
Asters
Conservatoire
d'espaces naturels
Haute-Savoie
Webinar
Too much water, too little water :
what solutions are there to
address this ?
Thursday 5 November 2026



KEY TOOLS FOR WATER MANAGEMENT IN FRANCE

Floods don't stop at the limits of towns : **Upstream-downstream solidarity !**

Watershed scale





“GEMAPI” Competence

Legislative and regulatory framework



Key tools for water management in France

Urban planning documents

Project

Compatible or in accordance with these documents



DCE : Directive Cadre européenne sur l'Eau
du 23 octobre 2000 qui oblige les états membres à retrouver un bon état écologique des eaux d'ici à 2015



Loi sur l'Eau et les Milieux Aquatiques
Promulguée le 30 décembre 2006



SDAGE : Schéma Directeur pour l'Aménagement et la Gestion des Eaux
Un par grand bassin versant de France, pour 5 ans

SAGE : Schéma pour l'Aménagement et la Gestion des Eaux
Pour des sous-bassins versants (plus petits)

- Réglementation spécifique : les décisions sur l'eau doivent être **conformes ***.

Different scales of urban planning



SCoT : Schéma de Cohérence Territoriale
- Ressources naturelles disponibles,
- Connectivité et corridors ...

PLU / PLUi : Plan Local d'Urbanisme

Key tools for water management in France

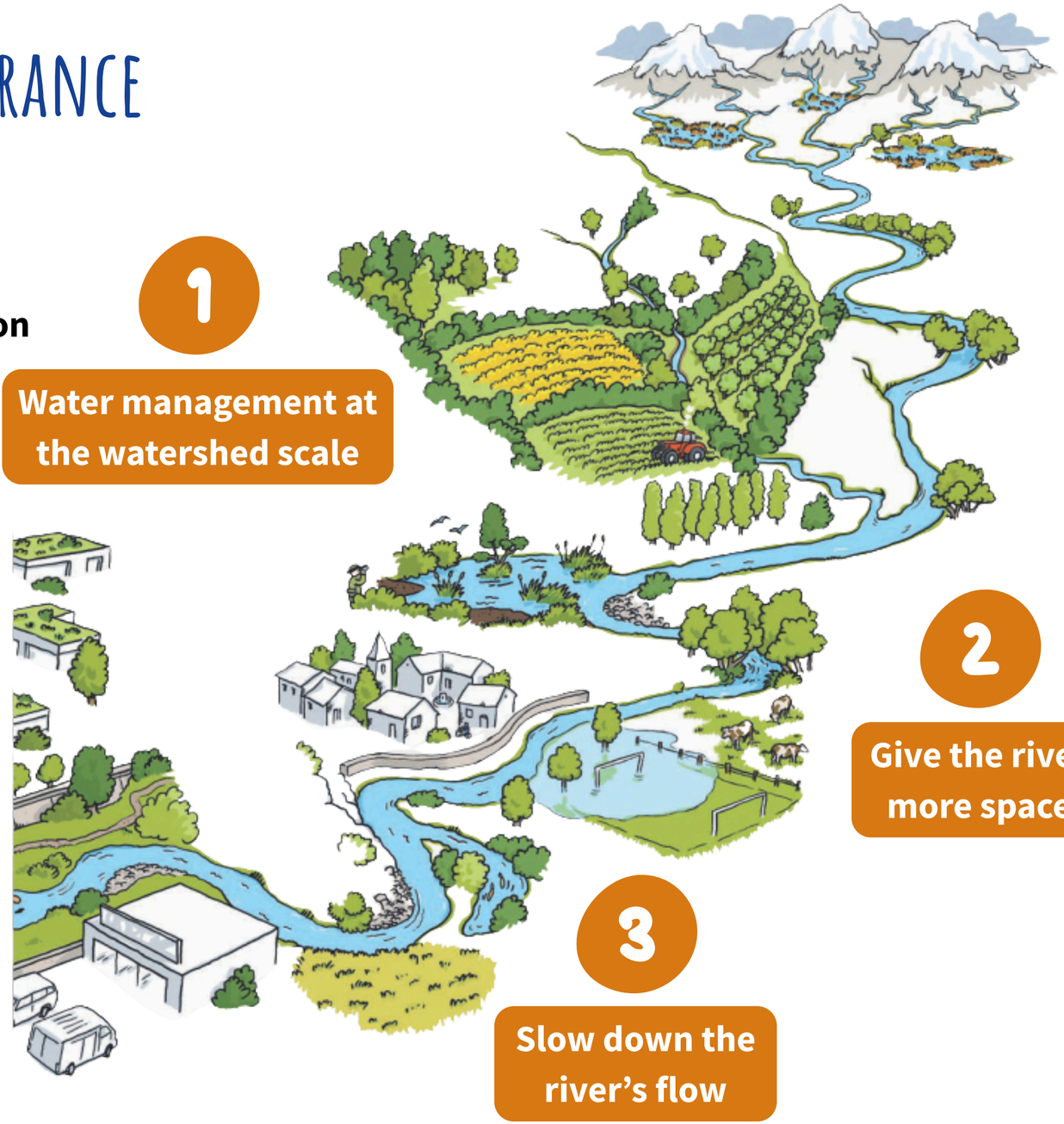
GEMAPI competence of local governments

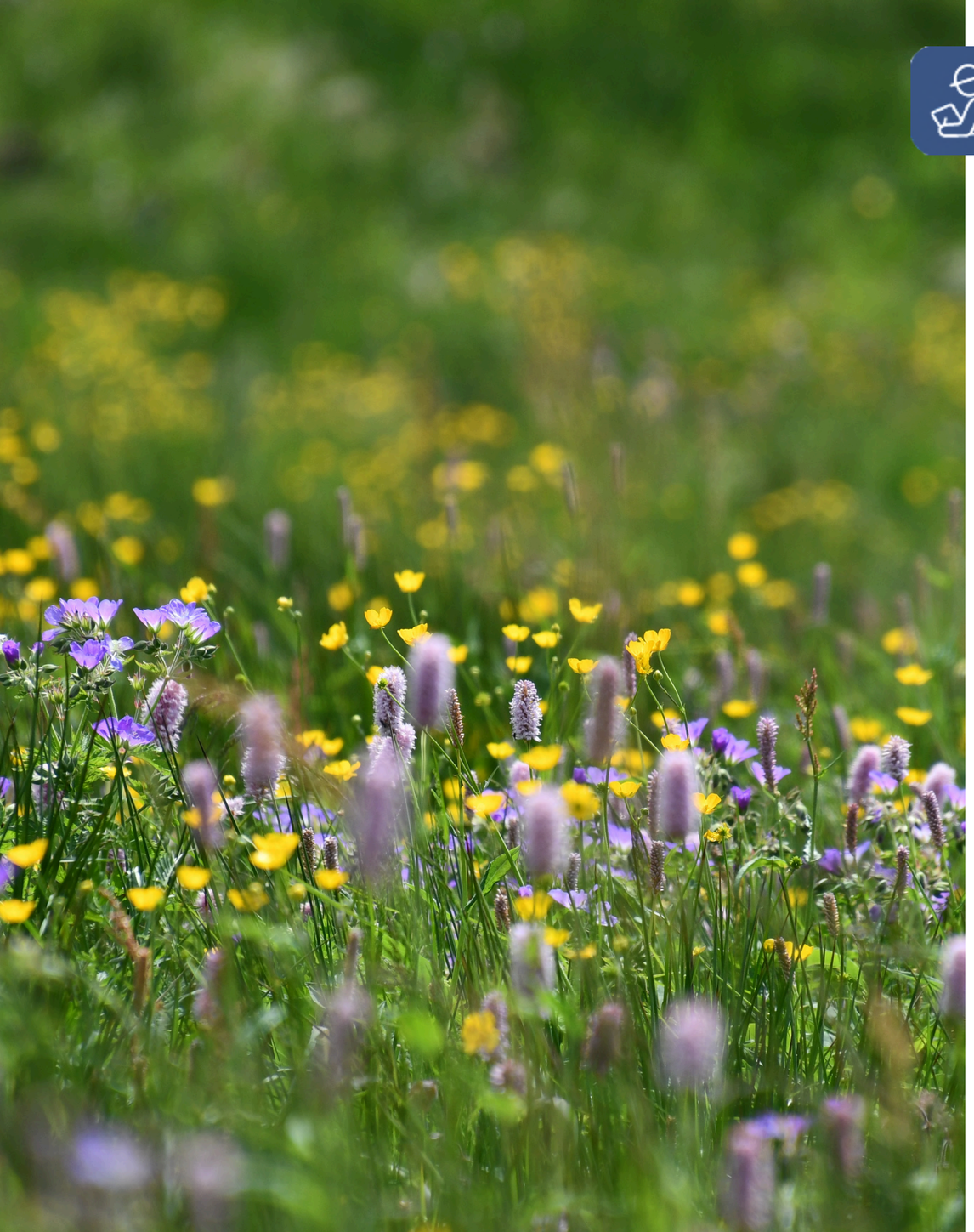
= Management of aquatic environnements and flood prevention

- Preventing floods, mitigating droughts
- Maintenance and development of watercourses, canals, lakes and water bodies
- Raising awarness among users of the rivers
- Management of hydraulic structures
- Protection and restoration of aquatic habitats and **wetlands** to preserve biodiversity

Responsibility assigned to the municipalities and their inter-municipal public bodies with their own tax system

