

USVI Habitats from Ridge to Reef



Bio-physical Functions

- Filtering
- 3-D Structure



Ecological Functions

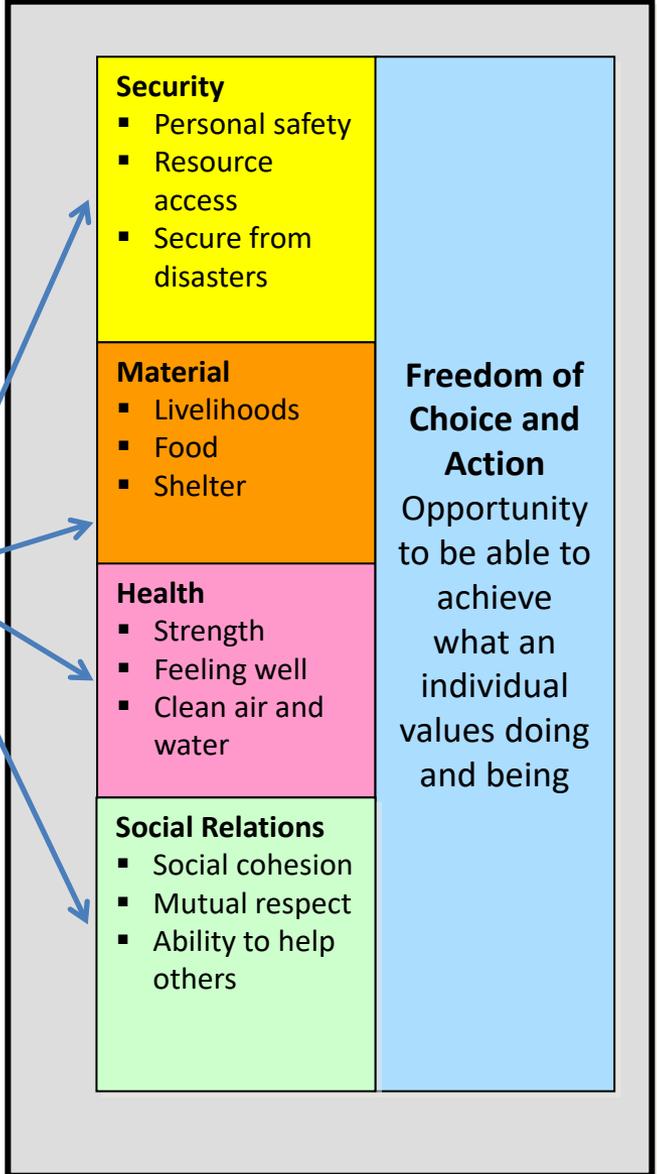
- Habitat
- Spawning & nursery
- Modify current & wave velocity
- Sedimentation
- Nutrient cycling
- Hydrological cycling
- Primary production
- Gas exchange

Ecosystem Services

- Biological control
- Climate regulation
- Soil retention/erosion control
- Storm & flood protection
- Nutrient regulation
- Freshwater provision
- Food availability
- Raw materials
- Medicinal resources
- Regulation of human disease
- Cultural, historic, spiritual, heritage values
- Recreation
- Science and education
- Ornamental resources
- Space for settlements



Constituents of Well-Being in the USVI



(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment definition of constituents of well-being)