



Benefits Valuation Guidance for Decision Making

Estimating the monetary value of environmental benefits associated with natural infrastructure can be challenging. Environmental benefits include ecosystem goods and services, or co-benefits. Use this table to identify common and appropriate methods you should consider when conducting a benefit-cost analysis, or simply estimating benefits.

<p>Aquaculture, increase in fish populations</p>		<p>Benefit Transfer Market Price</p>	<p>EXAMPLE Wetland restoration provides nursery habitat, helping to increase commercial fish populations</p>
<p>Coastal flood protection, hazard mitigation</p>		<p>Benefit Transfer Damages Avoided Hedonic Valuation Replacement Cost</p>	<p>EXAMPLE Coastal natural infrastructure projects result in avoided structural damages during disasters</p>
<p>Regulation of water flow and quality</p>		<p>Benefit Transfer Replacement Cost</p>	<p>EXAMPLE Wetland restoration results in increased water filtration, alleviating some need—and cost—to provide that service through man-made systems</p>
<p>Recreation, experiences</p>		<p>Benefit Transfer Hedonic Valuation Market Price Opportunity Cost Travel Cost Willingness to Pay</p>	<p>EXAMPLE Beaches provide various recreation opportunities of value to society</p>
<p>Science, training, education</p>		<p>Benefit Transfer Opportunity Cost Travel Cost</p>	<p>EXAMPLE People spend time and resources to attend coastal management training that can be tied to improved management decisions, resulting in healthier wetlands</p>