

Evaluating Ecosystem Services with Remote Sensing

Amber McCullum, Juan L. Torres-Pérez, Guest Speaker: Mehdi Heris (Hunter College City University of New York)

Aug. 30, 2022

Course Structure and Materials

- Three, 1.5 -hour sessions on August 23, 25, & 30 at 11:00-12:30 EDT (UTC-4) (English)
- Webinar recordings, PowerPoint presentations, and the homework assignment can be found after each session at:
 - <https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/join-mission/training/english/arset-evaluating-ecosystem-services-remote-sensing>
 - Q&A following each lecture and/or by email at:
 - amberjean.mccullum@nasa.gov or juan.l.torresperez@nasa.gov



Homework and Certificates

- **Homework:**

- One homework assignment
- Answers must be submitted via Google Forms
- **HW Deadline: Tuesday, September 13th**

- **Certificate of Completion:**

- Attend all three live webinars
- Complete the homework assignment by the deadline (access from ARSET website)
- You will receive certificates approximately two months after the completion of the course from: marines.martins@ssaihq.com



Prerequisites

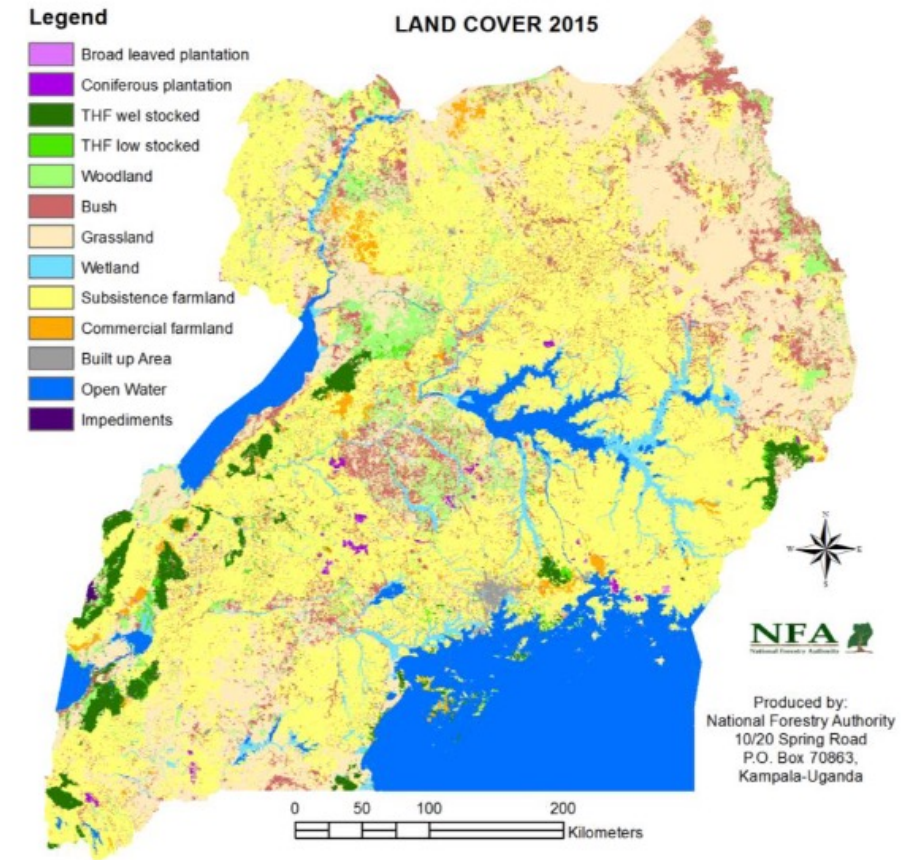
- Prerequisites:
 - Please complete [Sessions 1 & 2A of Fundamentals of Remote Sensing](#) or have equivalent experience.
- Course Materials:
 - <https://appliedsciences.nasa.gov/join-mission/training/english/arset-evaluating-ecosystem-services-remote-sensing>



Learning Objectives

By the end of this session, you will become familiarized with multiple projects for ecosystem assessments, including :

- Ecosystem Accounting in Liberia
- Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda
- Indonesian Assessment of Land Cover
- Valuing the Role of U.S. Coral Reefs in Coastal Hazard Risk Reduction
- Piloting Urban Ecosystem Accounting for the United States



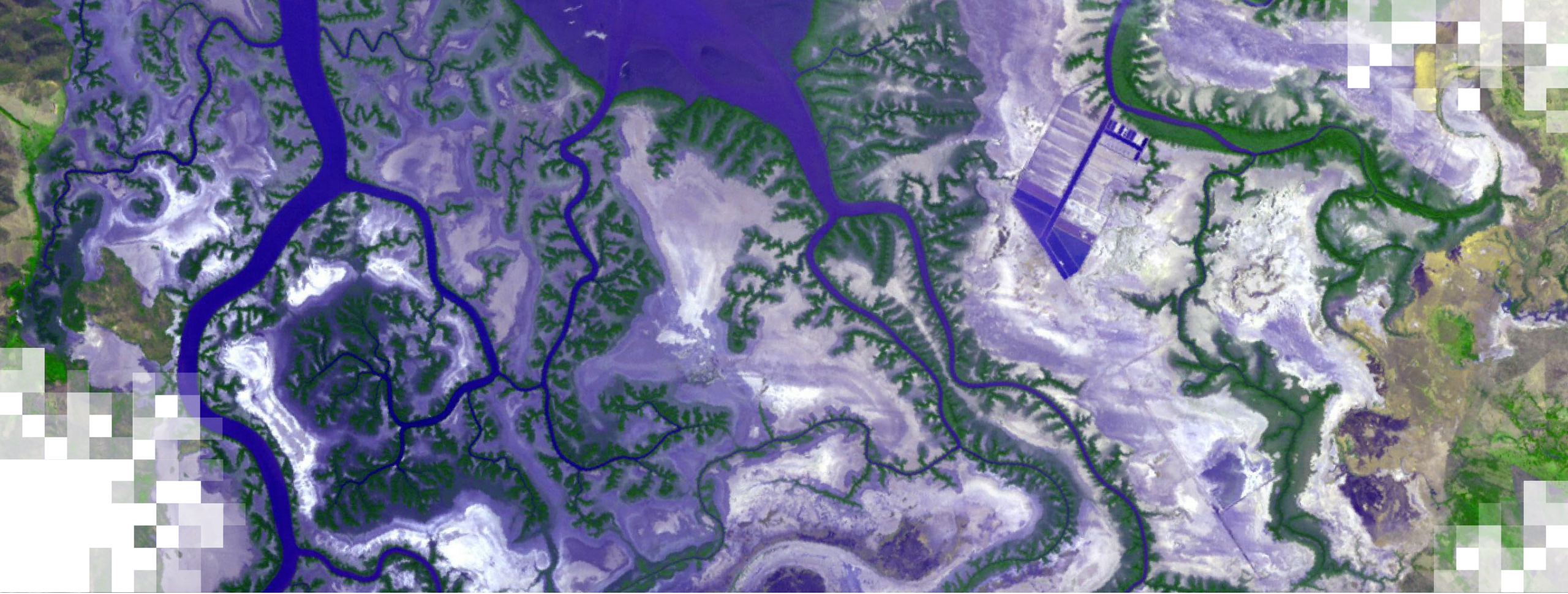
Credit: [UNEP-WCMC & IDEEA \(2017\) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda. Cambridge, UK.](#)



Session 2 Review

- Remote sensing can be used to assess a variety of questions related to the valuation of ecosystems services.
- There are many types of models and methods for assessing the value of ecosystem services.
- The ARIES technology highlights interoperability:
 - To allow models and data to be contributed by independent researchers, hosted on a network, and automatically assembled into model workflows
- The Natural Capital Project aims to improve the well-being of people and our planet by motivating targeted investments in nature.
 - Science, technology, partnerships





Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa (GDSEA): Liberia

Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa (GDSA)

- A commitment to a new model of development that, for the first time, takes into account the role of natural capital in development by bringing the value of natural resources from the periphery to the center of all economic decision-making.



Image Credit: [Conservation International](#)

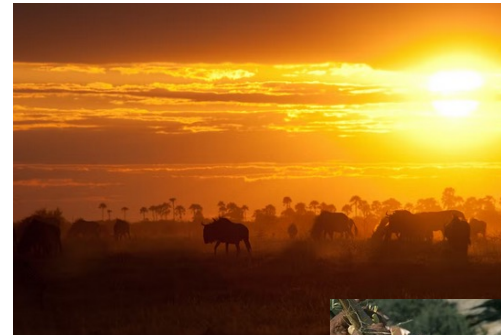


Image Credit: Rod Mast



Image Credit: Will Turner

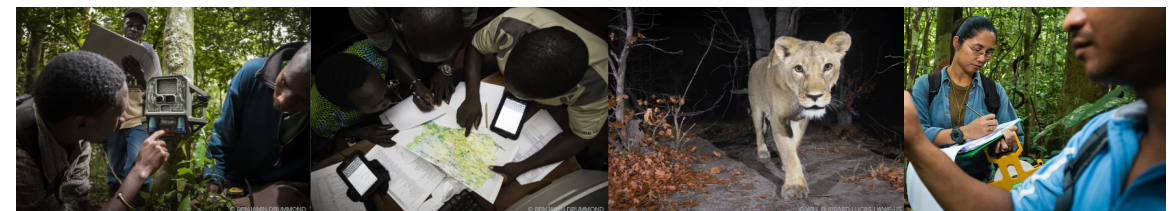


Image Credit: CI/John Martin



Conservation International (CI) and NASA Partnership

- Long-Term Goal: Develop decision-making tools and practices based on satellite observations of Earth that can be used worldwide
 - Multiple projects underway
- Support the GDSA countries by providing tools and approaches to advance earth observation applications for NCA
- Develop a low-cost, replicable approach and tools that countries can use for ecosystem extent mapping



GDSA Example: Ecosystem Accounting in Liberia

- Liberia holds some of West Africa's last intact forests
 - Fisheries and mangroves also important
- 63% of Liberians live under the poverty line, 70% dependent on forests for food and livelihoods
- Sustainable management of these ecosystems while meeting needs of people



Image Credit: Conservation International



Slides for this case study example were adapted from Africa Natural Capital Accounting Community of Practice Webinar, May 2021. Credits: Mr. Z. Elijah Whapoe, Liberia Environmental Protection Agency; Celio de Sousa, PhD, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Earth Sciences Division



The Pro Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD)

- PADP: Promote sustainable, transparent, and well-managed use of Liberia's natural resources
- Indicators on existing national accounts do not measure progress towards achieving sustainability objectives of the PADP.
- Natural capital accounting in Liberia will reveal the impacts and dependencies of economic activity on the environment and support better economic decisions in the long term.

