

Adaptation to climate change of the Forest of Massane National Nature Reserve **VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION PLAN**

BACKGROUND

Anthropogenic pressures degrade the good ecological state of the natural habitats. These pressures, combined with climate change, will intensify and significantly degrade natural habitats, as well as their ecological functions and biodiversity.

In this context of climate change, it is all the more urgent that management practices and socio-economic activities be adapted and coherent with climate change, in order to preserve the good ecological condition of the natural habitats and limit natural risks.

The adaptation plan for the [Forest of Massane National Nature Reserve](#) is a document aiming at the initiation of an adaptation process to territorial climate change. This document was developed by [the Federation of Catalan Nature Reserves](#) (FRNC) as part of the [LIFE Natur'Adapt project](#), coordinated by [Reserves Naturelles de France](#).

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An analysis of the recent past climate, the current seasonal levels and the future climate projections was made. This analysis is a solid basis of knowledge on climate change.

An assessment of the vulnerability of the major issues of the reserve was also produced. The natural elements such as the habitats or the socio-economic activities of the reserve were assessed, in order to understand the degree of vulnerability under the effect of climate change.

We then proposed **adaptation strategies** and **action cards**, as supports for the actors of the territory.

MAIN RESULTS

The vulnerability assessment highlighted the pressures hanging over both the reserve and the municipality of Argelès-sur-Mer. Climate change is likely to increase the **risk of floods, mudslides and fires**. Poor management of human activities, with strong pressure on natural habitats, drastically increases the risks.

A forward-looking work led us to understand the extent of the effects of climate change if no adaptation measures are taken (increased risks, loss of biodiversity, reduction in fodder value, etc.). To overcome this, we have suggested three **adaptation management strategies**. They are exclusively **based on the evolution of pastoral practices** on the reserve. The adaptation plan highlights a second lever for action, which is the management of outdoor activities that generate soil erosion problems and impacts on biodiversity.

This adaptation plan is **a means of involving stakeholders in a collective**, integrated approach that is consistent with climate change.

It is now urgent and possible to act, to change management practices and to adapt.

CONSULTATION OF ENTIRE DOCUMENTS

[Report of the adaptation process](#)

