

july 2024
19-20

poitou
international
mobilization

PRESS KIT

STOP MEGA BASINS

from 16 to 21 in Melle: Village
for the defense of water



informations: bassinesnonmerci.fr
lessoulevementsdelaterre.org

https://t.me/STOPmegabasins_INT



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SUMMARY

The “stop méga-bassines” mobilization will be held in the Poitou region from July 16 to 21, 2024. It is already shaping up to be the next massive international gathering to defend fair water sharing and agricultural transition.

After Ste-Soline, over 100 groups and organizations are gathering once more against mega-basins and the agro-industrial complex. They are denouncing the monopolization of water and a system that subjects food and agriculture to economic speculation. Opponents are calling for a complete halt to the construction and operation of these basins.

In the aftermath of the general elections, the Water Village (Village de l'Eau) will be a place for political debate in a friendly atmosphere. A rich program will provide information on current farmers', environmental and social struggles. There will also be training to prepare for collective action, and exchanges on international issues concerning social and climate justice.

If some people still had any doubts, we now have proof that the consequences of mega-basins are disastrous. Thanks to a recent study⁽¹⁾, **the truth has been scientifically established about the Vendée basin model**, wrongly advertised as virtuous.

In spite of this, **agro-industry leaders, with the complicity of the government, are stubbornly pushing for the construction of basins**; they are arming themselves, in particular, on the legal front. Together, they are doing this first through a series of regulations and legislation (decrees issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, draft bills on agricultural orientation, etc.), and second, through the increased judicial harassment of opponents and outright police violence. At the beginning of the year, they took advantage of farmers' legitimate anger in order to **impose their own desire to make the construction of basins a general practice throughout France, whatever the cost**.

But this is only meant to make headlines, because **the “basin system” has truly been weakened**: basins have in fact been dismantled by the courts and by activists, by irrigators' growing doubts and by pressure, by institutional criticism, major legal victories, media coverage and the increased cost and slow progress of construction sites...

We see all the signs of political and practical difficulties in bringing these projects to fruition. But let's not fool ourselves: a whole series of basin projects is in the starting-blocks. **This means that to turn the tides we must maintain the pressure to stop them.**

Today's new mass mobilization will highlight the workings of the agro-industrial complex that underpins the construction and use of the basins and continues to encourage production methods that destroy land and water. We'll be there in large numbers, as a diverse assembly of farmers, trade unions, rural and urban residents of all ages. We aim to foster determined resistance and to demonstrate tenfold solidarity in the face of fascism and the monopolization of the commons that invariably accompanies it.

Well beyond the struggle against the basins, **the “Village de l'Eau” in Melle** will be a show case for the international and emblematic scope of the movement.

Over 100 groups and organizations are giving their support to the mobilization.

* see “la vérité sur le modèle vendéen” and <https://www.geosciences.ens.fr/cinq-questions-sur-les-mega-bassines>

1. PRESENTATION OF THE MOBILIZATION

ACT 1 : WATER VILLAGE IN MELLE

from Tuesday July 16, a rich program of events will set the stage for discussing the struggles for water across the country and around the world

ACT 2 : FRIDAY 19/07 - SAINT-SAUVANT

No mega-bassins in Vienne or elsewhere!

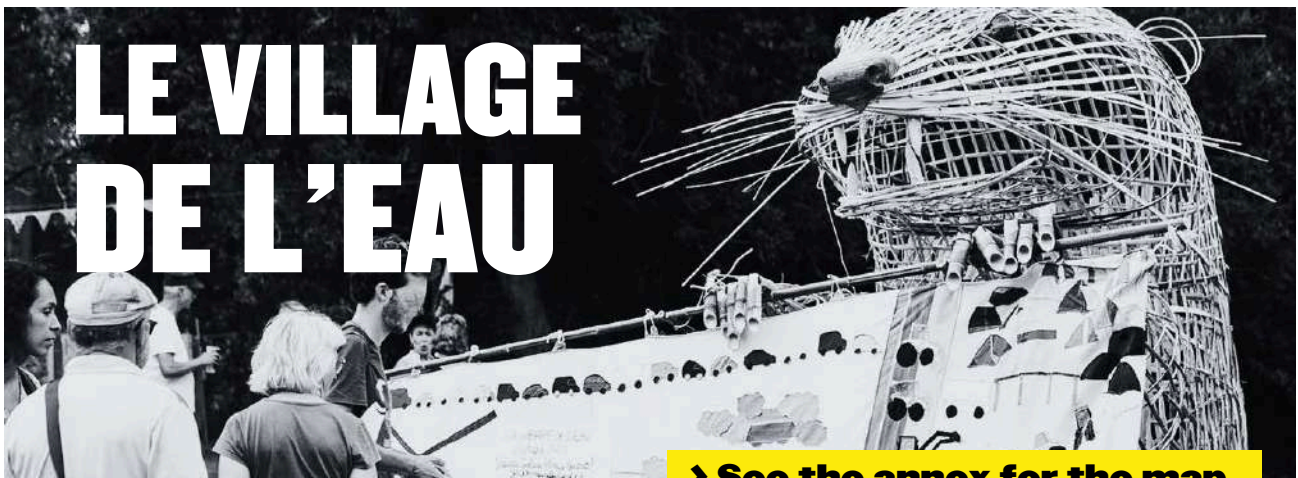
- 12am – Picnic in the Saint-Sauvant Forest
- Walk for an immediate moratorium on basin projects and for sharing water!

ACT 3 : SATURDAY 20/07 – LA ROCHELLE PORT-INDUSTRIAL TERMINAL OF LA PALLICE

Let's block basins at the source!

- 10am : river demonstration. We'll be converging en masse on the Port de La Pallice, in a carnival atmosphere.

Through our actions, we aim to shed light on the impact of basin projects and of the agro-industrial system that encourages their construction >> see following sections



› See the annex for the map

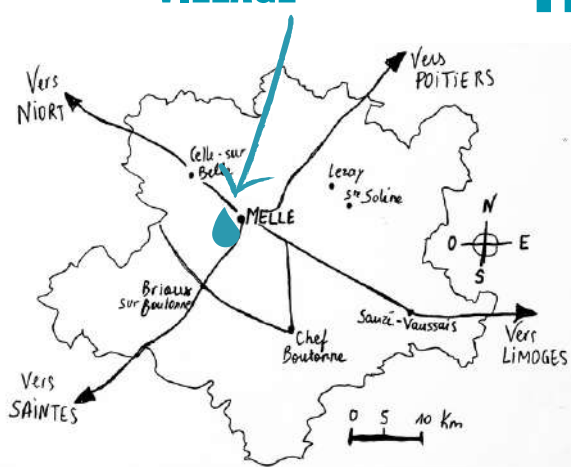
The “Village de l'Eau” is designed to be a politically friendly place where you can find out about current small farming, environmental and social struggles, where you can learn about collective hands-on action, and exchange ideas with a host of activists, farmers and international groups committed to defending the commons and social and climate justice. In view of the neo-fascists' rise to power around the world, and their historic involvement in water grabbing processes, this village is also intended to be a platform for building an anti-fascist response that lives up to the situation.

Under the shade of marquees, the village will be alive with round-table discussions, assemblies, educational workshops, militant education, film screenings, nature walks, poetic evenings and concerts.

› For further information, see the mega-guide

WATER VILLAGE

THE WATER VILLAGE SITE



- The Argentière valley
- It is 10 hectares of communal infrastructures, including the magnificent Genellerie farmhouse.
- a site intimately linked to the issues of water preservation and peasant farming that we defend.



