

Expert meeting on Ecosystem Valuation in the context of Natural Capital  
Accounting 24-26 April 2018 Bonn

# Urban recreation - valuing time in local nature



David N. Barton





# Recreation time in local nature



Photo: David N. Barton

Input to SNA benefit:  
Labour input to subsistence berry and mushroom picking

Input to non-SNA benefit:  
Labour input to human physical subsistence & psychological maintenance (...«Vitamin G»)

Input to SNA benefit:  
Labour input to construction & maintenance of recreation infrastructure



# Oslo urban ecosystem



Source: Map by M. Nowell, Sentinel-2 data

Total area: 454 km<sup>2</sup> - 287 km<sup>2</sup> forest - 28 km<sup>2</sup> green space in built zone. Human population 666 000





Marka  
old growth  
forests

# Accounting for recreation time across urban ecosystem gradient



Marka  
mixed use  
forests



Marka forest  
access  
areas

Parks & cemeteries  
in the built zone

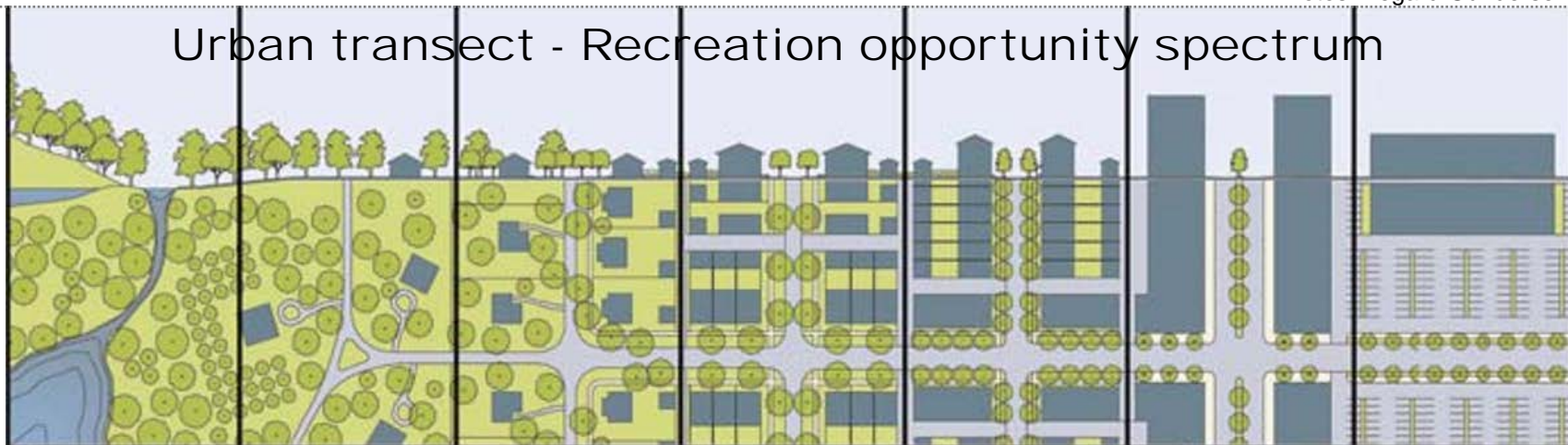
Streets with trees

Nature areas  
in built zone



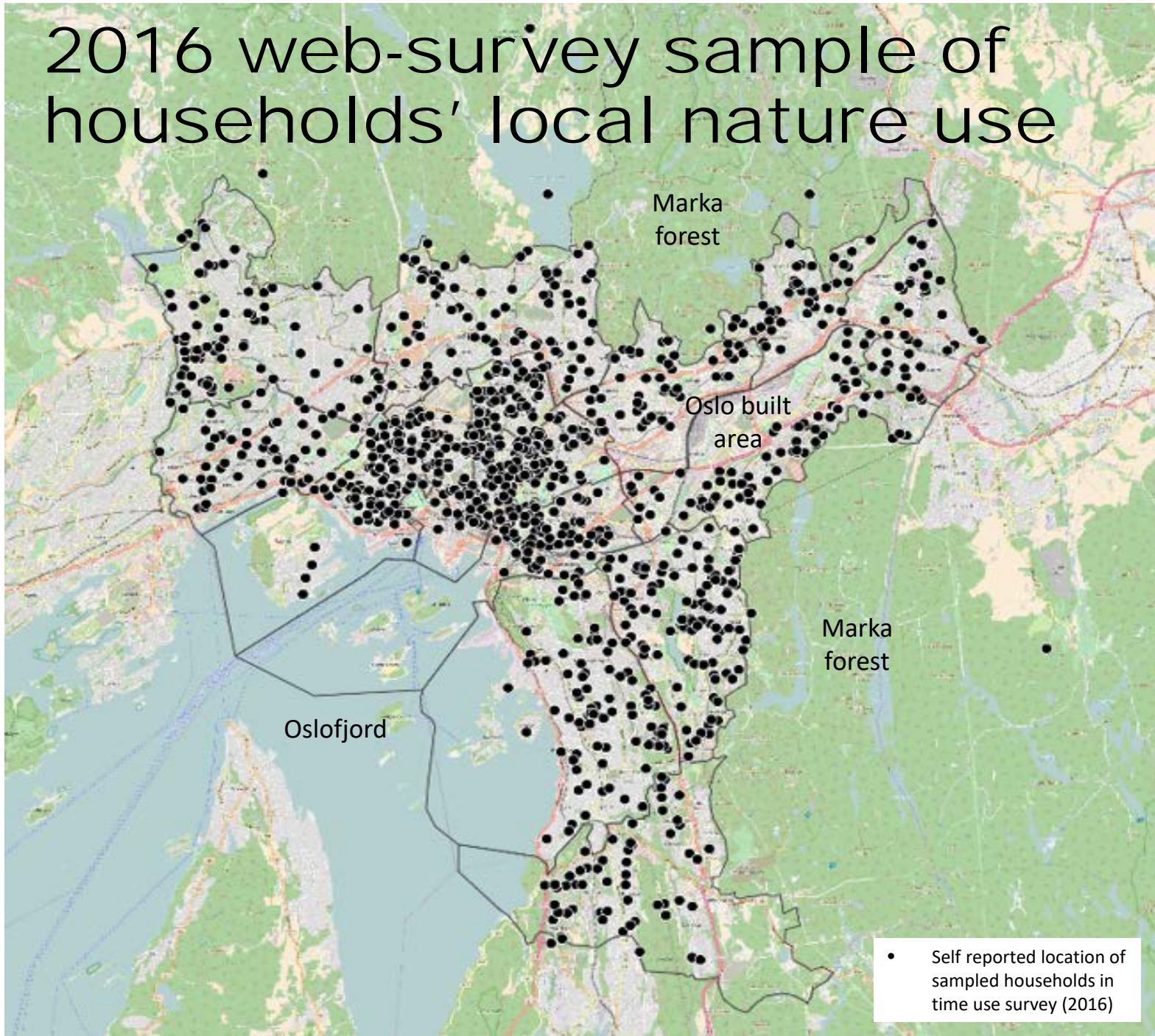
Photos: Vegard Gundersen

Urban transect - Recreation opportunity spectrum



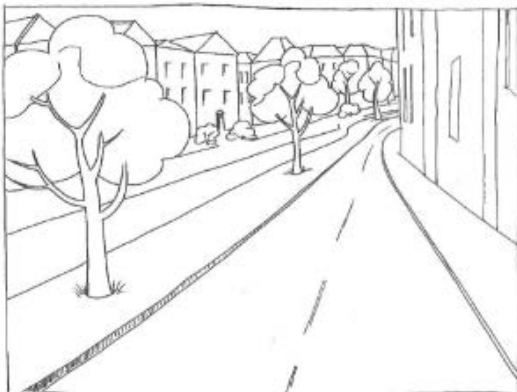


