



Review

Effects of Road Mortality and Mitigation Measures on Amphibian Populations

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Abstract

Road mortality is a widely recognized but rarely quantified threat to the viability of amphibian populations. The global extent of the problem is substantial and factors affecting the number of animals killed on highways include life-history traits and landscape features. Secondary effects include genetic isolation due to roads acting as barriers to migration. Long-term effects of roads on population dynamics are often severe and mitigation methods include volunteer rescues and under-road tunnels. Despite the development of methods that reduce road kill in specific locations, especially under-road tunnels and culverts, there is scant evidence that such measures will protect populations over the long term. There also seems little likelihood that funding will be forthcoming to ameliorate the problem at the scale necessary to prevent further population declines.

Efectos de la Mortalidad en Carreteras y Medidas de Mitigación en Poblaciones de Anfibios Beebee

Resumen

La mortalidad en carreteras es una amenaza reconocida para la viabilidad de las poblaciones de anfibios pero que raramente ha sido cuantificada. El alcance global del problema es sustancial y los factores que afectan al número de animales muertos en las carreteras incluyen características de historia de vida y rasgos del paisaje. Los efectos secundarios incluyen aislamiento genético causado por las carreteras que actúan como barreras para la migración. Los efectos a largo plazo sobre la dinámica de poblaciones a menudo son