A PROJECT THAT SUPPORTS SMALL-SCALE FARMING



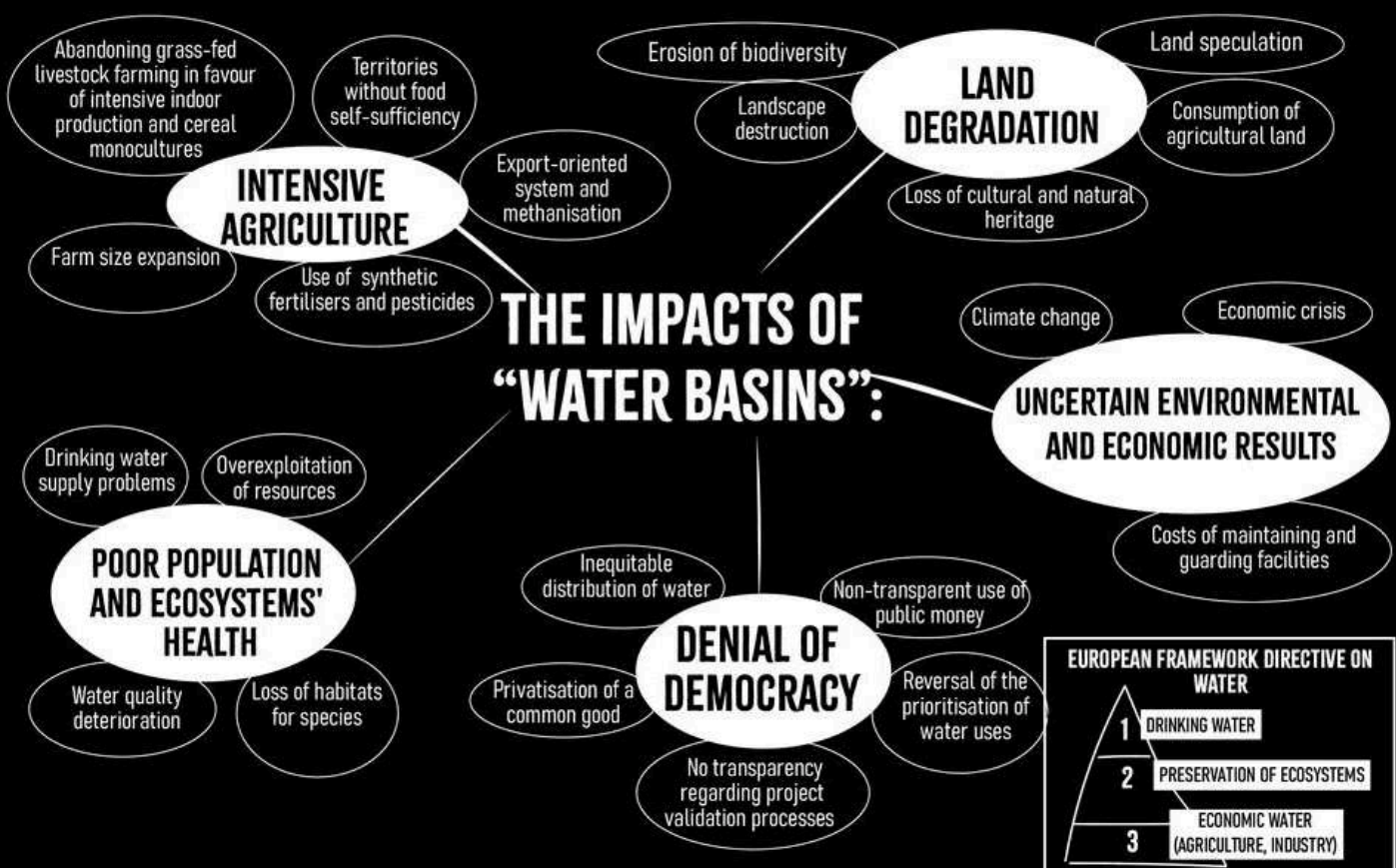
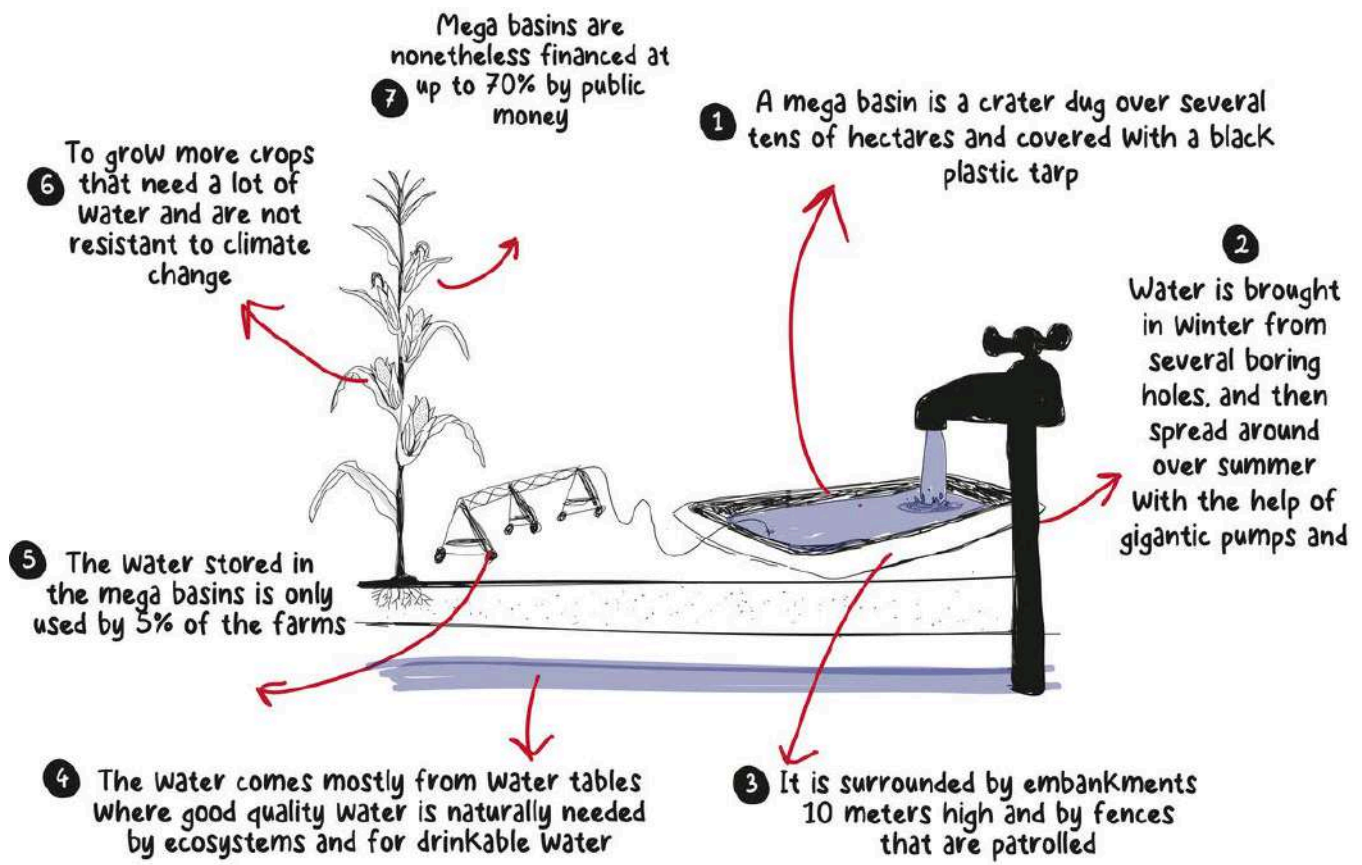
- The location, which was originally designed to be the extension of a housing development, has been reoriented towards the farm's primary vocation: an environment for growing food and fostering experiments in small-scale and community farming ;
- These farm buildings and farm land are made available by the community for project holders;
- The town council will continue to acquire land to extend the project.
- Access to agricultural land is one of the main obstacles to the installation of a new generation of farmers. There is a desperate shortage of places where producers and local residents can meet, help each other and act to keep the countryside alive.
- Through the exchanges, visits and workshops organized by the "Village de l'Eau", we are giving our support to the vital initiative underway in Melle.

WATER CONSERVATION ISSUES

- Maintaining natural meadows in critical areas of the valley ;
- Preserving the nearby Chancelée water catchment, which supplies 4,800 of Melle's 6,200 inhabitants with drinking water.
- In this way, the "Village de l'Eau" shows that it is both desirable and possible to implement practices that are compatible with the vital priority of water conservation.



2.BASINS : THE ESSENTIALS



7 YEARS OF GROWING MOBILIZATION AGAINST THE BASINS

Nov 2017

**WATER STOCK N°1
(AMURÉ)**

**THE "BASSINES NON MERCI DEUX-SÈVRES"
CITIZENS' GROUP IS FIGHTING AGAINST THE
PROJECT OF BUILDING 19 (NOW 16)**

Sep 2021

**INVASION OF THE
CONSTRUCTION
SITE (MAUZÉ)**

**"ALTERNATIVE SUBSTITUTE RESERVOIRS"
(MEGA-BASINS) FOR AGRICULTURAL IRRIGATION
IN THE SOUTHERN DEUX-SÈVRES REGION.**

Nov 2021

**GRABBING THE BASIN
CRAM-CHABAN
3,000 PEOPLE**

Driven by the State, the Loire-Bretagne Water Agency and the "Parc Naturel Régional du Marais Poitevin", the project is moving forward despite growing opposition and the multiplication of rallies and actions to make the opposition heard.

March 2022

**"MARAICHIN" SPRING
(LA ROCHÉNARD)
7,000 PEOPLE**

March 25, 2023 marked a turning point with thousands of grenades, hundreds of traumatized and injured people and court cases, but also 30,000 demonstrators, dozens of tractors, the installation of a camp, strong dynamics of care during and after the event, the installation of a greenhouse, a water village with political training and festive moments...

So, the event was a turning point in the repression, but also in the broadening of opposition.

Oct 2022

**SAINTE SOLINE 1
10,000 PEOPLE**

Despite State violence on March 25, we called for a great journey for water in August 2023 ("the Water Convoy").

