5.7 File menu

The *File menu* allows you to open, close and save your model.

Files are managed so that all data pertaining to a given Ecopath model (including its Ecosim and Ecospace scenarios, etc.) are saved in a Microsoft Access database (extension ?.mdb?).

Important note: EwE6 differs from previous versions in that there is only one model per database. See *Open model* section below for information about opening and saving models that were built using previous versions of EwE.

New model (Ctrl +N)

Use this option to create a new Ecopath model. You will be prompted to name your new model and save it in the location of your choice. Click OK, and the new model will be created. There will be one group initially, ?Detritus?. You should keep this group as your model must have at least one detritus group.

Note that you must create and balance an Ecopath model before you can use Ecosim or Ecospace.

See [Ecopath inputs](#) (Chapter 6 of the EwE6 user manual) for instructions on how to continue with creation of a new model.

Open model (Ctrl +O)

Choose *Open model* to open an existing Ecopath model. You will be prompted to locate and open your Ecopath database. Alternatively, use *Recent models* (see section below) to open models that have been used recently. Use the *Navigator window* to view and edit the components of the model once it is open.

Models built using EwE5 (versions 1.67 and later*), can be converted to EwE6 format using the Ecopath database conversion wizard. When you select the old database using *Open model* you will be prompted by the wizard to choose a model to extract from the old database. Select the model you wish to open and follow the prompts. EwE 6 will extract the model to a new database and save it in the same directory as the old EwE 5 database (or you can choose a new location). Any subsequent changes to the model will be saved to the new database.

*Note: To check the version of your EwE5 model, open the model's database with MS Access and open the table called "Database specifications". The version of your model is the last (i.e., highest) number listed in the *Version* field.

Close model

Closes model. You will be prompted to save if the model has been edited since the last save operation.

Save model (Ctrl +S)

Saves the model.

Save Model As?

Saves your model under a new name, i.e., creates a new copy, which you continue to work in.

Recent models

Recently-used models can also be opened from the list under the *Recent models* menu item.

Exit

Close EwE6. You will be prompted to save if the model has been edited since the last save operation.