PRO POOR AGENDA
FOR PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT
(PAPD)
A FIVE-YEAR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
TOWARDS ACCELERATED, INCLUSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
(July 2018 - June 2023)



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

September 30, 2018

0



Initial Mapping Efforts

- Mapping Liberia is globally significant for biodiversity, sources of freshwater, wild sources of food, and natural places that are important for cultural identity.
- Key Findings: Most essential natural capital is still intact but mostly unprotected and a management strategy is needed for more sustainable development.
- Need for more systematic, rigorous, and replicable approach to measure nature's contribution to the economy.

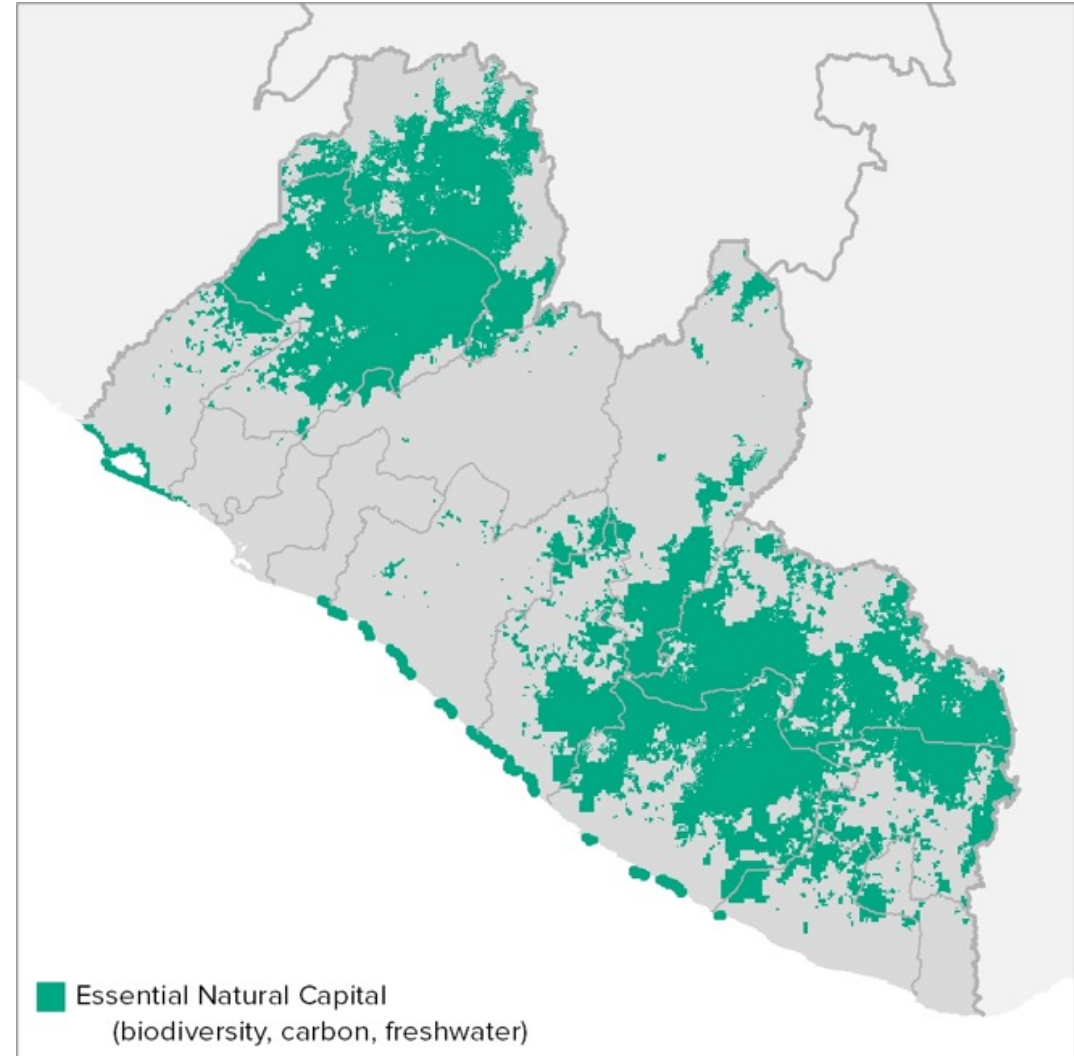


Image Credit: Conservation International



Mapping Ecosystem Classes and their Distribution

- Needs: Ecosystem classification and up-to-date maps of ecosystem distribution at the national scale
- Partnership with NASA and CI for ecosystem extent mapping
- Products: Use and ecosystem distribution maps, as well as officially endorsed land and extent accounts from 2000–2018

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL



Legend

	No Data
	Water Body
	Mangrove and Marsh
	Built-up Area
	Barren Land
	Inselberg
	Shore
	Plantation
	Lowland Grassland
	Premontane Grassland
	Montane Grassland
	Mature Tropical Lowland Annual Rainforest
	Mature Tropical Premontane Annual Rainforest
	Mature Tropical Montane Annual Rainforest
	Mature Tropical Lowland Biannual Rainforest
	Moderately Degraded Tropical Lowland Annual Rainforest
	Moderately Degraded Tropical Premontane Annual Rainforest
	Moderately Degraded Tropical Montane Annual Rainforest
	Moderately Degraded Tropical Lowland Biannual Rainforest
	Severely Degraded Tropical Lowland Annual Rainforest
	Severely Degraded Tropical Premontane Annual Rainforest
	Severely Degraded Tropical Montane Annual Rainforest
	Severely Degraded Tropical Lowland Biannual Rainforest

