

# Using the STEPS Framework to Define the Impacts of Air Pollution on Aquatic Final Ecosystem Goods and Services

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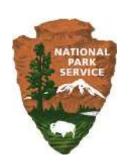












ACES Conference 2016

Jacksonville, FL

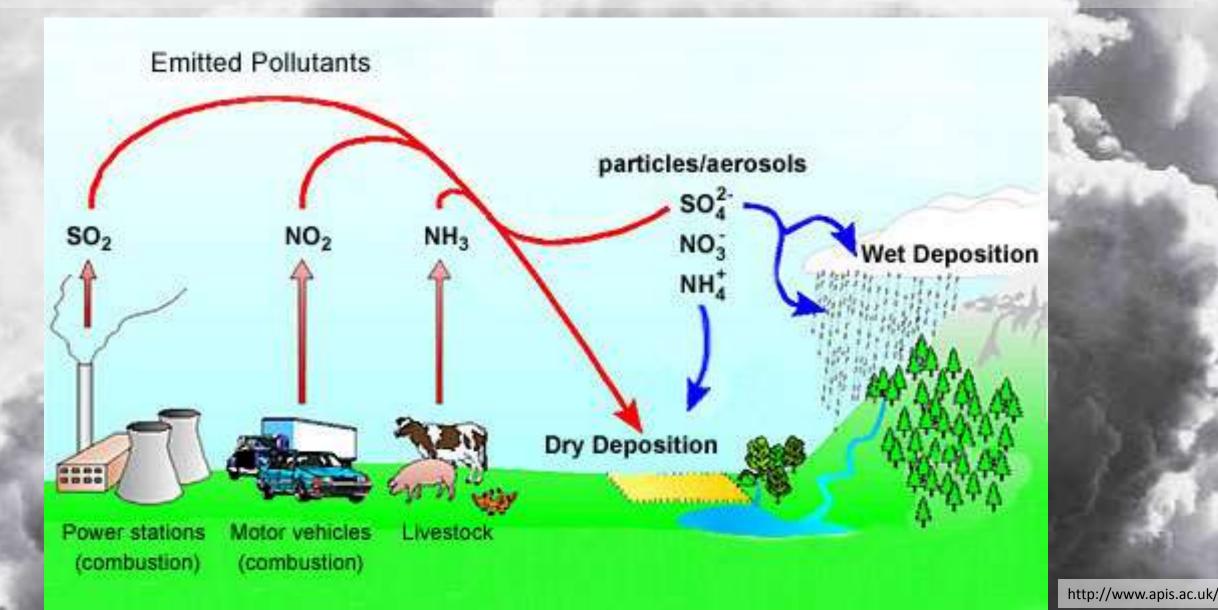


#### **Presentation Goals**

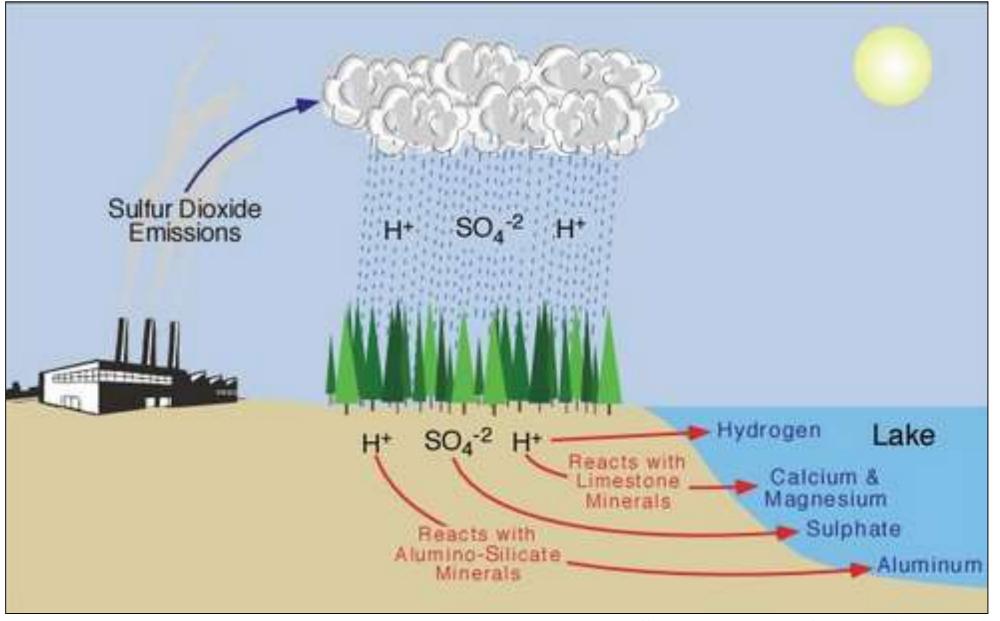
- Provide examples of Ecological Production
   Functions created using the STEPS Framework
- Explain how air pollution affects ecosystem goods and services



