

CASE 01 · MOTORCYCLING · INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION

FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme)

Mapping flora and fauna at the Trial World Championship, Andorra 2024



DRIVER

Andorran law requires a formal EIA for large events in natural areas

LOCATION

Sant Julià de Lòria, Andorra

SCOPE

Event's full area of influence across preparation, competition and dismantling

PARTNERS

Accredited EIA body; regional environmental authorities

OUTCOME

Regulatory approval secured; only minor, localised impacts observed

CONTEXT

Motorcycling is not typically linked to biodiversity assessment, yet events in mountainous natural areas bring the sport into direct contact with sensitive ecosystems. Andorran law requires events above a certain size in natural environments to complete a formal EIA by an accredited external body, building on the FMA's Environmental Code.

ASSESSMENT APPROACH

The assessment analysed the full event cycle, mapping forest ecosystems, river corridors and protected species in detail, while separately assessing how motorcycles, spectators and infrastructure could affect them, from soil disturbance and vegetation damage to noise and chemical pollution.

ACTION TAKEN

Routes were selected with environmental authorities to avoid sensitive areas, and river sections were removed entirely. Environmental mats, spill-response materials, controlled waste systems and designated washing areas were mandated, and each course section was photographed before the event for post-event comparison.

OUTCOME

Follow-up evaluation showed strong compliance, with only minor, localised impacts. For a small, volunteer-led federation the process was resource-intensive, but it has become essential to demonstrate that motorsport can operate under scrutiny in biodiversity-sensitive terrain.

WHAT THIS MEANS IN PRACTICE

Where regulation already requires an impact assessment, use it as a forcing function. A photo baseline is simple, inexpensive and replicable. It turns a compliance exercise into a source of ongoing evidence.

