



Learning Area

CAUSSES & CEVENNES (FR)

Behind the scene of a cultural landscape

Coordinator / Partners : Conservatoire d'espaces naturels (CEN L-R)
Regional chamber of agriculture and Interdepartemental alliance for C&C



3 territorials units 1 culture : pastoralism

The Causse & Cévennes are located in the South-East of Massif Central, Southern France. The area includes almost every type of pastoralism known in the Mediterranean, like agro-pastoralism, sylvo-pastoralism and transhumance. Due to the outstanding example of the Mediterranean pastoralism activities, the area was added to the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2011.

Key figures

22 000 inhabitants	3000 km ²
140 000 sheeps	1500 km ² farmlands
8 500 goats	63 % rangelands
8 500 cows	30 % grasslands

	Causses	Upper Cévennes	Lower Cévennes
Landscape	Larges limestone plateaus Steppe-like in appearance	Granite massifs with treeless summits culminating at 1600m	Narrow schist ridges and profound valleys mainly forest
Farming	Sheeps for cheese and lamb production	Transhumant sheep flocks in summer and cows for meat	Goats for cheese and sheeps for lamb combined with other activities

Treats

Open habitat

Semi-natural grasslands and scrublands



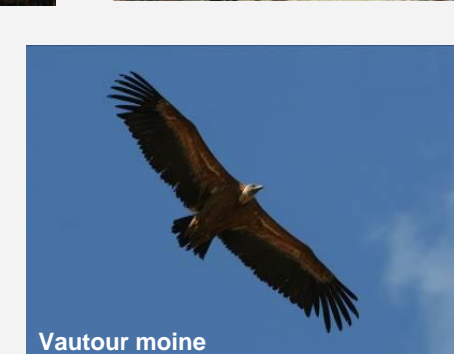
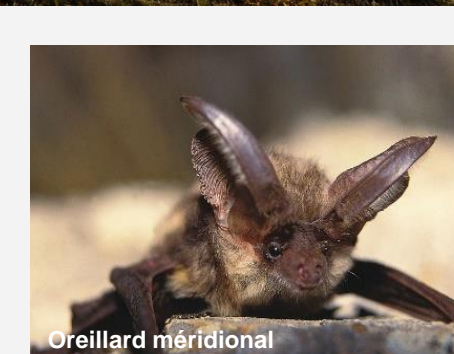
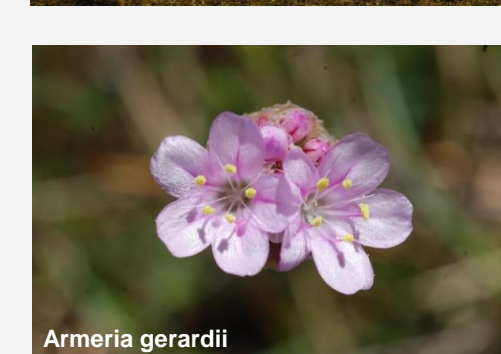
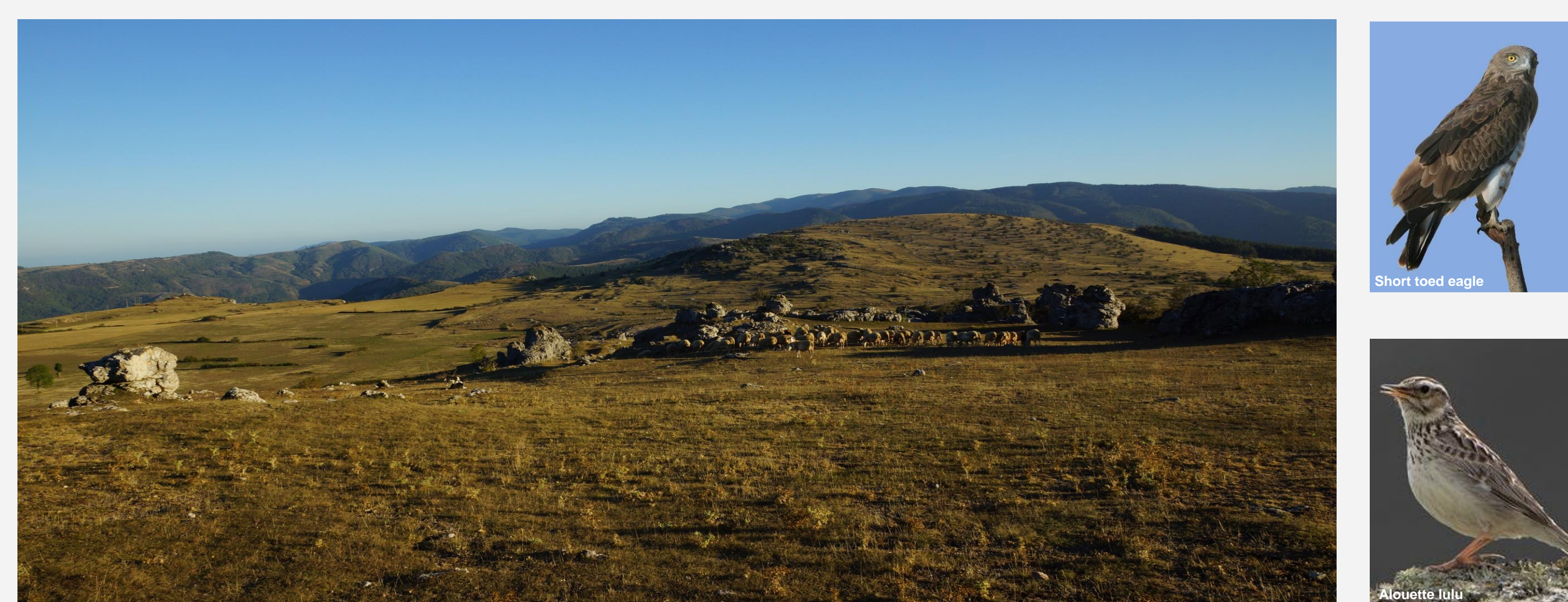
Rangelands conversion



