

## COMMITMENT: ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

# Bats are welcome at a remediated mining site



The former mining galleries of the underground mines at Loubaresses and Anterrieux in the Cantal region of France are known for being popular bat dens. They also serve as overwintering sites for certain amphibians.

The mines at Loubaresses and Anterrieux are among the 246 former uranium mining sites in France for which Orano Mining conducts environmental monitoring. While carrying out preparatory works to make an old mining gallery safe, the decision was taken to preserve the bats' habitat and secure access to the site by installing a reinforced grille, sized and adapted to allow the bats to pass through.

This began with the tricky task of making safe the walls and slopes in the forest environment, which involved installing geotechnical wire nettings to contain any rock detachment.

This project carried out by our teams illustrates the complexity of mine remediation, which requires the safety of workers to be guaranteed while carrying out works, as well as ensuring the ongoing safety of the general public whilst preserving a rich and vital biodiversity.



The grille is used to secure the entrance to a former mining gallery, sized to allow the bats to pass through