CMP - CCNet Conservation Case Study Template

Case Study Title: Conservation and Adaptive Management Strategies for Chile's National System of Protected Areas

Authors: Chilean National Forest Corporation (CONAF), Natural Protected Area Management Office, Adaptive Management for Conservation Section.

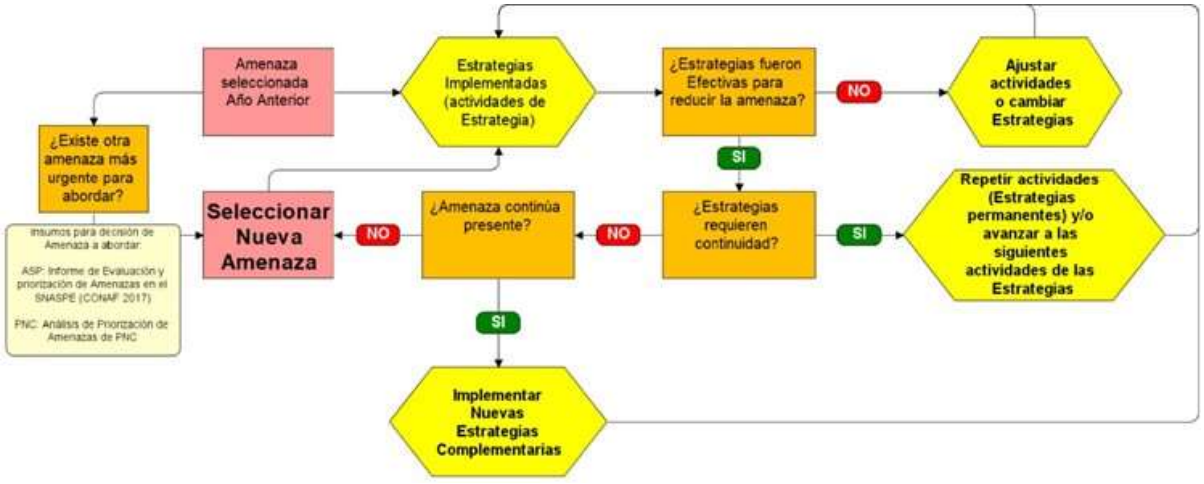
Contact Person: Mariano de la Maza Musalem (mariano.delamaza@conaf.cl) & Gabriella Svensson Hagwall (gabriella.svensson@conaf.cl)

Location: Chile's National System of Protected Areas

Summary: In 2015, Chile began a process for the strengthening of its National System of Protected Areas (SNASPE) through an adaptive management approach, based on evidence and experience, to measure the effectiveness of its conservation efforts. By 2017, a commitment indicator was updated to incorporate elements of adaptive management and modern conservation planning language (Open Standards) for the management of all the natural protected areas in the country. The implementation of 343 activities associated with 22 different strategies aimed at targeting 17 different threats in 83 protected areas (PA), revealed the relevance of strategic planning and adaptive management to increase management effectiveness and promote positive changes in the conservation status of biodiversity.

Public Overview (Web Post) of Case Study:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AnIuoumfe9AQKdoeJzLzr_1hMz-O9ZIt/view? usp=sharing

Setting the Scene: In 2015 a new methodology was developed for the planning of Chile's natural protected areas managed by the state (SNASPE), based on adaptive management and the Open Standards. Considering the amount of time required for the elaboration of new management plans for each PA following this methodology and the wide variety of threats those areas faced, it was deemed necessary to develop a mechanism to help standardize a common language among all the park rangers in the field, and to strengthen the status of conservation targets and the control of key threats affecting them. For this purpose, a process was launched so that every PA in the SNASPE could plan and implement conservation strategies, that would be evaluated annually based on changes in threat status and their proximate underlying causes. The following diagram summarizes the approach used.



Accordingly, a total of 83 PA prioritized the threats to be targeted and, based upon conceptual models developed, defined the corresponding threat reduction strategies and activities to implement annually. Hence, at the end of each year, based on either qualitative or quantitative assessments of progress in the reduction of each threat addressed (changes in the status of the threat and its underlying causes as a result of the strategies implemented), park ranger teams determined whether the following year they would continue implementing the same threat reduction strategies, define new strategies to address the same threats, or prioritize other threats that were not targeted the previous year.

Results and Lessons Learned: After two years implementing SNASPE's "Conservation Strategies" under this planning and adaptive management system (which involved planning and implementing 343 activities linked to 22 different strategies to address 17 different threats), it is already possible to start analyzing the effectiveness of several conservation strategies in tackling certain PA threats (see figures 1 and 2 and Table 1 below).

