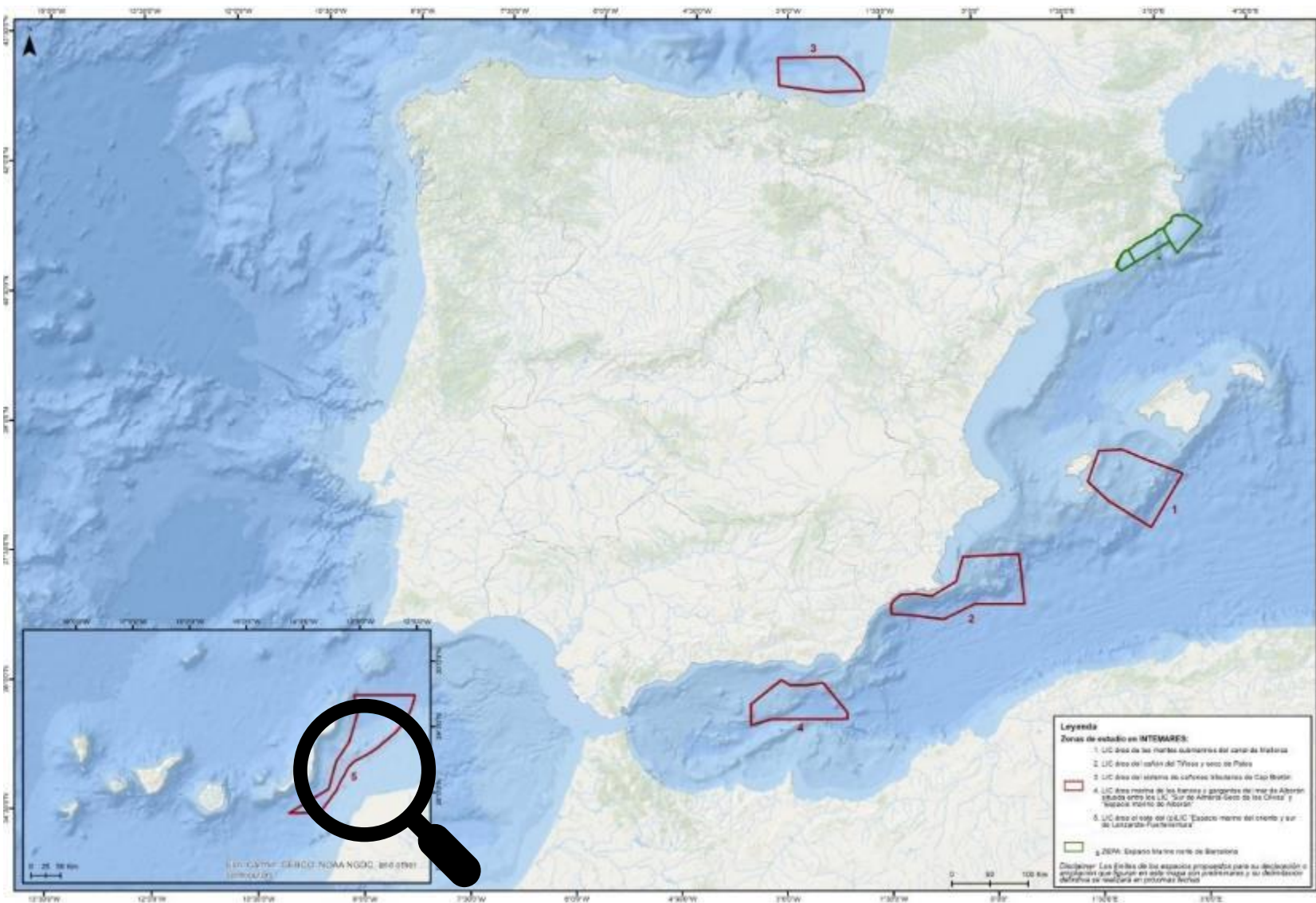
New marine areas identified through oceanographic campaigns



3. Cap Breton

- Presence of reefs (1170): yellow coral (*Dendrophyllia cornigera*), sponges (*Phakellia ventilabrum*)
- pockmarcks fields (1180)

