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68 Abstract

We explored the implications of reaching the Paris Agreement Objective of limiting 69 global warming to <2°C for the future winter distribution of the North Atlantic seabird 70 community. We predicted and quantified current and future winter habitats of five North 71 Atlantic Ocean seabird species (Alle alle, Fratercula arctica, Uria aalge, Uria lomvia and 72 Rissa tridactyla) using tracking data for ~1500 individuals through resource selection 73 functions based on mechanistic modeling of seabird energy requirements, and a dynamic 74 bioclimate envelope model of seabird prey. Future winter distributions were predicted to shift 75 with climate change, especially when global warming exceed 2°C under a "no mitigation" 76 scenario, modifying seabird wintering hotspots in the North Atlantic Ocean. Our findings 77 suggest that meeting Paris agreement objectives, will limit changes in seabird selected habitat 78 location and size in the North Atlantic Ocean during the 21st century. We thereby provide key 79 information for the design of adaptive marine protected areas in a changing ocean. 80

81 **Keywords:** DBEM, Energy requirement, Mechanistic habitat selection, NicheMapperTM,

82 Paris Agreement, RCP scenarios, Seabird migration, Seabird distributions

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The main target of the 2015 Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework 90 Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is to limit temperature increase to less than 2°C 91 above preindustrial levels at the global scale (United Nations Framework Convention on 92 93 Climate Change (UNFCCC), 2015). Recent studies have demonstrated the potential benefits of this target for marine ecosystems (Sumaila et al., 2019; Trisos et al., 2020) but its relevance 94 and our capacity to reach the Paris Agreement Objectives (PAO) are still being debated 95 (Gasser, Guivarch, Tachiiri, Jones, & Ciais, 2015). Notably, there are few estimates of these 96 benefits for marine top predators (but see Jenouvrier et al., 2020) despite their key roles in 97 marine ecosystem functioning and their support to cultural ecosystem services 98 (Hammerschlag et al., 2019). It is therefore essential to examine the possible effects of 99 climate change on these species and the interest of avoiding such climate impacts. 100

Seabirds are among the most threatened of all bird groups (Dias et al., 2019), with 101 demonstrated sensitivity to direct (through physiological modifications or change in extreme 102 events exposure) and indirect (through trophic mechanisms or modifications of their critical 103 habitats) climate change impacts (Sydeman, Poloczanska, Reed, & Thompson, 2015). 104 Seabirds are also ecological sentinels of marine ecosystems across their life cycles (Durant et 105 al., 2009; Lescroël et al., 2016), and the subject of long-term monitoring studies throughout 106 the world (Paleczny, Hammill, Karpouzi, & Pauly, 2015). Yet, because of technological 107 limitations and practical difficulties, most of these studies dealing with climate change 108 impacts on seabirds focus on population processes (Descamps et al., 2017) or on their 109 responses during the breeding season (Frederiksen, Anker-Nilssen, Beaugrand, & Wanless, 110 2013), rather than climate change impacts on their at-sea distributions during the non-111 breeding period. This is critical since conditions encountered during the non-breeding period 112 strongly shape seabird population dynamics (Alves et al., 2013). Knowledge of climate effects 113 on seabird wintering distributions is therefore essential for global marine spatial planning and 114

conservation schemes. Community-wide analyses allowing direct comparison between
species and providing a more complete picture of climate change impacts are then particularly
valuable.

118 In this context, we explored the implications of succeeding or failing to reach the Paris Agreement Objective of limiting global warming to <2°C on the North Atlantic Ocean seabird 119 community distribution, during the non-breeding period (October-February). We used Global 120 Location Sensors (GLS) to track the inter-breeding movements of five species across the 121 North Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas (see the map of the studied area in Supplemental 122 materials I) and then modeled seabird energy requirement and seabird prey fields for each 123 124 location. Mechanistic Resource Selection Functions (RSF) allowed us to determine how the balance between prey availability and energy requirements explained seabird winter habitat 125 selection at the time of our investigations. Based on those mechanistic RSFs, we predicted 126 current seabird community distributions during winter and determined the location and the 127 size of selected habitats for each species before projecting them to the time periods 2045-2055 128 and 2090-2100. To this aim, we used two greenhouse gas concentration pathways: the 129 Representative Concentration Pathway RCP2.6 and RCP8.5, which correspond to low and 130 high radiative forcing, respectively. While RCP8.5 is often qualified as a "no mitigation" 131 scenario, RCP2.6 assumes strong mitigation policies under which global warming is projected 132 to be on average <2°C relative to preindustrial levels (Meinshausen et al., 2006; Vuuren et al., 133 2011). Overall, comparing current and future distributions and size of selected habitats, we 134 tested the hypothesis that limiting greenhouse gas emissions will reduce community-level 135 seabird winter habitat change in the North Atlantic Ocean. 136

