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**Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management**  
**Analysis of bundles and drivers of change of multiple ecosystem services in an Alpine region**  
 --Manuscript Draft--

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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>Approaches based on the concept of the ecosystem services need analyses of the sets of spatially correlated services (i.e. bundles) and of the external factors that modify the ecosystem service supply (i.e. drivers of change). At present, appropriate methods to analyze bundles and drivers of change are still under development.</p> <p>This study proposes a method based on a combination of spatial and statistical analyses to define bundles and to explain the drivers of change of 24 ecosystem services in Trentino, an Alpine region of Italy. Results show that multiple services can be grouped in a few number of bundles with a complex shape. When mapping multiple services across the territory, the spatial units of representation are a combination of the intrinsic units of representation of single ecosystem services and land use classes. Land use management was found as the external factor that causes the greatest variability of the ecosystem services distribution across the region.</p>
<b>Response to Reviewers:</b>	<p>MANUSCRIPT</p> <p>From line 100 to line 110: I inserted the explanation for PCA as requested</p> <p>In inserted the minor edits:</p> <p>*Abstract: When mapping multiple services.....a combination the metric units.....- change to a combination "of" metric units</p> <p>*line 18 First there is not general agreement.... - change "not" to "no"</p> <p>*line 34 Maes et al (2011b) considered the supply of 13 sevicees for all Europe ...- change "all" Europe to "the whole of" Europe</p> <p>*line 36 bundles definition - change "bundles" to "bundles"</p> <p>*line 46 the region .....above "sea level" - change to "above sea level (a.s.l)"</p> <p>*line 84 Principal component - change to small "p"</p>

\*line 86 According to Pheniger et al (2013), in clusters are..... - remove "in"  
\*line 171 the theoretical rational of "PCA" - change to "Principal Component Analysis (PCA)" since this is the first time the abbreviation PCA is used, so the full wording should be stated  
\*line 203 Table 3, first "raw" - change to "row"  
\*line 205 Table 3, second "raw" - change to "row"  
\*line 216 ...bundles, "expect" - change to "except"  
\*line 218 ....bundles, "expect" - change to "except"  
\*290 Such results confirm "what found by"..... - change to "what was found by"

#### TABLES

I adjusted the order of the tables: Table 2 becomes Table 3; Table 3 becomes Table 4; old Table 4 becomes Table 2

Table 4 (before 3): I added a note to define the meaning of the bolded text.

#### FIGURE

Figure 2 – I removed the reference to the 'red arrow' and I used greyscale

## 1 **1 Introduction**

2 Understanding the interaction among multiple ecosystem services in a landscape  
3 provides key information to guide land use planning and management decisions (Daily  
4 & Matson 2008; Bennet et al. 2009). While the science of single ecosystem services  
5 assessment is improving (Martínez-Harmsa and Balvanera P. 2012), and interactions  
6 among ecosystem services are being increasingly explored (e.g. Raudsepp-Hearne et al.  
7 2009; Maes et al. 2011b; Qiu and Turner 2013), appropriate methods to analyze  
8 bundles and drivers of change of ecosystem services are still under development  
9 (Anton et al. 2010).

10 Bundles of ecosystem services are sets of spatially correlated services (Bennet et al.  
11 2009; Raudsepp-Hearne et al. 2009), which have been mainly identified by clustering  
12 the ecosystem services, and analysing the spatial distribution of clusters and the  
13 distribution of the ecosystem services across clusters (Raudsepp-Hearne et al. 2009;  
14 Plieninger et al. 2013). Drivers of change are defined as the external factors that  
15 directly or indirectly modify ecosystems and their capacity to provide services (MA  
16 2005, Hodder et al. 2014). Spatial and statistical techniques are often employed to  
17 analyse bundles and drivers of change (Plieninger et al. 2013). However, similar  
18 approaches have two main limitations. First, there is no general agreement about what  
19 specific aspects must be investigated through these techniques. For example, in order  
20 to demonstrate that drivers causing the variance of ecosystem services across the  
21 region are of social and ecological type, Raudsepp-Hearne et al. (2009) and Maskel et

22 al. (2013) looked at correlated ecosystem services in their principal components, while  
23 Maes et al. (2012a) looked at the correlations of the first three principal components  
24 with land use classes. Both analyses should be considered together when studying the  
25 drivers of change. Second, simplifications are introduced on the analysis of the  
26 ecosystem services, for example by limiting the number of services and assessing them  
27 by mapping information over the same spatial units (e.g. administrative areas),  
28 without considering the spatial heterogeneity of the ecosystem services distribution  
29 (like the distribution of water supply services over basins and of the agricultural  
30 services over agricultural areas). For example, Raudsepp-Hearne et al. (2009)  
31 considered the supply of 12 services, whose assessment indicators were mapped over  
32 administrative areas. Plieninger et al. (2013) considered the demand for 13 cultural  
33 services, whose indicators were mapped over land use classes. Maes et al. (2011b)  
34 considered the supply of 13 services for the whole of Europe, mapping them over  
35 territorial units for the European countries. According to Carpenter et al. (2006), such  
36 simplifications may strongly affect the bundles' definition and the identification of  
37 drivers of change.

38 The objective of this paper is to present a method to analyze bundles and drivers of  
39 change of multiple ecosystem services, by considering the spatial heterogeneity in the  
40 services distribution. In particular, two research questions are addressed:

- 41 - How are the ecosystem services distributed across bundles?
- 42 - What are the drivers of change that may influence the distribution of the  
43 ecosystem services across the region?

## 44 **2 Study area**

45 The study area is the Trentino region, located in the Italian Alps (see Figure 1). Across  
46 the region the elevation ranges from 62 to 3,343m above sea level (a.s.l.), with about  
47 30% of the area under 1000m, 50% between 1,000 and 2,000m and 20% over 2000 m.  
48 Areas over 2000m are covered by glaciers, bare rocks, natural grasslands and pastures.  
49 Forests cover about 56% of Trentino and are found up to about 1800 m a.s.l..  
50 Agricultural areas cover 5.8% of the whole region, while artificial surfaces (i.e. urban  
51 settlements and roads) cover 3.1% of the region. Urban settlements are located along  
52 the main valley floors and host about 500,000 people. For each valley there is a major  
53 urban settlement but several small villages and scattered houses are found across the  
54 entire region. The area occupies 14 catchments, and the lateral major rivers follow  
55 east-west or west-east directions to the major river, Adige. More than 300 lakes are  
56 found including the northern part of Lake Garda, the largest lake of Italy.

57 Such variety of the territory ensures the provision of several ecosystem services. Based  
58 on the list provided in Maes et al. (2011b), 24 ecosystem services were identified as  
59 the most important in the region, according to an expert survey described in Ferrari  
60 (2014). Each ecosystem service was assessed through an indicator (see Table 1).  
61 Indicators were identified through the same expert's survey by considering two  
62 criteria: indicators must measure the actual biophysical value of the ecosystem service  
63 (as proposed in Plieninger et al. 2013), and must take into account the spatial  
64 heterogeneity of the service distribution. Hence, different indicators were mapped  
65 over different specific spatial units, such as cadastral parcels and forest types (Table 1).

66 For example, the provisioning service "Agriculture production" was assessed through  
67 the indicator "Quantity of agricultural products", that measures the amount of the  
68 annual agricultural production (in quintals) for each agriculture type per hectare. It was  
69 mapped over cadastral parcels. The regulating service "Macro-Climate regulation" was  
70 assessed through the "Carbon stock" indicator, which measures the carbon (in tons  
71 and per hectare) stored annually by forests, grass/grasslands and tree cultivations. It  
72 was mapped over agricultural areas and forests. Finally, the cultural service "Scenic  
73 beauty" was assessed through the indicator "Landscape visibility", which measures the  
74 visibility of sites of particular landscape interest up to 10 km of distance.

