



# **Marine Ecological Capital Assessment: Methods and Applications**

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# Outline

**1. Basic concepts**

**2. Identification of Marine Ecological Capital**

**3. Assessment methods**

**4. Application in China seas**

# 1. Basic concepts

## --Marine ecological capital(MEC)

Marine ecological resources which have direct or indirect contribution to social and economic production and provide benefits for human beings.

## --Marine ecological capital value

The monetized benefits for humans from marine ecological capital, including the stock value of marine ecological resource and the value of marine ecosystem services.

# 1. Basic concepts

## --The stock value of marine ecological resources

Includes 2 elements: the standing stock value of marine living resources and their habitat resources. Here habitat consists of sea water and surface seabed.

## --Marine ecosystem service(MES)

Benefits which human beings obtained from marine ecosystem, which include any products and services, in any mass and non-mass forms, in any visible and non-visible forms. Including 4 groups: provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting services.

# 1. Basic concepts

## **---Provisioning services**

Material products provided by marine ecosystem, e.g. food, raw material, oxygen production.

## **--- Regulating services**

The benefits obtained from the regulation of ecological processes. e.g. climate regulation.

## **--- Cultural services**

The nonphysical benefits obtained from ecosystems. E.g. tour, leisure, R&D.

## **--- Supporting services**

Those that are necessary to support all above ecosystem services. E. g. provide C, N, P, energy to ecosystem's running.

# Outline

1. Basic concepts
2. Identification of Marine Ecological Capital
3. Assessment methods
4. Application in China seas

# Identification

**Marine  
Ecological  
capital  
value**

marine ecological  
resource stock value

marine ecosystem  
service value

# Marine Ecosystem Services

## Provisioning Services

1. Food production
2. Material production
3. Oxygen production
4. Provision of genetic resources

## Regulating Services

5. Climate regulation
6. Waste treatment
7. Biological control
8. Disturbance regulation

## Cultural Services

9. Leisure & Recreational service
10. Cultural value
11. Scientific service

## Supporting Services

12. Primary production
13. Nutrient cycling
14. Species diversity maintenance
15. Ecosystem diversity maintenance

Value 9 services

# Marine Ecosystem Services

## Provisioning Services

- 1. Food production
- 2. Material production
- 3. Oxygen production
- ~~4. Provision of genetic resources~~

## Regulating Services

- 5. Climate regulation
- 6. Waste treatment
- ~~7. Biological control~~
- ~~8. Disturbance regulation~~

## Cultural Services

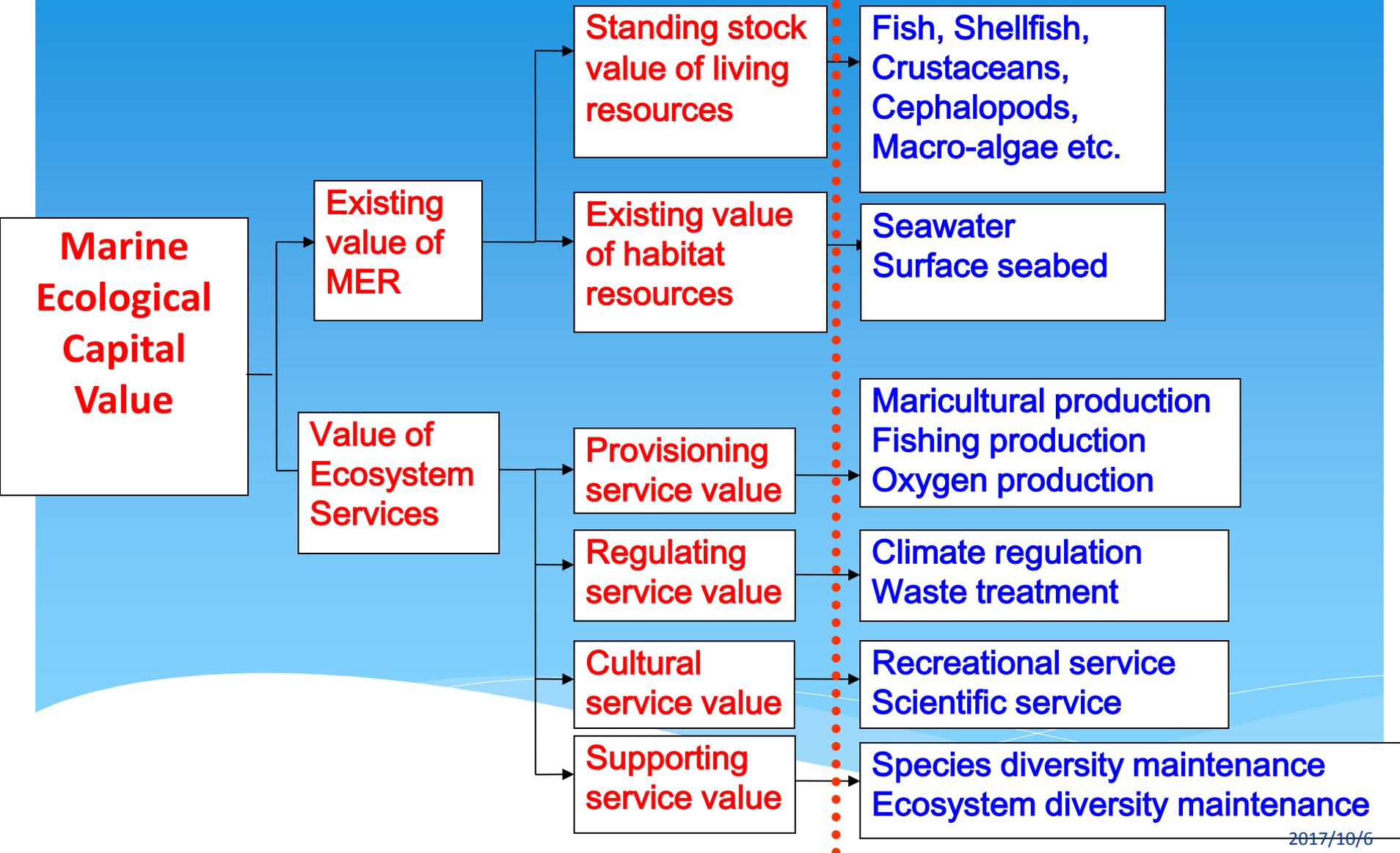
- 9. Recreational service
- ~~10. Cultural value~~
- 11. Scientific service

## Supporting Services:

- ~~12. Primary production~~
- ~~13. Nutrient cycling~~
- 14. Species diversity maintenance
- 15. Ecosystem diversity maintenance

# MEC value: constituent elements

# Assessment index



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# Technical Directives for Marine Ecological Capital Assessment

ICS 07.060  
A 45



中华人民共和国国家标准

GB/T 28058—2011

National standard

海洋生态资本评估技术导则

Technical directives for marine ecological capital assessment

2011—12—30 发布

2012—06—01 实施

中华人民共和国国家质量监督检验检疫总局 发布  
中国国家标准化管理委员会

## 3.1 standing stock of marine living resources

### --Quantification

The standing stock of six kinds marine living resources were assessed, including **fish, shellfish, crustaceans(crabs, shrimps), cephalopods(octopus, squid), macro-algae(kelp) and the others.**

