



MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS



Connecting protected areas and outdoor sports, working together to face new challenges

FRENCH EXPERIENCE

ABOUT US

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

NEW CHALLENGES

SPORTING EVENTS



antoine.le-bellec@sportsdenature.gouv.fr

ABOUT US

French National Resource Center of Outdoor Sports

Structure of the sport ministry

National and european missions

Situated in the Ardeche (CREPS Vallon Pont d'Arc)

Created in 2003

Team of 14 employees



<http://www.sportsdenature.gouv.fr/>

MISSIONS

THEMATICS

MISSIONS



to support the policy of developing outdoor sports

to provide advice and expertise for all the stakeholders

to drive the national network

to organize trainings

to make studies, publications, tools...



THEMATICS

Acces to the areas and sites

Education through outdoor sports

Territorial development

Employment, training, qualification

Safety of participants

Observation of practices and participants



MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS



Connecting protected areas and outdoor sports, working together to face new challenges

FRENCH EXPERIENCE

ABOUT US

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

SPORTING EVENTS



antoine.le-bellec@sportsdenature.gouv.fr

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

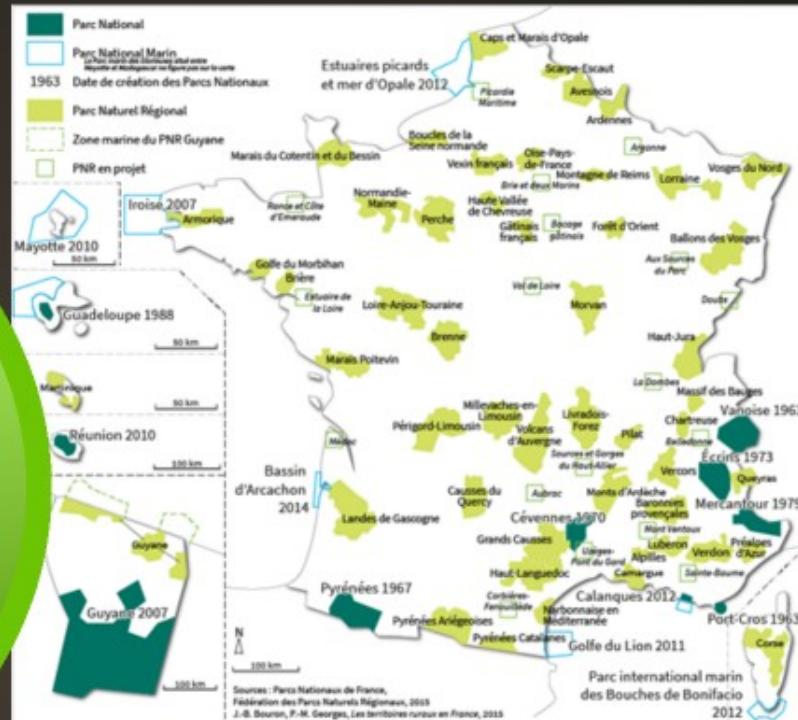
key numbers



PROTECTED
AREAS

OUTDOOR
SPORTS

PROTECTED AREAS



10 national parks

51 regional parks

8 natural marine parks

167 national reserves

136 regional reserves

1768 Natura 2000 sites

**+ 20% of land territory
in mainland**

**+ de 26% overseas land
territory**



MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS



Connecting protected areas and outdoor sports, working together to face new challenges

FRENCH EXPERIENCE

ABOUT US

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

NEW CHALLENGES

SPORTING EVENTS



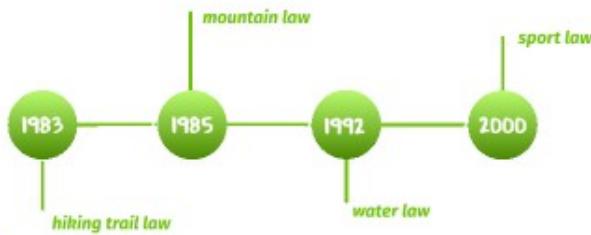
antoine.le-bellec@sportsdenature.gouv.fr

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

a long history



*in 2000 and 2004
specific part for "outdoor
sports" in the sport law*



CONSULTATION

DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING

COOPERATION

CONSULTATION

The law creates a consultation committee in each department grouping all the stakeholders concerned by outdoor sport and natural areas

local administration of sport

mayor of the commune

local administration of environment

actors of tourism

sport federations

farmers, foresters

land owners

outdoor sports professionals

park managers

environmental associations



DEVELOPMENT

The law recognizes the important role of outdoor sports for society: education, economy, tourism, health...



