From Data to Implementation: Using Modeling Results and Field Studies to Generate Management Guidelines for Free-Roaming Cats

John Boone, Ph.D.
June 21st, 2013

Adaptive Management
Iterative improvements

- Delineate Target Population and Define Goals
- Monitoring and Field Studies
- Model Outputs
- Guidance
- IMPLEMENTATION

Guidance
- Easy to access
- Relevant information only
- Simple to understand
- Achievable
- Minimizes nuanced, qualified statements

Primary Material
- Technical language
- Fully referenced and rationalized
- Discussion of relevant nuances and qualifications
- Background information and theory

ACC&D 5th International Symposium
on Non-Surgical Contraceptive Methods
of Pet Population Control
Guidance Document Highlights

- 70% sterilization => 30% of unsterilized cats semi-annually
- Three-year sterilant requires ~40% of unsterilized cats semi-annually
- Lag times: 5 – 10 years

Guidance Document Highlights

- 70% sterilization => 30% of unsterilized cats semi-annually
- Dispersal and Abandonment are critical
Guidance Document Highlights

- Dispersal and Abandonment are critical
- Removal versus Sterilization

Guidance Document Highlights

- Dispersal and Abandonment are critical
- Removal versus Sterilization
- Kittens versus Adults
- Females versus Males

Guidance Document Highlights

- Holistic approach

  - Sterilization
  - Education
  - Adoption
  - Resource Control
  - Dispersal??

RESULT

Continuing Around the Loop

- Study dispersal rates at different densities in different settings
- Behavioral and demographic function of sterilized cats

ACCD 5th International Symposium on Non-Surgical Contraceptive Methods of Pet Population Control
Continuing Around the Loop

- GIS-assisted analysis of monitoring data

Continuing Around the Loop

- GIS-assisted analysis of monitoring data

Continuing Around the Loop

- GIS-assisted analysis of monitoring data

Continuing Around the Loop

- GIS-assisted analysis of monitoring data
Thanks to the ACC&D FRC Model Development Team:

Joyce Briggs, MS
Dennis Lawler, DVM, FNAP
Jule Levy, DVM, PhD, DACVIM
Philip Miller, PhD
Felicia Nutter, DVM, PhD
Margaret Slater, DVM, PhD
Steve Zawistowski, PhD, CAAB