Since the 1st of January 2018





WETLANDS : VALUABLE ECOSYSTEMS FOR WATER RESOURCES







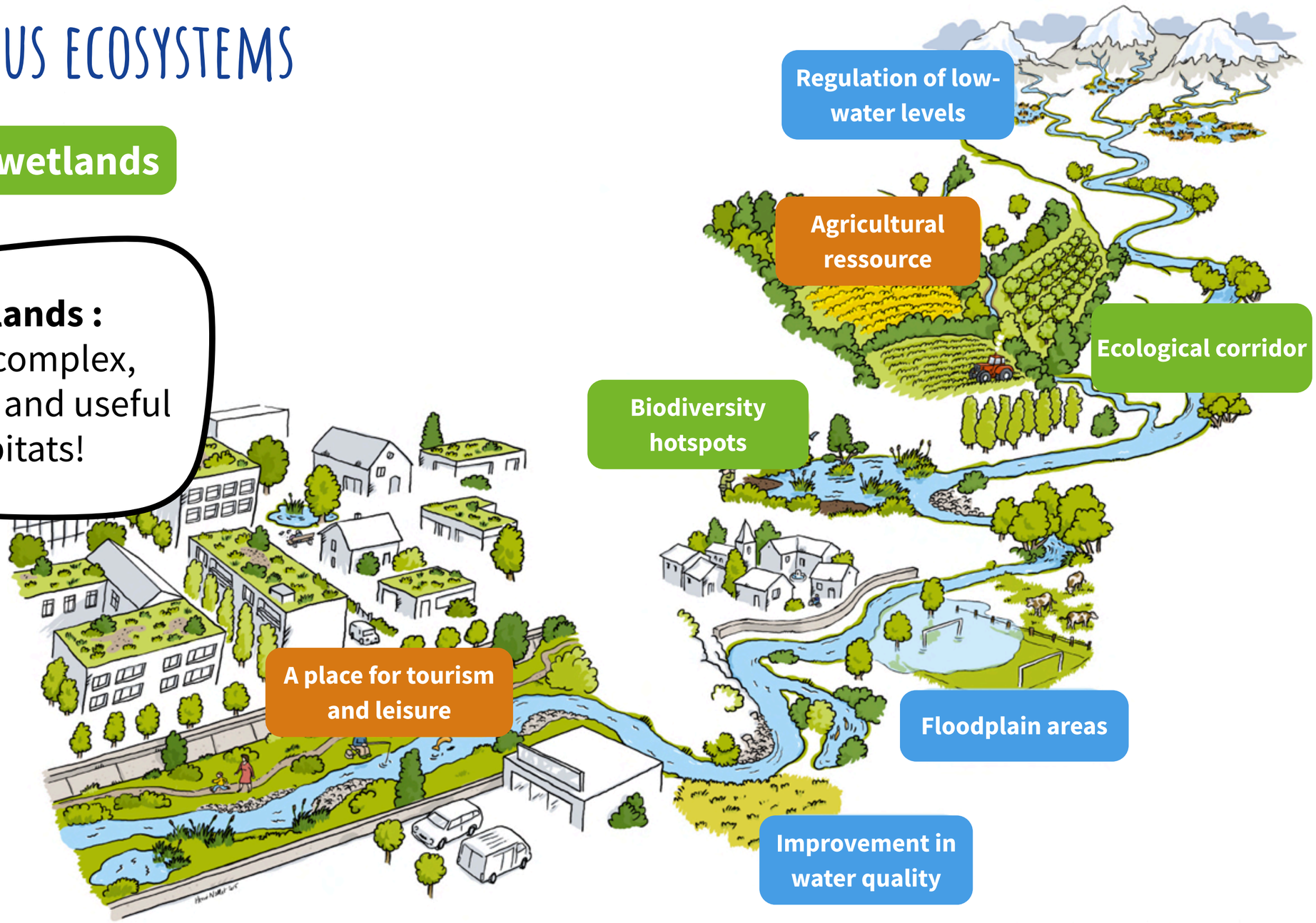


Wetlands : precious ecosystems

The superpowers of wetlands

Wetlands :
rare, complex, precious and useful habitats!





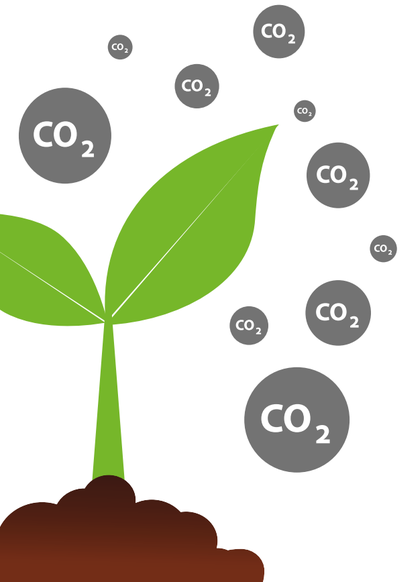
Wetlands : precious ecosystems

The superpowers of wetlands

Peatlands

= 3% of the planet's surface

And they store 30% of the carbon !



Almost what forests store (but these = 30% of the planet's surface)





Wetlands : precious ecosystems

How to take action ?



