

ABSTRACT BOOK

**27TH INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS FOR
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY**

**4TH EUROPEAN CONGRESS
FOR CONSERVATION
BIOLOGY**



**ICCB
ECCB
2015**

**MISSION
BIODIVERSITY:
CHOOSING
NEW PATHS FOR
CONSERVATION**

**MONTPELLIER,
FRANCE
2-6 AUGUST 2015**



Society for Conservation Biology

27TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

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How To Cite This Book:

Visconti P., Game E., Mathevet R., Wilkerson M. Proceedings of the 27th International Congress for Conservation Biology and 4th European Congress for Conservation Biology. Montpellier 2-6 August 2015. SCB; 2015.

Example Citation Of A Contribution To This Book

Watson J. Mapping vulnerability and conservation adaptation strategies under climate change across global terrestrial ecosystem [abstract]. In: Proceedings of the 27th International Congress for Conservation Biology and 4th European Congress for Conservation Biology. Visconti P., Game E., Mathevet R., Wilkerson M. editors. Montpellier 2-6 August 2015. p. 745. SCB; 2015.

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Society for Conservation Biology

ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

SCB is a global community of conservation professionals with members working in more than 100 countries who are dedicated to advancing the science and practice of conserving Earth's biological diversity. The Society's membership comprises a wide range of people interested in the conservation and study of biological diversity: resource managers, educators, government and private conservation workers, and students.

SCB publishes the flagship peer-reviewed journal of the field, *Conservation Biology*, and the cutting-edge online journal, *Conservation Letters*. The Society provides many benefits to its community, including local, regional, and global networking, an active conservation-policy program, and free online access to publications for members in developing countries. SCB also administers a postdoctoral program, the David H. Smith Conservation Research Fellowship Program, sponsored by the Cedar Tree Foundation.

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In 2010, the European Commission (EC) committed to “Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020 (...).” While the EC has e.g. set a 15% restoration target and studied policy options under a No Net Loss initiative, further action is urgent. To be able to prioritise conservation and restoration actions, it is important to understand past trends of the current state of biodiversity and ecosystem services (ES) and future threats such as land use change and climate change. Until 2020, land use changes are the most direct threat. The understanding of these threats also assists in prioritizing climate change adaptation options. We simulated land use change at 1km resolution up to 2020 for the EU under four policy scenarios that are considered by the EC. The impacts of land use change are next quantified using ten indicators representing biodiversity and a range of ES. Scenarios include: (1) Business as Usual, as a counterfactual scenario; (2) Avoidance; stricter regulations on land conversion and land use intensity; (3) Reduce, as (2) but with additional measures to prevent and compensate impacts; (4) Offset, as (3) but with mandatory requirements to restore habitat to offset unavoidable land take. The results show where in Europe pressures and impacts on land are strongest, and which kind of biodiversity and ES are most at risk. Trends are analysed per landscape type on a range from natural to urban. This allows in-depth inference of land use change impacts and policy effectiveness. We demonstrate what trade-offs exist between alternate land uses and how these may alleviate or worsen as a result of policy interventions. Our results quantitatively indicate that while full implementation of current EU legislation is of prime importance, additional measures in the wider environment, addressing key drivers of land use change, are urgently needed to address widespread losses of biodiversity and ES.

INNOVATIVE MONITORING METHODS IN THE CONTEXT OF ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF HUNTING IN THE AMAZON, COLOMBIA

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Managing complex hunting socio-ecological systems within a context of uncertainty requires setting up efficient ways to monitor changes in the system and inform decision making in

an adaptive management process. In such context, building trust through collaboration, institutional development, and social learning enhances efforts to foster ecosystem co-management. This approach draws explicit attention to the learning and collaboration functions necessary to improve our understanding of, and ability to respond to, complex social-ecological systems. Monitoring methods can generate observations over long time periods, incorporate large sample sizes, are relatively inexpensive and invite the participation of harvesters as researchers. We tested a combination of role playing games, traditional knowledge, technological innovations (camera traps and KoBoCollect) to co-develop a monitoring system for wildlife resources and hunting efforts in an indigenous hunting territory in the Amazon Colombia where hunters have organized themselves to develop an adaptive management approach to their hunting activities. The methods involve the active participation of hunters in data collection and an automatic tool for data analysis that allows users to visualize outputs instantaneously (e.g. map of offtakes per species, graph with number of prey per species per month). The information generated is directly usable by hunters for management decisions. We demonstrate the importance of such participatory monitoring models for building institutional trust between stakeholders (indigenous communities, governmental institutions in charge of wildlife management and civil society) as well as provide tools that are directly usable by local decision makers.

ID#7. INFLUENCE OF BELIEFS AND TABOOS ON HUNTING AND WILDMEAT HANDLING PRACTICES IN AN INDIGENOUS RESERVE FROM AMAZONAS, COLOMBIA: IMPLICATIONS ON HUMAN HEALTH AND CONSERVATION

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While there is increased knowledge about the links between wildlife consumption and zoonosis in tropical areas, few studies have approached the topic from the perspective of the users, exploring how local knowledge on human health and conservation (often transmitted through beliefs and taboos) influence practices from hunting to the handling of wildmeat and cooking of the meat. Our mixed-method data analysis was set out to explore the beliefs and taboos associated with hunting and wildmeat consumption and the relationship with human health, well-being and conservation in Ticuna indigenous communities from Amazonas, Colombia. This involved qualitative ethnographic data collected at different gender and age groups, on the myths around wildlife taboos