Table 1 value of standing stock of marine living resources

	Kinds	Quantity/ ton	Price/ CNY per kg	Value/ $\times 10^4$ CNY
1	Fish			
2	Shellfish			
3	Curstacean			
4	Ephalopods			
5	Macro-algae			
6	The others			

## --Valuation

The **market-price method** is recommended to calculate the standing stock value of marine living resources, refer to formula 1:

$$V_L = \sum (Q_{Li} \times P_{Li}) \times 10^{-1} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

in which :

$V_L$  —Standing stock value of marine living resources. Unit:  $\times 10^4$ CNY ;

$Q_{li}$  —the production of marine living resources. Unit: ton ;  $i=1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  refers to fish, shellfish, crustaceans, cephalopods, macro-algae & the others ;

$P_{li}$  —the price of  $i$ th marine living resources. Unit: CNY/kg

## 3.2 Evaluation of marine ecosystem services

### 3.2.1 Provisioning Services

#### 3.2.1.1 Maricultural production

#### -- Quantification

**Five kinds:** fish , shellfish, crustaceans, macro-algae and the others.

Table2 Value of maricultural production

	Kinds	Quantity/ Ton	Price/ CNY per kg	Value/ $\times 10^4$ CNY
1	Fish			
2	Shellfish			
3	Crustacean			
4	Macro-algae			
5	The others			

## --Valuation

The **market-price method** is recommended to calculate the maricultural production, refer to formula 2:

$$V_{SM} = \sum (Q_{SMi} \times P_{Mi}) \times 10^{-1} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

in which :

$V_{SM}$  ——the value of maricultural production. Unit:  $\times 10^4$ CNY per year ;

$Q_{SMi}$  ——the production of mariculture production. Unit: Ton per year ;  $i=1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  refers to fish, shellfish, crustaceans, macro-algae and the others ;

$P_{Mi}$  ——the average price of ith kind of species. Unit: CNY/kg.

### 3.2.1.2 Fishing production

#### -- Quantitation

**Six kinds:** fish , shellfish, crustaceans, cephalopods, macro-algae and the others.

Table 3 Value of fishing production

	Kinds	Quantity/ ton	Price/ CNY per kg	Value/ $\times 10^4$ CNY
1	Fish			
2	Shellfish			
3	Crustacean			
4	Cephalopods			
5	Macro-algae			
6	The others			

## --Valuation

The **market-price method** is recommended to value the fishing production, refer to formula 3:

$$V_{SC} = \sum (Q_{SCi} \times P_{Ci}) \times 10^{-1} \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

in which :

$V_{SC}$ ——the value of the fishing production, the unit is ( $\times 10^4$ ) CNY per year ;

$Q_{SCi}$ ——the production of fishing. the unit is ton per year ;  $i=1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  refers to fish, shellfish, crustaceans, cephalopods, macro-algae and the others ;

$P_{Ci}$ ——the average price of  $i$ th kind of the fishing production, the unit is CNY/kg.

### 3.2.1.3 Oxygen production

#### --Quantification

The oxygen products provided from phytoplankton and macro-algae.

$$Q_{O_2} = Q'_{O_2} \times S \times 365 \times 10^{-3} + Q''_{O_2} \quad \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

in which :

$Q_{O_2}$ ——oxygen production. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$Q'_{O_2}$ ——oxygen produced by phytoplankton. Unit: milligram per day per square meter (mg/m<sup>2</sup>·d) ;

$S$  ——the water area be evaluated. Unit:square kilometers(km<sup>2</sup>) ;

$Q''_{O_2}$ ——the oxygen produced by macro-algae. Unit: ton per year(t/a).

□ The oxygen production by phytoplankton, refers to formula 5 :

$$Q'_{O_2} = 2.67 \times Q_{PP} \dots\dots\dots ( 5 )$$

in which :

$Q'_{O_2}$ —the oxygen production by phytoplankton. Unit: mg/m<sup>2</sup>·d ;

$Q_{PP}$ —**primary productivity** of phytoplankton. Unit: mg C/m<sup>2</sup>·d.

□ The oxygen production by macro-algae, refers to formula 6 :

$$Q''_{O_2} = 1.19 \times Q_A \dots\dots\dots ( 6 )$$

in which :

$Q''_{O_2}$  —oxygen production by macro-algae. Unit: t/a ;

$Q_A$ —the **dry weight of macro-algae biomass**. Unit: ton per year(t/a).

### 3.2.1.3 Oxygen production

#### --Valuation

The **replacement-cost method** is recommended to value the oxygen production. refer to formula (7) :

$$V_{O_2} = Q_{O_2} \times P_{O_2} \times 10^{-4} \dots\dots\dots (7)$$

in which :

$V_{O_2}$ ——the value of oxygen production. The unit is ( $\times 10^4$ ) CNY per year ;

$Q_{O_2}$ ——the oxygen production. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$P_{O_2}$ ——the **cost of oxygen production by liquification of air in steel-making factory**. Unit: CNY per ton.

## 3.2.2 Regulating Services

### 3.2.2.1 Climate regulation

#### --Quantification

Based on the fixation of carbon dioxide by marine plants.

$$Q_{CO_2} = Q'_{CO_2} \times S \times 365 \times 10^{-3} + Q''_{CO_2} \dots\dots\dots (8)$$

in which :

$Q_{CO_2}$ —total quantity of fixed CO<sub>2</sub>. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$Q'_{CO_2}$ —carbon dioxide fixed by phytoplankton. Unit: mg/m<sup>2</sup>·d ;

$S$  ——the water area be evaluated. Unit: km<sup>2</sup> ;

$Q''_{CO_2}$  ——carbon dioxide fixed by macro-algae. Unit: t/a.

□ Carbon dioxide fixed by phytoplankton.

$$Q'_{CO_2} = 3.67 \times Q_{PP} \dots\dots\dots ( 9 )$$

in which :

$Q'_{CO_2}$ —the  $CO_2$  fixed by phytoplankton. Unit:  $mg/m^2 \cdot d$  ;

$Q_{PP}$ —**primary productivity** of phytoplankton. Unit:  $mgC/m^2 \cdot d$ .

Carbon dioxide fixed by macro-algae :

$$Q''_{CO_2} = 1.63 \times Q_A \dots\dots\dots ( 10 )$$

in which :

$Q''_{CO_2}$ —the carbon dioxide fixed by macro-algae. Unit:  $t/a$  ;

$Q_A$ —the **dry weight of macro-algae**. Unit: ton per year( $t/a$ )

## 6.2.1 Climate regulation

### --Valuation

The **replacement-cost method** was recommended to value the oxygen production, refer to formula ( 11 ) :

$$V_{CO_2} = Q_{CO_2} \times P_{CO_2} \times 10^{-4} \quad \dots\dots\dots ( 11 )$$

In which :

$V_{CO_2}$ —the value of climate regulation. Unit:  $\times 10^4$ CNY per year ;

$Q_{CO_2}$ —the climate regulation. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$P_{CO_2}$ —the **market transaction price of carbon dioxide emission right**, the unit is CNY per ton.

## 3.2.2.2 Waste treatment

### --Quantification

Two methods are recommended to quantify the waste treatment:

A. If the environmental carrying capacity of the assessed waters is known. The **environmental carrying capacity** of COD, N or P is used as the waste treatment quantity.

B. If the environmental carrying capacity of the assessed waters is unknown. The **waste discharge into sea** is used as the waste treatment quantity. Here the waster discharge means waste water, COD, N, and P.

