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2.5.2 Integrated pollution control; 2.6 EclA's role in sustainable development; 2.7 Recommended reading; 3: Scoping; 3.1 Introduction; 3.2 Deriving EclA study limits
3.3 Characteristics of the proposal3.4 Characteristics of the receiving environment; 3.4.1 Ecosystem classifications; 3.4.2 Species-habitat relationships; 3.4.3 Species distribution data; 3.4.4 Historical distributions or management; 3.4.5 Preliminary studies; 3.5 Impact screening; 3.5.1 Introduction; 3.5.2 Checklists and matrices; 3.5.3 Networks; 3.5.4 Conceptual models; 3.5.5 Geographical information systems; 3.6 Exposure assessment; 3.6.1 Home-range size; 3.6.2 Population density; 3.6.3 Social organization; 3.6.4 Population dynamics; 3.6.5 Seasonal patterns of use or activity
3.6.6 Mobility3.6.7 Resource dependence and habitat specificity; 3.6.8 Interdependencies (linkages); 3.7 Recommended reading; 4: Focusing procedures; 4.1 Valued ecosystem components; 4.2 Criteria for selecting species as VECs; 4.2.1 Public appeal (charismatic and emblematic species); 4.2.2 Economic importance; 4.2.3 Protected status; 4.2.4 Rarity; 4.2.5 Endangerment or conservation status; 4.2.6 Indicator species; 4.2.7 Guild indicators; 4.2.8 'Umbrella species'; 4.2.9 Ecological role: keystone species; 4.2.10 Availability of consistent survey methods; 4.2.11 Expediency; 4.3 Habitats
4.4 Special (designated) sites4.5 Ecosystem structure; 4.5.1 Community composition; 4.5.2 Species richness and species diversity; 4.6 Ecosystem functions or processes; 4.6.1 Population processes; 4.6.2 Regulation of population size: density-dependent and density-independent mechanisms; 4.6.3 Species-centred environmental analysis; 4.7 Assessment endpoints; 4.8 Screening VECs; 4.8.1 Selecting measurement endpoints; 4.9 Recommended reading; 5: Identifying and predicting impacts; 5.1 Introduction; 5.2 Baseline assessment; 5.3 Types of ecological impact
5.3.1 Mechanisms of ecological impact expression

Sommario/riassunto

The world's ecosystems are increasingly threatened by human development. Ecological impact assessment (EcIA) is used to predict and evaluate the impacts of development on ecosystems and their components,thereby providing the information needed to ensure that ecological issues are given full and proper consideration in development planning. Environmental impact assessment (EIA) has emerged as a key to sustainable development by integrating social, economic and environmental issues in many countries. EcIA has a major part to play as a component of EIA but also has other potential applications in