

L'étalement urbain, un fléau pour la biodiversité

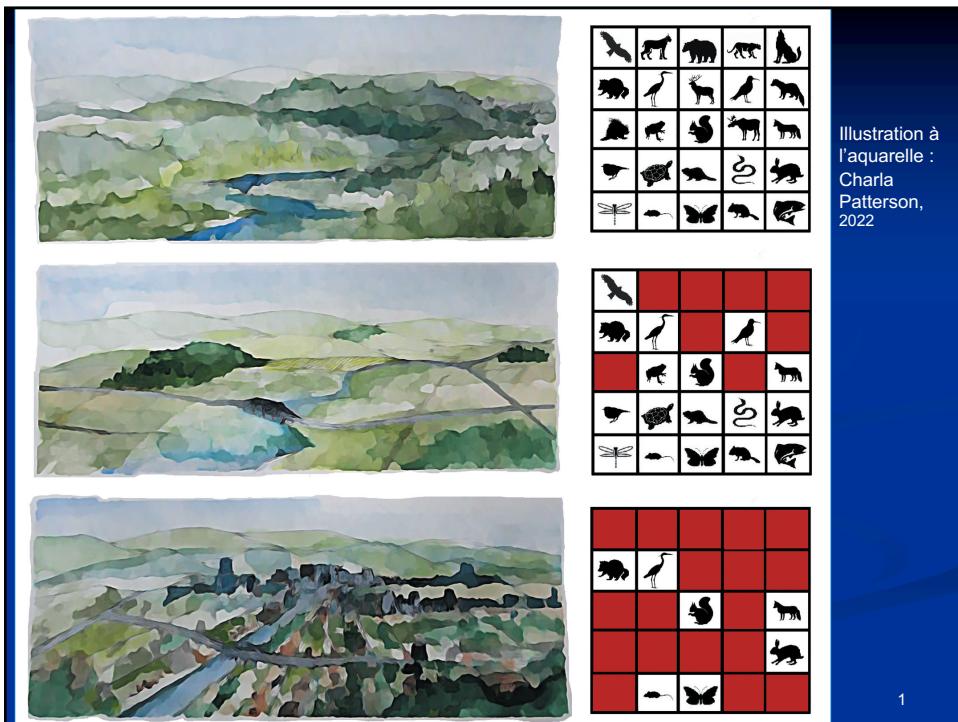
Dr. Jochen Jaeger

*Université Concordia, Montréal
Département de géographie, urbanisme et environnement*

7 décembre 2022



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1

Zones bâties (1951)

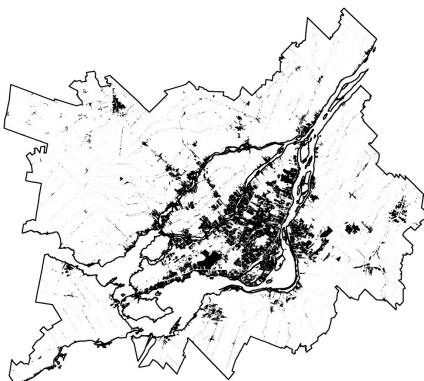


Montréal

Nazarnia et collab. (2016)

2

Zones bâties (1971)



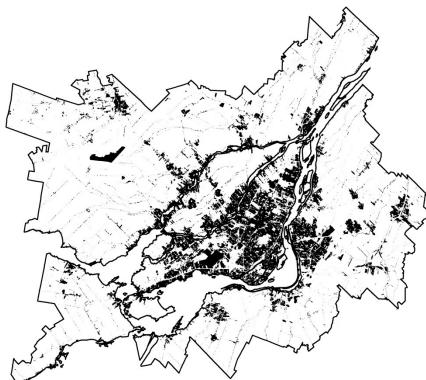
Montréal

Nazarnia et collab. (2016)

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2

Zones bâties (1986)

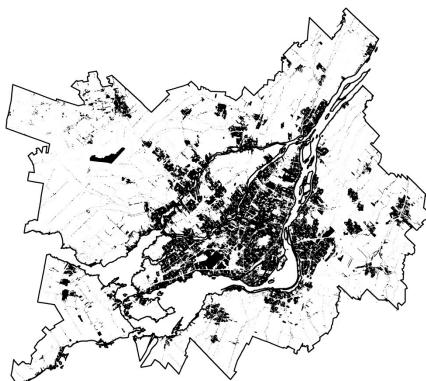


Montréal

Nazarnia et collab. (2016)

4

Zones bâties (1996)

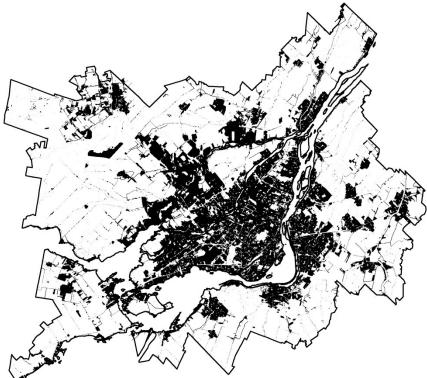


Montréal

Nazarnia et collab. (2016)

5

Zones bâties (2011)



Montréal

Nazarnia et collab. (2016)

6

Les paysages changent rapidement
Construction de routes et l'étalement urbain



1989

Brugger (1992)

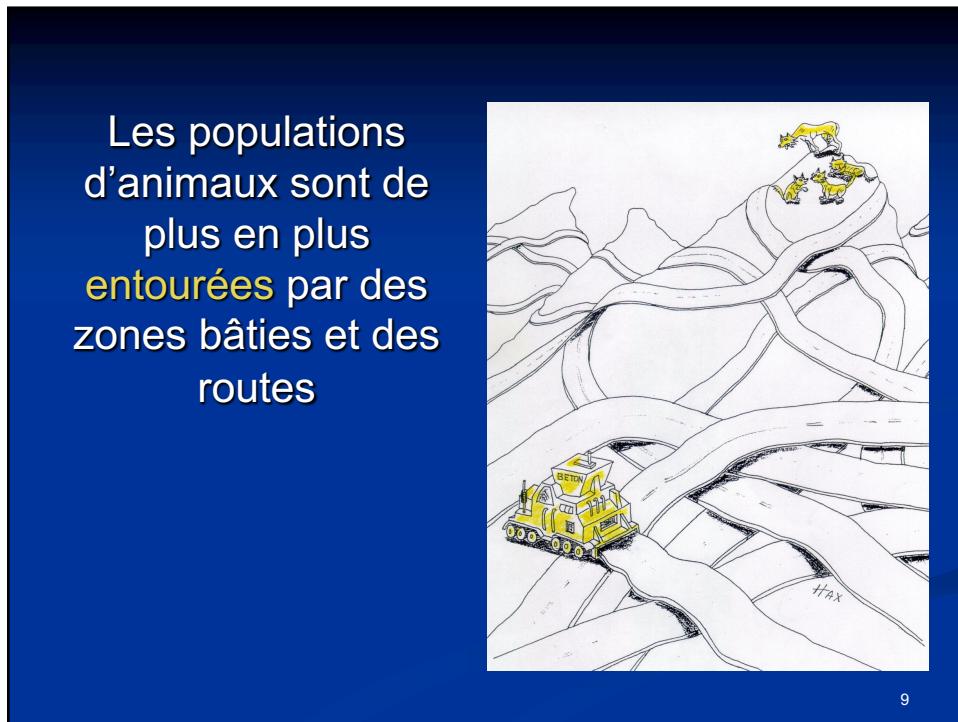
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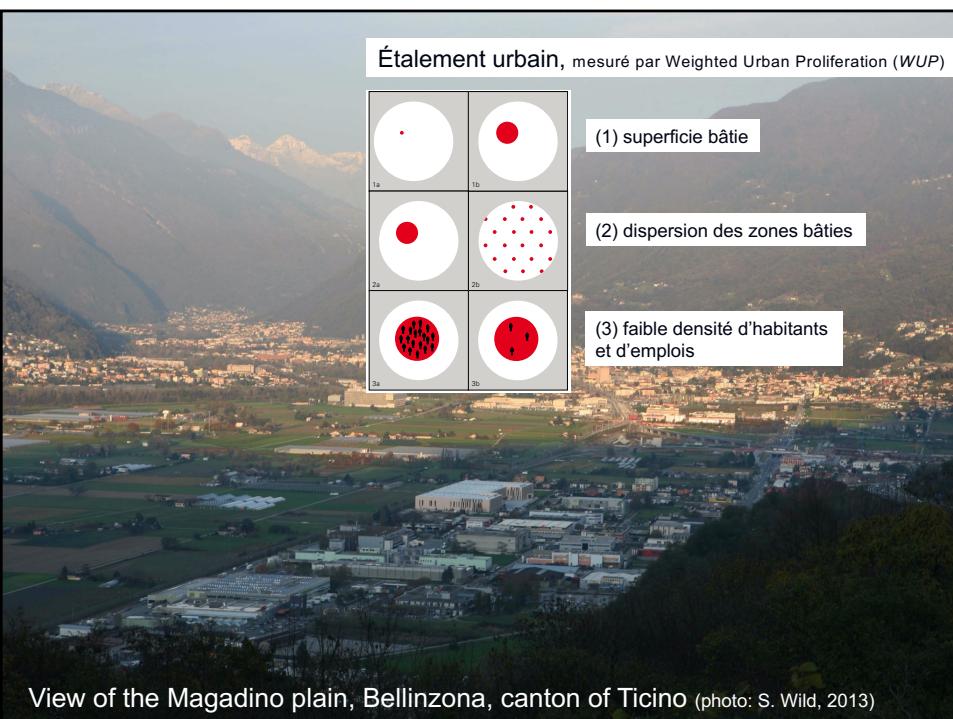


