



**Blue Green
City**

Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Turn the lights off : mitigating the impact of artificial light on bats

Metropolis Nice Côte d'Azur

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Position : Biodiversity study officer

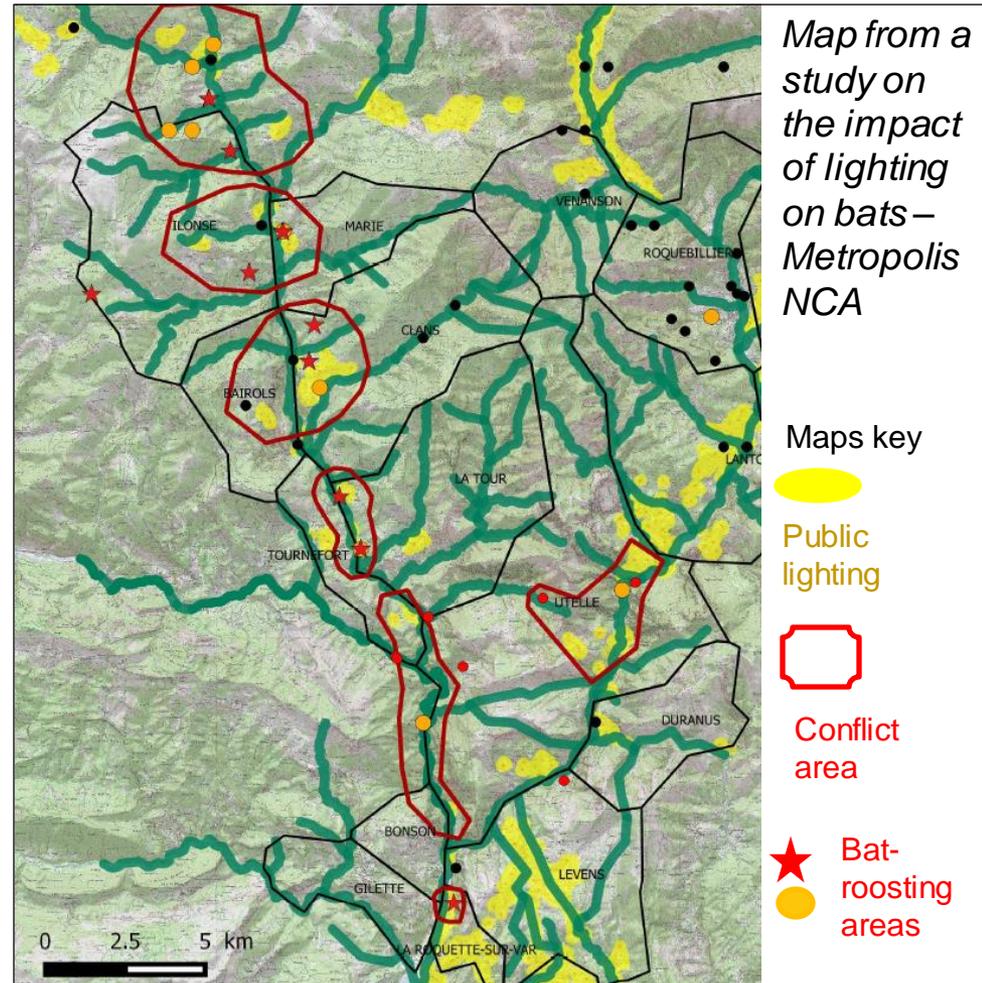
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26 October 2022, Cagnes-sur-Mer

Environmental issues on the territory of NCA



51 municipalities - **144 190** hectares
89 % of natural species
13 Natura 2000 areas



29 chiropteran species, **11** particularly sensitive to light disturbance
11 zones of light disturbance

Lighting the right place, at the right time and when it is needed !



