

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Urban wilderness: supply, demand, and access

Author: Ingo Kowarik

PII: S1618-8667(17)30174-7

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.ufug.2017.05.017>

Reference: UFUG 25925



To appear in:

Received date: 25-3-2017

Revised date: 13-5-2017

Accepted date: 30-5-2017

Please cite this article as: Kowarik, Ingo, Urban wilderness: supply, demand, and access. *Urban Forestry and Urban Greening* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ufug.2017.05.017>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Urban wilderness: supply, demand, and access

Ingo Kowarik^{a,b}

^aDepartment of Ecology, Chair of Ecosystem Science/Plant Ecology, Technische Universität Berlin, Rothenburgstr. 12, 12165 Berlin, Germany

^bBerlin-Brandenburg Institute of Advanced Biodiversity Research (BBIB), 14195 Berlin, Germany

Highlights Conceptual framework on urban wilderness as a social-ecological system

- Supply of, demands for, and access to wilderness are major issues
- Interdisciplinary approaches needed to develop wilderness policies
- Different types of wilderness (ancient, novel) are relevant
- Evidence for successful combination of wilderness development with interventions

Abstract

The concept of urban wilderness feels like a paradox since natural and urban environments have long been viewed as antithetical. Today, however, wilderness is high on the urban agenda as a response to different challenges: biodiversity and human experiences of nature are being lost in increasingly dense cities, while at the same time a plethora of wild areas are developing in cities that are undergoing post-industrial transformation. Yet there is confusion around the definitions and the anticipated functions of urban wilderness and how humans can be incorporated therein. A unifying framework is proposed here that envisions urban wilderness as a social-ecological system; three major components are identified and linked: (i) the supply of wilderness areas along gradients of naturalness and ecological novelty, leading to a differentiation of ancient vs. novel wilderness, and the identification of wilderness components within cultural ecosystems; (ii) the demand for wilderness in urban societies, which differs among sociocultural groups as a function of underlying values and experiences; (iii) the access to urban wilderness, which can be improved both in terms of providing opportunities for encountering urban wilderness (e.g., by conserving, rewilding wilderness areas) and enhancing the orientation of urban people towards wilderness (e.g., through information, environmental education, citizen science). Evidence from urban wilderness projects in Europe demonstrates that multi-targeted approaches to conserving and managing existing novel urban ecosystems offer manifold opportunities to combine biodiversity conservation and wilderness experience in cities.

Keywords: brownfield; conservation areas; habitat management; naturalness; restoration; urban ecosystems; urban forest; wasteland; wildland

1. Approaching urban wilderness as a social-ecological system

Wilderness is a fascinating concept that has been deeply rooted in Western cultural history since ancient and medieval times (Oelschlaeger, 1991; Kirchhoff and Trepl, 2009; Kirchhoff and Vincenzotti, 2014). With the accelerating transformation of former wildlands into developed land—a global phenomenon today (Ellis, 2015)—attempts to conserve or restore wilderness areas have grown and continue to grow in importance. While initially, in the 19th century, large natural areas were the focus of conservation efforts (Oelschlaeger, 1991), wilderness is now also a part of the urban agenda (e.g., Diemer et al., 2003; Kowarik

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/6549333>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/6549333>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)