

**IUCN/SSC Otter Specialist Group**  
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**Announcement IUCN/SSC OSG XV<sup>th</sup> International Otter Congress**

Dear OSG members and friends

We are glad to announce, at last, the next **IUCN SSC OSG XV<sup>th</sup> International Otter Congress “Communities and Otters”**! The Congress will be held in **Sospel, France, 19-23 September 2022**. The Congress will be in a sophisticated hybrid format: both in person and online through the platform Whova (similar to Zoom but so much better). We expect many people will prefer to attend via Whova and they will be able to fully participate, both in the discussion rooms and on the panels. The costs of running this WHOVA for this conference is expensive, so we will be charging a fee for the online participation (see booking form It’s registration page, no?). Posters will be online and shown at the Congress. Please submit your posters by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Venue:** Sospel is a village high in the mountains above Nice. Cool Fall temperatures. It is 40 km from Nice (50 minutes driving time) and 18 km from Menton (30 minutes driving time). We have organized a bus to pick up participants at the Nice airport on the afternoon of September 18<sup>th</sup>, and on September 23<sup>rd</sup> afternoon from Sospel to Nice airport. Please send us your travel details and time of arrival as soon as possible.

The Congress will be held at the **Camping Mas Fleuri**. See images: <https://www.camping-mas-fleuri.com/>  
The Camping offers various accommodations, including camper parking, tent space. Lodging has been reserved for invited speakers, organizers, and helpers. It may be possible to find a Bed and Breakfast or Air B+B nearby if you have a car. We wish to thank the *Fondation Albert II de Monaco* for their generous support to cover the housing costs at the Camping. You cannot book a room directly through the Camping website, you must register with us first, and enquire if lodging is still available.

**Program:** We are still planning the program (see draft program below) and we will post it when it is finalized on the congress website. More details are on the way but save the date and be sure to register now! All lunches, coffee breaks and the celebration dinner are covered by the Camping registration fee. Any questions? Send an email to [15.ioc.2022@gmail.com](mailto:15.ioc.2022@gmail.com)

Our best wishes to all of you and looking forward to seeing many of you in September.

Nicole, Anna, and Margherita