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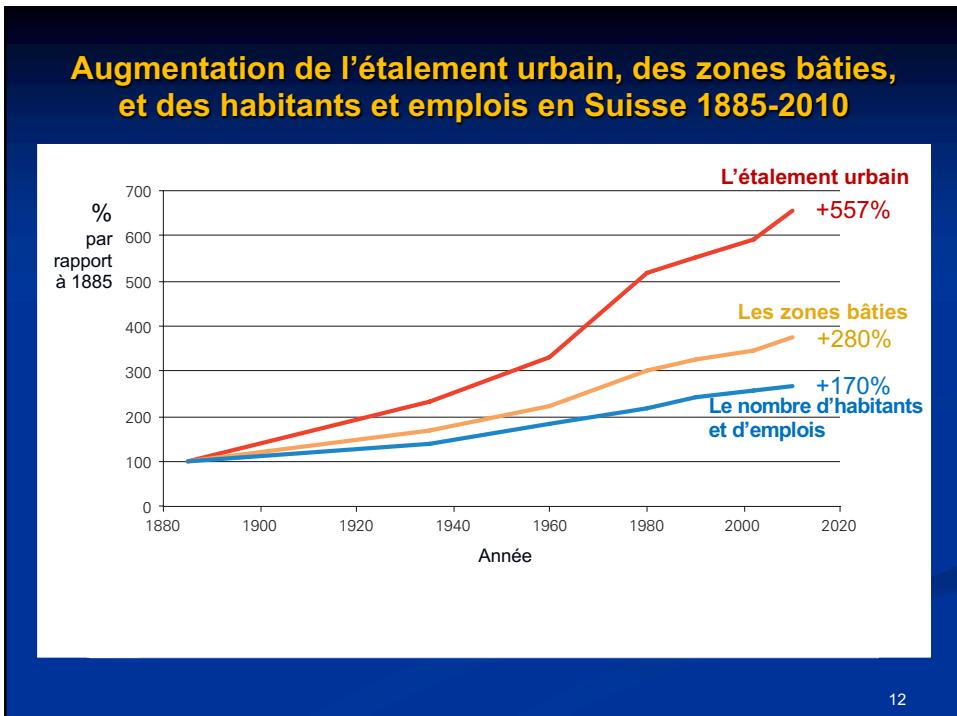


View of the Magadino plain, Bellinzona, canton of Ticino (photo: S. Wild, 2013)

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En Suisse: La gestion durable du paysage fait partie de la Constitution fédérale suisse depuis 1999.

« L'étalement urbain et la destruction des terres agricoles sont des problèmes non résolus de l'aménagement du territoire. »

Citation de Doris Leuthard,
Présidente de la Confédération

et de
en 2010

Corinne Casanova
Chancelière de la Confédération

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Les nombreux effets de l'étalement urbain

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS	
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less land available for renewable energy supplies and industrial purposes Higher energy consumption (e.g. due to dispersed character of sprawled areas)
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less land available for food production Reduced quality of agricultural products (e.g. due to soil contamination or over fertilization)
Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land consumption and soil sealing Landscape fragmentation Loss of agricultural lands due to conversion into higher built-up areas
Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modification of temperature conditions (e.g. heat island effect, heating up of roads) Modification of wind conditions (e.g. due to aisles in forests in fragmented areas)
Flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of valuable ecosystems for different kinds of animals Death of animals caused by road mortality Change in animal movement behavior due to changes in the land use
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative impact on hydrological systems (e.g. pollution by oil and fuel) Loss of permeability of soil for water
Pollutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher noise pollution (e.g. the noise produced by vehicles and rapid growth in transport volumes) Urban air pollution (e.g. air pollution due to higher dependency on cars and higher use of fuel and oil)
Landscape scenery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in look of landscape (e.g. penetration of the landscape by posts and wires) Change of landscape character due to its less recreational character in sprawled areas
ECONOMICAL IMPACTS	
Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher public service costs (e.g. higher public transport costs) Increase in personal transportation costs due to long commutes
SOCIAL IMPACTS	
Human being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative health effects, such as obesity Increase in traffic and traffic-related fatalities Higher mental health problems (e.g. higher level of stress) Lack of physical activity (e.g. due to higher automobile dependency)

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Les nombreux effets de l'étalement urbain

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS	
L'étalement urbain est effectivement le contraire du développement durable.	
Flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Death of animals caused by road mortality Change in animal movement behavior due to changes in the land use
La flore et la faune <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perte d'écosystèmes précieux pour différentes espèces d'animaux - Mort d'animaux causée par la mortalité routière - Modification du comportement de déplacement des animaux en raison des changements dans l'utilisation des sols. 	
Human being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative health effects, such as obesity Increase in traffic and traffic-related fatalities Higher mental health problems (e.g. higher level of stress) Lack of physical activity (e.g. due to higher automobile dependency)

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L'étalement urbain à Montréal 1951 - 2011

Mémoire de maîtrise de Naghmeh Nazarnia

L'augmentation de l'étalement urbain a-t-elle dépassé celle de la population ?

The map shows the evolution of urban sprawl in Montreal, with the city boundary in 1951 and a larger, more extensive boundary in 2011, indicating significant urban expansion.

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Ecological Indicators
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ecolind

