

The Social Ecology of Californisation & Littoralisation in Mediterranean France

Christophe Neff & Julia Baum

Presenter: Christophe Neff



Photo: © C. Neff 2011 Californisation in Treilles Dep. Aude France

Outline

- Theory and Definition of Littoralisation
- Theory and Definition of Californisation
- Landcover Change and Californisation in Mediterranean France
– the example of the Leucate peninsula (Masterthesis Julia Baum)



Photo: © C. Neff 2010

Littoralisation

« La littoralisation est un processus ancien mais qui a pris une dimension importante et mondiale depuis la seconde partie du XXe siècle.

- **une migration des populations vers les littoraux, pour les richesses halieutiques, ou encore l'ouverture sur la mondialisation, plus aisée qu'à l'intérieur des pays;**
- **la maritimisation de l'économie, qui a accompagné le développement des transports maritimes intercontinentaux et des grands ports maritimes (zones industrialo-portuaires).»**

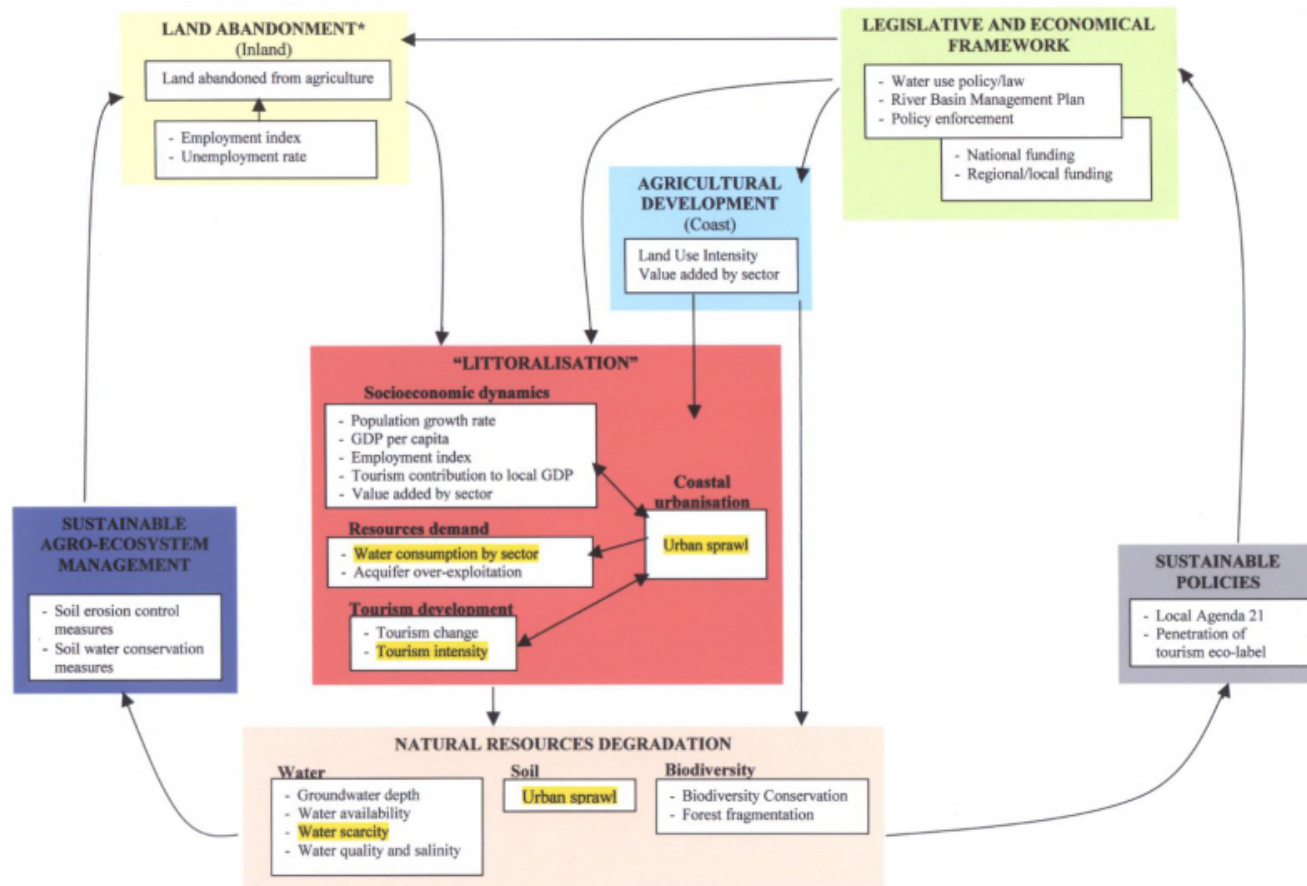
(Wikipedia.fr Definition of Littoralisation retrieved 27.08.2012)

English abstract: « Loving our Coasts to death”

(Bourne, J.K., Turner, T. (2006): Land on the Edge -Loving our coasts to death. In: National Geographic, July2006, v. 210, p. 60-97.)

- **Populationmigration to the Coastal area; « Coastalisation »**
- **Globalization and Maritimization of World Economy**