### 75 **3 Method**

76 Bundles are firstly identified according to Plieninger et al. (2013) through a cluster  
77 analyses on ecosystem services (see Section 3.1). Then, the distribution of the bundles  
78 across the region and of ecosystem services across the bundles are investigated by  
79 analysing shape, correlation, spatial and aggregation pattern analyses (Section 3.2).  
80 The way drivers of change influence the distribution of ecosystem services are assessed  
81 by correlation analyses (Section 3.3).

#### 82 **3.1 Identification of ecosystem services bundles**

83 A hierarchical cluster analysis (Kaufman & Rousseeuw 1990) is performed on the  
84 principal components (Pearson, 1901) of the ecosystem services indicators, coupled  
85 with an ANalysis Of SIMilarity (ANOSIM, Clarke 1993), in order to identify the proper

86 number of clusters. According to Plieninger et al. (2013), clusters are the  
87 representation of the ecosystem services bundles.

88 The hierarchical cluster analysis is a technique to assign statistical units to one of  
89 multiple classes (i.e. clusters), based on the values of those units for different  
90 variables. In this way, the units of the same class are more similar to each other than  
91 units in any other class. Similarity is measured by Euclidean distance and clusters are  
92 compacted by Ward's method (Ward 1963). In clustering, significant principal  
93 components may be used instead of original variables (i.e. ecosystem services  
94 indicators) in order to avoid computational problems that may arise from a high  
95 number of input variables (in accordance with Plieninger et al. 2013). The principal  
96 components of ecosystem service indicators are independent variables which can  
97 measure the extent to which the values of ecosystem services change over their  
98 specific spatial units (i.e. the variance of the ecosystem services across the region).  
99 Principal components are obtained by a Principal Component Analysis (PCA, Pearson,  
100 1901). PCA is a multivariate ordination technique that linearly combines input variables  
101 to generate new independent variables, i.e. the principal components. Each principal  
102 component measures a part of the variance of the original dataset. To be significant,  
103 the principal components must be able to measure at least the variance of one single  
104 input variable. From the mathematical point of view, this means that the variance of  
105 the new variables (the so called "*eigenvalue*" of the principal component) must be  
106 greater than 1. PCA guarantees that the number of principal components with variance  
107 greater than 1 is always smaller than the number of original variables and just a



108 narrow set of principal components is enough to explain the most of the variance. The  
109 weights by which each original variable must be multiplied to get the principal  
110 components are called *loadings*.

111 The proper number of clusters is identified through the ANOSIM analysis. This  
112 technique considers the similarity of the samples among and within classes: the  
113 measure of similarity (R) is the difference of mean ranks of statistical units between  
114 and within clusters. R ranges from -1 to 1; 0 means no similarity and completely  
115 random clustering, while 1 means that all pairs of samples within clusters are more  
116 similar than to any pair from different clusters. The choice of the proper number of  
117 clusters is made looking at clustering that maximizes R.

118 This cluster analysis produces a map of ecosystem services bundles.

### 119 **3.2 Explanation of ecosystem services bundles**

120 Firstly, an analysis of the spatial distribution of bundles is conducted. The analysis aims  
121 at explaining the shape of bundles (dimension and degree of fragmentation of bundle  
122 patches), and the spatial correlation of bundles with three driving variables: elevation,  
123 catchments shape and land use.

124 *Shape analysis*. It consists in the computation of the area, of the total number of  
125 bundle patches, of the minimum, maximum and mean patch area, and of the  
126 fragmentation index for each bundle.

127 *Correlation analysis between bundles and driving variables*. Spearman statistical  
128 correlations between the bundles and the driving variables are computed in order to

129 verify whether the bundle distribution follows the distribution of altitude, catchments  
130 shape, or land use classes. Following the method proposed in Maes et al. (2012a), we  
131 firstly calculate the Spearman statistical correlation between the clusters and the  
132 explanatory variables. Spearman correlation measures the degree of dependence  
133 between two variables. The output of the Spearman correlation analysis is a  
134 correlation coefficient ( $\rho$ ) ranging between -1 and 1. High absolute values correspond  
135 to high dependence between bundles and the mentioned variables, while low absolute  
136 values correspond to low dependence. We considered significant correlations when  
137  $|\rho| \geq 0.3$ . In order to verify whether bundles and variables are correlated also in  
138 space, the maps of bundles and explanatory variables are crossed and the percentage  
139 of each variable in bundles is calculated. It is assumed that a bundle follows the  
140 distribution of variables when the percentage is above 90%.

141 Secondly, the distribution of ecosystem services across bundles is analysed to explain  
142 where (i.e. in what bundle) the provision of each ecosystem services is maximum,  
143 minimum or absent, and the richness, intensity and diversity of multiple ecosystem  
144 services in single bundles.

145 *Analysis of the distribution of bundles across ecosystem services.* This analysis allows to  
146 understand how single ecosystem services are supplied over bundles, and in particular  
147 in which bundles the supply is maximum, minimum or absent. For every ecosystem  
148 service indicator we calculate the normalized value (to maximum value). In every  
149 bundle we show the distribution of the normalized value by radar charts.

150 *Aggregation patterns analysis.* It is carried out in order to understand how multiple  
151 ecosystem services are supplied over bundles, and in particular in which bundle the  
152 richness, intensity and diversity of multiple ecosystem services are maximum,  
153 minimum or absent. We compute and map indices of richness, intensity and diversity  
154 (Shannon index), as proposed by Plieninger et al. (2013). Richness counts the number  
155 of ecosystem services that are present in each cluster (values of the service supply  
156 greater than zero); intensity sums the normalized values of the ecosystem services  
157 supply in every cluster.

### 158 **3.3 Explanation of drivers of change**

159 Drivers of change are characterized by means of a set of analyses aiming at the  
160 investigation of the distribution of ecosystem services across principal components  
161 (through the analysis of loadings), the distribution of principal components across  
162 bundles (through the correlation analysis between clusters the principal components)  
163 and the spatial distribution of principal components (through the correlation analysis  
164 between principal components and driving variables). The results of the analyses are  
165 then merged to explain ecosystem services changes in the territory and the drivers of  
166 such changes.

167 *Analysis of loadings.* The ecosystem services with the greatest variance are those  
168 correlated to the first principal component (PC1). The second principal component  
169 (PC2) measures the second highest variance of the ecosystem service indicators.  
170 Correlations between the ecosystem services and the principal components is

171 proportional to the loadings of the first two principal components (Pearson, 1901). The  
172 graphical representation of ecosystem services in terms of the loadings of PC1 and PC2  
173 is a vector, defined by a modulus and a direction (angle). We assume that the  
174 correlation between any ecosystem service and any principal component is significant  
175 when the vector modulus is greater than 0.1 and the angle between the vectors and  
176 PC1 and PC2 axes is lower than 30°.

177 *Correlation analysis between bundles and principal components.* Spearman statistical  
178 correlations between the principal components and the bundles are computed in  
179 order to identify the bundles where the greatest variance is present.

180 *Correlation analysis between bundles and driving variables.* As previously mentioned,  
181 principal components explain the variance of the ecosystem services, i.e. their  
182 variability across the region. The theoretical rationale of Principal Component Analysis  
183 (PCA) ensures that the first principal components explain most of the variance. The  
184 changes in the ecosystem services supply is assumed to be driven by external factors,  
185 the so called "drivers of change". According to existing studies (Raudsepp-Hearne et al.  
186 2009; Maes et al. 2011a; Maskel et al. 2013), land use is the external factor driving  
187 main changes in ecosystem services values. In order to explore the influence of land  
188 use on the ecosystem services variability, we consider the Spearman correlations of  
189 the first two principal components with land use classes.