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139 Methods

140 Winter geolocation of the North Atlantic Ocean seabird community

We focused on the five species which represent >75% of the total number of seabirds 141 breeding in the North Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas (Barrett et al., 2006): little auk (Alle 142 alle), Atlantic puffin (Fratercula arctica), Brünnich's guillemot (Uria lomvia), common 143 guillemot (Uria aalge) and black-legged kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla). Despite the major focus 144 on the Alcidae seabird family and the Charadriiformes order, this sample included species 145 with a wide range of prey species and foraging behaviors (del Hoyo, Elliott, & Sargatal, 146 1996). Global Location Sensors (GLS) recording year-round locations were deployed and 147 retrieved on 1532 individuals from 39 breeding colonies across the North Atlantic Ocean 148 during summer fieldwork (see Supplemental materials XII for details). Each GLS tag 149 recorded light levels, which were used to calculate two locations per day with an accuracy of 150 +/- 200 km (Lisovski et al., 2012; Phillips, Silk, Croxall, Afanasyev, & Briggs, 2004). 151 152 Different models of GLS tags were used, and the raw light data were analyzed with 153 corresponding software (see Supplemental materials XII for detail); some of these data were previously analyzed in other studies (Amélineau et al., 2018; Fayet et al., 2017; Fort et al., 154 2013; Fort et al., 2013; Frederiksen et al., 2016, 2011; Linnebjerg et al., 2013; McFarlane 155 Tranquilla et al., 2015; Merkel, 2019; Montevecchi et al., 2012; Tranquilla et al., 2013). We 156 kept locations acquired during the winter period (October-February) and erroneous locations 157 obtained during the two weeks around either side of the equinoxes (Lisovski et al., 2012) 158 and/or those falling on land or outside of the study area (100°W-100°E, 30°N-90°N) were 159 removed. 160

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163 *Modeling current and future energyscapes*

We used the mechanistic model Niche Mapper TM (Porter & Mitchell, 2006) to model the 164 current and future energy expenditures for each species across the North Atlantic Ocean basin 165 166 for each wintering month (October-February). This model contains two sub-modules: a microclimate model, which provides environmental data for the near surroundings of the 167 animal at each location, and an animal module, which uses outputs from the microclimate 168 model, together with animal morphological, behavioral and physiological characteristics. 169 These inputs are used to solve heat balance equations between the animal's body and its 170 environment, and to find the metabolic rate needed for the animal to maintain its body 171 172 temperature at the particular time with the considered behavior.

Environmental data (sea surface temperature, air temperature, wind speed, cloud cover and 173 relative humidity) used to parameterize the microclimate model were selected from the 174 outputs of the Earth system model HadGEM2-ES (Collins et al., 2011; Martin et al., 2011). 175 176 This climatic model includes different components (troposphere, land surface and hydrology, aerosols, ocean, sea ice, terrestrial carbon cycle and ocean biogeochemistry) which are 177 coupled on a 24h time-step with an atmospheric resolution of 1.875°x1.25° and an oceanic 178 resolution of 1° (increasing to 1/3° at the equator) (Collins et al., 2011). We used HadGEM2-179 180 ES outputs because empirical data were not available for all of our study areas, precluding the calculation of global energyscapes (spatialized energy requirements). Also, HadGEM2-ES has 181 been shown to perform well when simulating recent and past mechanisms such as deep 182 convection in North Atlantic Ocean (Heuzé, 2017), North-West Atlantic Ocean physical 183 process (Lavoie, Lambert, ben Mustapha, & Baaren, 2013), Arctic sea ice melt (Wang & 184 185 Overland, 2012) and North-East Atlantic Ocean climatology (Perez, Menendez, Mendez, & Losada, 2014; Zappa, Shaffrey, & Odges, 2013). Relative humidity was calculated following 186

187 Nadeau & Puiggali (1995) and Nayar et al. (2016). Daily data were averaged to obtain
188 monthly means and were interpolated in a 1° grid.