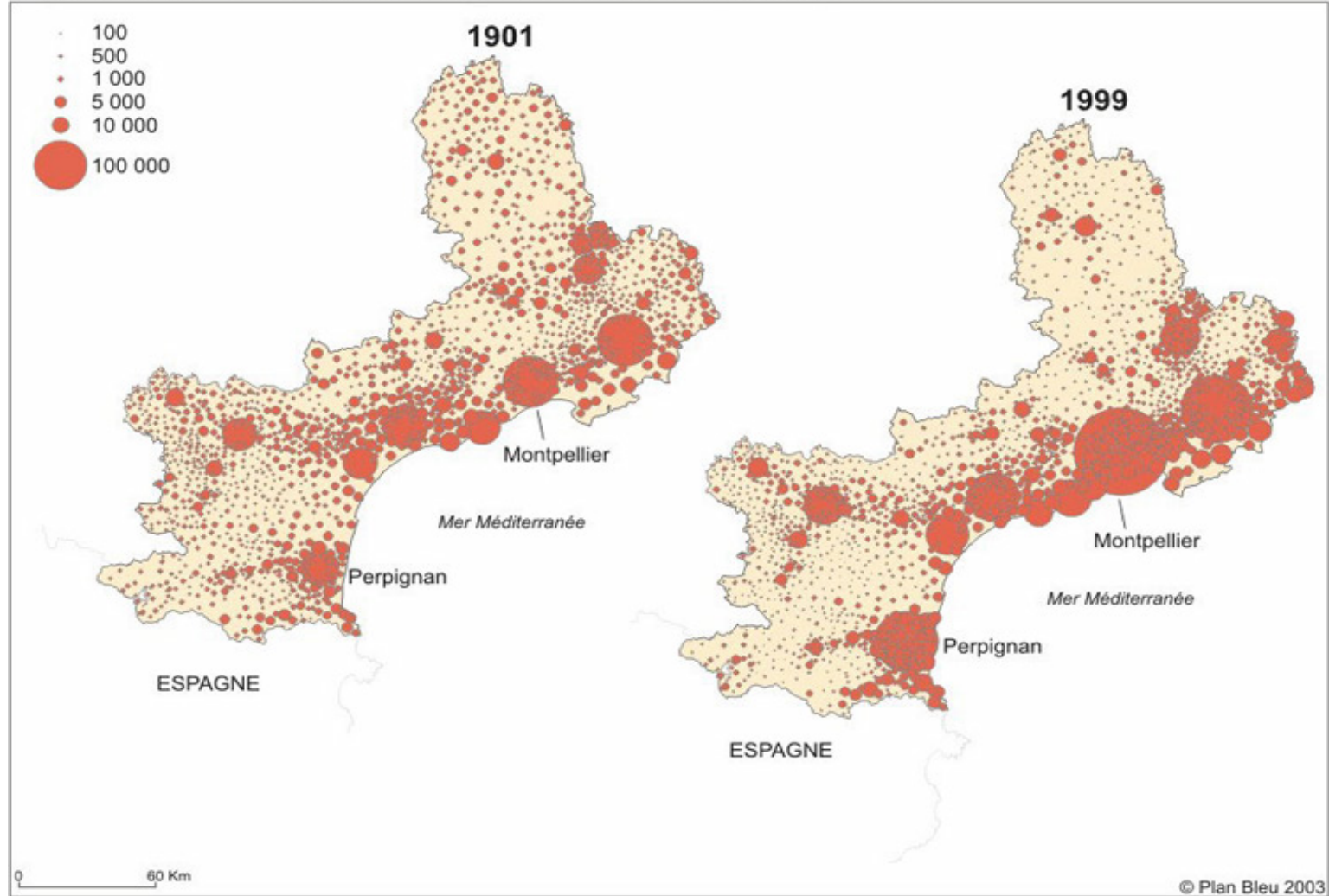
Processmodell of Littoralisation sensu Claudio Zucca and Veronica Colombo



Source: http://www.unibas.it/desertnet/dis4me/issues/issue_littoralisation.htm retrieved 27.08.2012

Coastal Demographical Grow in Languedoc-Roussillon 1900-1999

Population des communes en Languedoc-Roussillon, France, 1901-1999



© Plan Bleu 2003

Source : INSEE

Les données de 1901 contiennent les doubles comptes

Source: <http://www.planbleu.org/donnees/population/carte/cartePopulation.html> retrieved 27.08.2012

Californisation & Littoralisation in la Marsa (Tunisia)

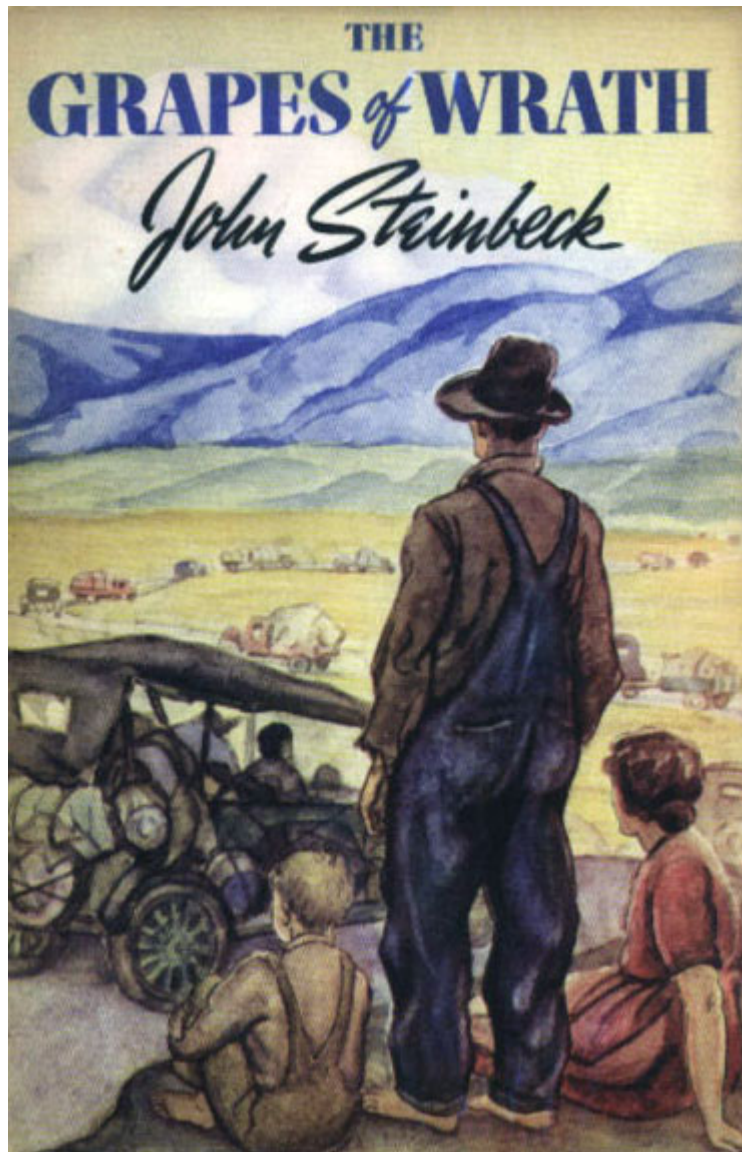
„*Californisation*“ = « Housing is going into the Green »

