

# Ecosystem Services of Urban Wetlands

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GREENWOOD  
URBAN WETLAND



**Urban wetlands are wetlands which are found in and around cities or their suburbs.**

Ramsar Convention

**Wetland ecosystem services represent the benefits human populations derive, directly or indirectly, from wetlands.**

Costanza et al., 1997, Nature 387: 253-260

- Food Production
- Water storage
- Wood and Fiber
- Fuel

## Provisioning Services

- Nutrient Cycling
- Soil Formation
- Primary Production
- Habitat Provision

## Supporting Services

- Spiritual
- Aesthetic
- Educational
- Recreational

## Cultural Services

- Climate Regulation
- Flood Regulation
- Water Purification

## Regulating Services

Source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005.

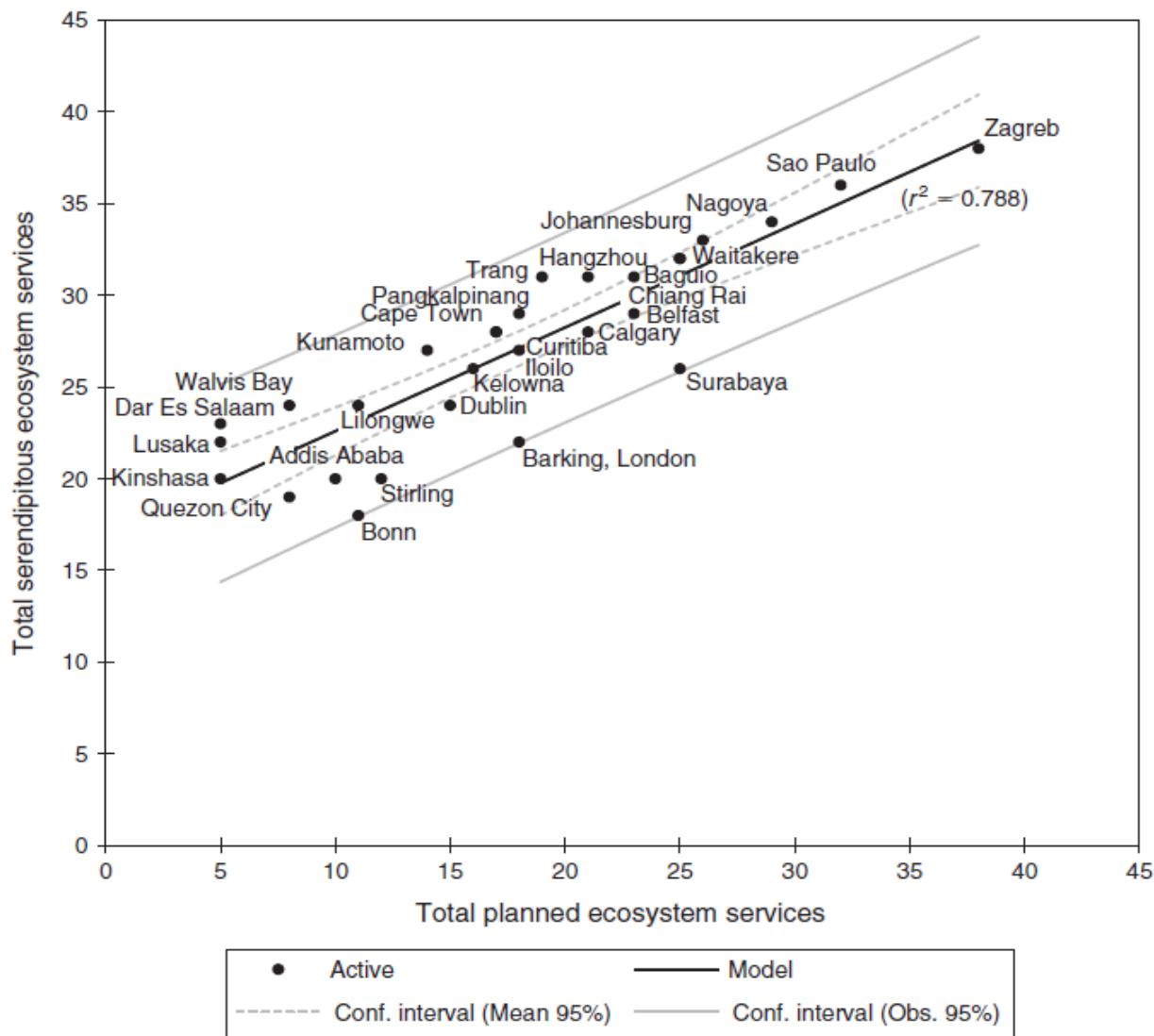


Fig. 3. Linear regression analysis of total planned and serendipitous ecosystem service for each case study.

McInnes, R.J., 2014. Recognising wetland ecosystem services within urban case studies. Marine and Freshwater Research, 65(7): 575-588.

**Table 3.** Frequency of occurrence of planned and serendipitous ecosystem services  
 Type: P = provisioning, R = regulating, C = cultural, and S = supporting