As Niche Mapper TM has already been parameterized to model energy expenditure in little 189 190 auks, Brünnich's guillemots and common guillemots (Fort et al., 2013; Fort, Porter, & Grémillet, 2009), we re-used most Niche MapperTM input values from these previous studies. 191 Missing values and values required to parameterize Niche MapperTM for black-legged 192 kittiwakes and Atlantic puffins, were sourced from the literature (see Supplemental materials 193 XIII) and supplemented with dedicated measurements. Notably, feather reflectivity was 194 measured with a double beam spectrophotometer (CARY 5000 UV-VIS-NIR, Agilent, USA) 195 196 with a deuterium-tungsten-mercury light source. We used an integrative sphere to measure spectral and diffuse reflectance with a 1 nm resolution across all wavelengths between 300 197 and 2500 nm. This range covers approximately 98% of the solar spectrum that reaches the 198 Earth's surface. Reflectance spectra relative to a Spectralon white standard were then 199 computed with the Cary WinUV software. For each species, measurements were made on one 200 ventral and dorsal patch for six individuals. We then calculated the reflectivity of each sample 201 following the same method as in Medina et al (Medina et al., 2018). For each species the 202 results were averaged across patches. 203

Other morphological properties such as leg length, as well as head and body diameters, were 204 measured on bird carcasses of five Atlantic puffins and four black-legged kittiwakes. Since 205 Niche Mapper has relatively low sensitivity with respect to the variables concerned by such 206 measurements (Amélineau et al., 2018; Fort et al., 2009), potential biases induced by using 207 such measurements on carcasses instead of live organisms had limited impacts on our results. 208 All input data are available in Supplemental materials XIII. Main drivers of the modeled 209 energy requirements were identified through sensitivity analysis in previous studies 210 211 (Amélineau et al., 2018; Fort et al., 2009).

212 Modeling current and future seabird prey abundance

We identified the main winter prey of each seabird species using bibliographic information (see Supplemental materials XIV for details). Little auks and black-legged kittiwakes are mainly zooplanktivorous during winter. Other studied species are assumed to lower their trophic level outside the breeding season but could still prey on Nereid worms and on various benthopelagic/pelagic fish such as Atlantic herring (*Clupea harengus*), capelin (*Mallotus villosus*), Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) or lesser sand-eel (*Ammodytes marinus*).

We modeled the relative abundance of fish species to 1950 across the North Atlantic Ocean, 219 using a Dynamic Bioclimate Envelope Model (DBEM) (Cheung et al., 2016, 2009). The 220 DBEM simulates changes in abundance of marine fishes since 1950 according to 221 oceanographic conditions. For each fish species considered, habitat suitability was modeled 222 according to temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen concentration, bathymetry and sea-ice 223 extent. These environmental preferences were then linked to a population model which takes 224 225 into account the carrying capacity of the habitat, growth, mortality, and larval and adult 226 dispersion. DBEM outputs are annual averages but, considering the very large spatial scale and resolution of our study, we assumed that relative abundance patterns were maintained at 227 the scale of months and that the winter period changes can be reflected in the annual 228 projections. 229

Fish characteristics required as inputs to the DBEM model (see Cheung et al., 2016) for details) were obtained from the Sea Around Us catch database (http://www.seaaroundus.org) and from FishBase (https://www.fishbase.se/search.php). Environmental data needed for current and future modeling (see Supplemental materials XV for details) were obtained from the Earth system model HadGEM2-ES (Collins et al., 2008; Martin et al., 2011). We used HadGEM2-ES because empirical environmental data were not available at the right spatial and temporal scales. Equally, since empirical information on current and monthly spatial and

temporal abundances of each zooplankton species taken by seabirds was not available, we 237 used the monthly total concentration of zooplankton provided by the ocean biogeochemical 238 model, Diat-HadOCC, included within the Earth system model HadGEM2-ES to model the 239 240 exchange of carbon dioxide between the atmosphere and the oceanic biosphere (Totterdell, 2019). Zooplankton concentration is one of the 13 biogeochemical state variables represented 241 by Diat-HadOCC, and is modeled as advected by ocean currents and mixed by physical 242 processes. Zooplankton biomass is enhanced by grazing of miscellaneous phytoplankton, 243 diatoms and detritus, and diminished by respiration and by density-dependent predation 244 through higher trophic levels. 245

Finally, due to missing species-specific physiological data, the relative abundance of several fish species could not be calculated with DBEM (see Supplemental materials XIV for the list). According to FishBase, those fish are zooplanktivorous and are mainly benthopelagic. We therefore used bathymetry (using General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), 30 arcsecond interval grid) and zooplankton concentration as a proxy of their availability to diving seabirds. All seabird prey data were interpolated in a 1° grid.