## 3.2.2.2 Waste treatment

### --Quantification

(1) Based on the waste water into the sea.

$$Q_{SWT} = Q_{WW} - Q_{WW} \times w \times 20\% \quad \dots\dots\dots ( 12 )$$

in which :

$Q_{SWT}$ —waste treatment quantity in sea. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$Q_{WW}$ —industrial & domestic sewage. Unit: t/a ;

$w$  —mass fraction of solid pollutants in industrial & domestic sewage, % ;

$Q_{WW} \times w$  — Total solid pollutants in industrial & domestic sewage. Unit: t/a ;

$Q_{WW} \times w \times 20\%$  —Total solid pollutants sedimentated in the bottom of river and channel into sea. Unit: t/a.

The sedimentation rate is supposed as 20%.

## 3.2.2.2 Waste treatment

### --Quantification

(2) Based on waste pollutants(e.g COD, nitrogen, phosphorus) into the sea. refers to formula ( 13 ) :

$$Q_{SWT} = Q_{WW} \times w \times (1 - 20\%) \quad \dots\dots\dots ( 13 )$$

in which :

$Q_{SWT}$  ——waste treatment quantity. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$Q_{WW}$  ——industrial & domestic sewage. Unit: t/a ;

$w$  ——mass fraction of ith pollutant in industrial & domestic sewage, % ;

( 1 - 20% ) show the rate of pollutant into the sea.

## 3.2.2.2 Waste treatment

### --Valuation

The **replacement-cost method** is recommended to value the waste treatment, refer to formula ( 14 ) :

$$V_{SW} = Q_{SWT} \times P_W \times 10^{-4} \dots\dots\dots ( 14 )$$

in which :

$V_{SW}$  ——the value of waste treatment. Unit:  $\times 10^4$ CNY per year ;

$Q_{SWT}$  ——the waste treatment quantity. Unit: ton per year(t/a) ;

$P_W$  ——the **cost of artificial wastewater treatment**. Unit:  
CNY per ton.

## 3.2.3 Cultural Services

### 3.2.3.1 Leisure & Recreational service

#### --Quantification

The leisure and recreational service mainly considers natural and slightly artificial marine scenic spot. The amount of tourist is the important quantification indicators for this service.

#### --Valuation

a) If the number of tourism spots in the assessed waters are less than 8, the **zonal travel-cost method(ZTCM) or individual travel-cost method (ITCM)** is recommended.

b) If  $>8$ , economic income of coastal tourism industry is recommended to value this service.

## Zonal travel cost method :

$$V_{ST} = \sum \int_0^Q F(Q) \dots\dots\dots ( 15 )$$

in which :

$V_{ST}$ ——the value of leisure and recreational service, the unit is  $(\times 10^4)$  CNY per year ;

$F(Q)$  is the **travel demand function based on the questionnaire survey** .

## Individual travel cost method (ITCM):

$$V_{ST} = (\overline{TC} + CS) \times P \quad \dots\dots\dots ( 16 )$$

in which :

$V_{ST}$ ——the value of leisure and recreational service. Unit:  $\times 10^4$  CNY per year ;

$\overline{TC}$ ——the **average travel cost of single tourist**, Unit: CNY per person ;

$CS$  ——**consumer surplus of single tourist**. Unit: CNY per person ;

$P$  ——the total number of tourist into the specific tourism spot. the unit is  $\times 10^4$  persons per year .

### 3.2.3.1 Leisure and Recreational service

The valuation of based on economic income of marine tourism industry :

$$V_{ST} = \sum_j^m \sum_i^n (V_{Tj} \times F_{ji}) \dots\dots\dots ( 17 )$$

in which :

$V_{ST}$ —the value of leisure and recreational service.

Unit:  $\times 10^4$ CNY per year ;

$V_{Tj}$  —the marine tourism income from the assessed waters, the unit is ( $\times 10^4$ ) CNY per year ;

$F_{ji}$ —the **adjustment coefficient of the specific tourism spot**;

$m$  —the number of cities around the assessed waters ;

$n$  —the number of marine tourism spots in the assessed waters.

$F_{ji}$  is composed of  $P_{ji}$  and  $Q_{ji}$ .

$$F_{ji} = \frac{P_{ji} + Q_{ji}}{2} \dots\dots\dots ( 18 )$$

in which :

$F_{ji}$ ——the **adjustment coefficient** of the specific marine tourism spot;

$P_{ji}$ ——the **coastline length coefficient** of specific marine tourism spot ;

$Q_{ji}$ ——the **grade coefficient** of specific marine tourism spot.

$P_{ji}$  refers to formula ( 19 ) :

$$P_{ji} = \frac{L_i}{\sum_i L_{ji}} \dots\dots\dots ( 19 )$$

In which :

$P_{ji}$ ——the coastline coefficient of specific marine tourism spot;

$L_i$  ——the coastline length of specific marine tourism spot.

Unit: km ;

$\sum_i L_{ji}$  ——the total length of all marine tourism sport coastline in the assessed waters.

$Q_{ji}$  refers to formula ( 18 ) :

$$Q_{ji} = \frac{D_i}{\sum_i D_{ji}} \dots\dots\dots ( 18 )$$

In which :

$Q_{ji}$  ——the grade coefficient of the specific tourism spot ;

$D_i$  ——the grade of the specific tourism spot ;

$\sum_i D_{ji}$  ——the total grade number of all tourism spots in the assessed waters.

## 3.2.3.2 Scientific service

### --Quantification

**Scientific invest cost method** was developed to assess scientific service. Scientific service quantity is measured the number of scientific papers on the assessed waters.

### --Valuation

**Direct-Costing method** is recommended.

$$V_{SR} = Q_{SR} \times P_R \dots\dots\dots ( 19 )$$

$V_{SR}$ —the value of scientific service. Unit:  $\times 10^4$  CNY per year ;

$Q_{SR}$ —the **number of scientific papers on the assessed waters** published in a year;

$P_R$ —scientific project investment per paper.

## 3.2.4 Supporting Services

### 3.2.4.1 Maintenance of species diversity

#### --Quantification

Maintenance of species diversity in quantity is reflected by the number of the **protected species or other species with importance value in science, culture, religion or potential commercial aspects.**

#### --Valuation

The **contingent valuation method** is recommended to value the maintenance of species diversity. The questionnaire survey on **willingness-to-pay of local residents for maintaining marine species forever.** refers to formula (20)

$$V_{SSD} = \sum WTP_j \times \frac{P_j}{H_j} \times \eta \dots\dots\dots ( 20 )$$

in which :

$V_{SSD}$  ——the value of maintenance of species diversity. Unit:  
 $\times 10^4$  CNY per year ;

$WTP_j$  ——**willingness-to-pay for maintaining marine species forever**, the unit is CNY per person ;

$P_j$  ——the population of urban and/or countryside region ;

$H_j$  ——the average persons of one family members ;

$\eta$  ——the payment rate of local residents.

## 3.2.4.2 Ecosystem diversity

### --Quantification

The maintenance of ecosystem diversity mainly be reflected by the number of **marine key habitats, e.g nature reserve, special protection area, aquatic germplasm resources conservation zones** in the assessed waters.