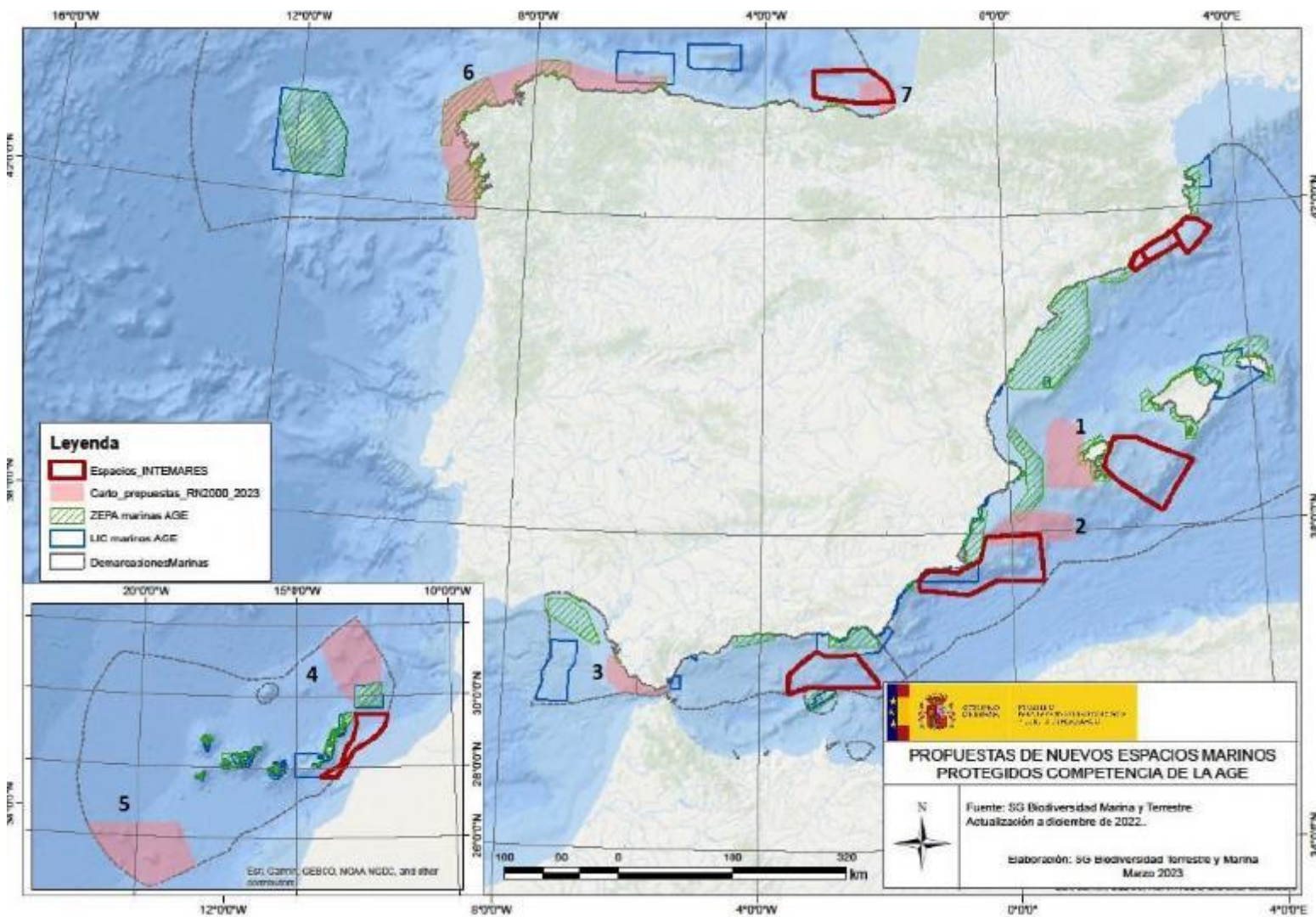
New marine areas identified through oceanographic campaigns