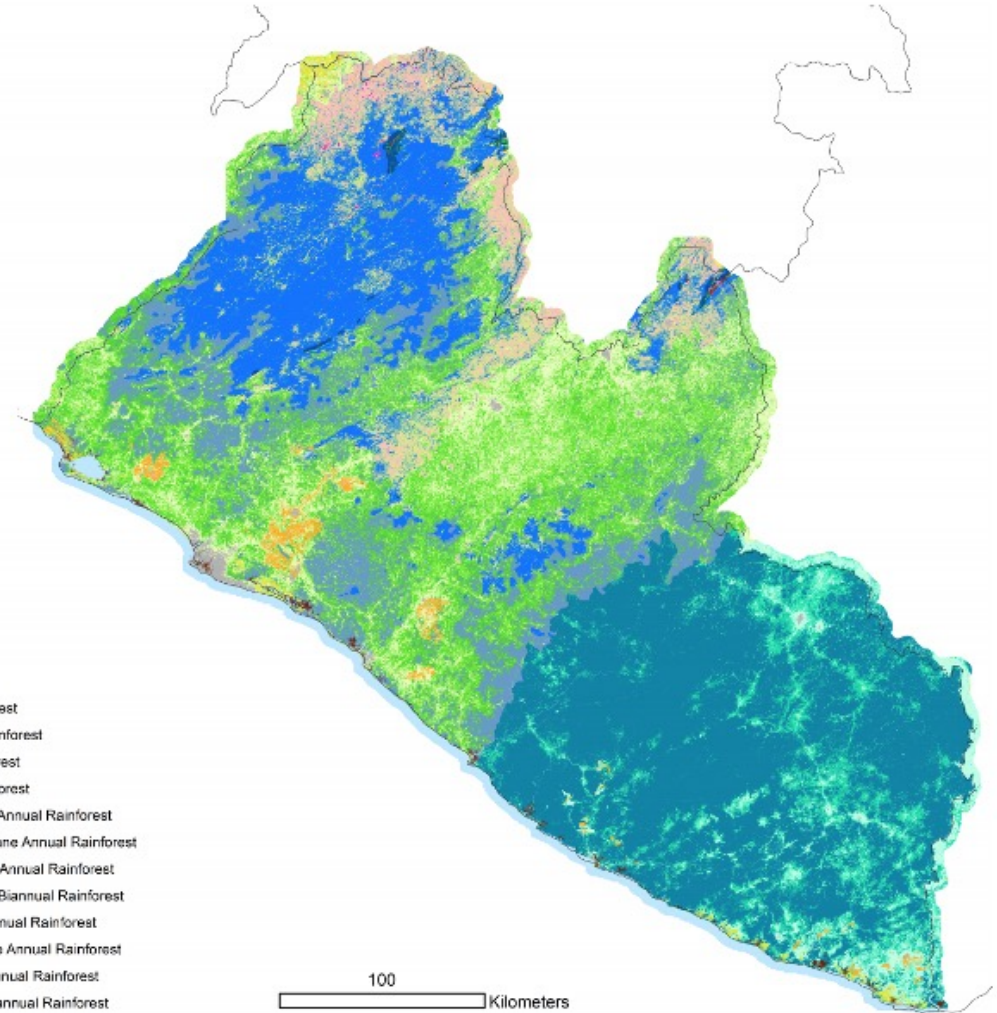


Image Credit: Conservation International



Processes for Ecosystem Mapping

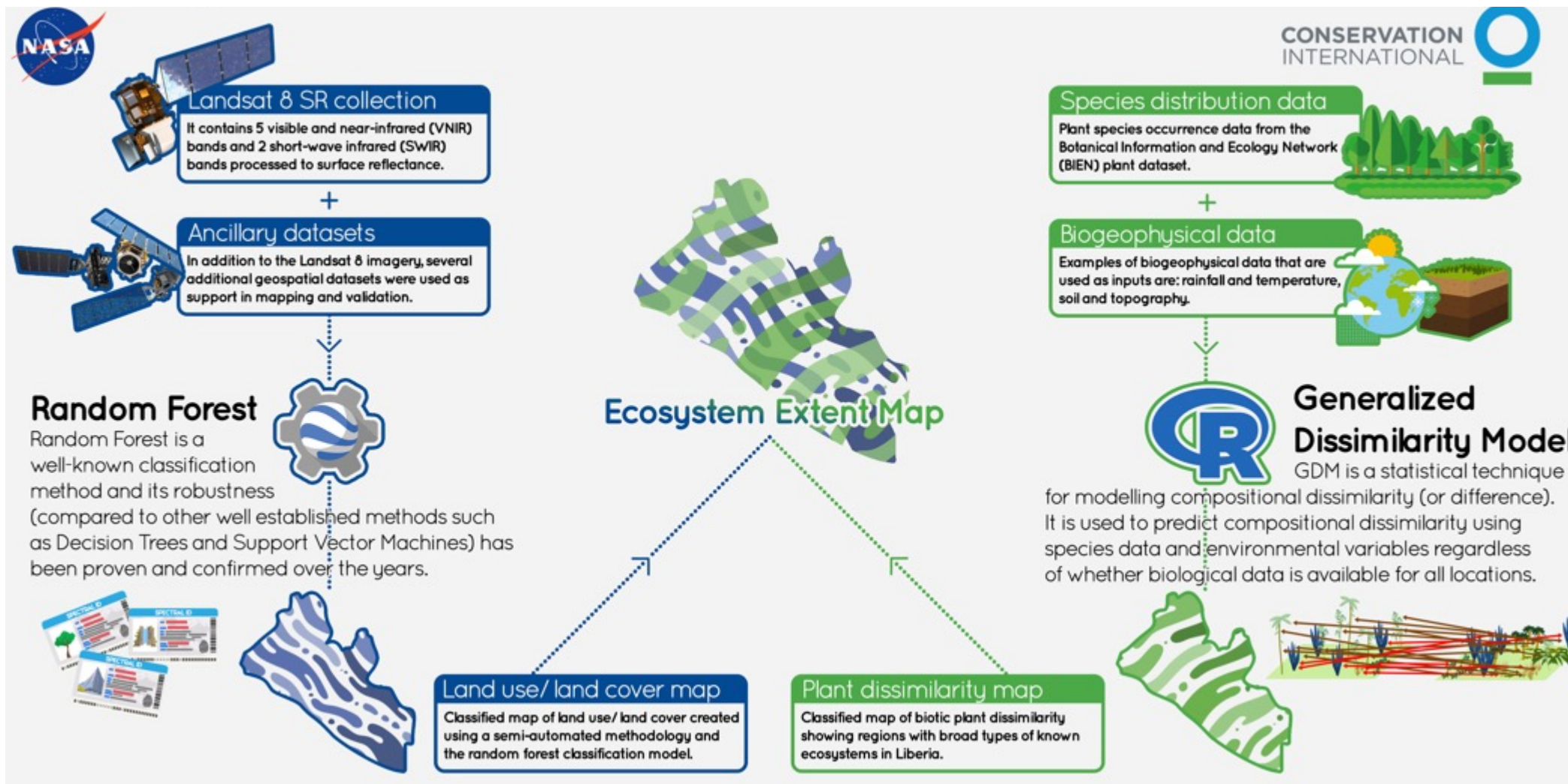
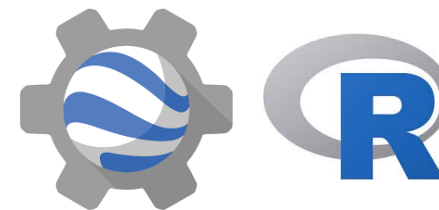


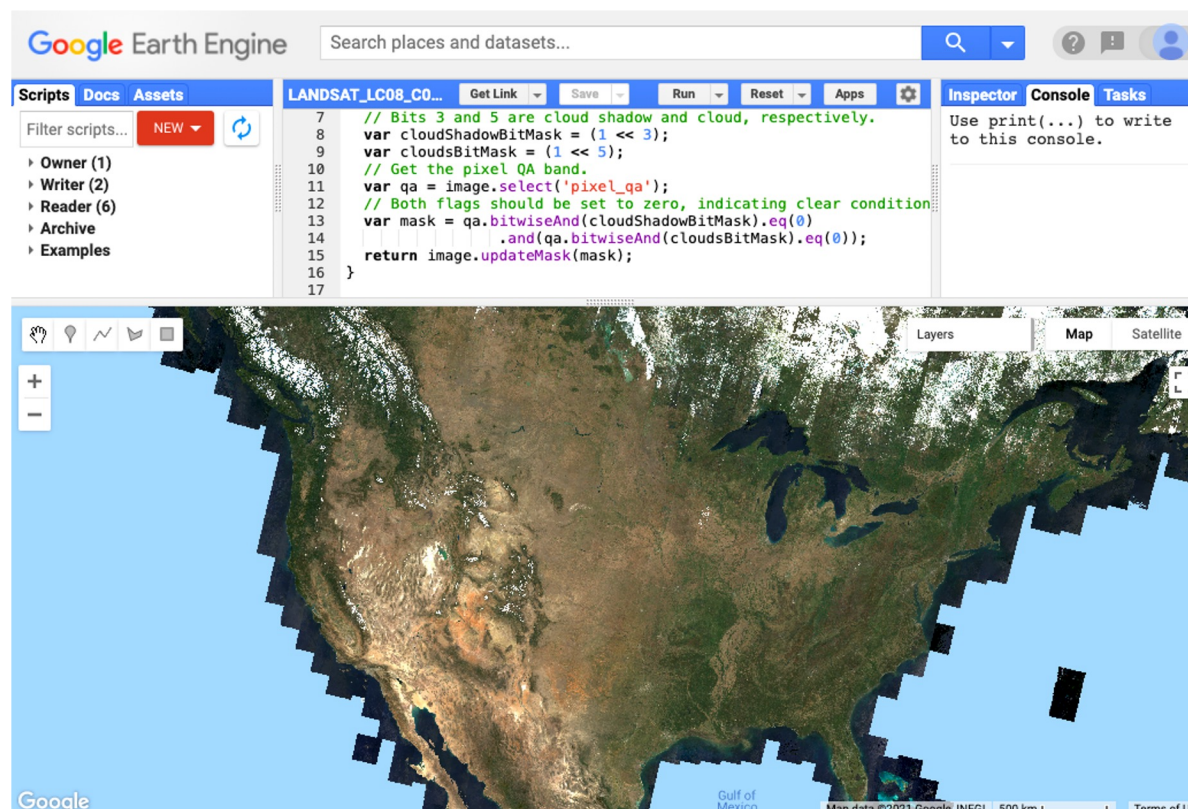
Image Credit: NASA and Conservation International



Open-Source Software and Cloud Computing



- Use of Google Earth Engine for imagery processing and analysis and R for statistical computing and graphics
- Low Cost
 - Open-source, freely available software
- Reproducible
 - Streamlined methodology
 - Facilitates replicability and transferability
- Accurate
 - Algorithms and classifiers ensure accurate maps



Google Earth Engine code editor interface using the JavaScript API, displaying Landsat 8 surface reflectance true color imagery for the U.S. Credit: [Google Earth Engine Developers](#)