### --Value assessment

The value of ecosystem diversity maintenance method is recommended to valuate the maintenance of ecosystem diversity. The questionnaire survey on **willingness-to-pay of local residents for maintaining marine protected area forever**. refers to formula (21).


$$V_{SED} = \sum WTP_j \times \frac{P_j}{H_j} \times \eta \quad \dots\dots\dots ( 21 )$$

in which :

$V_{SED}$  ——the value of ecosystem diversity maintenance, the unit is ( $\times 10^4$ ) CNY per year ;

$WTP_j$  ——willingness-to-pay for maintaining protected area forever, the unit is CNY per person ;

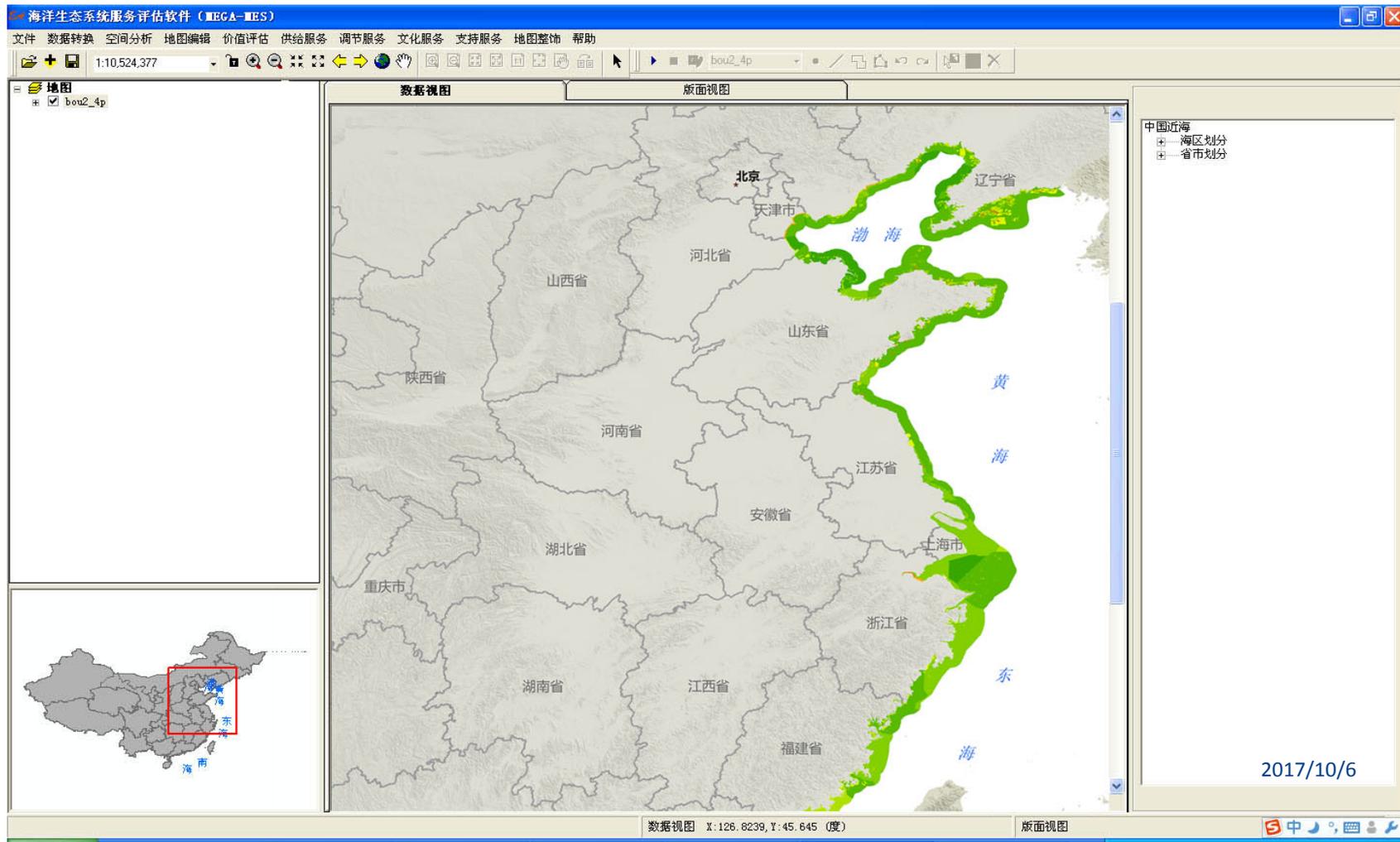
$P_j$  ——the population of urban and/or countryside region ;

$H_j$  ——the average persons of one family members ;

$\eta$  ——the payment rate of local residents.

# Assessment software

## Mapping by MEGA-MES V1.0 based on Arc GIS



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- 1. Basic concepts**
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## 4. Ecosystem service value of China coastal seas

- \* National-scale ( 全国尺度、海盆 ) : 100 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Provincial-scale ( 省尺度 ) : 10 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* County-scale ( 县尺度、海湾 ) : 100 km<sup>2</sup>
- \* Assess area: 12 nautical miles from coastal line

# National assessment

Billions CNY, 2008

Sea	Area/km <sup>2</sup>	Provisioning S.	Regulating S.	Cultural S.	Supporting S.	Total Service	Mean/Mil. CNY/km <sup>2</sup>
Bohai Sea	34,359.77	135.18	9.90	70.05	0.11	215.24	6.26
Yellow Sea	43,541.11	162.05	6.06	160.64	0.12	328.86	7.55
East China Sea	58,719.89	71.19	20.59	80.31	2.55	194.48	3.25
South China Sea	770,000.00	7.04	13.72	118.35	0.49	298.60	5.10
TOTAL	1,034,000.00	375.46	50.27	597.35	3.27	1,034.00	17.40

China's coastal ecosystem provided 1,034 billion CNY of ecosystem

services in 2008, which supported 1,740 billion CNY of marine

industrial products

One dollar of ecological value supports 1.7 dollar of economic

output

# Value of coastal ecosystem services



2017/10/6

# Spatial patterns of coastal ecosystem service value

1. Service value decreases from onshore to offshore
2. High value in maricultured and tourism areas
3. Service value depend highly on the utilization methods