They must be developed but controlled to respect environment, properties and others users of nature

PLANNING

Each local committed (CDESI) must develop a specific plan (PDESI) for outdoor sport.



Each site is subject to an environmental assessment

*About 100 departments
there are 61 CDESI*

COOPERATION

Over the last 15 years there has been collaboration between sport and environment institutions (local and national) with:

- Production of guidebooks
- Common seminars
- Common professional training
- Local and national meetings

GUIDEBOOKS

SEMINARS

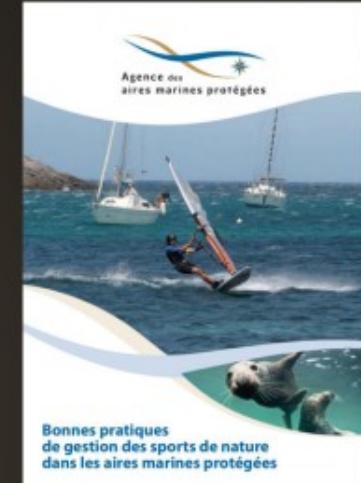
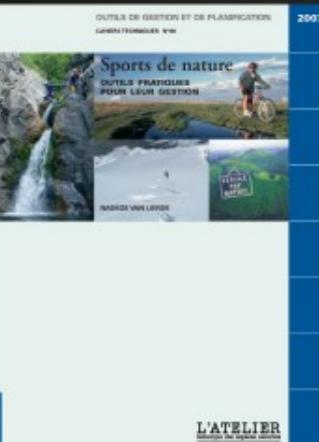
TRAINING

TOOLS

GUIDEBOOKS

There are many local and national productions build in cooperation between sports and environmental stakeholders.

- good practices
- experiences
- advice
- tools
- ...



Journée d'échanges techniques Evaluation d'incidences Natura 2000 et sports de nature



4 décembre 2012 - Paris



Atelier technique des
ESPACES NATURELS

Le réseau des professionnels de la nature

SEMINARS

*To create a common culture
To break the misconceptions
To share experiences
To find solutions*



TRAINING

*specific training courses for
sport and environment
officers*

TOOLS

There are several tools built together (charters, evaluation grids, maps...)

One of them is SURICATE.

SURICATE allows you to report problems encountered during outdoor sport: a mistake with trail markings, a broken sign, pollution, security needs, conflicts with land owners or other participants...



OBSERVE
CONNECT
REPORT

3 SIMPLE STEPS TO BECOME
AN OUTDOOR SPORTS SENTINEL





MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS



Connecting protected areas and outdoor sports, working together to face new challenges

FRENCH EXPERIENCE

ABOUT US

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

NEW CHALLENGES

SPORTING EVENTS



antoine.le-bellec@sportsdenature.gouv.fr

SPORTING EVENTS

We have made progress in the organization of events to address negative impacts and measure positive impacts.

But the sum of events with little or no impact can ultimately have negative effects.

This is the question of carrying capacity of natural areas.



NEGATIVE
IMPACTS

POSITIVE
IMPACTS

CARRYING
CAPACITY

NEGATIVE IMPACTS

Several stages make it possible to limit the negative impacts of the events on the environment. The organizer must:

- respect the regulation
- validate his course with the manager of the protected area
- have the authorization from the authorities