March 2023

**SAINTE SOLINE 2
30,000 PEOPLE**

In a final attempt at dialogue, we went to the Loire-Bretagne Water Agency, which decides on the financing of these basins, which are 80% publicly-funded.

May 2024

**GIGA-BASSINES
NEITHER HERE
NOR ELSEWHERE
(PUY-DE-DÔME)
6,500 PEOPLE**

Even as a delegation was in discussion with the high-ranking civil servant who coordinates basin construction, the gates of a new construction site were being built at Priaires (79).

If anyone still questioned the State's complicity with the private interests of the agro-industrial complex, the Water Convoy confirmed it for us: the government and the FNSEA farmer's union leaders are determined to elbow their way through, at all costs.

The determination of the people living in the affected areas has continued to grow: groups against the basins have multiplied, drawing lessons from previous experiences. In May 2024, for example, a demonstration was organized in the Puy-de-Dôme region against two giga-basin projects (over 1 million m³ each!) directly linked to the multinational Limagrain, even before the official submission of the construction projects.

MARCH 25, 2023 MARKED A TURNING POINT 30 000 DEMONSTRATORS

At the same time, “since 2021, the number of court cases has multiplied, with the Niort court handing out suspended sentences and territorial bans for militant actions.

Two comrades were even incarcerated. On September 8, 2023, spokespersons for CGT79, Solidaires 79, Confédération Paysanne and Soulèvements de la Terre were prosecuted for organizing the two banned demonstrations at Sainte-Soline.

The aim of the trial was to dissuade the movement from calling for further demonstrations against constructions in progress. But it's not working.”

(translation from the book “Premières Secousses”)



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- ⁽¹⁾ <https://www.vienne-nature.fr/communiqué-annulation-arretes-bassines-la-pallu-aume-couture/>
- <https://www.bassinesnonmerci.fr/non-classe/2024/06/25/le-guide-anti-bassines-pour-demeler-le-vrai-du-faux/>
- <https://bassinesnonmerci.fr/index.php/historique-de-la-lutte/>

3. THE TRUTH ABOUT THE VENDEEN MODEL

The real impact of basins in the Vendée

More than twenty basins were built in the Vendée between 2007 and 2011, especially in the Autizes sub-basin, ostensibly to restore the good status water bodies. Although we lack the hydrological data to draw up a complete assessment, we can already draw some conclusions about the impact of the basins.

The rivers that the basins were intended to restore in summer are still dry. The Autize River, for example, has experienced severe droughts lasting several months every year, whereas such droughts were limited in time and space before the development of intensive irrigation.

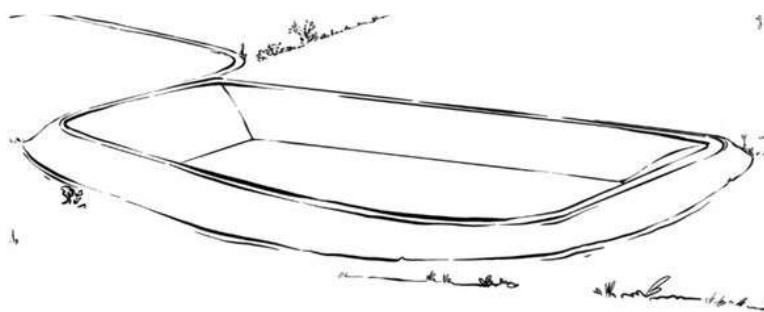
The minimum level of the water tables has certainly risen, but the installation of the basins followed by an increase in the crisis level. When this level is reached, water restrictions are imposed - including for irrigation. It is therefore impossible to distinguish between, on the one hand, the effect of the megabasins on this watershed from, on the other hand, the effect of the new crisis threshold. It is therefore impossible to assert a positive effect of the megabasins*(2).

En revanche, **we can clearly see a delay and slowingdown in groundwater recharge, i.e. the impact of filling the basins.** This filling is authorized from November 1st, and is therefore given priority over ground water recharge. As a result, at the end of a dry winter, we can find ourselves with full basins and almost empty aquifers.

Water quality in the basins deteriorates. Algae proliferate in a process of manmade water eutrophication, eventually causing oxygen depletion. Cyanobacteria have been observed in the Vendée basins, to the point of exceeding toxicity thresholds*(3).

Net evaporation in the basins is estimated at over 10% *(4). This proportion can only increase with global warming.

To build the 11 basins in Les Autizes, **70 hectares of farmland were lost**, an area upon which rainwater can no longer replenish the water table or irrigate crops. This rainwater can only serve to compensate for part of the evaporation from the basins.



SOURCES

*(2) <https://www.geosciences.ens.fr/cinq-questions-sur-les-mega-bassines>

*(3) <https://www.bassinesnonmerci.fr/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Proliferations-biologiques-dans-les-retenues-de-substitution.pdf>

*(4) https://www.academie-agriculture.fr/system/files_force/publications/avis-recommandations/2023/20231117rapportretenues-de-substitutionnovembre-2023.pdf?download=1 et https://www.liberation.fr/checknews/mega-bassines-dans-les-deux-sevres-une-expertise-pointe-les-failles-du-rapport-mis-en-avant-par-les-partisans-du-projet-20230213_5YYDAMQJK5BU5GLTQZ7XIJ5654/

> For more information, see the Wikipedia page dedicated to the opinion of scientists https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%A9serve_de_substitution_en_France#Opposition_de_scientifiques

Worse than maladaptation

- **Climate change brings with it many uncertainties.** The IPCC forecasts agree on the uncertainty of rain fall, with much heavier rains on the one hand, and longer, more intense and more frequent droughts on the other.
- **However, the watersheds where the basins are built are already in chronic water deficit, due to water withdrawals that exceed their capacity.** The basins only increase the volumes withdrawn each year, whereas we should be moving towards sober water management.
- Finally, to make our watersheds resilient, we need to restore them: to replant trees, to restore rivers to their original beds and to restore wetlands. This would improve water infiltration into aquifers, slowing down the water cycle and improving storage in the aquifers and soils. The millions of euros and the energy invested in basins instead of habitat restoration, far from solving the problems, are exacerbating them.



Farming methods have not been adapted

- According to its promoters, water storage in mega-basins would enable the diversification of cereal crops, the development of field vegetables, and the conversion to organic farming. In the Vendée region, we can observe, with hindsight, **the failure of irrigating farms to honor the binding contract which defined objectives in terms of environmental commitments, changes in farming practices, and the introduction of new crops.**
- According to the 2021 Observation Report, **these practices have changed very little.** The few minor advances observed, which have long fuelled pro-basin arguments, barely measure up to the agro-environmental developments observed in the rest of the department and nationally. Irrigation continues to dominate in this region - 64% of irrigated crops are corn, which uses 85% of the water in the basins. Other crops are largely under-represented, sorghum has still not been developed and crop rotations are generally limited to "corn-wheat" or "corn-corn". Unsurprisingly, the water captured only serves the profitability of the farms connected to the irrigation systems.
- A similar situation exists in the Deux-Sèvres region. The "Review of protocol commitments" study of the 16 mega-basins of the Marais Poitevin, commissioned by the Loire-Bretagne Water Agency, **acknowledges the protocol's lack of ambition in the Sèvre-Mignon watershed** (79). All the watercourses and groundwater in the mega-basin territory are at critical levels of nitrate and pesticide contamination. **Intensive irrigation accelerates groundwater contamination and soil erosion**, yet the protocol does not propose any steps to significantly reduce the use of phytosanitary products, even though a national reduction target of 50% was set for 2025.
- Why is this so? Having water available via the basins enables a few large farms to continue irrigating as they do today. **This perpetuates or even increases their profits and those of the entire agro-industrial value chain** (banks, machinists, seed companies, etc.). This situation does not generate a crisis, so no change is necessary.
- In addition to slowing down groundwater recharge and being ill-adapted to climate change, **megabasins allow for harmful in farming practices to continue, and prolong the life of the agro-industrial system.**

4. WATER BASINS ALL OVER FRANCE? JUST A PUBLICITY STUNT

Accumulated delays, schedules hampered by mobilizations, technical issues, court decisions...

Over the past three years:

- 4 already filled water basins have been definitively deemed illegal
- 15 projects have been canceled by court ruling after being deemed inadequate to address climate change
- 16 others have been rendered inoperative, and construction site fences continue to fall
- in the Île-de-France region, one basin was refilled at the request of the prefecture, and a basin project was abandoned in Indre-et-Loire
- numerous projects abandoned under public pressure, as recently seen in the départements of Indre-et-Loire and Hérault

**“100 NEW BASINS
BY THE END OF
THE YEAR”**

M. FESNEAU, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
MARCH 2024



The strategy of the French government and agribusiness leaders is to **facilitate the deployment of this “technical water basin solution”** throughout France. The French Minister of Agriculture even ventured (following the FNSEA congress) to announce a target of building 100 new basins by the end of the year. Given the accumulated delays on ongoing projects and the massive opposition they face, such a target is simply unattainable.