# 2016 web-survey sample of households' local nature use



86% of adult population >15 yrs (450 000 people) visit Marka at least once a year (Synnovate 2011)

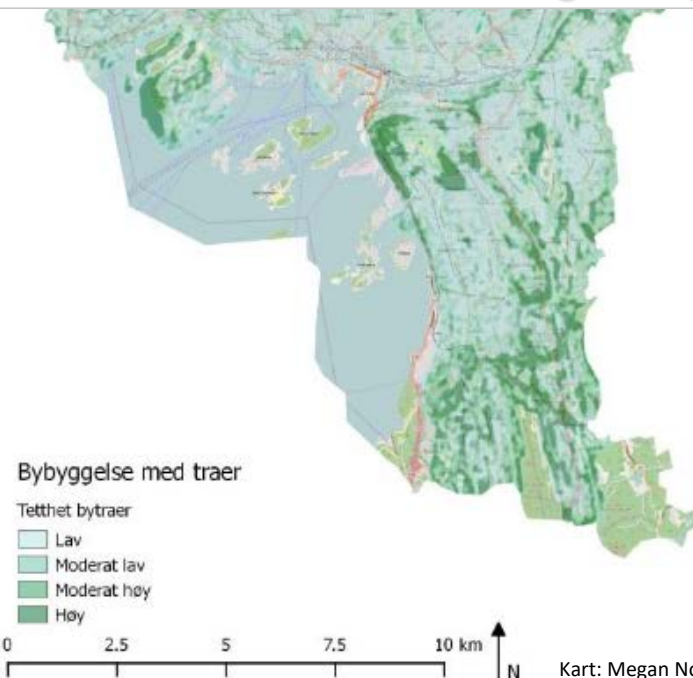
• Self reported location of sampled households in time use survey (2016)



Hvor ofte har du tatt en tur for turen skyld i **bebyggelse med trær** de siste 12 månedene? (dvs. ikke bare som transportetappe). Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

	Daglig	Ukentlig	Månedlig	Sjeldnere	Aldri
Sommer 2016: juni-august	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Vår 2016: mars-mai	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Vinter 2015/16: desember-februar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Ifjor høst 2015: september-november	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

**Bebyggelse med trær**– Dette er i bebygde områder i byen som inneholder enkelttrær eller små grupper av trær og busker. Det kan være gatemiljø, bakgård, plasser eller andre steder med offentlig tilgang. Du vil normalt møte svært mange andre mennesker.

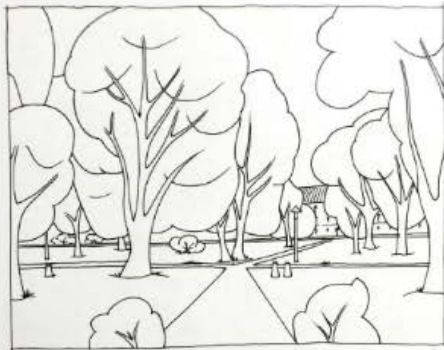


Kart: Megan Nowell. Lidar data fra PBE

Hvor ofte har du tatt en tur for turen skyld i **bebyggelse med trær** de siste 12 månedene? (dvs. ikke bare som transportetappe). Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

