« NaturAdapt,
l'indispensable adaptation. »

# EUROPARC2020 - Climate Change Workshop

## Integrating climate change into protected area management practices

## Key learnings from the National Natural Reserve of Sixt-Fer-à-Cheval / Passy

**« Beyond global climate projections and adaptation trends,
local outcomes may be unexpected »**



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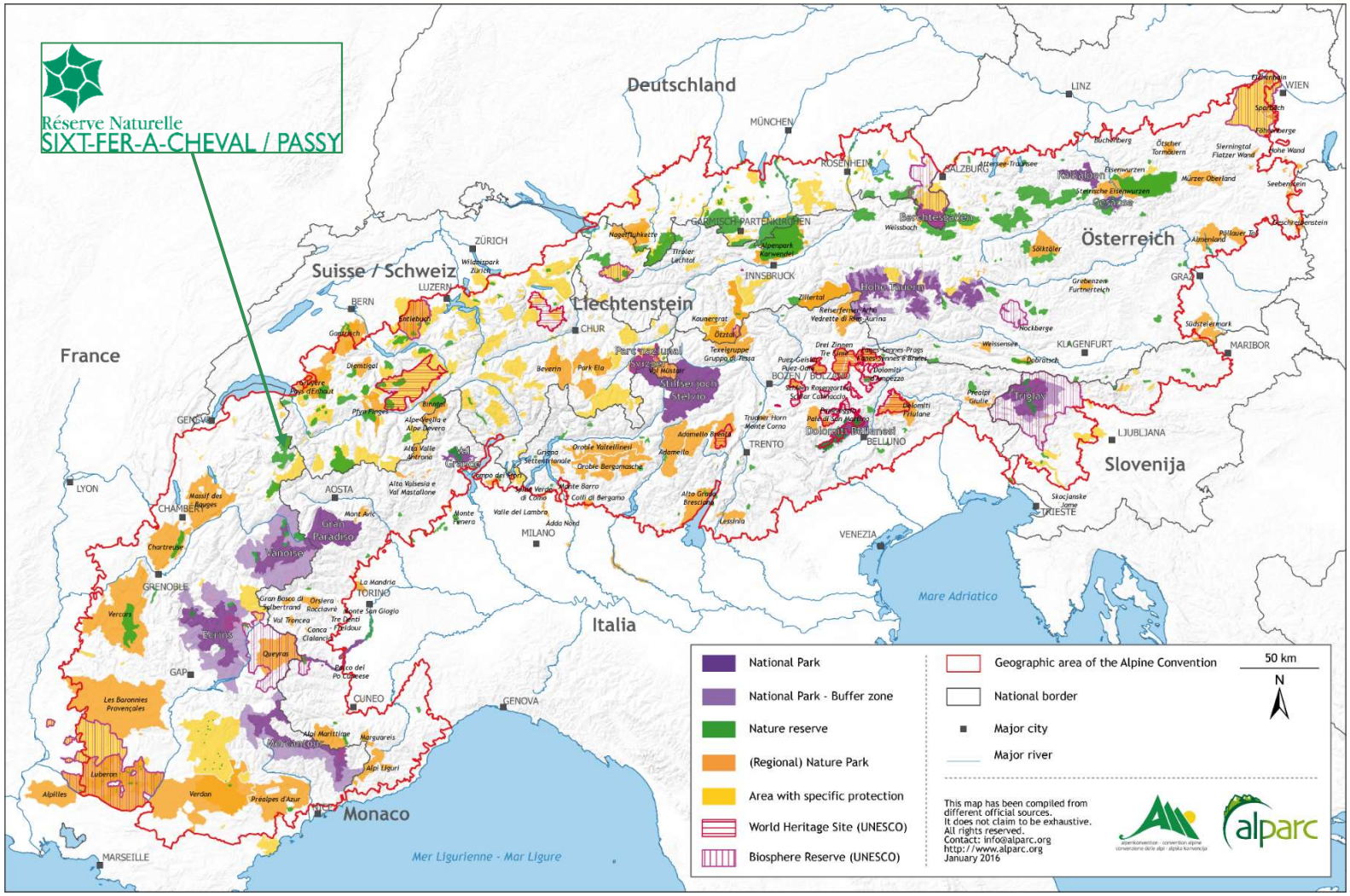
# Where are we ?