## 190 **4 Results**

### 191 **4.1 Identification and explanation of ecosystem services bundles**

192 First five principal components of 24 ecosystem services indicators have variance  
193 greater than 1 and they have been clustered. The hierarchies have been defined for 2  
194 to 19 clusters (i.e. large clusters grouping samples with more dissimilar values vs. small  
195 clusters grouping samples with very similar values). According to ANOSIM, the  
196 Euclidean distance between the hierarchical classes is maximized with 11 clusters (see  
197 Figure 2). The map of ecosystem services clusters is in Figure 3. The explanation of  
198 each bundle is detailed in Table 2, according to the spatial distribution and  
199 types/values of ecosystem services. Information come from the analysis of the spatial  
200 distribution of bundles and of the distribution of ecosystem services across bundles.  
201 They are reported below.

#### 202 **Analysis of the spatial distribution of bundles**

203 *Shape analysis of bundles.* Bundles are mapped over Trentino in Figure 3, which shows  
204 that Bundles 1 covers the majority of the forested area, while Bundles 2 corresponds  
205 to rocks and urban settlements, Bundles 3 is mainly present in the upper-eastern part,  
206 while Bundles 7 occupies preferentially the central part. Fragmentation indices  
207 highlight that Bundles 1 and Bundles 2 are the largest in area (occupying more than  
208 40% of the region) and that the smallest are 8, 10 and 11 (occupying less than 0.1%).  
209 Bundles 2 has the highest number of patches, followed by Bundles 4. The most

210 fragmented one is Bundles 8, while the most compact ones are 1 and 9. For details see  
211 Table 3.

212 *Correlations with altitude.* Bundles 2 shows a significant correlation ( $\rho = |0.4|$ ) with  
213 altitude (96% of its area lies above 2800 m a.s.l.) as well as and Bundles 11 (all the area  
214 lies below 1000 m a.s.l.). Other bundles are homogeneously distributed across altitude  
215 (Table 4, first row).

216 *Correlations with catchments.* Catchments are not significantly correlated to clusters.  
217 However, small basins often lie in only one or two bundles (Table 4, second row). Only  
218 the Adige catchment, that occupies the central part of Trentino, includes all bundles,  
219 while Bundle 11 is only found in Adige catchment and in an eastern tributary.

220 *Correlations with land use.* Bundles 1 and 2 are correlated to land use (Table 4, third  
221 row): Bundle 1 contains more than 90% of the whole forested area and Bundle 2  
222 contains more than 90% of glaciers and bare rocks. Furthermore, forests contain more  
223 than 90% of Bundles 3 and 11.

#### 224 **Analysis of the distribution of ecosystem services across bundles**

225 *Analysis of the distribution of bundles across ecosystem services.* The contribution of  
226 the ecosystem services in each bundle is shown in 11 radar charts (Figure 7). For  
227 example, Agriculture production is supplied in 5 bundles (2, 4, 7, 9 and 10); the  
228 maximum provision is in Bundle 4, the minimum in Bundle 2. In all bundles, except  
229 Bundle 2, there is at least one ecosystem service with maximum provision, and in all  
230 bundles, except Bundle 3 and 8, there is at least one ecosystem service with minimum  
231 provision. Three couples of bundles have very similar types of ecosystem services:

232 (6,8), (1,3) and (9,10). The number of provisioning services per bundle ranges from 3 to  
233 9 (out of 10); the number of regulating services ranges from 4 to 7 (out of 7); the  
234 number of cultural services ranges from 4 to 7 (out of 8).

235 *Aggregation patterns analysis.* Aggregation patterns show that Bundle 9 has the  
236 highest number of ecosystem services (i.e. 23 out of 25, cf. Figure 4 and Figure 5),  
237 while Bundle 8 has the lowest one (i.e. 11 out of 25). Despite that, intensity of cluster 9  
238 is lower than the intensity of Bundle 8 (6.75 against 8.6). Highest intensity and diversity  
239 are in Bundle 3 (10.07 and 0.49 respectively, Figure 5 and Figure 6), while lowest  
240 intensity and diversity are Bundle 2 (3.49 and 0.49 respectively).

## 241 **4.2 Characterization of principal components**

### 242 **Distribution of ecosystem services across principal components**

243 The loadings of Figure 8 show that PC1 is highly correlated to nine ecosystem services  
244 (five provisioning, three regulating and one cultural service), while PC2 is highly  
245 correlated to four ecosystem services (two regulating and two cultural services). PC1  
246 and PC2 are therefore able to explain 13 ecosystem services (out of 25).

### 247 **Distribution of principal components across bundles**

248 Correlations between PC1 and bundles (Table 4) are significant for Bundles 1, 2, 3, 4  
249 and 5, while correlations between PC2 and bundles are significant for Bundles 4, 5 and  
250 8. The ecosystem services with highest variability are in 6 bundles.

## 251 **Spatial distribution of principal components**

252 The map in Figure 9 shows that low values of PC1 correspond to forest areas, while  
253 high values to bare rocks, glaciers and urban settlements. Actually, the correlation of  
254 PC1 with land use is high ( $|\rho| = 0.7$ ), while with altitude or catchments is not  
255 significant. PC2 does not have any significant correlation. The analysis of correlations  
256 with forest density showed that PC1 decreases for increasing values of forest density.  
257 According to the characterization of principal components, two drivers of change  
258 affect three bundles and seven ecosystem services in Trentino. Drivers are forest  
259 management and land use management. The first driver affect bundle 1 (bundle of  
260 most common ecosystem services in forests) and bundle 3 (bundle of forest areas of  
261 high-intensity and high-diversity ecosystem services). Within the bundles, the  
262 ecosystem service affected are Honey production, Mushroom production (and  
263 collection), Fuel wood production and Macro-Climature regulation. The second driver  
264 affect bundle 4 (bundle of agricultural areas of high-intensity ecosystem services) and  
265 Agriculture production and Cultural heritage services.

## 266 **5 Discussion**

267 To date only few studies have dealt with the definition of ecosystem services bundles  
268 by means of analytical tools (e.g. Raudsepp-Hearne et al. 2009 and Plieninger et al.  
269 2013) and even less studies have dealt with an analytical explanation of the ecosystem  
270 services variability and of the drivers causing such variability (e.g. Raudsepp-Hearne et  
271 al. 2009). Most of the available literature has formulated hypotheses on the



272 theoretical framework of the ecosystem services bundles distribution and of drivers of  
273 change, and these topics are still an open field of research (Anton et al. 2010). The  
274 analyses proposed here allow the identification of the bundles to which each  
275 ecosystem services belongs, and of the values of such ecosystem services in the  
276 bundles. Moreover, they allow the identification of the factors that cause the main  
277 variability of ecosystem services (i.e. land use and forest management) and the specific  
278 ecosystem services on which they have great effect.

279 Principal components have been used here in order to avoid an a-priori selection of  
280 indicators, and a statistical criterion (ANOSIM) has been used in order to optimize the  
281 clustering. The characterization of the ecosystem services distribution across principal  
282 components by means of *loadings* is a novel application in the definition of drivers of  
283 change, as well as the computation of fragmentation indices to investigate the bundles  
284 shape. The main merit of the proposed methodology is that of having organized the  
285 analyses in a structured process where they are independent one from another. For  
286 instance, a wider set of variables (not only altitude, land use distribution, etc.) may be  
287 used to improve the knowledge about the spatial distribution of bundles.