Daglig Ukentlig Månedlig Sjeldnere Aldri

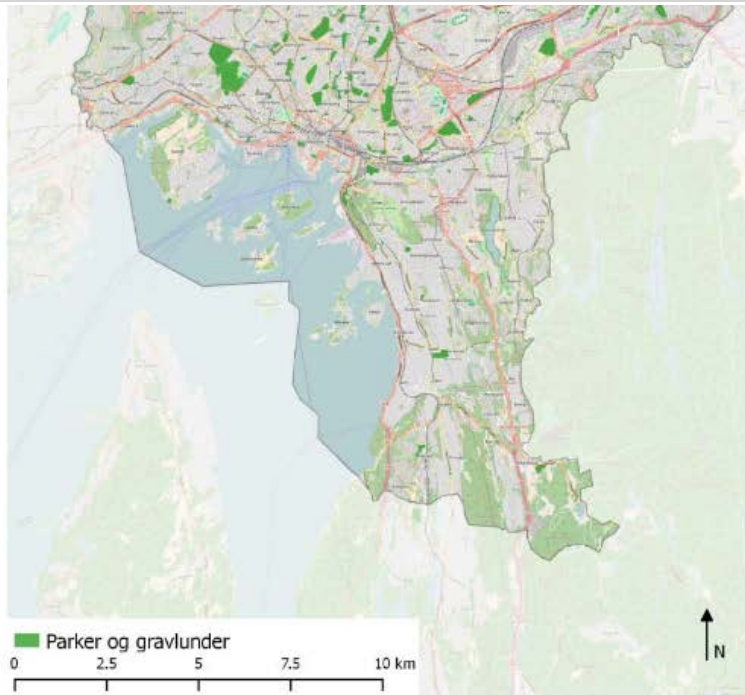




Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	7,4 %	34,1 %	28,0 %	20,5 %	10,1 %
Summer	5,7 %	26,5 %	31,4 %	25,1 %	11,3 %
Autumn	3,5 %	13,7 %	20,8 %	40,8 %	21,1 %
Winter	4,7 %	20,4 %	25,9 %	33,4 %	15,6 %

Source: NORSTAT data OSLOpenNESS

**Parker** – Dette er grøntområder som er opparbeidet, tilrettelagt og forvaltet av kommunen, inkludert kirkegårder. Det kan være varierende innhold av trær, hekker, blomsterbed, dammer og åpne plenarealer. Du vil oftest treffe mange andre besøkende.

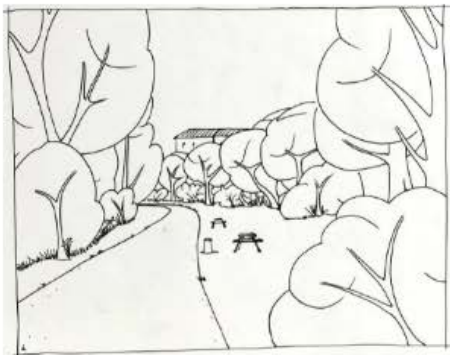


Kart: Megan Nowell. Data Bymiljøetaten

Hvor ofte har du tatt en tur i parker de siste 12 månedene? Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

Daglig    Ukentlig    Månedlig    Sjeldnere    Aldri

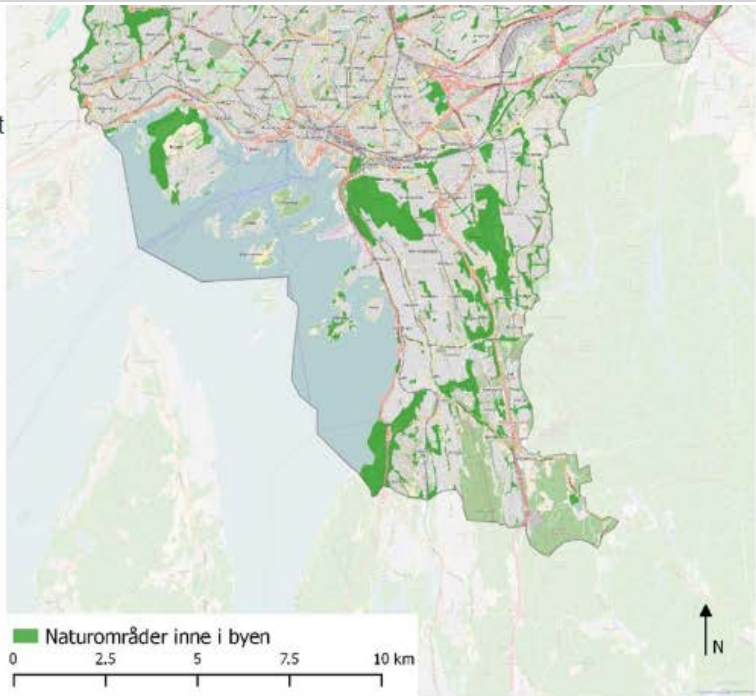
Sommer 2016: juni-august



**Naturområder inne i byen** – Områdene ligger blant bebyggelsen. De består av naturlig vegetasjon, ofte trær, og som oftest i ulike alder. Områdene kan være godt tilrettelagt med turveier eller gang- og sykkelveier, informasjon og annen service til de besøkende, og også inkludere strandarealer mot vann og sjø. Skogene bærer ofte preg av stor bruk, med stier og snarveier på kryss og tvers. Du vil ofte treffe mange andre besøkende.

Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	6,1 %	31,9 %	28,8 %	22,5 %	10,7 %
Summer	4,8 %	26,6 %	32,5 %	25,1 %	11,1 %
Autumn	2,8 %	14,9 %	24,8 %	39,2 %	18,4 %
Winter	4,1 %	20,4 %	29,4 %	31,5 %	14,7 %

Source: NORSTAT data OSLOpenNESS

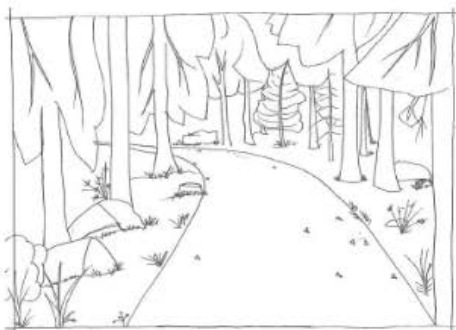


Kart: Megan Nowell. Data Bymiljøetaten

Hvor ofte har du tatt en tur i naturområder inne i byen de siste 12 månedene? Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

