



## SERRE CHEVALIER IS THE FIRST SKI AREA IN THE WORLD...

to produce its own electricity by combining three renewable energy sources: hydro-electricity, solar panels and small wind-turbines.

As the first laboratory experimenting renewable energy in a mountain environment, Serre Chevalier ski area **now reaches its goal of producing 30% of its own electricity consumption**, using renewable energies and without any major impact on the landscape or resources. **It is the first and only ski area in the world to use three production techniques simultaneously: hydro-electricity, solar panels and small wind-turbines.**

This means that the electricity is consumed usefully and immediately on site. Thus, during winter and summer seasons when the resort is open, electricity produced by its hydraulic, photovoltaic and wind systems is **immediately consumed** by its own ski lifts, machine rooms, snow-making systems and tertiary systems on the ski area. In low-season, electricity produced is still partly self-consumed, and the excess is sold to the national grid.

This **renewable energy programme adheres to the objectives of the French National Low Carbon Strategy and the Pluriannual Energy Plan** which aim for an « energy mix » composed of at least 33% renewable energy (of final energy consumption) by 2028; the accent on renewable energy being to help diminish the share of nuclear energy in electricity production.

As the management of the ski area has been engaged in an all-round process of ecological energy transition for many years, it now undertakes a new challenge to **reduce energy consumption by 10 to 20%**, to thus be 50% self-sufficient within the next few years.

**Initiated in 2016, the Serre Chevalier programme is a real success today**, and this inspires other resorts of the Compagnie de Alpes Group. It is truly a **laboratory to experiment renewable energies in a mountain environment**, and so the ski area also regularly hosts other French and foreign ski areas which hope to engage in using renewable energy sources in a mountain environment.



## Transforming the ski area to become even more green

In addition to the renewable energy programme, the ski area unfolds an **ambitious transformation strategy** aiming to:

- **Reduce the ski area's direct greenhouse gas emissions** to fall in with the national carbon neutrality line, aiming for **zero net carbon emission by 2030**:

- 100% green electricity since 2011
- 30% to 50% locally self-produced electricity using renewable energy sources
- Low-carbon snow-grooming machines by 2030 (95% of greenhouse effect gas produced by ski areas is connected to the use of grooming machines run on diesel)

- **Rehabilitate ecosystems**, preserve natural resources (biodiversity, water, soil) and **strictly limit future land management interventions**:

- Restrict new development to what is strictly necessary
- No extension of the ski area, no new runs
- Rehabilitate damaged zones (replanting and restoration of wet zones)
- Maintain a high level of biodiversity on the ski area
- Preserve water resources

- **Adapt to become more resilient**, diversify our activities and expertise thus continue to create local value:

- Invest in adaptation to changes to come
- Diversify winter and summer activities to give new direction to mountain experiences
- Develop new expertise in response to the challenges of tomorrow: energy shift, understanding of biodiversity, protection of water resources...

## « Tous Engagés »

**Serre Chevalier designs a collective scheme to move towards the eco-responsible ski area of tomorrow.**

Ecological transition is at the heart of Serre Chevalier ski area's actions, and it requires radical transformation of both modes of functioning and behaviour. It's a collective subject, and the ski area management has decided to make scientific information available, to consult and to engage all users of the ski area: professionals, skiers, local population and holiday-makers... to imagine a lasting future for our mountain activities together.

With this scheme, Serre Chevalier Vallée has decided to **communicate in total transparency** the facts about the present state of main indicators: water and energy-consumption, statistics concerning wildlife, plants and landscape (an environment observatory created in 2014 provides these figures) and also about its aims, so as to share information about progress and/or difficulties from now on.

On the website [tousengages-serrechevalier.com](https://tousengages-serrechevalier.com) everyone is invited to anonymously answer a questionnaire to express his/her vision of the mountain of tomorrow, their personal ideas and needs on the subjects of snow-grooming, development, water, plant and animal life, energy...

Since 2019, Serre Chevalier applies the 16-point environmental roadmap engaging all French ski areas to preserve the mountain environment in matters of climate and greenhouse gas emissions, water management, protection of biodiversity and preservation of the landscape.





## LOCAL INITIATIVES FOR THE PLANET

### An overhead electricity line will be taken down

Starting in August, the electric pylons from Galibier to Lautaret will be dismantled, and the aim is to **take down all the lines in the Guisane valley by the end of October 2022**, thus clearing away all «visual pollution» from the landscape.

### Briançon, ville + douce

Last spring, Briançon began a **participative consultation** of the local population on decisions about the necessary transformations to face the challenges of environmental transition: hybrid or electric vehicles, alternative mobility, waste management, environmental preservation... 25 main measures will be suggested as of September 2022.

### Double Olympic champion contributes to saving the larch forest

Pierre Vaultier, double Olympic snowboard cross champion, is a child of the valley. He contributes to saving the larch forest in the valley with the association Tree2Forest which he created, with the vocation of planting trees in collaboration with schools, to raise children's awareness of environmental causes. This year's aim is to plant 2022 trees!



Tree2Forest



### Creation of a quiet zone for black grouse on the ski area

The black grouse is a non-protected species which is in danger of extinction. It is disappearing from certain mountain areas but is present in Serre Chevalier in the upper limits of the forest. So two quiet zones were marked off last winter, with a 300m linear protection and information boards at the top of Cibout chair lift and on the fencing itself.

GREEN  
NEWS

As it is particularly sensitive to the quality of the environment, the black grouse is an indicator of the improving ecological processes on our ski area. By protecting it, other species are also protected. This new safety zone will protect **dozens of hectares of favourable winter habitat for this emblematic Alpine bird**. In France, the population of this mountain galliforme is estimated at around 16 000 adult birds, but in the Southern Alps, the numbers diminish by about 10% every decade. The fact is that the bird is often disturbed and forced to leave its shelter and is thus exposed to cold temperatures and to predators, diminishing its chances of survival. Les Ecrins National Park wardens will study the effects of this refuge zone on the bird population, and will evaluate the evolution of its numbers every spring.



### For more green initiatives:

<https://www.serre-chevalier.com/fr/blog/se-passe-serre-chevalier-passer-vert>



Serre Chevalier Vallée  
Briançon