288 In the present work, clusters of ecosystem services have been identified by means of a  
289 limited number of principal components and bundles have been defined through a  
290 narrow set of explanatory variables. However, the characterization of clusters is able  
291 to provide a reasonable explanation for bundles. Trentino region is characterized by a  
292 homogeneous distribution of ecosystem services, both in terms of type and value. In  
293 fact, only five bundles (i.e. less than half the number of identified bundles) are enough

294 to represent 98% of the territory. Four of them represent forest areas, corresponding  
295 to 56% of the whole region. The fifth bundle represents poor-value ecosystem services  
296 areas, covering about 40% of the territory, and consisting in urbanized areas, bare  
297 rocks and other natural areas with low values of ecosystem services. On the other  
298 hand, small bundles correspond to areas where the supply of a single service, or of a  
299 narrow set of services, is very high with respect to other services. For instance, bundle  
300 3 (that covers 7% of total forest areas) discriminates forests with high supply of fine-  
301 quality timber from the areas supplying the most common forest services. Such results  
302 confirm what was found by Raudsepp-Hearne et al. (2009) and by Haines-Young et al.  
303 (2012): the ecosystem services of a region group on a few number of bundles; this  
304 number is smaller than the number of spatial units on which they are mapped  
305 (municipalities in the case of Raudsepp-Hearne et al. 2009). In addition, bundles are  
306 geographically clustered and little fragmentized across the territory. Finally, poor  
307 ecosystem services areas group in one single bundle.

308 Drivers of change of ecosystem services have been investigated only for the first two  
309 principal components, and by means of a narrow set of explanatory variables. It was  
310 found that the supply of ecosystem services significantly changes across some forest  
311 areas due to land use management activities (and especially due to the activities  
312 involving forest loss). In particular, the highest supply variability is displayed by nine  
313 typical forest ecosystem services, which are distributed over five bundles. This is in  
314 accordance with findings of Steffan-Dewenter et al. (2007) and Haines-Young &  
315 Potschin (2010b), who demonstrated that the greatest loss of ecosystem services is

316 associated with the initial or the complete conversion of the forest to a different  
317 ecosystem. Therefore, the study provides a solution to the problem of explaining the  
318 factors that cause the main variability of ecosystem services.

319 According to Dale and Polasky (2007) ecosystem services are provided within process-  
320 related landscape units such as watersheds, specific habitats, or natural units (i.e.  
321 intrinsic spatial units), and within such units, the ecosystem services values may be  
322 heterogeneous. Anderson et al. (2009) pointed out that there are few studies on which  
323 to base conclusions about the spatial relationships between habitats for different  
324 ecosystem services and benefits for biodiversity, because such studies disregard spatial  
325 heterogeneity. Syrbe and Walz (2012) stressed that this is a strong limitation for the  
326 analyses that require a spatial representation of ecosystem services. The present study  
327 attempts to consider intrinsic spatial heterogeneity for multiple ecosystem services  
328 together. The cluster analysis showed that 25 ecosystem services are represented  
329 together by 11 spatial units. It demonstrates that the intrinsic spatial heterogeneity of  
330 sets of correlated ecosystem services (they are 11 bundles) is lower than the intrinsic  
331 spatial heterogeneity of single ecosystem services (they were 20 spatial units of  
332 representation for 25 ecosystem services). According to the results, bundles are also  
333 different from the spatial units of single ecosystem services: the shape of bundles is  
334 not only a combination of spatial units, but they are also dependent on the values of  
335 single services in such units. Therefore, the number of clusters is lower than the spatial  
336 units of single ecosystem services, but their shape is more complex.

337 A moderate degree of correlation was found between forest bundles and land use: the  
338 only land use class that can be spatially recognized in bundles is that of forest. It  
339 demonstrates that spatial units of land use are not sufficient to represent the spatial  
340 heterogeneity of single ecosystem services, but one single spatial unit of land use (i.e.  
341 forest) is sufficient to represent the spatial heterogeneity of multiple ecosystem  
342 services.

## 343 **6 Conclusions**

344 The method proposed in this study allows the mapping of a relevant number of  
345 ecosystem services to be advanced, while accounting for the spatial heterogeneity of  
346 the ecosystem services distribution and of their values. In particular, the study provides  
347 a solution to the issue of defining the areas where sets of ecosystem services appear  
348 together, i.e. bundles, and to the issue of explaining the factors that cause the main  
349 variability of ecosystem services across the study region.

350 Management implications are to inform conservation efforts in the future, when there  
351 is spatial heterogeneity of the ecosystem services provision. Considering that bundles  
352 are sets of ecosystem services, their spatial representation depict areas that provide a  
353 considerable amount of ecosystem services to humans. Hence, no matter their  
354 biodiversity values, these areas could be given a protection status due to their  
355 contribution to the wellbeing of the local population.

356 Future research could be devoted to the identification of areas offering an optimum  
357 provision of ecosystem services and biodiversity value. In the same way, we expect

358 that additional social and ecological conditions may affect the ecosystem services  
359 supply. For instance, demographic dynamics may influence the distribution of  
360 ecosystem services supply, as well as be oriented by it. Understanding which factors  
361 may have an actual influence requires the development of methods able to rank  
362 ecosystem services and to explain the relations between these services and the social  
363 and ecological conditions.

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1 **TABLES**

2 Table 1. 24 ecosystem services (ES, 2nd column) are grouped in three themes (1st column) and  
 3 assessed by 24 indicators. Indicators are mapped over different spatial units (4th column).

ES theme	ES	ES assessment Indicators		
		Name (acronym)	Unit of measurement	Spatial unit of representation
Provisioning	Agriculture production	Amount of agricultural products	q ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Cadastral parcels
	Hunting production	Amount of hunting products	kg ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Game reserves
	Fishing production	Amount of fishing products	kg ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Fishing zones
	Mushroom production	Intensity of mushroom production	Dimensionless	Forest types
	Honey production	Intensity of honey production	Dimensionless	Areas of forest types 500 m close to forest ways
	Timber production	Amount of timber harvested	m <sup>3</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Forest lots
	Fuel wood production	Amount of fuel wood harvested	m <sup>3</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Forest lots
	Water supply from surface water network	Water consumption from surface water network	m <sup>3</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Sub-Catchments
	Water supply from groundwater	Water consumption from groundwater	m <sup>3</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Buffer of 200m around springs and wells
Regulating	Water quality regulation	Capacity of water ecosystems to reduce pollutants	Dimensionless	Buffer of 30 m around water network
	Water flow regulation	Specific discharge coefficient	m <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ha <sup>-1</sup>	Sub-Catchments
	Air quality regulation	Roughness of land surfaces adjacent to roads	Dimensionless	Buffer of 30 m around main roads
	Micro-Climate regulation	Ability of forests in mitigating temperature based on shape	Dimensionless	Forest patches
	Macro-Climate regulation	Carbon Stock	t ha <sup>-1</sup>	Forest types and cadastral parcels of pastures, grasslands and orchards
	Hazards protection capacity	Forest watershed protection factor	Dimensionless	Grid cells
	Flood prevention capacity	Curve number	Dimensionless	Grid cells
Cultural	Cultural heritage	Proximity of cultural heritage sites to road network	Dimensionless	Grid cells
	Scenic beauty	Landscape visibility	(no. of visible points) ha <sup>-1</sup>	Grid cells

Hunting	Density of hunters	(no. of hunters) ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Game reserves
Fishing	Fishing intensity	(no. of fishing activities) ha <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup>	Fishing zones
Mushroom collection	Availability of mushrooms of good quality	Dimensionless	Forest types
Honey collection	Availability of honey of good quality	Dimensionless	Areas of forest types 150 m close to forest ways
Outdoor recreation	Intensity of sporting activities	(no. of sport activities) ha <sup>-1</sup>	Patches of lakes, forest roads and ski slopes
Leisure	Density of recreational activities	Dimensionless	Patches of lakes and forest types

4

5 Table 2. 11 bundles are the sets of spatially correlated ecosystem services in Trentino. They are  
6 explained according to the spatial distribution and to the number, types and values of ecosystem  
7 services.

