

## **Abstract**

### **Remembering the Multiple Values of Biodiversity: The Role of all Components and Attributes in Full Valuation**

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Assessing, assigning, and accounting for the value of ecosystem services have become a significant dimension of a new effort to value nature. Important though these efforts are, they risk turning ecosystem services into a synecdoche for all of biodiversity. In fact “ecosystems” are only one of the three components of biodiversity – the other two being genes and species. And “services” or “functions” are only one of the three attributes of biodiversity – the other two being composition and structure. These other values of biodiversity have been understood for a long time but they have been dropped from much of the current discussion. Remembering, reintegrating and revaluing these other dimensions of biodiversity and adding them to the values of ecosystem services is essential if we are to make the best case for conservation. Our accounting and recommendations must also take into account both the full range of human values and the nature of replaceability and irreversibility.