

The French Action Plan for Odonata: one year before the end of the program, what are the achievements and the first lessons?

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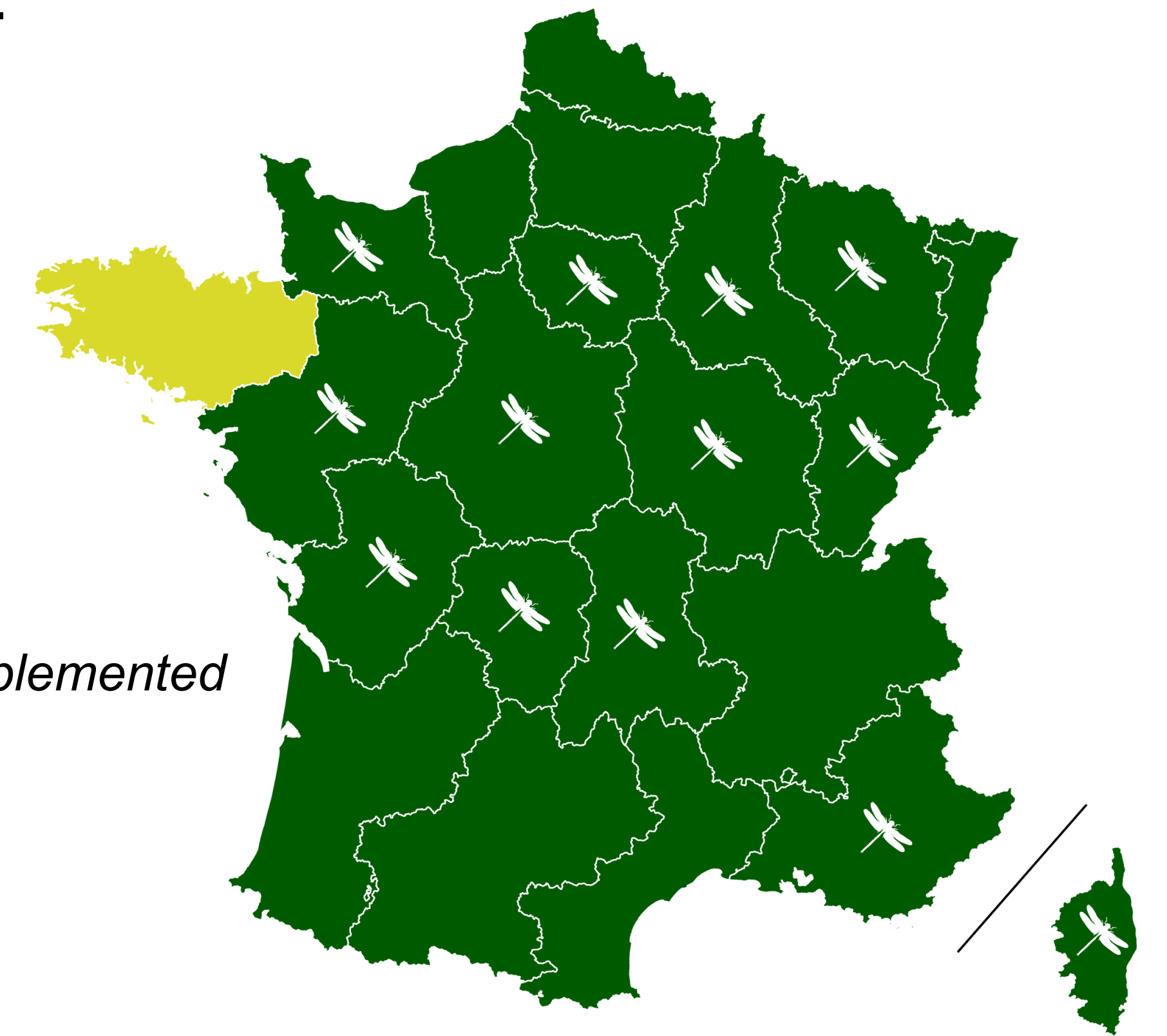
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Since 2011 and until 2015, France has started countrywide a specific program to conserve its most threatened dragonflies (18 species). In order to promote their study and incorporation in the government policies, a National Action Plan (NAP) for Odonata has been implemented.




With 95% of the regions involved, this plan is well deployed. Out of the 15 main actions, six are achieved and seven are still under implementation.

Several major projects have well turned out: the French dragonfly monitoring scheme (Steli) and completion of the second assessment of the 10 French species of Community interest are the main examples.