Invasion by scrubs



Wolves depredation



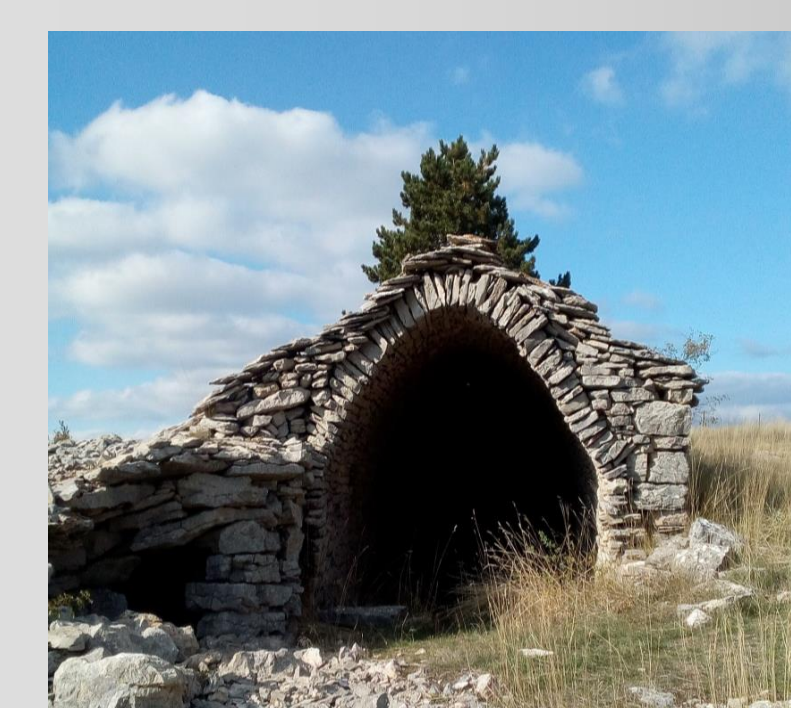
Innovations

- Collectives approach (local slaughterhouses, pasture groups, farm shop)
- Recognition of quality of products
- Eligibility of oak wood and chestnut pasture for CAP subsidies
- Governance of the UNESCO site