Type	Planned service	n	%	Type	Serendipitous service	n	%
C	Educational activities and opportunities	26	89.66	R	Local climate regulation	29	100.00
S	Supports a variety of all life forms	25	86.21	R	Acts as a source for pollination	29	100.00
C	Picnics, outings, touring	24	82.76	C	Educational activities and opportunities	29	100.00
P	Sustenance for humans	22	75.86	S	Supports a variety of all life forms	29	100.00
R	Water purification/waste treatment	21	72.41	S	Storage, recycling, processing of nutrients	29	100.00
C	Nature observation/tourism	21	72.41	R	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	28	96.55
C	Important knowledge and research	21	72.41	R	Water purification/waste treatment	28	96.55
R	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	19	65.52	C	Aesthetic and 'sense of place' values	28	96.55
R	Flood control, flood storage	19	65.52	S	Sediment retention	28	96.55
C	Aesthetic and 'sense of place' values	18	62.07	R	Flood control, flood storage	27	93.10
R	Local climate regulation	17	58.62	S	Carbon storage/sequestration	27	93.10
C	Recreational hunting and fishing	17	58.62	R	Regulation of climactic processes	26	89.66
R	Shoreline, riverbank stabilisation	16	55.17	C	Picnics, outings, touring	26	89.66
C	Long-term monitoring site	16	55.17	P	Sustenance for humans	25	86.21
R	Water for agriculture and industry	14	48.28	S	Accumulation of organic matter	25	86.21
S	Sediment retention	14	48.28	C	Recreational hunting and fishing	24	82.76
P	Timber	13	44.83	C	Nature observation/tourism	24	82.76
R	Regulation of climactic processes	13	44.83	C	Important knowledge and research	24	82.76
C	Contemporary cultural significance	13	44.83	R	Water for agriculture and industry	23	79.31
P	Drinking water for humans/livestock	12	41.38	C	Inspiration	23	79.31
C	Water sports and activities	12	41.38	C	Long-term monitoring site	22	75.86
C	Inspiration	12	41.38	R	Shoreline, river bank stabilisation	21	72.41
C	Cultural heritage	12	41.38	P	Drinking water for humans/livestock	20	68.97
P	Water for irrigated agriculture	10	34.48	P	Timber	18	62.07
P	Fuel wood	10	34.48	C	Water sports and activities	18	62.07
P	Livestock fodder	9	31.03	P	Water for irrigated agriculture	17	58.62
P	Other	9	31.03	P	Livestock fodder	16	55.17
C	Major scientific study site	9	31.03	P	Fuel wood	15	51.72
S	Storage, recycling, processing of nutrients	9	31.03	C	Contemporary cultural significance	15	51.72
R	Groundwater recharge and discharge	8	27.59	C	Cultural heritage	13	44.83
S	Carbon storage/sequestration	8	27.59	P	Other	12	41.38
S	Accumulation of organic matter	7	24.14	C	Major scientific study site	11	37.93
C	Spiritual and religious values	6	20.69	R	Groundwater recharge and discharge	8	27.59
P	Reeds and fibre	5	17.24	P	Ornamental species (live and dead)	7	24.14
R	Acts as a source for pollination	5	17.24	C	Spiritual and religious values	7	24.14
P	Medicinal products	4	13.79	P	Reeds and fibre	6	20.69
P	Genes for tolerance to certain conditions	4	13.79	P	Medicinal products	5	17.24
P	Ornamental species (live and dead)	4	13.79	P	Genes for tolerance to certain conditions	5	17.24
P	Water for industry	3	10.34	C	'Type location' for a taxon	4	13.79
C	'Type location' for a taxon	3	10.34	P	Water for industry	3	10.34
P	Genes for resistance to plant pathogens	2	6.90	P	Peat	3	10.34
R	Support of predators of agricultural pests	2	6.90	P	Genes for resistance to plant pathogens	2	6.90
P	Water for energy production	1	3.45	R	Support of predators of agricultural pests	2	6.90
P	Peat	0	0.00	P	Water for energy production	1	3.45
P	Extraction of material from biota	0	0.00	P	Extraction of material from biota	0	0.00

# Food production



Ricefields, southern Taiwan

Ricefields, Valencia, Spain





# Fish harvesting in fishponds, Czech Republic



# Constructed wetland for stormwater runoff retention and water reuse, Perth, Australia



# Constructed wetland for stormwater runoff storage and water reuse

## Perth, Australia



# Duke University campus, runoff treatment/birdwatching, Durham, North Carolina





Wastewater outlet, Hangzhou, China

# **Plumpton Park, Western Sydney, Australia, stormwater treatment/reuse**



# Porthsmouth, UK, urban drainage/treatment







Parking lot runoff treatment, Charleston, South Carolina, USA

**Golfcourse, stormwater water treatment/irrigation, Charleston, South Carolina, USA**



# Shenzhen, China stormwater runoff/recreation



# **Beijing Olympic Park, stormwater/lake water treatment/recreation**





Floodplain as protection area



Flood prevention



Ghent, Belgium – River Scheldt (during high tide water rises by up to 4 meters)



# Kaoshiung, Taiwan, educational wetland





# 洲仔重要濕地(國家級)

Jhouzai Important Wetland (Wetland of National Importance)

## 有關洲仔重要濕地 ( 國家級 )

本區域為國家級重要濕地(紅色範圍處)，為確保濕地天然瀕洪功能、維護生物多樣性以及促進濕地生態保育及明智利用，非經主管機關許可，禁止從事下列行為：

- ① 優自抽取、引取、截斷或排放濕地水資源及改變原有水資源系統。
- ② 挖掘、取土、埋填、堆置或變更濕地地形地貌。
- ③ 破壞生物洄游通道及野生動植物繁殖區或棲息環境。
- ④ 於重要濕地或其上游、周邊水域投放化學物品、排放或傾倒污(廢)水、廢棄物或其他足以降低濕地生態功能之污染物。
- ⑤ 藥標、毒害、獵捕、虐待、宰殺野生動物。
- ⑥ 未經目的事業主管機關許可之砍伐、採集、放生、引人、捕撈、獵捕、搶拾生物資源。