Daglig    Ukentlig    Månedlig    Sjeldnere    Aldri

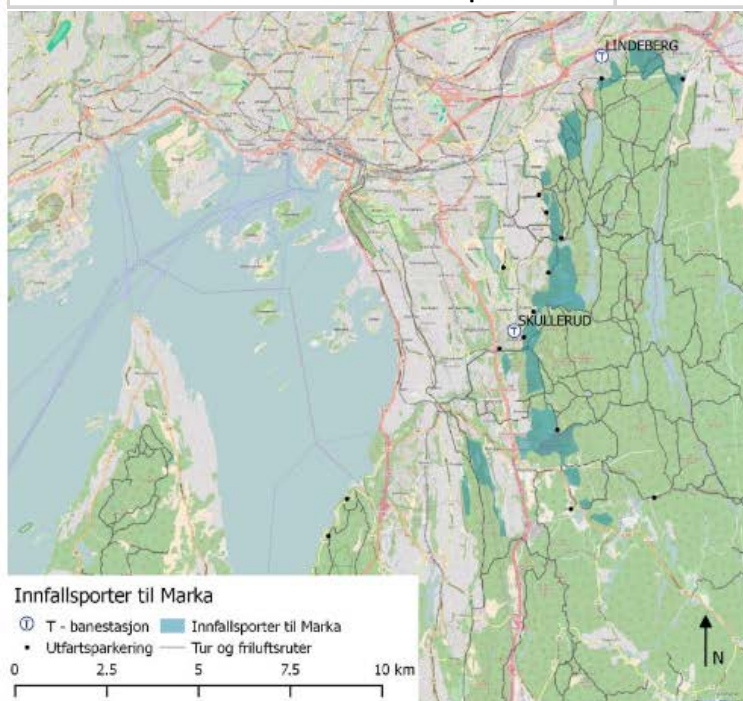




Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	3,3 %	22,6 %	32,8 %	24,6 %	16,9 %
Summer	2,7 %	21,1 %	33,4 %	24,9 %	18,0 %
Autumn	2,0 %	16,3 %	25,5 %	33,1 %	23,1 %
Winter	2,4 %	19,0 %	29,6 %	30,2 %	18,8 %

Source: NORSTAT data OSLOpenNESS

**Innfallsporter til Marka** – Dette er skogsområder som ligger nær Markagrensa og hvor det er høyere grad av tilrettelegging for idrett og friluftsliv enn lenger inn i Marka. I de bynære områdene av Marka er det flere innfallsporter hvor du vil finne kollektivholdeplasser, parkeringsplasser, gangveier, serveringssteder og mindre anlegg for en rekke ulike aktiviteter (f.eks alpint, aking, klatring). I denne sonen vil du treffe mange andre besøkende som utøver ulike former for friluftslivsaktivitet.



Kart: Megan Nowell. Data Bymiljøetaten

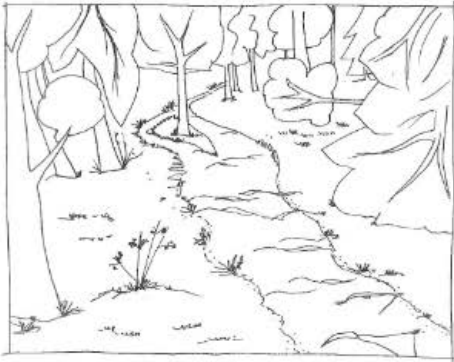
Hvor ofte har du tatt en tur i innfallsporter til Marka de siste 12 månedene? Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

Daglig    Ukentlig    Månedlig    Sjeldnere    Aldri

Sommer 2016: juni-august



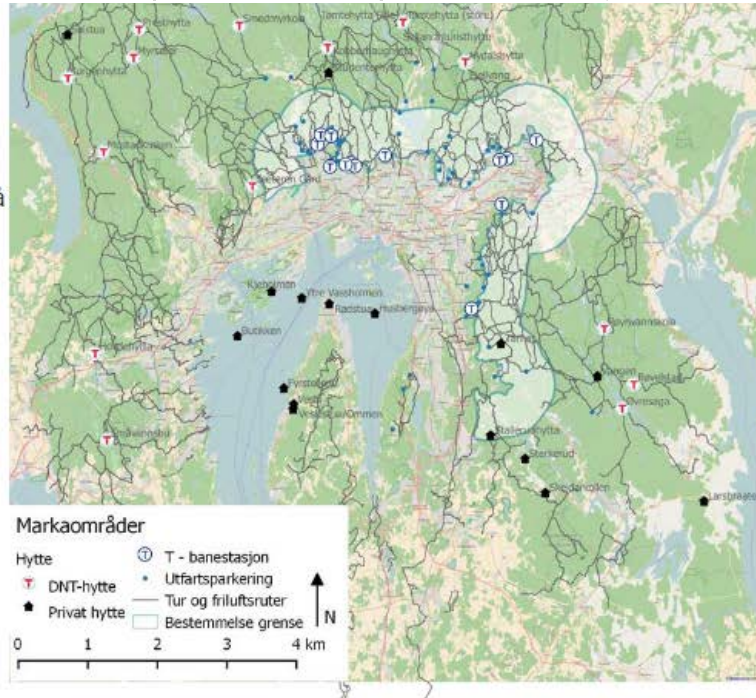




Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	2,1 %	15,7 %	24,8 %	30,6 %	26,8 %
Summer	1,6 %	14,1 %	23,3 %	32,6 %	28,4 %
Autumn	1,4 %	11,2 %	19,3 %	32,7 %	35,5 %
Winter	1,6 %	12,5 %	22,7 %	32,6 %	30,6 %

Source: NORSTAT data OSLOpenNESS

**Markaområder utenom innfallsporter-** Deler av de sammenhengende skogsområdene lenger inn i Marka innehar enkel tilrettelegging som merkede stier og løyper, lysløyper, bruer og klopper, gapahuker, serveringssteder osv. På grunn av skogsdrift er det også mange skogsbilveier innover i Marka. Du vil som oftest treffe andre besøkende som utøver ulike former for friluftslivsaktivitet.

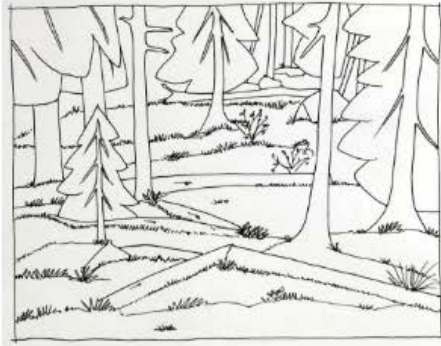


Kart: Megan Nowell.

