

Collaborative management methods for outdoor sports in the Vanoise National Park

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The Vanoise National Park (PNV) was created in 1963. Following a new law in 2006, a territorial project, the charter, was drafted and then approved in 2015. At the end of this process, only two municipalities adhered to the charter. Political relations between the structure and the territory strongly deteriorated, leading to a boycott of the governance bodies by the local mayors. An audit-mediation process was launched, supported by the Savoie County Council, to identify ways to emerge from the crisis. 17 projects were identified as requiring collective management to restore dialogue. Among these 17 projects, one that was validated involved the cohabitation between outdoor sports and biodiversity.

The PNV's special regulation, laid down in the decree of 21 April 2009, allow many types of outdoor sports and recreation, individually, collectively or competitively. Some can be practiced freely, while others are governed by specific regulations or are only possible with an individual authorization. Finally, the charter prohibits some new activities such as base jumping, canyoning, or the usage of drones. Recent changes in some sports including in their popularity requires the PNV to strike a balance between a policy of welcoming new activities inside the Park while balancing the risks incurred for the character of the Park and the tranquility of its wildlife.

Regarding free flight in particular, a collaborative process was launched in 2010, in order to establish regulations for flying over the heart of the Park by non-motorized aircraft such as paragliders, hang-gliders and gliders. Following discussions with local clubs and the federations concerned, regulations were adopted in 2011 and have been applied since. It authorizes free flight and gliders to fly over certain sites in the heart of the Park during certain times. The regulations also authorize paragliders to take off from specific summits to enjoy mountain flights, providing that a previous individual authorization has been issued. In addition to the regulations, a system was also designed to be based on partnership agreements between the local paragliding clubs and the Park in order to maintain a close relationship (activity reports, practitioner awareness raising, information on site, etc.). Only the Aussois paragliding club signed this agreement. In the field, Park employees witness violations of this regulation by paragliders and glider pilots fairly regularly. The Park's objective is therefore to form or re-form relationships with the local actors (clubs and federation) in order to propose a collaborative management of the sports in its territory.

In this paper we assess the consultation process implemented by the PNV including focusing on the environmental management of outdoor sports and of free flight. In recent years, consultation has become the key word in environmental policies (Beuret and Cadoret, 2010). This evolution in public action has been illustrated by a change in the spirit of democracy (Blondiaux, 2008), giving new importance to citizens' participation versus representation. Consultative management can be defined as "a process in which the actors commit to manage together one or several properties, spaces or territories that they share or to influence the acts or decisions that have a determining impact on the future of these common goods" (Beuret, 2006, p. 73). Having fueled specific environmental controversies, outdoor sports have not

escaped from this development of consultation (Mounet, 2007). At the local scale, a wide range of initiatives have been undertaken to attempt to reconcile use without having recourse to authoritative arbitration (Rech and Mounet, 2014).

As we have shown (Gayte et al., 2003), the implementation of collaborative management consists in moving away from a conflictual situation towards the construction of spaces for negotiation in which the actors cooperate together, "accepting to make concessions towards their partners in interaction if necessary " (Friedberg, 1993, p. 157). One of the prerequisites to this approach is the analysis of the logics of the actors present, in order to reveal the conflictual elements but also the possibilities for agreement. According to Friedberg (1993, p. 22), organizational analysis is a prerequisite for any action of change, since it represents a diagnosis that makes it possible to help the actors concerned "to better situate themselves in their field of action and to better measure its constraints." These analyses therefore make it possible to propose mediation solutions to the managers of protected spaces.

The methodology involves semi-directive interviews with sports and tourism actors. The themes addressed in the interviews focused on the activities developed by the actors, their strategic positioning, the relationships they have with the other actors in the territory, their perception of the effects of human presence on the wildlife, their acceptance of the regulations, and their opinion of the actions deployed by the Vanoise Park.

In the framework of this paper, we will present the results of the analysis of the logics of the actors.

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