World heritage

Drystone buildings



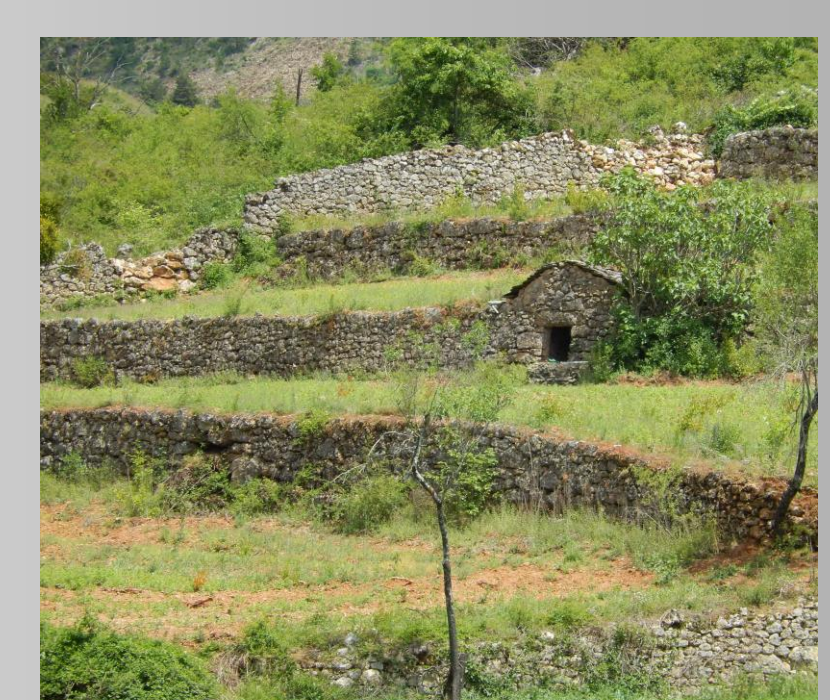
Herding



Herds path



Watering management

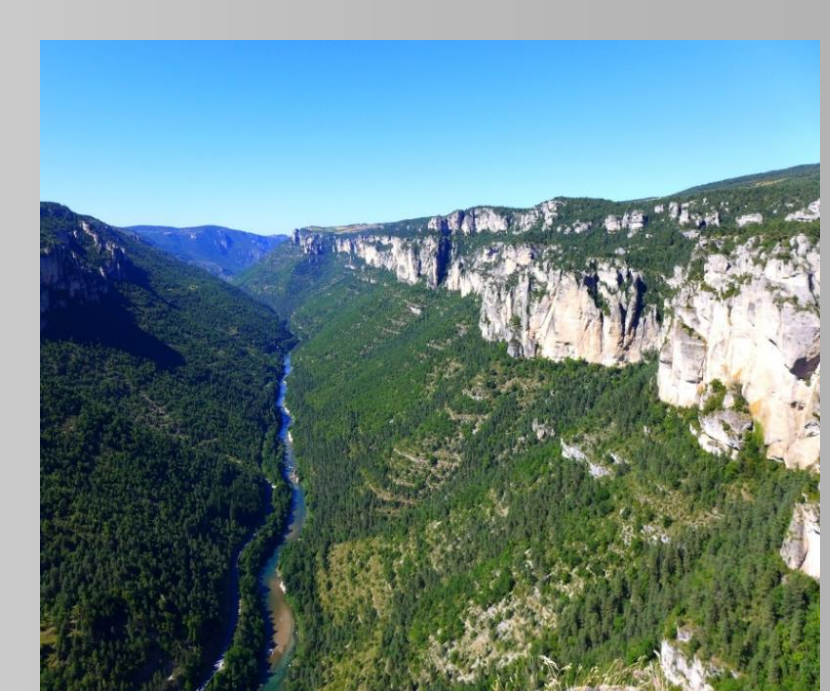


Lands optimization

Cultural practices



Transhumance



Natural sites

Partners:



Contacts:

More about pastoralism within Causse & Cévennes:

- www.causses-et-cevennes.fr
- www.cenlr.org
- occitanie.chambre-agriculture.fr

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