### Atmospheric Deposition of Sulfur and Nitrogen



#### Deposition leads to Eutrophication and Acidification



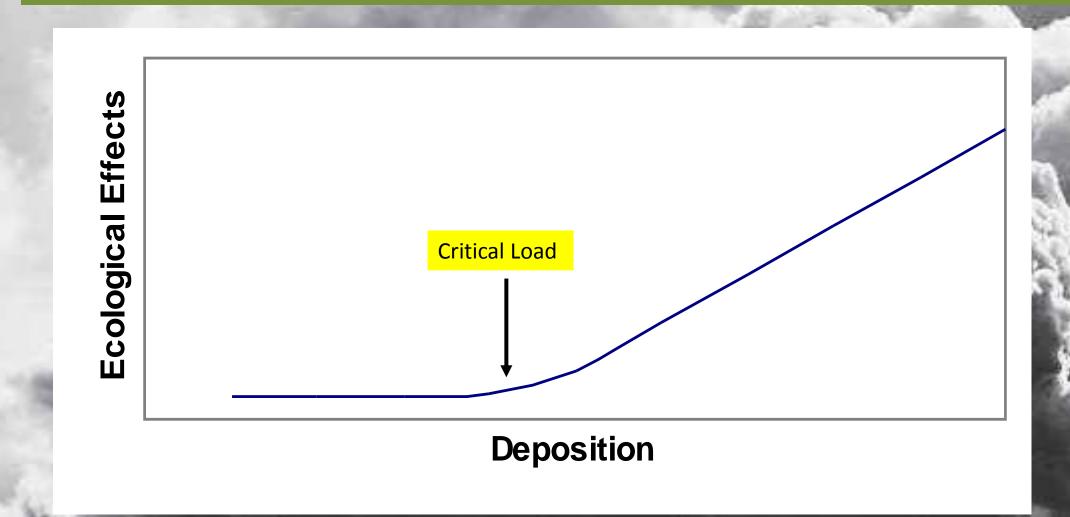


#### Four Modes of Ecosystem Response to Atmospheric Deposition



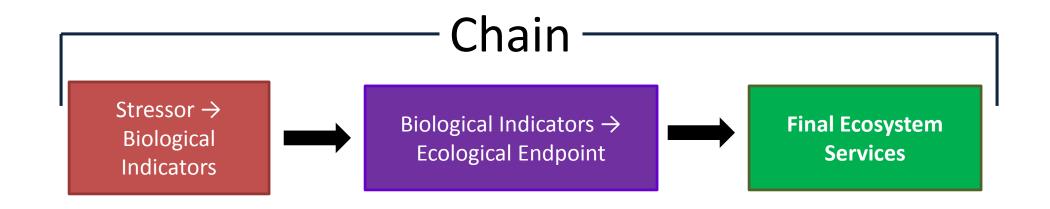


# Critical load is the level of atmospheric deposition below which no harmful ecological