

Special Issue

Ecosystem Assessment Based on Ecosystem Services

Message from the Guest Editor

Ecosystem services are the benefits that people and communities derive from natural habitats. The services they provide support and promote our health and well-being. Many of the services and benefits we derive from ecosystems are being degraded and lost due to relentless development. To continue to benefit from ecosystem services, critical services must be supported, and where they decline, action must be taken to reverse the situation. For this to be realized, ecosystem services need to be considered when making developmental decisions. This Special Issue is the first step in providing such a multidisciplinary synthesis, focusing on, but not limited to, ecosystem health assessment, ecosystem risk assessment, ecosystem valuation, and ecosystem service mapping methodology. Given its systems-based approach, its ability to make trade-offs across temporal and spatial scales, and its growing acceptance by academia and stakeholders, this Special Issue makes cases for the ecosystem services approach as a comprehensive tool to promote greater ecosystem sustainability.

Guest Editor

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