

## The Global Context for Natural Resource Conservation

### First, get the required digital file:

Download the pdf document, [Ecosystems & Human Well-being: Synthesis](https://www.millenniumassessment.org/documents/document.356.aspx.pdf) [15,646 KB] from the MAB website at:

<https://www.millenniumassessment.org/documents/document.356.aspx.pdf>

Do NOT waste time and paper to print this document: it is 155 pages long.

### Project Description:

Read the pdf document and use it to consider the following questions.

1. What are the three main problems the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) found with the way people are managing ecosystems?
2. What are the four main findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment?
3. What does the MA say about nutrient use and levels? What specific nutrient does the MA discuss? Judging from the materials provided, what is the main source of this nutrient? At our current rate of total nutrient production, what will the impact be in 50 years?
4. What ecosystem services did the MA describe?
5. Describe each in your own words.
6. Pick four ecosystems and describe some of the services they provide.
7. What is the relationship between information about global marine fish harvests, and the trends in average depths of the catch?
8. What is an organism's trophic level? What is the trend in harvests by trophic level? Why?
9. Why did the Atlantic cod fishery collapse?
10. What is a biome?
11. Which biomes will suffer the most from conversion by 2050, and what are the consequences of this conversion?
12. What four general policy approaches did the MA identify to help policy makers envision our future?
13. Describe what you think life will be like under each scenario.