

Ecosystem Services

and the forests of
the Central
Highlands

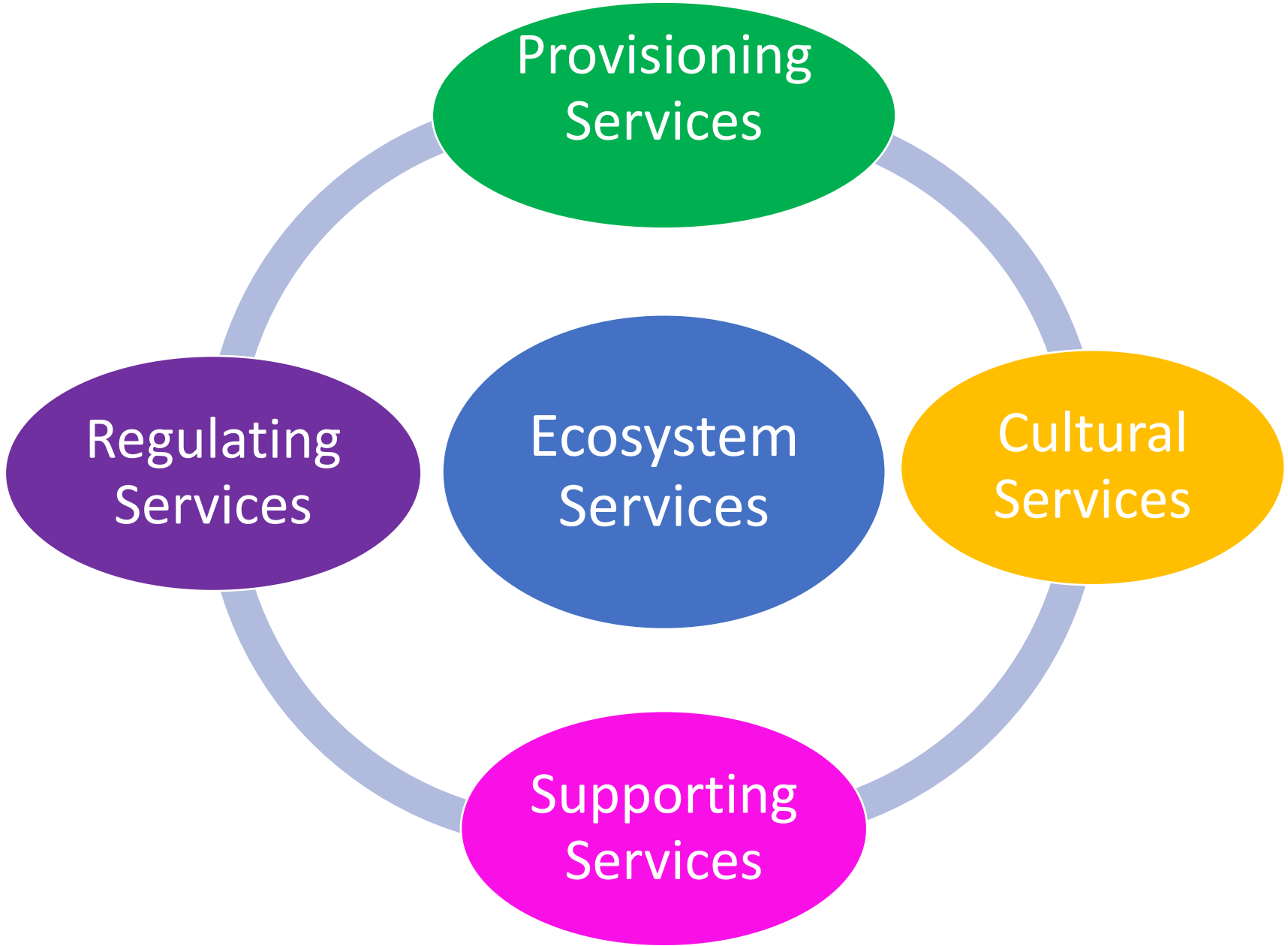


Definition of Ecosystem Services

Ecosystem services are the benefits provided to humans through the transformations of resources (or environmental assets, including land, water, vegetation and atmosphere) into a flow of essential goods and services e.g. clean air, water and food.

(Constanza et al 1997.)





Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Framework

Provisioning Services

- Food, fibre and fuel
- Genetic resources
- Fresh water

Supporting Services

- Primary production
- Provision of habitat
- Nutrient cycling
- Soil formation and retention

Regulating Services

- Pollination
- Climate regulation
- Erosion regulation
- Water purification

Cultural Services

- Recreation and aesthetic values
- Sense of place
- Education and inspiration

Upper Yarra Reservoir

image from Melbourne Water website



Agriculture

Toolangi Plant protection District

- Potato Research Station
- Strawberry Certification scheme
- Raspberry Cane scheme
- Nursery stock production
- Witlof production and export