5. Eastern area of Lanzarote-Fuerteventura

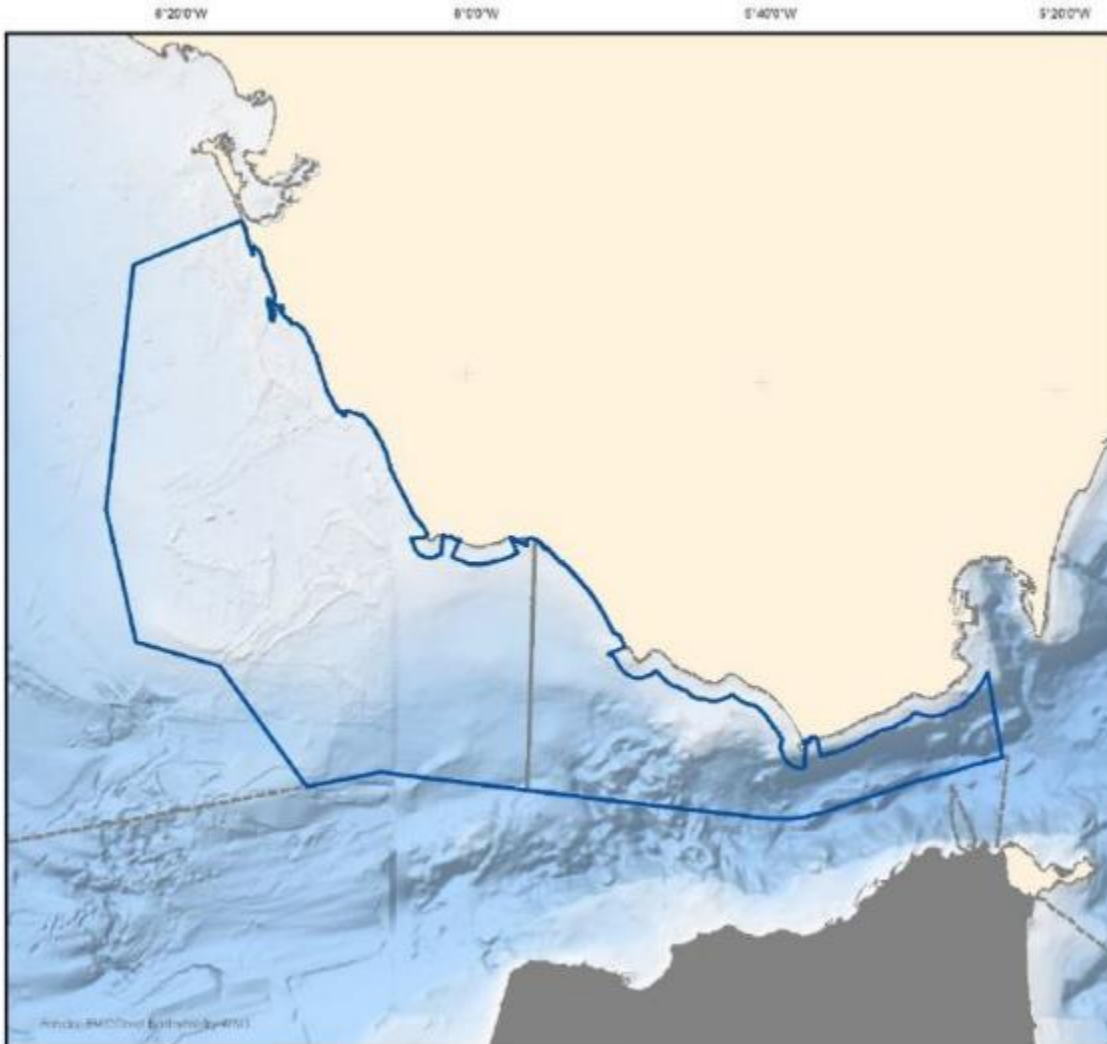
- 6 different species of marine mammals (tropical pilot whale, pilot whale, spotted dolphin, Cuvier's beaked whale, sperm whale and tropical fin whale) as well as loggerhead turtles.
- Presence of 8 species of birds (common Storm Petrel, White-breasted Storm Petrel, Leach's Storm Petrel, Cory's Shearwater, Blackcap Shearwater, Bulwer's Petrel, Common Terrel, Larus gulls and parasitic skua)

New marine areas identified through gap análisis (in process of declaration)



