Microeconomic Evidence for the Benefits of Investment in the Environment 2 (MEBIE2)



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Sophie Rolls and Tim Sunderland



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Foreword

The natural environment is essential to the lives of every one of us. This Natural England report, the second edition of Microeconomic Evidence for the Benefits of Investment in the Environment (or MEBIE for short), shows how the natural world directly improves our lives and the UK economy. The report describes how the natural environment attracts inward investment and generates consumer spending, enhances air and water quality, and improves people's physical health and mental well-being. Taking proper account of these benefits and managing our natural environment efficiently and effectively is therefore essential to ensuring sustainable growth into the future.

As the Chairman of Natural England, I believe that science and evidence must be at the heart of protecting the environment. With solid evidence we can make the best decisions for the long-term sustainable management of the environment. This report provides a succinct and accessible summary of the state of the present evidence base. In so doing it makes a cogent case for investing now in the natural environment so that society can reap the dividends for years to come.



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