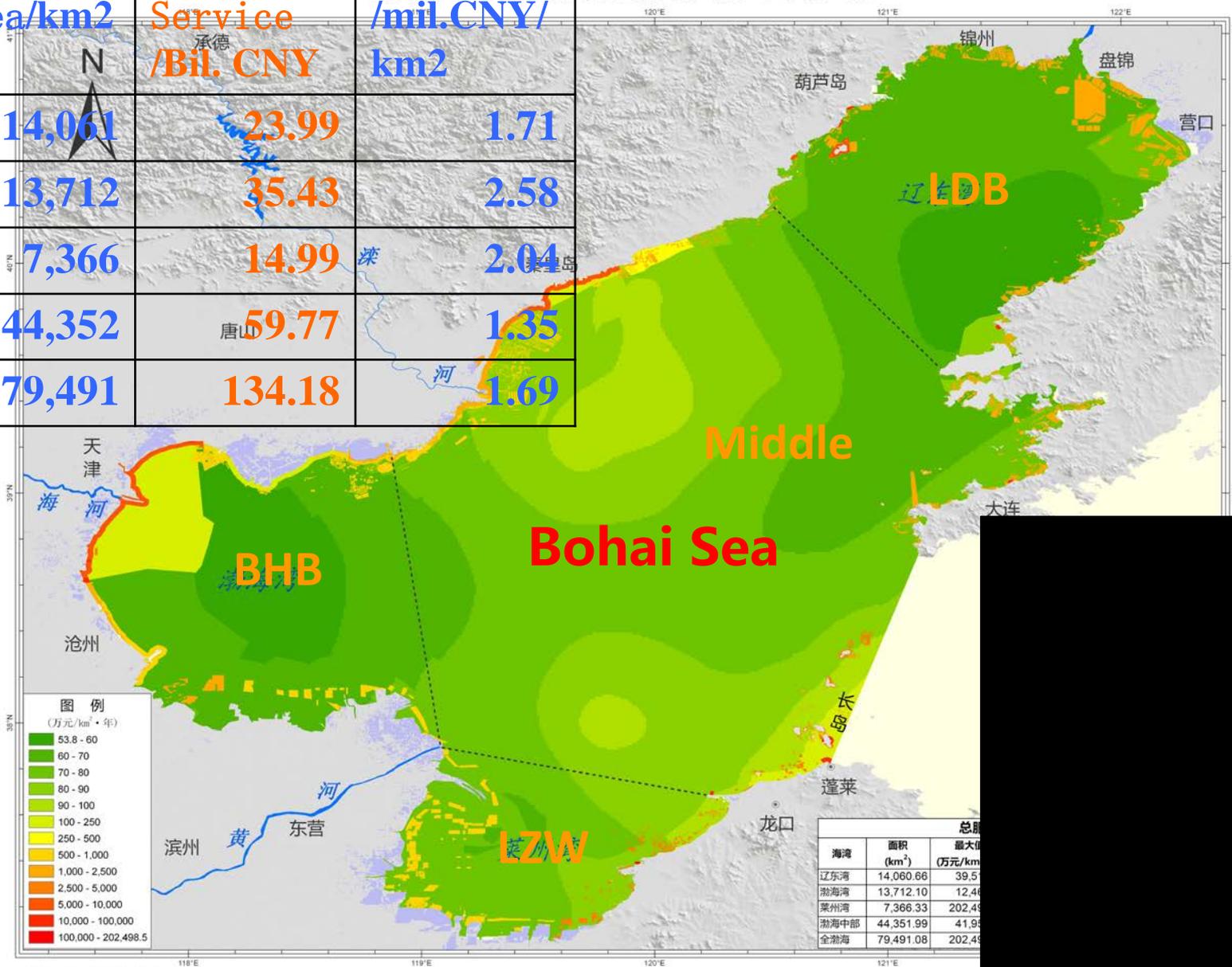


# Total Service Value

Mean  
渤海生态系统  
/mil.CNY/  
km2

渤海生态系统  
总服务价值分布

Region	Area/km <sup>2</sup>	Total Service /Bil. CNY	Mean /mil.CNY/km <sup>2</sup>
LDB	14,061	23.99	1.71
BHB	13,712	35.43	2.58
LZW	7,366	14.99	2.04
Middle	44,352	59.77	1.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,491</b>	<b>134.18</b>	<b>1.69</b>



