Environmental Economics, Experimental Methods

The 1970s and 1980s saw environmental economists increasingly turn to experimental methods in an attempt to discover new ways of protecting people and nature without wasting scarce resources in the process. Today the experimental method is commonly applied to environmental economic questions; this book brings together 63 leading researchers in the area and their latest work exploring the behavioral underpinnings of experimental environmental economics.

The chapters in this volume will be illuminating for both researchers and practitioners, specifically in relation to questions of environmental policy and how a proposed change in incentives or benefits might affect behavior and, consequently, the likely success of a policy. This book argues that the experimental evidence complements theoretic insights, field data and simulating models to improve our understanding of the underlying assumptions and incentives that drive behavioral responses to policy.

This volume covers topical areas of interest such as tradable permit markets, common property and public goods, regulation and compliance and valuation and preferences. Its critical advantage is that each part concludes with discussion points written by environmental economists who do not use experimental methods. This book will interest students and researchers engaged with environmental economics, both experimental and non-experimental and offer a unique in-road into this field of study. Environmental policy makers will also gain insight into behavior and decision making under alternative institutional and policy designs.

Todd L. Cherry is the Harlan E. Boyles Professor in the Department of Economics at Appalachian State University, where he also is a research fellow at the Appalachian Energy Center. Stephan Kroll is Professor at the Department of Economics at California State University in Sacramento. Jason F. Shogren is the Stroock Distinguished Professor of Natural Resource Conservation and Management, and Professor of Economics at the University of Wyoming.
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   Edited by Todd L. Cherry, Stephan Kroll and Jason F. Shogren
Environmental Economics, Experimental Methods

Edited by Todd L. Cherry, Stephan Kroll, and Jason F. Shogren
# Contents

List of figures .......................................................... ix  
List of tables ............................................................ xii  
List of contributors ..................................................... xvi  
Foreword ................................................................. xix  
 Vernon L. Smith

## Introduction  
Todd L. Cherry, Stephan Kroll, and Jason F. Shogren

### PART I  
Tradable permit markets ............................................. 7

1 Baseline-and-credit emission permit trading:  
   experimental evidence under variable output capacity ........ 9  
   Neil J. Buckley, Stuart Mestelman, and  
   R. Andrew Muller

2 A laboratory analysis of industry consolidation and  
   diffusion under tradable fishing allowance management ......... 29  
   Christopher M. Anderson, Matthew A. Freeman,  
   and Jon G. Sutinen

3 Caveat emptor Kyoto: comparing buyer and seller liability in  
   carbon emission trading ............................................ 47  
   Robert Godby and Jason F. Shogren

4 A test bed experiment for water and salinity rights trading  
   in irrigation regions of the Murray Darling Basin, Australia ... 77  
   Charlotte Duke, Lata Gangadharan, and  
   Timothy N. Cason
Contents

5 Aligning policy and real world settings: an experimental economics approach to designing and testing a cap-and-trade salinity credit policy 100
JOHN R. WARD, JEFFERY CONNOR, AND JOHN TISDELL

6 Discussion: tradable permit markets 131
DALLAS BURTRAW AND DAN SHAWHAN

PART II
Common property and public goods 141

7 Communication and the extraction of natural renewable resources with threshold externalities 143
C. MÓNICA CAPRA AND TOMOMI TANAKA

8 Unilateral emissions abatement: an experiment 157
BODO STURM AND JOACHIM WEIMANN

9 Voluntary contributions with multiple public goods 184
TODD L. CHERRY AND DAVID L. DICKINSON

10 Can public goods experiments inform policy? Interpreting results in the presence of confused subjects 194
STEPHEN J. COTTEN, PAUL J. FERRARO, AND CHRISTIAN A. VOSSLER

11 Spies and swords: behavior in environments with costly monitoring and sanctioning 212
ROB MOIR

12 Discussion: common property and public goods 234
CATHERINE L. KLING

PART III
Regulation and compliance 241

13 Managerial incentives for compliance with environmental information disclosure programs 243
MARY F. EVANS, SCOTT M. GILPATRIC, MICHAEL MCKEE, AND CHRISTIAN A. VOSSLER

14 An investigation of voluntary discovery and disclosure of environmental violations using laboratory experiments 261
JAMES J. MURPHY AND JOHN K. STRANLUND
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Congestion pricing and welfare: an entry experiment</td>
<td>Lisa R. Anderson, Charles A. Holt, and David Reiley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Social preferences in the face of regulatory change</td>
<td>J. Gregory George, Laurie T. Johnson, and E. Elisabet Rutström</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>The effects of recommended play on compliance with ambient pollution instruments</td>
<td>Robert J. Oxoby and John Spraggon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Discussion: regulation and compliance</td>
<td>Kathleen Segerson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PART IV**

Valuation and preferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Preference reversal asymmetries in a static choice setting</td>
<td>Timothy Haab and Brian Roe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Measuring preferences for genetically modified food products</td>
<td>Charles Nousair, Stéphane Robin, and Bernard Ruffieux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>An experimental investigation of choice under “hard” uncertainty</td>
<td>Calvin Blackwell, Therese Grijalva, and Robert P. Berrens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Rationality spillovers in Yellowstone</td>
<td>Chad Settle, Todd L. Cherry, and Jason F. Shogren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Wind hazard risk perception: an experimental test</td>
<td>Bradley T. Ewing, Jamie B. Kruse, and Mark A. Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Consequentiality and demand revelation in double referenda</td>
<td>Katherine S. Carson, Susan M. Chilton, and W. George Hutchinson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contents

25 Investigating the characteristics of stated preferences for reducing the impacts of air pollution: a contingent valuation experiment 424
IAN J. BATEMAN, MICHAEL P. CAMERON, AND ANTREAS TSOUMAS

26 Forecasting hypothetical bias: a tale of two calibrations 447
F. BAILEY NORWOOD, JAYSON L. LUSK, AND TRACY BOYER

27 Discussion: valuation and preferences 466
JOHN C. WHITEHEAD

Index 476