Californisation & Littoralisation will be one of the greatest environmental challenge for Tunisia in 2030 (Neff et al 2007, Neff 2006)



Photo: Anne Großmann 4.7.2006

Californisation



Large „populare sense“

Californisation transforming Lifestyle,
Landscape in „imaginary“ of
California, the promised land

„it is the eternal juvenile relaunch of the
american dream „the pursuit of
happiness“ (C.Neff)

Californisation

Gutenberg Galaxy:

John Steinbeck „The Grapes of Wrath“

Nobelprice for Literature 1962, listed in Le Monde's 100 Books of the Century,

“The way had now been paved for the great work that is principally associated with Steinbeck's name, the epic chronicle The Grapes of Wrath (1939). This is the story of the emigration to California which was forced upon a group of people from Oklahoma through unemployment and abuse of power. This tragic episode in the social history of the United States inspired in Steinbeck a poignant description of the experiences of one particular farmer and his family during their endless, heartbreaking journey to a new home.”

Award Ceremony Speech by Anders Österling for Nobelprice for Literature 1962 Source:

http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/1962/press.html

Retrieved 27.08.2012

Popular Music:

San Francisco (Be Sure to Wear Flowers in Your Hair) (lyrics John Philips, int. Scott McKenzie)

California Dreamin (The Mamas & the Papas)

Hotel California (The Eagles)

„Original Geographical Definition of Californisation“

„Broadly speaking, the higher the national income per caput the more intensiv and specialised the Farming; thus the countries of the Mediterranean type-climates may be ranked roughly in an ascending scale: North Africa, the Levant, the Balkans, Chile, the North West Mediterranean basin, Western Australie, the South West Cape and Californie. Some authors have recently written of the Californisation of Bas – Languedoc. It could be argued that all Mediterranean-type countries aspire to the type of farming found in that state“ Grigg, D.B. (1974): The Agricultural Systems of the World. An Evolutionary Approach. Cambrige, p. 129

„Californisation“ a definition of Agricultural Geography to describe the process towards a highly mechanised, (capital intensive) farming system, with a very high efficiency and productivity.

The Use of „Californisation“ in francophone Regions and francophone Geography

(Sub) Urban Sprawl into the „wild“ /

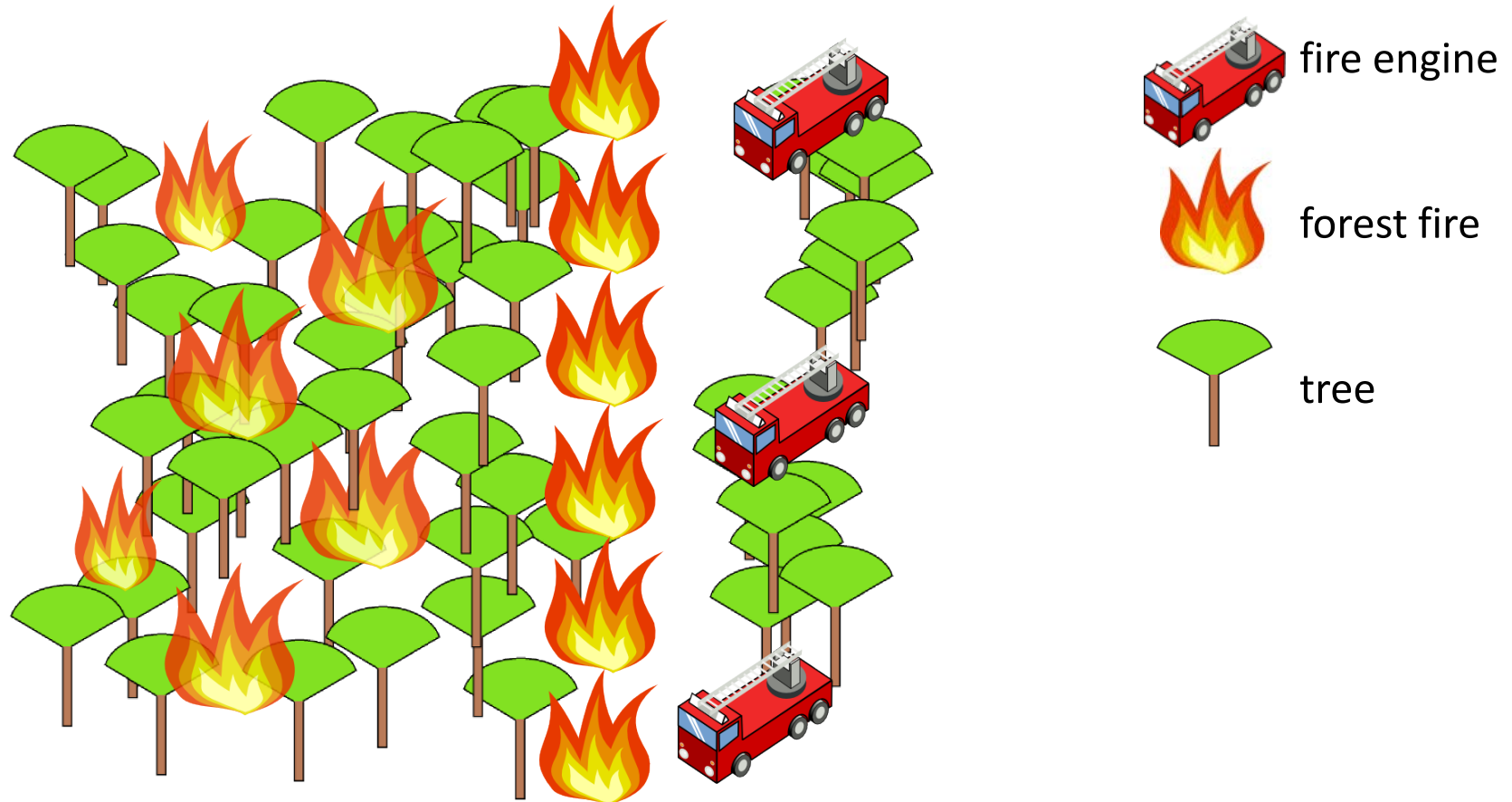
But also sometimes : progression of the wild into „Urban area“