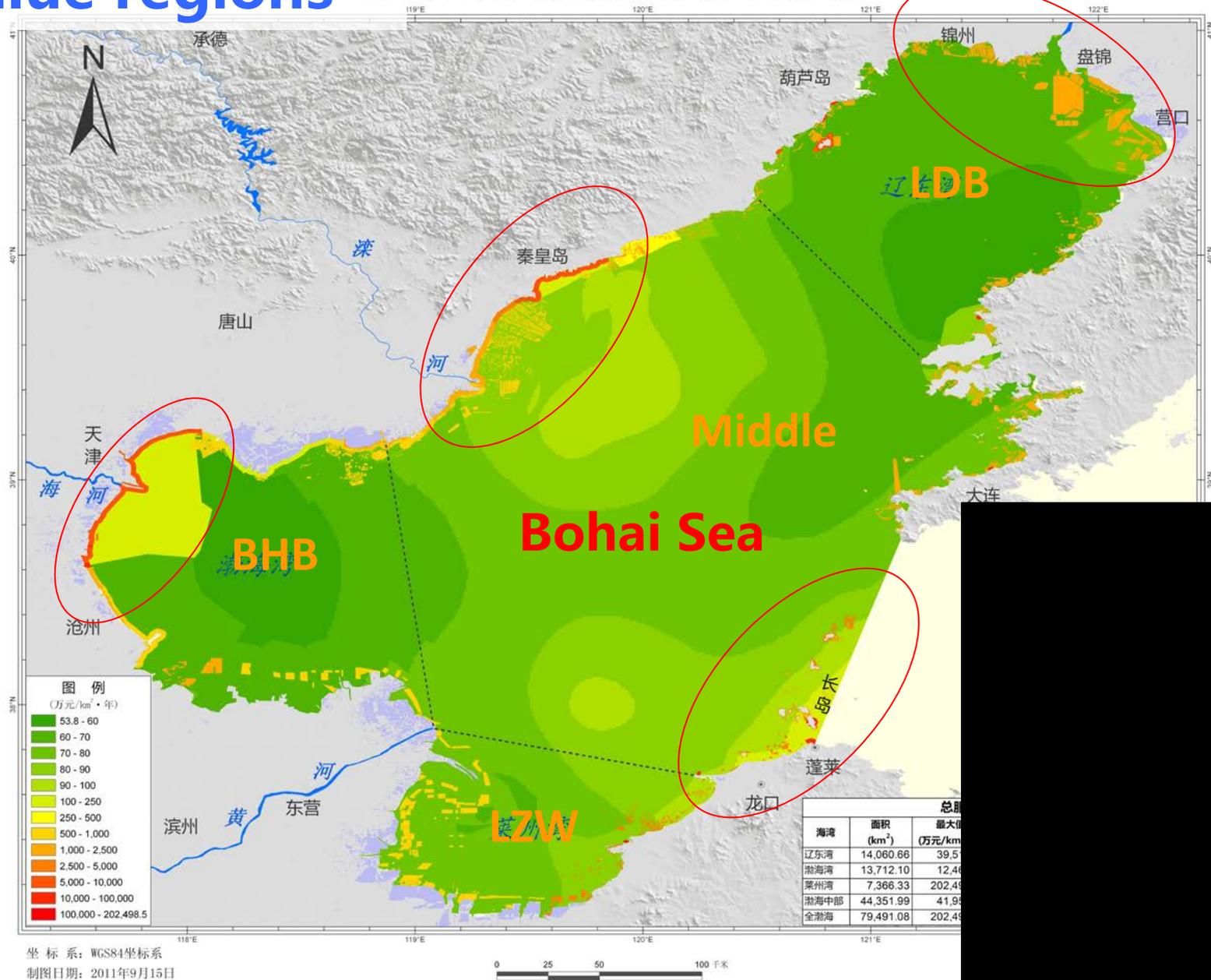
2017/10/6

坐标系: WGS84坐标系  
制图日期: 2011年9月15日



# High value regions

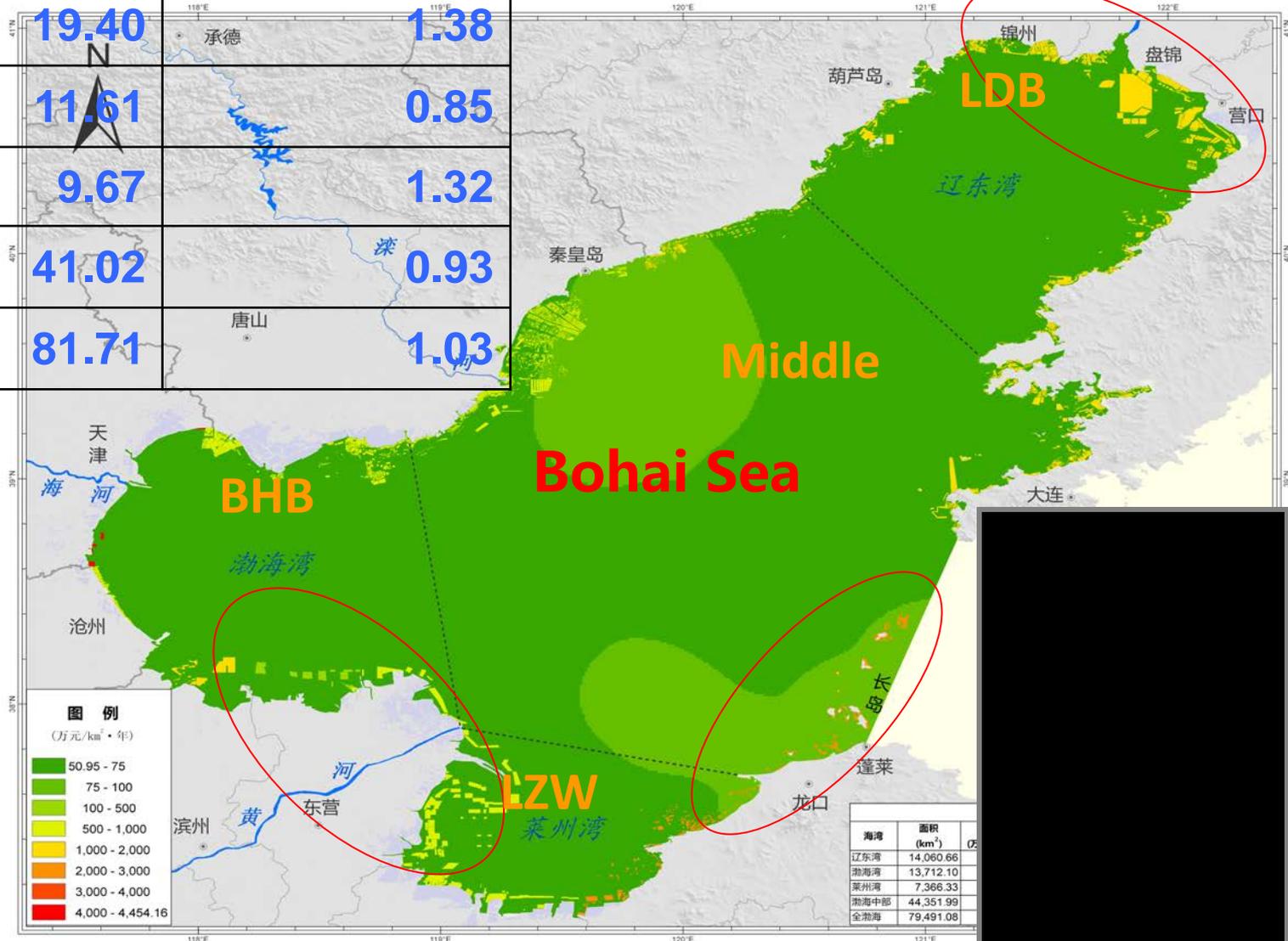
## 渤海生态系统服务价值分布



# Provisional Service

渤海生态系统服务价值分布 - 供给服务

Region	Provisional Service /Bil. CNY	Mean /mil.CNY/km2
LDB	19.40	1.38
BHB	11.61	0.85
LZW	9.67	1.32
Middle	41.02	0.93
Total	81.71	1.03



2017/10/6

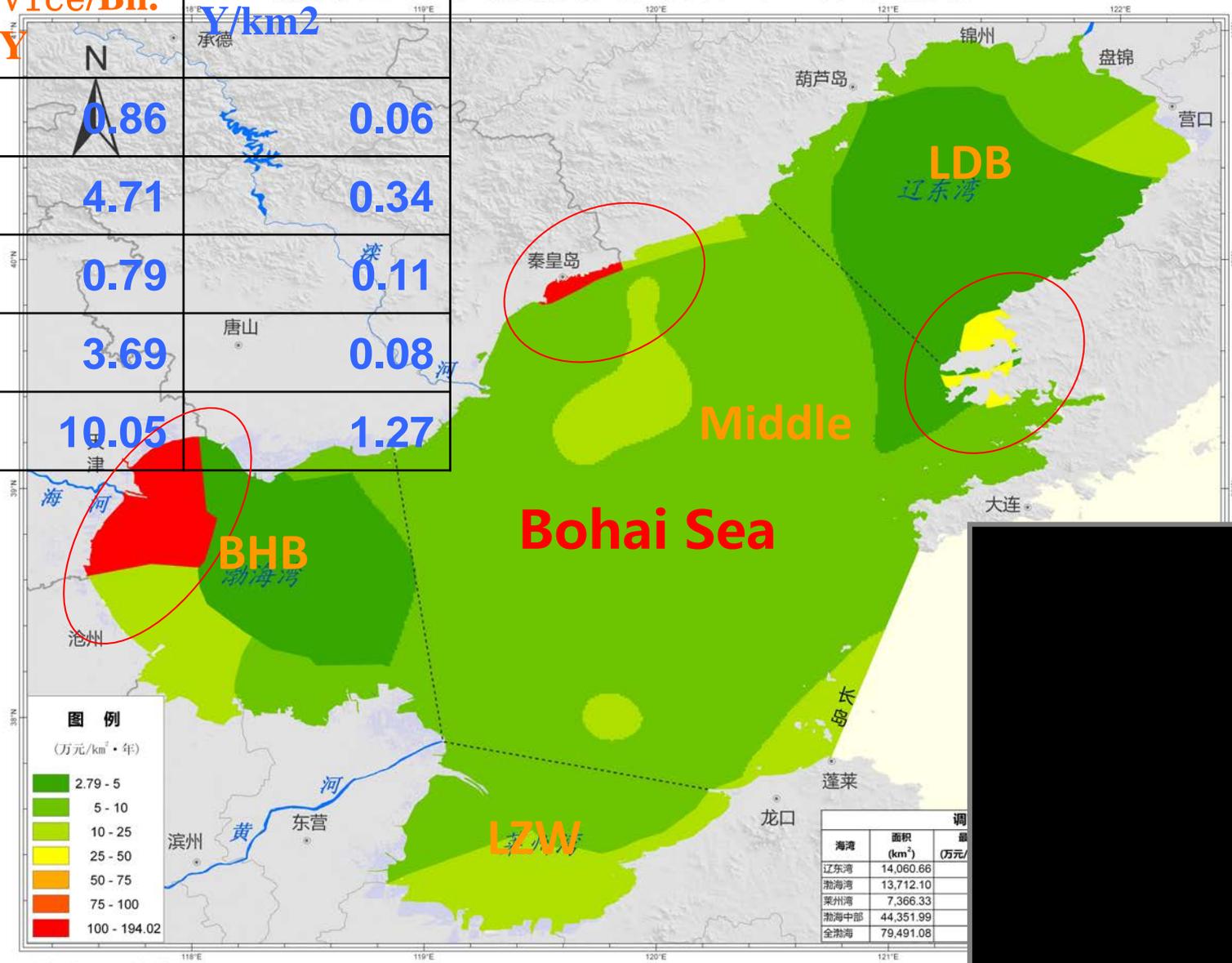
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制图日期: 2012年11月18日