<b>Bundles of</b>	<b>Spatial distribution of bundles</b>	<b>Number, types and values of ecosystem services in the bundles</b>
1 <b>Most common ecosystem services in forests</b>	The bundle corresponds to 90% of forest areas of Trentino up to 2800 m a.s.l.. It is composed of few, large and little fragmented patches.	18 ecosystem services are supplied: four provisioning, seven regulating and seven cultural. They are typically of forest ecosystems. The provision is maximum for Honey production and Micro-Climate regulation services.
2 <b>Low-intensity and low-diversity ecosystem services</b>	The bundle includes 90% of the areas above 2800m a.s.l., which are essentially glaciers and bare rocks. It is composed of few, large and little fragmented patches.	The bundle covers the areas where the supply of ecosystem services is the lowest in terms of intensity and diversity. 17 services are supplied: three provisioning, seven regulating and seven cultural. With respect to other bundles, the supply is not maximum for any ecosystem service. It is minimum for five ecosystem services: Agriculture production, Micro-Climate regulation, Mushroom and Honey collection and Leisure.
3 <b>High-intensity and high-diversity ecosystem services in forests</b>	The bundle is covered for 90% by forest areas, corresponding to the forest areas of Val di Fiemme, where the use of forest services, like timber production, is very high.	18 services are supplied: five provisioning, six regulating and seven cultural. The supply is maximum for six services: Hunting, Mushroom, Honey and Timber production, Micro-Climate regulation and Hunting activity. With respect to other bundles, the supply of forest ecosystem services is the highest in terms of intensity and diversity.
4 <b>High-intensity ecosystem services in agriculture areas</b>	The bundle covers the agricultural areas up to 1000m a.s.l..	13 ecosystem services are supplied: three provisioning, six regulating and four cultural. With respect to other bundles, the supply of Agriculture production and Cultural heritage is maximum, while the supply of water regulation services (i.e. Water quality and Water flow regulation) is minimum.
5 <b>High-intensity recreation services in forests and over water network</b>	This bundle covers forest areas and fishing zones up to 2800m a.s.l..	17 ecosystem services are supplied: four provisioning, six regulating and seven cultural. With respect to other bundles, the supply of Leisure and Outdoor activities is maximum.
6 <b>High capacity in water regulation</b>	It is a small bundle composed of fragmented patches, homogeneously distributed over catchments up to 2800 m a.s.l.. It is typical of minor tributaries in the lateral valleys.	13 ecosystem services are supplied: three provisioning, five regulating and five cultural. The supply is maximum for two services: Water quality regulation and Flood prevention capacity.
7 <b>High-intensity human activities in semi-urbanized areas</b>	The bundle covers the central areas of the region, up to 1000m a.s.l.,	23 ecosystem services are supplied: eight provisioning, seven regulating and seven cultural. The supply is maximum for Hunting and Scenic beauty.
8 <b>Lowest number of ecosystem services and high-intensity values</b>	It is a small bundle composed of fragmented patches, homogeneously distributed over catchments up to 1000m a.s.l..	11 ecosystem services are supplied: three provisioning, four regulating and four cultural. With respect to other bundles, it is the less rich of ecosystem services. The supply is maximum for six ecosystem services: Hunting production, Fishing production and activity, Water supply from groundwater, Hazard protection capacity and Outdoor recreation.
9 <b>Highest number of ecosystem services and low-intensity values</b>	The bundle is composed of few, large and little fragmented patches. It is homogeneously distributed over altitude, catchments and it covers all land uses.	23 services ecosystem services are supplied: 10 provisioning, seven regulating and seven cultural. With respect to other bundles, it is the richest of ecosystem services. The supply is not maximum for any service. Instead. It is minimum for: Water supply from surface water network, Cultural heritage and Outdoor recreation.
10 <b>High-intensity regulating services</b>	The bundle is homogeneously distributed over altitude up to 1000m a.s.l..	21 ecosystem services are supplied: eight provisioning, seven regulating and six cultural. The supply is maximum for two regulating services: Water flow regulation and Air quality regulation.
11	It is the smallest bundle with	16 ecosystem services are supplied: seven provisioning, four

---

<b>Ecosystem services in low-elevation forests</b>	only 3 patches. All areas are below 1000m a.s.l. and they correspond to forests for more than 90%.	regulating and five cultural. The supply is maximum for two ecosystem services: Water supply from surface water network and Honey collection.
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8 Table 3. Shape analysis of bundles

Bundles	Area [%]	Number of patches [No.]	Min patch area [ha]	Max patch area [ha]	Mean patch area [ha]	Fragmentation index [Dimensionless]
1	45.773	6767	1	96555	41.6	0.0
2	40.133	17362	1	54225	14.2	0.1
3	3.465	2642	1	653	8.1	0.1
4	4.901	7882	1	935	3.8	0.3
5	0.599	1655	1	326	2.2	0.4
6	0.166	530	1	85	1.9	0.5
7	4.106	1831	1	4546	13.8	0.1
8	0.016	69	1	6	1	0.7
9	0.816	20	1	2030	250.6	0.0
10	0.024	8	1	69	18.75	0.1
11	0.002	3	1	10	4	0.3

9

10

11 Table 4. Spearman correlation coefficients of bundles and principal components with altitude,  
 12 catchments and land use. We consider significant correlations (bolded text) when correlation  
 13 coefficients are greater than or equal to 0.3.

	Bundles											Principal components	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	PC1	PC2
<b>Altitude</b>	0.2	<b>0.4</b>	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>0.9</b>	0.2	0.2
<b>Catchments</b>	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
<b>Land use</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>0.7</b>	0.0
<b>PC1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1	0.0
<b>PC2</b>	0.1	0.1	0.0	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	0.1	0.1	<b>0.3</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1

14

15



1 **FIGURES**



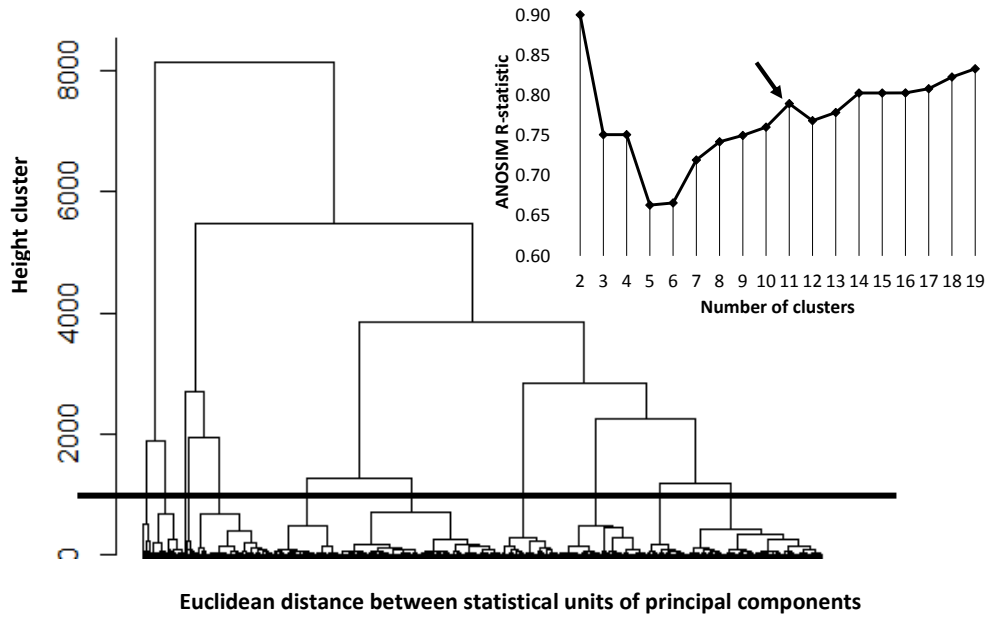
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3 Figure 1. Trentino region within the Alps in Italy

