

Small Group Worksheets: Marxan Workshop

Background

Running Marxan requires geospatial data (i.e. mapped data in a GIS format) and permission from data owners. Therefore, we are restricted to using for the spatial analysis that we have on-hand and have permission to use.

Within the Marxan model, certain variables can be adjusted to produce different outputs. These include:

- a. A solution that is more clumped/grouped versus more dispersed/spread-out.
- b. The size of total footprint that Marxan output will try to achieve (i.e. total amount of energy/number of hexagons).
- c. The degree of suitability for the new use. For example, should we include areas with only the highest suitability or include areas with moderate or low suitability?
- d. How heavily to assign a cost for an interaction with a particular scenario (i.e. how much the model attempts to avoid an area).

Small Group Exercise

The purpose of this time is for you and your group to consider and discuss:

1. What revisions you'd like to see illustrated for existing scenarios?
2. What additional scenario(s) you'd like to have illustrated today?

Please take a few minutes on your own to read through and think about the questions. Work with your table facilitator and group to discuss your ideas. Where you have specific ideas, please note them. Otherwise, general input (e.g. higher, lower, bigger, smaller) is fine. You do not have to fill the entire worksheet out, this is just to stimulate your ideas and discussion.

1. What are the most important revisions you would like to see to the existing scenarios?

- Add another data layer: _____ data to _____ scenario.
- Tweak the variables for the scenario(s): _____
 - a. Clumped solution vs. Dispersed solution
 - b. Total size of footprint for _____ new use should be: _____
 - c. Suitability range for _____ new use should be:
 - Higher/highest (_____)
 - Moderate (_____)
 - Low (_____)
 - d. Cost for _____ should be: _____ (e.g. higher, lower)

2. What is the most important scenario that you haven't seen? What dataset do you want included?