Hvor ofte har du gått tur i **Markaområder** de siste 12 månedene (utenom innfallsport-områdene)? Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

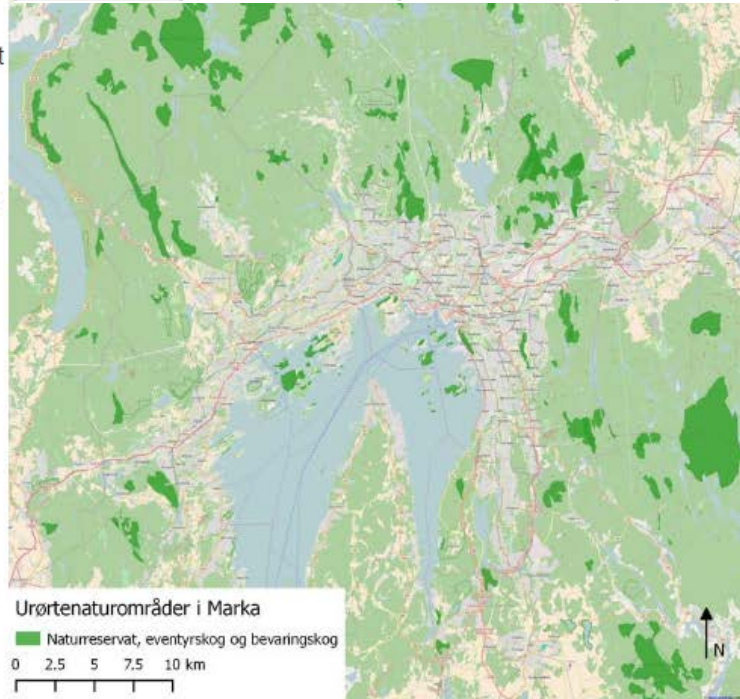
Daglig      Ukentlig      Månedlig      Sjeldnere      Aldri





**Urørte naturområder i Marka** - Dette er områder lengst fra inngrep i Marka og der naturen stort sett får gå sin gang. Områdene er ofte vernet og innehar få spor etter menneskelig aktivitet. Det er ingen tilrettelegging annet enn tråkk og noen få merke stier, og du vil sjelden treffe andre besøkende.

Urørte naturområder i Marka					
Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	0,7 %	4,5 %	13,7 %	29,6 %	51,4 %
Summer	0,6 %	3,2 %	12,3 %	29,8 %	54,1 %
Autumn	0,7 %	3,3 %	8,4 %	28,9 %	58,8 %
Winter	0,7 %	3,5 %	11,5 %	28,4 %	55,9 %



Kart: Megan Nowell..  
Data: Naturbase og Naturvernforbundet

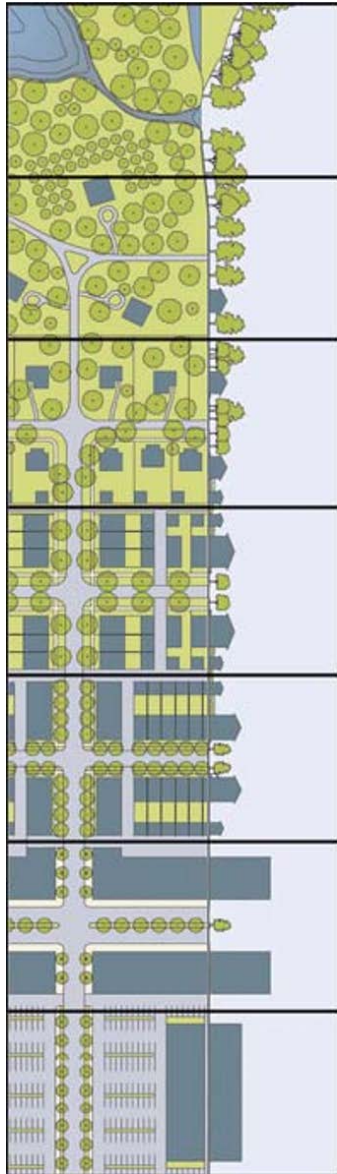
Hvor ofte har du tatt en tur utenfor stier og veier i urørte naturområder i Marka de siste 12 månedene? Sett kun ett kryss for hver årstid.

Daglig    Ukentlig    Månedlig    Sjeldnere    Aldri



# Urban ecosystem transects

# Relative recreation frequencies per season per ecosystem transect



Marka old growth forests

Marka mixed used forests

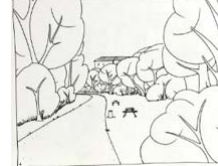
Access areas to Marka

— — — — — forest  
built zone

Nature areas in city

Parks & cemeteries

Streets with streets



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	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	0,7%	4,5%	13,7%	29,6%	51,4%
Summer	0,6%	3,2%	12,3%	29,8%	54,1%
Autumn	0,7%	3,3%	8,4%	28,9%	58,8%
Winter	0,7%	3,5%	11,5%	28,4%	55,9%

Visitation distribution per season					
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Spring	2,1%	15,7%	24,8%	30,6%	26,8%
Summer	1,6%	14,1%	23,3%	32,6%	28,4%
Autumn	1,4%	11,2%	19,3%	32,7%	35,5%
Winter	1,6%	12,5%	22,7%	32,6%	30,6%

