



RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC DEBATE ON MSP



March 2025



FRENCH STATE'S DECISION

Ministerial decision on the 17th of october 2024

➔ The government unveiled maps highlighting priority areas for offshore wind development and areas for strong marine protection



ANALYSIS



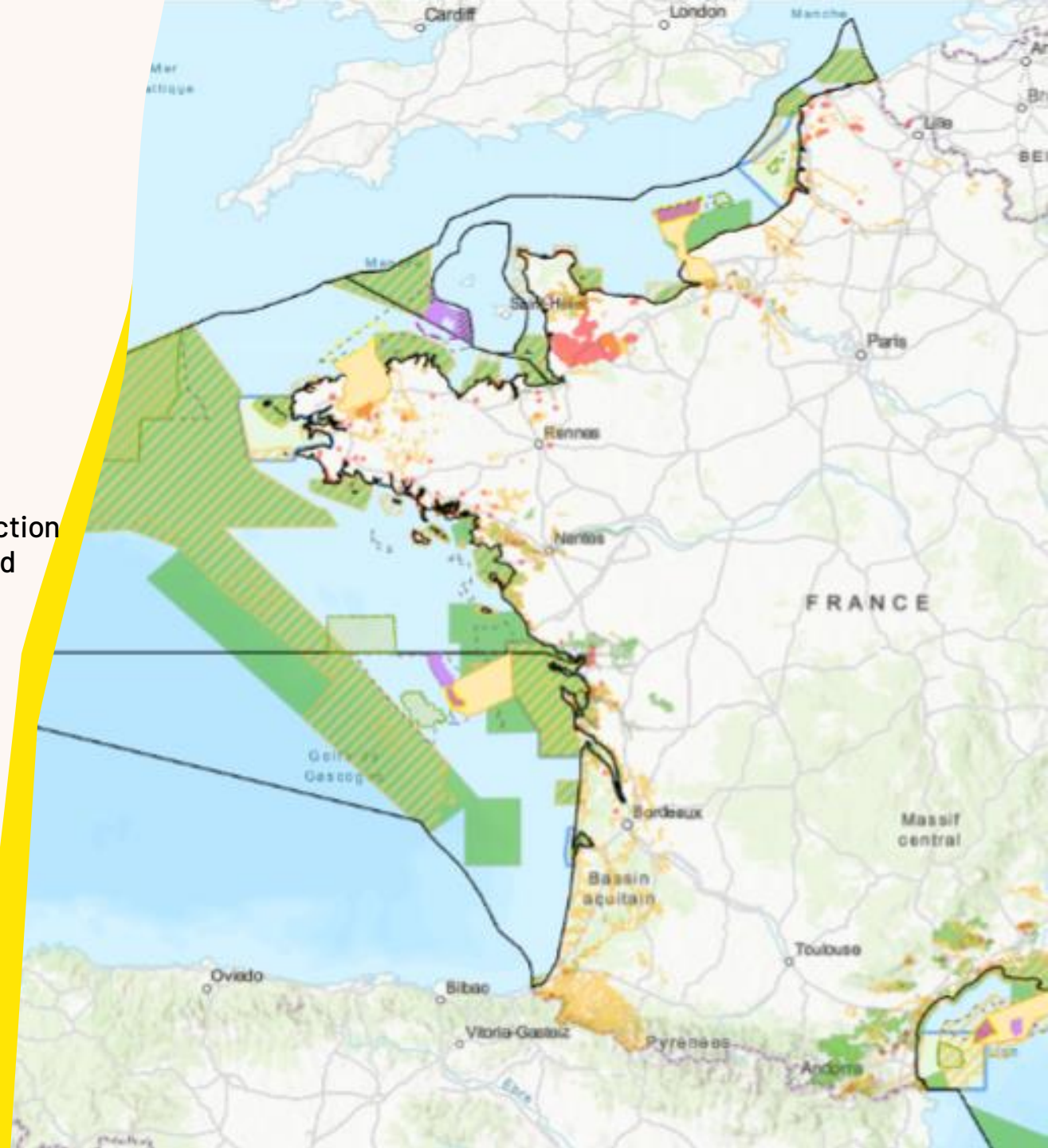
Priority areas for offshore wind power at horizon 2035 and 2050