252 Habitat selection of different seabird species

To analyze seabird habitat use and predict current and future winter distributions, we used 253 Resource Selection Functions (RSF) (Boyce & McDonald, 1999; Manly, McDonald, Thomas, 254 McDonald, & Erickson, 2002). RSF compare environmental variables at locations used by the 255 animal with those variables at a set of locations available to the animal (Manly, McDonald, 256 Thomas, McDonald, & Erickson, 2007). In our case, RSF compared for each species the 257 energy expenditure and prey availability at GLS locations with those expected at a set of 258 random points generated in our study area (100°W–100°E, 30°N–90°N). The random points 259 were created using the same temporal distribution as the GLS data. RSF were fitted using 260 generalized linear mixed models with a binomial error distribution and a logit link. To take 261

into account individual heterogeneity and variation between colonies, we used a weighted logistic regression with random intercepts (individual and colony) and random slopes, with weight=1 for locations used and weight=1000 for available locations (Muff, Signer, & Fieberg, 2019). To avoid power issues that arise with random intercept, individuals with fewer than 100 locations (threshold obtained after a kernel stability analysis conducted with the BRB-MKDE software (Benhamou, 2011), March 2018 version) for the entire winter period were not included in the model.

For each species, we built a RSF model with month, energy expenditure and relative 269 abundance of each prey as covariates. When computational issues or collinearity problems 270 271 arose, we reduced model complexity by selecting the relative abundance of the prey most often eaten by the seabird species considered. We tested for the trade-off between main prey 272 abundance and energy requirement by adding an interaction term between the two 273 predictors. Moreover, when considered as seabird prey, zooplankton concentration was linked 274 to sea surface temperature through an interaction term to allow selection of zooplankton 275 species associated with cold or warm water. Finally, when bathymetry was considered as an 276 availability proxy for some benthopelagic prey, we linked it to zooplankton concentration 277 through an interaction term. We allowed non-linear effects for each covariate via a spline 278 function. RSF models are detailed in Supplemental materials II. 279

Variables used in our final RSF analysis were scaled and were not correlated as tested with a Pearson pairwise correlation test and a variance inflation factor analysis (VIF< 3 in all models). We evaluated each model using block cross-validation (Roberts et al., 2017) with 80% of the data to fit the RSF and 20% to test it. The corresponding output (rated "k-fold rs" in Supplemental materials II) is based on the Spearman's rank correlation (Boyce, Vernier, Nielsen, & Schmiegelow, 2002) and varies between 0 (low predictive performance) and 1 (good predictive performance). RSF analyses were performed in R (version 3.5) with theglmmTMB package (Brooks et al., 2017).

For each species, we mapped RSF results after splitting them in 10 quantile bins (Morris, Proffitt, & Blackburn, 2016). More than 60% of the GLS locations occurred in the 4 last bins, and we therefore defined selected habitat as pixels with a binned RSF score \geq 7. To identify wintering hotspots, we then summed, for each pixel of the map, the number of species for which the pixel considered was classified as a selected habitat. Finally, the area occupied by selected habitats were calculated.

294 Current and future predictions

Current conditions were modeled with outputs from the HadGEM2-ES algorithm, according 295 to the historical extended simulation (1950-2018). To assess the benefit of reaching the PAO 296 297 and limiting temperature increase to the 2°C target at the global scale, environmental variables and models (see above) were considered under Intergovernmental Panel on Climate 298 Change (IPCC)'s RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios at the medium term (2045-2055) and the 299 longer term (2090-2100). The RCP2.6 scenario is based on a low radiative forcing and 300 assumes that strong mitigation policies will limit global greenhouse gas emissions and reach 301 the goal of negative emissions in the second half of the 21st century. Stabilization at this low 302 level of emissions will limit global mean temperature increase to 2°C above preindustrial 303 levels with high probability (Meinshausen et al., 2006). According to the HadGEM2-ES 304 305 model, the global mean temperature increase will reach this 2°C threshold just before midcentury before slowly decreasing (Caesar et al., 2013). In contrast, the RCP8.5 scenario 306 follows a high radiative forcing trajectory with a continuous increase in global greenhouse gas 307 emissions across the 21st century. According to the HadGEM2-ES model, global mean 308 temperature will increase >2.8°C above preindustrial levels in 2050, and >6°C in at the end of 309 the 21st century (Caesar et al., 2013). 310

311 **Results**

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Predictors of seabird distributions and current community wintering hotspots

All Resource Selection Functions (RSF) had high predictive power of species distributions (see "k-fold rs" in Supplemental materials II). Mechanistic RSF showed that seabirds selected winter habitat by balancing two major constraints: prey availability and their own energy requirements (see Figure 1 and Supplemental materials III). This trade-off was, nonetheless, best predicted by seabird energy requirements for all studied species (see Supplemental materials III).

Figure 1: The trade-off between zooplankton concentration and bird energy requirements predicts
 little auk habitat selection. An optimum was reached at a scaled energy requirement of -0.6 and a
 scaled zooplankton concentration of 1.3. See Supplemental materials III for other species.