Made-to-measure solutions for every municipality

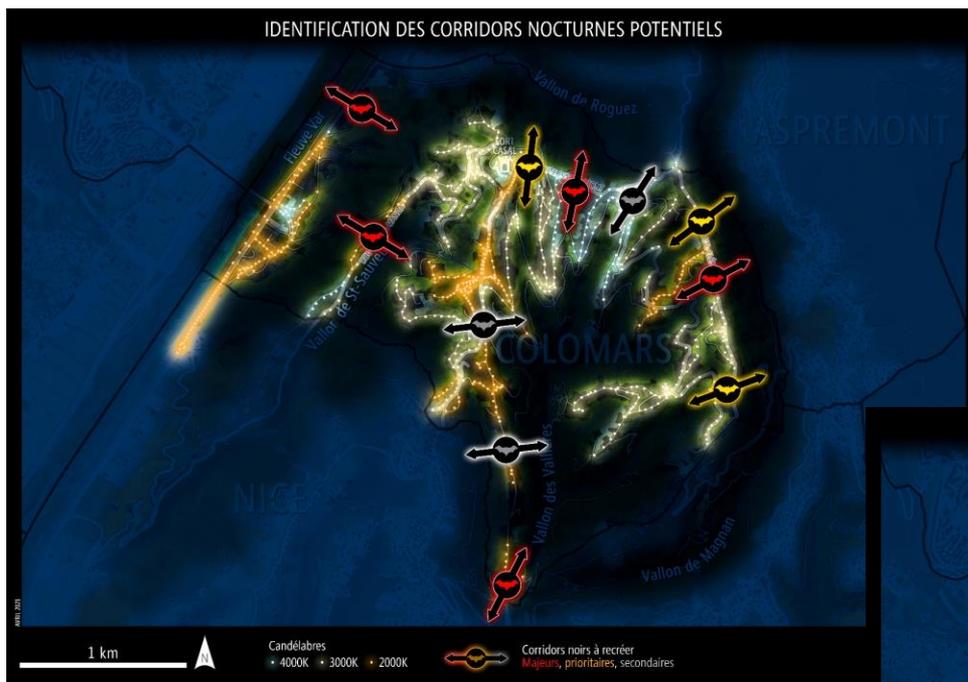
→ **23** municipalities involded / **12** to come

→ **Communication/awareness** (hold public meetings, guided walks to hear the bats at night, articles on local paper/internet/social media, ...)

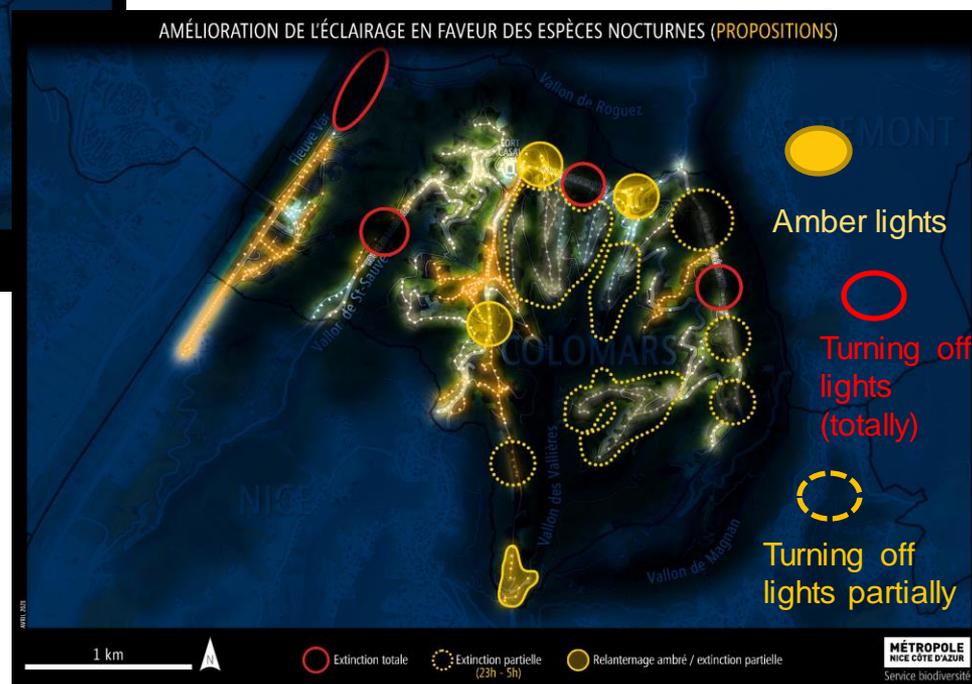


Light pollution mitigation measures

Example of environmental diagnostic / identification of ecological corridors



Example of proposal



Light pollution mitigation measures

BEFORE – example (municipality of Gilette)

