



INITIATIVE  
HOMME  
FAUNE SAUVAGE

# CROSSING PATHS, SHARING TERRITORIES

# PROMOTING PEACEFUL COHABITATION BETWEEN HUMAN ACTIVITIES AND WILDLIFE

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The Human – Wildlife Initiative brings together actors from nature conservation, agriculture, livestock farming, hunting and public administration with the common aim of improving the peaceful cohabitation between humans and wildlife.

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Nature plays host to many economic and recreational activities that can have an impact on wildlife. Good cohabitation between humans and wildlife relies on harmonious sharing of land and resources, so that biodiversity can flourish while allowing sustainable practice of human activities.

The Human – Wildlife Initiative seeks to identify and engage local champions, or “insiders”, who are ready to promote and facilitate cohabitation between humans and wild animals in a given area.

Such « insiders » have great potential to spur positive change because they are part of the local network and well aware of the needs and sensibilities of various stakeholders. In case of conflict, they can play a brokering role.

The initiative aims to put forward innovative and concrete proposals for improving the relationship between wildlife and human activities in areas such as agriculture, livestock breeding, tourism, hunting, outdoor sports and environmental management

## FOCUS ON THE PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D’AZUR REGION, FRANCE

The Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur (PACA) region in Southern France, due to its characteristic geographical and climatic features, hosts a great diversity of habitats and species. This abundance of fauna in a territory where numerous human activities are taking place sometimes give rise to problems related to coexistence of man and wildlife. The Human-Wildlife Initiative focuses on several species of wildlife found in rural and mountain areas in the PACA region: wolves, cervids, wild boars, chamois, bighorn sheep, ibexes, foxes, mustelids, and avifauna.

The initiative supports projects to promote cohabitation on the ground, and operates through an annual call for projects.

The first call for projects was launched in September 2020.

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# ZOOM ON FUNDED PROJECTS

## ROCK-CLIMBING AND VULTURES

The breeding site of a pair of Egyptian vultures in the Luberon will be protected through the removal of nearby climbing routes, reducing noise and disturbance. Raising the awareness of the population and site users, particularly climbing clubs, is key in this project.

- National Forestry Office -

## AGRICULTURE AND CRANES

A network of farmers is affected by the damages caused by common cranes on wheat crops in Camargue. Thanks to their active participation, various hypotheses are being tested in order to propose changes in agricultural practices and implement solutions aimed at mitigating and preventing damage while protecting the birds.

- Tour du Valat Foundation -

## PROTECTION OF HERDS AND WOLVES

Since the return of the wolf in the region, raising awareness about the presence of herd protection dogs is crucial. Through conferences and events, various stakeholders (tourism, nature sports associations, general public, schoolchildren, etc.) are being informed. In many cases, the presence of these dogs can play an important role in reducing predation by the wolf and thus be an essential element in the path to peaceful coexistence with the predator.

- Associations FERUS and France Nature Environnement PACA -

## DAILY ACTIVITIES AND WILDLIFE

Animals injured by everyday human activities (driving a vehicle, trimming a hedge, etc.) are taken care of at the first Wildlife Care Centre in the Alpes-Maritimes, which opened recently in Saint-Cézaire-sur-Siagne. The Centre communicates on proper actions to take in the event of an encounter with a wild animal and mobilises visitors, members of associations and professionals in the tourist sector to help relay this information.

- PACA pour Demain Association -



## KEY FIGURES



**19** PROJECTS SUPPORTED SINCE 2021

**700 000 €** COMMITTED OVER 3 YEARS

**9** TARGETED SPECIES

## SCIENCE AND WOLVES

Improving knowledge about and perception of the wolf, in particular the size of its population in the Sainte-Victoire massif (Bouches-du-Rhône and Var) and its diet, favours cohabitation with this predator. This project compares scientific data (genetic analyses) with data on the perception of local stakeholders (surveys).

- French Society for the Study and Protection of Mammals -

## ECONOMIC ACTORS AND WILDLIFE IN CAMARGUE

The creation of a dialogue between various actors in Camargue (farmers, breeders, hunters, tourist operators, local residents, nature conservationists, etc.) favours concrete, co-constructed solutions for coexistence between humans and wildlife responsible for agricultural damage (wild boars, common cranes, pink flamingos, ducks, etc.)

- National Centre for Scientific Research -





## WHAT'S **NEXT?**

Following the first encouraging results in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region in France, the objective is to extend the Human-Wildlife Initiative to other areas of human-wildlife conflict.

Key to the success of the initiative is a balanced Steering Committee, bringing together various stakeholder with different opinions on the issue of wildlife: actors from nature conservation, agriculture, hunting, as well as public administration.

Another key to success is the identification of local actors, or "insiders", who are well aware of the reality on the ground and who can make a difference at the local level through concrete field projects supported by the initiative.

These two points are fundamental for extending the initiative in France or in other places with similar challenges, for example in certain regions of Spain.

Thus, the founding members of the initiative invite new partners and local actors to join the network in order to develop and perpetuate concrete field activities promoting human-wildlife cohabitation.

**JOIN US!**

# ABOUT THE HUMAN-WILDLIFE INITIATIVE

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**The Human-Wildlife Initiative was launched in 2020. The initiative brings together five partners: the French National Council for the Protection of Nature, the Alpes-Maritimes Chamber of Agriculture, the Alpes-Maritimes Hunting Federation and the Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur League for the Protection of Birds and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.**

The Initiative brings together several regional stakeholders representing a variety of different opinions, from those openly in favour of a strong wildlife presence to those who, conversely, see cohabitation as a challenge since it would be too damaging for their activities.

The Initiative's Steering Committee is advised by a group of stakeholders and experts, including the Mercantour National Park, the François Sommer Foundation, the Centre for Studies and for Pastoral Achievements Alps-Mediterranean, the French Biodiversity Office, the Alpes-Maritimes Department, the Mission for the Energy Transition of Monaco, members of the Scientific and Technical Committee and of the Board of Directors of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, and a naturalist writer.

The aim of the Human-Wildlife Initiative is to come up with innovative proposals and concrete recommendations on how to take better account of large wild animals in the management of a territory.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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