



Spatialisation of wetlands functions

For a renewed pilotage of
wetlands policies in the
Rhône river basin

Most of conservation measures concerning wetlands omit their functional dimensions and focus only on patrimonial areas. A functional approach emphasizes the importance of wetlands with ordinary biodiversity. Spatialisation of wetland functions helps to define an area of concertation with local stakeholders and to reflect on multi-scaling strategies for wetlands management.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The overall objective is to support the implementation of wetland related policies in the Rhône river basin using a multi-scaling mapping tool which can answer several questions:

- How the territory is structured?
- Which part of this territory is suitable to the occurrence of wetland habitats?
- Which functions are likely performed by wetland habitats?
- What are the main pressures and threats on wetland ecosystems?
- How to prioritize actions for wetlands management at the scale of the river basin, by preserving their main functions?

- How to transfer the knowledge to local stakeholders and raise public awareness about wetlands' functions?

ACTIONS

- Develop GIS-based protocols for the characterisation of hydrological, biochemical and ecological functions of wetland ecosystems within the Rhône river basin.
- Identification and characterisation of the main pressures and threats.
- Develop an innovative approach that could support setting priority actions for the conservation and the management of wetlands.
- Develop GIS-based tools that integrate all the resulting maps and products in a harmonised way at different scales (local, sub-catchment and the entire basin).
- Meetings with local users and assessment of their requirements in terms of knowledge and data for a better integration of wetland functional dimensions in the management plans at different geographical scales.
- Develop dissemination and transfer material and tools to reach the effectiveness of this innovative approach for wetlands monitoring and management.

PROJECTS RESULTS

- Creating a multi-scaling mapping tool to improve the knowledge on wetland functions within their river basins and to facilitate the dialogue with local stakeholders.
- Providing an overview of wetlands that could support the Rhone river basin authority to update the Water Development and Management Master Plan (SDAGE).
- Facilitating Transitions between successive Water Development and Management Master Plans (SDAGE) thanks to a continuous feeding by data and information.
- Assessing functions and pressures using GIS-based analyses and locally adapted by integrating ancillary data provided by different management bodies.
- Providing a synthetic overview of the whole studied territory and a map of main wetland functions and pressures.
- Supporting the implementation of restoration plans.
- Providing dissemination and transfer material and tools for a better communication and concertation with local stakeholders.

Duration: 2018 - 2021

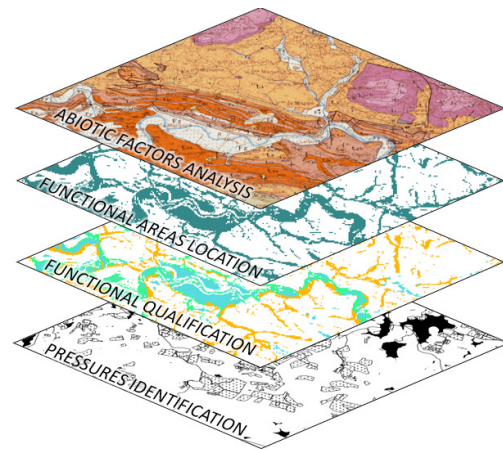
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A new and approach innovative for

A better implementation of wetland policies at large scale

Supporting stakeholders to implement conservation, management and restoration actions for wetlands at local scales



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