- **In Suisse Romande/Swiss French (Vaud, Geneva) it is used in official spatial planning to describe the „uncontrolled urban sprawling“ around the „Lake Geneva“ and the „Pays de Gex“.**
- **In the ecological mouvement of mediterranean France to designate the uncontrolled urban Sprawl, suburban Sprawl, - the progression of individual residences (houses) into the Wild (Garrigues, Maquis, Forêt)**
- **In the (mediterranean) French Fire Figthing „Jargon“ – individuel house, residences, settlements scattered into the wild (Garrigues, Maquis, Forêt) which makes „fire figthing“ of „wildfires“ very difficult due to fragmentation of fire figthers (obligation to protect human life & houses)**



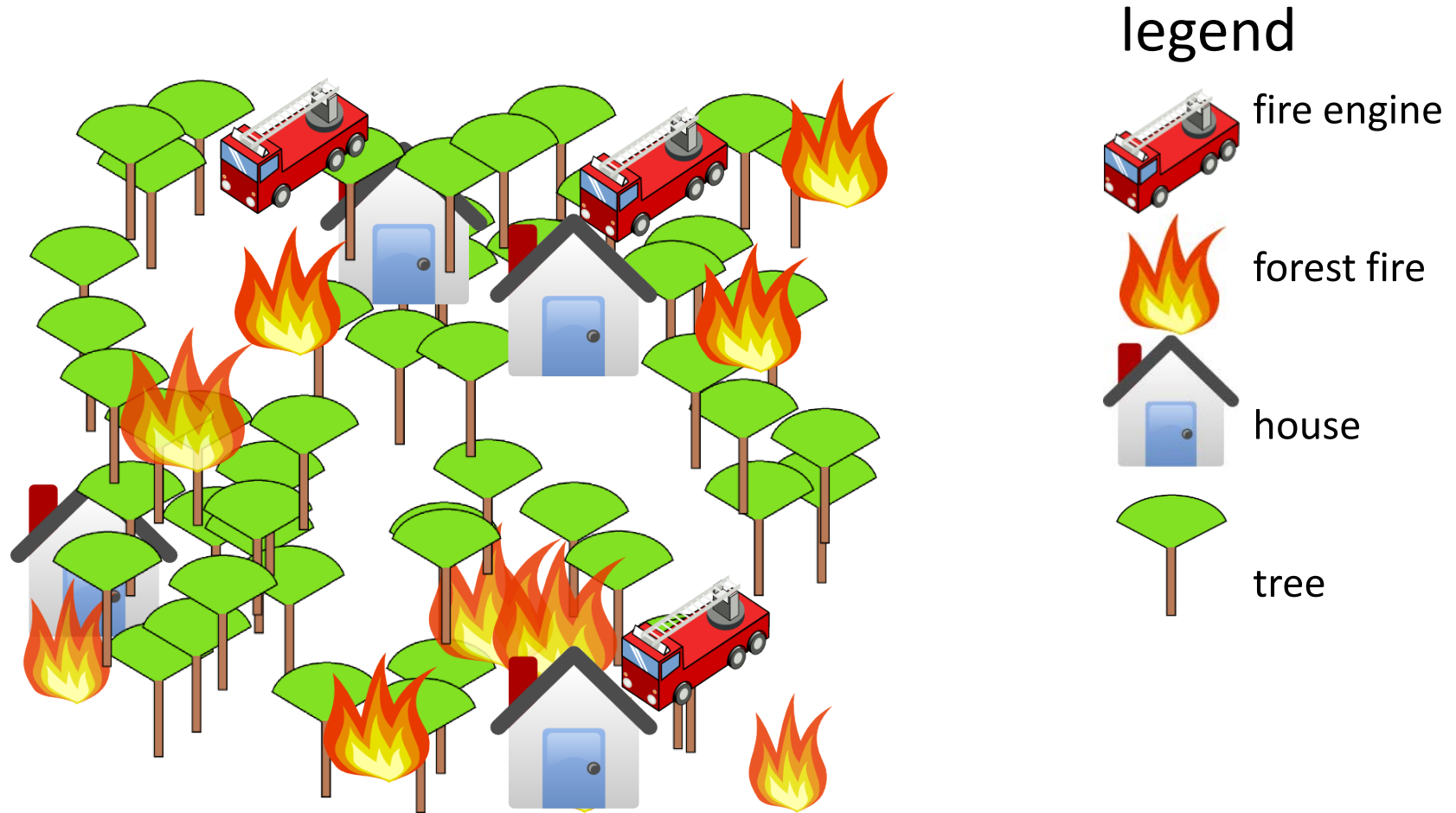
Photosource: Californisation du paysage in Geneva
<http://www.panoramio.com/photo/36787871> retrieved
27.08.2012