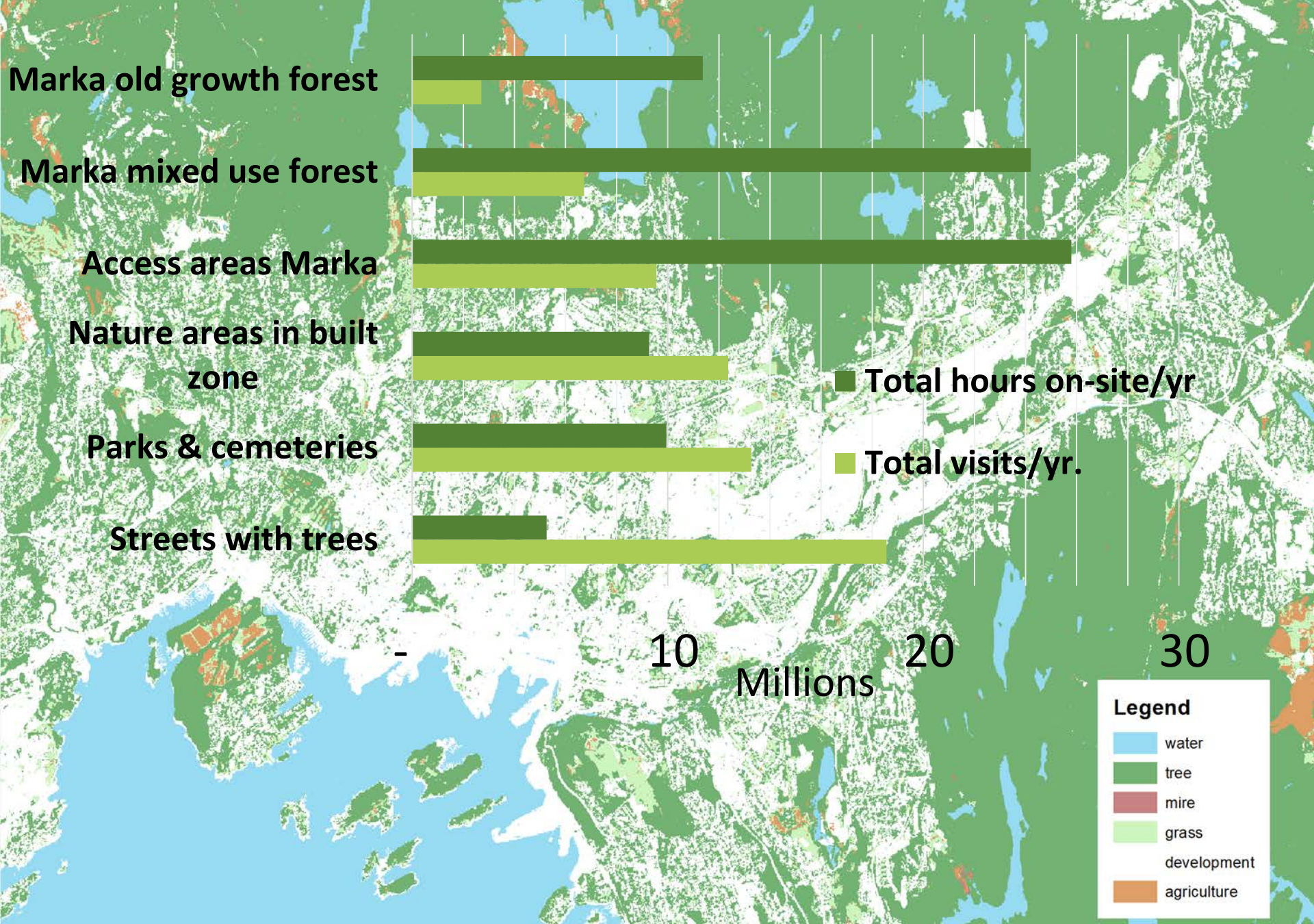
Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	3,3%	22,6%	32,8%	24,6%	16,9%
Summer	2,7%	21,1%	33,4%	24,9%	18,0%
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Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	6,1%	31,9%	28,8%	22,5%	10,7%
Summer	4,8%	26,6%	32,5%	25,1%	11,1%
Autumn	2,8%	14,9%	24,8%	39,2%	18,4%
Winter	4,1%	20,4%	29,4%	31,5%	14,7%

Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	7,4%	34,1%	28,0%	20,5%	10,1%
Summer	5,7%	26,5%	31,4%	25,1%	11,3%
Autumn	3,5%	13,7%	20,8%	40,8%	21,1%
Winter	4,7%	20,4%	25,9%	33,4%	15,6%

Visitation distribution per season					
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	More seldom	Never
Spring	10,8%	38,4%	24,0%	15,6%	11,2%
Summer	9,3%	34,6%	27,7%	17,7%	10,8%
Autumn	6,4%	23,3%	25,2%	27,6%	17,6%
Winter	8,1%	30,6%	27,7%	20,7%	12,9%

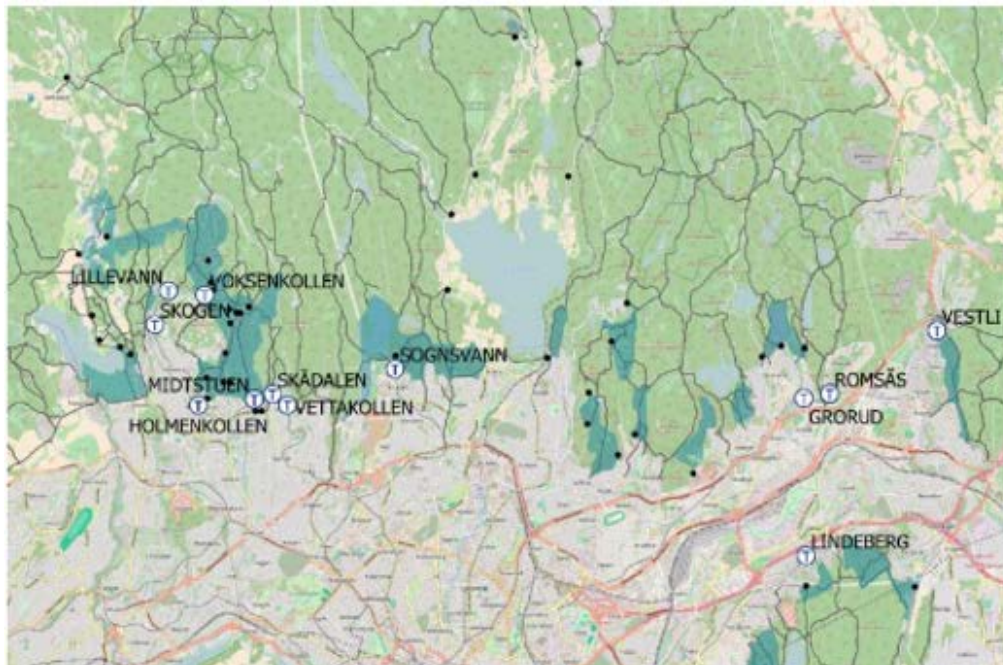




\*Data on trip durations on-site transferred from other local studies.