Land Use/Land Cover Map

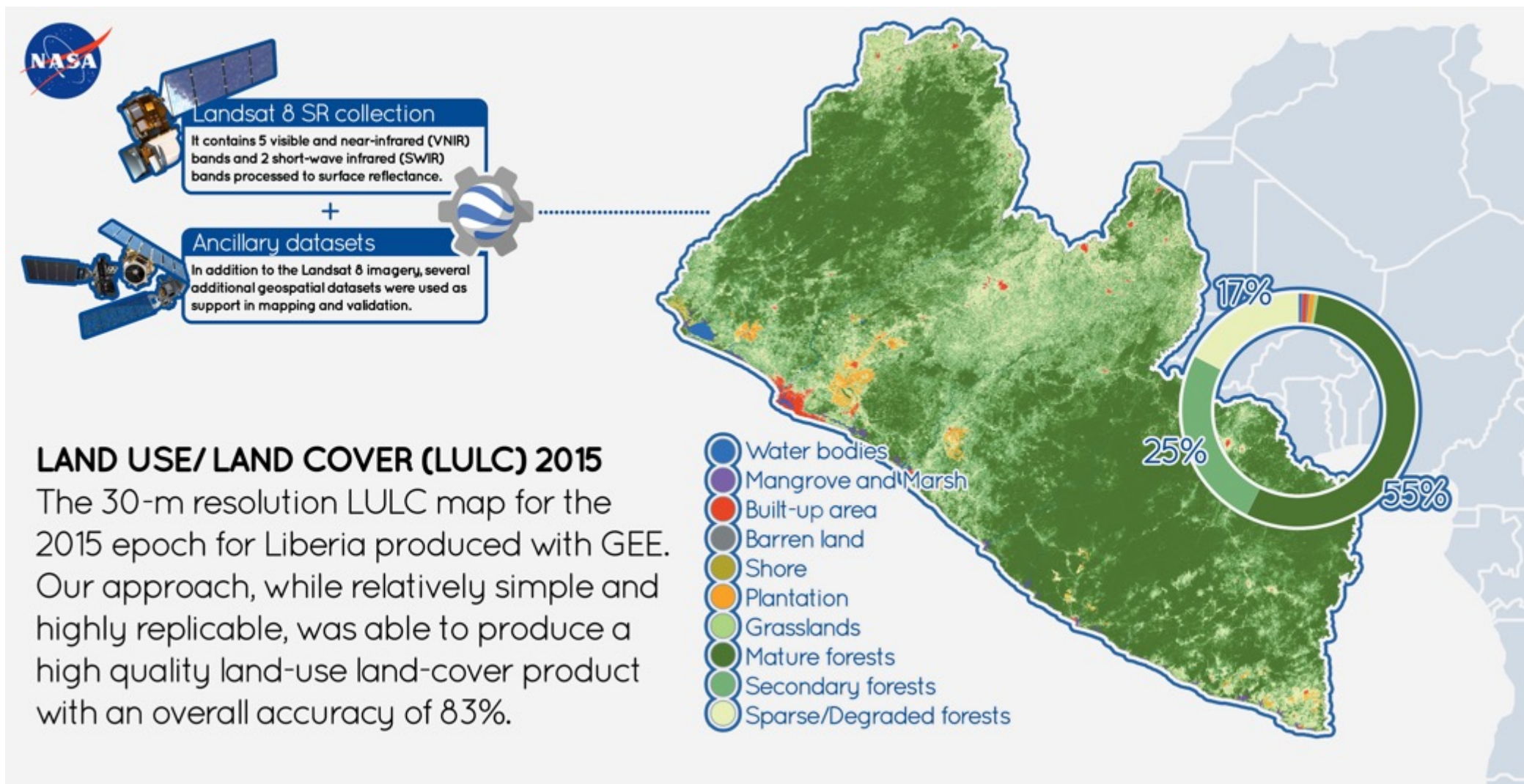


Image Credit: NASA and Conservation International



Biotic Plant Dissimilarity/Ecosystem Distribution

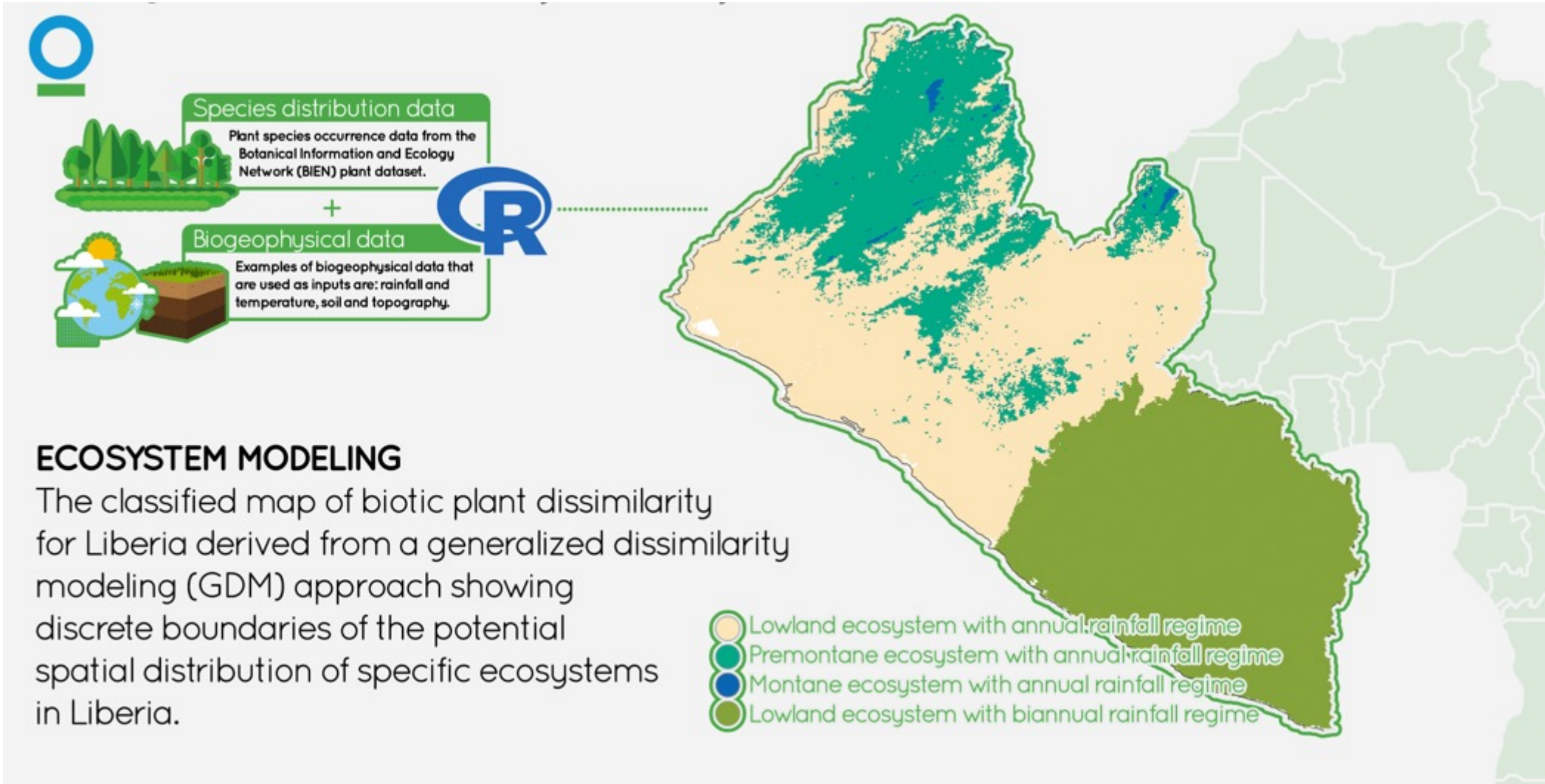


Image Credit: NASA and Conservation International



Ecosystem Extent



ECOSYSTEM EXTENT 2015

The final ecosystem extent map with 22 classes. The classified map of biotic plant dissimilarity was integrated with the land cover map to produce this up-to-date ecosystem extent map for Liberia. We developed and applied a simple overlay combination that aggregates values from the two input maps.

- Water body
- Mangrove and marsh
- Built-up area
- Barren land
- Inselberg
- Shore
- Plantation
- Lowland grassland
- Premontane grassland
- Montane grassland
- Mature tropical lowland annual rainforest
- Mature tropical premontane annual rainforest
- Mature tropical montane annual rainforest
- Mature tropical lowland biannual rainforest
- Moderately degraded tropical lowland annual rainforest
- Moderately degraded tropical premontane annual rainforest
- Moderately degraded tropical montane annual rainforest
- Moderately degraded tropical lowland biannual rainforest
- Severely degraded tropical lowland annual rainforest
- Severely degraded tropical premontane annual rainforest
- Severely degraded tropical montane annual rainforest
- Severely degraded tropical lowland biannual rainforest