Protect against threats

- urbanisation
- ski area
- visitor numbers
- agricultural uses

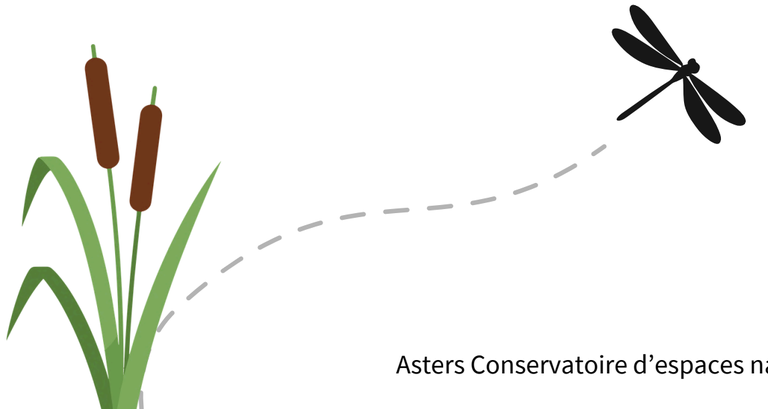






Restore them to ensure they function properly again

- block the drains
- restore the proper hydrological functioning of their watershed





SUPPORT LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Development / Co-creation

Expertise

Wildlife management

Project management support

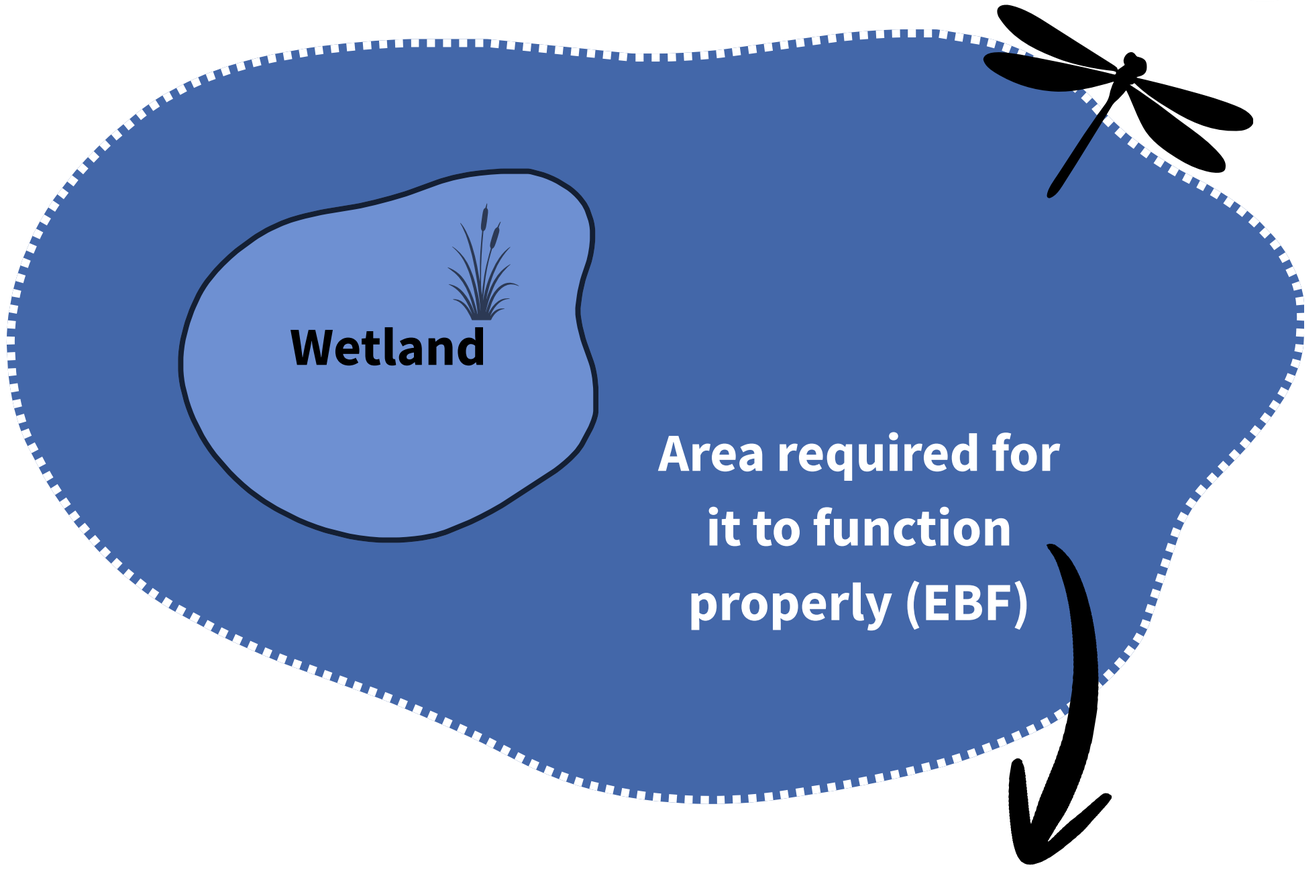
Support local authorities

How to take action ?

