

## Accepted Manuscript

Examining the effect of reoccurring disturbances on population persistence with application to marine mammals

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PII: S0022-5193(18)30335-7  
DOI: [10.1016/j.jtbi.2018.07.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtbi.2018.07.011)  
Reference: YJTBI 9536



To appear in: *Journal of Theoretical Biology*

Received date: 18 April 2018  
Revised date: 22 June 2018  
Accepted date: 10 July 2018

Please cite this article as: Amy Veprauskas, Azmy S. Ackleh, Tingting Tang, Examining the effect of reoccurring disturbances on population persistence with application to marine mammals, *Journal of Theoretical Biology* (2018), doi: [10.1016/j.jtbi.2018.07.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtbi.2018.07.011)

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed a two-state Markov chain model to describe reoccurring disturbances.
- Derived an approximation for the stochastic growth rate.
- The growth rate is most sensitive to the magnitude of impact of a disturbance.
- Increasing disturbance frequency can have a dramatic impact on sperm whales.

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