



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

SEEA EEA Revision issues

Key ecosystem services

Forum of Experts in SEEA EEA
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Rocky Harris
Defra, UK



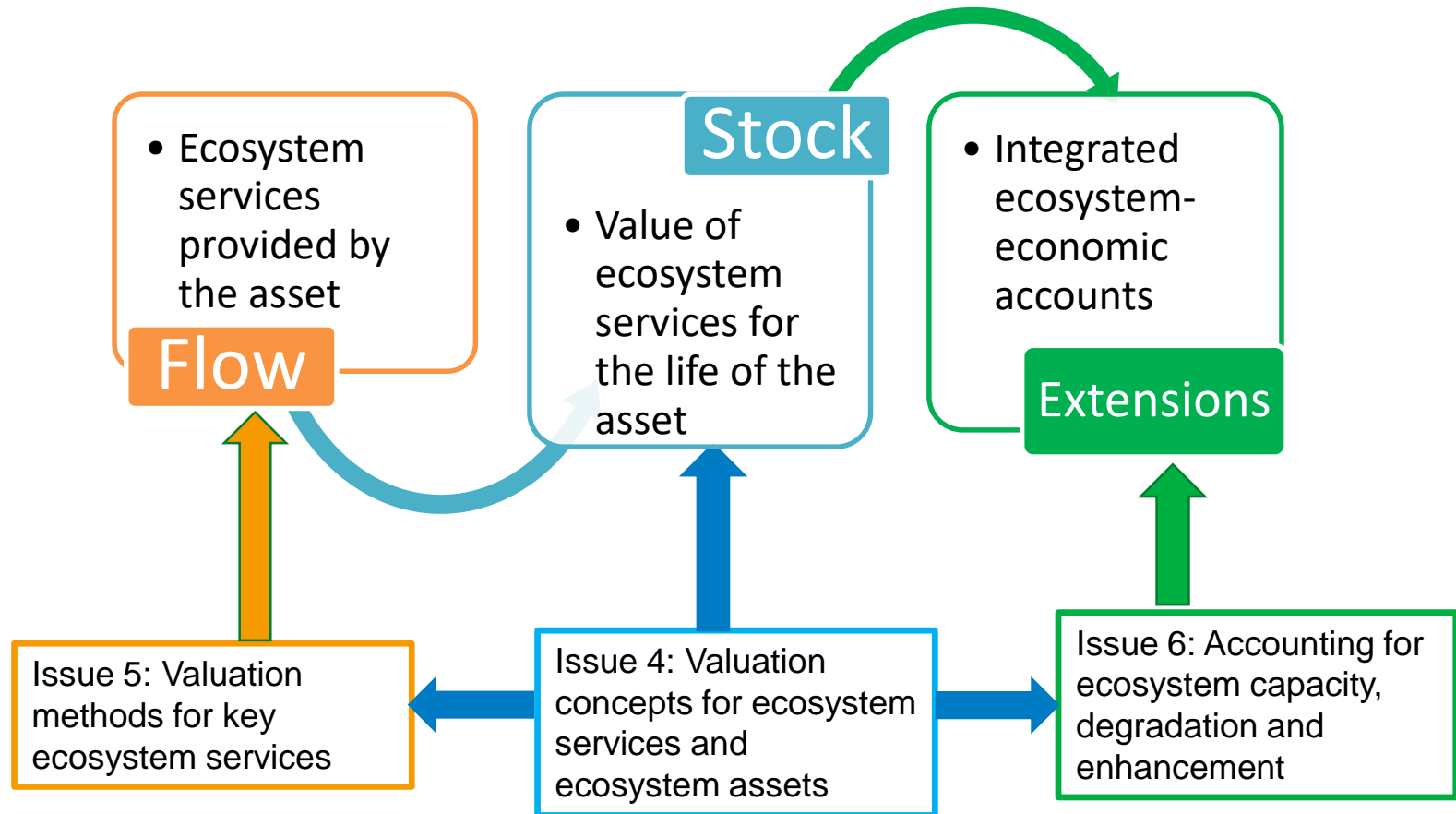
Forestry Commission
England



Environment
Agency

Introduction to valuation revision issues

Monetary accounts

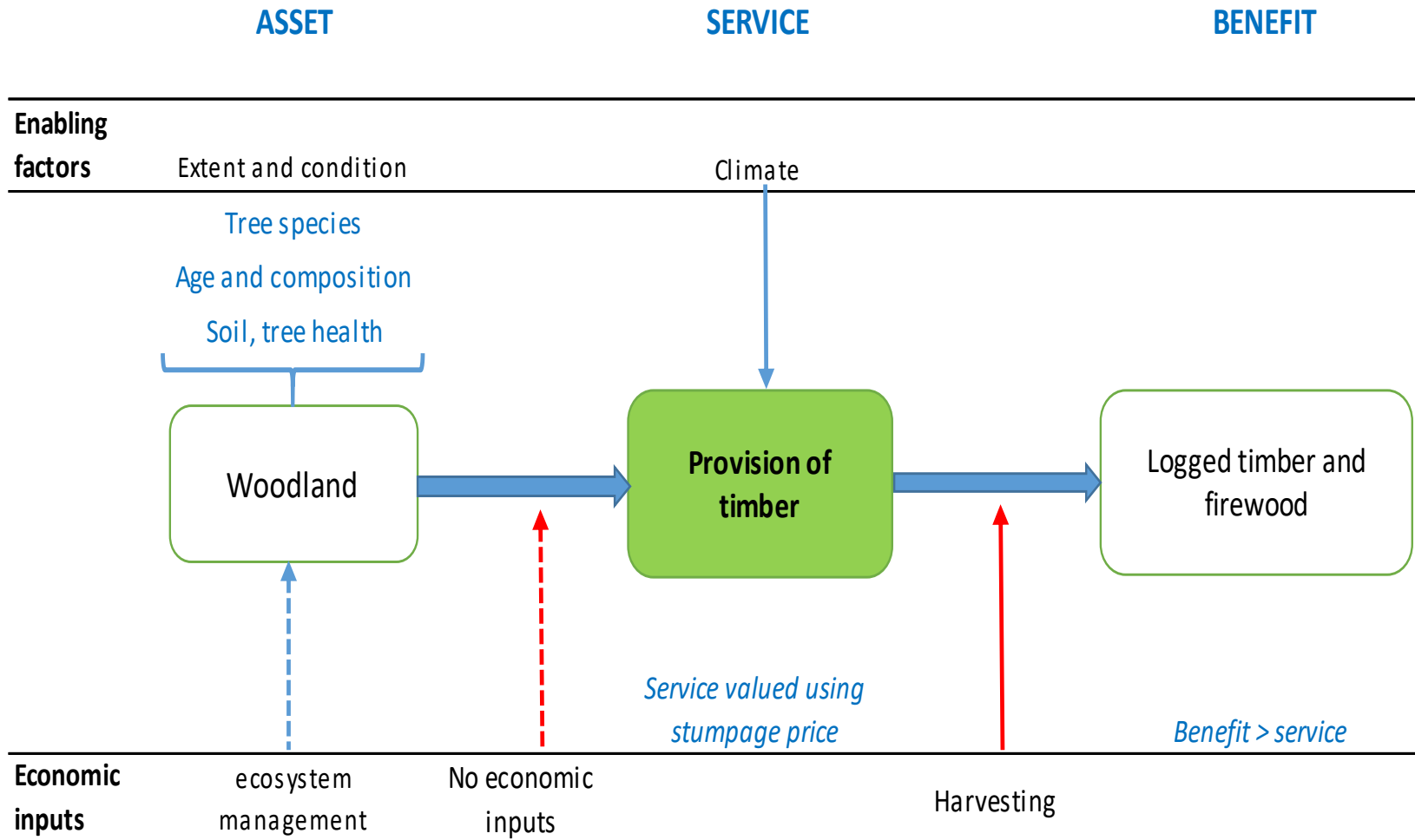


Issue 5: Valuation methods for key ecosystem services

Determining a list of key ecosystem services from a valuation perspective

- Can we identify valuation options for each of these services, and prioritise issues for further work?
- What criteria should we use for prioritisation? Is it just a matter of feasibility and monetary importance?
- Is the list of key services sufficiently comprehensive and widely applicable?

Logic chains



- *Not an ecological production function necessarily. Helpful to distinguish between service and benefit – then identify the ES contribution to the benefit. May also help with issues with counterfactuals.*

Initial list of key ecosystem services

Are the dimensions of the table the ones we should be thinking about?

Description of service. Is the service clearly delineated? Do we have good examples?

Physical indicator. Important for Q*P but may not always be needed.

Benefit and indicator/metric for benefit. Clarity is important for regulating and cultural services

Valuation options. Not so much concerned at this point as to where the valuation option fits on the exchange – welfare spectrum

Use the **comments** box!

Provisioning services

No particular order!

Appropriate valuation approaches in the situation of low or negative resource rents

Approaches to the **valuation of water-related services**. Is it better to put water provisioning services aside?

Treatment of **livestock and aquaculture production**

Timber production. Is the distinction between plantation and (semi-) natural woodland meaningful?

Any other issues? What are the priorities?

Regulating services

No particular order!

Carbon sequestration and storage. Are they both services, or is the latter simply a liability? How would one value the latter as a service?

Water-related services. Supply benefits and flood protection: same service, multiple benefits?

Air, water and solid waste mediation. Is it useful to distinguish three different elements: mediation (dilution, physical breakdown etc.); effective (benign) storage; and other, unmediated, wastes? Is the benefit to health (of humans and ecosystems separate to the waste disposal service?

Any other issues? What are the priorities?

Cultural services

No particular order!

What exactly is the ecosystem contribution to the benefit? Is provision of space really a service?

What is the link to non-use benefits? Can we distinguish between use and non-use benefits using hedonic pricing?

What are the implications for valuation in exchange value terms? Value of time, how to value of free trips?

How to delineate and value education services?

Where do (mental and physical) health benefits fit in? What is the counterfactual ((exercise on bare soil cf in a more natural environment)?

Any other issues? What are the priorities?