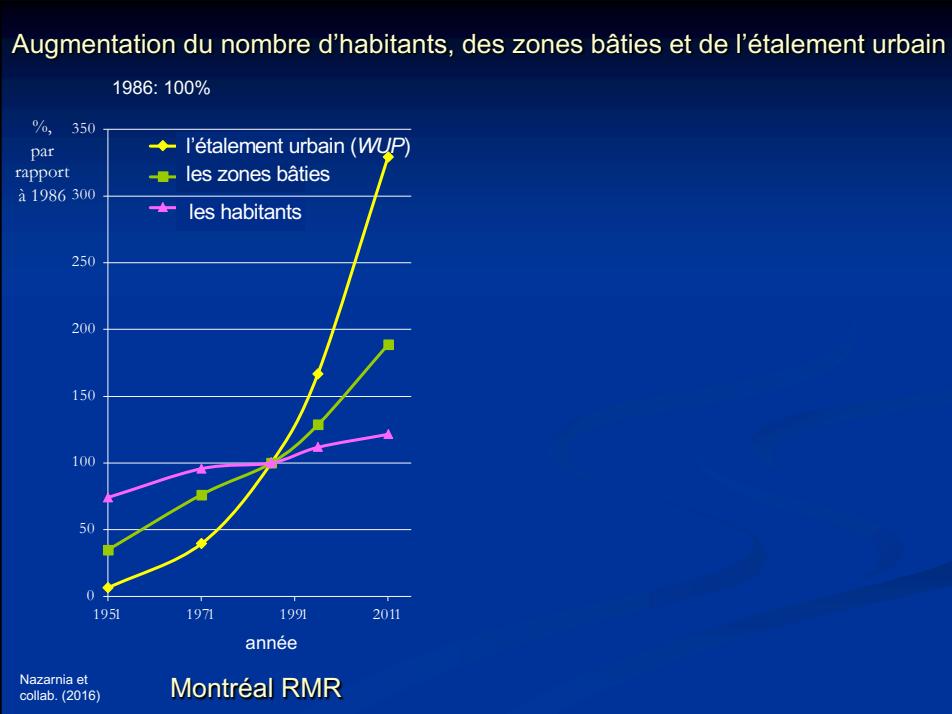
Accelerated urban sprawl in Montreal, Quebec City, and Zurich: Investigating the differences using time series 1951–2011
Naghmeh Nazarnia^a,*, Daniel Gobster^b, Jochen A.G. Jaeger^c
^a School of Environment, Energy and Natural Resources, University of Connecticut, P.O. Box 116524, 195 University Boulevard, Storrs, CT 06269, United States
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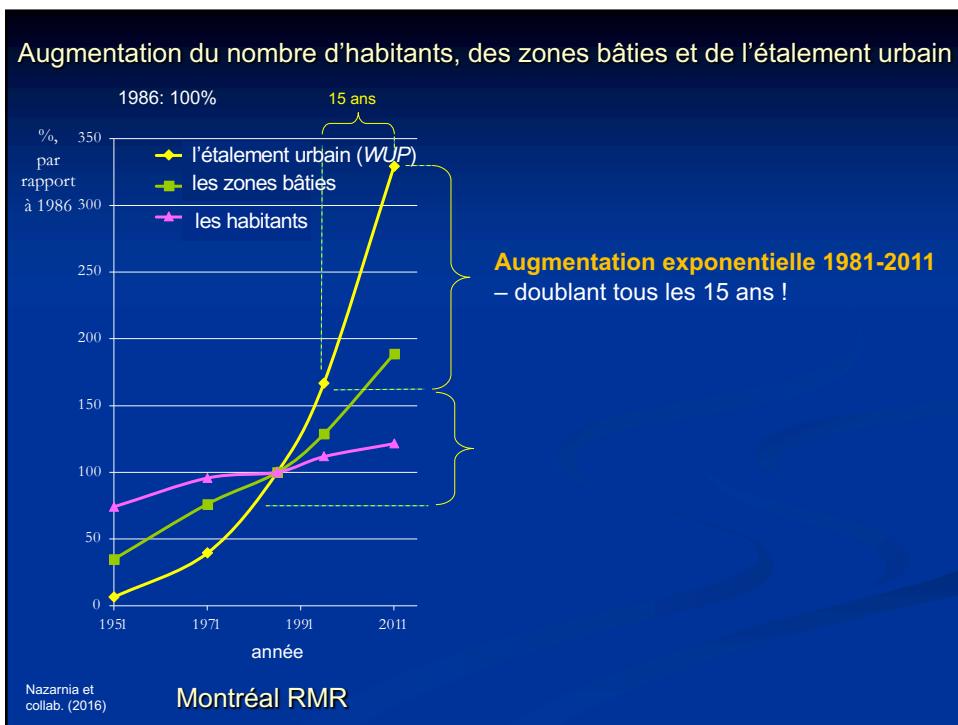
ABSTRACT
Increasing awareness of the negative effects of urban sprawl has made sprawl a topic of great debate. However, higher efforts are needed to protect forests, agricultural lands, and other open spaces from urban sprawl. This study compares the extent of urban sprawl in three major metropolitan areas in Canada: Greater Montreal Area and the Quebec City metropolitan area in Quebec (both between 1951 and 2011) and the Zurich metropolitan area in Switzerland (1951–2011). The results show that the rate of urban sprawl in the three metropolitan areas is different. The rate of urban sprawl in the Greater Montreal Area is higher than that in the Quebec City metropolitan area and the Zurich metropolitan area. The rate of urban sprawl in the Quebec City metropolitan area is higher than that in the Zurich metropolitan area. The rate of urban sprawl in the Zurich metropolitan area is lower than that in the Greater Montreal Area and the Quebec City metropolitan area.

Nazarnia et collab. (2016), Ecol. Indicators

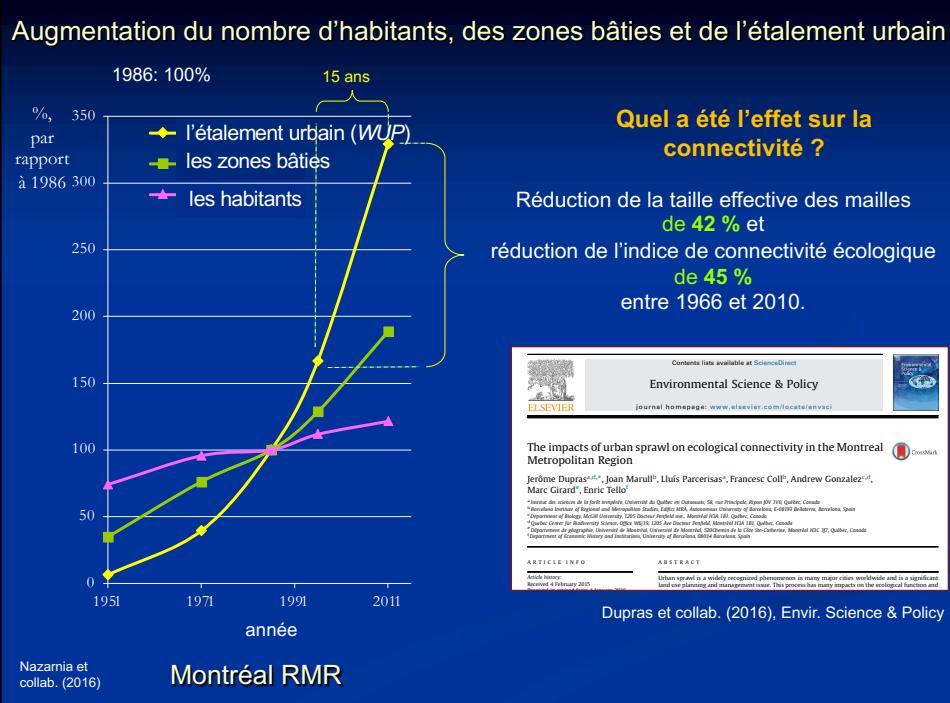
17



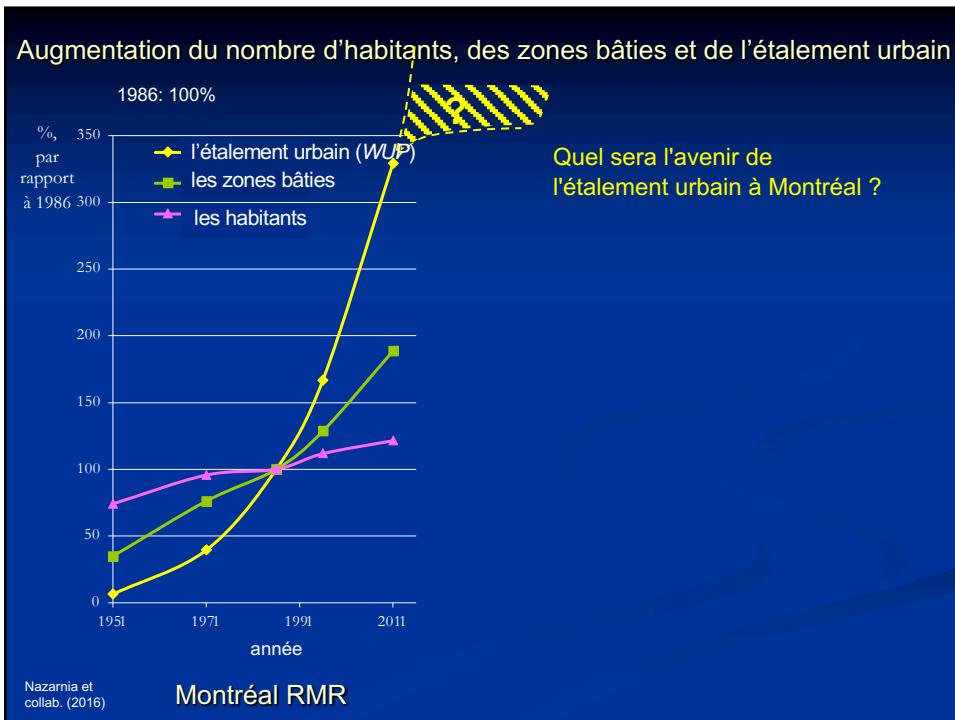
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Nouveau article : L'étalement urbain sur la planète

PLOS SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION



March 6, 2022
PLOS Sustainability and Transformation, empowering immediate actions for a sustainable future



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PLOS SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION

RESEARCH ARTICLE
Rapid rise in urban sprawl: Global hotspots and trends since 1990