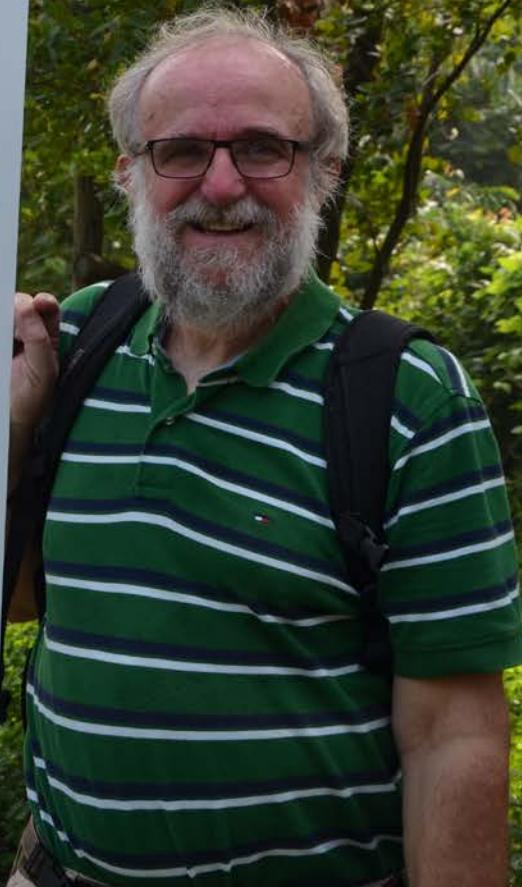
## About Jhouzai Important Wetland (Wetland of National Importance)

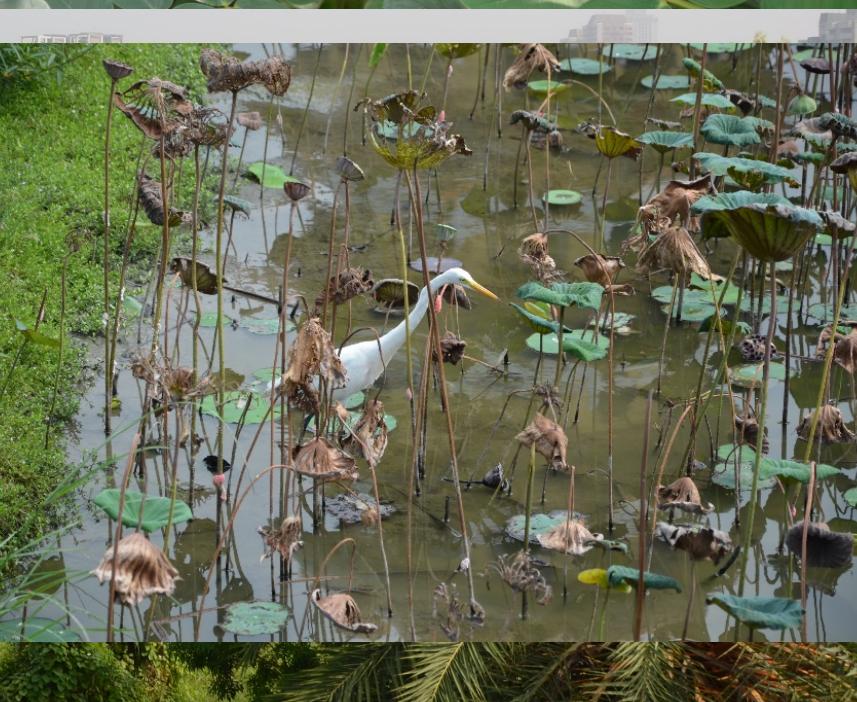
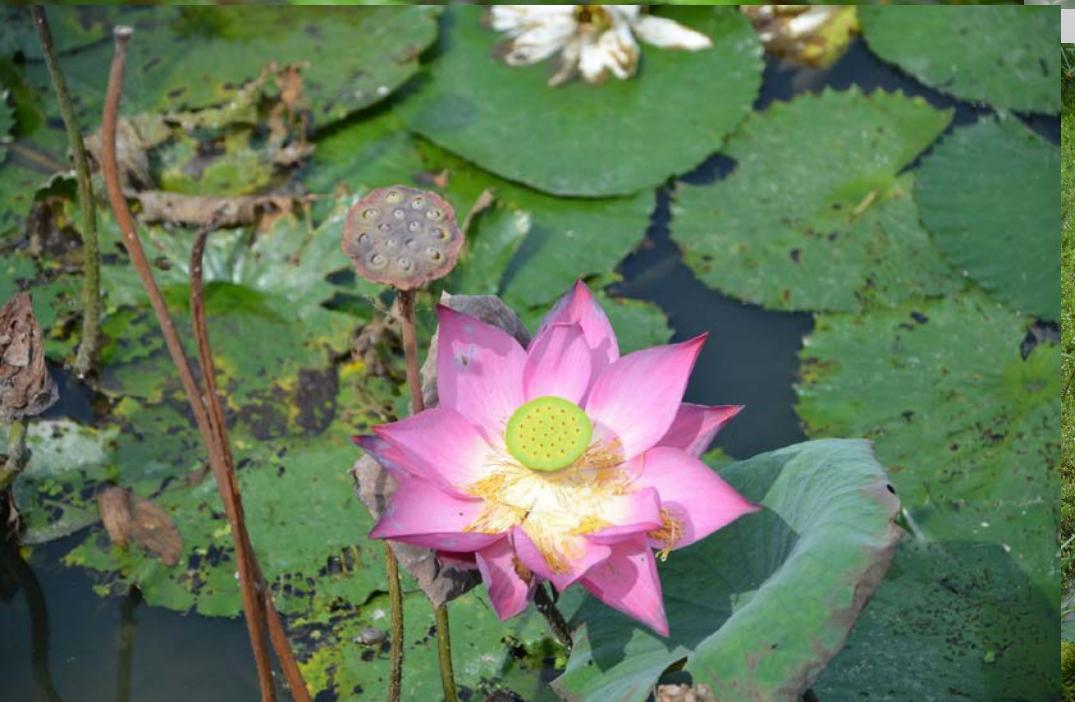
This region is the Wetland of National Importance (red zone). To ensure the natural flood control and related functions of the wetland in order to maintain biodiversity, and promote wetland ecological conservation and wise use, the following acts are banned unless with the competent government authorities' permit.