Fire fighters combating Forest Fires along a continuous defense-line



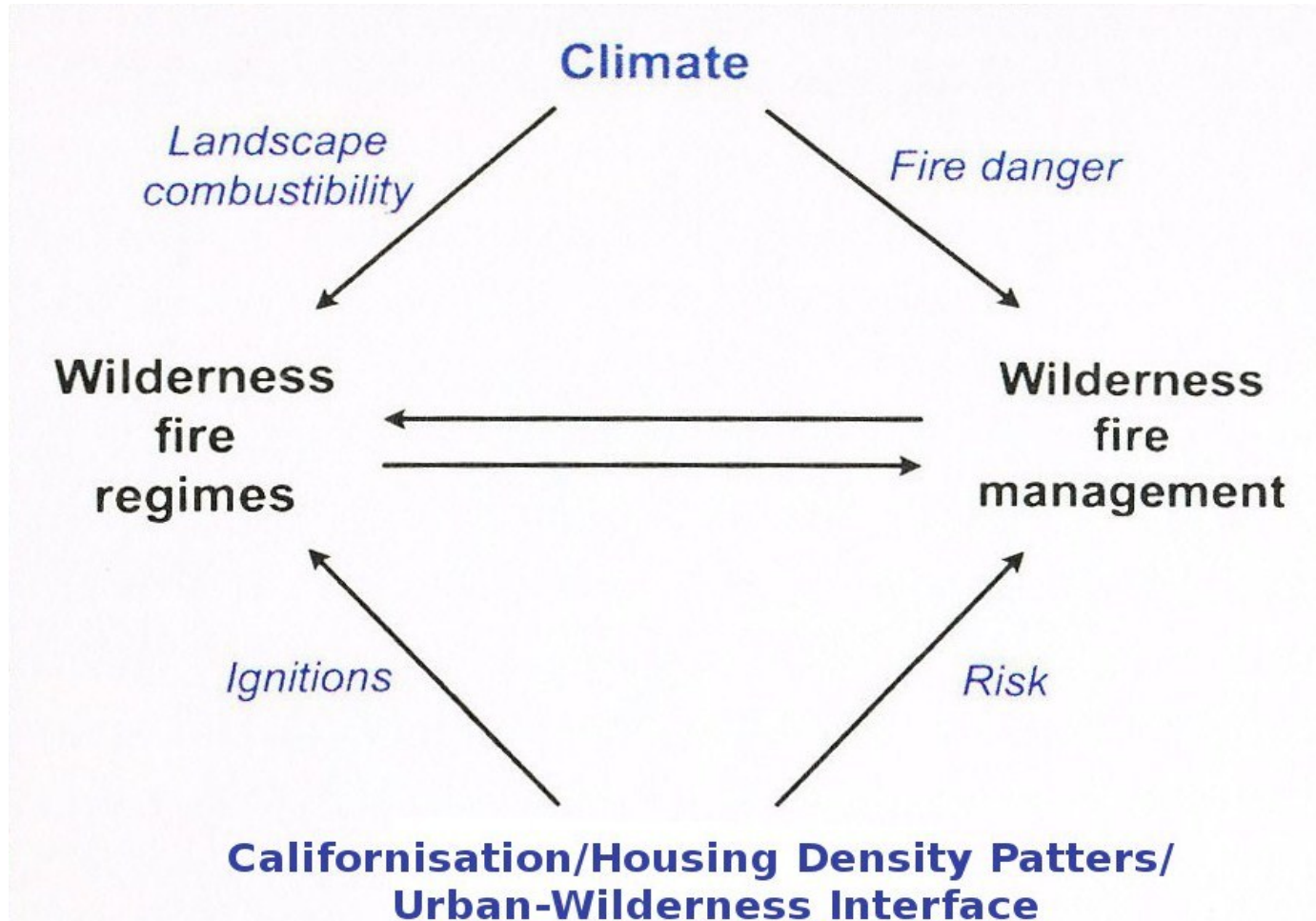
Conceptual design C.Neff; Drawing J.F. Heger 27.08.2012

Fragmentation of Fire fighters due to Californisation



Conceptual design C.Neff; Drawing J.F. Heger 27.08.2012

Wilderness fire management & Californisation



Source: Adapted/Redrawn from Miller, C., Abatzoglou, J., Brown, T., Syphard, A.D. (2011): Wilderness Management Fire Management in a Changing Environment. In: McKenzie, D., Miller, C., Falk, D.A. (Eds): The Landscape Ecology of Fire, Dordrecht, p. 272.