Martin Behnisch^{1*}, Tobias Krüger^{1*}, Jochen A. G. Jaeger²

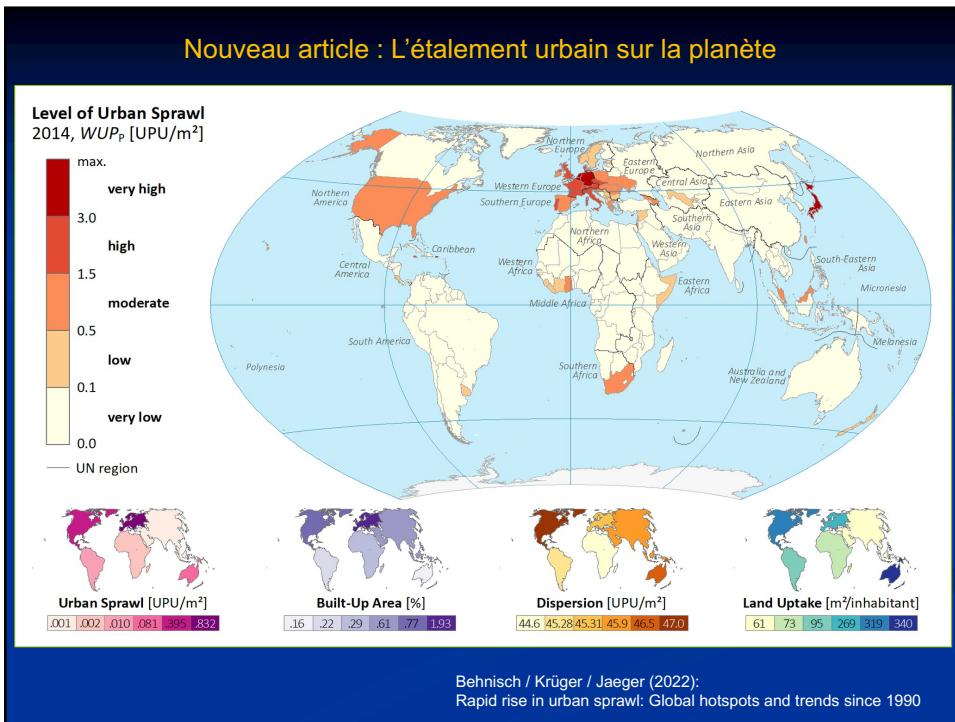
¹ Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IOER), Dresden, Germany, ² Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, Concordia University Montreal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

* These authors contributed equally to this work.
m.behnisch@ioer.de

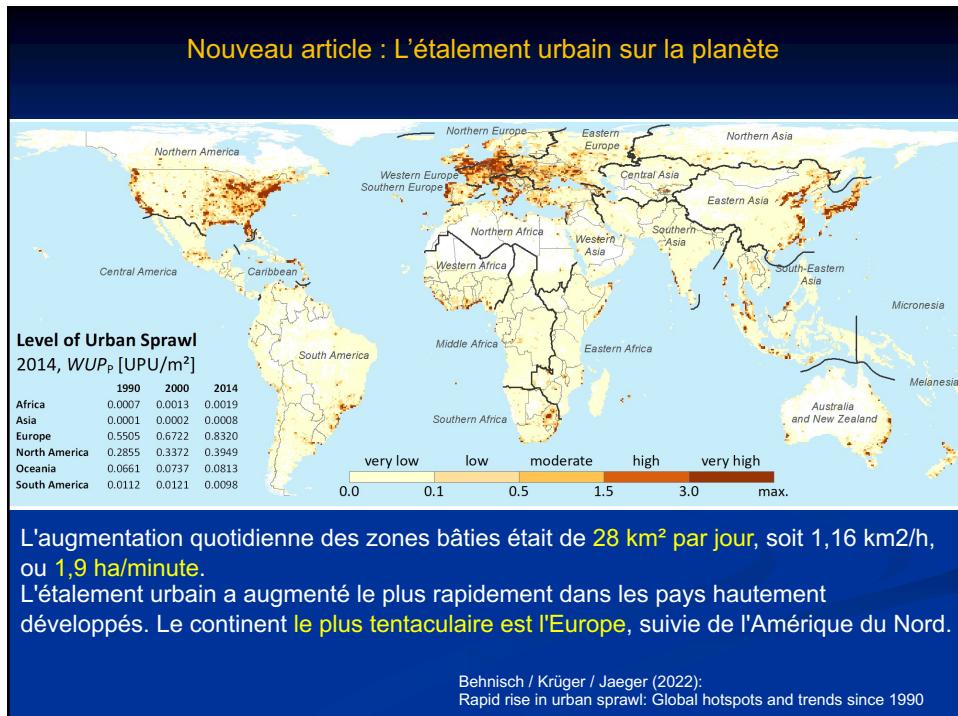
Abstract
Dispersed low-density development – “urban sprawl” – has many detrimental environmental, economic, and social consequences. Sprawl leads to higher greenhouse-gas emissions and poses an increasing threat to the long-term availability of many vital ecosystem services. Therefore, urban sprawl is in stark contradiction to the principles of sustainable land use and to the need for a sustainability transformation. This study presents the degree of urban sprawl on the planet at multiple spatial scales (continents, UN regions, countries, sub-national units, and a regular grid) for the period 1990–2014. Urban sprawl increased by 95% in 24 years, almost 4% per year, with built-up areas growing by almost 28 km² per day, or 1.16 km² per hour. The results demonstrate that Europe has been the most sprawled and also the most rapidly sprawling continent by 51% since 1990. At the scale of UN regions, the highest relative increases in sprawl have been observed in East Asia, Western Asia, and Southern Africa, while sprawl per capita has been highest in Central America and North America, exhibiting a minor decline since 1990, while it has been increasing rapidly in Europe, by almost 47% since 1990. This study revealed a strong relationship between urban sprawl and the level of human development as measured by the Human Development Index (HDI). The results suggest that it will be important for a more sustainable future to find a better balance between a high quality of life and using land more sparingly. There is an urgent need to stop urban sprawl, since current regulations and measures in developed countries are apparently not effective at limiting it. Monitoring urban sprawl can serve to guide policy development.

Behnisch / Krüger / Jaeger (2022):
Rapid rise in urban sprawl: Global hotspots and trends since 1990

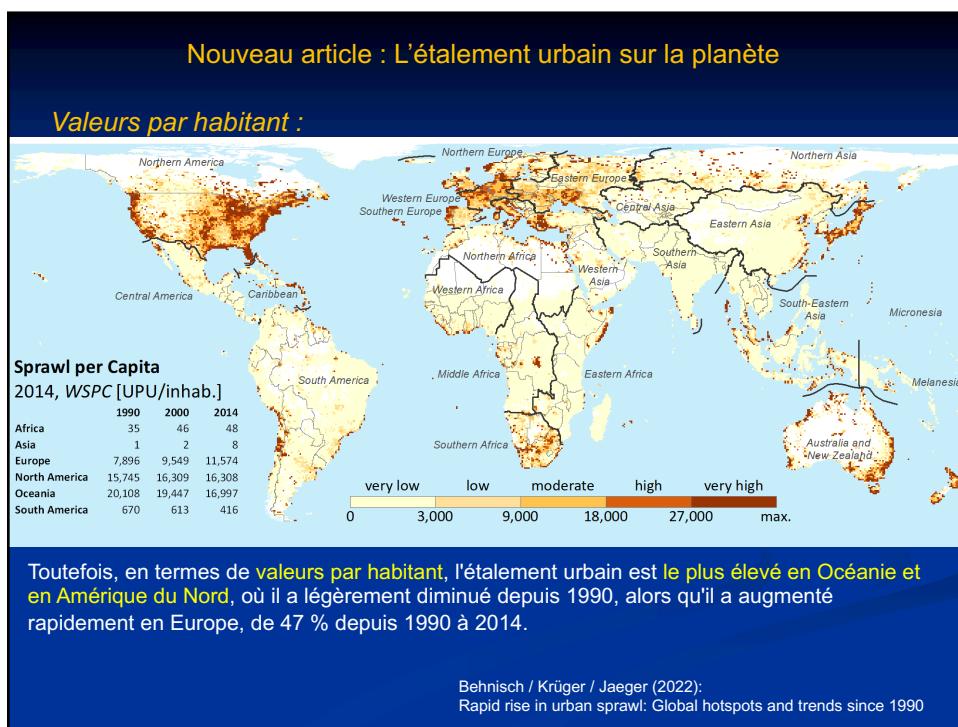
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Que faire ?

