

Study Questions and Reading Guide: Kareiva & Marvier, Chapter 2
Conservation Biology
Spring 2011

Reading:

I. Terms to know:

Ecosystem services	Negative externality	Stated-preference valuation, Contingent valuation and willingness to pay	Reveled preference valuation
Production function, travel cost method	Hedonic pricing	Replacement costs	

II. Questions:

1. Know the **four major categories of ecosystems services (including factors that fall under each category)**. Likewise, have a realistic idea of which of these services are "healthy" and which are declining and have a relatively specific understanding of the reasons for the declines (and health).
2. Be familiar with the **pitfalls and advantages of single ecosystem valuation vs. more exclusive valuations**.
3. Your book lists **three main approaches to obtaining ecosystem valuation with a number of approaches found within each of these. Know them and be able to discuss their pitfalls and advantages and when certain approaches are most useful**. We will discuss them in class and do at least one example as a homework assignment.
4. Discounting will be covered in far more detail in class and is in another reading assignment. Be sure you understand this very important topic, as it will have use for you throughout you life!
5. Earlier in the course we discussed ecosystem function and the role of individual species. Relate this to the discussion of any **relationships that might exists between ecosystems services and biodiversity – can services uniformly be used as an argument for preserving diversity?** Be able to expound on this at some length.
6. Know the arguments for the importance of intact ecosystems and lessening of catastrophes.
7. The "Consider This" section, as usual, is particularly valuable. Relate economic valuation justifications to what we discussed early in the course in regards to extrinsic and intrinsic bases for conservation.

Please think about the discussion questions.