Species-specific selected habitat was defined using a threshold approach on the developed 322 RSF's (see Methods for details). These habitats were in turn combined to identify multi-323 species wintering hotspots (sensu (Fort, Beaugrand, Grémillet, & Phillips, 2012; Grecian et 324 al., 2016)) by counting for each pixel of the map, the number of species for which the pixel 325 considered was classified as a selected habitat. Given seabird energy requirements and prey 326 availability (see Supplemental III and IV), birds were predicted to use areas off southwestern 327 Iceland and along the Norwegian coast between October and November, while the Gulf of 328 Maine was predicted to be a major wintering hotspot for the selected seabird community 329 330 between December and February (Figure 2 and Supplemental materials V). At the beginning of the winter period, the southern coast of Greenland and the Barents Sea were predicted to be 331 important areas for the seabird community. Yet, between December and February, the 332 HadGEM2-ES climatic model showed scarce zooplankton resources to seabirds at those high-333 latitudes (see Supplemental materials IV), and the areas were then predicted to be used only 334 by the two guillemot species (Figure 2 and Supplemental materials V). Further, the area off 335 Newfoundland and Nova Scotia was predicted to be a wintering hotspot between October and 336

January, but the composition of the seabird community varied with the month considered: little auks and black-legged kittiwakes were joined by Atlantic puffins between October and December, and by Brünnich's guillemots between November and January (Figure 2 and Supplemental materials V). Finally, the Mid-Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea were predicted to be selected by black-legged kittiwakes, little auks and Atlantic puffins between November and February, but those species were also predicted to aggregate in the eastern Celtic Sea in January and in the Bay of Biscay in February (Figure 2 and Supplemental materials V).

Figure 2: Count of species for which the pixel considered was a selected habitat (RSF binned score ≥ 7), in October (a), November (b), December (c), January (d) and February (e). Graticules are displayed at 15° intervals and the map is projected as North Pole Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area.

347 Climate change impacts on seabird distribution and selected habitat size

Modeled spatial trends of future selected habitats for seabird were generally similar under 348 349 RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. However, the magnitude of projected impacts on seabird biogeography was generally more pronounced under the higher CO₂ emission scenario 350 (RCP8.5) and towards the end of the 21st century (Figure 3 and 4, Supplemental materials X 351 and XI). Moreover, our projections showed that climate change is predicted to modify prey 352 availability and seabird energy requirements (see Supplemental materials VI and VII), 353 354 inducing loss and gain of selected habitats and resulting in a general northward shift of wintering areas (see Figure 3 and Supplemental materials VIII and IX). 355

Figure 3: Selected habitat (in purple) of Brünnich's guillemots predicted for January in 2006-2015 (a) and in 2090-2100 according to the RCP2.6 scenario (b) and the RCP8.5 scenario (c). Maps for other months, species and time periods (2045-2055) are provided in Supplemental materials VIII and IX. Graticules are displayed at 15° intervals and the map is projected as North Pole Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area.

Figure 4: Count of species for which the pixel considered is predicted to be a selected habitat in January 2006-2015 (a) and in January 2090-2100 according to the RCP2.6 scenario (b) and the RCP8.5 scenario (c). Maps for other months and time periods (2045-2055) are provided in Supplemental materials X and XI. Graticules are displayed at 15° intervals and the map is projected as North Pole Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area.

In October, all five seabird species were predicted to be present in the Labrador Sea and south 367 of Greenland. The Barents Sea was predicted to remain an important seabird wintering site in 368 October, but its attractiveness for black-legged kittiwakes, Brünnich's guillemots and little 369 370 auks was predicted to diminish as global warming intensifies. Further, in November, seabirds were projected to shift towards areas off southern Greenland and in the Labrador Sea, where 371 conditions were predicted to improve in terms of energy requirements and prey availability 372 (see Supplemental materials VI and VII). Thereby, black-legged kittiwakes and little auks 373 were expected to progressively abandon the Norwegian coast. At the seabird community 374 level, marine areas east off Newfoundland and the Gulf of St Lawrence were predicted to 375 become increasingly important as wintering hotspots (see Figure 4 and Supplemental 376 materials X and XI). All considered species were predicted to aggregate in these areas in 377 December, January and February, where the birds will probably benefit from lower energy 378 379 requirements relative to present (see Supplemental materials VI and VII). During these months black-legged kittiwakes, little auks and Atlantic puffins were predicted to continue to 380 winter in the mid-Atlantic Ocean, but the corresponding hotspots were predicted to shift 381 northward/westward. The North Sea was predicted to become a preferred habitat in January, 382 except under the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the 21st century. For this time period and 383 scenario, seabird energy requirements were predicted to remain unchanged in the North Sea, 384 but prey availability was predicted to diminish (see Supplemental materials VII), leading to a 385 decrease in overall habitat quality. 386