11 mesures pour limiter l'étalement urbain :

- Maintenir les zones bâties dans les limites existantes
- Arrêter l'expansion dispersée des zones bâties
- Protection adéquate du paysage ouvert : ceintures vertes
- Protéger les zones sensibles à l'étalement urbain
- Délimitation des zones bâties
- Respect de la directive de ne construire que dans les zones désignées
- Limiter l'étendue des zones de construction désignées
- Planification coopérative à grande échelle
- Mise en œuvre d'objectifs, de limites et de points de repère pour l'étalement urbain
- Planification à long terme basée sur des principes directeurs pour la gestion durable du paysage

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L'efficacité des ceintures vertes pour ralentir ou réduire l'étalement urbain

Landscape and Urban Planning 227 (2022) 106322
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ELSEVIER

Research Paper
How effective are greenbelts at mitigating urban sprawl?
A comparative study of 60 European cities
Poultaherian^{a,*}, Jochen A.G. Jaeger^{a,b,c}

^a Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, Concordia University Montreal, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West, Suite 10125, Montréal, Québec H3Z 1M6, Canada
^b Agro-Environmental Research Centre, Concordia University Montreal, 7140 Sherbrooke St. West, Montréal, Québec H4B 1R6, Canada

HIGHLIGHTS

- This study compares urban sprawl between greenbelted and non-greenbelted areas.
- Greenbelts have been largely ineffective at reducing urban sprawl.
- The effect was somewhat stronger in smaller cities than in larger ones.
- The main mechanism was a reduction of land take per person, i.e., densification.
- We recommend greenbelts for developing compact cities, instead of more compact green cities.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Built-up areas; Dispersion; Land take; Sprawl; Urban sprawl; Urban development; Urban growth management strategy; Urban sprawl

ABSTRACT

As large-scale continuous areas toward urbanization, many cities in this continent are affected by the negative impacts caused by urban sprawl. Among the efforts adopted to overcome urban sprawl and its adverse impacts is the greenbelt policy which is highly popular in several European countries. However, the actual effectiveness of greenbelts in mitigating urban sprawl has not been well investigated. Using data from 60 European cities, 30 of which have greenbelts, this study compares (1) changes in urban sprawl in a 5-year time period (2000–2005) between greenbelted and non-greenbelted areas and (2) the performance of greenbelts separately, to investigate the performance of the greenbelts, applying the metrics of Weighted Urban Pollution Index (WUPI), Weighted Urban Sprawl Index (WUSI) and Weighted Urban Density Index (WUDI). The results show that greenbelts were only effective at slowing down urban sprawl and in most cases they have helped reduce sprawl (2) while urban sprawl increased in greenbelted areas (1).



Pourtaherian et Jaeger (2022)

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L'efficacité des ceintures vertes pour ralentir ou réduire l'étalement urbain

The screenshot shows a research paper titled "How effective are greenbelts at mitigating urban sprawl? A comparative study of 60 European cities" by Pernian Pourtaherian et al. The article is published in the journal *Landscape and Urban Planning*. The graphical abstract highlights that greenbelts are effective in mitigating urban sprawl, particularly in larger population areas. The study found that greenbelts reduce land uptake per person and recommended greenbelts around urban areas and compact green cities.

INFO

À la une | ICI RDI | Vidéos | Sommet sur la biodiversité | International | Politique | E

ACCUEIL | INFO | ENVIRONNEMENT | URBANISME

Les « ceintures vertes » : un moyen pour freiner l'étalement urbain, selon des chercheurs

HIGHLIGHTS

- This study compares urban sprawl in cities with and without greenbelts
- Greenbelts have been largely considered as a way to mitigate sprawl
- The effect was somewhat stronger in larger population areas
- Greenbelts reduce land uptake per person
- We recommend greenbelts around urban areas and compact green cities

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

Les ceintures vertes, efficaces pour ralentir l'étalement urbain, selon une nouvelle étude de Concordia

L'étude compare 60 villes européennes afin de déterminer dans quelle mesure les paysages protégés favorisent la densification

25 octobre 2022 | Par Patrick Lejtenyi

ARTICLE INFO

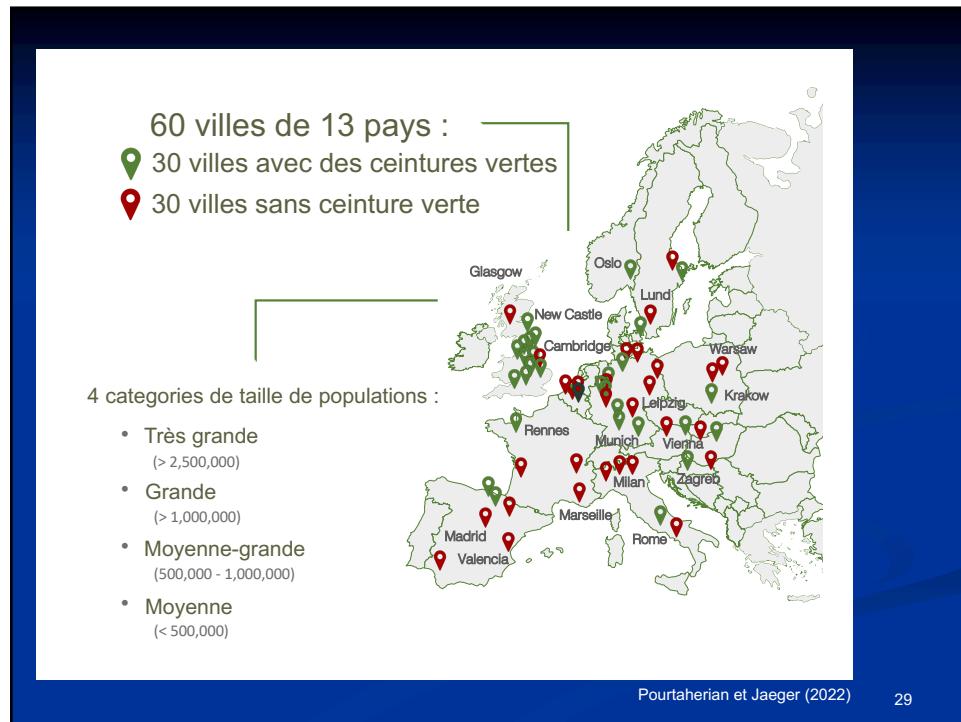
Keywords: Built-up areas; Dispersion; Density; Land sprawl; Land uptake; Urban development; Urban sprawl; Urban growth management; Urbanization density

Image: A photograph of a dense forest under a clear blue sky.

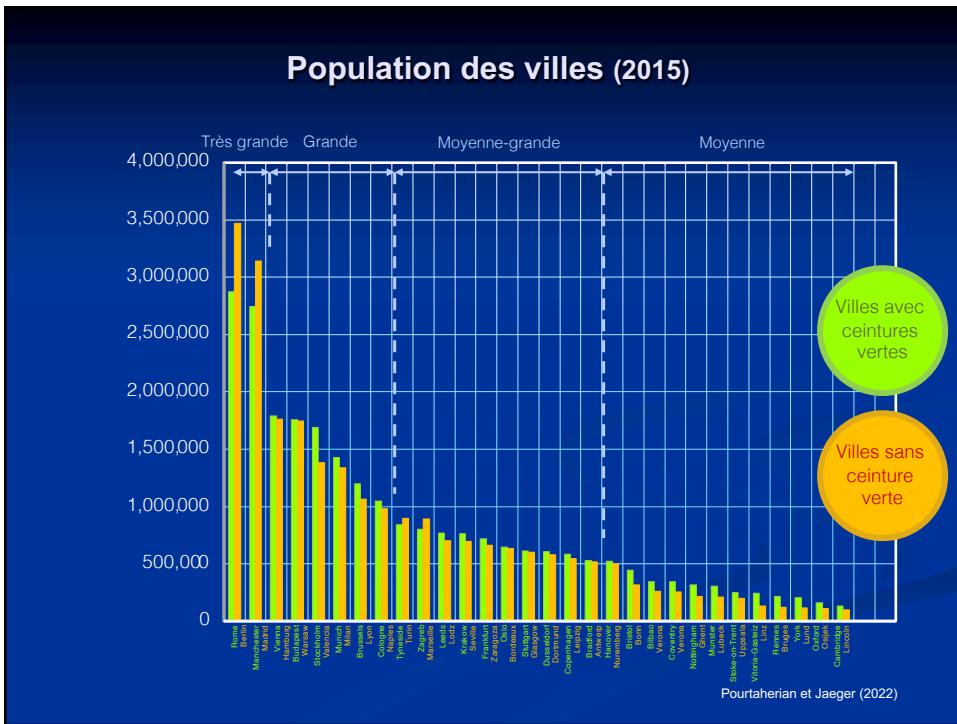
Image: An aerial view of a city surrounded by green fields and forests.