Marine protected areas (N2000 Habitats & Birds ; marine natural parks)



Areas for offshore windpower submitted to public debate



ANALYSIS OF THE FRENCH DECISION

Progress for offshore wind energy, challenges for biodiversity

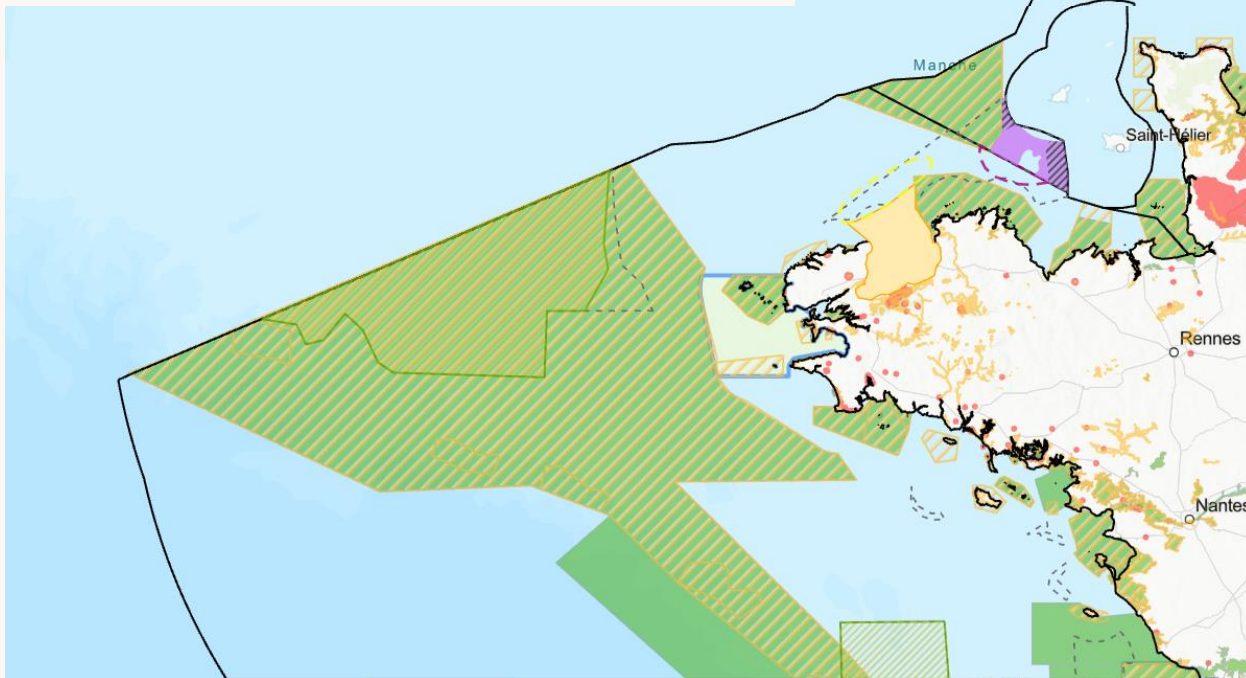
Improvements

- ➔ More planning and visibility for the development of renewables
- ➔ More awareness on the role of MSP and on challenges for marine biodiversity for the public
- ➔ Overall, no overlaps between marine protected areas (MPAs) and priority areas for offshore windpower at horizon 2035
- ➔ Overall, no overlaps between "strongly protected areas" and priority zones for offshore wind power, although uncertainty around this is growing

