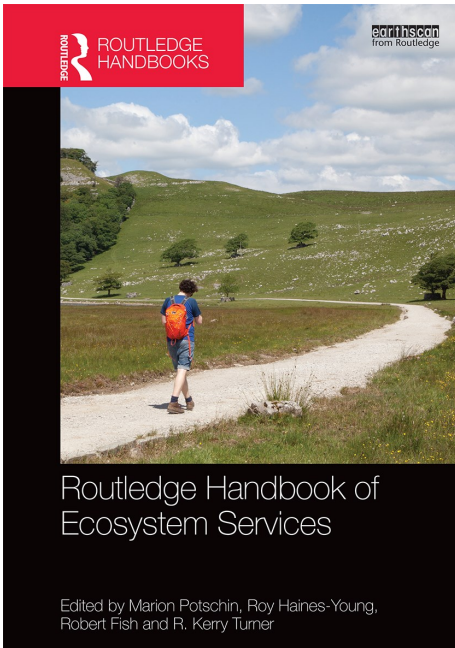


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Routledge Handbook of Ecosystem Services

Edited by Marion Potschin, Roy Haines-Young, Robert Fish and R. Kerry Turner



'This handbook, written by world-class academic and policy experts, is long overdue, and provides a much-needed guide to address this challenge. It is an authoritative reference text written in easy to read sections that is essential reading for academics, decision-makers and civil society.'

From the Foreword by Sir Robert Watson, Professor of Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia, UK

The idea that nature provides services to people is one of the most powerful concepts to have emerged over the last two decades. It is shaping our understanding of the role that biodiverse ecosystems play in the environment and their benefits for humankind. As a result, there is a growing interest in operational and methodological issues surrounding ecosystem services amongst environmental managers, and many institutions are now developing teaching programmes to equip the next generation with the skills needed to apply the concepts more effectively.

This handbook provides a comprehensive reference text on ecosystem services, integrating natural and social science (including economics). Collectively the chapters, written by the world's leading authorities, demonstrate the importance of biodiversity for people, policy and practice. They also show how the value of ecosystems to society can be expressed in monetary and non-monetary terms, so that the environment can be better taken into account in decision making. The significance of the ecosystem service paradigm is that it helps us redefine and better communicate the relationships between people and nature. It is shown how these are essential to resolving challenges such as sustainable development and poverty reduction, and the creation of a green economy in developing and developed world contexts.

Editors

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Contents

Foreword

Robert Watson

1. Ecosystem Services in the Twenty-first Century

Marion Potschin, Roy Haines-Young, Robert Fish and R. Kerry Turner

Part 1: Ecosystem Services Concepts and Frameworks – Introduction

2. Ecosystem Services in Theory and Practice

Robert Costanza

3. Defining and Measuring Ecosystem Services

Marion Potschin and Roy Haines-Young

Briefing Note 3.1: Ecosystem Functions: A Critical Perspective

Kurt Jax

4. The Links between Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Patricia Balvanera, Sandra Quijas, Berta Martín-López, Edmundo Barrios, Laura Dee, Forest Isbell, Isabelle Durance, Piran White, Ryan Blanchard and Rudolf de Groot

Briefing Note 4.1: Service Providing Units

Gary Luck

5. Ecosystem Structures and Processes: Characterising Natural Capital Stocks and Flows

Dave Raffaelli

6. The Beneficiary Perspective: Benefits and Beyond

Dixon H. Landers, Amanda M. Nahlik and Charles R. Rhodes

7. A Social-Ecological Perspective on Ecosystem Services

Lasse Loft, Alexandra Lux and Thomas Jahm

Briefing Note 7.1: Transdisciplinarity

Jennifer Hauck

Briefing Note 7.2: Drivers of Change for Ecosystem Services

Mark Rounsevell and Paula A. Harrison

8. Concepts and Methods in Ecosystem Services Valuation

Erik Gómez-Baggethun, David N. Barton, Pam Berry, Robert Dunford and Paula A. Harrison

9. A Critical Perspective

Mark Sagoff

10. Economics and Ecosystem Services: a Positive Contribution to Environmental Management

R. Kerry Turner

Part 2: Ecosystem Services: Methods, Techniques for Decision Support – Introduction

11. Frameworks for Ecosystem Assessments

Marion Potschin and Roy Haines-Young

Briefing Note 11.1: Place-based Assessment of Small Islands' Ecosystem Services

Mario V. Balzan, Marion Potschin and Roy Haines-Young

12. Modelling Ecosystem Services

Felix Kienast and Julian Helfenstein

13. Indicators for Ecosystem Services

Felix Müller, Benjamin Burkhard, Ying Hou, Marion Kruse, Liwei Ma and Peter Wangai

14. Using Futures-thinking to Support Ecosystem Assessments

Steven Cork

15. Mapping Ecosystem Services

Joachim Maes, Neville D. Crossman and Benjamin Burkhard

16. A Practical Approach to Mapping of Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services using Remote Sensing

Camino Liquete, Eva Haas, Torsten Bando, Christina Hirzinger, Melanie Schnelle, Dominik Reisinger, David Lyon, John Finisdore and Michael Ledwith