Key areas of action

- Share good practices
- Raise awareness amongst town planning departments → Incorporate wetlands into Local Urban Development Plans (PLU) as well as their watershed (or buffer zones)





For a proper functioning :

- **Hydrological**
- **Biological**
- **Physical and biogeochemical**

Support local authorities

Feedback on some experiences

Voluntary action plan for wetlands (Praz-sur-Arly municipality)

- **Management and restoration of wetlands**

Preserving open and remarkable landscapes
→ Mowing or mulching with removal of the cuttings



Maintaining areas of open water
→ Pond dredging



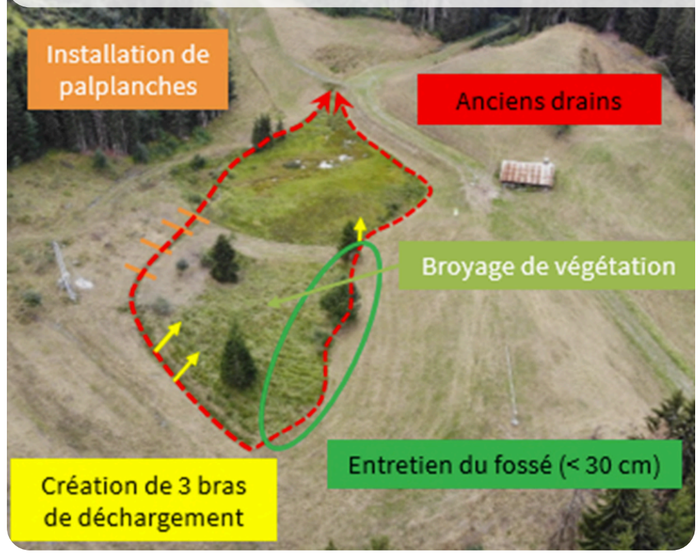
Support local authorities

Feedback on some experiences

Voluntary action plan for wetlands (Praz-sur-Arly municipality)

- **Management and restoration of wetlands**

Reconciling different uses of water (supplying the chalet and the wetland, managing agricultural land, without affecting the ski runs)





Limiting the impact of livestock on wetlands
→ Establishing watering points outside



Support local authorities

Feedback on some experiences

Voluntary action plan for wetlands (Praz-sur-Arly municipality)

- **Raising awareness**



Support local authorities

Feedback on some experiences

Restoration of the Col d'Evire wetland in Eteaux





Support local authorities

Feedback on some experiences

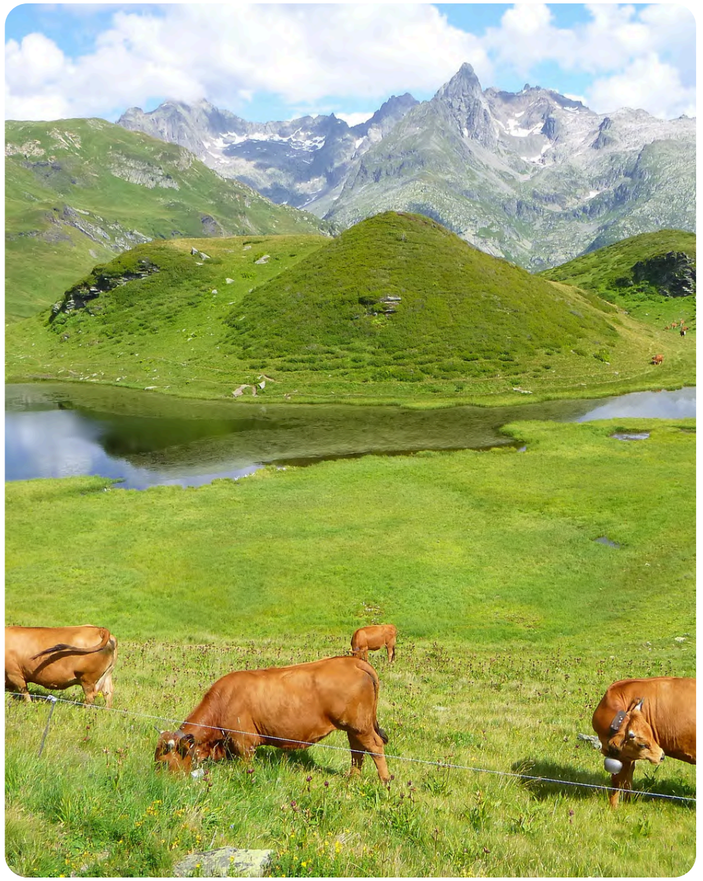
Restoration of the Col d’Evire wetland in Eteaux







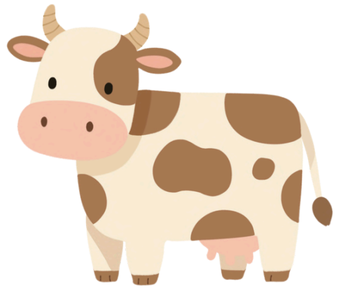
WORKING WITH THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR



