

Vulnerability Indices

Vulnerability Indices can...

- ... save R & D time
- ... remind you about vulnerability factors
- ... compare apples and oranges
- ... promote transparency

Vulnerability Indices cannot...

- ... turn garbage into gold
- ... replace in-depth VAs

Species are Important!

System for Assessing Vulnerability of Species (SAVS) to Climate Change (Forest Service) 

Framework for categorizing the relative vulnerability of threatened & endangered species to climate change (EPA) 

Climate Change Vulnerability Index (NatureServe) 

Climate Change Sensitivity Index (University of Washington and TNC) 

SAVS

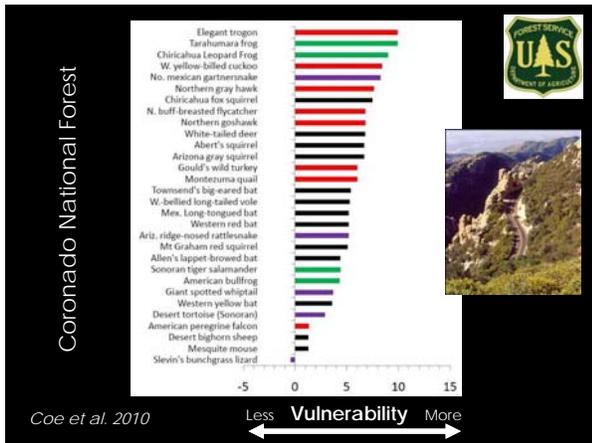
www.fs.fed.us/rm/grassland-shrubland-desert/products/species-vulnerability

Terrestrial vertebrates

Questionnaire-based tool: Habitat, physiology, phenology, biotic interactions

Abundance, range, demographics considered implicitly

Scale: habitat/management area



EPA

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=203743>

T&E Vertebrates Only

Baseline & climate change vulnerability

Abundance, range, demographics considered in baseline

Spatial Scale: any

NatureServe

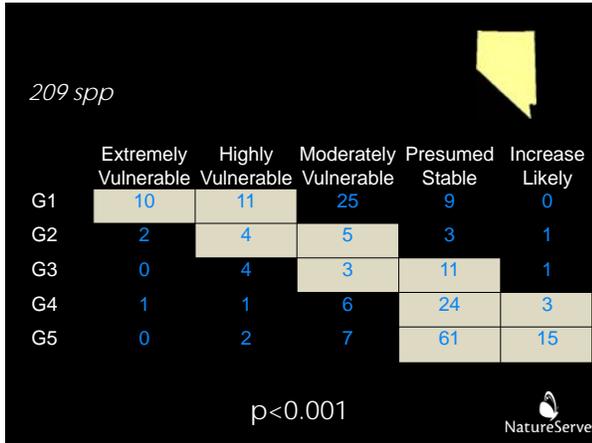
www.natureserve.org/climatechange

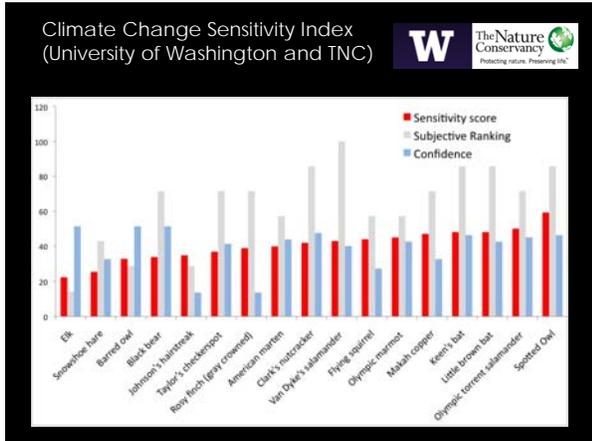
Terrestrial/aquatic, plants/animals

Excludes conservation status factors – use in conjunction with G/S-ranks

Exposure and sensitivity sections

Scale: state or large conservation area





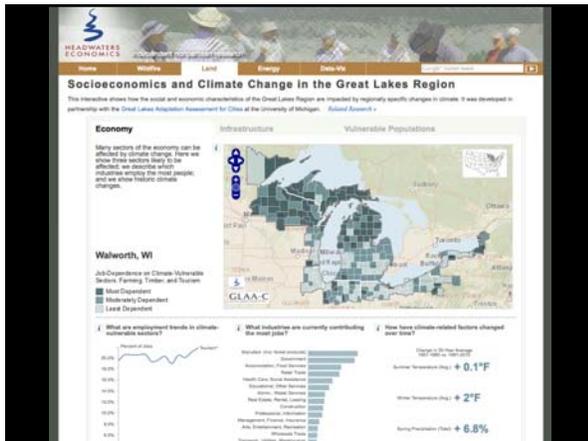
Finding data for the index

- Exposure:** Climate Wizard; WorldClim
- Sensitivity/adaptive capacity:** literature reviews and expert elicitation, existing web-based tools (ex: GAP, WUI)
- Uncertainty**
 - Explore various climate models
 - Can explicitly address during input by omitting responses or providing multiple responses

Wildland-Urban Interface
Silvius Lab, U of WI

Social Vulnerability Indices

- SoVI
 - <http://webra.cas.sc.edu/hvri/product/s/sovi.aspx>
- SocMon
 - <http://www.socmon.org>
- Headwaters
 - <http://headwaterseconomics.org/interactive/great-lakes-atlas>



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