

# Effects of wind on seabird flight & distribution: Implications for assessing impact of offshore wind farms

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## Introduction

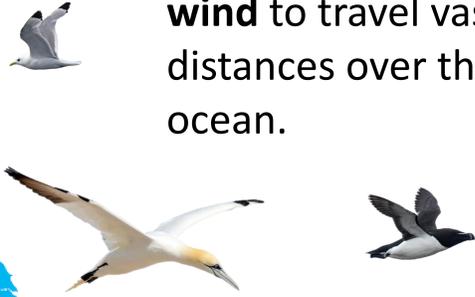
1. The UK is the largest producer of offshore wind energy<sup>1</sup>.



2. It also holds internationally important numbers of seabirds<sup>2</sup>.



3. Seabirds use **wind** to travel vast distances over the ocean.



4. This wide-ranging, pelagic lifestyle makes them **vulnerable** to offshore wind farms.

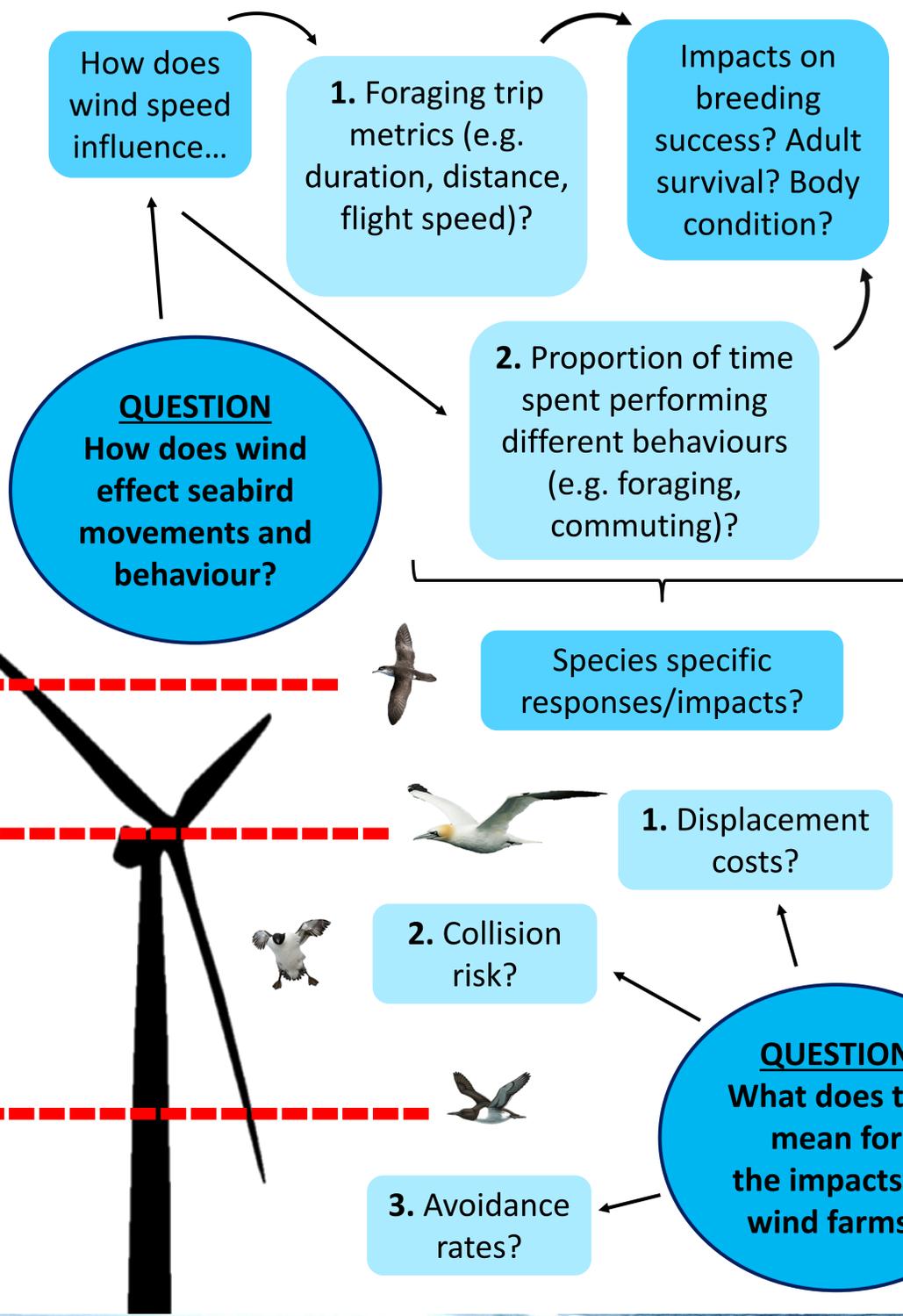


5. Climate change is predicted to **alter** wind regimes<sup>3</sup>.



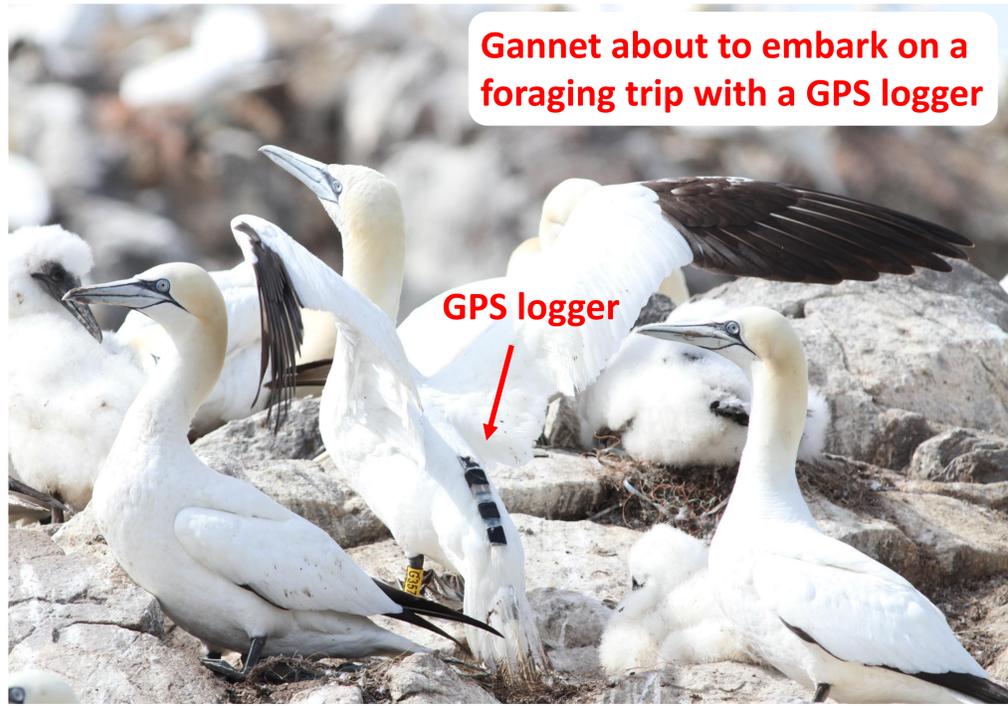
6. Consequences for seabirds and their risk to offshore wind farms are **uncertain**.

## The Project



## Data

- **GPS tracking data** from 3045 individuals, 29 colonies, 13 years and 8 species.
- **Wind data** from European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting.



## What are the implications of this research?

- Enhance understanding of the *least studied* component of **climate change** on seabirds.
- Reduce *uncertainty* associated with the **impacts** of offshore wind farms under different climate change scenarios.