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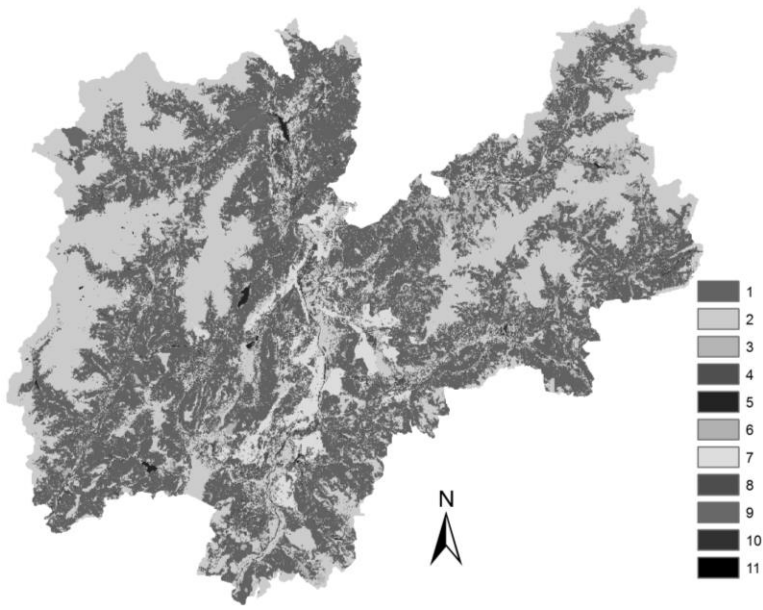
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8 Figure 2. In clustering the most significant difference between the groups is realized for 11 clusters  
9 (local maximum of the ANOSIM, arrow), which corresponds to about 1000 of height in the  
10 dendrogram (horizontal line).

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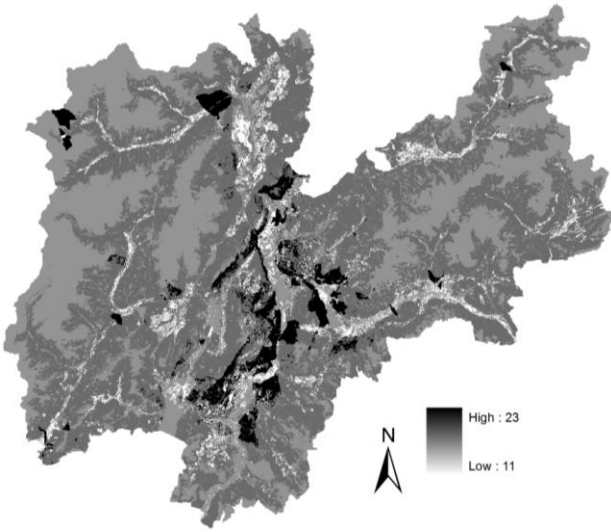


12

13 Figure 3. Map of 11 clusters, i.e. bundles of ecosystem services

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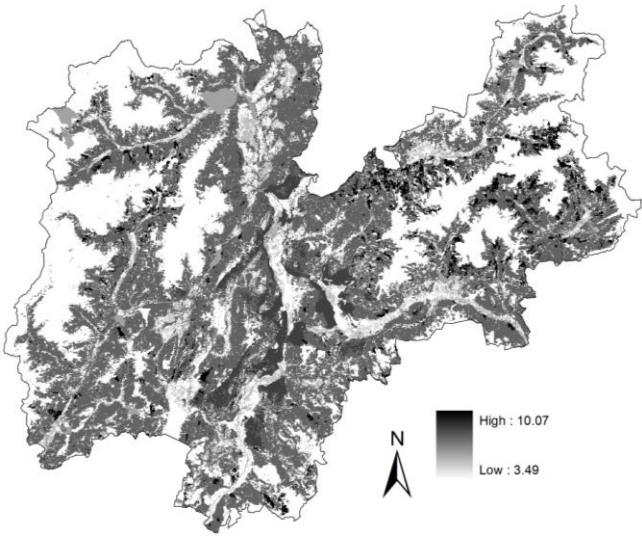


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17 Figure 4. Richness index

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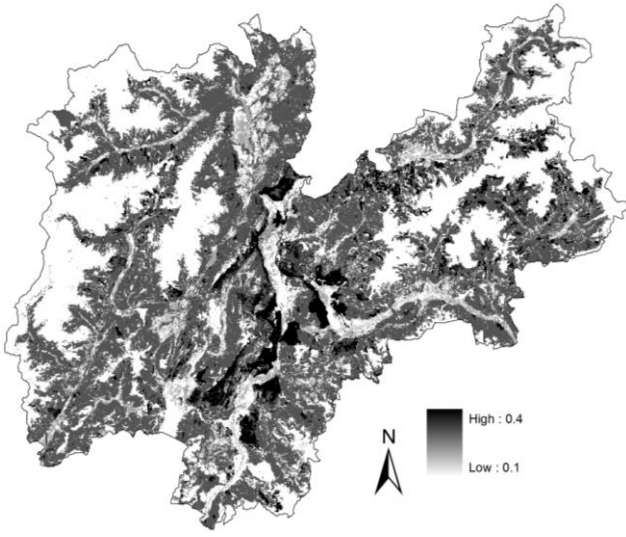
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21 Figure 5. Intensity index

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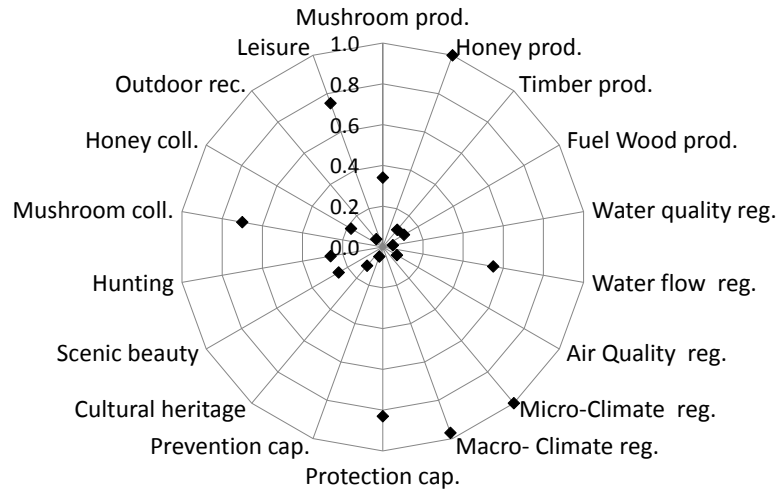


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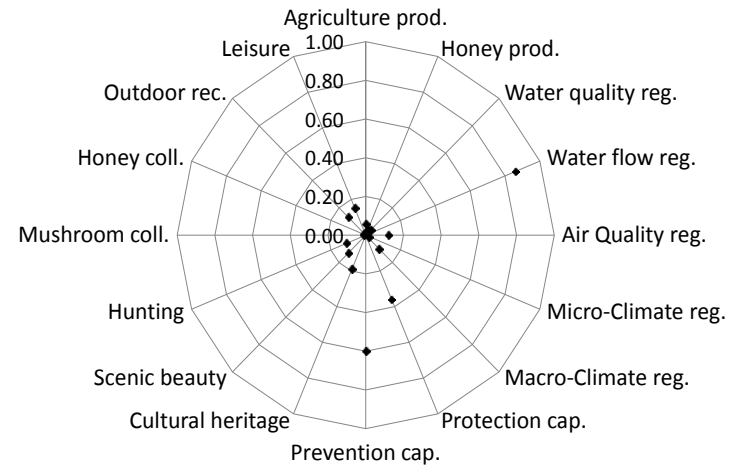
26 Figure 6. Diversity index