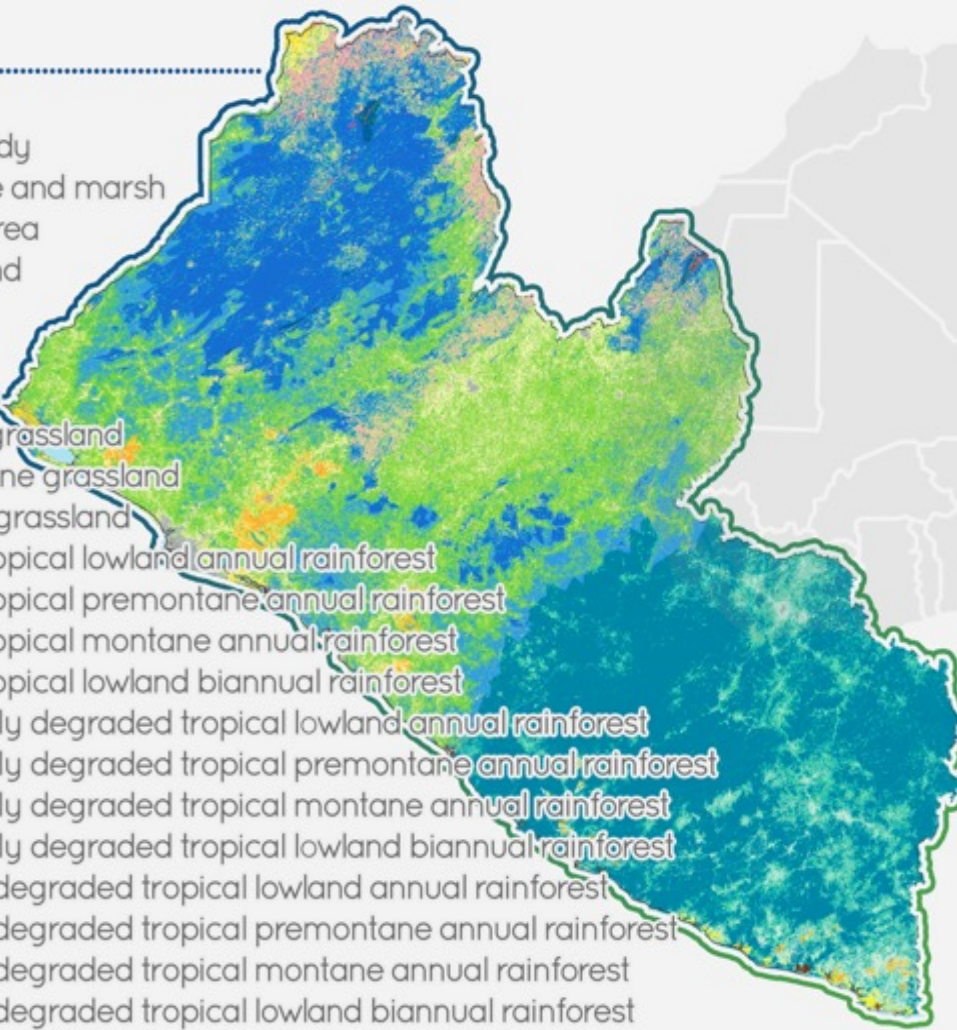


Image Credit: NASA and Conservation International



Future Training and Capacity Building

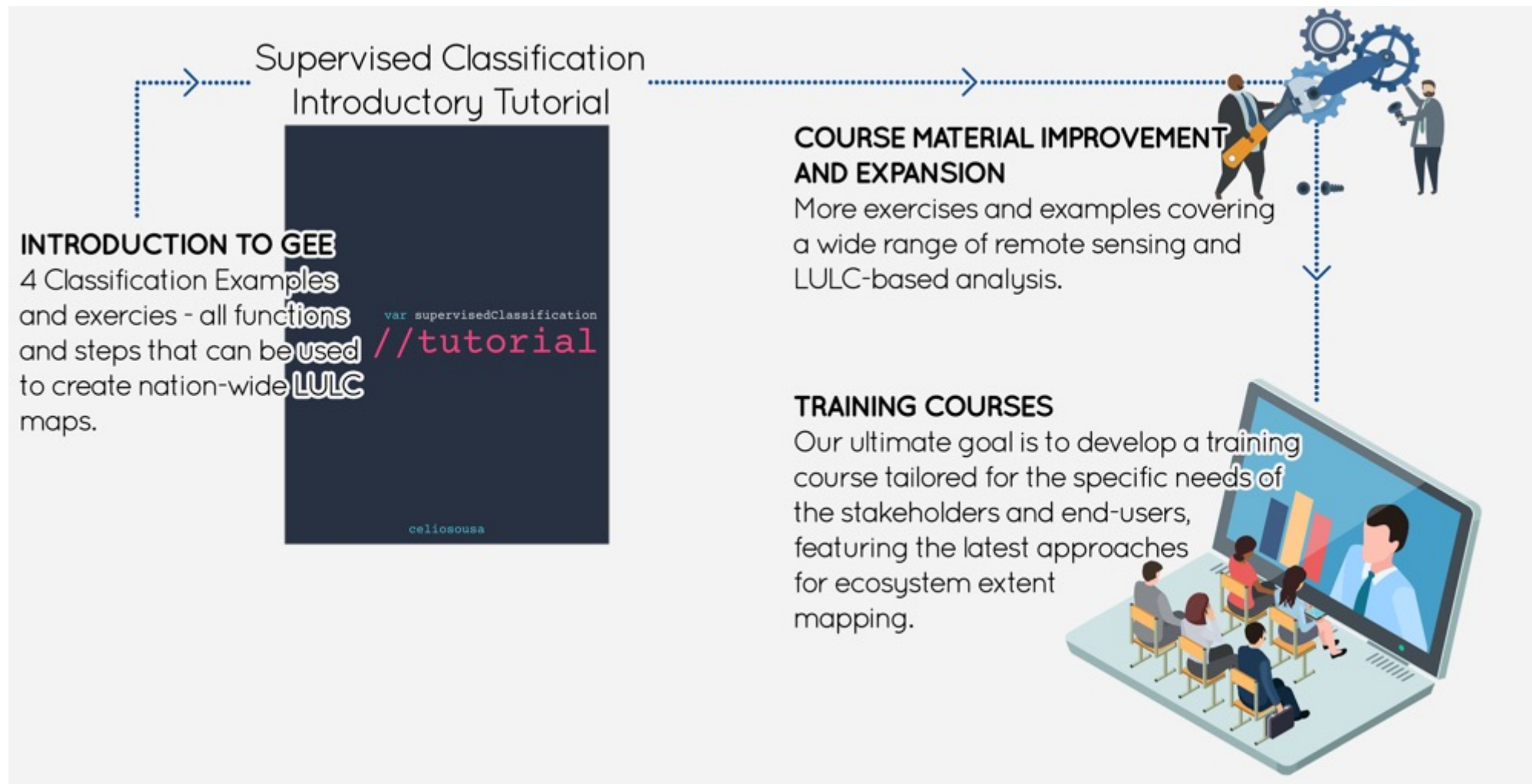
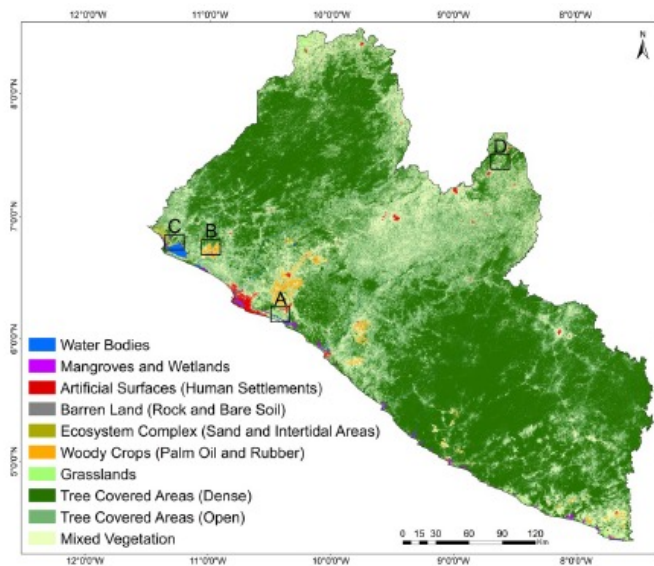


Image Credit: NASA and Conservation International

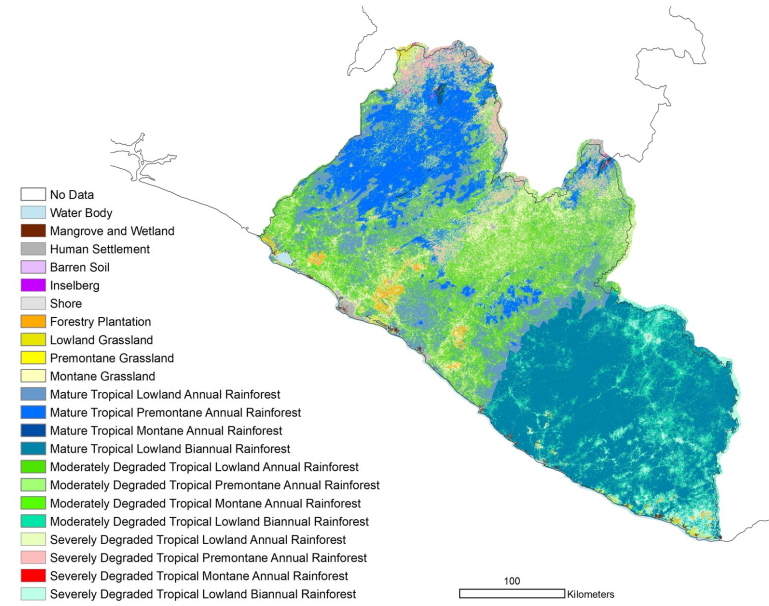


Next Steps for Natural Capital Accounting Projects

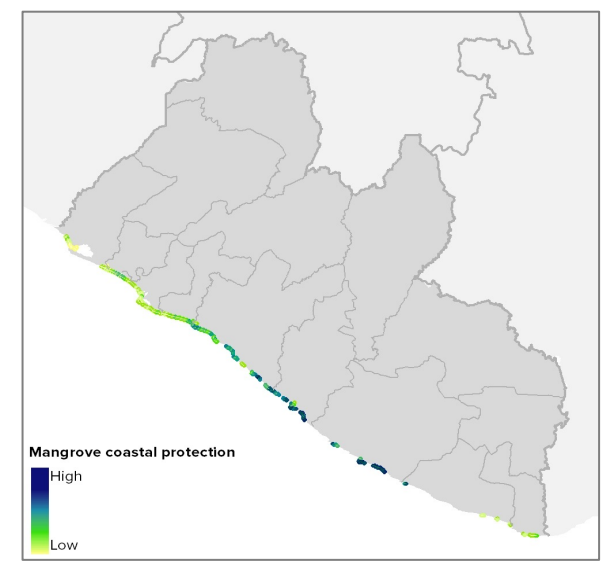
- GEF-Funded Project: 'Conservation and sustainable use of Liberia's coastal natural capital'



Land Account



Ecosystem Extent Account



Ecosystem Services Account (GEF-NCA Mangroves)