1. Alicante canyons
2. Ibiza channel
3. Western Strait of Gibraltar
4. Submarine mountains SW Canary islands
5. Submarine mountains NE Canary islands
6. Wester Galician-cantabric migratory corridor
7. Jaizkibel – Cap Breton

New marine areas identified through gap analysis

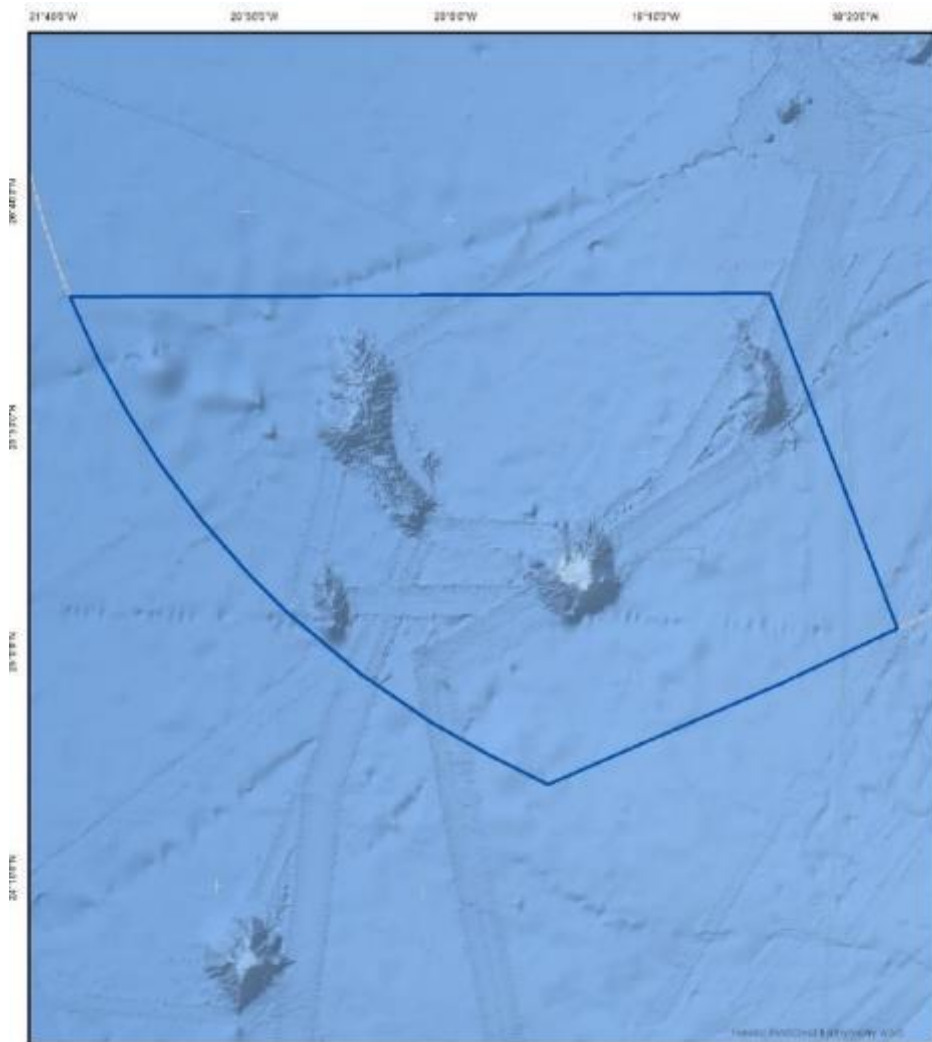


3. Western Strait of Gibraltar (200.000 ha)

- Presence of habitats 1170, 1180
- Species of community interest loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) and the bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*)
- High presence of species of marine mammals (common dolphin, striped dolphin, bottlenose dolphin, pilot whale, sperm whale, killer whale, and fin whale).
- Practically the entire world population of the Balearic shearwater passes through and a very important fraction of Audouin's gull. Also used by a large number of specimens of different species such as the Atlantic gannet, great skua, terns, etc.

