

STRAW PROPOSAL FOR PART 5 (CONCLUSION)

Focus on what is different about the approach described in the C-VPESSE Report and what it offers EPA and the public (drawing on C-VPESSE Discussion from May 1-2, 2007 Meetin)

What is different?

- Approach encourages “thinking big”— trying to understand changes in ecosystems and services related to EPA actions as completely as possible/useful for the decision to be made and in terms of what matters to people
- Analysis driven by conceptual model of ecosystems and ecosystem services, not by tradition of what has worked in the past or available data
- Explicit recognition of multi-dimensional nature of value. Conscious choice of methods to assess value(s) of interest.
- Partnership across disciplines throughout the process
- Partnership between experts and publics. High quality, meaningful valuations cannot be performed by experts or publics alone
- Transparency about what methods are able to measure, assess and what they’re not (breaking valuation out of the black box)
- Experimentation with new methods (e.g., citizen juries, deliberative processes); more sophisticated use and discussion of older methods (e.g., surveys)
- Increased, improved information sharing about the use of methods - -across different programs, different places, different scales, so that the practice of valuation is enriched.

What can the approach offer EPA and the public?

- More robust ecological valuation information can help EPA and the public be more proactive in ecological protection
- Valuation related to ecosystem services can help incorporate consideration of ecosystem services in environmental protection decisions
- Approach would help to educate publics about ecosystem services and their importance
- Clearer communication about valuation and more chance for public involvement in valuation in a meaningful way builds trust in Agency science and decision-making

Crosswalk of major report recommendations discussed at May 1-2 2007 Meeting against Major Recommendations in Different Parts of the Draft C-VPESSE Report

Recommendation	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 4	Part 5
1. Think big—trying to understand ecological systems and services as completely as possible/useful and what matters to people...analyze changes related to EPA actions	included	included	included	included	
2. Highlight the concept of ecosystem services and provide a mapping from changes in ecological systems to changes in services or ecosystem components that can be directly valued by the public; a. Start out with a conceptual model that captures all ecological services of concern and mapping b. Conduct valuation looking at multi-media impacts c. Make sure you have the top and bottom of the diagram and linkages between them (production function linkages) (Part 2) d. Use ecological valuation information to be proactive in environmental protection	All included except for d	2(a) included but not much on d	Doesn't address a,b,c,d	All Included except for)	

Recommendation	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 4	Part 5
<p>3. Expand the range of ecological changes that are valued, focusing on valuing the ecological changes in systems and services that are most important to people and recognizing the many sources of value, including both instrumental and intrinsic values</p> <p>a. Requires input from interdisciplinary group of scientists and stakeholders (pro-active education)</p>	included	3 included but (a) not covered – re need for pro-active education	Doesn't come through	Included	Could address 3(a)
<p>4. Utilize an expanded set of methods for identifying, characterizing, and measuring the values and services associated with these changes.</p> <p>a. Recognize that value is multi-dimensional; make conscious choice about methods appropriately based on values and context of decision</p> <p>b. Utilize local and regional opportunities to further develop an expanded set of methods that can transferred to the national level</p> <p>c. Communicate clearly what methods measure and do not measure</p> <p>d. Don't limit valuation to what is able to be monetized —implement Circular A-4 in reverse order—analysis resources should be distributed to reflect range of services and communication reflect full range of services</p> <p>e. Information sharing within EPA and with other Agencies</p>	Included	No generally except for (c) (in Uncertainty and communication section)	Included for 4, (a),(c),(e); doesn't cover (b) or (d)	Included for 4, (b),(d),(e); doesn't cover (a) or (c)	
<p>5. Involve an interdisciplinary collaboration among physical/biological and social scientists and solicit input</p>	Included	Included	Not included	Included	

Recommendation	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Part 4	Part 5
from the public or representatives of individuals affected by the ecological changes from the outset of valuation effort					
6. Possibly group recommendations regarding learning within Agency Use broadened set of methods; accumulate experience and information that can be used in rulemaking by using them in other contexts	Included	Included (Benefit transfer section)	No	Included	
Other points from the Meeting					
- The importance of partnership between publics and experts	Included- but could be stronger	Included (ecosystem services)	No	Included	
- Communications	Included	Included	Only some methods (socio-psych, mediated modeling)	Included	
- Importance of context	Included	No	Included	Included	