

Adapting to climate change in the 'Ballons des Vosges' Regional Nature Park

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION PLAN SUMMARY

CONTEXT

[The Ballons des Vosges Regional Nature Park](#) wanted to take on the theme of adaptation to climate change by applying for [the LIFE Natur'Adapt project](#), which enabled it to obtain specific resources to study this issue for 50 days spread over one year.

During the course of this project, the organisation was able to join a learning community, take on board the training and methodological tools created during phase 1 of the project, and work on its own questioning:

- What is the future climate in the heart of the Park, i.e. the Haute Vosges?
- What are the effects of these changes on emblematic natural environments such as forests, high stubble areas and wetlands?
- What is the vulnerability of the human activities taking place there, including forestry, agriculture and tourism?

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

The first deliverable, entitled « Vulnerability assessment », sets out the framework:

- **Time scale:** projections to 2030, 2050 and 2100 based on available data;
- **Geographical scale:** Metropolitan, regional and local context according to the available analyses for the parameters;

All of the literature reviewed has made it possible to produce a climatic summary for the Hautes Vosges (past, present and future) concerning the following parameters:

air temperature, rainfall, snow cover, surface and underground water resources.

Secondly, semi-directed interviews within the structure made it possible to establish a gradient of vulnerability of natural environments and human activities to these changes.

Finally, in parallel, these elements have collectively fed reflections and a pathway. Indeed, in the case of Natur'Adapt, the beginning of adaptation to climate change is the process that is experienced.

ADAPTATION PLAN

Following the completion of the climate report and the assessment of the vulnerability of the main elements of the natural heritage and activities of the Hautes-Vosges, the adaptation plan proposes **an overall vision of the notion of adaptations to climate change**: elements of strategy from the Park's scientific council, summary of existing actions or actions to be implemented brought up via the ten or so interviews carried out within the structure.

This second document constitutes a sum of ideas compiled internally, as a basis for reflection, exchange and discussion from two perspectives:

- **The three-year programme** of the Ballons des Vosges Regional Nature Park 2023 – 2025
- **The revision of the future charter** starting in 2023 and ending in 2027

The summary of the ten or so interviews conducted within the Park's various thematic clusters shows that all the clusters have taken up the issue of climate change, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation, and that this is

therefore a cross-cutting theme that is very topical in the Hautes-Vosges and more broadly in the Park.

In addition, certain measures that have been implemented for several years now help to facilitate the adaptation of natural environments (free development, protection and restoration of wetlands, etc.).

Finally, other ideas exist and other projects are emerging in connection with this theme, particularly in the areas of scientific popularisation and territorial mediation.

In addition, the project as a whole has shown that other pressure factors, already well identified in the area, have negative cumulative effects with the predicted climate changes, and that it is therefore essential to continue or even strengthen efforts on these issues: agro-sylvo-cynoeitic imbalance, management of visitor numbers in particular.

In conclusion, it is essential that the various levels of the Park's governing bodies, and particularly the political level, take ownership of this theme in order to continue the process.

**ENTIRE DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE
HERE:**

[Vulnerability assessment \(FR\)](#)

[Adaptation plan \(FR\)](#)



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