Current state of the regional implementation
4 years after the launch of the program

Local action plan:

-  approved and implemented
-  being drafted
-  still pending

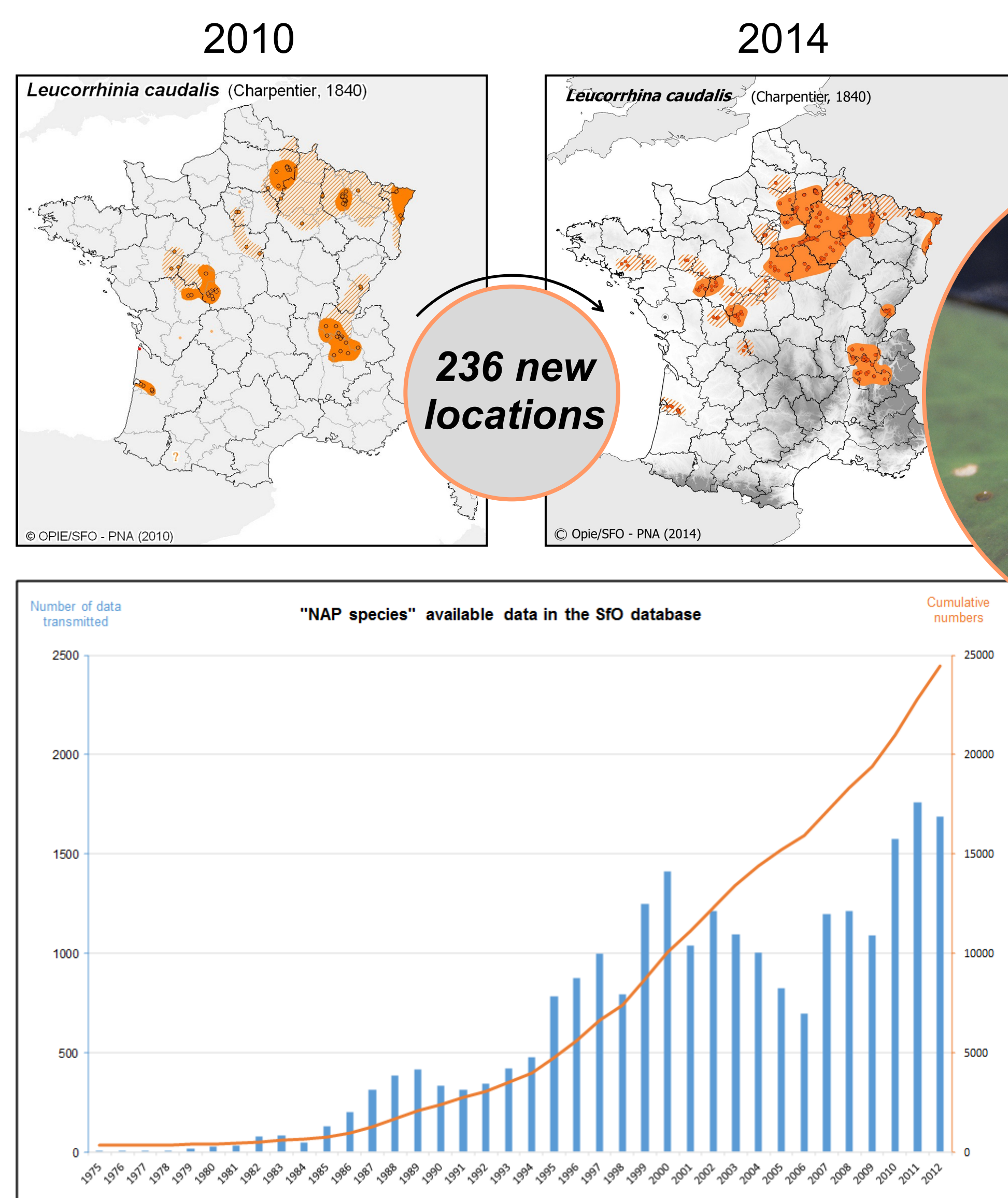


Developing actions on large scales

Coordinated actions have been developed for watershed areas or large natural regions to ensure national consistency. In the Loire watershed area, during meetings about *Ophiogomphus cecilia* and *Gomphus flavipes*, specialists have established a standardized monitoring protocol, to be tested this year. This should allow them to gather data on habitats in a permanently changing natural environment.

Sharing knowledge

In order to reach as much people as possible, a website has been created (www.odonates.pnaopie.fr). A specific page is dedicated to priority species bibliography: the up to date knowledge is available thanks to free downloading of 150 scientific papers and "grey literature" in French language. Since its setting online several research reports have been transmitted, thus enriching the digital library.



Completing database for conservation issues

Since the launching of the plan, 5,020 data collection about the 18 NAP species have been transmitted, e.g. record gathering of more than 1,500 data collections per year. The distribution maps drawn during the drafting of the NAP have been recently updated.

As a benefit for conservation, the ongoing work on the National Red List is taking advantage of this process of better data interpretation.

After one year assessment (2015), a new NAP could be launched with new aims. The fulfilment of the primary objectives of increasing the knowledge and structuring the network of French odonatologists allows to consider the long-term establishment of favorable conservation management actions for dragonflies and their habitats.

Ministère de l'Écologie, du Développement durable et de l'Énergie

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