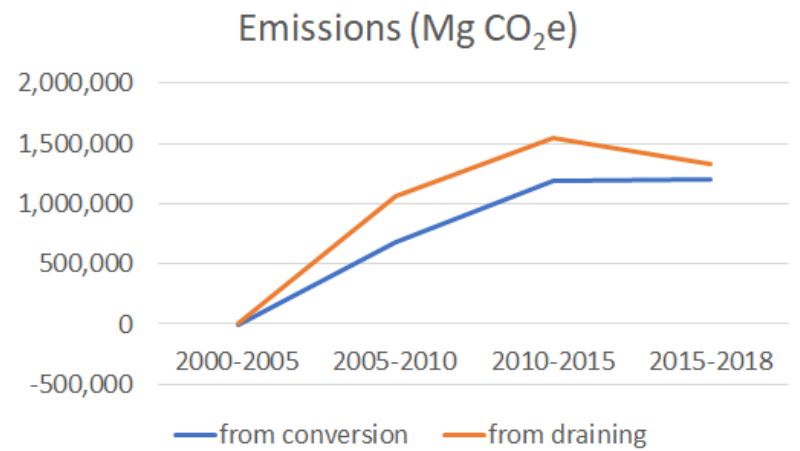
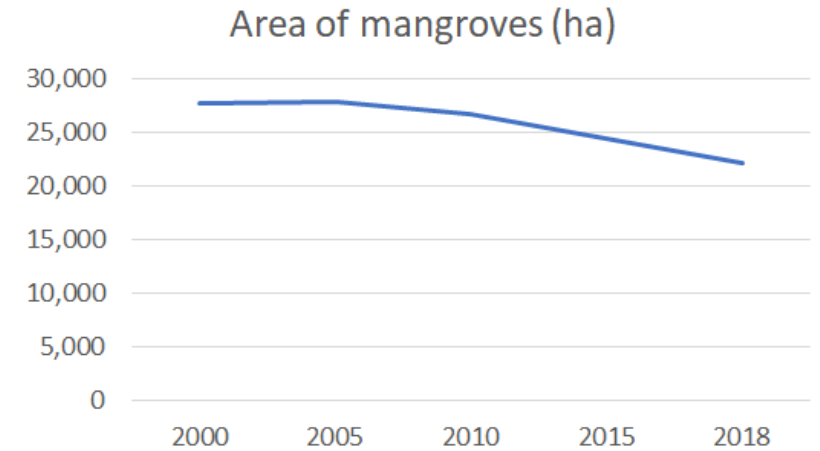
NASA's Applied Remote Sensing Training Program

Image Credit: Conservation International



Policy Applications

- Supporting the goal of protecting 30% of its territory
- Cross-Sectoral Planning and Decision-Making
- Impact assessment, siting of interventions, climate change adaptation/mitigation, spatial planning, etc.
- Supporting Multilateral Environmental Agreements
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
- Climate Mitigation (NDCs)
 - Informing revisions
 - Measuring sectoral contributions of CO₂ emissions and sequestration
 - Supporting design, planning, and monitoring of NDC targets, activities, and indicators
 - Measuring co-benefits and human well-being



Continued Connections and Coordination

- The maps, land, and extent accounts generated through this partnership are an important step forward for informing policy and decision-making in Liberia.
- Environmental Protection Agency: Commitment to foster development of information, data, and knowledge-sharing for monitoring and reporting
- Multi-agency coordination with LISGIS, Forestry Development Authority (FDA), Land Authority, Maritime Authority, etc., ensuring alignment with national policies and laws, best practices, and new initiatives.





Earth Observations for Ecosystem Accounting (EO4EA): Uganda

Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda

- Project to rapidly develop the required underlying spatial-data infrastructure and the compilation of key ecosystem and biodiversity-related accounts using the SEEA-EA framework
- Accounts:
 - Land cover
 - Ecosystem extent
 - Three non-timber forests
 - Two flagship mammals (Chimpanzees and Elephants)
- [Project Report](#)



UNEP-WCMC and IDEEA Group in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), National Planning Authority (NPA) of Uganda, National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) of Uganda, and National Biodiversity Databank of Makerere University. The project was funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)

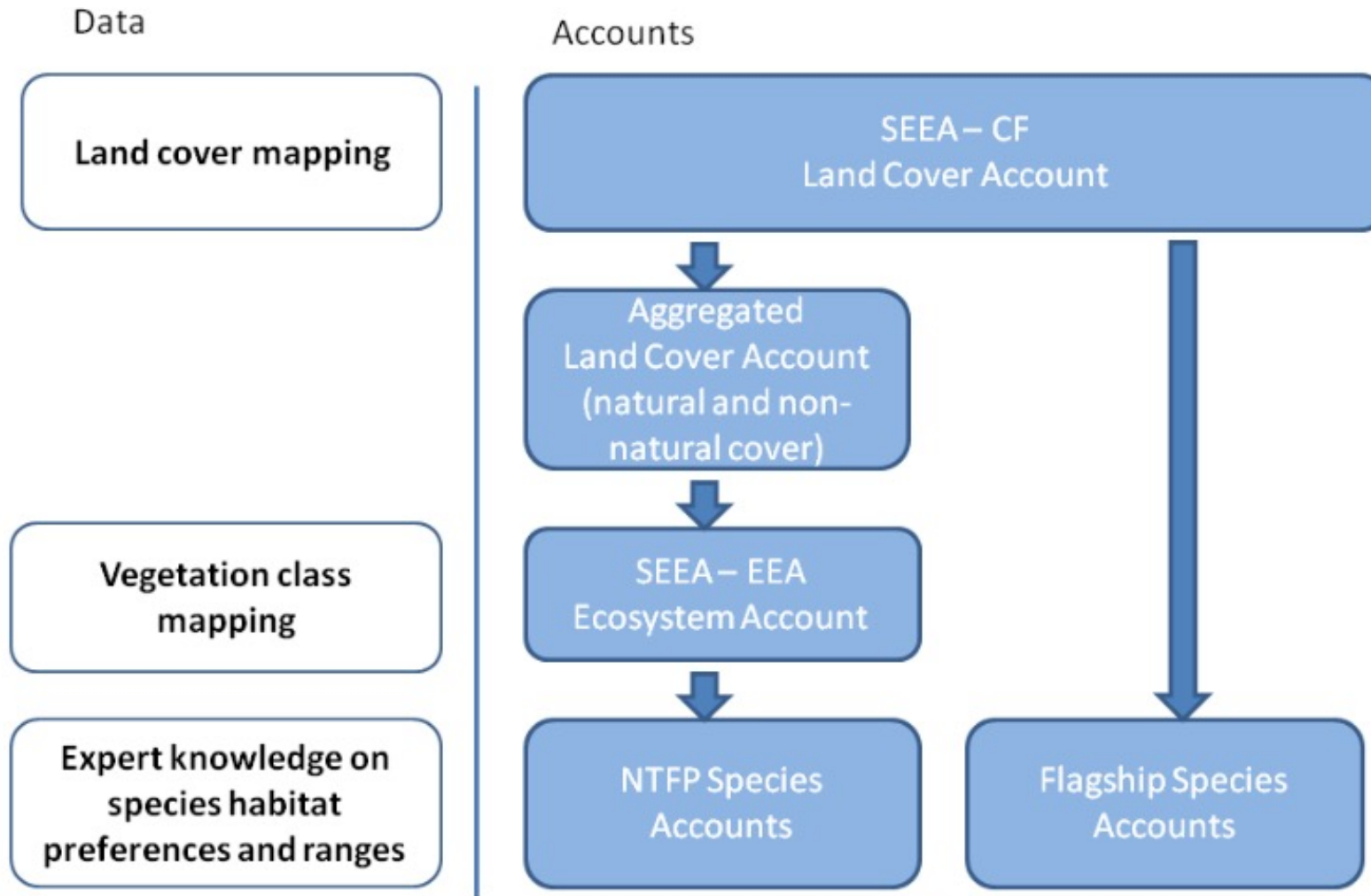


Policy Applications

1. To inform the ongoing debates surrounding the gazettement and de-gazettement of protected areas.
2. To make the case for increased budget allocation and investment in biodiversity-rich sectors for conservation and management (e.g., forestry as it maintains relatively high levels of biodiversity).
3. To establish the extent of ecosystem degradation and where declining biodiversity threatens the delivery of ecosystem services and implications on economic growth and human well-being.
4. To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity as a natural capital asset amongst decision makers and the public.
5. To assess national progress towards the objectives of Uganda's National Biodiversity Strategy Plan (NBSAP II) and National Development Plan (NDP II) and associated international commitments (i.e., the Aichi targets and SDGs).