effects occur for an ecosystem





#### **STEPS Framework**

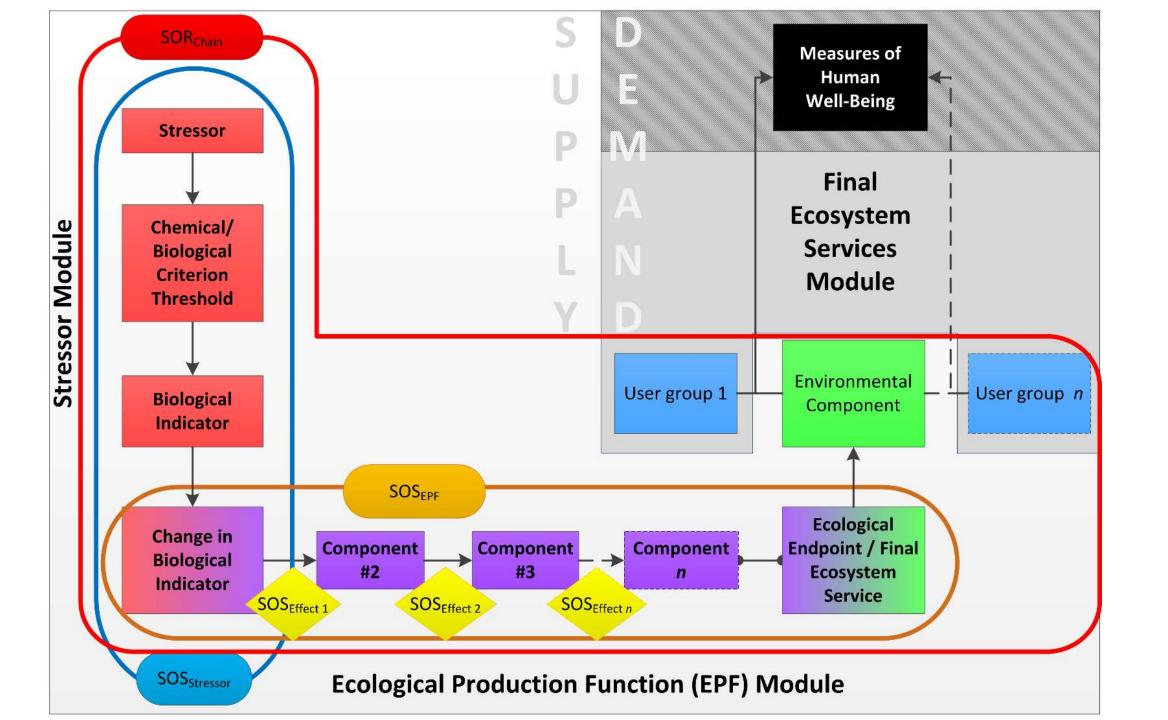


**ST**ressor

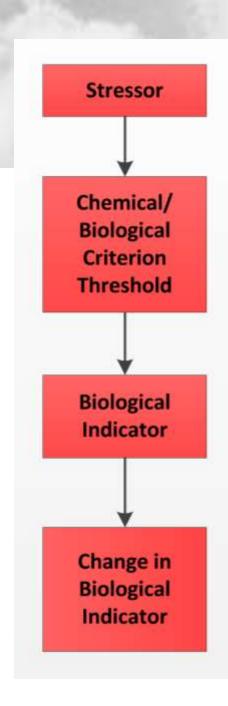
EcologicalProductionFunction

Final Ecosystem **S**ervice

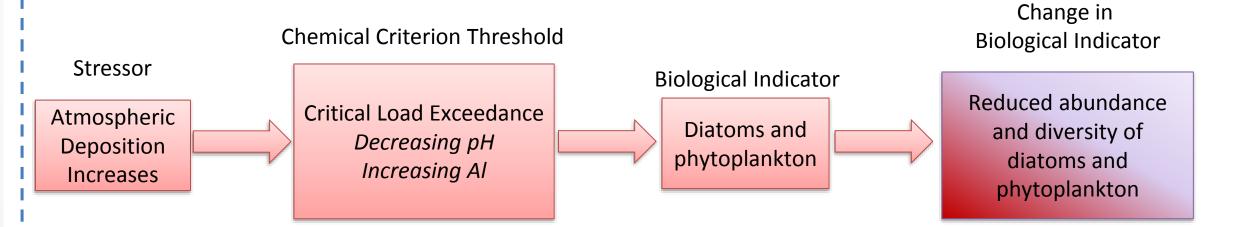






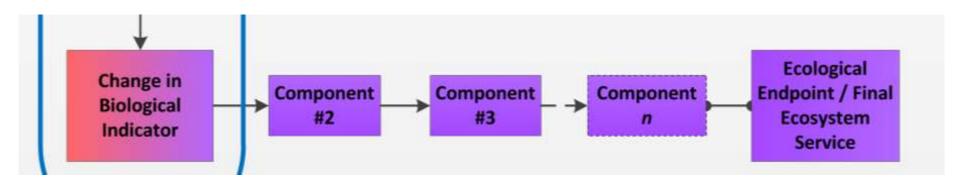


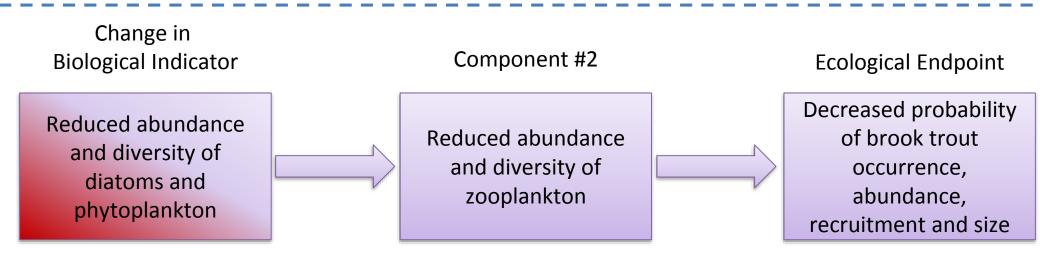