- ① Willfully pumping, drawing, cutting off or discharging the wetland's water resource and altering the initial water resource system.
- ② Digging, soil excavating, filling, stockpiling or altering the wetland's terrain and topography.
- ③ Sabotaging biological organisms' migratory paths and wildlife's mating areas or habitat environment.
- ④ Discharging chemicals, discharging or dumping wastewater, waste or other pollutants in the Wetland of Importance, their upstream and surrounding water areas that is sufficient in undermining the wetland's ecological function.
- ⑤ Disturbing, poisoning, hunting, abusing, or killing wildlife.
- ⑥ Logging, gathering, setting free captured animal, introducing, fishing, hunting for biological resources without permission by competent government authorities holding the purview of the industry.



面積：9公頃  
行政區域：高雄市左營區  
行政區：漁地保育區  
說明：漁地保育區







# Baoji, China (education)



# Nature Reserve Tamsui District near Taipei, Taiwan (education/recreation)





# Fredriksborg, Norway (recreation)





**University of Life Sciences, Aas, Norway**

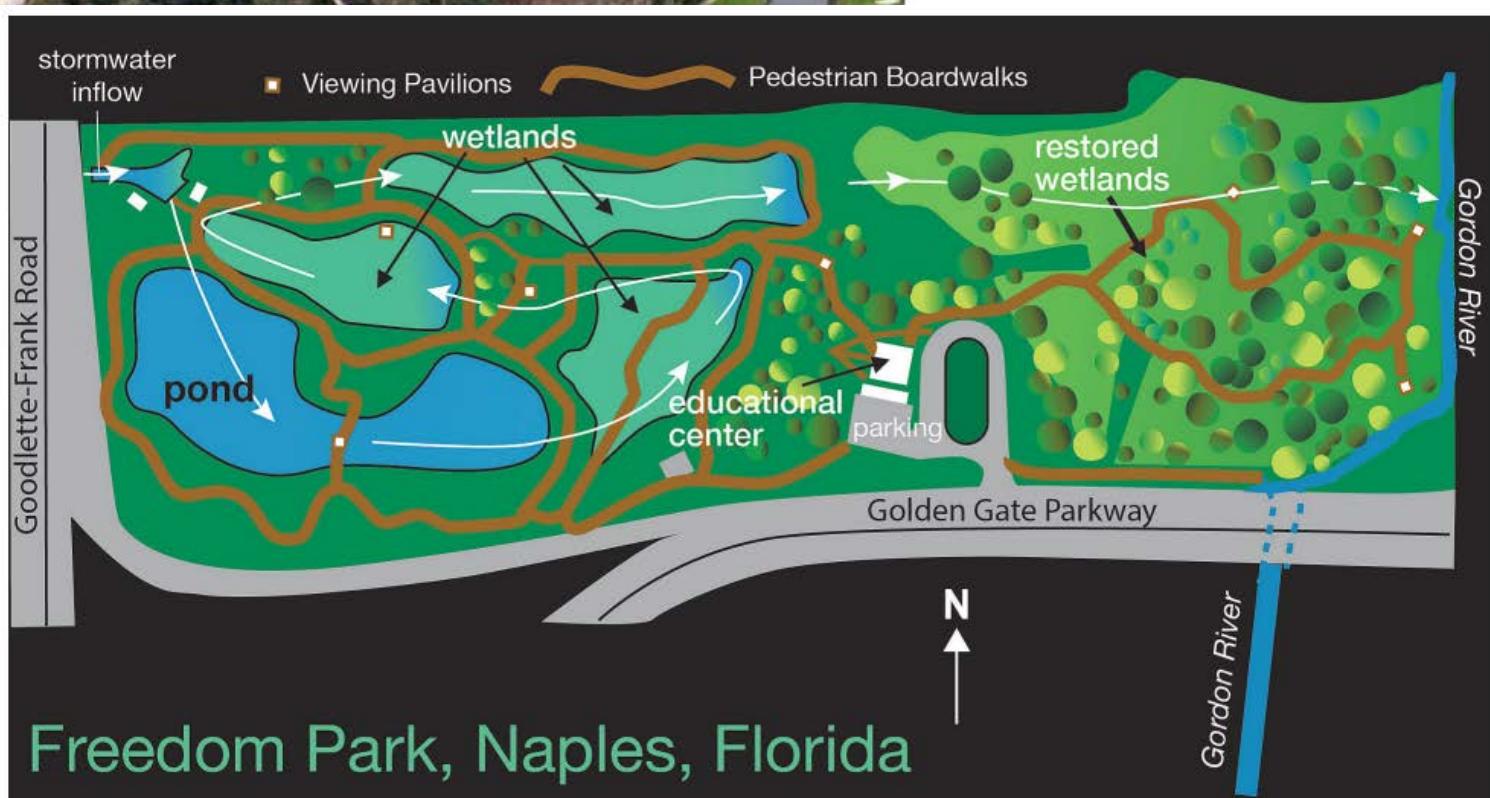




Mall of the World wetland, Guangzhou, China

**Freedom Park, Naples,  
Florida, USA  
(Mitsch et al., 2023)**

**Stormwater treatment  
Birdwatching  
Education  