Fire risks & Californisation



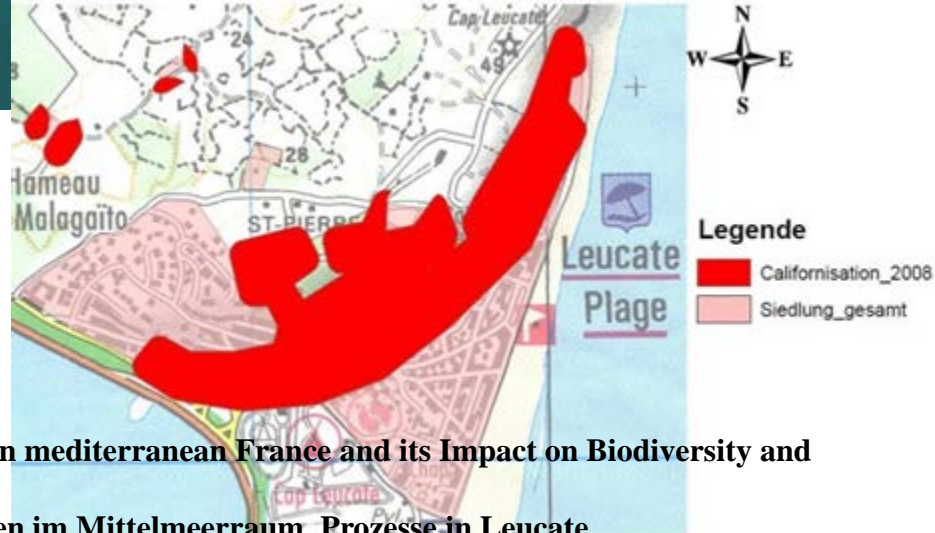
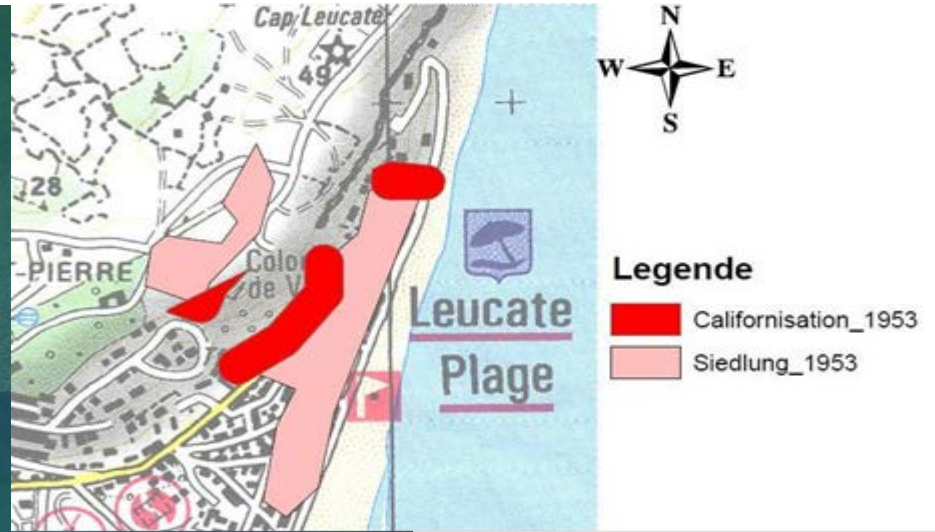
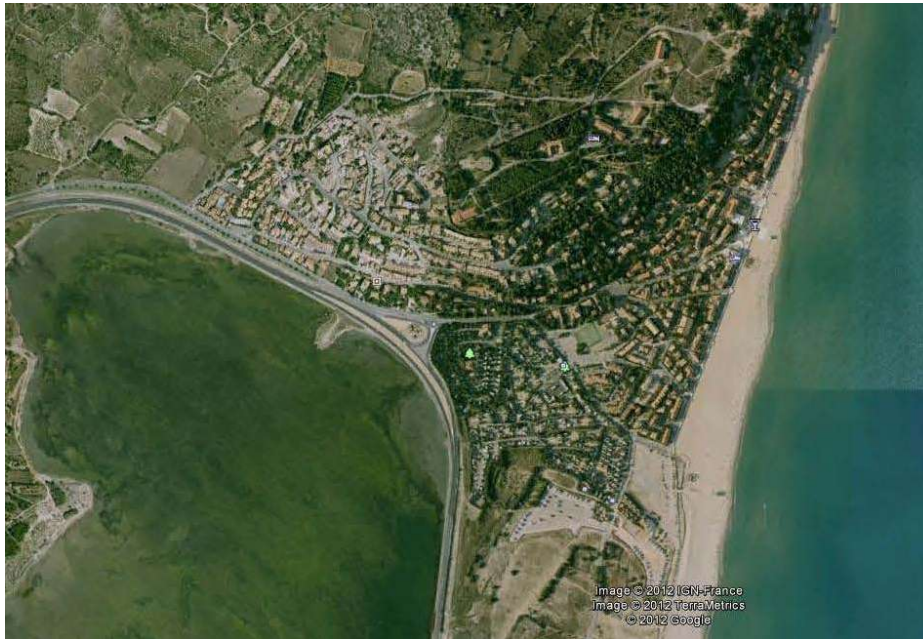
Source : Adapted from Lutz, S. (2011), p. 17

Landcover Change and Californisation in Mediterranean France – the example of the Leucate peninsula (Masterthesis Julia Baum)



Source: Adapted from Baum, J. (2011)

„Californisation in „Leucate-Plage“



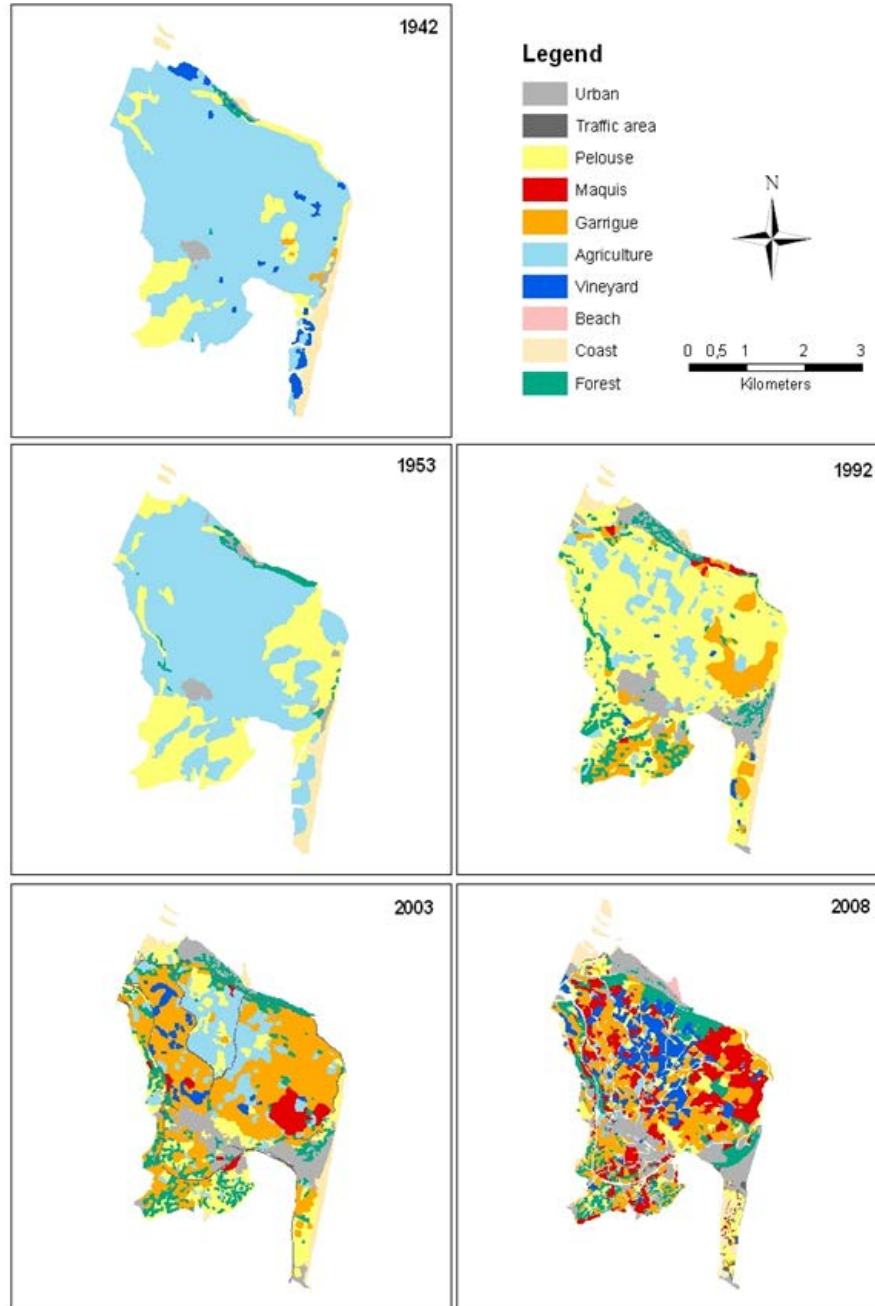
Sources:

