FW364 Lab 8

Due November 26, 2013

The Wolves of Isle Royale

The wolves and moose of Isle Royale are perhaps the best studied predator-prey system in ecology. Starting with the links below, read about this system and what has been learned over the past fifty years.

[http://www.isleroyalewolf.org/http%3A//www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/precip/CWlink/pna/nao.shtml](http://www.isleroyalewolf.org/http%3A/www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/precip/CWlink/pna/nao.shtml)

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/interactives/isleroyalewolves.html>

In the past several years, there has been a fairly significant decline in the wolf population on the Island, with only eight wolves remaining on the island. The director of the National Park Service, Jon Jarvis, is considering three management options for the wolves on the island:

1. He could do nothing. He could let the wolves die out and let nature run its course.
2. He could order the genetic rescue Peterson recommends, bringing in some fresh blood to reproduce and repopulate the island.
3. He could wait until the wolves die out and then bring new wolves to the island, attempting to rebuild the population from scratch.

Write a one page letter to Jon Jarvis, indicating your recommendations for managing the wolves on Isle Royale. Include supporting evidence in your argument, such as birth and death rates, immigration and emigration rates, metapopulations, allee affects, age structure, and predator-prey dynamics. You don’t have to include all of the types of evidence above, but you should include some sort of evidence as well as a graphic/figure to support your argument. The first link above has a wealth of evidence that might be useful.