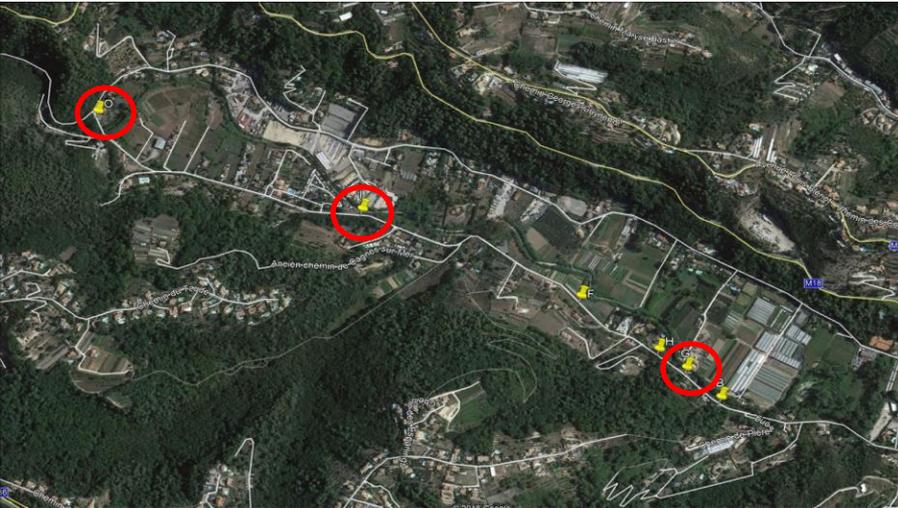


AFTER – example (municipality of Gilette)

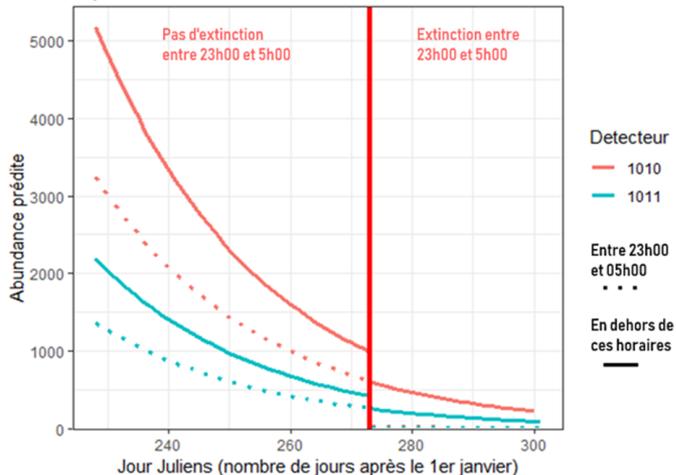


Light pollution mitigation measures

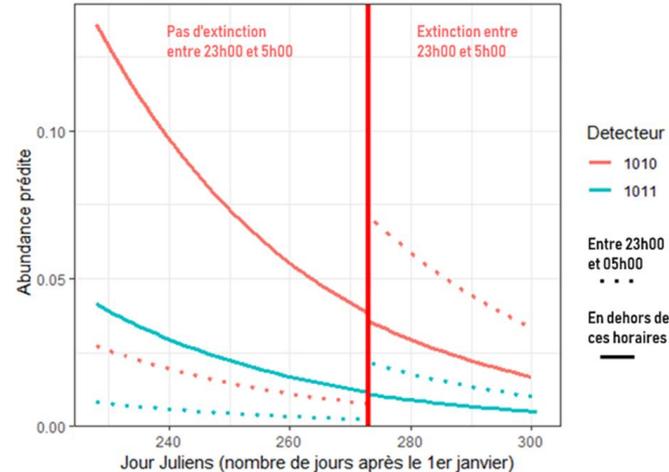
Example of study to measure impacts of light pollution mitigation measures on biodiversity



Pipistrelle de Kuhl



Murin de Naterrer



→ the 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. blackouts enabled 2 rare and protected bat species (Lesser Rhinolophus and Natterer's Bat) to return to hunting in the blacked-out areas, which the lights previously made inaccessible for them

3 bats detectors in Cagnes-sur-Mer / 3 in the rest of the territory (indicators)
Recording bats activity for 1 month (before/after turning of lights) / August to October (2018)



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Thank you!

Questions welcome

