

Improving the assessment of pure ecological harm

Citation for published version (APA):

Akin, C. A. E. (2023). *Improving the assessment of pure ecological harm*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. ProefschriftMaken. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20231218ca>

Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2023

DOI:

[10.26481/dis.20231218ca](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20231218ca)

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Please check the document version of this publication:

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Propositions

1. Courts should freely make use of independent, court appointed experts on environmental valuation (methodology)
2. For the sake of having a solid basis from which parties and courts can proceed, it is helpful to have available baseline conditions of our planet's ecosystems
3. It is likely that, toward the future, more interdisciplinary valuation approaches will become relevant for the courtroom that stretch beyond the field of economics
4. Successful claims for pure ecological harm do not necessarily end up benefiting the environment
5. The European Environmental Liability Directive offers piecemeal protection to our environment
6. Changing societal needs do not necessarily require changing laws
7. Legal solutions are not always the best solutions
8. This thesis encourages the development and application of novel approaches to in-court valuation of pure ecological harm
9. Part of a lawyer's task is to sense the need for societal change and to take steps to create it
10. A good lawyer will tell you what you need to hear, not what you want to hear