Approach



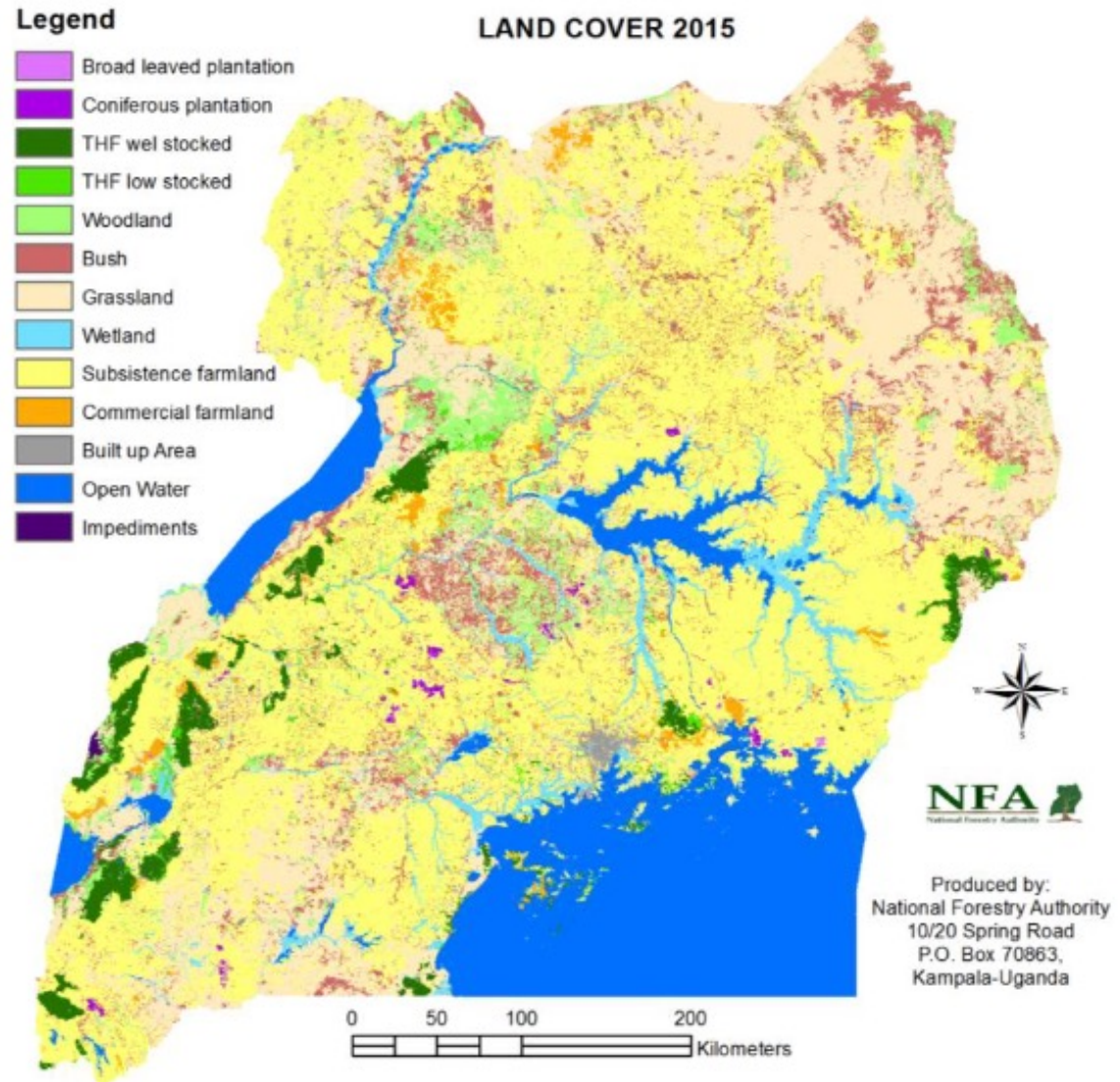
produced
using **EnSym**®

Credit: [UNEP-WCMC & IDEEA \(2017\) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda. Cambridge, UK.](#)



Land Cover Mapping

- National Biomass Study (NBS) produced maps from 1989–2005
- 2005-Onward: FAO Land Cover Classification System (LCCS) produced maps

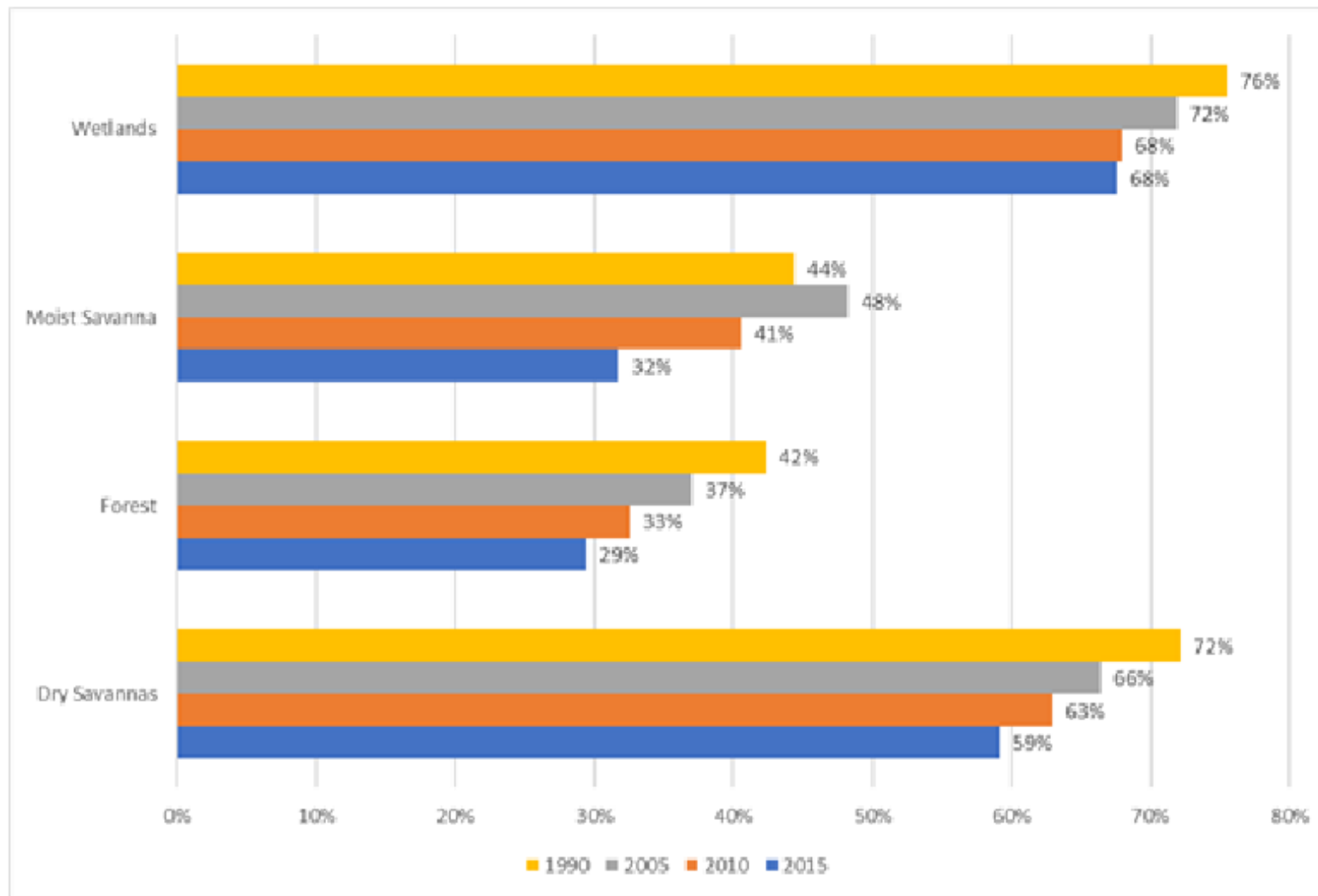


Credit: [UNEP-WCMC & IDEEA \(2017\) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda](#). Cambridge, UK.



Key Ecosystem Changes

- Changes to Key Ecosystems (1990-2015)
 - Substantial reductions in forests (29% of original extent remaining) and savanna (32% remaining)



Credit: [UNEP-WCMC & IDEEA \(2017\) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda. Cambridge, UK.](#)



Protected Areas

- The protected areas estate has performed well by preventing the loss of natural ecosystems and the benefits they confer to Uganda. The protected areas prevented the loss of natural ecosystems and the benefits they confer to Uganda.
- Wildlife-watching tourism opportunities, a large majority of remaining fully-suitable chimpanzee habitat is protected in the Southwestern (96%), Western (84%), and West Nile (74%) sub-regions.
- However, substantial habitat still exists outside of protected areas in the Western sub-region (51,000ha) providing opportunities to target areas for future protection and tourism development.



Suitable Habitat for Key Species

- For elephants, a large majority of fully-suitable habitat is protected in the Karamoja (94%), Southwestern (97%), and Western (94%) sub-regions.
- For *Prunus Africana* (African Cherry), the protected area estate has been effective in covering the remaining highest quality range of this species.
- There are potentially significant species conservation benefits from conserving natural areas in Acholi, Karamoja, and West Nile (high bird and large mammal species richness).