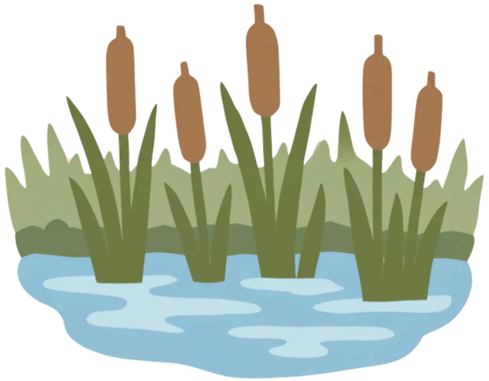


Working with the agricultural sector

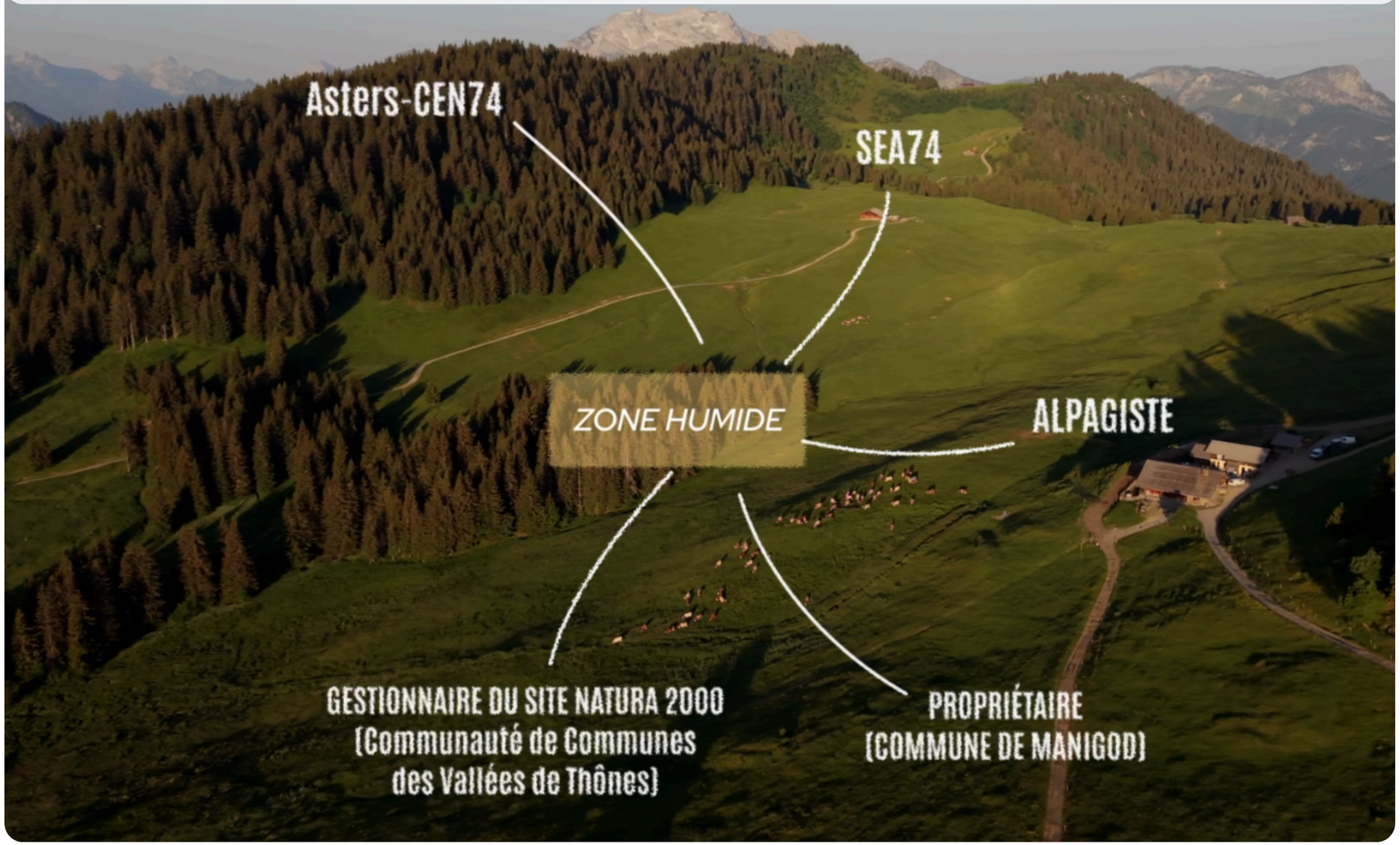
Wetlands and pastoralism





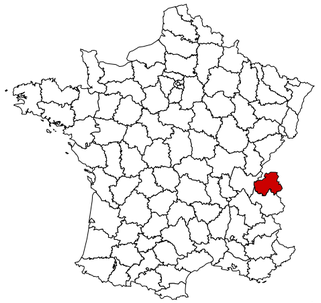


Different actors working together





COORDINATING A NETWORK ON THE TOPIC

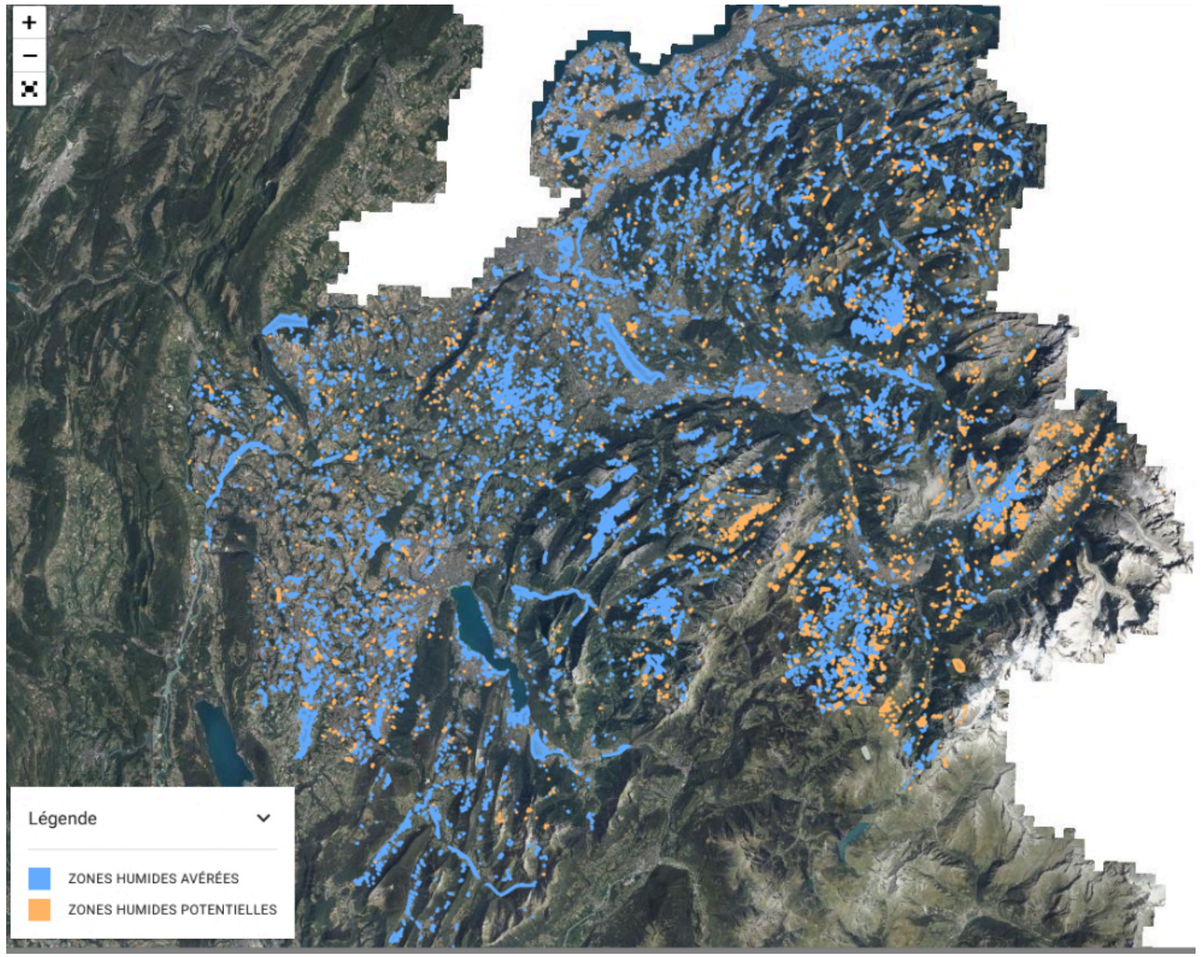


- Management of the wetland database
- Coordination of the technical network
- Participation in water and wetlands committees
