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**Summary**

**Mapping Uncertainty: Sensitivity of Wildlife Habitat Ratings to Expert Opinion**

In the paper “Mapping Uncertainty: Sensitivity of Wildlife Habitat Ratings to Expert Opinion”, the goal of authors is to map the uncertainty in the expert opinion regarding habitat scores. Morta Carlo simulations are utilized to recognize the subtle factors involved in the scoring model of wildlife habitat, the rate of precision for the various ecosystems units, and diversification in the habitats resulting from the uncertainty in the expert opinion. Simulations are carried out by using uniform distribution and a standard deviation determined from a variety of possible design attribute ratings.

Results showed elevated uncertainty in the habitat scores (Johnson and Gillingham). The average score, after a thousand simulations, fluctuated significantly from the recorded value for the most ecological divisions. If adhered throughout the study area, the presumed fluctuation in expert opinion, culminated in drastic declines in the elevated (−85 percent) or even reasonably high-quality (−68 percent) geographical area. A plurality of polygons in habitat, may differ by one rank (85 percent) and minor numbers, varying by two classes (9 percent) or maintaining the initial level (7 percent).

Authors conclude that even basic expert-based predictive designs may be susceptible to differences in viewpoints. But, the extent of uncertainty that can be tolerated for decision-making may vary based on the model's implementation.

I approve of this paper, because I believe that expert opinion is frequently required to help managers and conservation specialists in the practice of decision making. Expert opinion results in the provision of habitat suitability maps and models. So, the estimation of uncertainty, via this article, serves as a tool of determination for the managers and the conservation specialists to assess if the model correlates with their specific decision-making practice.

**Works Cited**

Johnson, Chris J., and Michael P. Gillingham. “Mapping Uncertainty: Sensitivity of Wildlife Habitat Ratings to Expert Opinion.” *Journal of Applied Ecology*, vol. 41, no. 6, Dec. 2004, pp. 1032–41. *besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com (Atypon)*, doi:10.1111/j.0021-8901.2004.00975.x.