



# UPSTREAM SEINE RIVER BASIN, **HYDROSOLIDARITY** IN PRACTICE

Flood  
management

Low Flow  
support

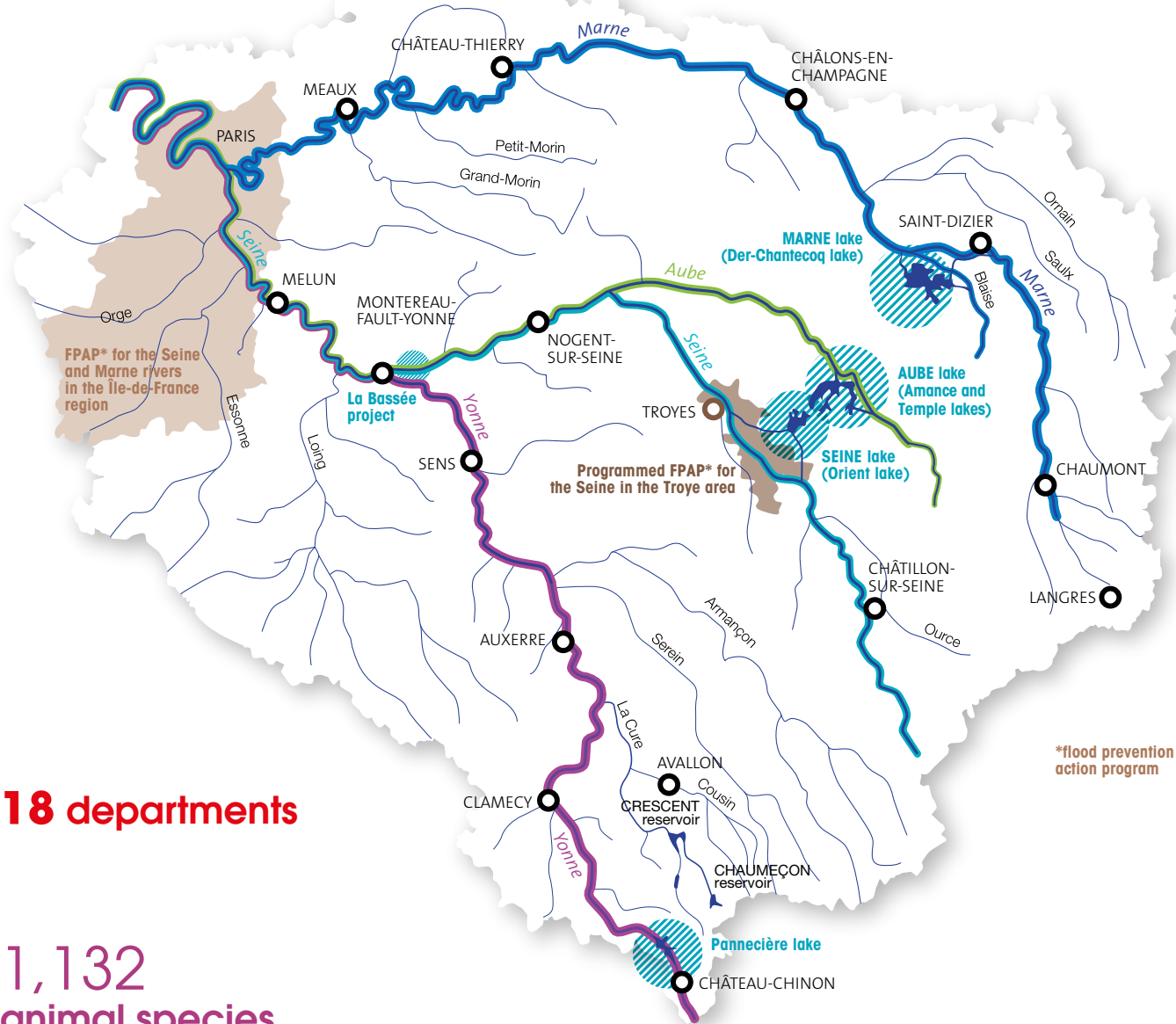
Preservation  
of the environment

Technical support  
for local areas



A population of  
**12,131,000**  
within the EPTB  
impact zone

(source INSEE 2011)



\*flood prevention action program

**18** departments

**1,132**  
animal species,  
some of which are rare  
and vulnerable, live  
around the lakes

**4 RESERVOIRS FOR ONE  
CATCHMENT BASIN**

**6** high flood risk areas

X. Opiéze / YAU fait



Over the last 45 years, Seine Grands Lacs has acted to serve the public interest in the upstream Seine catchment area. Working in collaboration with other stakeholders involved in managing the basin, its 130 staff monitors the level and quality of the water every day, working with respect for the environment and for the benefit of its entire operational area.

