

# The importance of biodiversity in cities and ecosystem service

A new dialogue for the 21<sup>st</sup> century













The human bond with other species

1988

E. O. Wilson

1984

## University of Salford MANCHESTER

















#### The intermediate disturbance hypothesis (IDH)

Metapopulation theory

Species diversity



## **Biodiversity**

 Biodiversity encompasses all living things -- plants, animals, and microbes -- and all the places where they are found.
(NERC, 2011a)

 57% of urbanized Greater Manchester is covered by vegetated surfaces

•(Pauleit & Breuste, 2011)





#### What is this ...?













## Spot the Blue tit (Parus caerulous)









## Human Society

- have hunter-gatherer societies
- nomadic pastoral societies
- horticulturalist or simple farming societies
- intensive agricultural societies
- industrial societies, and
- knowledge societies.

The Frontier Mentality / Empty World View

http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?hl=en&tab=wl





## Manifesto du Tiers Paysage, Gilles Clément

THIRD LANDSCPAE: a refuge for diversity comprising leftover and transitional spaces, underdeveloped spaces, and spaces set aside by administrative decree. It constituters an undetermined fragment of the Planetary Garden.





## Wildlife in gardens

 2,673+ species of plants and animals in a 741m<sup>2</sup> garden in Leicester.

• (Owen 2010)







## Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC)

Nature made nothing in vain and that everything had a purpose. Plants were created for the sake of animals and animals for the sake of men. Domestic animals were there to labour, wild ones to be hunted. Thomas, 1984



#### TEEB



http://www.teebweb.org/Portals/25/Documents/TEEB\_Manual\_for\_Cities\_Ecosystem\_Services\_for\_Urban\_managment\_ \_\_FINAL\_2011.pdf



## **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**



Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Synthesis Report



## Ecosystem Services: provision and demand

- Provision and demand may be separated spatially and temporally.
- Need to focus on:
  - Provision site
  - Demand site
  - The link between the two



• (MacDonal & Marcotullio, 2010; Encyclopedia of Earth. Eds. Cutler J. Cleveland, 2010)



## Sustainability**Paying for Ecosystem** Services—Promise and Peril

A. P. Kinzig, C. Perrings, F. S. Chapin III, S. Polasky, V. K. Smith, D. Tilman, B. L. Turner II

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment concluded that over the past 50 years, 60% of all ecosystem services (ES) had declined as a direct result of the growth of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, industries, and urban areas. This is not surprising: We get what we pay for. Markets exist for the products of agriculture, aquaculture, and forestry. But the benefits of watershed protection, habitat provision, pest and disease regulation, climatic regulation, and hazard protection are largely unpriced. Because existing markets seldom reflect the full social cost of production, we have incorrect measures of the scarcity of some ES and no measures for the rest. *Science 4 November 2011: Vol. 334 no. 6056 pp. 603-604 DOI: 10.1126/science.1210297* 



### **Research Agenda**

We face challenges from peak oil, climate change, increased human population size, and from our culture.

We have many unanswered questions about ecosystem function, about the resilience of ecosystems to environmental change

We have much to take on board from psychology and sociology. The dialogue of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century has been of otherness, and of harm.

Our challenge – to developing a language that is laden with positive values, to provide evidence for the links between ecosystem service provision and demand.



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## The text of this talk is available at:

http://usir.salford.ac.uk/18989/