More than 9000 ha.
Altitudinal range : 800m to 3000m.
Permanent team : 4 members

# Key Learnings : Question global climate change trends with local insights

**Common assumptions for the end of the century in the Alps :**

**>> relative to the climate**

- Temperatures will grow
- Snow cover will reduce

**>> relative to the adaptation mecanism of biodiversity …**

- Thermophil species are likely to go up North

# Key Learnings : Question global climate trends with local insights

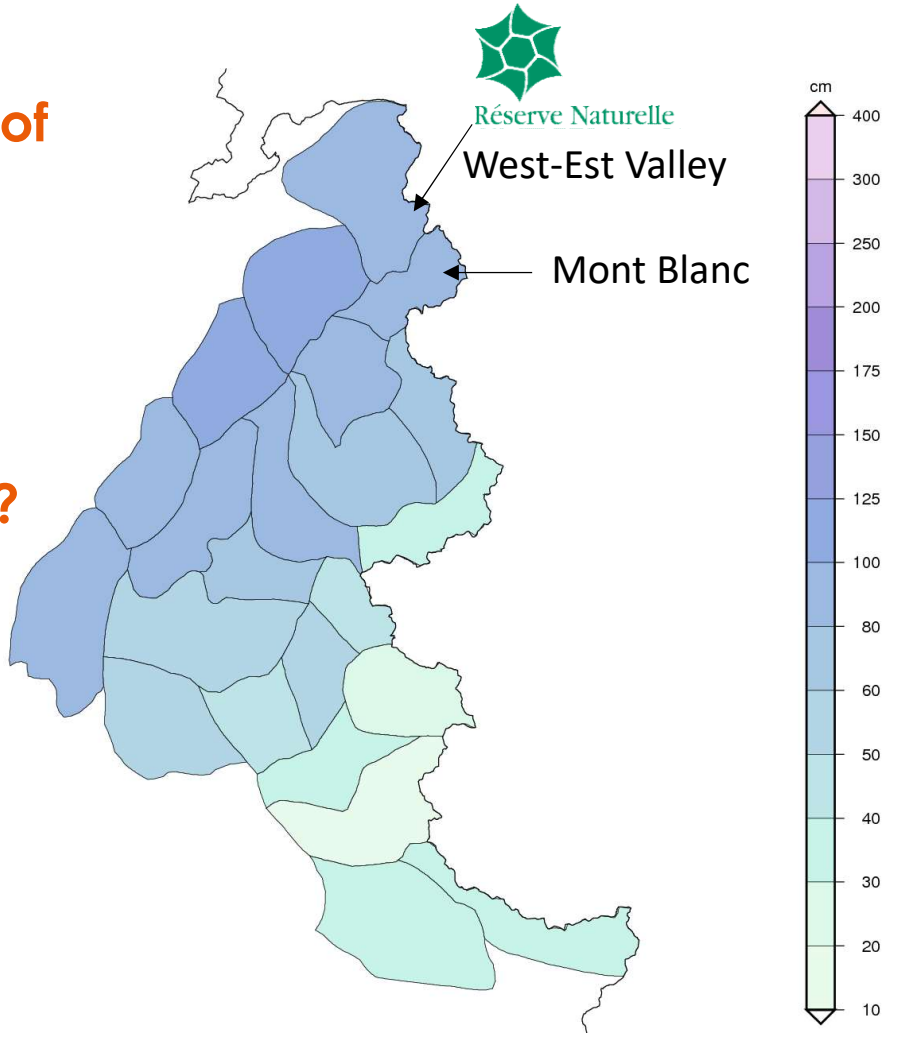
## Common assumptions for the end of the century in the Alps :

- Temperatures will grow up
- Snow cover & snow depth will reduce

## What could be the range of changes with a local perspective ?

- Compared to the others French alpine massifs, our natural reserve belongs to those that are the most wet and snowy (due to high latitude)
- > 56% of our surface area is above 2000m

**Local climate will change but we shall conserve a mean of 1 meter of snow depth at 2400m from november to april (RCP 8.5 in 2100).**