The projected biogeographic shifts will significantly impact seabird winter habitat sizes (see Figure 5). Selected habitats size was predicted to increase for common guillemots (for example, by 21% and 47% by 2045-2055 and up to 38% and 102% by 2090-2100, in January according to RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios, respectively). Between 2045 and 2055, selected habitat of Brünnich's guillemots was predicted to increase slightly (up to 32% in October

according to the RCP2.6 scenario) but the persisting temperature increase will probably limit 392 this expansion and even lead to a reduction of selected habitat size for the RCP8.5 scenario. 393 Change in selected habitat size was predicted to be limited for the Atlantic puffin (+/- 9% or 394 less regardless of the time period and climatic scenario). For black-legged kittiwakes, 395 predicted selected winter habitat will initially show little change in size (+/- 9% or less) 396 between 2045 and 2055, except in October, during which the range will expand by ca. 20% 397 according to both scenarios. Later in the 21st century, our results nonetheless suggest a strong 398 399 reduction (up to 63% in October but around 22% for the rest of the winter period) in kittiwake winter habitat for the RCP8.5 scenarios. Finally, for little auks, winter habitat range was 400 generally predicted to decline as global warming increases, except in October between 2045 401 and 2055 when it will increase slightly relative to today. 402

Figure 5: Variation relative to present (in %) of the size of predicted selected habitat for (a) little
auks (b) black-legged kittiwakes (c) Atlantic puffins (d) common guillemots (e) Brünnich's
guillemots. The y-axis scales are different between panels.

406 **Discussion**

407 To our knowledge, our study is the first to investigate climate change impacts on the winter distribution of a seabird community at an ocean basin scale with a mechanistic 408 approach. Our work predicts that global warming will likely induce substantial changes in 409 seabird prey field distributions and spatialized energy requirements (energyscapes, sensu 410 Amélineau et al., 2018). These two predictors of seabird habitat selection are predicted to 411 strongly shape the location and size of seabird selected habitats in the North Atlantic Ocean 412 during winter. Thereby, global warming will result in northward distribution shifts of varying 413 magnitude, depending on the seabird species and considered time period. More specifically, 414 areas such as Newfoundland, the Gulf of St Lawrence, and southern Greenland will become 415 increasingly attractive as seabird wintering hotspots because of diminishing seabird energy 416 417 requirements. Crucially, our broad-scale analyses confirms that meeting Paris Agreement 418 Objectives will limit habitat range shifts of the North Atlantic Ocean seabird community in
419 21st century in comparison with shifts induced by a "no-mitigation" scenarios.

420 Despite these advances, we recommend caution in interpreting our results. First, since direct 421 measurements of seabird prey availability and energy requirements are lacking at the spatiotemporal scales needed for a community-wide, ocean-basin-scale study, we used a variety of 422 modeling tools to gain this information. Those entail potential approximations and biases 423 which could be difficult to assess. For example, as most commonly-used biogeochemical 424 models (Arhonditsis & Brett, 2004), the Diat-HadOCC biogeochemical model included 425 within HadGEM2-ES has not been evaluated on its ability to model zooplankton 426 427 concentration. However, considering its ability to model chlorophyll concentration, this model seems to respect geographical distribution and seasonal cycle of the carbon cycle in the North 428 Atlantic Ocean (Totterdell, 2019). Further, due to some lack of information about seabird 429 winter diets, we extrapolated available dietary information, using those for birds from a 430 subsample of all colonies. In the same line, the availability of seabird prey was modeled 431 without taking into account the impacts of fisheries. By altering the difference in relative prev 432 abundance between locations used by seabirds and random points, fisheries could diminish 433 the role of prey availability in modelled seabird habitat selection. Moreover, the availability of 434 seabird prey was modeled on an annual basis and future works should add seasonal resolution 435 to the DBEM analysis. However, considering the very large spatial scale and resolution of our 436 study, we assumed that relative prey abundance patterns were maintained at the scale of 437 months, and that changes occurring during the winter period were adequately reflected by 438 annual projections. Further, we limited the complexity of RSF models, by only considering 439 seabird energy requirements and relative prey abundances, omitting the roles of abiotic factors 440 such as sea ice concentration or day length as well as biotic factors like competition, predation 441 or costs of transport (linked with migratory distance from the breeding ground). Notably, day 442

length may have an incidence on foraging times, although seabird have shown surprising 443 abilities to cope with the polar night (Ostaszewska, Balazy, Berge, & Johnsen, 2017). 444 Moreover, by modeling future distributions, we assume that the statistical link between 445 seabird distributions, their energyscapes and prev fields will hold across time (Grémillet & 446 Charmantier, 2010). Finally, our approach is based on model stacking, but allows a better 447 understanding and representation of ecological processes, translating interactions of 448 organismal functional traits with their environment into key fitness components throughout 449 the inclusion of mechanistic models into correlative Habitat Suitability Models. RSF analyses 450 yielded high predictive power and accuracy, providing support to this approach. In this 451 context, limitations of studies based on DBEM and NicheMapperTM have been previously 452 described and positively rated (Cheung et al., 2009; Fort, Porter, & Grémillet, 2011), 453 suggesting that our work can indeed provide valuable predictions. 454

