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Ecosystem services are emerging as a key driver of conservation policy and environmental management. Delivery of ecosystem services depends on the efficient functioning of ecosystems, which in turn depends on biodiversity and environmental conditions. Many marine ecosystems are extremely productive and highly valued, but they are increasingly threatened by human activities.

In this volume, leading researchers integrate current understanding of the effects on biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and ecosystem services caused by the range of human activities and pressures at play in coastal marine ecosystems, including fisheries, aquaculture, physical structures, nutrients, chemical contaminants, marine debris and invasive species. These reviews, combined with critical syntheses of the latest evidence and conceptual developments, make this a unique resource both for environmental managers and policy makers, and for researchers and students in marine ecology and environmental management.

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