**Mean of snow depth at 1800m** in the French Alps (1976-2005). ADAMONT_2017_DRIAS

# Key Learnings : question global climate trends with local insights

**Common assumptions :**
Thermophil species are likely to go up North

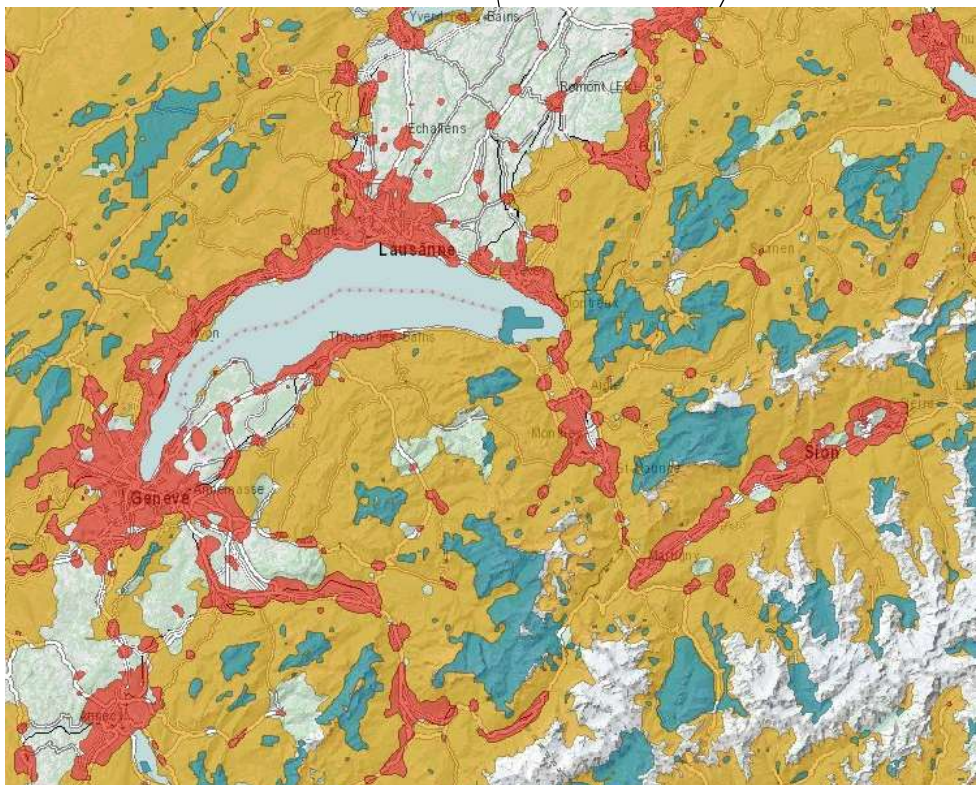
**But in our case, they may come from down Northern-East !**

- The climate of the Valais region is known to be very dry and almost Mediterranean
- Adapted form of calcareous grasslands are likely to come faster from the Valais than from further southern calcareous French Massifs

**Our priority : Protect connectivity between the Chablais and the Valais**

Réserve Naturelle

Valais (Switzerland)




**Strategic Alpine Connectivity Area (result of Alpbionet project)**

# Any question ?

© Age de glace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## Partenaires engagés dans le projet

EUROPARC FEDERATION, UMS Patrimoine Naturel, Tela Botanica, LPO, AGIR pour la BIODIVERSITÉ, Asters Conservatoire d'espaces naturels Haute-Savoie, Réserves Naturelles Catalanes, Parc naturel régional du Morvan, Parc naturel régional des Volcans d'Auvergne, Parc naturel régional des Ballons des Vosges

## Financeurs du projet

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# How to assess the vulnerability of the 5th largest French National Natural Reserve ?

## 1st step : scoping and screening

**Main challenge :**

- no management plan and scattered informations.
- Old conflict with the locals

**Collective workshop to point out :**

- What habitats and geomorphologic process depend on the actual climate (rainy & snowy all the year) ? 2200 pp/year at 2400m
- Which species depend of the actual timberline and vegetation stages ?
- What are the natural environnement that gathers the larger number of human pressures, biodiversity stakes, and represents a representative surface area in the reserve ? → Calcareous grasslands.