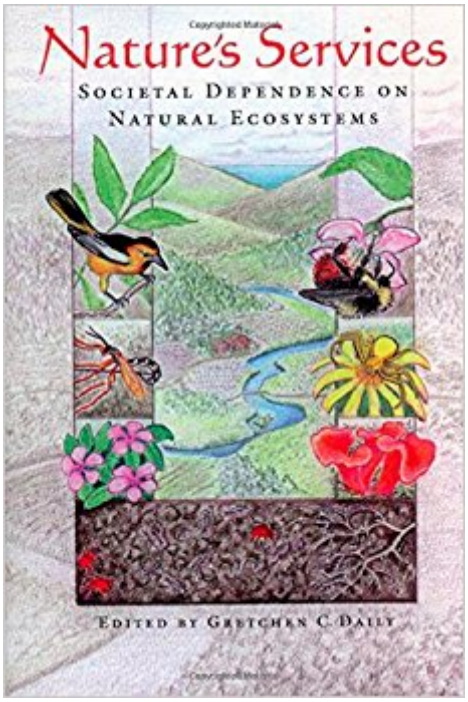
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Nature's Services: Societal Dependence On Natural Ecosystems



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Synopsis

Nature’s Services brings together world-renowned scientists from a variety of disciplines to examine the character and value of ecosystem services, the damage that has been done to them, and the consequent implications for human society. Contributors present a detailed synthesis of our current understanding of a suite of ecosystem services and a preliminary assessment of their economic value. Nature’s Services represents one of the first efforts by scientists to provide an overview of the many benefits and services that nature offers to people and the extent to which we are all vitally dependent on those services. The book enhances our understanding of the value of the natural systems that surround us and can play an essential role in encouraging greater efforts to protect the earth’s basic life-support systems before it is too late.

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Customer Reviews

"...the authors define ecosystem services, summarize historical perspectives, offer means of monetary valuation, and present some specific categories of damage.... [This] volume performs a highly valuable service, alerting readers in economic terms of the ultimately genocidal shortsightedness of abusing global biosphere." (Environment)

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understanding of a suite of ecosystem services and a preliminary assessment of their economic value. Nature's Services represents one of the first efforts by scientists to provide an overview of the many benefits and services that nature offers to people and the extent to which we are all vitally dependent on those services. The book enhances our understanding of the value of the natural systems that surround us and can play an essential role in encouraging greater efforts to protect the earth's basic life-support systems before it is too late.

Essential to understanding how the world really works.

Are you interested in environmental issues, natural resource policy, or understanding how ecosystems silently enable our society to function? If so you must read this book.Almost 10 years has passed since this edited volume was published (edited by Gretchen Daily), and there has been considerable progress on some fronts. Accordingly and expectedly, some of the estimates of the values of services are out-dated, but there are crucial contributions here in the framework for understanding and characterizing such ecosystem services (the flow of benefits from ecosystems to people). This book sparked an immense scholarly and public interest in ecosystem services that has not even begun to peak. In order to enable our society to persist sustainably, we *must* understand our dependence on ecosystem services and incorporate this understanding into societal decision-making.Top-notch scholars contributed to this excellent volume, which continues to be cited frequently in first-rate academic papers and to cause ripples in broader society.

I haven't read this book. But I think that maybe it would be good if the only review --which is in spanish-- were translated. Here's Francisco's review:This edition is important on the themes of environmental economy and the underestimation of ecosystem health, for humanity surges to break little known ecosystems, synergies, and the diverse benefits they bring, much of which we don't know.So, this book approaches the important elements, for the process of optimizing the utilization of ecosystems, from philosophic, environmental, and economic perspectives.

Es bien importante que se editen textos en estos temas de economÃƒÂ-a ambiental pues la subestimaciÃƒÂ n del valor de los ecosistemas para la humanidad surge a partir del poco conocimiento de los ecosistemas, de sus sinergias y los diversos beneficios que brindan, muchos de ellos no reconocidos. AsÃƒÂ- , este libro aporta elementos importantes, para el proceso de optimizaciÃƒÂ n de la utilizaciÃƒÂ n de los ecosistemas, desde la perpectiva ambiental,

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