Recreation**





Between Taipei City and New Taipei City





# Guandu Nature Park, Taiwan

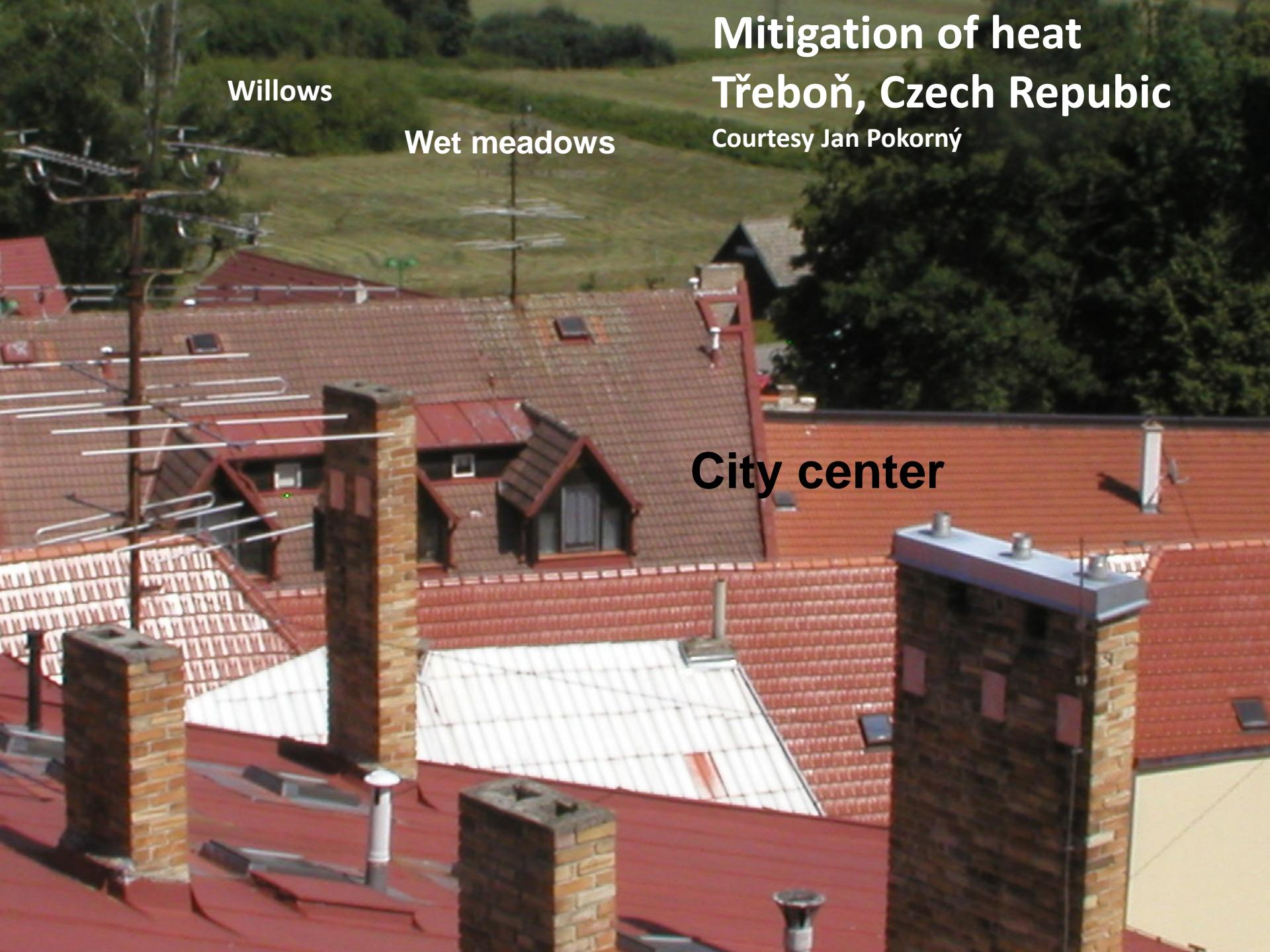






# Overall view of the Guandu Nature Park





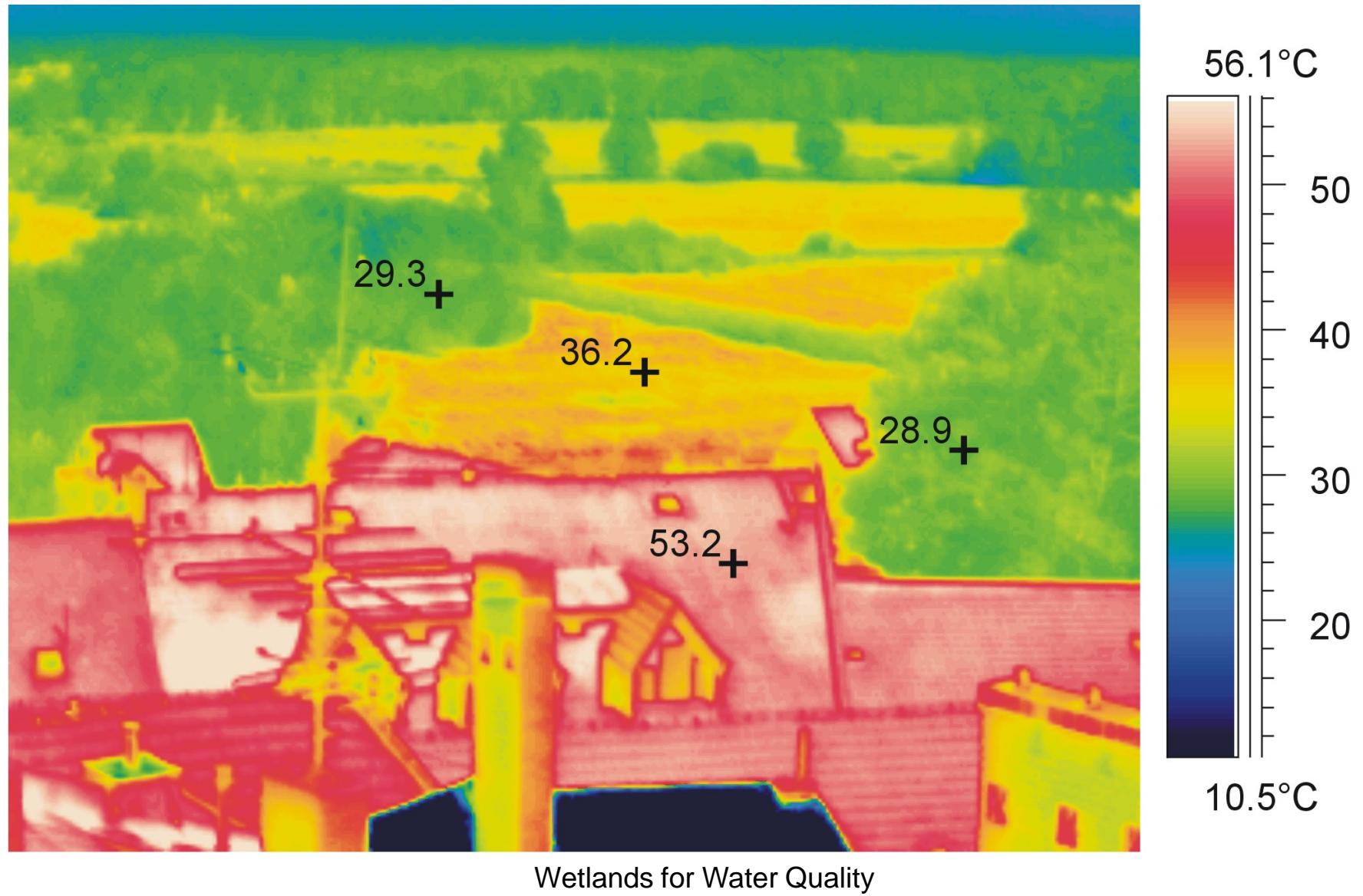
Willows

Wet meadows

# Mitigation of heat Třeboň, Czech Republic

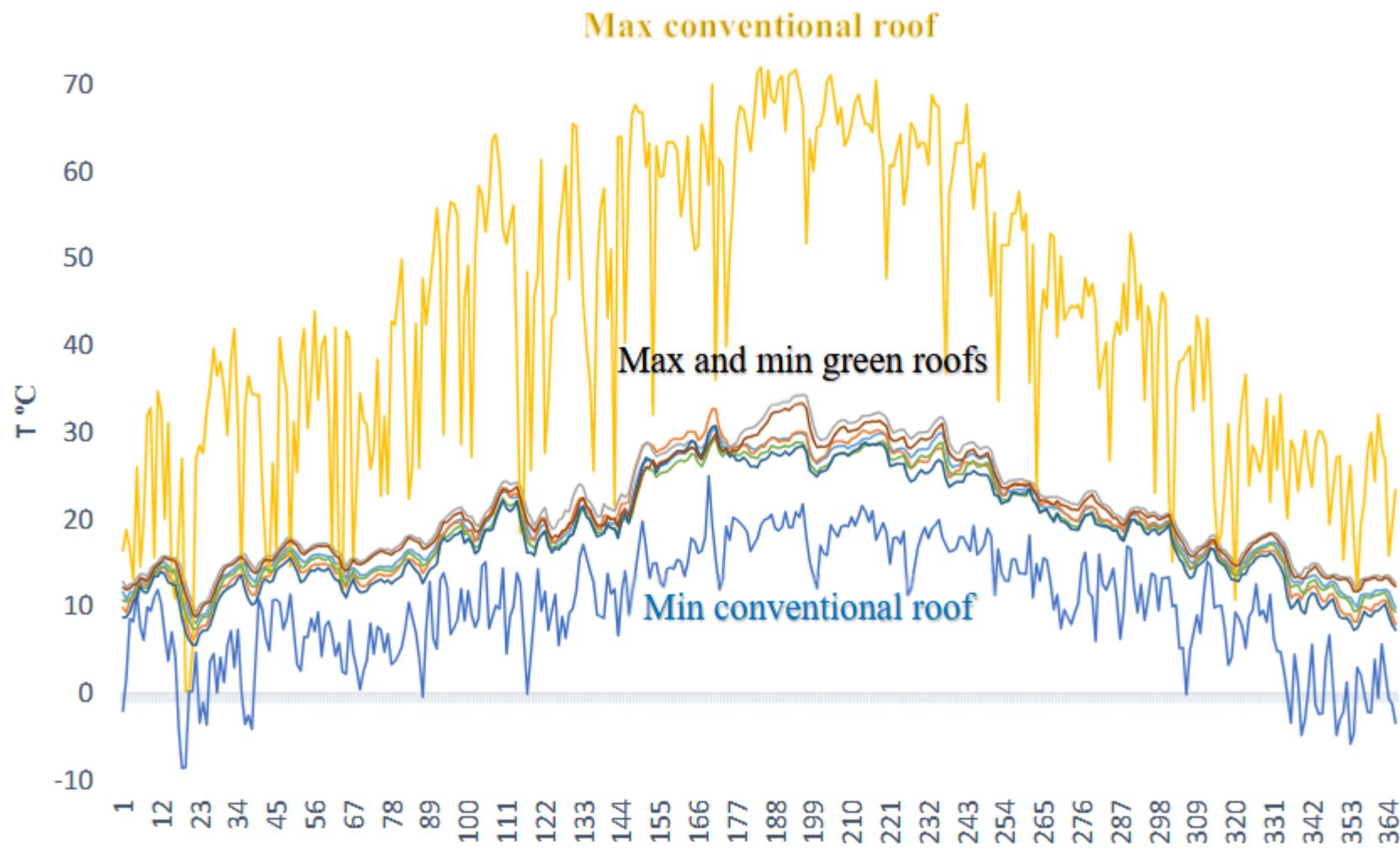
Courtesy Jan Pokorný

City center



# Green roof, Likos Slavkov, Czech Republic





**Figure 10.** Maximum and Minimum Daily Temperature Differences between the Conventional Roof and Green Roof, 2016.



## Sand Creek, North Carolina

**Stormwater runoff  
discharge from the Duke  
University campus**