- **Two basic tasks**

### COMBAT FLOODING

The levels of the rivers Seine, Marne, Aube and Yonne are at their highest during the winter and spring 'wet season'. Flooding is frequent. One of the priority tasks of Seine Grands Lacs is to withdraw water during these high water periods and, by storing this water, mitigate potential flood damage. Its four lakes have a storage capacity of up to 800 million cubic meters thereby preventing the submergence of an urban area covering up to 10,000 hectares. Seine Grands Lacs is responsible for the flood prevention action program (PAPI) for the Seine and Marne rivers in the Ile de France region.

### FLOW SUPPORT FOR BOTH THE RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

In contrast, during the summer and autumn 'dry season', water levels drop. Seine Grands Lacs is responsible for ensuring that the flow remains sufficient to meet the requirements of agriculture, industry and providing drinking water. This phase known as 'low water support' is assured by the programmed release of the water stored in the lakes and can increase the flow of the rivers of the catchment basin by as much as 60% (in Paris).

- **Sharing the Challenge**

### PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

Seine Grands Lacs contributes to the good ecological status of the water, sharing its expertise in biodiversity conservation and restoration with other actors in the catchment basin. In the knowledge that the average flow of the river in Paris is expected to be reduced by 30% by 2050 (source: ClimAware, 2014), Seine Grands Lacs is also active in raising awareness of climate change and the balanced management of water resources.



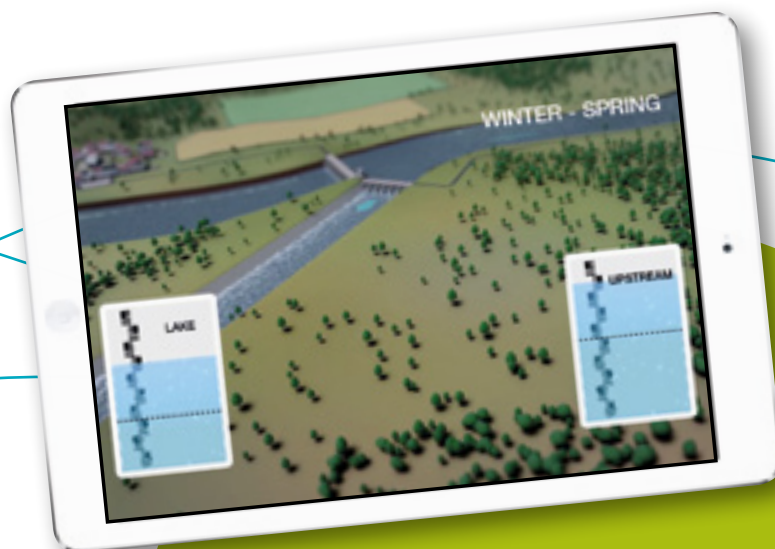
# Organisation

Seine Grands Lacs is an EPTB (Public Territorial Basin Establishment) which acts at basin level, covering the upstream catchment area of the Seine and working to facilitate and coordinate the actions of the local authorities within this entire area.

Administered by 24 elected representatives from the Hauts-de-Seine, Seine-Saint-Denis, and Val-de-Marne departments and the city of Paris, Seine Grands Lacs is supported by a consultative committee enabling the correlation of analyses received from over fifty different water management organisms.

For those local authorities who request its help, the EPTB is able to provide personalised support for the implementation of national or European policies concerning the management of aquatic environments and flood prevention.

Acting with and for the territories



8, rue Villiot - 75012 Paris  
eptb@seinegrandslacs.fr

## Resources

Up-to-date news and information concerning the upstream Seine basin is available to all those concerned *via* the Seine Grands Lacs website.

[www.seinegrandslacs.fr](http://www.seinegrandslacs.fr)