

Applying Ecosystem Goods and Services to Plan Army Corps Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Kat McCain

Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, Barnhart, MO USA

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works uses a structured 6-step planning process to develop, evaluate, and compare alternatives, and ultimately select a recommended plan to address a specific water resources problem, including aquatic ecosystem restoration projects. Ecosystem goods and services may be influenced by different alternatives, and these effects and trade-offs, in qualitative and quantitative terms, are integral to any planning effort. Considering ecosystem goods and services may inform decision-making and tell a more robust story of the comprehensive benefits for the project beyond the ecological outputs typically reported (e.g., acres restored). This presentation explores how Corps of Engineers study teams have applied ecosystem goods and services during the planning process from various aquatic ecosystem restoration projects.

Contact Information: Kat McCain, Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, 1400 Walnut Street, Vicksburg, MS 39180, Phone: 314-296-1104, Email: Kathryn.mccain@usace.army.mil