

NEWS FLASH!!

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AEDA/SIB researchers were recently awarded a “Most Cited Author Award” by Biological Conservation (an Elsevier journal with an impact factor of c3.3). The paper, titled “Sensitivity of conservation planning to different approaches to using predicted species distribution data” (Vol 122: 99-112), and authored by Drs. Kerrie Wilson, Michael Westphal, Hugh Possingham and Jane Elith. It has been cited 34 times, making it the 5th (of 316) most cited paper published in 2005 (and the 7th most cited of all those published from 2005 to 2008).

The paper assesses the sensitivity of conservation plans to uncertainty associated with species distribution data. The sensitivity of conservation planning outcomes to the different ways predicted species distribution data is used was evaluated, including the impact of converting probabilistic data to presence/absence data. The authors discovered that, depending on how the data is used, the resulting reserve networks had different expected species representation. How we should choose to predict distributions for conservation plans will depend on how much risk a conservation planner is willing to tolerate and how much efficiency can be sacrificed.

Wilson, K. A., M. I. Westphal, H. P. Possingham and J. Elith (2005) Sensitivity of conservation planning to different approaches to using predicted species distribution data. Biological Conservation 122:99-112 [pdf](#) – AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:
www.uq.edu.au/spatialecology/publications