Text: L'université Concordia à Montréal affirme « presque toujours efficace » de freiner l'étalement urbain. Le gestionnaire de « ceintures vertes » en Europe soutient que le développement urbain pourrait contribuer à limiter ce phénomène. Ces ceintures sont des exemples de forêts ou de terres agricoles, et même une région où le développement

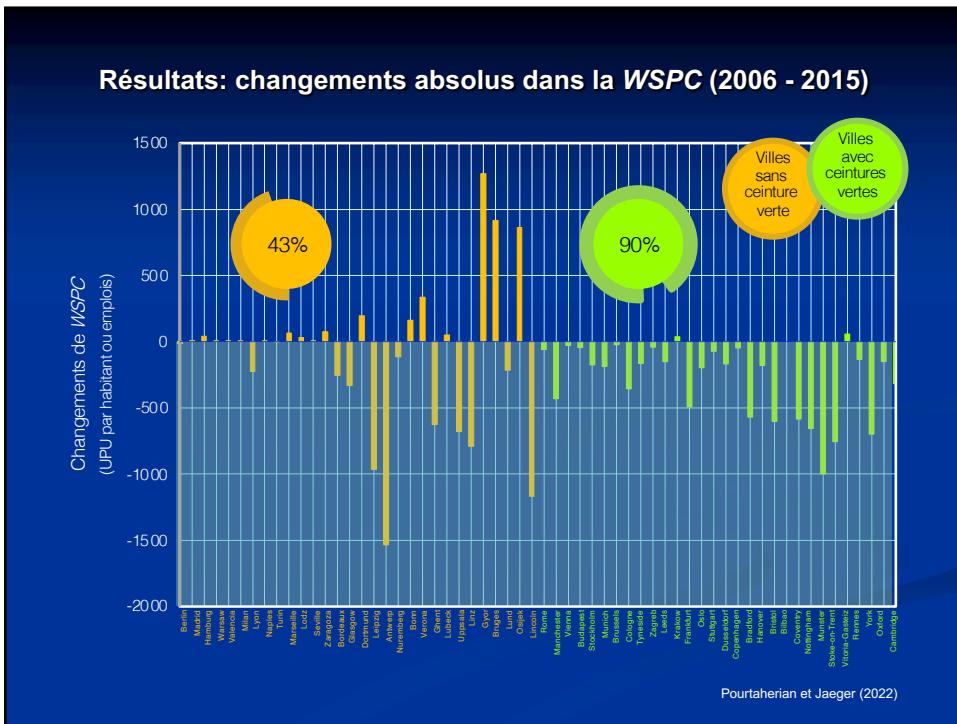
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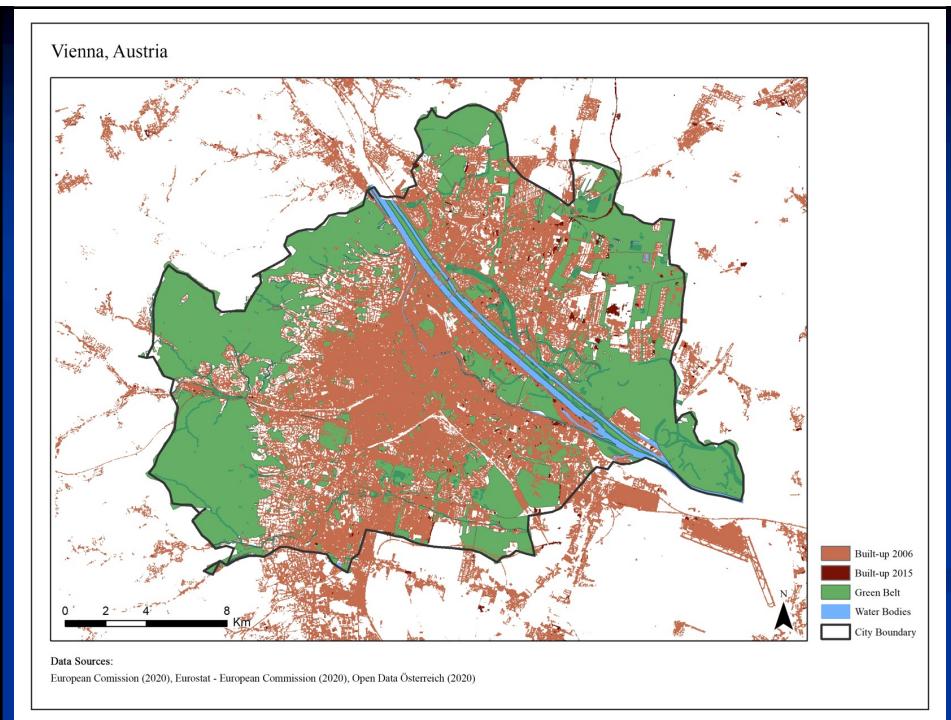
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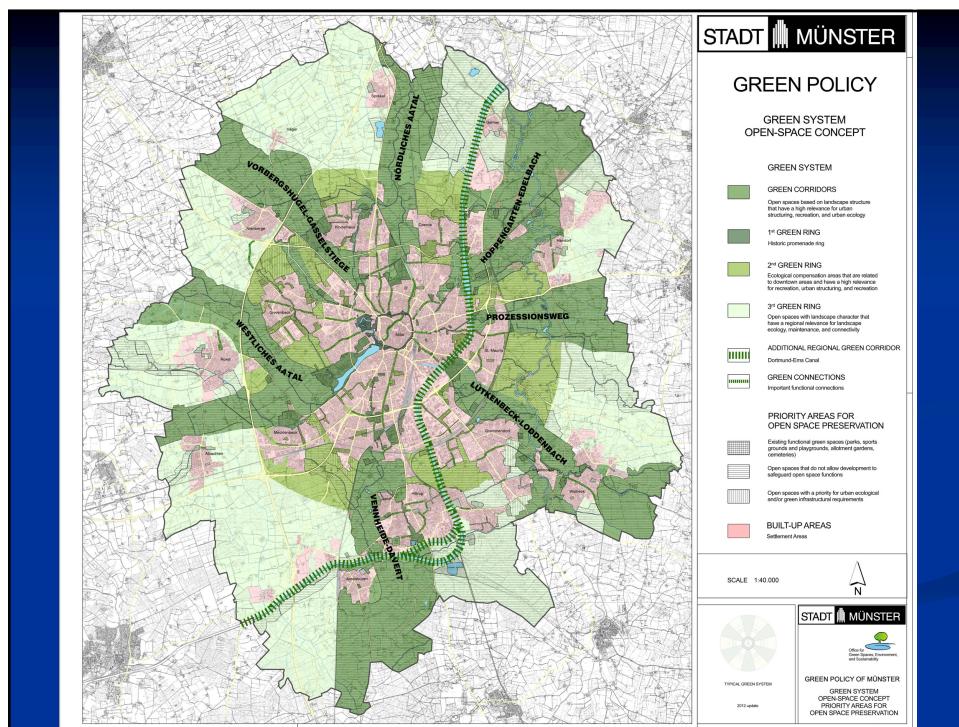
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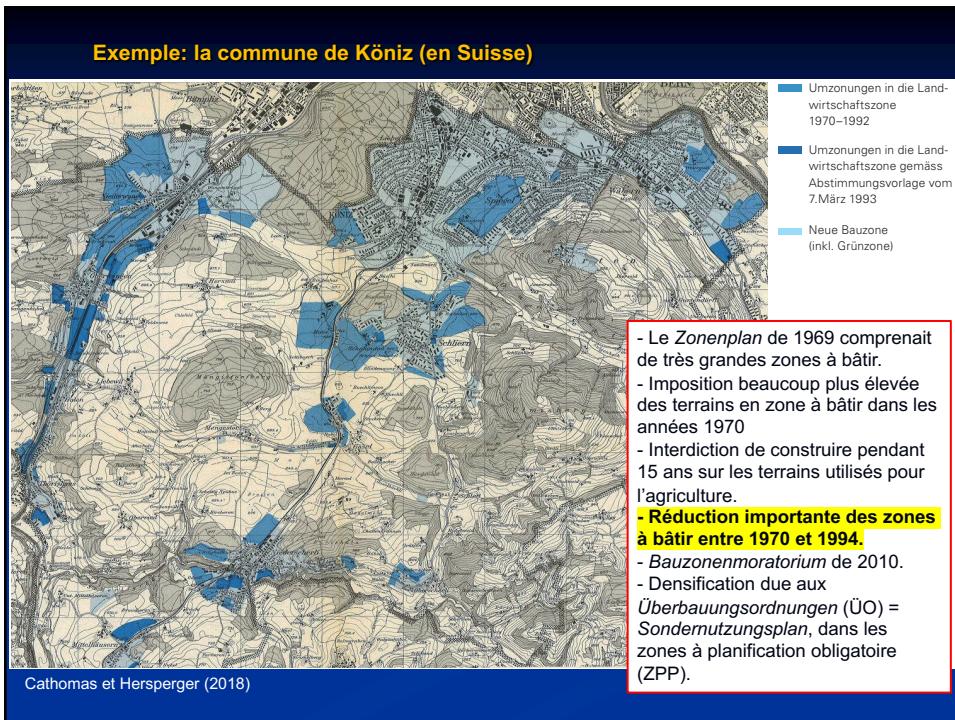
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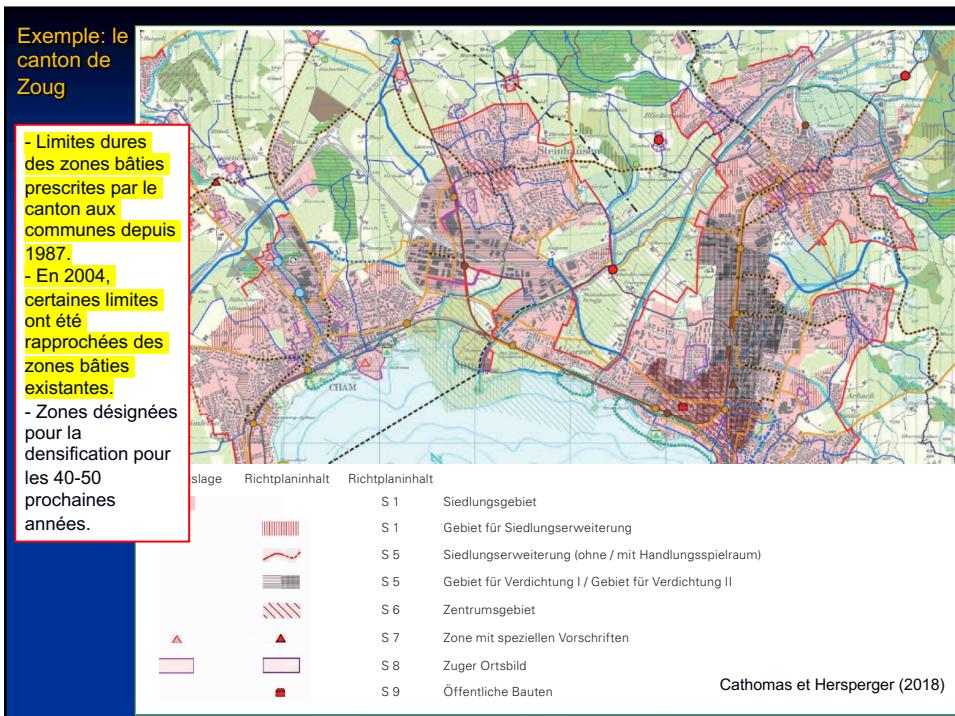
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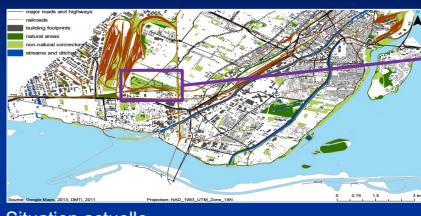
Mesurer et limiter l'étalement urbain



