*Author responses to the editor are shown in italics.*

Comments from the editor:

- This paper is now ready, subject to the following formatting requirements:

1. As well as bracketed references to the tables in the text, insert text line breaks with notes to indicate their approximate positions;

*We have now noted in line breaks the desired approximate positions of all tables and figures.*

2. For 'Funding' suggest 'Acknowledgements';

*The 'Funding' section has now been renamed 'Acknowledgements'.*

3. Remove tables and supplementary tables from text file;

*All tables and supplementary tables have now been removed from the main manuscript file.*

4. Upload tables/table captions as individual files;

*The tables and their captions are now present in three separate files.*

5. Upload supplementary tables as a single file;

*The supplementary tables are now present in one single file.*

6. Abstract should be a single paragraph,

*The abstract document has now been reformatted as one single paragraph.*

*Please also note that two sentences in the results section and one sentence in the discussion have been edited as they subtly misrepresented the results. In all cases, the error involved interpreting percentages in Supplementary Table A as though they were proportions of all visits to natural environments, when in fact multiple environments could be visited on the same visit. We hope the editor accepts that these edits do not change the interpretation of our findings as a whole:*

*Previously, "This accounts for 6% of all recreational visits made to natural environments." (Lines 168-9), now reads: "This means 6% of all recreational visits to natural environments included a beach (at least in part)" (Lines 168-9).*

*Previously, "(3.5% of all recreational visits to natural environments)" (Lines 174-5), now reads: "This means 3.5% of visits included an 'other coastline' environment, at least in part." (Lines 175-6).*

*Previously, "Together accounting for 9.5% of all leisure visits to natural environments" (Lines 308-9), now reads: "together meaning that 9.5% of all leisure visits to natural environments involved these locations" (Lines313-4).*