#### Stressor Module





#### **Ecological Production Function Module**







#### Environmental User group 1 User group n Component **Ecological Endpoint / Final** Ecosystem Service

#### Final Ecosystem Services Module

Ecological Endpoint

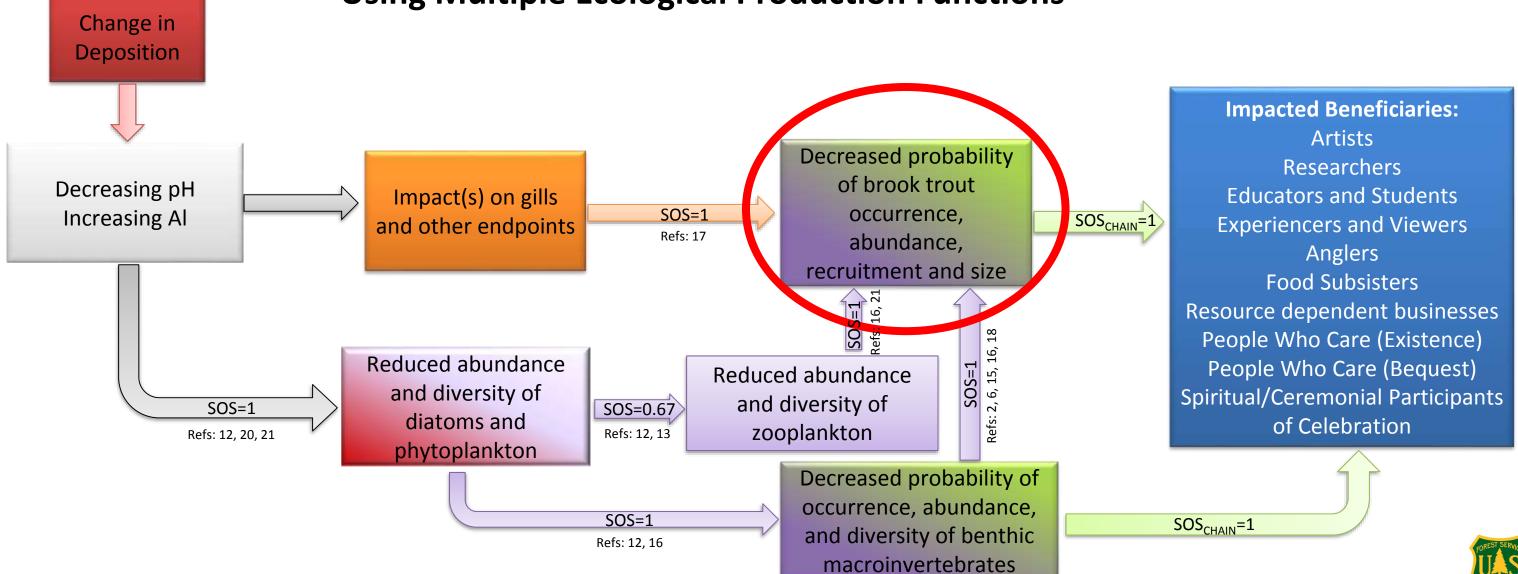
Decreased probability
of brook trout
occurrence,
abundance,
recruitment and size