Urban transect:  
access areas to Marka  
peri-urban forest



Comparison of exchange based  
and consumer surplus valuation  
estimates:

VALUATION METHOD:	Per month	Per hour	Per trip	Total value (NOK/yr)
<b>Opportunity cost of time</b>				<b>Opportunity cost of time in nature area</b>
Foregone income after tax (100% )		100		2 570 158 000
Foregone income after (33.3%)		33		855 863 000
<b>Replacement cost</b>				<b>Replacement cost</b>
Expenses of training in a gym	453	38		973 580 000
<b>Willingness to pay (choice experiment)</b>				<b>Willingness to pay (WTP) from choice experiment</b>
WTP (spring-summer-autumn)			125	905 274 000
WTP (winter)			209	480 779 000
WTP (total annual)				1 386 053 000
<b>Consumer surplus (=WTP - travel expenses)</b>				<b>Consumer surplus (= WTP - travel expenses)</b>
WTP - expenses (spring summer autumn)			71	515 779 000
WTP - expenses (winter)			156	357 508 000
WTP - expenses (total annual)				873 287 000
<b>Consumer surplus - travel cost</b>				<b>Consumer surplus: travel cost benefit transfer</b>
Expected consumer surplus(TCM)			144	1 371 561 000



# Valuing recreation time in local nature - conceptual or measurement problem?

## **Compatible with SEEA EEA Technical Recommendation criteria?:**

- Within **production boundary?** **No**, but is this any different from ecosystem contribution to other non-SNA benefits? (e.g. wetlands flood control)
- Avoid **double counting?** **Yes**, (but avoid combining with hedonic pricing of neighbourhood amenities)
- **Exchange values:** **Yes**, labour exchange value after tax
- **Significance ?** **Yes**, substantial values compared to other monetary methods

## **Additional criteria?:**

- **Indicator sensitivity-** **Not yet**. Requires correlating time on-site with rec.opp.
- **Accurate?** **OK**. Self-reported accuracy improved with diary; GSM/GPS tracking
- **Reliability?** **Good**. Low number of modeling assumptions.
- **Cost of information?** **Moderate**. Web-survey, or GSM tracking.
- **Institutional compatibility?** **Yes**. No entry fee assumptions required
- **Non-monetary value indicator?** **Yes**, physical time on-site

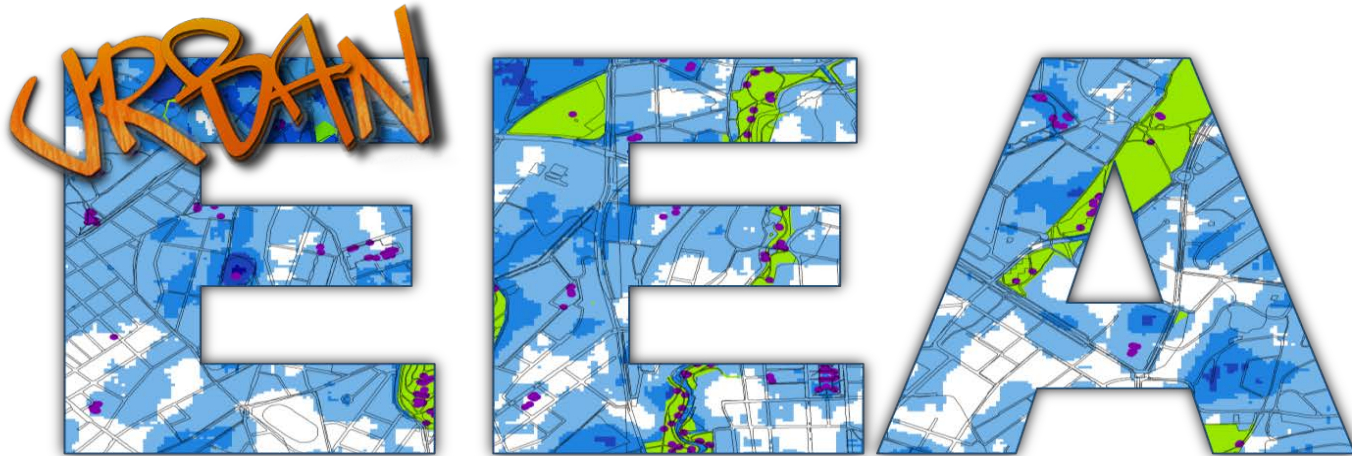


**Valuing recreation time  
in local nature...**

... valuing labour input to subsistence production of "vitamin G".



# THANK YOU



**Statistics Norway**  
Statistisk sentralbyrå



Norwegian Institute for Nature Research



Arkitektur- og designhøgskolen i Oslo  
The Oslo School of Architecture and Design