CURRENT SITUATION

IN THE DEUX-SÈVRES DEPARTMENT

- Construction has been ongoing since 2022 in Ste-Soline, Priaires and Épannes. These basins, which the Coop de l'Eau 79 hoped would be operational by 2021, are still nothing more than craters under construction.



IN THE VIENNE DEPARTMENT

- In early June, a new development permit was submitted for the St-Sauvant basin (with a volume of 318,000 m³), which is part of the first funding phase of the Sèvre Niortaise project for 16 basins. The anticipated starting date for construction is September 2, 2024 (with preparatory work beginning on August 1)

**SEPTEMBER 2, 2024
EXPECTED DATE
STARTUP OF THE
CONSTRUCTION SITE
TO ST SAVANT**

This project would be the first in a series of announced basins in the Vienne, where some 40 projects are planned along the Clain basin, 6 of which were cancelled by the courts last autumn. Construction could start before the end of 2024 in the Clouère sub-basin.

IN THE CHARENTE-MARITIME DEPARTMENT

- project announced for the Boutonne basin
- new authorization by the Bordeaux Administrative Court of Appeal for this project of 21 basins. This worrying court decision overturns the judgment rendered at first instance by the Poitiers Administrative Court in February 2021
- the legal battle continues with a plan for an appeal to the Supreme Court by anti-bassines associations

OUTSIDE THE POITOU REGION

- Projects in the Cher, Puy-de-Dôme, Gard, Hérault departments and even Italy...
- This proliferation relies on an **arsenal of legislative measures and regulatory bypasses**, including the Agricultural Orientation Law draft bill. If adopted by the new French National Assembly, this could primarily serve to prevent challenges against permits for water basin operations. Part of the "agricultural sovereignty" package measures was enacted on **May 10th** via a **decree that limits the scope of citizens' legal recourse, leaving the Paris Administrative Court as the sole authority on agricultural hydraulic storage projects in the first and last instance**
- The rights to appeal are eliminated and **the timeframe for recourse is shortened!** According to the Conseil d'Etat*(5), this undermines the constitutional right of residents to lodge appeals, and thus to defend themselves and their territory.

DISSENSIONS AT THE HEART OF INSTITUTIONS

Last summer, the scandalous public funding of the basins (over 70%) was strongly criticized, particularly by the institutions responsible for public spending management.

The Cour des Comptes observes*(6):

- Firstly, that the government's bias in favor of these infrastructures dangerously delays the necessary change in agricultural practices.
- Secondly, that the development of mega-basins is leading to land speculation on the price of farms and land connected to these facilities, making buying farmland increasingly expensive.
- Even within the very institutions that are meant to be responsible for the qualitative and quantitative protection of water, criticism is growing, as at the Loire-Brittany Water Agency, where the Basin Committee, which advocates concerted action, is not being heeded by the State*(7).



DIVIDED AND OVER-INDEBTED IRRIGATORS

IN MAUZÉ-SUR-LE-MIGNON, THE PRICE OF A M3 OF WATER IS NOW 34 CENTIMES, NEARLY FIVE TIMES THE PRICE OF WATER BEFORE THE PROJECT.

Doubts about the viability of the basins are also spreading among irrigators. In the Deux-Sèvres region, for example, while less than 6% of farmers will **actually benefit from the basins, the other irrigators who are not connected will still have to bear the costs of securing the structures and face an average a 28% increase in water prices*(8)!**

Today, even those connected to the basins are facing economic unviability !

MASSIVE OPPOSITION

Faced with the proliferation of projects, opposition is growing.

Anti-basin groups are springing up wherever projects are announced. Today, there are some fifteen active groups deploying every possible means to oppose this hoarding of natural resources: legal action, organizing protests, raising public awareness, dialogue with elected representatives and unions...



FURTHER INFORMATION

- *(5) <https://www.conseil-etat.fr/avis-consultatifs/derniers-avis-rendus/au-gouvernement/avis-sur-un-projet-de-loi-d-orientation-pour-la-souverainete-agricole-et-le-renouvellement-des-generations-en-agriculture>
- *(6) On the Cour des Comptes report <https://reporterre.net/Eau-la-Cour-des-comptes-etrille-la-gestion-de-l-Etat>
- *(7) Criticism of water management by the President of the Loire Bretagne Water Agency's Basin Committee > <https://reporterre.net/Notre-crainte-c-est-la-mort-des-agences-de-l-eau>
- *(8) According to our calculations, based on figures from the Chamber of Agriculture; On dissension within the water co-op 79 > <https://reporterre.net/Ces-agriculteurs-qui-payent-pour-les-megabassines-mais-n-en-profiteront-pas>
- On the IDF basin > https://eau-iledefrance.fr/lunique-mega-bassine-dile-de-france-rebouchee/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMTEAARILpO78WmPSejPd7X9rBW_ZBNI494Jd2RfUOQ8KRzJVnBkd42lv8LZeEo_aem_ZmFrZWRIbWI5MTZieXRlcw
- BNM press release on the LOA : <https://www.bassinesnonmerci.fr/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/CP-LOA-280524.pdf>

5. WHO'S BEHIND THE BASINS?

WATER GRABBING TO THE ADVANTAGE OF AN AGRO-INDUSTRIAL MODEL

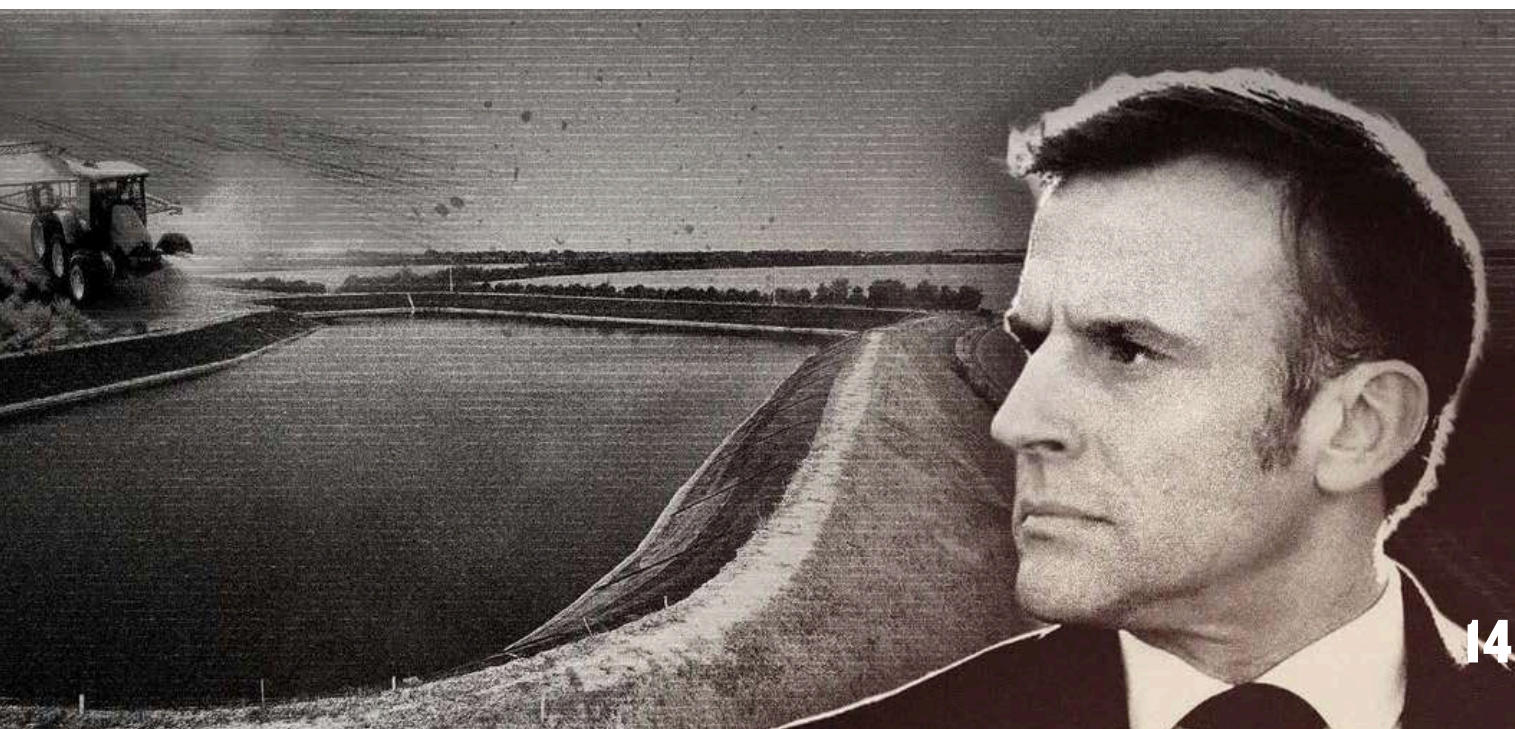
France is Europe's leading cereal producer and exporter, exporting 50% of its soft wheat production and 25% of its corn production.