Google-Earth

Baum, J. (2011): Land Use Change causing local Land Cover Change in mediterranean France and its Impact on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, p. 39

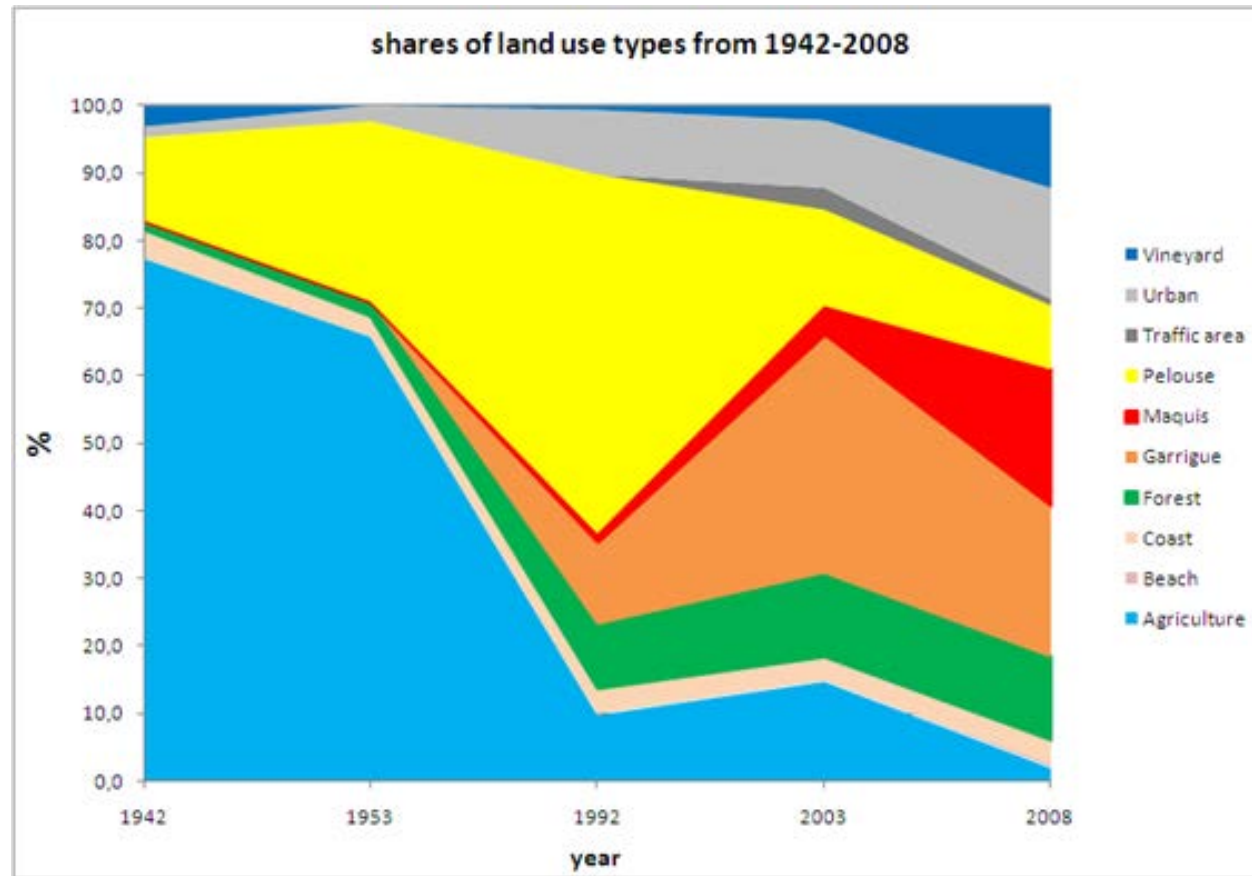
Luz, S. (2011): Suburbanisierung, Californisation und Waldbrandrisiken im Mittelmeerraum. Prozesse in Leucate