Schwick, Jaeger,
Hersperger, Cathomas,
Muggli (2018)

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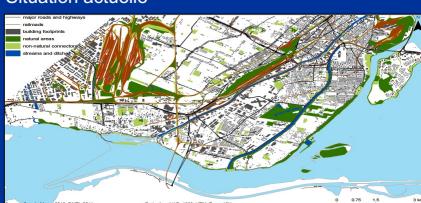
Scénarios d'un réseau vert dans le sud-ouest de Montréal



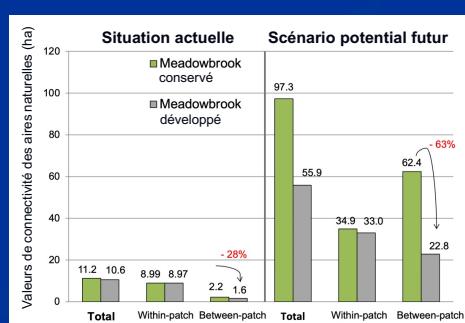
Situation actuelle



Gulf de Meadowbrook



Scénario potentiel futur



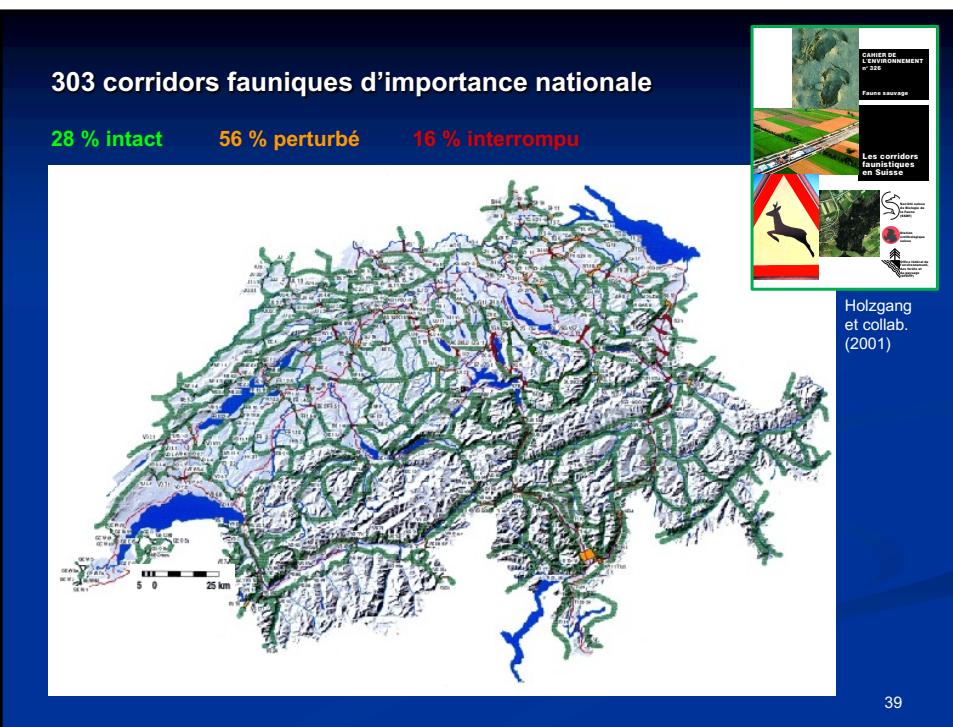
Deslauriers et collab. (2018), Ecological Indicators 94: 99-113

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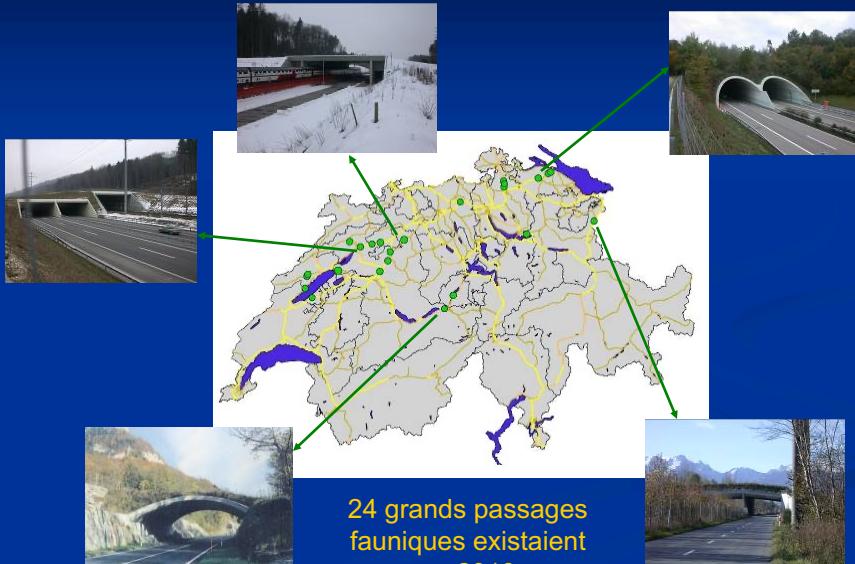


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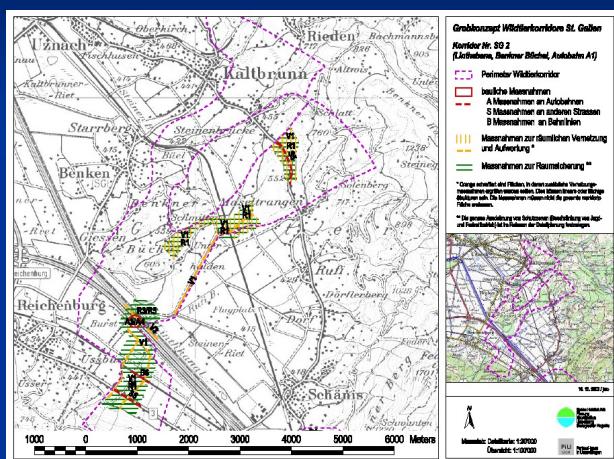
Restauration du réseau national suisse de corridors pour la faune



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Plans détaillés élaborés par les cantons pour l'aménagement du territoire



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Connectivité des aires naturelles

La Stratégie pour l'Infrastructure Verte de l'Union Européenne

- Adoptée en mai 2013
- Se rapporte à la Stratégie de la biodiversité de l'Union Européenne
 - Pour arrêter la perte de biodiversité en Europe d'ici 2020
 - Adoptée en mai 2011