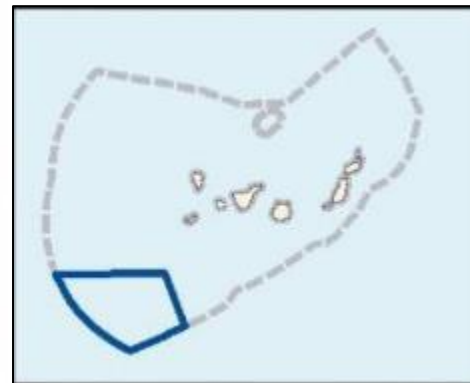


New marine areas identified through gap analysis

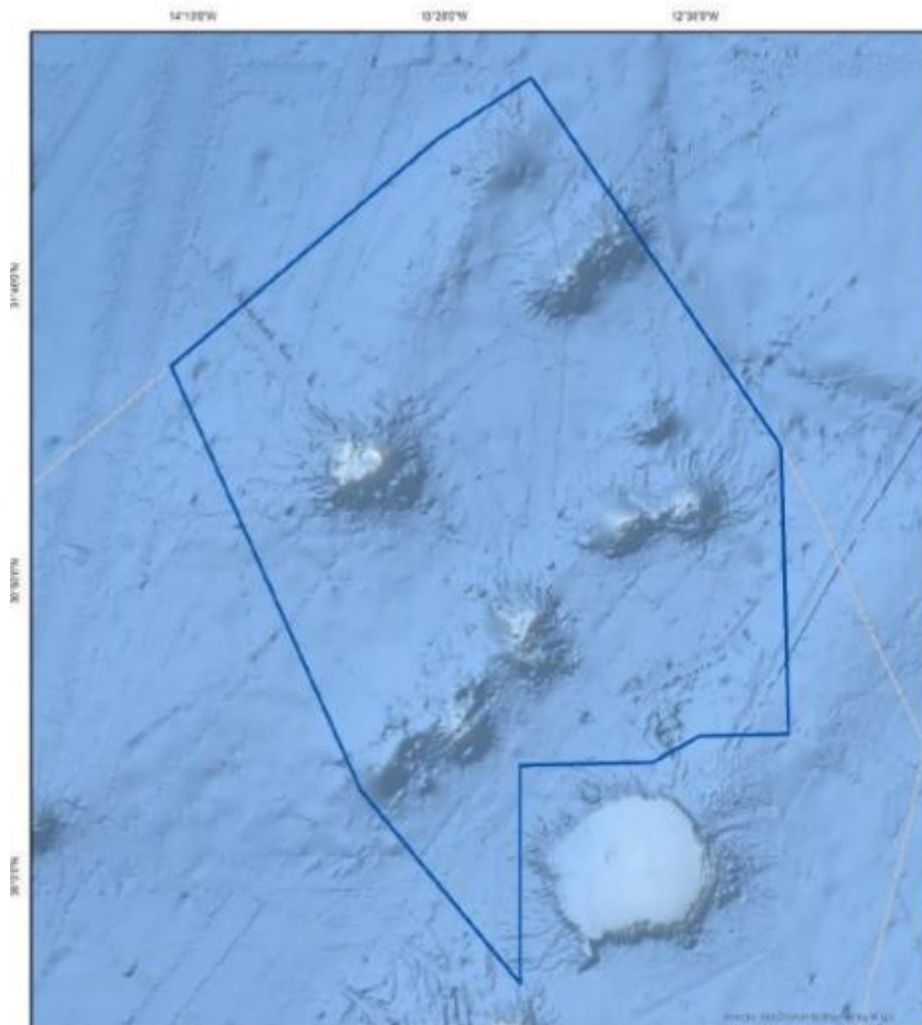


4. Submarine mountains SW Canary islands : (4.5 M ha)

- **Mountains and submarine banks, which contain deep cold-water reef communities, characteristic of habitat type 1170**
- **Long-lived species and a slow population dynamic that is very sensitive to the impact of anthropogenic activities.**