**Restoration project aimed  
at biodiversity and water  
quality improvement**



**Spring 2004 before restoration started**

A photograph of a stream flowing through a forested area. The banks of the stream are heavily eroded and covered in thick, light-colored sediment or sand. The water is shallow and brownish. In the background, there are trees and foliage. A green rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "Sediment accumulation".

**Sediment  
accumulation**



**Deep streambed**



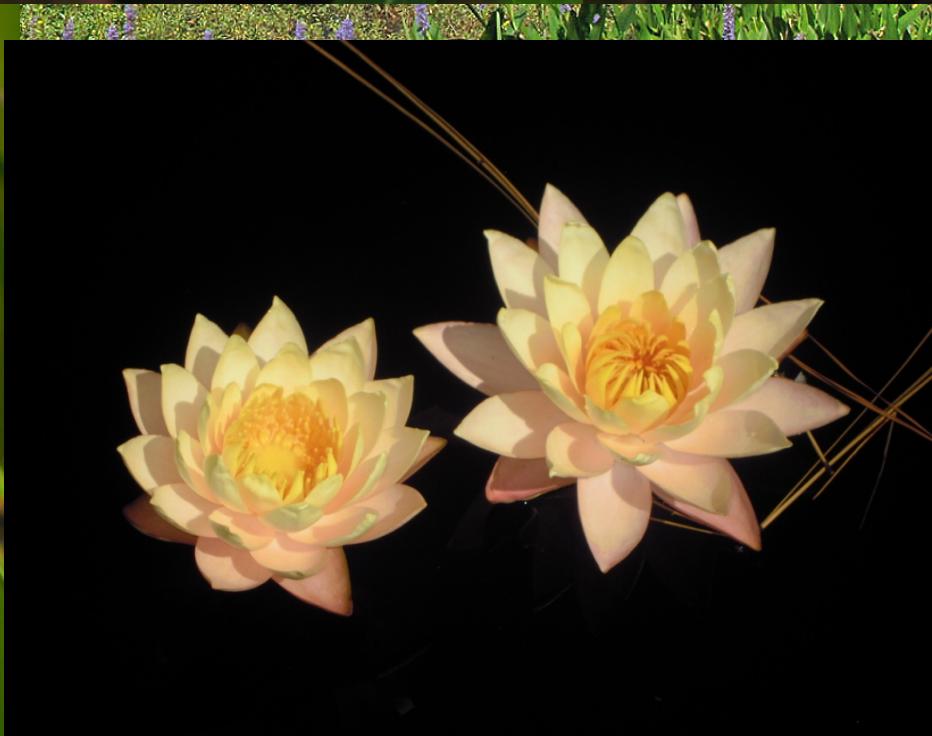
**Spring 2005**  
**Streambed cleaning and**  
**creation of various levels for**  
**flooding**