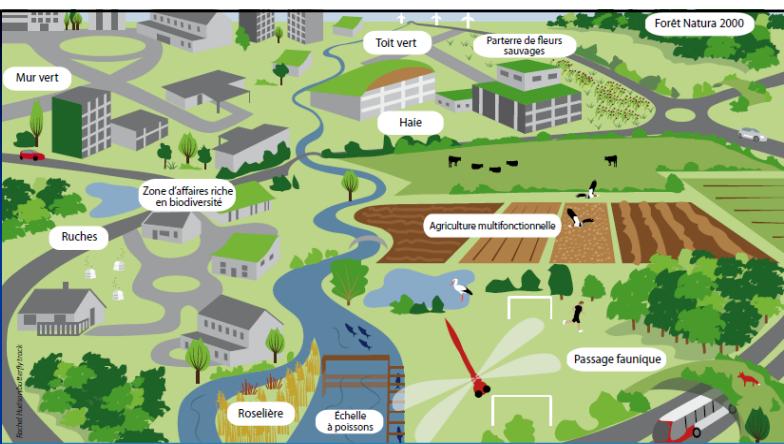


Créer une Infrastructure Verte pour l'Europe



Commission Européenne (2013)

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Composantes potentielles d'une infrastructure verte:

- les régions clés à grande biodiversité qui agissent en tant que pôles pour l'infrastructure verte, comme les sites protégés Natura 2000;
- les régions clés à l'extérieur des zones protégées abritant de vastes écosystèmes sains;
- les habitats restaurés qui contribuent à reconnecter ou à améliorer les zones naturelles existantes, comme une roselière restaurée ou une prairie de fleurs sauvages;
- les éléments naturels qui agissent en tant que couloirs ou tremplins pour la faune, comme les petits cours d'eau, les mares, les haies ou les bandes forestières;
- les dispositifs artificiels qui améliorent les services de l'écosystème ou contribuent à la circulation de la faune, comme les écoducs ou passerelles écologiques, les échelles à poissons ou les toits verts;
- les zones tampon qui sont gérées durablement et contribuent à améliorer la qualité écologique générale et la perméabilité du paysage à la biodiversité, ex. agriculture respectueuse de la faune;
- les zones multifonctionnelles où les affectations compatibles du sol peuvent permettre d'avoir un aménagement du territoire qui soutient les utilisations multiples du sol sur une même zone géographique, ex. production de denrées alimentaires et activités récréatives.

Commission Européenne (2013)

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Au Québec:

- **L'Initiative québécoise Corridors écologiques (IQCÉ)** est formée de 10 organisations de 11 régions du Québec qui proposent une approche collective de l'aménagement du territoire afin d'augmenter la conservation de milieux naturels connectés par des corridors écologiques.

Conservation de la nature Canada

Description du projet (anglais)

L'Initiative québécoise Corridors écologiques (IQCÉ) est formée de 10 organisations de 11 régions du Québec qui proposent une approche collective de l'aménagement du territoire afin d'augmenter la conservation de milieux naturels connectés par des corridors écologiques. Mise en place et coordonnée par Conservation de la nature Canada, l'initiative vise à soutenir les gouvernements et à engager à l'action des Municipalités régionales de comté (MRC), des municipalités et des citoyens propriétaires de lots boisés, agriculteurs, acteurs d'un réseau de partenaires local, tous jouant un rôle stratégique dans l'utilisation du territoire essentiel à l'atteinte des objectifs. Afin d'assurer la cohérence et la synergie entre les territoires visés, l'équipe de projet travaille de concert avec des experts et des partenaires provinciaux et transfrontaliers.

Description du projet (français)

L'Initiative québécoise Corridors écologiques (IQCÉ) est formée de 10 organisations de 11 régions du Québec qui proposent une approche collective de l'aménagement du territoire afin d'augmenter la conservation de milieux naturels connectés par des corridors écologiques. Mise en place et coordonnée par Conservation de la nature Canada, l'initiative vise à soutenir les gouvernements et à engager à l'action des Municipalités régionales de comté (MRC), des municipalités et des citoyens propriétaires de lots boisés, agriculteurs, acteurs d'un réseau de partenaires local, tous jouant un rôle stratégique dans l'utilisation du territoire essentiel à l'atteinte des objectifs. Afin d'assurer la cohérence et la synergie entre les territoires visés, l'équipe de projet travaille de concert avec des experts et des partenaires provinciaux et transfrontaliers.

Organisation principale responsable du projet

Conservation de la nature Canada

Organisation(s) partenaire(s)

Nature-Action Québec

Corridor Appalachien

Eco-corridors laurentiens

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Considerer la connectivité dans les évaluations d'impacts environnementaux

■ Numéro spécial dans *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal* (2022)

EDITORIAL

Advancing the consideration of ecological connectivity in environmental assessment: Synthesis and next steps forward

1. Landscape change, biodiversity, and the role of ecological connectivity

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to reflection and debate about an urgent need to re-examine how humans relate to the natural world, particularly biodiversity, and how environmental assessment (EA) can be improved to prevent further biodiversity decline (Gannon 2021; Figueiredo Gallardo et al. 2022). This process requires critical inquiry and interdisciplinary scholarship. Ecological connectivity is a key element for safeguarding biodiversity and is an essential component of environmental assessments (Patterson and Zavaleta 2009; Samways and Pyke 2016; Timpa-Padgham et al. 2017). Connectivity refers to 'the degree to which the landscapes facilitate or impede movement among resource patches' (Taylor et al. 1993: 571) or 'the ease with which these individuals can move about within their environment' (Patterson and Zavaleta 2009: 1). It also includes the movement of free-living factors such as nutrients and water. Connectivity is an important condition for maintaining 'the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth' (CMS 2020). While habitat loss remains a primary threat to biodiversity, connectivity needs to be more fully considered in EA, both in terrestrial and aquatic systems, to allow for dispersal, migration, re-colonization, prevention of inbreeding, and the maintenance of many other ecological processes. Furthermore, as climate change forces species to change their distribution in response to shifting environmental conditions within their traditional range (Parmesan 2006), maintaining connectivity could be the linchpin for the persistence of many wildlife populations.

protected areas have become a central theme of conservation planning around the world' (2022). In the past, connectivity has been neglected in EA (Gontier et al. 2006), even known to have serious impacts on connectivity as linear infrastructure (Laurence et al. 2014; Richardson et al. 2014) and hydroelectric dams (Amen et al. 2012). This may have increased fragmentation (Figure 1), deforestation, and the disruption of biodiversity (Keyghobadi 2007; Perkin and Gido 2017; restrial environments, human interver and coastal ecosystems, even when cated areas, can also affect species dispersal and gene flow, leading to habitat fragmentation, gene diversity, and adaptive capacity (Jonsson et al. 2017; Jonsson et al. 2021). However, in seascapes connectivity is also important for marine ecosystems (Patterson and Zavaleta 2009; Samways and Pyke 2016; Timpa-Padgham et al. 2017). Connectivity continues to decline protection of connectivity in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and its consideration in EA. This special issue of a session on 'Prioritizing landscape environmental impact assessment' International Conference of the IIAA (2022) discusses the paucity of studies about connectivity in EA. It explores how EA can be decided to avoid connectivity issues and presents with presenters at our IIAA conference new contributors.

2. Objectives of this special issue

Torres, Patterson, Jaeger (2022)

CHALLENGES

- Methods
- Scale
- Target
- Project type
- EA phase
- Logistics

OPPORTUNITIES

- Use available quantitative methods & shift to multi-species approaches
- Consider biological criteria to define spatial extent of connectivity analysis
- Continuous science and knowledge exchange to develop guidelines and training
- Establish biodiversity and connectivity as priorities in decision-making & improve legislation/regulation
- Follow the mitigation hierarchy to promote early consideration in EA process
- Use of landscape-scale CSA to ensure that projects don't exceed the ecological limits of a region

SYSTEMIC CHANGES

- Stop the fallacy of stressed systems and the shifting baseline syndrome
- Set up robust monitoring systems & increase data openness & outcomes
- Advance evidence-based EA and decision-making
- Integrate connectivity within national planning and SEA
- Establish responsibilities of stakeholders to promote accountability
- Avoid misuse of connectivity analyses as a means to compensate for habitat loss

Figure 2. Synthesis of the contributions to the special issue. Challenges, opportunities, and systemic changes needed for adequate consideration of ecological connectivity in environmental assessment. The first column indicates current challenges and gaps in the EA process. The second column indicates opportunities for better integration of connectivity into EA practice as reported in the studies included in this special issue. The third column summarizes identified needs for systemic changes and further research efforts.

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