27

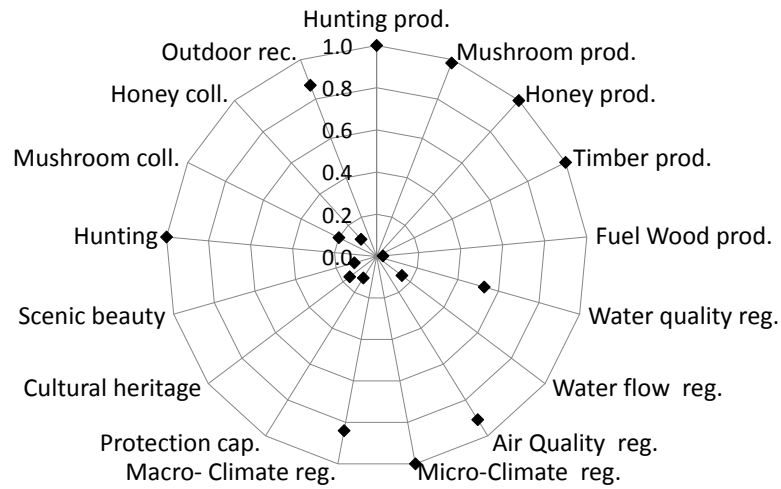
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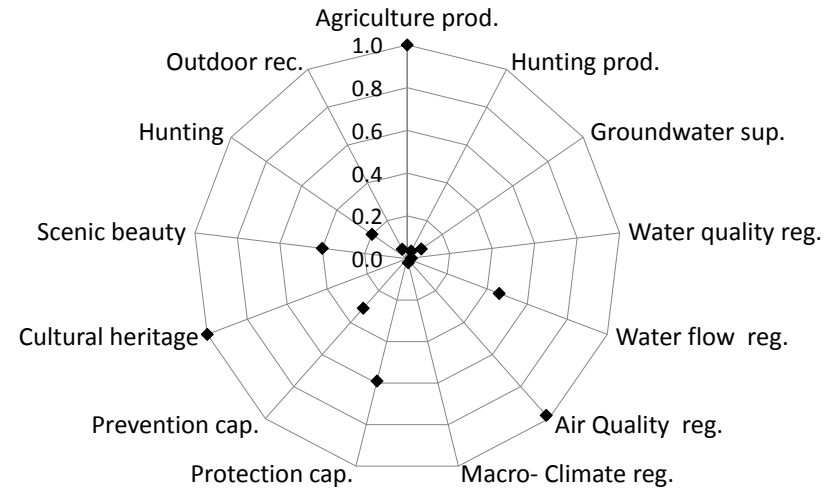
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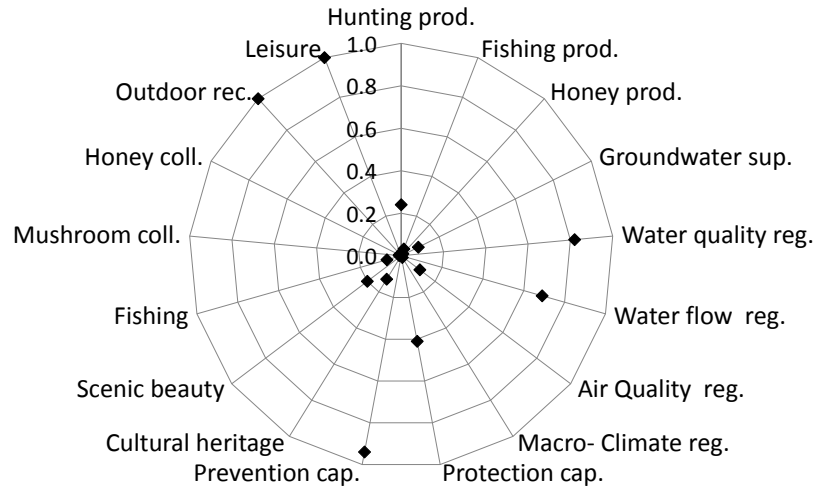
**Cluster 3**