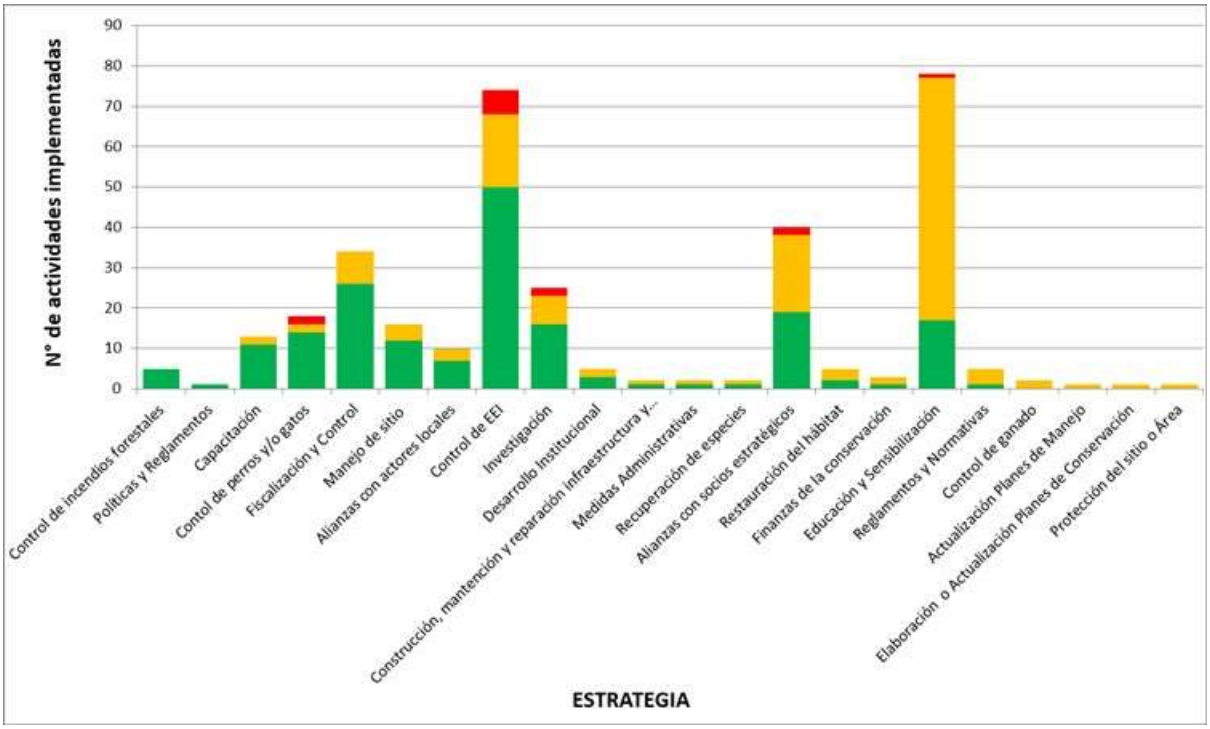


Figure 1. Analysis of effectiveness of threat reduction strategies implemented in the SNASPE. The graph shows total number of activities implemented per strategy, and number of activities classified as having "Effectiveness proven" (green), "Effectiveness not proven" (yellow), or "Ineffective" (red). Strategies are ordered from highest to lowest percentage of proven effectiveness.

