

# Payment for ecosystem services (PES) on Scottish farms; an example using rural sustainable drainage systems (RSuDS)



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## Introduction

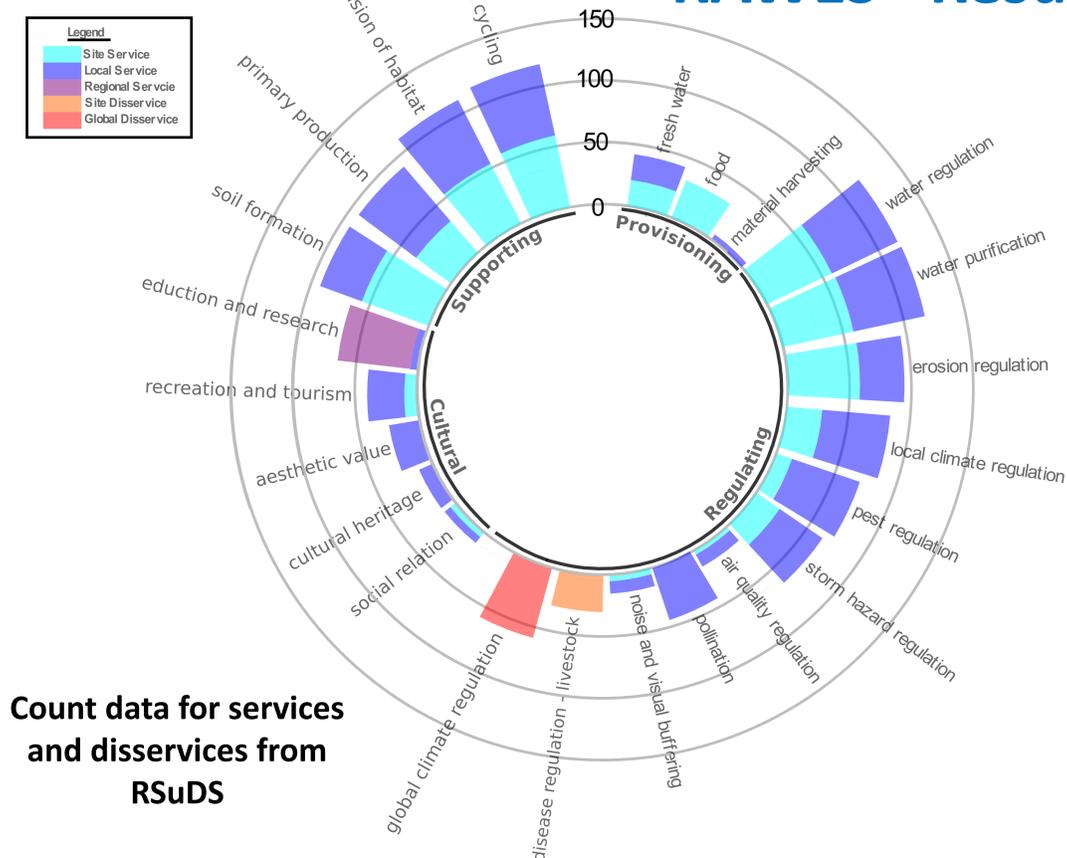
- Intensive agriculture harms the environment, impacting climate, biodiversity, and water quality.
- Shifting farm subsidies to support public goods is vital for nature recovery and net zero.
- But public subsidies cannot cover the full costs.
- Private investment with a natural capital approach can fill the investment gap.
- Farmers and landowners can access private investment through Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), but issues like evidence and trade-offs require resolution.

## Methods

- Rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services (RAWES+) of 60 sites
- Spatial regression modelling

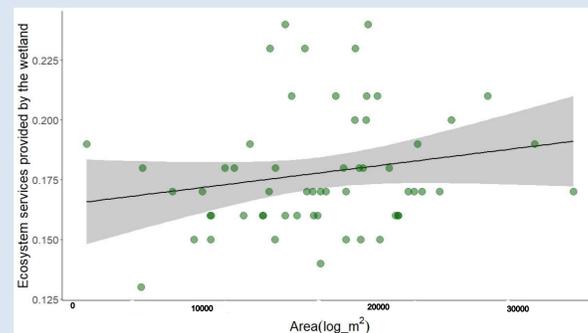


## RAWES+ Results

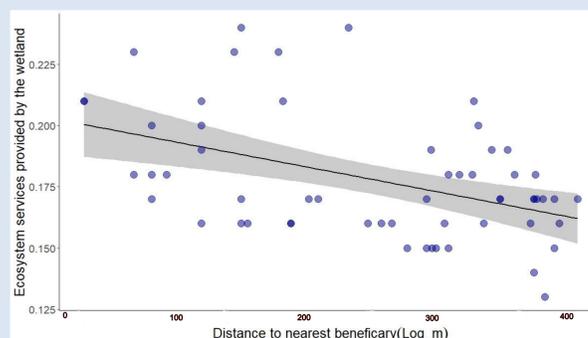


## Modelling results

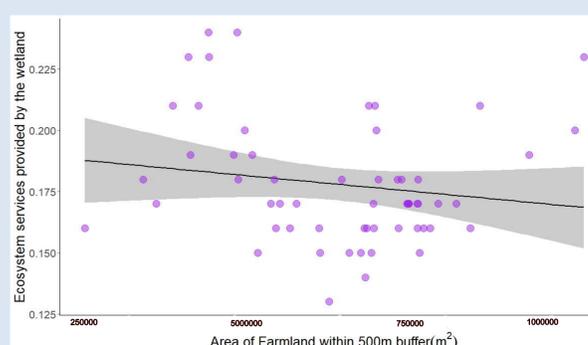
Bigger = more ecosystem services



Closer = more ecosystem services



More farmland = less ecosystem services



## Future

- **RSuDS global climate regulation:** Measuring gases and collecting samples at 20 sites to determine whether RSuDS act as carbon sinks or sources.
- **Farmer engagement and barrier identification:** Investigating farmer perspectives and surveying to identify adoption obstacles for nature-based solutions.