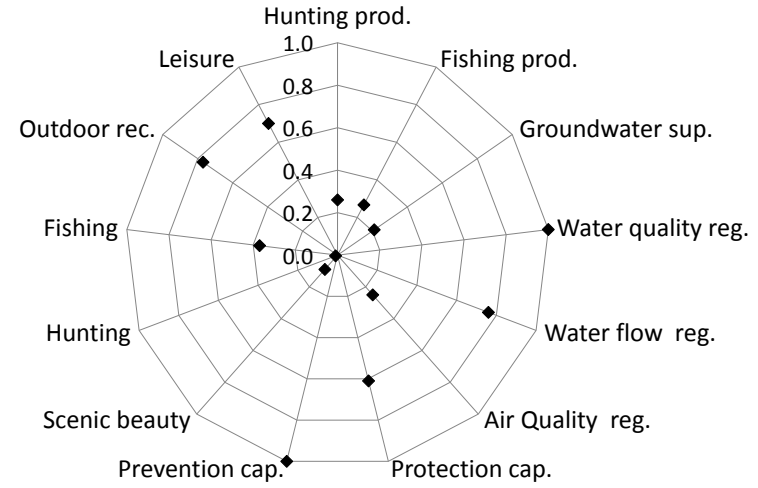
**Cluster 4**



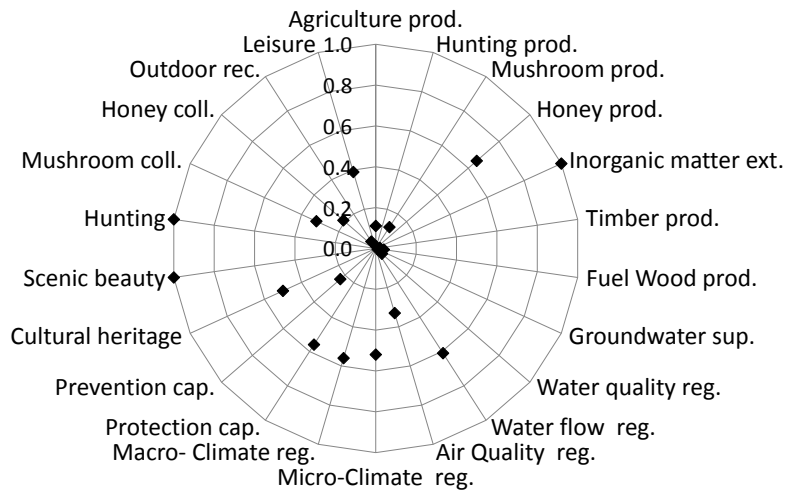
**Cluster 5**



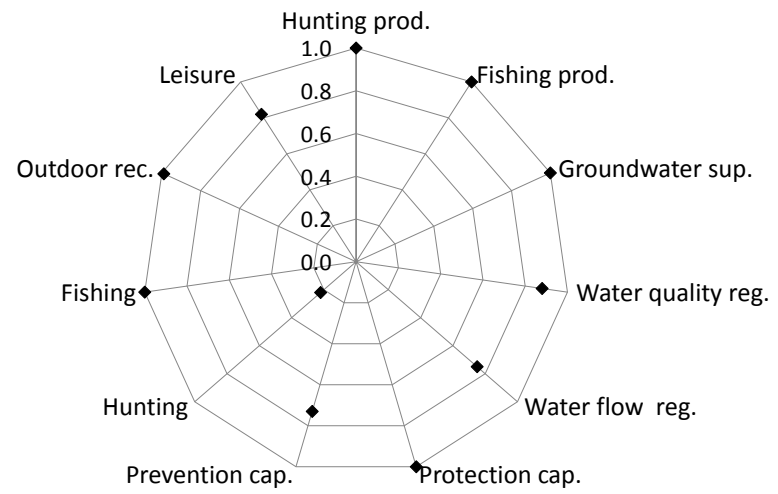
**Cluster 6**



**Cluster 7**

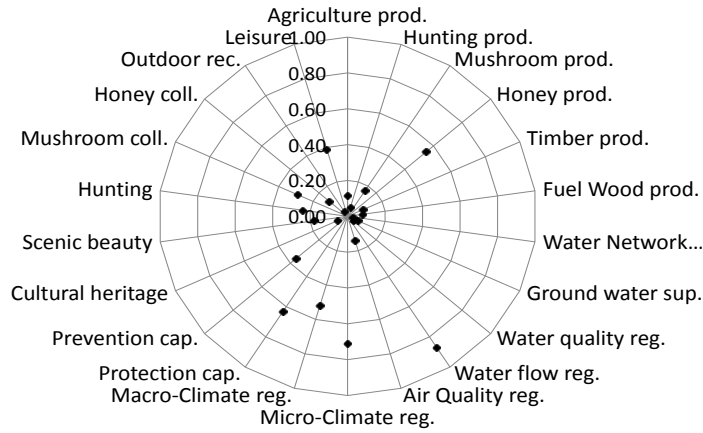


**Cluster 8**

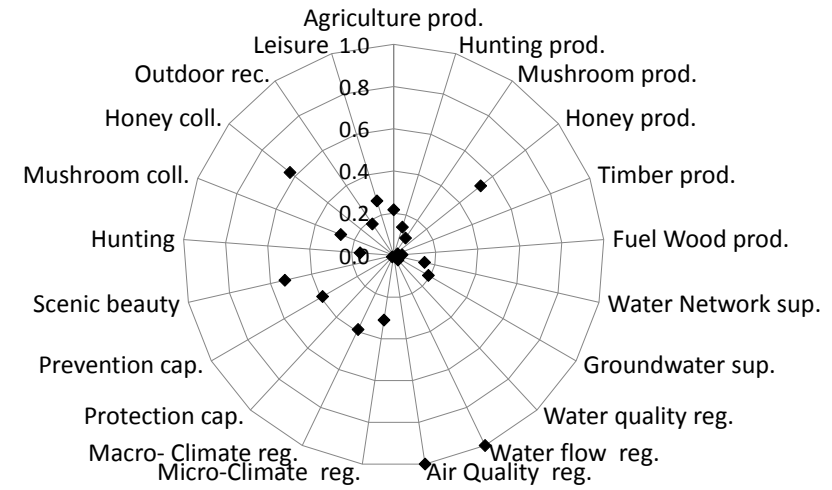




**Cluster 9**



**Cluster 10**



**Cluster 11**

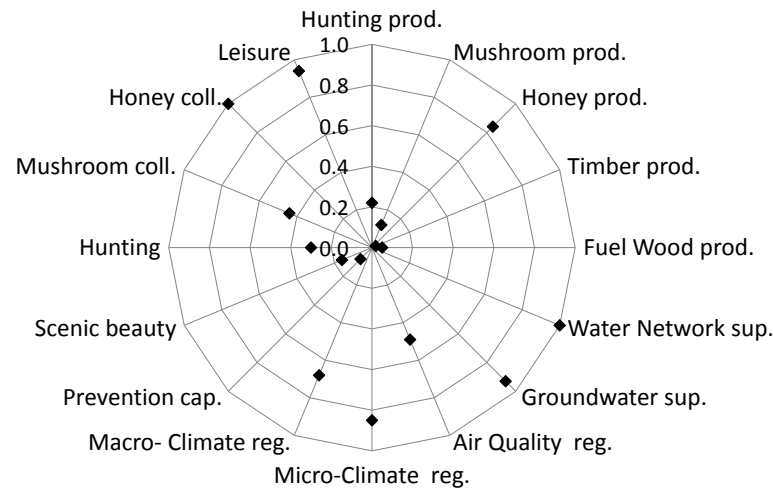
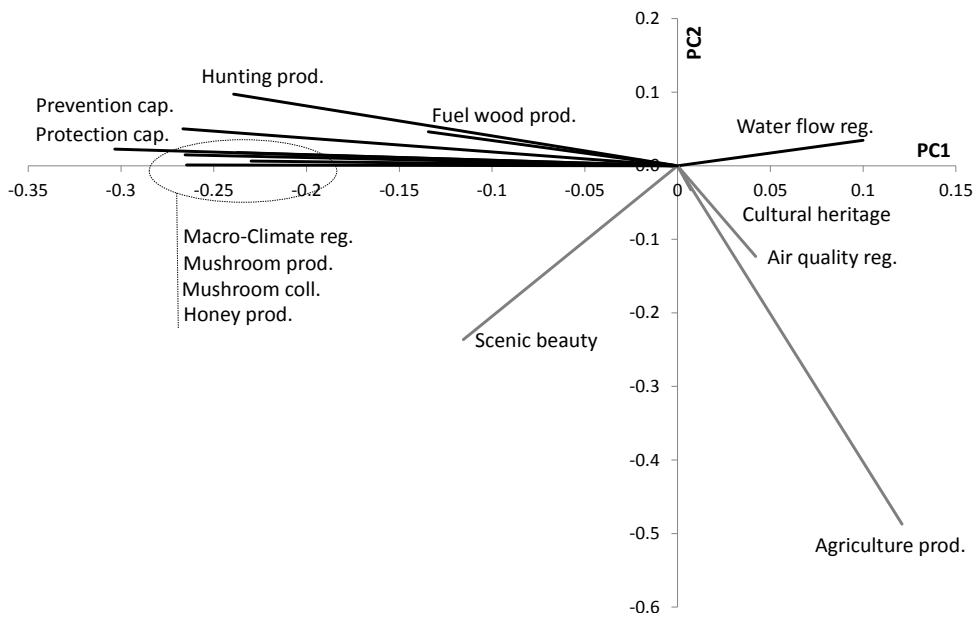


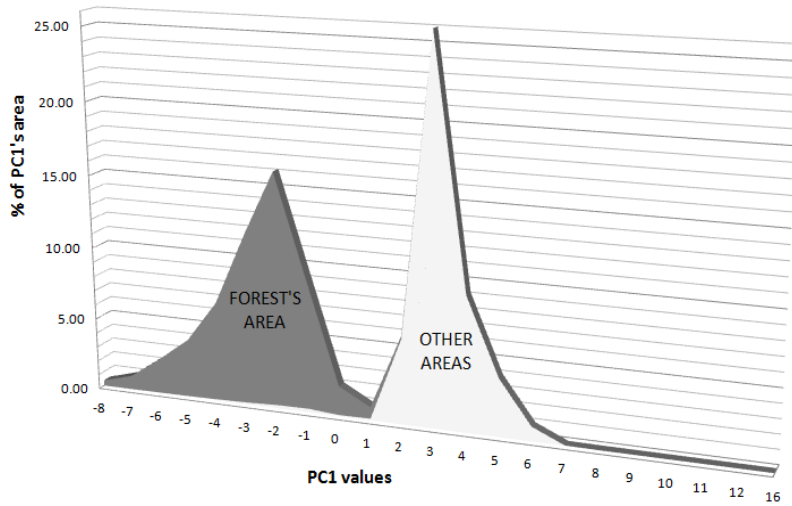
Figure 7. Contribution of the ecosystem services to 11 bundles. Each ecosystem service is represented by one indicator, whose values are normalized from 0 (minimum provision of the service) to 1 (maximum provision).



1  
2 Figure 8. Biplot of the first two principal components

3

4



5

6 Figure 9. Distribution of PC1 scores among forest areas and other areas. 56% of  
7 Trentino is forest (the grey area in the picture); lowest values of PC1 are in forest  
8 areas.