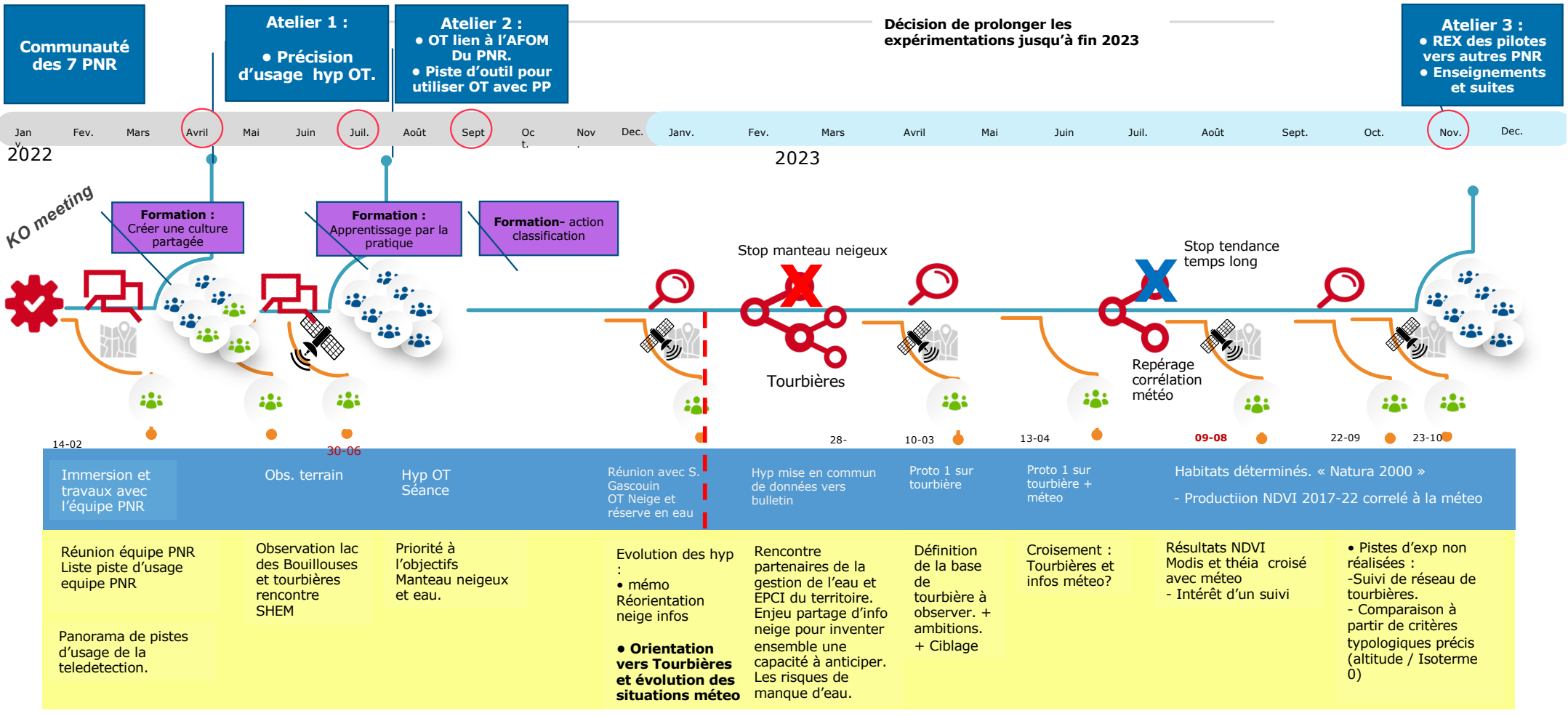Chronologie et évolution des explorations