**User Groups** 

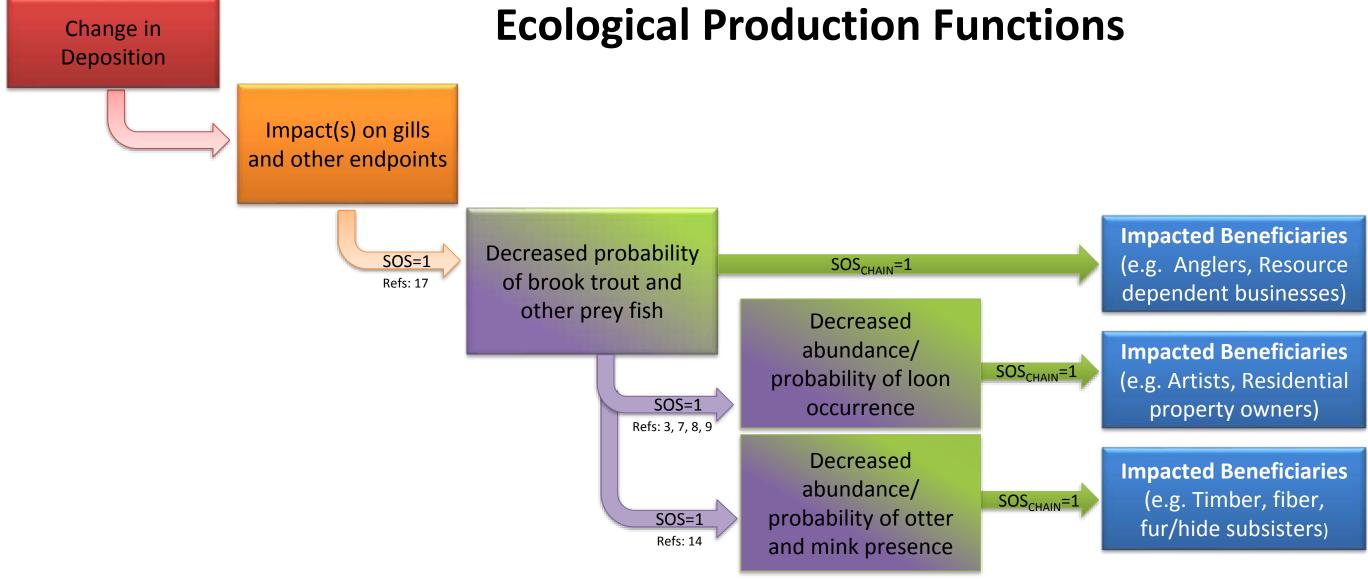
Artists
Researchers
Educators and Students
Experiencers and Viewers
Anglers
Food Subsisters
Resource dependent businesses
People Who Care (Existence)
People Who Care (Bequest)
Spiritual/Ceremonial Participants
of Celebration