Historical Landcover Change on the Leucate Peninsula



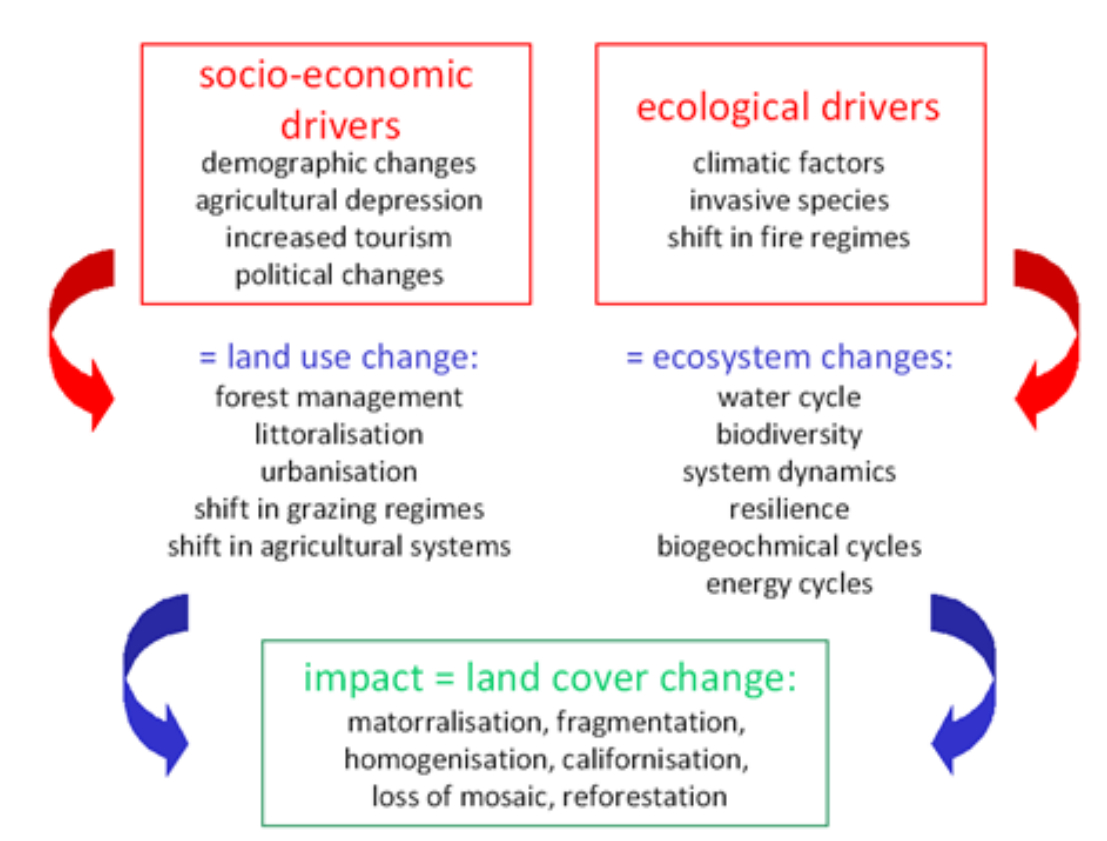
Source: Baum, J. 2011, Land Use Change causing local Land Cover Change in mediterranean France and its Impact on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, p. 35

Change in proportion of land user types on the Plateau de Leucate, 1942-2008



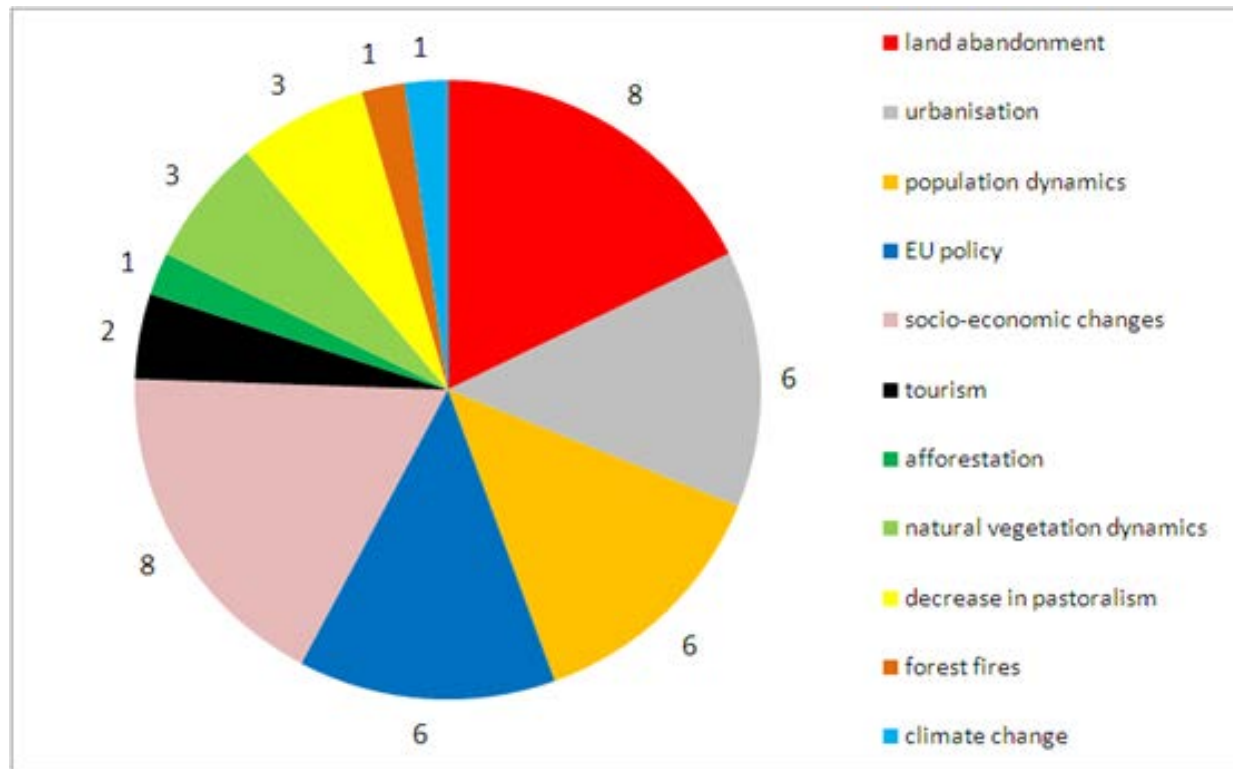
Source: Baum, J. (2011): Land Use Change causing local Land Cover Change in mediterranean France and its Impact on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, p. 34

Cause-and-effect chain between land use change and land cover change in Leucate.



Source: Baum, J. (2011): Land Use Change causing local Land Cover Change in mediterranean France and its Impact on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, p. 34

Drivers of land use and land cover change as stated by respondents of the “expertsurvey” in Leucate



Source: Baum, J. (2011): Land Use Change causing local Land Cover Change in mediterranean France and its Impact on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, p. 68

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Thank you for your attention!

Photo: C.Neff 2012 Vue over Leucate – la Franqui. Also published in Paysagesblog
<http://cneffpaysages.blog.lemonde.fr/2012/06/07/blognotice-7-6-2012-changements-de-paysages-dans-le-pays-leucatois/>