

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

Vivian Lutz

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This manuscript deals with an important subject in the context of anthropogenic use of natural resources and global change, which is the value of ecosystem services. It is relevant to make visible the services that nature provides to humankind, which are mostly taken for granted, by assigning a monetary value to them. In this way, potential losses due to harming the environment become more concrete to the public and decision makers.

I am an oceanographer, and agreed to review this work since in the title included "...Colombian Pacific Basin...", reading the text came to realize that it referred to the terrestrial area nearby the Pacific Ocean. Hence, I am not able to judge the quality of the evaluation of the terrestrial natural biodiversity and environment or the economic assessment. Nevertheless, I read the manuscript with interest and here are a few comments:

- From the perspective of the non-expert in economics, I would suggest to explain some specific terms from the abstract (e.g., Int.\$2020/year).
- Regarding the importance of Protected Areas, it should be considered that apart from possible governance issues, they cannot protect the existing biodiversity from trans-boundary effects related to climate change such as changes in temperature, winds, precipitation rate (in the case of the ocean marine-heat-waves, acidification).

It would be interesting extending this kind of analyses to the marine environment. Especially considering the dimension of the Colombian Marine domain, and the involvement of Colombia in assessing the Ocean Health Index

(<https://oceanhealthindex.org/ohi+/assessment/colombia/>)