## The Impact of Deposition on Brook Trout Beneficiaries Using Multiple Ecological Production Functions



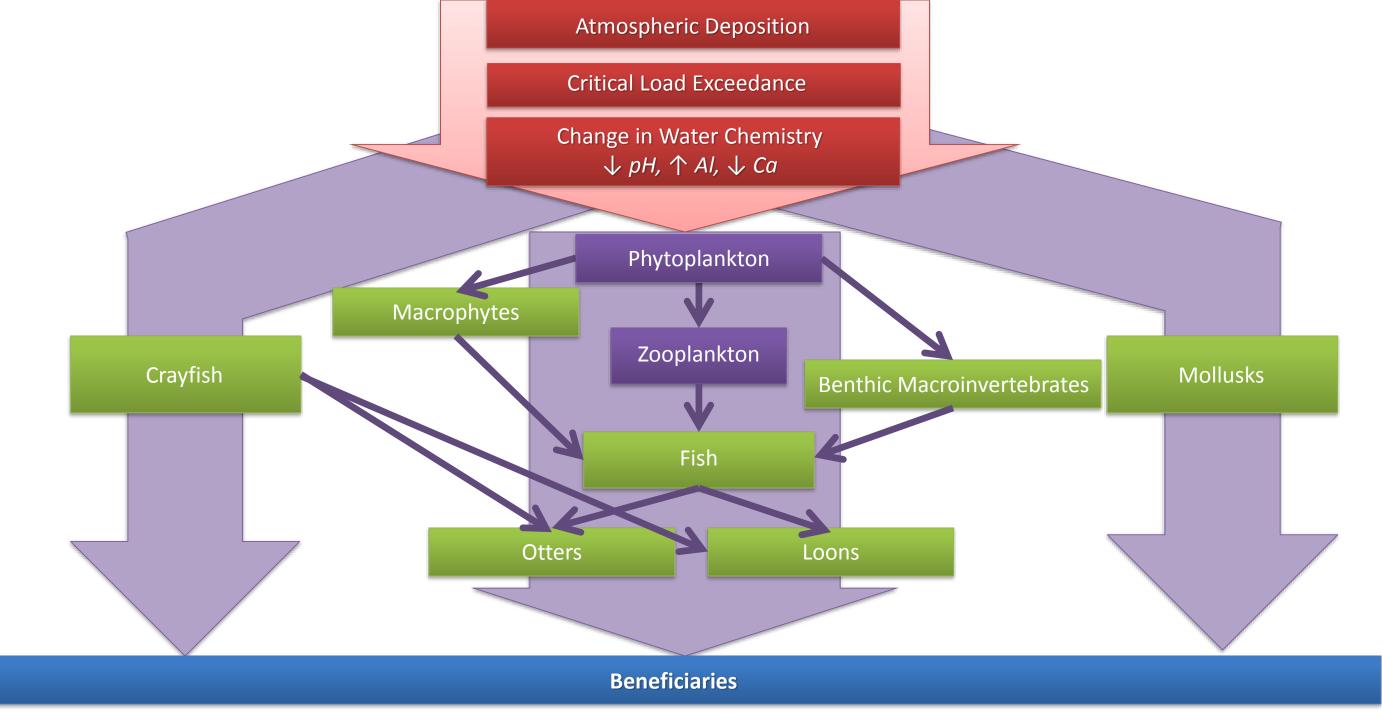
#### Adding Ecological Endpoints to Create Additional Ecological Production Functions





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#### Acidification cancels Christmas







#### **Next Steps**

- Air pollution harms ecosystem goods and services through four response modes:
  - Aquatic acidification
  - Terrestrial acidification
  - Aquatic eutrophication
  - Terrestrial eutrophication
- Ecosphere special issue currently under review!



http://list.ly/list/UWV-pollution-affects-ecosystems

### Questions?

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