455 *A mechanistic framework to predict wildlife distribution hotspots in a changing world*

456 On the basis of mechanistic and biodynamic model outputs, Resource Selection Functions allowed us to predict seabird wintering habitats. We thereby elaborated a general 457 methodological framework which may be applied to the spatial ecology of any animal 458 tracking environmental gradients and resources. With respect to the North Atlantic Ocean 459 460 seabird community, we confirmed the great importance of areas such as the mid-Atlantic Ocean (Afonso et al., 2020; Barrett et al., 2006; Bennison, Jessopp, Bennison, & Jessopp, 461 2015), the Barents Sea (Gabrielsen, 2009), the North Sea (Harris, Daunt, Newell, Phillips, & 462 Wanless, 2010), the Icelandic coast (Garðarsson, 1999) and southwest Greenland (Boertmann, 463 Lyngs, Merkel, & Mosbech, 2004), for wintering seabirds. We highlighted the importance of 464 465 seabird energy requirements as predictor of winter habitat selection (Figure 1). Prey availability contributed to shape seabird distributions at finer spatial scales (Amélineau et al., 466 2018), but we modeled that habitat choice generally resulted from a trade-off between energy 467

requirements and prey availability, and was predicted to be explained by the former (see 468 Figure 1 and Supplemental materials III). This result is in agreement with recent 469 macroecological studies (Somveille, Rodrigues, & Manica, 2018), and the magnitude of the 470 energy requirement/prey availability trade-off may explain marked inter-species differences in 471 seabird winter habitat dynamics under the influence of climate change. Yet, for all species 472 considered, global warming was predicted to induce a significant decrease in seabird winter 473 energy requirements following similar geographical features (see Supplemental materials VI 474 and VII). Therefore, observed inter-species differences appeared to be related to variation in 475 prey availability. For zooplanktivorous species, the decrease in energy requirements at high 476 latitude was not predicted to be accompanied by a zooplankton concentration increase, thus 477 limiting the northward expansion of their wintering habitat. However, as the northward shift 478 of zooplankton was sufficient to decrease the relative probability of selection at the southern 479 480 margin of their range, little auks and black-legged kittiwakes were predicted to experience an overall decrease in their selected habitat size. Conversely, for both species of guillemots, the 481 482 decrease in energy requirements in the high Arctic was predicted to be accompanied by an increase in the abundance of cod and capelin, thus greatly increasing the probability of habitat 483 selection in large areas such as the Russian Arctic. Further, decreases in the abundance of cod 484 and capelin in the southern part of guillemot ranges seemed to remain within a range of 485 favorable values. Those may not impact the relative probability of selection there, resulting in 486 an overall gain of selected habitat. Further work will nonetheless be necessary to fully 487 understand population consequences of these changes (Carneiro et al., 2020). Finally, the 488 greater amplitude of latitudinal shifts in the abundance of fish species, relative to zooplankton 489 concentration observed in our study, may be explained by the different temporal scales 490 (annual versus monthly) considered, and/or by the impacts of other factors beyond 491 temperature (such as day length or sea ice concentration) at high latitudes. Those factors may 492

have a greater impact on the northward expansion of zooplankton than on fish latitudinalshifts.