- Communication and public awareness
- Support and expertise unit



Coordinating a network on the topic

Wetland database in Haute-Savoie



The inventory is :

- An alert tool
- A forecasting tool
- A decision-making tool



The inventory is not :

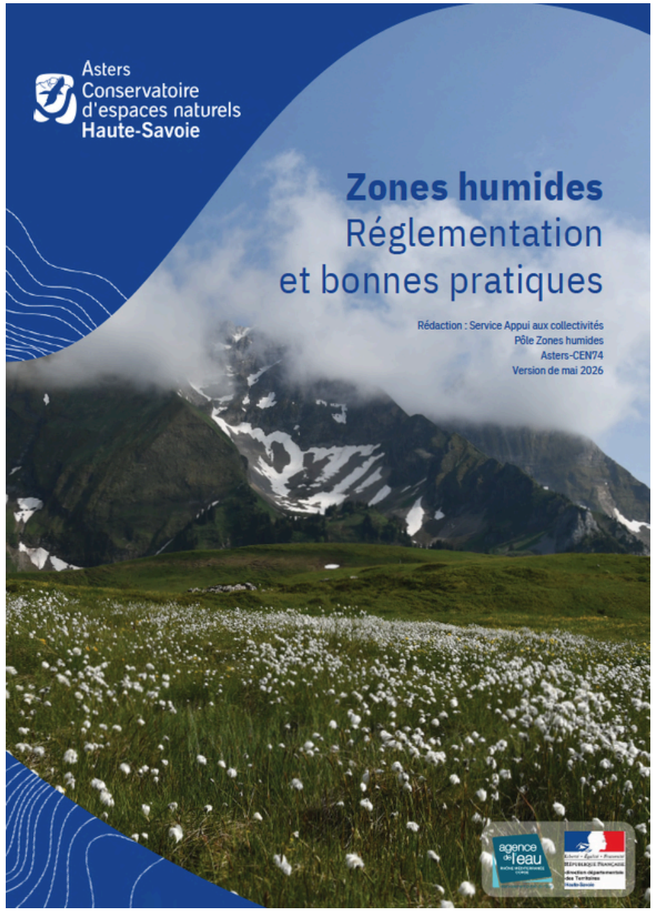
- A regulatory or legal tool

Coordinating a network on the topic

Technical and awareness-raising tools

Documents, videos...

