

What is structured decision making and how can it benefit WA threatened species conservation? Structured Decision Making (SDM) is a collaborative decision driven process for careful and organized analysis of decisions in natural resource management. It is a robust approach combining tools and approaches from decision science, quantitative and applied ecology, economics, and risk analysis with insights into human judgement and behavior from cognitive psychology, conflict resolution, negotiation, and other social sciences. SDM is designed to clearly articulate fundamental objectives, recognises the role of scientific predictions in decisions, deals explicitly with uncertainty, and transparently identifies the full range of societal values in decision making. Thus, SDM has the advantage of integrating science and policy explicitly. I discuss the structured decision-making process, the key benefits of structured decision making, and present examples of SDM in DBCA currently underway, including work to maximise the benefits of management for threatened flora in the Wheatbelt.