

TOOL TYPE & AVAILABILITY

An operational framework and interactive website.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION & DEVELOPERS

Developed by [National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory](#) (NHEERL) Western Ecology Division scientists Dixon Landers and Amanda Nahlik; the FECS website was funded by the [United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development](#) (USEPA-ORD).

WEBSITE & CONTACT INFORMATION

The tool is available at <http://gispub4.epa.gov/FECS/>; for additional information contact Dixon H. Landers, Ph.D., at landers.dixon@epa.gov, or Amanda M. Nahlik, Ph.D., at nahlik.amanda@epa.gov.

TARGET USERS

The tool was designed for use by individuals, communities, or firms in the public sector, private sector, and non-profit organizations.

RELEASE YEAR & UPDATES

The tool was released in 2013 and was last updated August 16, 2013 (V.2.8a).

COST

No cost.

Final Ecosystem Goods and Services Classification System (FECS-CS) Report and Interactive Website

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

- The FECS-CS defines and classifies final ecosystem services based on the environment in which they are provided and to whom they are provided.
- Businesses can use FECS-CS to identify the FECS produced by incorporating various natural infrastructure features (as compared with grey infrastructure) and thereby evaluate the relative benefits and costs and identify preferred alternatives.

SOFTWARE AND DATA INPUT REQUIRED

- FECS-CS is available online as a report and as an interactive tool (<http://gispub4.epa.gov/FECS/>).
- No data input is required; rather, the user identifies ecosystem services using the online FECS-CS Query Wizard tool.

INFORMATION GENERATED

- The output provides users with a list of FECS for a given geographic area.
- The user then decides which ecosystem services are important to the decision and thus may need to be modeled and/or valued.

EXPERTISE & TIME INVESTMENT REQUIRED

- No expertise in environmental assessment/valuation is required, but some training is recommended.
- The labor/time investment will be in proportion to the complexity of and number of categories and items within each category that are being classified.

EXAMPLES OF COMPANY USERS

- CH2M is currently using the classification system to identify the final ecosystem goods and services to be gained from implementing potential ecosystem restoration project components in the Central Valley in California.