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# Regulating service

Region	Regulating Service/Bil. CNY	Mean/mil.CNY Y/km <sup>2</sup>
LDB	0.86	0.06
BHB	4.71	0.34
LZW	0.79	0.11
Middle	3.69	0.08
Total	10.05	1.27

渤海生态系统服务价值分布-调节服务



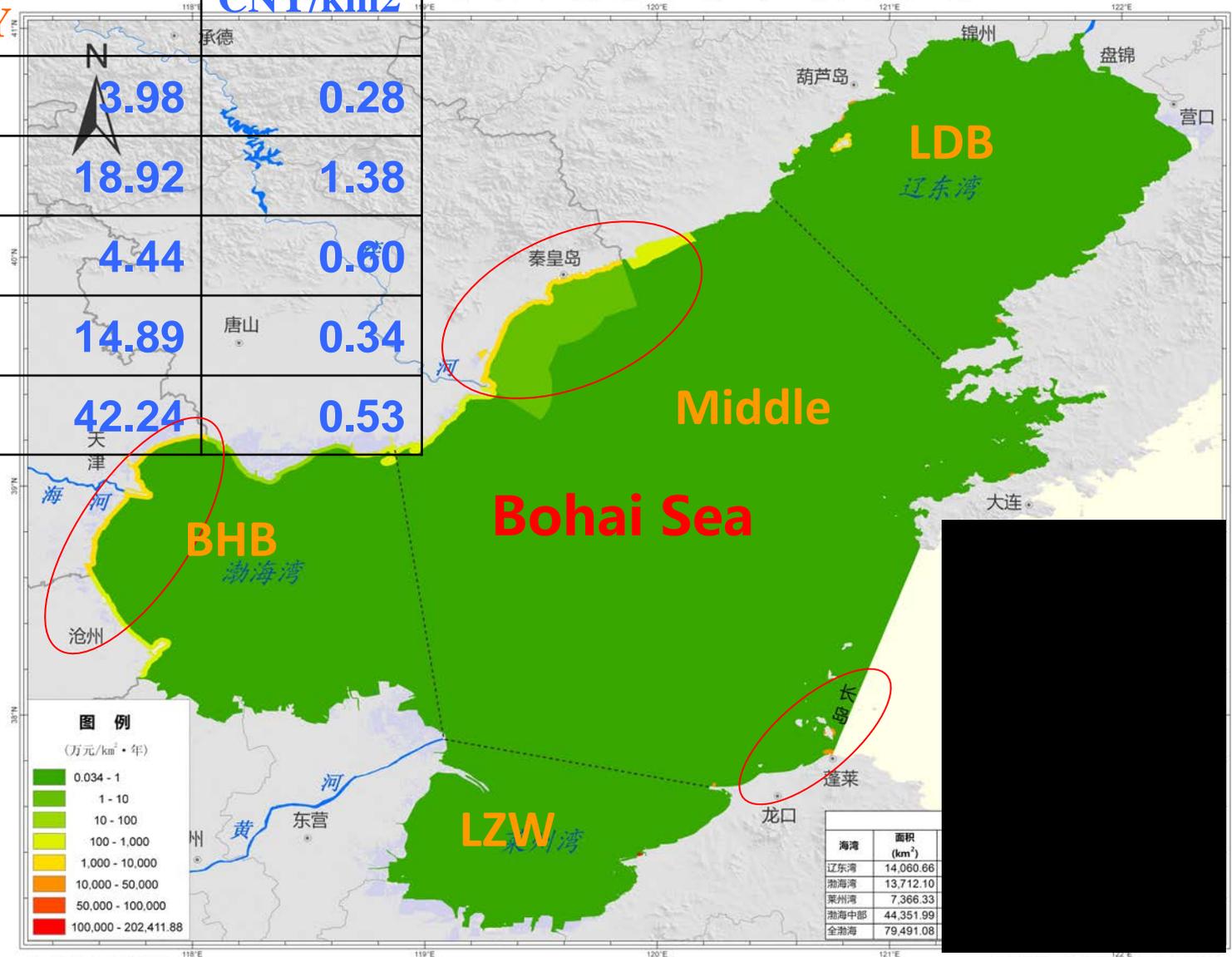
坐标系: WGS84坐标系  
制图日期: 2012年11月18日

0 25 50 100 千米

# Cultural service

Region	Cultural Service/Bil. CNY	Mean/mil. CNY/km <sup>2</sup>
LDB	3.98	0.28
BHB	18.92	1.38
LZW	4.44	0.60
Middle	14.89	0.34
Total	42.24	0.53

