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Induced Allee effect, generalized Ornstein-Uhlenbeck dynamics and scaling, and sustainability in a stochastic environment.

We consider the problem of planning for sustainable harvesting of a fishery in a fluctuating environment. We find that harvesting policies can cause an induced Allee effect in logistic and similar fishery growth models. As a result, fluctuations then yield underlying generalized Ornstein-Uhlenbeck dynamics, under which expected survival time (first-passage time to extinction) can depend sensitively upon key model parameters, especially harvest rates. (Received August 25, 2015)