

Abstract

In recent years, reduction or cease of water flow of Hirmand river to Sistan, caused successive droughts, drying Hamun wetland, exacerbating dryness of environment, decreasing plant covering and increasing soil erosion. These factors along with winds of 120 days, provide a proper condition for increasing dust storms and moving sands to rural areas of Hirmand township. These phenomena impose various challenges to the economic, social, environmental and physical-spatial aspects of villages in this township. On this basis, the purpose of present research is to survey on the effects of moving sands in rural areas of Hirmand township. The research method is descriptive - analytical and based on documentary sources, field study and questionnaire completion. For data analysis, analytic hierarchy Process (AHP), statistical analyses and spatial analyses were used. In this regard, various softwares of Expert Choice, SPSS and ArcGIS were applied. Research findings confirm that the position of villages regard to Hamoon wetland affects the intensity of effects of moving sands in these villages. On the other hand, population depletion or population decline in many of the villages around the dried bed of Hamoon wetland, shows a critical condition at these rural areas.

Key words: Effects of moving sands, Analytic hierarchy process (AHP), Village, Hirmand township.



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