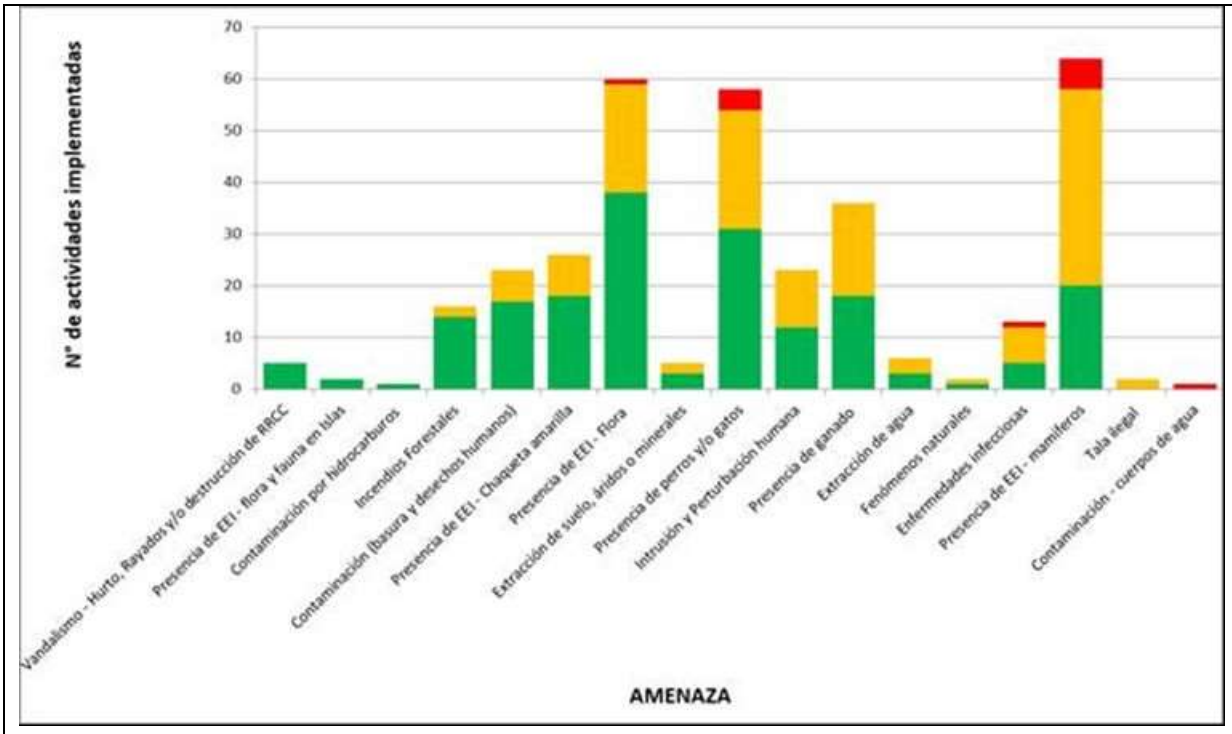


Figure 2. Analysis of effectiveness in addressing threats in the SNASPE. The graph shows total number of activities implemented by threat and the number of those considered to have "Effectiveness proven" (green), "Effectiveness not proven" (yellow), and "Ineffective (red). Threats are sorted from highest to lowest percentage of proven effectiveness.

Table 1. An example showing the results of the assessment of effectiveness of conservation strategies in the SNASPE

Estrategias de Conservación implementadas por Amenaza	Efectividad de las actividades implementadas			Total implementadas	% de Efectividad demostrada
	Demostrada	No demostrada	No efectiva		
Presencia de EEI - Chaqueta amarilla	**18**	**8**		**26**	**69**
Manejo de sitio	2			2	100
Control de EEI	12	2		14	86
Capacitación	3	1		4	75
Alianzas con socios estratégicos	1	1		2	50
Educación y Sensibilización		4		4	0
Presencia de EEI - Flora	**38**	**21**	**1**	**60**	**63**
Fiscalización y Control	2			2	100
Capacitación	2			2	100
Control de EEI	28	3	1	32	88
Investigación	4	1		5	80
Alianzas con socios estratégicos	1	1		2	50
Alianzas con actores locales	1	2		3	33
Educación y Sensibilización		11		11	0
Manejo de sitio		1		1	0
Reglamentos y Normativas		1		1	0
Restauración del hábitat		1		1	0
Extracción de suelo, áridos o minerales	**3**	**2**		**5**	**60**
Fiscalización y Control	2			2	100
Investigación	1			1	100
Actualización Planes de Manejo		1		1	0
Elaboración o Actualización Planes de Conservación		1		1	0
Presencia de perros y/o gatos	**31**	**23**	**4**	**58**	**53**
Capacitación	2			2	100
Manejo de sitio	1			1	100
Políticas y Reglamentos	1			1	100
Control de perros y/o gatos	14	2	2	18	78
Alianzas con socios estratégicos	10	4	2	16	63
Educación y Sensibilización	3	15		18	17
Reglamentos y Normativas		1		1	0
Finanzas de la conservación		1		1	0

Besides allowing strategic planning and adaptive management at the PA level, the

systematization and dissemination of findings help identify strategies that could be effective at the PA system level while fostering knowledge sharing at the national level. This has been valued by regional level staff, as illustrated in this email from a professional from a regional office of CONAF's Department of Protected Areas, dated March 4, 2019:

"I appreciate the submission of the report on conservation strategies 2017/2018 ...

... Reading and reviewing its content fills me with satisfaction! ... the report is extremely useful and reinforces the sense of direction and system ... I must tell you that I have been looking forward to reading this report since I started working in conservation, because it directs, organizes, and enhance the lines of work that are being implemented in the territories ... I congratulate you and your team.

In my opinion - from my post – this is the type of work we expect from the GASP… Its conclusions seem key to me, and hopefully they will permeate and nest in the conservation discourse of CONAF and the GASP.

I send you a hug and my congratulations!"

Application beyond Case: The process is characterized by the adoption of a model for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of conservation strategies in the National System of Protected Areas of Chile, based on adaptive management. Its design was inspired by existing processes worldwide, such as the Standardization of Strategies and Threats (Salafski et. al.) and the book "What Works in Conservation" (Sutherland et. al.); likewise, the findings and lessons from this process could be used, adopted, and / or adapted by protected areas and other public and private conservation programs at the national and international level.

Further Information:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98MQOUPulQ8

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18aOBfmFIFx9JtbOZ1JZ25mbQNCWs2Cgl/view?usp=sharing

Key Words: Copy the following table and tick the themes that apply to your case study. This is not meant to be a restrictive list - case studies that range beyond these themes are most welcome! This table does not count against your 3-4-page limit.

Key Words *(select all that are relevant)*	**Put X if Relevant**
Stages in Conservation Standards Cycle	
- Assess	**X**
- Plan	**X**
- Implement	**X**
- Analyze & Adapt	**X**
- Share	**X**
- Full cycle adaptive management	**X**
- Other_____	
Case Study Scale	
- Project-level	**X**
- Program-level	
- Organizational-level	**X**
- Other	
Specific Topics Addressed:	
- Human wellbeing	
- Climate change	
- Community-based conservation	
- Indigenous populations	
- Marine conservation	
- Freshwater conservation	
- Terrestrial conservation	**X**
- Other:	