渤海生态系统服务价值分布-文化服务



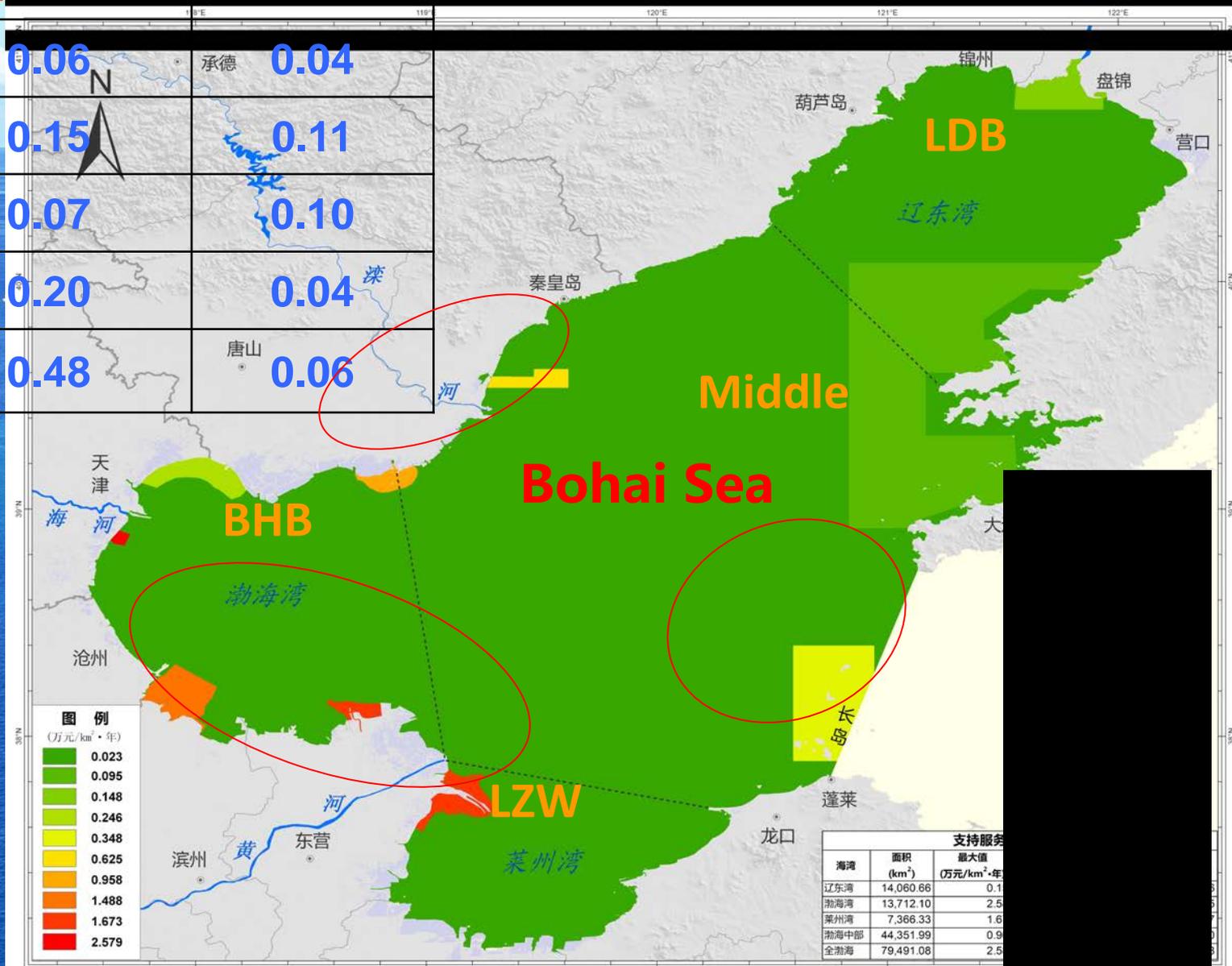
坐标系: WGS84坐标系  
制图日期: 2012年11月18日



制图单位: 国家海洋局第一海洋研究所  
制图人: 夏涛 王敏  
审核人: 陈尚

# Supporting service

Region	Supporting Service/Bil. CNY	Mean/mil.C NY/km2
LDB	0.06	0.04
BHB	0.15	0.11
LZW	0.07	0.10
Middle	0.20	0.04
Total	0.48	0.06



# Ecosystem service: 3 kinds of utilization model

- **Provisioning service-dominated utilization model** deeply depends on marine ecological resources
- **Cultural service-dominated utilization model** depends on marine environmental quality
- **Provisioning-cultural service dominated utilization model** depends on marine eco. resources and environmental quality.



**Shandong coastal waters:**

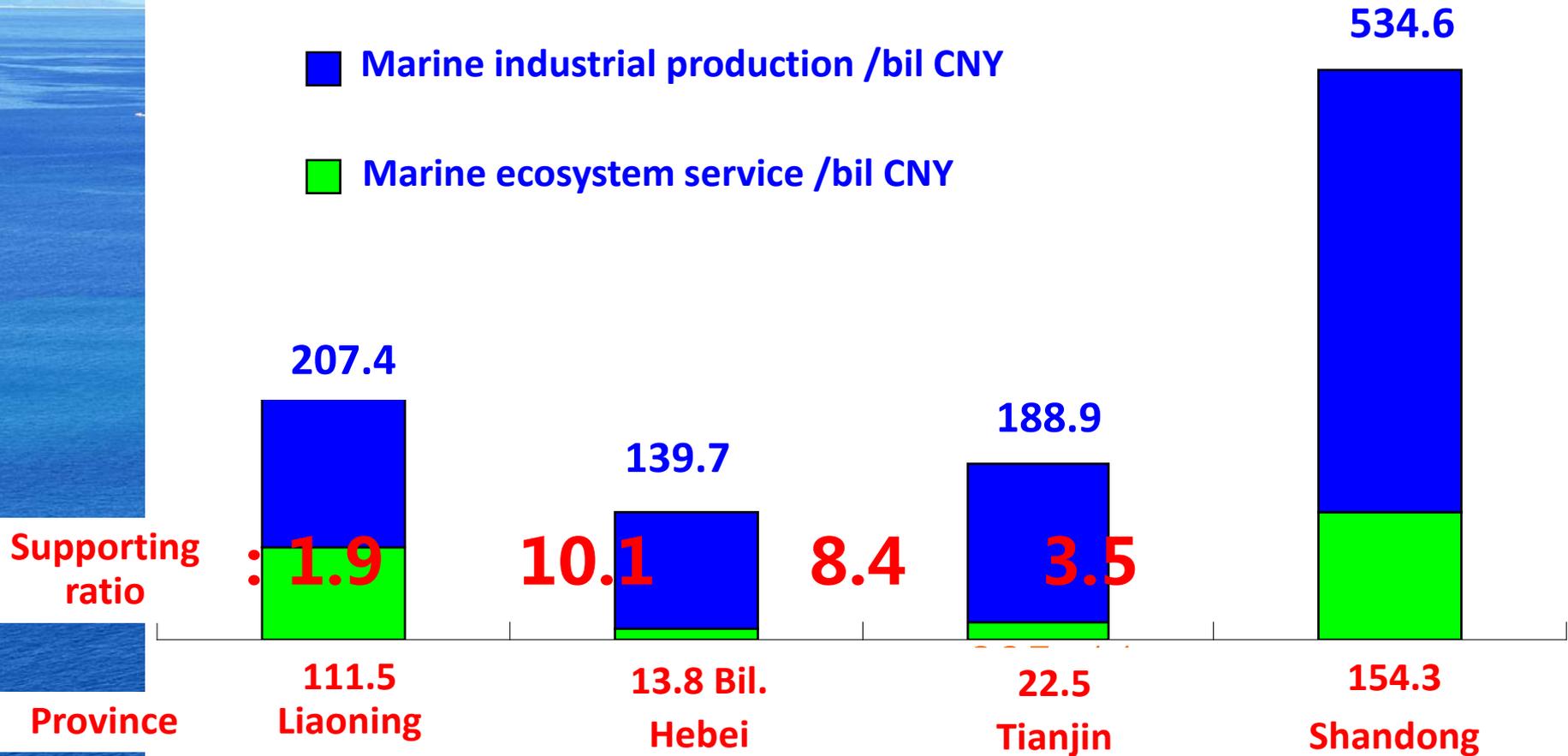
**Standing stock value of living resources : 19.41 billion CNY**

**Value of ecosystem services : 154.3 billion CNY**

**Each dollar of living resources support 8 dollars of service output !**

# Supporting ratio of marine ecosystem service to marine industrial production

- Marine industrial production /bil CNY
- Marine ecosystem service /bil CNY



Average : 6.0

2017/10/6

# Applications of MES theory

As one of principles to make function zoning and marine development planning

Setup ecological red line: no-reclamation

Setup Protected Area

As assessment indicators of marine management effectiveness & blue economic policy

Increases in both economic value and MES

As baseline of eco-compensation or payment for ecosystem service policy

2017/10/6  
Baseline value-> damaged value->compensation amount

# Take-home messages

1. The China coastal waters provided 1,034 billion CNY of services in 2008, average 5.57 mil. CNY/(km<sup>2</sup>.a). One dollar of ecological value supports 1.7 dollar of economic output
2. Spatial trends of ecosystem services:
  - Value decreases from onshore to offshore
  - High eco-value in maricultural and recreational area
3. There are 3 kinds of ecological utilization model: P, PC and B models in China coastal waters
4. Ecological capital theory is a sound, useful and SMART tool to optimize marine spatial zoning, management effectiveness assessment and to establish the eco-compensation policy.

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A scenic view of a beach with waves crashing onto the shore under a bright blue sky with scattered clouds. The sun is shining brightly in the upper center of the frame. The text "Thank You!" is centered in the middle of the image in a large, bold, black, italicized font.

***Thank You!***