

Review of: "Unlocking Natural Capital in the Megadiverse Colombian Pacific Basin: Navigating Challenges and Governance Gaps"

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The study under consideration holds significant relevance within the context of discussions surrounding natural capital, particularly in the context of the global South. The employed methodology stands out for its meticulous approach, offering a clear and well-described process, supported by robust databases dedicated to the topic. There are, however, a few topics where the text could benefit from further elaboration and enhancement.

To start, the introduction could be strengthened by better contextualization, both in relation to the existing literature on the subject and in terms of creating a more seamless flow of ideas between paragraphs. Currently, the introduction comprises two general sections—one addressing the concept of natural capital and the other focusing on the study region. It would be advantageous to provide more context by integrating the ecosystem services/natural capital approach within the broader spectrum of nature values, as discussed in this article (reference: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06406-9>).

Furthermore, the article lacks a discussion regarding the feasibility of establishing a natural capital reporting and accounting system for Colombia. It is imperative to address the potential challenges associated with incorporating this approach into the national accounts, particularly considering the complexities of devising official indicators.

An additional crucial point that warrants attention pertains to the evaluation of stocks and flows in agricultural areas and various agricultural practices. Frequently, we tend to underestimate the contributions of services that are promoted within these regions.

Lastly, a more comprehensive discussion on the transformation of potential values into tangible market values is warranted. This is particularly pertinent as the valuation approach proposed by Groot et al. remains significant; however, it can be challenging for multiple sectors of society to interpret. It often generates expectations that may diverge from the reality of the value chains established within different regions.

Incorporating these suggested refinements will not only enhance the depth and scope of your work but also contribute to a more robust and coherent narrative.

