

A guide to AEDA's Info sheets

Over time AEDA is developing a series of information sheets on topics in each of its three research themes (optimal monitoring, prioritisation & spatial planning, and decision making). These sheets are designed take AEDA's research to a wider audience. You can download any of the info sheets listed below by visiting the AEDA website <http://www.aeda.edu.au/aeda-research-themes>

Optimal monitoring

1.1. Getting real about monitoring

Millions of dollars are spent on ecological monitoring each year. Unfortunately, most of what is done is being wasted as current monitoring programs have no realistic chance of detecting changes in the variables of interest.

1.2. Stats with a ring of confidence

How do you present your statistics so they mean something, so they illuminate the truth rather than conceal it, so that groups with different backgrounds can meaningfully engage with them.

1.3. When decisions guide monitoring

How do you know when you've got enough information from a monitoring program? A growing number of scientists are suggesting that this might be determined by how much information is needed to make a good decision.

1.4. Save, survey or surrender?

When an endangered species becomes so rare it's difficult to find, how much effort do you put into looking for it as opposed to managing for it?

Spatial prioritisation

2.1. Priorities for river biodiversity

Which segments of a river system should be placed in a conservation reserve? Which bits should be restored? How do you prioritise the allocation of your limited resources when conditions are always changing?

2.2. Conservation networks in a dynamic world

Comprehensive reserve network design is best when the entire network can be implemented immediately. However, when conservation investments are staged over years, as is often the case, such solutions may be sub-optimal in terms of protecting species.

2.3. Conserving species across different regions

Recently published research on koala populations across Australia suggests that habitat relationships and habitat thresholds are different in different areas. This has profound implications for landscape managers.

Decision making

3.1. Accounting for uncertainty in designing marine reserves

Better decisions are made when uncertainty is explicitly acknowledged and incorporated into models. A good example of this is in the design of marine reserves.

3.2. Adaptive Management: live learn and plan

While most people have a general idea what 'adaptive management' means (it's all about learning by doing), fewer people appreciate the different ways you can approach adaptive management.

3.3. Adaptive management: Why there's no time like the present

When planning adaptive management it's important to carefully define your goals and values as they relate to time. This will determine whether the best adaptive management plan is experimental, neutral or cautious.

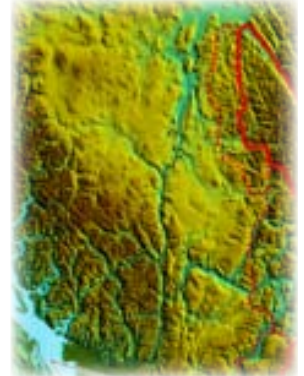
3.4. How should we best manage an endangered population

It's all about birth, death and money. When deciding how you'll spread your investment, you need to take into account the difficulty in improving either survival or fecundity.

3.5. Adaptive management for CMAs

Effective NRM is more about how we learn than what we know.

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