New marine areas identified through gap analysis



5. Submarine mountains NE Canary islands (3 M ha)

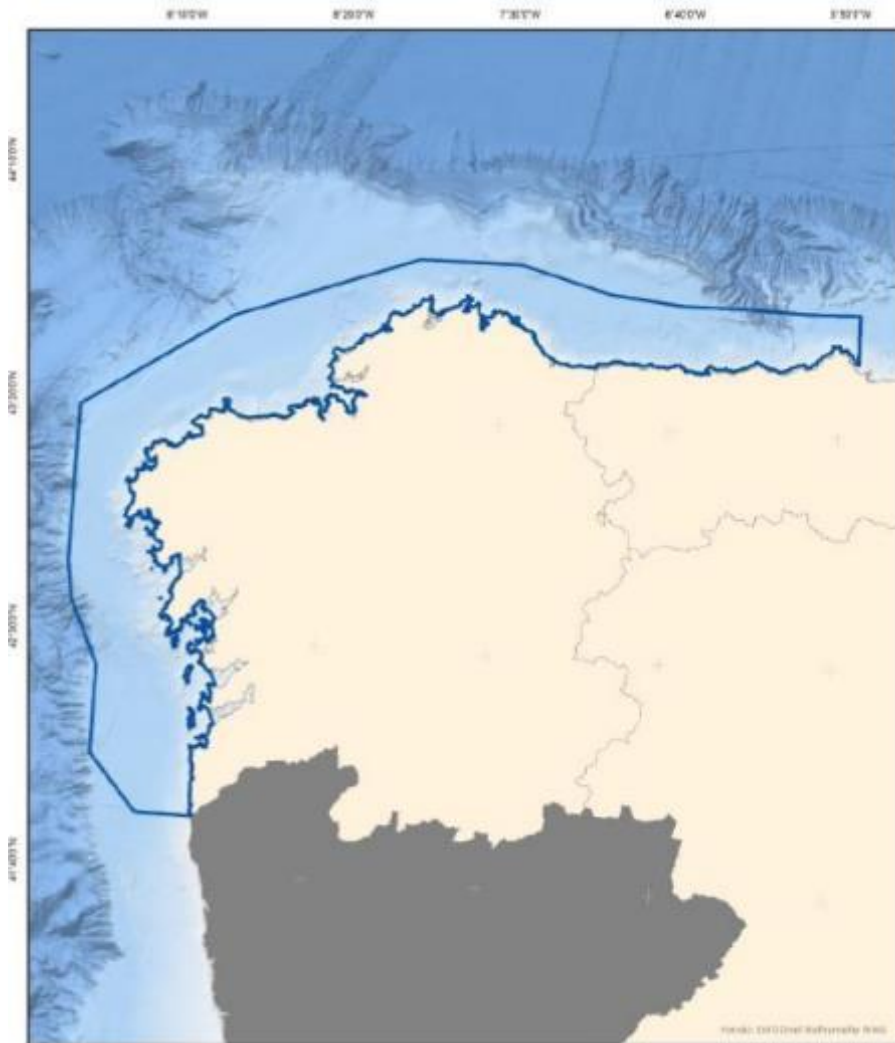
- Seamounts, above 500 metres deep, with the presence of characteristic communities of the 1170 habitat.
- In accordance with the Strategy for the conservation of the common sea turtle and other species of sea turtles in Spain, the area is considered a sensitive area as it is an area of concentration in oceanic zones and in a marine corridor.



New marine areas identified through gap analysis

6. Wester Galician-cantabric migratory corridor (770.000 ha)

- More than a 1,5 M specimens of dozens of species circulate in the area and many of them do so in a very high percentage (in several cases above 50%) of their global, European or Atlantic populations, including several globally threatened.
- breeding colonies of different species, such as the kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*), the Iberian common guillemot (*Uria aalge albionis*), the European storm petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*), the Atlantic Cory's shearwater (*Calonectris borealis*) and the Atlantic shag (*Gulosus aristotelis*).



New marine areas identified through gap analysis



7. Jaizkibel – Cap Breton (150.000 ha)

- High number of communities characteristic of the 1170 habitat (rhodophycean and brown algae, biogenic polychaete reefs, different species of porifera and cnidarians)
- Presence of habitat 8330 with encrusting sponges and cnidarians
- Marine mammals of community interest (bottlenose dolphin above all representing an ecological corridor of great importance for its conservation).



Thank you!

Any questions...?

