Synthesis:
Key Findings and Next steps

Greg Biddinger
Conference Findings – Eureka’s and Serendipity

● **Hope**
  - Energy to develop capacity to use Ecosystem Services (ES)
  - Belief that ES will lead to achieving Environmental performance in line with sustainability

● **Progress**
  - USGS National Maps; Tools
    - *Ecosystem Portfolio Model*
  - USEPA Ecosystem Services Research Plan
  - Natural Capital Project - *INVEST*
  - NOAA – Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
  - Superfund – Using ES and tracing Eco-benefits
Conference Findings

- **Common Vision of the Future**
  - Analytical system that can evaluate ES at appropriate scale and quantify their value
  - Provide the capacity to compare scenarios
  - Value of stakeholder in informing the analysis
  - Recognition ES help focus on outcome and better communication of benefits
  - Desire to connect ES to regulatory performance
  - Focus on ecological production function
  - Focus on *Net Environmental Benefits*

- **Potential Partners**
  - USEPA Public-Private Partnerships
  - Brainstorming Houston-Galveston Land Use Planning Project

- **(Re)newed Friendships**
Developmental Needs - Ecosystem Service Analysis

● A Development Community

- Regular and robust interaction and collaboration
- International engagement (Maybe meet in Europe)
- Broad discipline representation
  - biophysical, geographic and socio economic disciplines, anthropologists
- Frequent communication
- Public-Private Partnerships (USEPA)

● Consensus / Standards?

- Lexicon
- Analytical Framework
  - ala Ecological Risk or LCA – ISO 14040
- Guidance/ Analytical Roadmap to find most suitable Data, models and methods for a given decision-making context, including business applications
- Rules for bundling and stacking service
- Reporting requirements for cross comparisons
Developmental Needs - Ecosystem Service Analysis

- **Scientific Infrastructure sized to task**
  - Gap analysis on data, models, methods in context of spatial and temporal scale
  - Catalogue of ES linked to sources (e.g. habitat or physical state) and mapped to human well-being
  - Definition of spatial and temporal scales for service operation
  - Enumerate relationships between stressors and services
  - IT Platform - Practitioners Tool Kit
    - Analytical Roadmap, guidance
    - Data and tools at scale

- **Experimentation – Scientific and Policy**
  - **Scientific** – Nested experimental design
    - Pilot testing of tools - public-private partnership
    - Sub-Global Assessment of ES in U.S.
      - Test tools in multi-scale studies
  - **Policy** - Regulatory hammer or flexibility
    - Identify flexibility in Regulations
    - Project XL – Flexibility for Superior Environmental performance
Note to Jessica F.    From Greg B. and Ralph S.

- Be Patient ……
  enjoy the ride

- Retirement is not
  the end of work.
  Just ....

  more time to do
  what you want !!!