There are lots of tools to help organizers to reduce negative impacts

GUIDE BOOKS

DIGITAL TOOLS

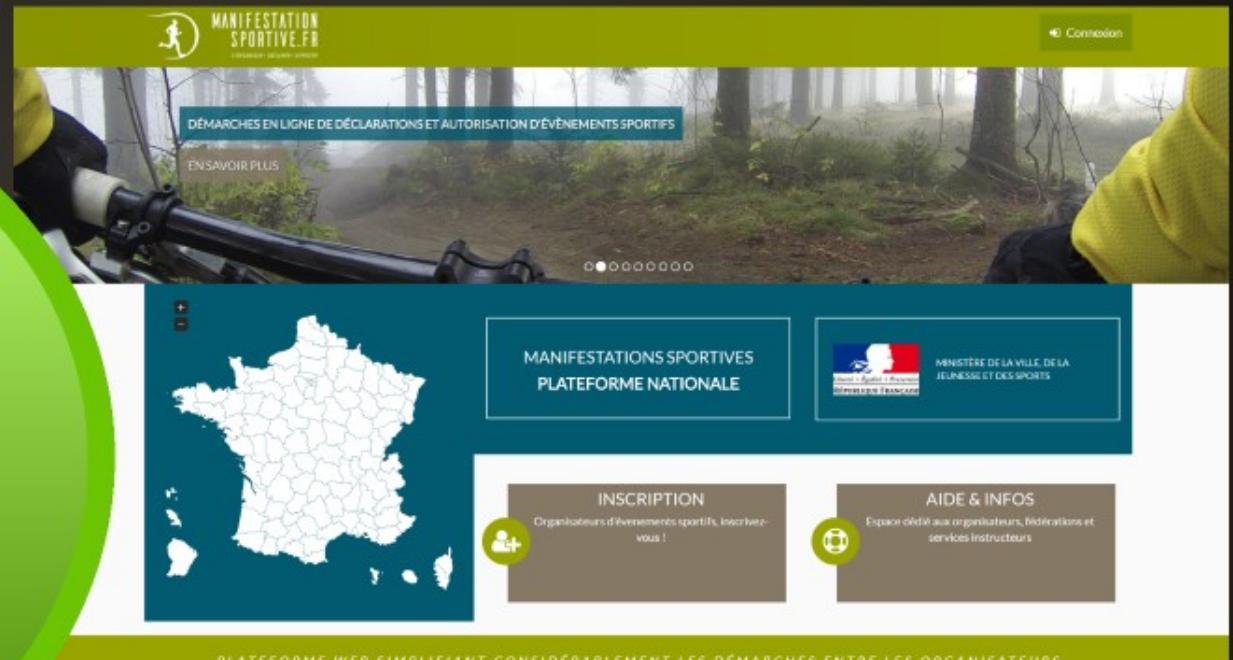
GUIDE BOOKS

Many territories, parks, reserves have produced guides for the organizers



DIGITAL TOOLS

Digital technology facilitates the work of organizers and instructor services. The GPS track can be overlaid with environmental areas.



As of this year there is a national platform for sporting events. All services (security, environment, mayor, park, federation...) can consult online and give opinions and recommendations. At the end the authorization is granted or not.

POSITIVE IMPACTS



- social
- economic
- health
- culture, education
- ...

We can not only see the negative impacts

economic and social effects

Health

Culture,
education

economic and social effects

PRNSN modeled an evaluation methodology

- To make an assessment of the economic impact of an event
- To quantify financial flows
- To establish a common methodology in order to obtain comparable and appropriate results by the actors

outdoors sports events take an active part in the life of the territories



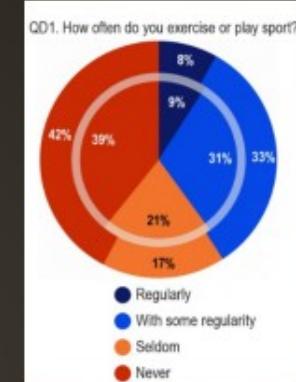
Health

WHO recommandations:

Adults aged 18–64 should do at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic physical activity during the week or do at least 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity throughout the week or an equivalent combination of moderate- and vigorous-intensity activity.

Outdoor sport events contribute to put people on the move.

How Protected Areas are having an active role in promoting the use of green spaces



Culture, education

We need outdoor sport and outdoor sport events for:

- **to improve social sharing and social inclusion**
- **to save our children from nature-deficit disorder**
- **to promote nature education**
- **to improve well-being**
- **to promote a nature lifestyle**



CARRYING CAPACITY

There are three dimensions to the carrying capacity (Jean-Pierre Thibault)



-Economic: the number of participants beyond which the emotion of each person will decrease; and what it the quality of the tourism economy.

-Social: the number of visitors from which the inhabitants will feel invaded, will change their behavior

-Environmental: the number of visitors from which nature loses diversity and landscape loses singularity.

The increasing number of events in the same area could have impact

This question of carrying capacity or welcoming capacity suppose to have a global vision of the activities in the areas. It's difficult to target only the outdoor sports event. We have to consider tourism, traditional activities... a new challenge?

CARRYING CAPACITY

There are examples of limitations of events in parks.

Example of the strict regulation of the national park of Ecrins (limitation to 5 sport competitions per year)

What solutions can we find together?

- Defining quotas (which criteria)
- Defining periods
- Limit the capacity or the number of participants
- ...





MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS



Connecting protected areas and outdoor sports, working together to face new challenges

FRENCH EXPERIENCE

ABOUT US

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

NEW CHALLENGES

SPORTING EVENTS



antoine.le-bellec@sportsdenature.gouv.fr

NEW CHALLENGES

Limit the negative impacts of outdoor sport

Find a respectful balance for the nature and life of the territories

Fight against increasing sedentarity in Europe

....

work together





MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS



Connecting protected areas and outdoor sports, working together to face new challenges

FRENCH EXPERIENCE

ABOUT US

THE FRENCH CONTEXT

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

NEW CHALLENGES

SPORTING EVENTS



antoine.le-bellec@sportsdenature.gouv.fr