

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>List of tables</i>	x
<i>List of boxes</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xii
Introduction	1
1 Ecological scarcity as an economic problem	6
2 Ecosystem services and ecological landscapes	26
3 The basic natural asset model	85
4 Spatial variation in ecosystems	129
5 The open economy	152
6 Ecological collapse	199
7 The way ahead	232
8 Policies in the Age of Ecological Scarcity	269
<i>Index</i>	311

Figures

1.1 The ecological scarcity tradeoff	<i>page</i> 7
1.2 Long-run global land use change, 1700–1990	14
1.3 Global agricultural and forest land use change, 1961–2005	16
1.4 Human-induced threats to coastal and marine ecosystems	21
2.1 Key interrelated steps in valuing ecosystem goods and services	34
2.2 Ecological landscape conversion to development	44
2.3 Irreversible ecological landscape conversion to development	46
2.4 Economic valuation of ecosystem goods and services	49
3.1 Optimal landscape conversion in the basic model	93
3.2 Landscape conversion when ecosystem services are ignored	93
3.3 The ecological transition and optimal landscape restoration	97
3.4 Land use change and the forest transition curve	98
3.5 Changing land use values and the forest transition	101
3.6 Number of coastal natural disaster events per year in Thailand, 1975–2004	115
3.7 Mangrove area (km ²) in Thailand, 1961–2004	115
4.1 Nonlinear wave attenuation across a mangrove landscape	134
4.2 Nonlinear habitat function across a mangrove landscape	135
4.3 Mangrove land use with spatially uniform ecosystem values	136
4.4 Mangrove land use with spatially variable storm protection values	137
4.5 Optimal conversion of a coastal landscape with spatially variable benefits	139
4.6 Simulation of the spatial model	142
5.1 The rural poor and population on fragile lands in developing economies	157
5.2 Fragile land population and GDP per capita in developing economies	159
5.3 Resource dependency in exports, 1960–2006	161
5.4 Optimal landscape conversion in the open economy model	170

<i>List of figures</i>	ix
5.5 The effects of a change in the terms of trade	172
5.6 The effects of a rise in international payments for ecosystem services	174
5.7 The provision of global ecosystem services	186
6.1 Optimal landscape conversion over time with a risk of ecological collapse	207
6.2 Optimal coastal landscape allocation with risk of collapse	210
6.3 Simulation of the spatial model with a risk of ecological collapse	212
6.4 Optimal landscape conversion over time with ecosystem resilience	222
7.1 The capital approach to sustainable development	236
7.2 Biodiversity, productivity, and stability in ecological communities	258
8.1 Reversing the vicious cycle of “unsustainable” development	273
8.2 The transaction costs of environmental policy change	276

Tables

1.1	Magnitudes of global environmental change, 1890s to 1990s	<i>page</i> 12
1.2	Trends in global forest area (10 ⁶ km ²), 1990–2005	15
1.3	Trends in cultivated land to 2050 in developing regions	17
1.4	Water withdrawal by volume and by share of total renewable supplies	18
1.5	Developing countries and regions with relatively scarce water supplies	19
2.1	Examples of wetland ecosystem services and valuation studies	36
2.2	Ecosystems classified in terms of source and level of energy flow	39
2.3	Various nonmarket valuation methods applied to ecosystem services	51
2.4	Losses in floodplain benefits versus gains in irrigated production, net present value	59
2.5	Comparison of land use values per ha, Thailand, 1996–2004	64
2.6	Tradeoffs in landscape use scenarios, Willamette Basin, Oregon, 1990–2050	69
2.7	Forest ecosystem service values, Great Britain	71
5.1	Distribution of world’s population and rural poor on fragile land	156
5.2	Low- and middle-income economies and patterns of resource use	165
6.1	Major ecosystem state shifts and their causes	215
8.1	Global status of key ecosystem goods and services	271
8.2	Financing mechanisms for funding global ecosystem conservation	279

Boxes

2.1 Ecosystem functions and services	<i>page 29</i>
2.2 Valuing water supply to New York City by the Catskills watershed	56
5.1 Resource dependency, fragile land populations, and rural poverty	163
6.1 Diversity and adaptability of ecosystems	216
6.2 The value of ecosystem resilience in the Goulburn–Broken Catchment of Southeast Australia	223
6.3 Land clearing and ecological disturbance in tropical forest ecosystems	225
7.1 Sustainable development as systems Venn diagram	234
7.2 How does economic development affect mangrove loss?	251
7.3 Estimating a supply curve for ecosystem services	253
7.4 Ecological resilience in coastal and marine ecosystems	256
8.1 Replanting mangroves in Thailand: the institutional and policy challenge	298