This performance is achieved through massive use of fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation. Within that **politics of productivity** pushed to the extreme, agribusiness leaders consider mega-basins as indispensable tools for maintaining yields and continuing to feed the international market.

Crops are exported either directly, or after being processed for human consumption, or consumed by animals whose meat is then sometimes exported. **They are stored by companies (traders, cooperatives, etc.) in the expectation of being resold at the highest price.**

In this way, **wheat can become a liquid asset that is resold hundreds of times**, sometimes even before it is harvested, in the form of securities on the stock market, and so, silos turn into tools for speculation rather than being crop reserves.

Our food stocks are therefore essentially privatized, and our food is subject to the logic of speculative trading.





Failing to “feed France”, the agro-industrial complex wastes 10 million tons of food every year, while 7.9 million people are dependent on food aid to survive. **71% of fruit, 28% of vegetables, and 53% of lamb consumed in France are imported.**

Since it benefits only a few farmers, **the mega-basin system prevents the majority of local fruit and vegetable producers from having access to water.** This is a far cry from the so-called food sovereignty advertised by the state and agribusiness leaders.

Failing to “feed the world”, free-trade agreements put countries in “competition with each other, even though the conditions for agricultural production differ greatly from one country to another. Local food systems are undermined by cut-price imports that drive down agricultural prices [...]”

translated from “Il est temps de sortir du paradigme du libre-échange”, Campagnes solidaires No. 401 - January 2024.

The disastrous health, social and environmental consequences of the “green revolutions” in Asia, Latin America and Africa are glaringly obvious.

In the Poitou region, most of the water used for irrigation is geared towards intensive cereal farming (especially soft wheat and corn). The documentary “Méga-bassines, histoire secrète d’un mensonge d’Etat”, produced by Off investigation, clearly shows that the deployment of basins in the region is directly linked to the La Pallice port development project in La Rochelle.

**THE DEPLOYMENT OF BASINS
IN THE REGION IS DIRECTLY
LINKED TO THE LA PALLICE
PORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
IN LA ROCHELLE.**

A similar situation is observed in the Vienne region, for example, where **the development of the seed industry (corn in particular) depends on secure access to water, and therefore on the development of basins in the area.** As a result, in order to sign contracts with cooperatives, farmers must comply with the condition of access to water from future basins. **Water, then, becomes a tool in the race for yield imposed by the markets.** Farmers are prisoners of the same groups that supply them with seeds (and work to ban peasant seeds), fertilizers and pesticides, and control the conditions under which grain is purchased. Machine builders, dealers and bankers are obviously highly motivated stakeholders in this system.

PUBLIC AUTHORITIES AT THE SERVICE OF THE AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX: INFLUENCE GAMES AND DEMOCRATIC MASQUERADING

“Following in the footsteps of Atelier paysan, we speak of the ‘agro-industrial complex’, because it refers not only to agro-industry, but to the relations between agro-industry and the public authorities that submit to it.” (translated from “Premières Secousses”, Les soulèvements de la Terre, 2024)

In political institutions in general and water management bodies in particular, at both local and national level, **private interests (agribusiness and industrial lobbies, irrigators, etc.) are over-represented to the detriment of the general interest.** Public authorities (government services, prefectures, local authorities, etc.), agribusiness and banks work hand in hand, not hesitating to override or even change laws and regulations to get their way.

Is the law too restrictive? The government pops out the agricultural orientation bill (LOA).

Is the parliamentary process too long? Certain elements are passed on executive order.

Another example: **to obtain public funding** from the Agence de l'Eau (French water agency), the companies behind the basin projects are required, via water management territory projects (PTGE), to respect a form of democratic consultation and to take the natural environment into account based on scientific studies.

Does this approach sound too restrictive? Then state actors devise ways of getting around these constraints⁽⁹⁾ to facilitate access to funds, or create new financial manna⁽¹⁰⁾.

**THIS IS HOW
STATE-SUPPORTED BASINS
IRRIGATE A SYSTEM THAT
BENEFITS ONLY A HANDFUL
OF LOCAL FARMERS AND
AGRIBUSINESSES, LOCKING
THEM IN, RAVAGING THE
ENVIRONMENT AND
PREVENTING FOOD
SOVEREIGNTY IN FRANCE
AND ABROAD.**

- **We want to free food and basic necessities from the speculative and destructive dynamics of capitalism.** There can be no agro-ecological transition without bringing to heel the economic giants who monopolize price indexing and undermine farmers' incomes.
- **Together, we want to move towards forms of agriculture that protect land and water, an agro-ecological model that is the only way to face the climate crisis, and that ensures decent work and income for farmers, as well as healthy food.** Public funding should now be earmarked for this transition.
- **We affirm our determination to be fully involved in public water policies and in the construction of collective responses.**
- **We want to implement a popular moratorium in the field, and join forces to make it a reality.**

MORE INFORMATION

- <https://reporterre.net/Megabassines-histoire-secrete-d-un-mensonge-d-Etat-le-film-en-acces-libre>
- <https://viacampesina.org/fr/ecvc-recommandations-politiques-pour-les-elections-europeennes>
- <https://reporterre.net/La-FNSEA-cartographie-d-un-pouvoir-tentaculaire>
- *(9) <https://www.vienne-nature.fr/gestion-eau-clain-ptge/>
- *(10) <https://www.francebleu.fr/infos/agriculture-peche/fonds-hydraulique-pour-la-gestion-de-l-eau-huit-projets-agricoles-candidats-dans-la-vienne-9756917>



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

EVENTS

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

> On 16, 17 and 18/07 at 9am
at the media area



VISITS TO THE GENELLERIE FARM

> On 16, 17 and 18/07 from 10am to 11am
meeting point on the map

INTERVIEWS WITH INTERNATIONALS

> On 16, 17, 18 and 19/07 from 5pm to 7pm
at the bat area
[CLICK HERE to find the portraits
international speakers](#)

CONVOY RITUALS

> Thursday 18/07 from 7pm
on the stadium

By bike, car, bus... convoys have converged
from all over France and Europe on the Village
de l'Eau, carrying their struggles and the water
from their watersheds. Let's celebrate our
reunion and share our stories!

PRESS BRIEFINGS on 19 & 20/07

Press briefings to be announced

JOURNALISTS RECEPTION

A media space for welcoming the press
(internet access & electric charging
stations) will be installed in the Water
Village, at the entrance to the site.

**PLEASE SHOW UP UPON ARRIVAL ON
SITE** > see attached map

RESOURCE SITES :

www.bassinesnonmerci.fr
www.lessoulevementsdelaterre.org

SOCIAL NETWORKS TO KEEP UP TO DATE :

Twitter :

@lessoulevements
@BassinesNon

Instagram:

@lessoulevementsdelaterre
@bassinesnonmerci

Télégram :

@STOPmegabassines

@STOPmegabassines_INT
(english)

Please do not hesitate to contact our press contacts if you have any questions about your visit.

CONTACTS

STOPMEGABASSINES2024@RISEUP.NET



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- SOULÈVEMENTS DE LA TERRE : **+33 7 82 24 24 62**
(CONTACT NUMBER FOR INTERNATIONAL PRESS)



STOP MÉGA-BASSINES

PROGRAMME

Located in the small Argentière valley, the Water Village aims to be a place of political conviviality where one can get information about ongoing peasant, environmental and social struggles, learn skills for collective direct action and exchange with loads of activists, peasants and international groups committed to defending the commons and social and climate justice. Given the rise to power of neo-fascists all around the world, and their historic involvement in water grabbing, this village is also intended to serve as a place for building an anti-fascist response which matches the stakes of the current situation. From Tuesday 16th to Sunday 21st of July, in the shade of the marquees and the Genellerie farm, the village will be brimming with round tables, assemblies, educational workshops, activist training sessions, film screenings, nature walks, poetry evenings and concerts.

TUESDAY 16

Training for the prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) for canteen and bar volunteers on the Village

8am-12pm — Bat Space Activist training

Water degradation and industrial agriculture: from groundwater pollution to regenerative hydrology

State of affairs regarding water pollution and its health impacts

Speakers: Sylvie NONY (Alerte Pesticides Haute Gironde ("Pesticide Alert Haute Gironde")), Michel BESNARD (Collectif de soutien aux victimes des pesticides de l'Ouest ("Support collective for the victims of pesticides in the West")) and Pierre-Michel PÉRNAUD (Alerte des Médecins sur Les Pesticides ("Doctors' alert on pesticides")).

9.30-10.30am — Bustard Marquee Round tables

What are the solutions for treating and restoring water quality?