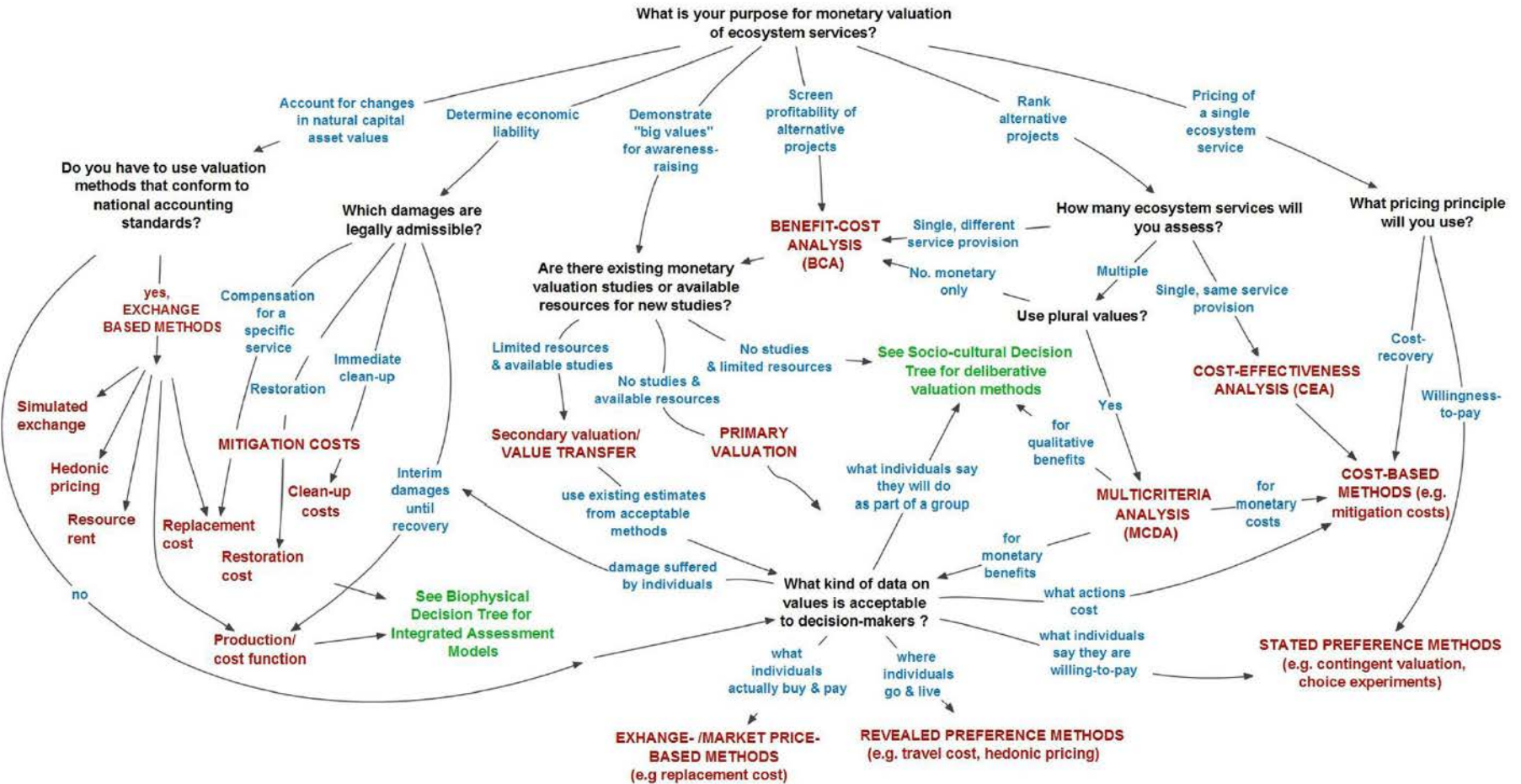
Contact: [david.barton@nina.no](mailto:david.barton@nina.no)

# Answer to session discussion questions

- **What is it exactly that you are valuing?** Recreation time on-site, opportunity cost of foregone income after tax from recreation time
- **What methods are most commonly used when valuing this service?** Travel cost, stated preference
- **What pathways (from service to beneficiary) are commonly assumed?** Recreation time on-site as a function of accessibility and attractiveness
- **Is it possible to isolate this service from other services?** No, but the recreation use value can be subdivided into short and long term mental and physical well-being effects
- **Is there any risk of double counting with other services ?** Not with regulating, provisioning or supporting
- **Local scale.** Could be scaled up to the national level using larger surveys
- **Strengths and weaknesses** of the method In more detail: Statistical uncertainty? Repeatability? Are annual changes relevant/statistically significant?
- **Ranking of methods?** See matrix



# Purposeful context specific monetary valuation



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Ecosystem Services

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoser](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoser)



Selecting methods for ecosystem service assessment: A decision tree approach

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# References

Presentation based on:

[Barton et al. \(2017a\): LG/23/C17 Experimental ecosystem accounting in urban areas - challenges for valuation techniques and relevance for municipal policy and planning with examples from the Oslo metropolitan area](#)

Other references:

Barton et al. (2017b) Narrowing the gap between ecosystem service appraisal and governance support (Chapter 4) in Barton, D.N. and P.A. Harrison, eds. Integrated valuation of ecosystem services. Guidelines and experiences. European Commission FP7, 2017. EU FP7 OpenNESS Project Deliverable 33-44. 2017. (in press, draft provided upon request)

Barton, D.N., 2016. Monetary valuation of urban ecosystem services-operationalization or tragedy of well-intentioned valuation? An illustrated example. Ecosystem services : concepts, methodologies and instruments for research and applied use / Sergi Nuss-Girona, Mita Castañer (eds.).

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301205154 Monetary valuation of urban ecosystem services - operationalization or tragedy of well-intentioned valuation An illustrated example](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/301205154_Monetary_valuation_of_urban_ecosystem_services_-_operationalization_or_tragedy_of_well-intentioned_valuation_An_illustrated_example)

Barton et al. (2017c) Diverse valuation and accounting of nature. OpenNESS Policy Brief No. 5 [http://www.openness-project.eu/sites/default/files/Policy%20brief%20%235%20Capturing%20diverse%20nature%20values\\_Final.pdf](http://www.openness-project.eu/sites/default/files/Policy%20brief%20%235%20Capturing%20diverse%20nature%20values_Final.pdf)

Gómez-Baggethun, E. and D.N. Barton, Classifying and valuing ecosystem services for urban planning. Ecological Economics, 2013. **86: p. 235 – 245.**

Kallis et al. (2013) To value or not to value? That is not the question. Ecological Economics 94 97-105

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Vatn, A. (2005), Rationality, institutions and environmental policy. Ecological Economics, 55(2): 203–217.

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