## Water reservoir at the end of restored stream





# September 2010

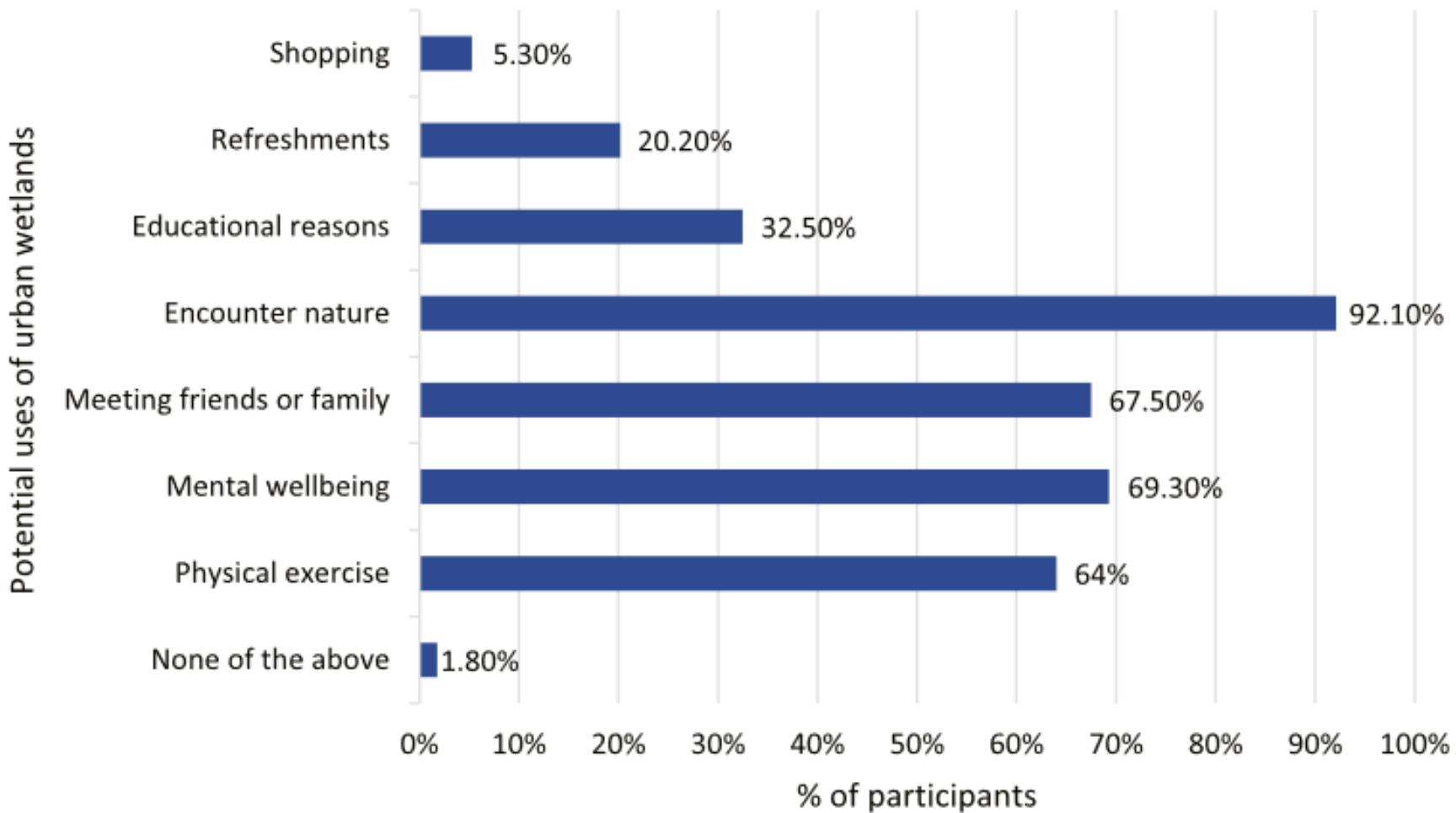




# 153 plant species in the flood zone

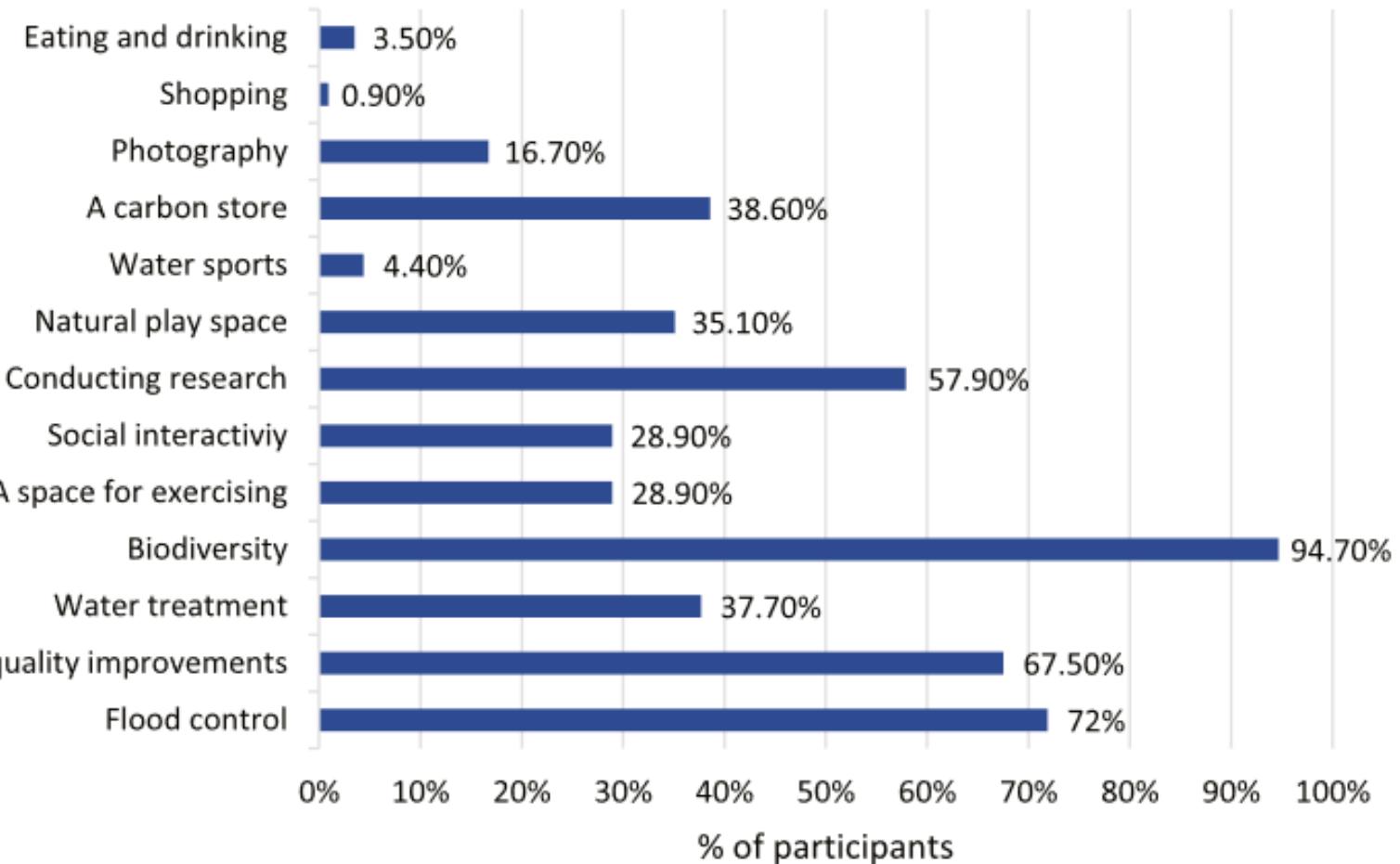
Photo Mengchi Ho

## Survey on potential uses of urban Wetlands in the United Kingdom



## Survey on functions of urban wetland in the United Kingdom

Functions of an urban wetland





*Thank you for your attention*