Speakers: Jean-Claude OLIVA (director of the Coordination Eau Île de France), collective VITE 85, Joëlle LALLEMAND (president of the Association de Protection, d'Information et d'Études de l'Eau et de son Environnement en Deux-Sèvres ("Association for the Protection, Information and Studies of Water and its Environment in Deux-Sèvres")), Vincent PINON (Confédération paysanne) and Dan LERT (president of Eau de Paris).

10.30am-12.30pm — Bustard Marquee Round tables

To confront the far right: let's multiply the territories in resistance! Experience sharing and local counter-powers

With Le syndicat de la montagne limousine ("Union of the Limousinian Mountain"), the Alliance citoyenne de Grenoble ("Grenoble's citizen alliance"), ALDA from the Basque Country

9.30am-12pm — Dragonfly Marquee Assembly

Farm tour

10-11am — 

Find your affinity group for the action

In this workshop, we'll help you find people with whom you can take action, explain why it's important and, above all, how to do it, all of it by using a simple exercise.

1.30-3pm — Dragonfly Marquee Activist training

Activist interpretation: training in simultaneous translation

1.30-3.30pm — Activist training Marquee

"Scientists in Rebellion put mega-basins on trial"

Facilitator: Les Scientifiques en rébellion

1.30-3.30pm — Bat Space Workshop

Preparation for police checks and police custody

Find out about your rights during a police check or police custody, what happens during custody, how to interact with the police, what can happen after custody.

1.30-3pm — Otter Marquee Activist training

A game to prepare for the action (max. 60 people)

1.30-4.30pm — Football Field Activist training

Water grabbing & social and environmental uprisings in the Mediterranean basin and Latin America

Public policies and struggles over water in the Mediterranean basin

Speakers: Erika GONZÁLEZ (coordinator of Ecologistas en Acción ("Ecologists in Action") in Spain), Dante MASCHIO (spokesperson for Agua es vida ("Water is Life"), an interdisciplinary platform for the defence of water in Catalonia) and Zoubida BENALI (member of the movement against the privatisation of rural water in Figuig, Morocco).

2-3.30pm — Bustard Marquee Round tables

Popular uprisings & environmentally and socially oriented constitutions in Latin America

Speakers: Manuela ROYO (representative of the Movement for the Defence of Access to Water, Land and Environmental Protection - MODATIMA - in Chile), Carlos BEAS (coordinator of the Union of Indigenous Communities of the Northern Zone of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec - UCIZONI), Abril FLORES CRUZ (member of the coordination of the Assembly of Indigenous Peoples of the Isthmus in Defence of Land and Territory - APIIDTT / El Sur Resiste in Mexico), Paola GOES (Movement of People Affected by Dams - MAB - in Brazil) and Juan Pablo GUTIERREZ (Delegate for International Relations of the National Indigenous Organisation of Colombia (ONIC) and member of the Yukpa people [Colombia]).

3.30-5pm — Bustard Marquee Round tables

Police weapons & physical risk reduction during the action

Learn about police weapons, the injuries they cause and how to equip yourself in a demonstration in order to reduce the risks.

3-5pm — **Otter Marquee** **Activist training**

Anticipating your collective action debrief

Learn techniques for holding an emotional debriefing in a group so that you can offer it to your affinity group (or beyond) after the action.

3-4pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Preparation for police checks and custody

3.30-5pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Birds on plains: how to protect them in partnership with farmers?

Speaker: the Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux ("French League for Birds' Protection"), coordinator of the national action plan for the bustard, and Vincent BRETAGNOLLE (CNRS research director at the Centre for Biological Studies of Chizé (79))

3.30-4.30pm — **Bat Space** **Conférence**

Antirep: equipping yourself to deal with repression

Come and learn a bit more about antirepression. Together we'll look at the issues of police custody, digital security and identity checks, as well as repression within our groups and actions, and discuss how to deal with it together, as a form of collective defence!

4.30-6pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Preparation for the days of action: collective movement, communication and decision-making.

4.30-7.30pm — **Football Field** **Activist training**

Which anti-fascist response is needed now? Let's organise the campaign against Bolloré!

5-7pm — **Bustard Marquee** **Assembly**

Eau Secours - From the Andes to the Amazon

In the presence of the director Julia BLAGNY

(52 min, 2021). The rivers of Bolivia, the veins in the heart of South America, are turning red, grey and even disappearing. Local residents and experts warn us that access to drinking water is becoming more difficult every year. If we don't treat water with respect, we are heading for disaster, in Bolivia and elsewhere. Film screening followed by a discussion with the director Julia BLAGNY.

5-7pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Find your affinity group for action in FLINTA* diversity

(female, lesbian, intersex, non-binary, trans and agender)

5.30-7pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Preparation in affinity groups and emergency decision-making

For affinity groups just formed or previously formed for the occasion - ask yourself the right questions beforehand and practise rapid decision-making in action.

6.00-7.30pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Prevention and awareness of psycho-trauma

7-8pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Preview of Chez les zébus francophones

In the presence of the director Nantenaina LOVA

(103 min, 2023). The story of the misadventures of Ly, a farmer in Madagascar's capital who lives next to the airport and a military camp, and whose rice fields around his village are coveted by two presidential projects, a colonel, generals and foreign investors. Film screening in the presence of the director Nantenaina LOVA and the co-author Eva LOVA-BÉLY.

8pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Stories and tales from the Poitou region

By Michèle BOUHET and Jean-Louis COMPAGNON, Francis LEBARBIER, François GODARD, Yannick JAULIN, Josette Renaud and Philippe COMPAGNON. Leads: Isabelle BOUHET and Christian COMPAGNON with the puppet Lucie.

8pm — **Otter Marquee** **Tales and stories**

Z, Z and Z (Rock)

10.30pm — **Otter Marquee** **Concert**

WEDNESDAY 17

Eco-queerfeminist General Assembly

9-10.45am — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Assembly**

Anticipating your collective action debrief

9.30-10.30am — **Activist training Marquee**

A game to prepare for the action (max. 80-100 people)

9.30am-12.30pm — **Football Field** **Activist training**

Water apartheid in the service of colonial domination: self-organisation and farmer resistance in the Jordan river basin

Speakers: Julie TROTTIER (Director of Research at the CNRS, expert in water issues), Antoine (lawyer with Al Haq, an independent Palestinian organisation that documents violations of individual and collective rights in occupied Palestine), Omar JENINGRAD (farmer, founder of Boussole Palestine and Urgence Palestine), Nadav JOFFE (landscape designer with Tsedek!, a Jewish decolonial collective), Rima HASSAN (MEP), Mohammad MUHSEN (geography professor, specialist in water issues in Palestine)

9.30am-12pm — **Bustard Marquee** **Round tables**

Find your affinity group for the action

9.30-11am — **Otter Marquee** **Activist training**

Farm tour

10-11am — 

Acquiring land in peasant farming as a way of fighting: slow dating between those with agricultural projects and peasant farmers looking for buyers

Facilitated by ADEAR Terre-Mer. With the participation of ten project leaders and ten farmers who want to pass on their farm!

10.30am - 12.30pm — **Bat Space** **Workshop**

Preparation for police checks and police custody

12-13am — **Activist training Marquee**

Preparation in an affinity group and emergency decision-making

11am-12.30pm — **Otter Marquee** **Activist training**

Confronting the criminalisation of social movements

Facilitator: Collectif d'organisations de solidarité internationale et de mobilisation citoyenne ("Collective for the organisation of international solidarity and citizen mobilisation") - CRID

11am-1pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Assembly**

Prevention and awareness of psycho-trauma

11.30am-12.30pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Preparation for the days of action

1.30-4pm — **Football Field** **Activist training**

Preparation for police checks and police custody

1.30-3pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Police weapons & physical risk reduction during the action

1.30-3.30pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Class conflict in the agro-industry: let's think about our actions to divide the FNSEA

Facilitated by Laure DUCOS (author of Les frites viennent des patates, dans les coulisses de l'agro-industrie ("Fries come from potatoes, behind the scenes in the agro-industry"), Thomas GIBERT (national secretary of the Confédération paysanne, farmer in Haute-Vienne), Christophe BONNEUIL (historian) and Alessandro PIGNOCCHI (comic book writer).

1.30-4.30pm — **Bat Space** **Workshop**

Large dams: how to put an end to these weapons of domination?

Speakers: Association SOS Loire Vivante ("SOS Living Loire") [France], Vincent METTEN (Director of Affaires européennes pour la Campagne Internationale pour le Tibet ("European Affairs for the International Campaign for Tibet")), Amy CORDALIS (member of the Yurok tribe, fisherwoman and lawyer, former general councillor of the Yuroks and lawyer for the Native American Rights Fund [United States]) and Paola GOES (member of the Movement of People Affected by Dams - MAB [Brazil]).

