

Adapting to climate change in the nature reserves of the Madres-Coronat massif: Nohèdes, Conat and Jujols

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION PLAN SUMMARY

CONTEXT

The massif of Madres-Coronat, where the reserves of Jujols, Nohèdes and Conat are located, is a world of contrasts: the three reserves have an area of about 1800 m of difference in altitude, which translates into a thermal amplitude of 11.2 degrees.

Overall, the vegetation of Mont-Coronat has a marked xerothermophilous character, because to the poverty of the rainfall is added a steep slope and a vast limestone compartment on the northern slope and the crest of Mont-Coronat.

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

The current climate change would accentuate the "Mediterranean" climate. The tendency is for the phytoclimatic stages to move up. Assuming that the worst-case scenario envisaged by the IPCC (RCP 8.5) is realized, global warming could reach 4°C by the end of the 21st century, more pronounced at higher altitudes. The evolution of precipitation is more uncertain, although globally it tends to decrease; on the other hand, its regime should change, with summers becoming drier. The arctic-alpine and boreo-subalpine phytoclimatic stages would disappear, as well as the upper part of the boreo-montane stage, and with them most of the associated ecosystems. The arctic-alpine and boreo-subalpine levels do not seem to be able to withstand the "milder" scenario 4.5.

The climate that is gradually taking hold is therefore expected to be warmer, more arid, but also more unstable. In a second phase, the

reaction of certain ecosystem compartments is envisaged to the effects of climatic drift, but it is likely that extreme episodes will impose brutal modifications on them.

ADAPTATION PLAN

This document is only a first draft of the actions that could compose an adaptation plan for the Mount Coronat nature reserves. It groups actions according to several subjects, chosen during the drafting of the vulnerability diagnosis.

We have thus listed in this adaptation plan the actions to be implemented according to two main objectives:

- Improving knowledge of the effects of climate change on ecosystems and species, as this will allow us to better orient our management;
- Reducing the territory's exposure to climate change in order to make environments as resilient as possible and to accompany species in their migration.

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[Vulnerability assessment](#)

[Adaptation plan](#)