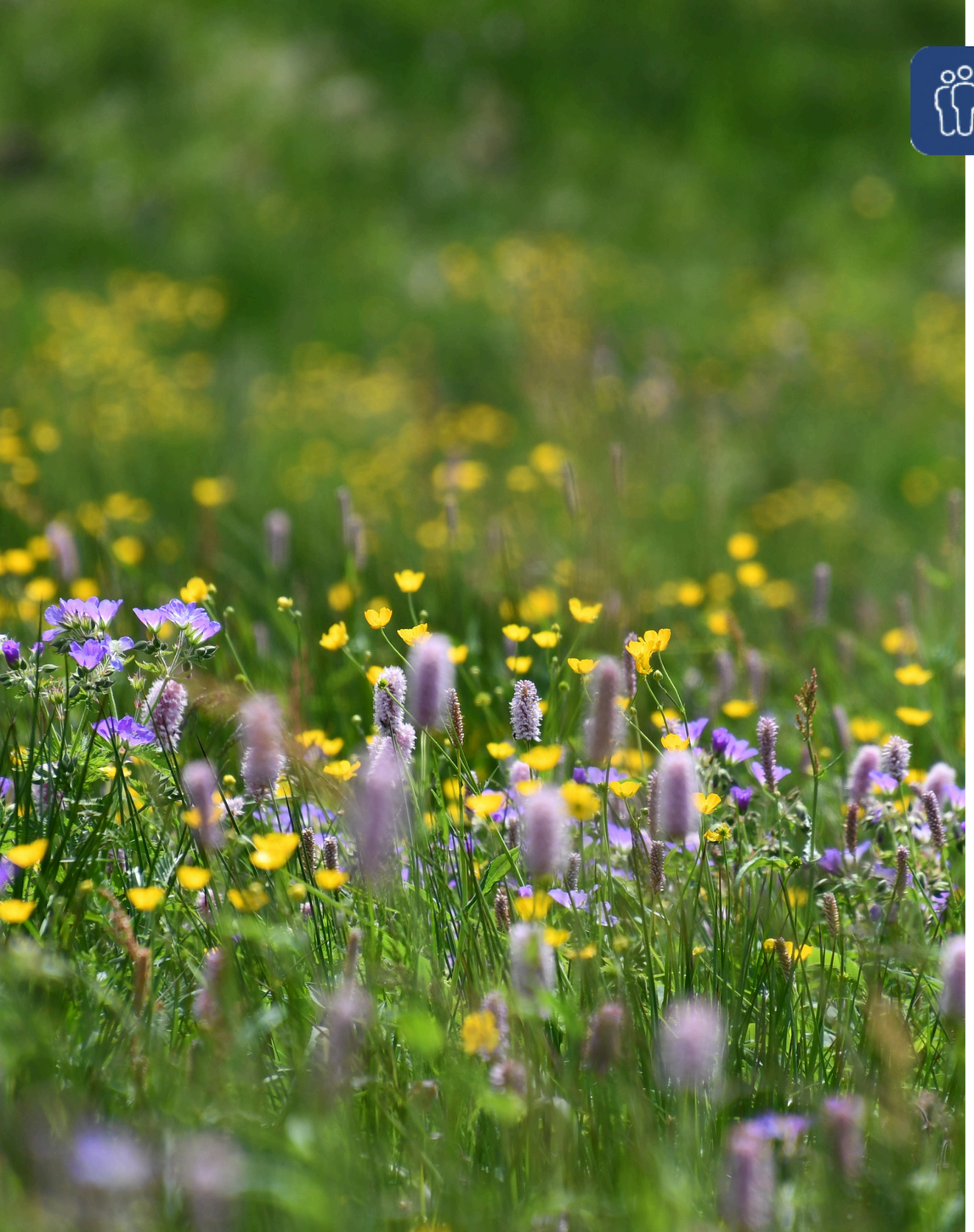






Events

Webinar, conferences, quizz...



THE CEN NETWORK

Conservatoires d'espaces naturels

25 Conservatoires d'espaces naturels

4900 natural sites covering 300 000 hectares in mainland France and the overseas territories

across more than ~5 000 communes, or 1 in 7 in France

1 300 employees and 10 000 members and thousands of volunteers

Committed **non-profit organisations**

Network within the **National Federation**

Renowned managers, recognised as leading experts in their scientific and technical fields

Action based on **land ownership and use**

Main private actors in the **implementation of Natura 2000** in France

Thank you for your attention !

Webinar made by :

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Haute-Savoie



Fiona Pellé



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ANY QUESTIONS ?