2-4.30pm — **Bustard Marquee** **Round tables**

Find your affinity group for the action - in English

3-4.30pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Preparation in an affinity group and emergency decision-making in FLINTA* groups

(female, lesbian, intersex, non-binary, trans, agender)

3.30-5pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Preparation for the days of action

4-6.30pm — **Football Field** **Activist training**

Antirep: equipping yourself to deal with repression

4.30-6pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Water Bandits (in english)

(15 min). In Rajasthan's Dolphur region, once plagued by banditry due to water scarcity, a remarkable transformation has occurred. Dr. Rajendra Singh, known as the "Water Man of India," spearheaded this change with indigenous water management techniques.

5pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Lands of exile - lands of asylum: strengthening cross-border alliances

Speakers : Codetras, collectif A4, Gilets Noirs, Réseau des territoires accueillants ("network of welcoming territories"),...

5-6.30pm — **Bustard Marquee** **Assembly**

Clown-activist workshop

5.30-7.30pm — **Activist training Marquee**

Preparation in an affinity group and emergency decision-making

6-7.30pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

L'eau en héritage

épisode 2 La qualité de l'eau (12 min). What lies behind the water that reaches our taps ? How is water production, diffuse pollution and sanitation managed ? Screening followed by a discussion with the Association de Protection, d'Information et d'Études de l'Eau et de son Environnement dans les Deux-Sèvres ("Association for the Protection, Information and Studies of Water and its Environment in Deux-Sèvres").

6pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Prevention and awareness of psycho-trauma

6.30-7.30pm — **Activist training Marquee**

La bataille du Côa, une leçon portugaise

In the presence of the director Jean-Luc BOUVRET

(82 min, 2017), a film recounting the epic story of the rescue of the Côa site, renowned for its thousands of prehistoric engravings unique in Europe and threatened with being swallowed up by a gigantic dam. Screening followed by a discussion with director Jean-Luc BOUVRET.

8pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Gosseyn (experimental oriental-balkan jazz-rock)

8.30pm — **Otter Marquee** **Concert**

Bombo Diablo y la flor de romero (Chilean music)

10pm — **Otter Marquee** **Concert**

— THURSDAY 18 —

Anticipate your collective action debrief

9.30-10.30am — **Activist training Marquee**

Disarming the mega-basins, breaching the agro-industrial model:

Piercing the mega-basin and its industry: our counter-expertise

Speakers: Patrick PICAUD (Nature Environnement 17), Anne-Morwenn PASTIER (PhD in Geosciences), Axelle LAURENT & Julien LE GUET (Bassines Non Merci)

9.30-11am — **Bustard Marquee** **Round tables**

Subsistence farming and community water management in India

Speaker: Rajendra SINGH (founding member of the NGO Tarun Bharat Sangh, member of the National Ganga River Basin Authority, Stockholm Water Prize Laureate)

11am-12.30pm — **Bustard Marquee** **Round tables**

Preparing for action days

9.30am-12pm — **Football Field** **Activist training**

Investigating water, extractivism and energy transition

Speakers: Célia IZOARD (journalist and philosopher, author of *La Ruée minière au XXI^e siècle: enquête sur les métaux à l'ère de la transition* [The Mining Rush in the 21st Century: Investigation into Metals in the Era of Transition]), Claire DEBUCQUOIS (PhD in legal science specialising in mining projects), Juan Pablo GUTIERREZ (ONIC delegate and member of the Yukpa people impacted by a mega-project of open-pit coal mines [Colombia]), and numerous activist collectives (No Cav against marble quarries in Tuscany [Italy], Ende Gelände / Stop Coal [Germany], collective against the lithium mine in Allier [France], Stop Micro 38 [France], ...)

9.30am-12pm — Bat Space Assembly

Assembly on the struggles around logistics platforms and their transportation networks (high speed lines, highways, etc.)

With Déroute des routes, groups opposed to the Lyon-Turin high-speed rail link (No TAV and CCLT Maurienne), the Bordeaux-Toulouse high-speed rail link, the A69 Castres-Toulouse highway, etc.

9.30am-12pm — Dragonfly Marquee Assembly

Find your affinity group for action (multi-language interpretation)

9.30-11.30am — Otter Marquee Activist training

Farm tour

10-11am — 

Clown-activist workshop

10am-1.30pm — Activist training Marquee

Affinity group preparation and emergency decision-making (in English)

11.30am-13pm — Otter Marquee Activist training

Prevention and awareness of psycho-trauma

12-1pm — Activist training Marquee

Circus show by the Les Joizos troupe

Afternoon — Kid Corner Show

A big game to prepare for action (max 80-100 people)

1.30pm-4.30pm — Football Field Activist training

Assembly of the Soulèvements de la Terre local committees

1.30-4.30 pm — Bat Space Assembly

World agricultural market and farmers' revolts

A look back at last winter's farmers' revolt in Western Europe

Speakers: Nicolas MIROUZE (winegrower from the Atelier paysan), Morgan ODY (general coordinator of Via Campesina), Laurence MARANDOLA (national spokesperson for the Confédération paysanne), Elena ALTER (Nos plantamos - network for a peasant alternative - Spanish State).

1.30-3.30pm — Bustard Marquee Round tables

Food sovereignty: global market and free trade agreements

Speakers: Morgan ODY (general coordinator of Via Campesina), Laurence MARANDOLA (national spokesperson for the Confédération Paysanne), Marianna (Zedkin Forum, Landless Workers' Movement), Maximes COMBES (Attac)

3.30-5pm — Bustard Marquee Round tables

Preparing for police checks and custody (multi-language interpretation)

1.30-3pm — Activist training Marquee

Anti-nuclear struggle assembly: How to prevent the launch of construction for the nuclear waste storage facility in Bure and the revival of nuclear power in France?

1.30-4.30 pm — Dragonfly Marquee Assembly

Police weapons & physical risk reduction during the action

1.30-3.30pm — Otter Marquee Activist training

Find your affinity group for action in FLINTA* diversity

(female, lesbian, intersex, non-binary, trans and agender)

3-4.30pm — Activist training Marquee

Prepare for police checks and custody

3.30-5pm — Otter Marquee Activist training

Tarot du Marais Poitevin

4pm — Traces Show

Preparing for action days

4.30-7pm — Football Field Activist training

Antirep: Equipping ourselves against repression

4.30-6pm — Dragonfly Marquee Activist training

Affinity group preparation and emergency decision-making (multi-language interpretation)

4.30-6.30pm — Activist training Marquee

General assembly of social and environmental movements: Rethinking our ways of activism and organising against the liberal and neo-fascist offensive!

Speakers (to be confirmed) - Solidaires, Marche des solidarités, Survie, Urgence Palestine, Confédération paysanne, Comités Vérité et Justice, AFA (anti-fascist action), Action Justice Climat, CGT, Soulèvements de la Terre, ...

5pm - 7pm — Bat Space Assembly

Affinity group preparation and emergency decision-making

6-7.30pm — Dragonfly Marquee Activist training

Find your affinity group and get ready for action - express double workshop version for latecomers

6.30-8.30pm — Activist training Marquee

Convoy ritual

By bike, car, bus, ... convoys have converged from across France and Europe to the Water Village, carrying their struggles and water from their watersheds. Let's celebrate our reunion and share our travel stories!

7pm — Football Field Activist training

Water For Life

documentary film (90 minutes, 2023) by Will Parrinello on indigenous activists in Latin America facing death threats and murders while defending water and rivers from mining and hydroelectric projects. Screening followed by a discussion with Manuela Royo (MODATIMA) and Andrea Pietrafesa (Sur Territoria).

8pm — Bat Space Screenings

Clume (traditional songs to dance to)

8.30pm — Main Stage Concert

René Binamé (Rock)

8.30pm — Otter Marquee Concert

CIAC BOUM (traditional ball)

10pm — Main Stage Concert

Eustache mc queer (punchy electro concert)

FRIDAY 19

Find your affinity group for action

9.30-11am — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Affinity group preparation and emergency decision-making

11am-12.30pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Arpilleras: Embroidering Resistance

(104 min, 2027), a documentary film by Adriane CANAN that gives voice to the women of Brazil's Movement of People Affected by Dams.

1.30-4.30pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Find your affinity group for action

1.30-3pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Affinity group preparation and emergency decision-making

3-4:30pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

Anti-repression: Equipping ourselves against repression

4:30-6pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Activist training**

TOXICILY

(78 min, 2023), a documentary film by François Xavier DESTORS and Alfonso PINTO that amplifies the voices of Sicilians facing one of Europe's largest petrochemical complexes. Seventy years after the arrival of the first refineries on this beautiful island, residents testify about the poisoning of the sky, sea, and land.

5-7pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Premiere of "Une vie en eau douce"

(A Life in Fresh Water) (40 min, 2024), an intimate and poetic film about the ponds of Poitou. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the filmmakers Ambroise and Madeleine PUAUD.

8pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Carcass brothers

8:30pm — **Main Stage** **Concert**

Ultramoderne

9pm — **Otter Marquee** **Concert**

Johnny Montreuil (Rock 'n' Roll)

10pm — **Main Stage** **Concert**

SATURDAY 20

La bataille de l'eau noire

The Battle of the Black Water) (73 min, 2015) by Benjamin HENNOT. Belgium 1978. The Minister of Useless Works is planning a huge dam in the Eau Noire valley, upstream from the small town of Couvin. But the town's inhabitants turn into proud diehards, and wage a flamboyant guerrilla war....

5pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

La Rivière

(the River) (104 min, 2023) by Dominique MARCHAIS. Between the Pyrenees and the Atlantic lie powerful rivers known as gaves. Maize fields make them thirsty, and dams block the flow of salmon. Human activity is disrupting the water cycle and the river's biodiversity. Men and women look with curiosity and love at this fascinating world of beauty and disaster.

8pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Billie Brelock (rap)

P

8:30pm — **Main Stage** **Concert**

Lo Barrut (Occitan Polyphonic Songs)

8:30pm — **Otter Marquee** **Concert**

Orchestre Tout Puissant Marcel Duchamp (Free Jazz Post Punk Brass Band)

10pm — **Main Stage** **Concert**

Beat Bouet Trio (Traditional Rap)

10pm — **Otter Marquee** **Concert**

Le Grand Zanimò (bal)

11:30pm — **Main Stage** **Concert**

SUNDAY 21

Food social security, alternative agricultural chamber, land cooperatives and self-manufacturing of agricultural tools: pathways to develop peasant, nourishing, and sustainable agriculture

Speakers: Kévin CERTENAIS (co-author of the book "Régime Général" and co-founder of the association "Le Plat de Résistance"), Nicolas MIROUZE (winegrower from "L'Atelier Paysan"), Philippe JAUNET (Passeurs de Terres), Jean-François PÉRIGNÉ (Confédération Paysanne), the granaries of Soulèvements de la Terre and Maël BERIL HEIM (rural law lawyer, former employee of Euskal Herriko Laborantza Ganbara - the alternative agricultural chamber in the Basque Country)

10am-12:30pm — **Main Stage** **Round tables**

Storytelling walks in the Argentière valley and around Melle

From 10.30am

Alliances terrestres

(Terrestrial Alliances) (90 min, 2024), a documentary film by Isabelle HAELVOËT about the fight against the A69 highway project between Castres and Toulouse.

10am-12:30pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

Struggles against quarries and concrete - what next for the Stop béton days?

10am-12pm — **Dragonfly Marquee** **Assembly**

Theatre Performance by Harpa Loutra

Afternoon — **Kid Corner** **Show**

Peasant settlement: a means of struggle against mega-basins and their world

With Martial from the Âne Arrosé farm

1:30-4pm — **Bat Space** **Screenings**

General anti-repression culture of social and environmental movements

2-4pm — Orter Marquee Assembly

GRAND ASSEMBLY of water defence movements [closing assembly of the village]

With the HYDRE network (a network of water struggle collectives), Pedro ARROJO-AGUDO (UN special rapporteur on the human right to water and sanitation), contributions from Mehdi LAHLOU (president of the Association pour un Contrat Mondial de l'Eau (ACME) [World Water Contract Association]), and many collectives, associations, and organisations

1:30-4:30pm — Main Stage Assembly

— EVERY DAY —



Info-point updates

9am to 10.30am, 1pm to 1.30pm, and 7pm to 7.30pm.



Farm tour

Tuesday to Thursday - 10 am to 11am



The naturalists meet-up

Every day, except Saturday: 6am, 9am, 3pm, 5pm, 5.30pm, 7pm, 9pm



Aperitif in songs

Every day from 11.30 am to 6pm

Village gazette's crier

11am — Traces

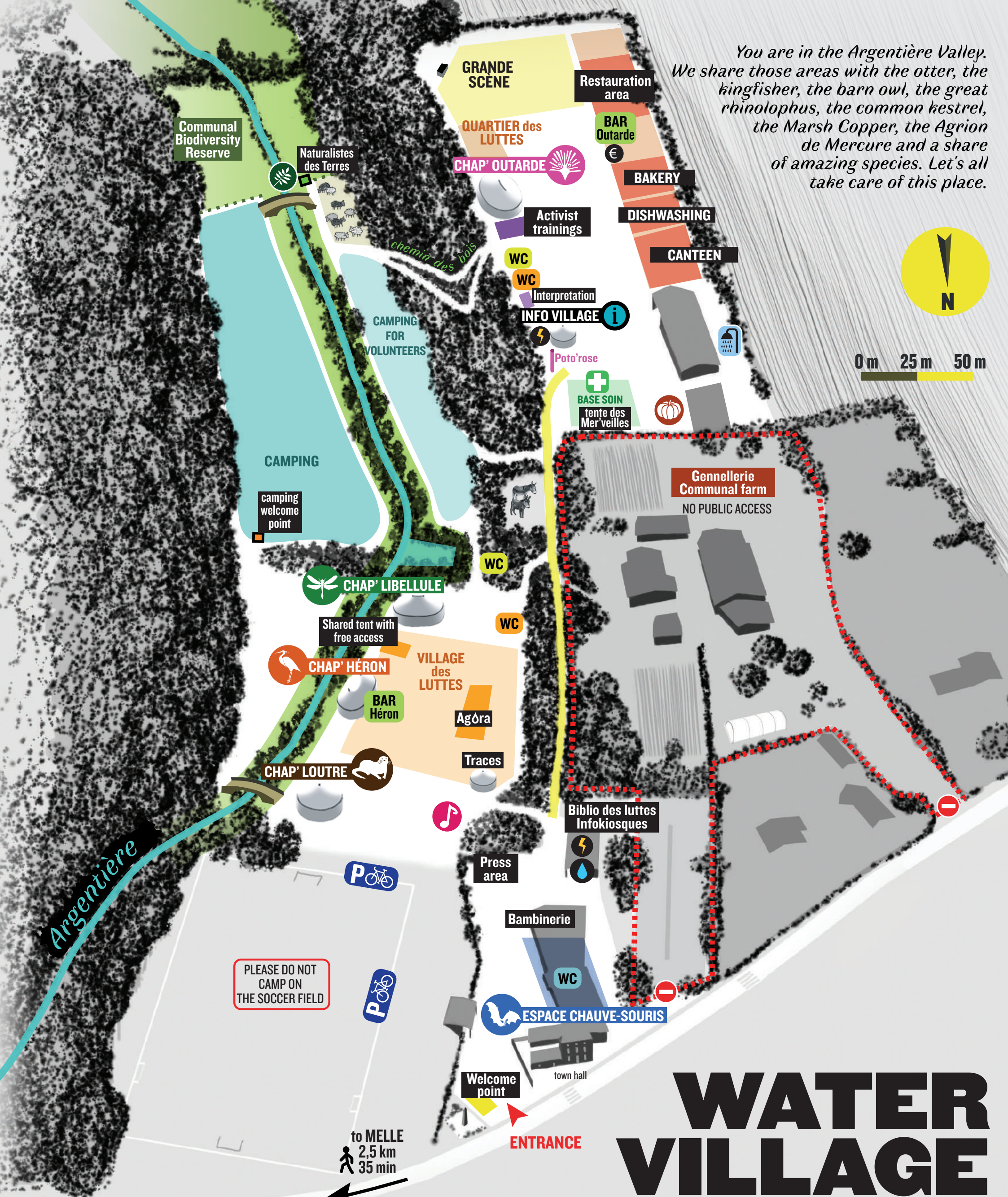
Traces en live

5pm — Traces

You are in the Argentière Valley.
We share those areas with the otter, the kingfisher, the barn owl, the great rhinolophus, the common kestrel, the Marsh Copper, the Agrion de Mercure and a share of amazing species. Let's all take care of this place.



0 m 25 m 50 m



WATER VILLAGE

i welcome and info point

+ base soin / tente des Mer'veilles
care facility / infirmary / legal support / friends and relatives search office / listening and hypo-sensibilisation areas

WC composting toilet

WC urinals

We are in a drinking water catchment area; it is very important to use the toilets and not to relieve yourself elsewhere! Thank you!

Accessible toilets for PMR are available in each block

💧 Main water point
You'll find secondary water points in the toilets and showers' areas. However and to avoid network congestion, please prioritise using this one.

€ drink tickets and cups sales point

⚡ self-managed electric recharging station

🎵 Interchorale's meeting point

🌿 Nature walks' meeting point

🍷 Genellerie farm visits' meeting point

🌸 le poto'rose
lost friends' meeting point

🚿 showers

🛤️ Slightly sloped paved access

P🚲 bicycle parking

🌉 bridge to cross the Argentière

🐑 militant flock from the Sucs struggle

🐄 Coco et Quarel