Concerns

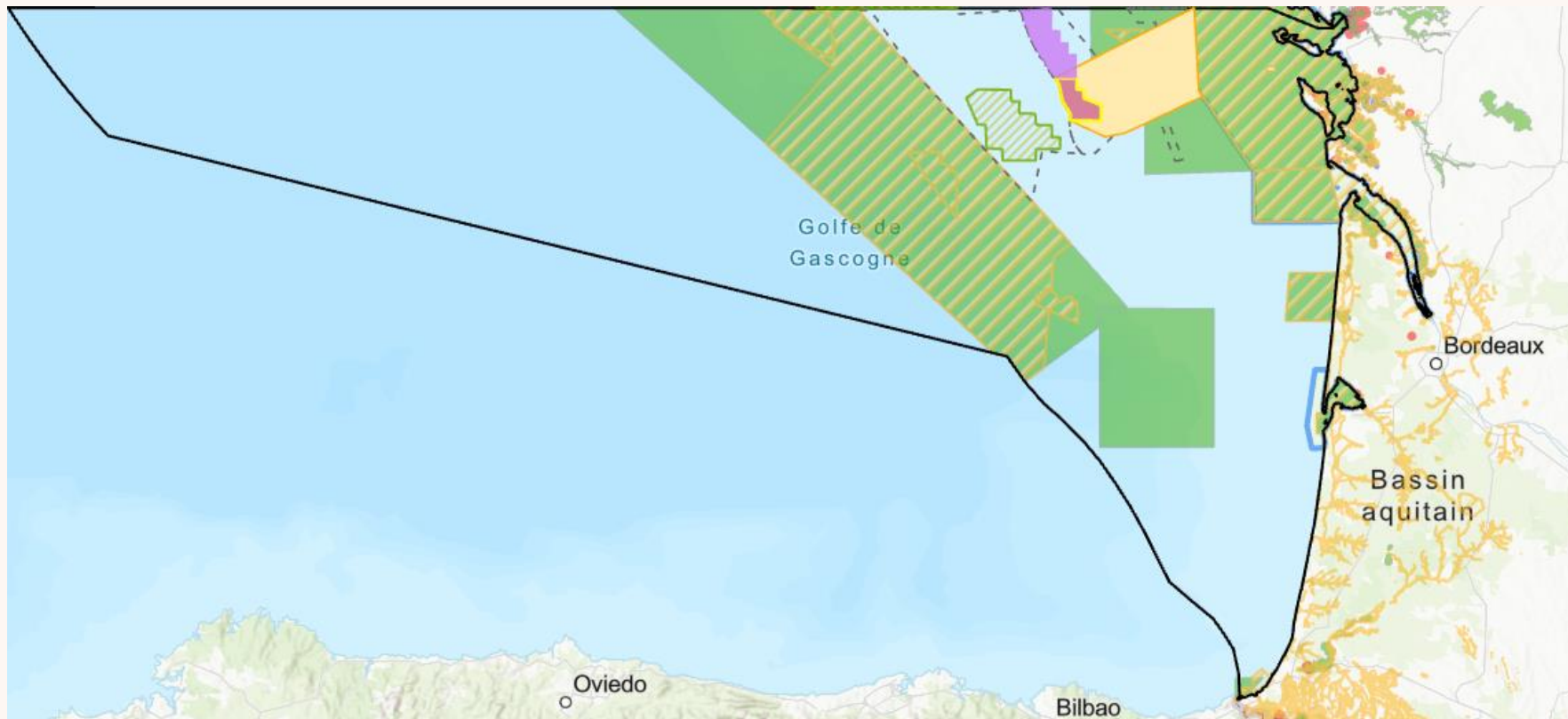
- ➔ Overlaps between marine protected areas and priority areas for offshore wind power at horizon 2050
- ➔ Lack of "strongly protected areas"
- ➔ Weaknesses in France's "strong protection" compared to IUCN standards on MPAs
- ➔ Lack of consideration for cumulative impacts in the government's decision