495 *Seabirds tracking climate change*

Latitudinal shifts in response to climate change have been predicted and observed for many 496 marine organisms, including top predators (Cristofari et al., 2018), small pelagic fish (Perry, 497 Low, Ellis, & Reynolds, 2005) and zooplankton (Beaugrand et al., 2019). The High Arctic is 498 499 already colonized by many organisms which currently occur at lower latitudes (Fossheim et al., 2015), and a series of endemic species might become extinct. Even though birds may 500 adjust their migratory behavior in response to climate change (Visser, Perdeck, van Balen, & 501 502 Both, 2009), seabirds generally seem to not shift their reproductive timing according to warmer ocean temperatures (Keogan et al., 2018), and remain extremely faithful to their 503 504 breeding sites (Newton, 2010). Therefore, we speculate that the North Atlantic Ocean seabird community might be under pressure from climate change consequences through two main 505 506 mechanisms. During the breeding season, site fidelity tends to expose seabird breeders to 507 spatio-temporal mismatches with their food base and lead them into ecological traps (Durant, Hjermann, Ottersen, & Stenseth, 2007; Grémillet et al., 2008). During the non-breeding 508 season, even though there might be some fidelity to wintering sites, we might predict that 509 510 seabirds will be more likely to track environmental conditions and shift spatio-temporally, following a trade-off between their energy requirements and prey availability. As a 511 consequence, there is a strong potential for shifts in distances and/or directions between 512 seabird breeding and wintering sites, which will reshape migratory corridors and locations of 513 stopover sites (Newton, 2010; Clairbaux et al., 2019). Assessing and quantifying these 514 515 changes in response to global warming for each colony will provide a better understanding of their magnitude, and of consequences for individual populations. Moreover, shifts in marine 516 ecosystem composition and structure caused by global warming likely require seabirds to 517

change their diets and behaviours (Amélineau et al., 2019). The ability of seabirds to cope 518 with such shifts, and the mechanisms (plasticity and/or microevolution) that underpin 519 potential responses, are difficult to assess without long-term studies based on individual 520 521 monitoring (Teplitsky & Charmantier, 2019). As long-lived organisms, we nonetheless expect that seabirds are more likely to respond through plasticity, rather than microevolution, when 522 facing the consequences of climate change (Sauve, Divoky, & Friesen, 2019). Therefore, 523 reaching Paris Agreement Objectives will decrease the risk that distribution discrepancies 524 between seabirds and their prey arise and will also make it more likely that environmental 525 shifts remain within the limits of seabird plastic responses (Descamps et al., 2017). 526

527 *Conservation implications*

Global warming is one of the four most serious threats to seabirds, along with invasive 528 species, bycatch, and overfishing of prey species (Dias et al., 2019; Grémillet et al., 2018). All 529 of these challenges, which also compromise many other components of marine biodiversity, 530 531 have to be urgently addressed. Restoring marine life may be feasible by 2050 if major 532 pressures, such as global warming, are mitigated (Duarte et al., 2020) and, as our analysis shows, reaching PAO will be an effective way to mitigate climate change impacts on the 533 North Atlantic Ocean seabird community. Our analyses provide new information and methods 534 535 to identify seabird wintering hotspots in the North Atlantic Ocean, and allow modeling future spatio-temporal dynamics and community alteration under the threat of climate change. This 536 is key to defining and managing marine protected areas (MPAs), which have emerged as 537 powerful means to protect entire ecosystems from overfishing and effects of bycatch for 538 which seabirds function as ecological indicators and umbrella species (Pichegru, Grémillet, 539 540 Crawford, & Ryan, 2010). In practice, a first essential step towards defining MPAs using seabird at sea-movement data is to map marine Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas 541 (Donald et al., 2019) (IBA). Several IBAs/MPAs have already been identified in the North 542

Atlantic Ocean http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/mapsearch 543 (see, and http://www.mpatlas.org/map/mpas/ for respective maps), most of them in coastal areas, with 544 the exception of the MPAs recently established within the OSPAR Convention (Charlie 545 Gibbs, north of the Azores and Milne seamount complex areas). In this context, our analysis 546 features an important contribution to the upcoming marine IBA/MPA network, as we 547 unprotected community-level seabird wintering hotspots predicted currently 548 off Newfoundland, southern Greenland, Iceland and in the Barents Sea. Furthermore, our work 549 emphasizes that marine spatial planning involving IBAs/MPAs will have to be adaptive, with 550 protected areas adjusted according to species range shifts under the impact of global changes. 551 MPA benefits will be negatively impacted by climate change (Bruno et al., 2018; Trisos et al., 552 2020), and thus reaching Paris Agreement Objectives will help to maintain their effectiveness 553 in the future. Our modeling work is a clear example of how community-level winter 554 555 distributions of marine top predators are likely to shift in the North Atlantic Ocean, and we provide a complete methodological framework allowing the forecasting of such range shifts 556 according to different climate change scenarios. Overall, we emphasize the effectiveness of 557 Paris Agreement Objectives for the spatial management of seabird community under the 558 impact of climate change, and of dynamic MPAs defined using track-based data on at-sea 559 movements of seabirds and other marine top predators (Péron, Authier, & Grémillet, 2018). 560

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- 585 manuscript.
- 586 Competing Interests statement
- 587 No competing interests.
- 588 Data availability statement

589 The datasets analyzed during this study are available from the corresponding author on 590 reasonable request.

591

593 Code availability statement

- 594 The different R codes used during this study are available from the corresponding author on
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