Briefing Note 16.1: Remote Sensing

Giles M. Foody

17. An Introduction to Ecosystem Accounting

Lars Hein, Bram Edens, Carl Obst, Roy Remme, Matthias Schröter and Elham Sumarga

18. Accounting for Ecosystem Services in Business

Joel R.A. Houdet, John Finisdore, Julia Martin-Ortega, Helen Ding, John Maleganos, James Spurgeon, Tobias Hartmann, and David Steuerman

19. Valuing Preferences for Ecosystem-related Goods and Services

Tomas Badura, Ian Bateman, Matthew Agarwala and Amy Binner

20. Ecological Economics and Ecosystem Services

R. Kerry Turner

21. Stakeholder Participation in Ecosystem Service Decision-making

Robert Fish, Eirini Saratsi, Mark Reed and Hans Keune

22. Deliberative and Non-monetary Valuation

Jasper O. Kenter

23. The 'Balance Sheet' Approach within Adaptive Management for Ecosystem Services

R. Kerry Turner

Briefing Note 23.1: Ecosystem Services and Justice

Thomas Sikor, Adrian Martin, Janet Fisher and Jun He

Briefing Note 23.2: Ecosystem Services and Ethics

Kurt Jax

24. Securing Nature and People: Can We Replicate and Scale Success?

Gretchen C. Daily

Part 3: Ecosystem Services in an Applied Context – Introduction

25. Ecosystem Services: Provisioning

Gillian Galford and Taylor Ricketts

26. Managing Regulating Services for Sustainability

Christine Fürst, Susanne Frank and Justice Nana Inkoom

27. Managing Cultural Ecosystem Services for Sustainability

Kai M.A. Chan and Terre Satterfield

Briefing Note 27.1: Ecosystem Services and Spirituality

Nigel Cooper

28. Towards Effective Ecosystem Services Assessment in Marine Coastal Management

Mahé Charles, Rémi Mongruel, Nicola Beaumont, Tara Hooper, Harold Levrel, Eric Thiébaud and Linwood Pendleton

29. Freshwater

Kate A. Brauman

30. Forest-related Ecosystem Services

Sandra Luque and Louis Iverson

31. Drylands

Lindsay C. Stringer and Andrew J. Dougill

32. Ecosystem Services Supplied by the Mediterranean Basin Ecosystems

Berta Martín-López, Elisa Oteros-Rozas, Emmanuelle Cohen-Shacham, Fernando Santos-Martín, Marta Nieto-Romero, Claudia Carvalho-Santos, José A. González, Marina García-Llorente, Keren Klass, Ilse Geijzenborffer, Carlos Montes and Wolfgang Cramer

33. Ecosystem Services Provided by Soil Life

Wim H. van der Putten and Diana H. Wall

34. The Importance of Grasslands in Providing Ecosystem Services: Opportunities for Poverty Alleviation

Benis N. Ego, Janne Bengtsson, Regina Lindborg, James M. Bullock, Adam P. Dixon and Mathieu Rouget

Briefing Note 34.1: Ecosystem Services and Grasslands in America

Alan J. Franzluebbers and Jean L. Steiner

Briefing Note 34.2: Ecosystem Services and Grasslands in Australia

Neil MacLeod and John McIvor

35. Cultivated Lands

Tobias Plieninger, Christopher M. Raymond and Elisa Oteros-Rozas

36. Ecosystem Services Provided by Urban Green Infrastructure

Thomas Elmqvist, Erik Gómez-Baggethun and Johannes Langemeyer

Briefing Note 36.1: Green Infrastructure and Ecosystem Services

Susannah Gill

Part 4: Linking and Informing Agendas – Introduction

37. A Policy Perspective on Mainstreaming Ecosystem Services: Opportunities and Risks

Patrick ten Brink and Marianne Kettunen

38. Ecosystem Services and Climate Change

Bruno Locatelli

39. Can Ecosystem Services Contribute to Food Security?

Alison G. Power

40. Ecosystem Services and Water Security

Sarah Hendry and Geoffrey Gooch

41. What are the Links between Poverty and Ecosystem Services?

Marije Schaafsma and Brendan Fisher

42. Ecosystem Services and Health

Conor E. Kretsch

43. Ecosystem Services and the Greening of Business

Guy Duke

44. Payments for Ecosystem Services

Roy Brouwer

45. Maximising Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Benefits in Conservation Decision-making

Hedley S. Grantham, Rosimeiry Portela, Mahbulul Alam, Daniel Juhn and Lawrence Connell

46. Bridging the Gap between Ecosystem Services and Landscape Planning

Paul Opdam

47. Spatial and Landscape Planning: A Place for Ecosystem Services

Christina von Haaren, Christian Albert and Carolin Galler

Briefing Note 47.1: Including Ecosystem Services in Impact Assessment: Challenges and Opportunities

Davide Geneletti

48. An Institutional Perspective

Eeva Primmer

49. The Use of Ecosystem Services Knowledge in Policy-making: Drawing Lessons and Adjusting Expectations

Duncan Russel, Andrew Jordan and John Turnpenny

Duncan Russel, Andrew Jordan and John Turnpenny

Part 5: Conclusion

50. On the Changing Relationship between Ecosystem Services Continuation and Sustainability

Tim O'Riordan

51. Ecosystem Services: Where is the Discipline Heading?

Georgina Mace

52. Ecosystem services: Never Waste the Opportunity Offered by a Good Crisis

Robert Fish, Marion Potschin, R. Kerry Turner and Roy Haines-Young