ENGLISH CHANNEL & NORTH ATLANTIC



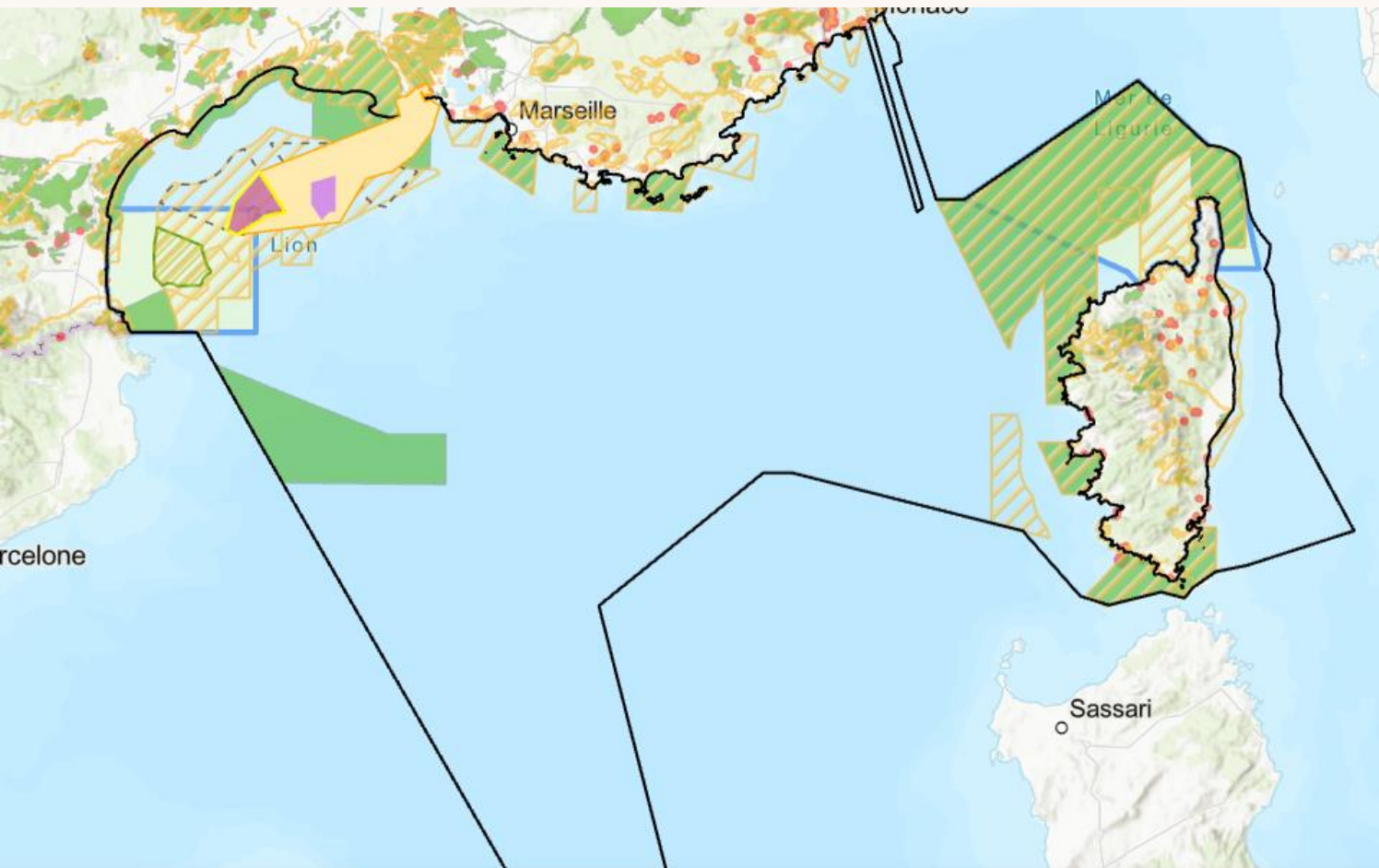
- ➔ Uncertainty remains regarding the North Atlantic – Western Channel sector for the areas dedicated to offshore windpower
- ➔ 1% of « strong protection » for the Eastern Channel-North Sea coastline and 3% for the North Atlantic by 2027

SOUTH ATLANTIC



- ➔ Improvements after the public debate
- ➔ 3% of « strong protection » for the South Atlantic coastline by 2027

MEDITERRANEAN



- ➔ At horizon 2035 & 2050 : overlaps between MPAs and priority areas for offshore windpower
- ➔ At horizon 2050 : 1 priority area located within the marine natural park of the gulf of Lion
- ➔ Improvements regarding the designation of « strongly protected areas »
- ➔ 5% of strong protection for the Mediterranean by 2027

WHAT'S NEXT ?

- ➔ Ahead of the 2025 UN Ocean Conference in Nice, FNE expresses regret that **France's definition of "strong protection" remains inadequate**. It should align with IUCN standards by **prohibiting extractive and destructive activities in these areas**.
- ➔ Locating windfarms outside MPAs is crucial to better apply the **"avoid, reduce, compensate"** principle and limit offshore windfarms' impacts on marine biodiversity
- ➔ For priority areas at horizon 2050 : there will be a new form of public participation





THANK YOU !

Suivez-nous sur ***fne.asso.fr***
et sur nos réseaux sociaux