Credit: infonet-biovision.org



Credit: Janegoodall.ca



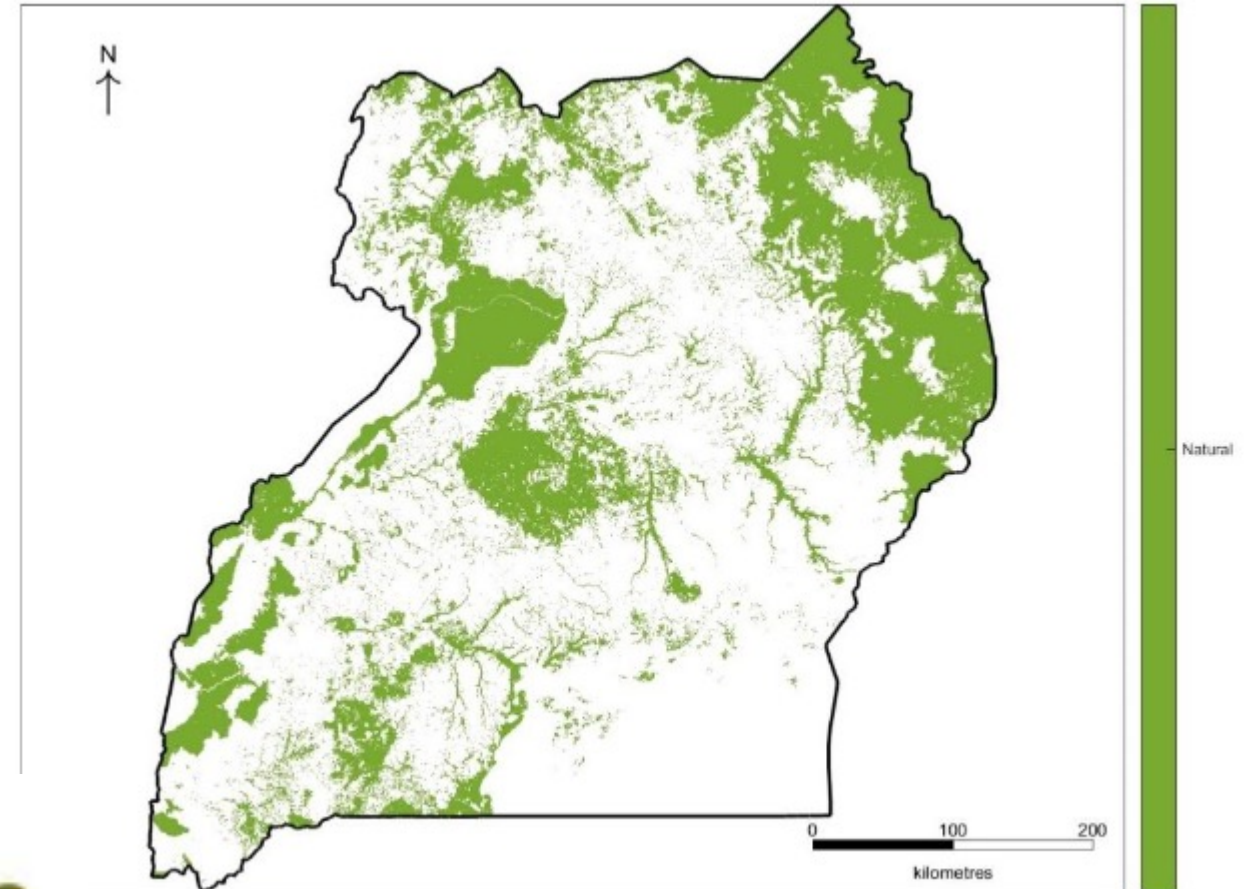
Credit: NRCD



Natural Vegetation and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)

- Large areas of potentially suitable natural vegetation for harvesting non-timber forest products (NTFPs)

Extent of Permanently Natural Land Cover (1990-2015)



produced
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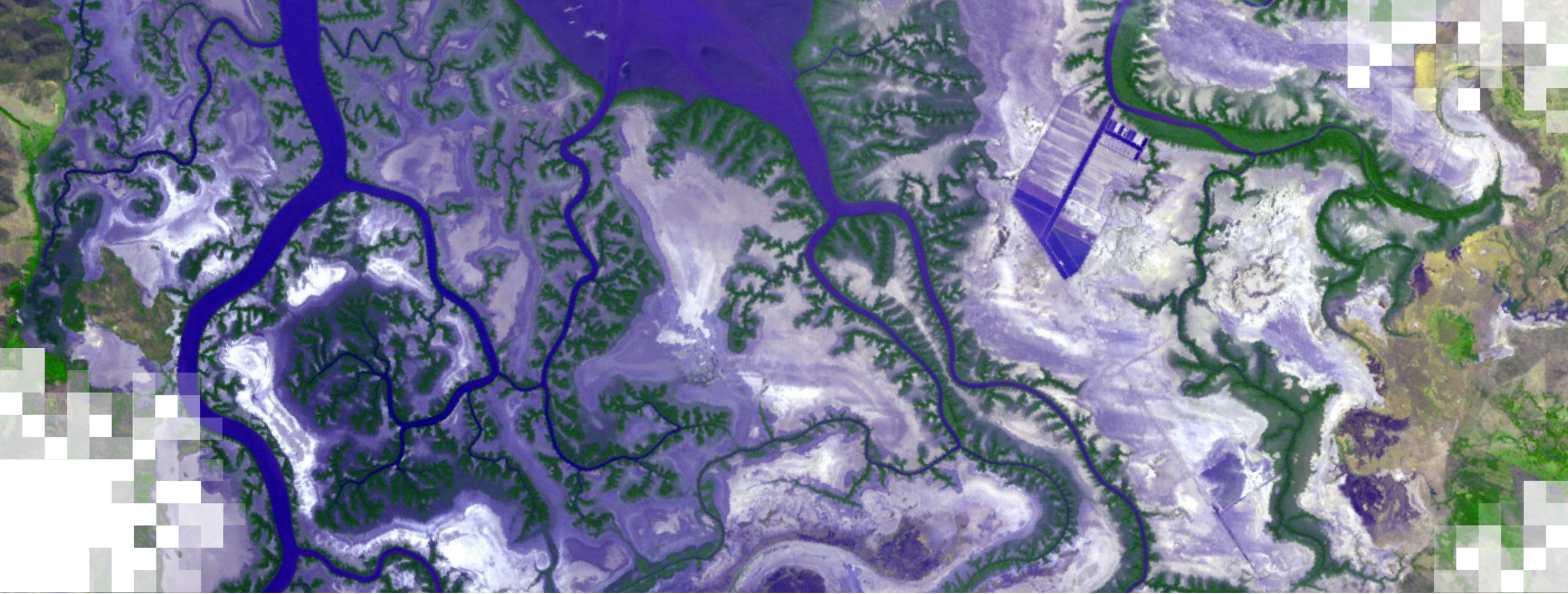
Credit: [UNEP-WCMC & IDEEA \(2017\) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts for Uganda. Cambridge, UK.](#)



Pathways Forward and Policy Implications

- Regular updates can be assessed in a timely manner for trends and extent of natural ecosystems and implications for key species
- Methodology will assist reporting on a range of policy commitments, including:
 - National strategic objectives for biodiversity specified in Uganda's NBSAP (II)
 - Aichi Targets (e.g., 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, and 15)
 - National development plan (II) objectives for Environmental and Natural Resources (ENR) and associated SDGs (e.g., 1, 12, and 15)
- Opportunities for:
 - Improving accounts in the future
 - Establishment of institutional arrangements and program connections





Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) in Indonesia

WAVES Overview

<https://www.wavespartnership.org/en>

- A World Bank-led global partnership that aims to promote sustainable development by ensuring that natural resources are mainstreamed in development planning and national economic accounts
- Part of the Global Program for Sustainability (GPS)
 - Aim to integrate environmental and other sustainability considerations into public and private decisions, by providing metrics and tools



Tsefaye Kidane, a 40-year-old coffee farmer from the Kafa Biosphere Reserve in southwest Ethiopia. [Photo Credit: Kaia Rose, Connect4Climate – World Bank Group](#)



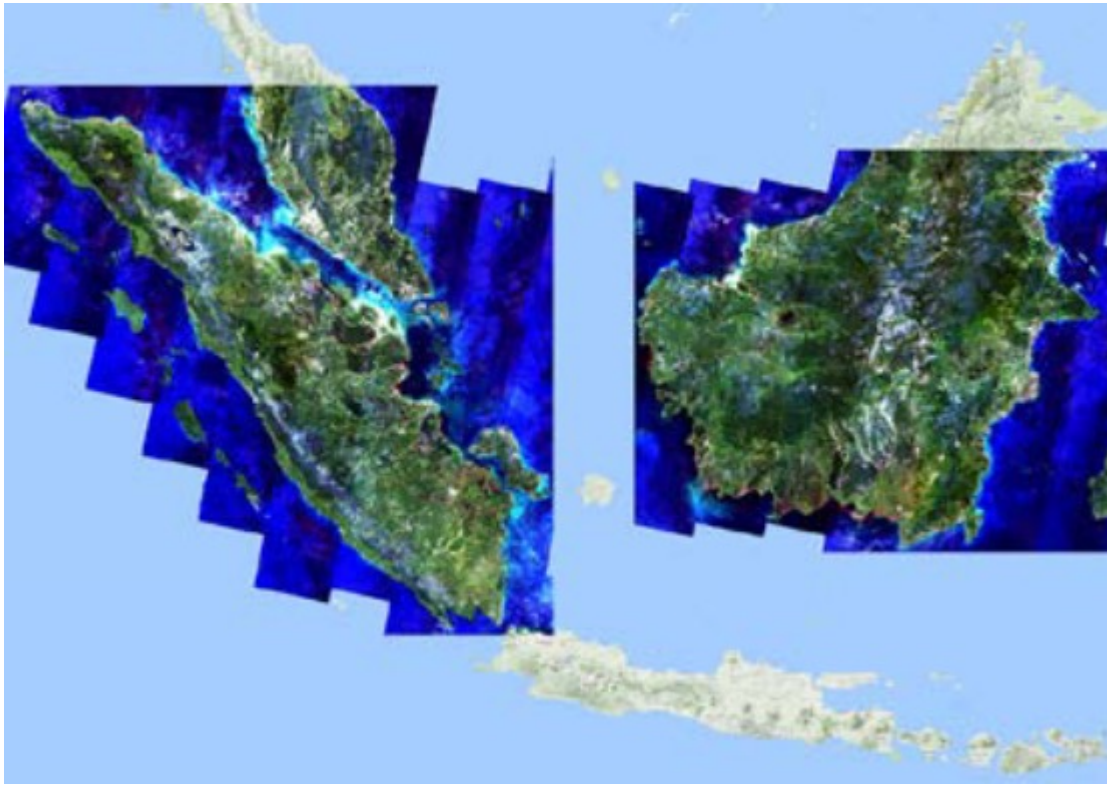
Indonesian Assessment of Land Cover

- Agriculture, forestry, and fishing contribute to 11.4% of Indonesia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
 - Economic development is dependent on natural resources and the country wants to ensure that growth is conducted within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Low Carbon Development Initiative for Indonesia (LCDI):
 - Incorporate greenhouse gas emissions targets into planning
 - Ensure growth while minimizing exploitation of natural resources and keep emissions low
- WAVES provided SEEA compliant data for modeling
 - Land cover and extent
 - Peatlands



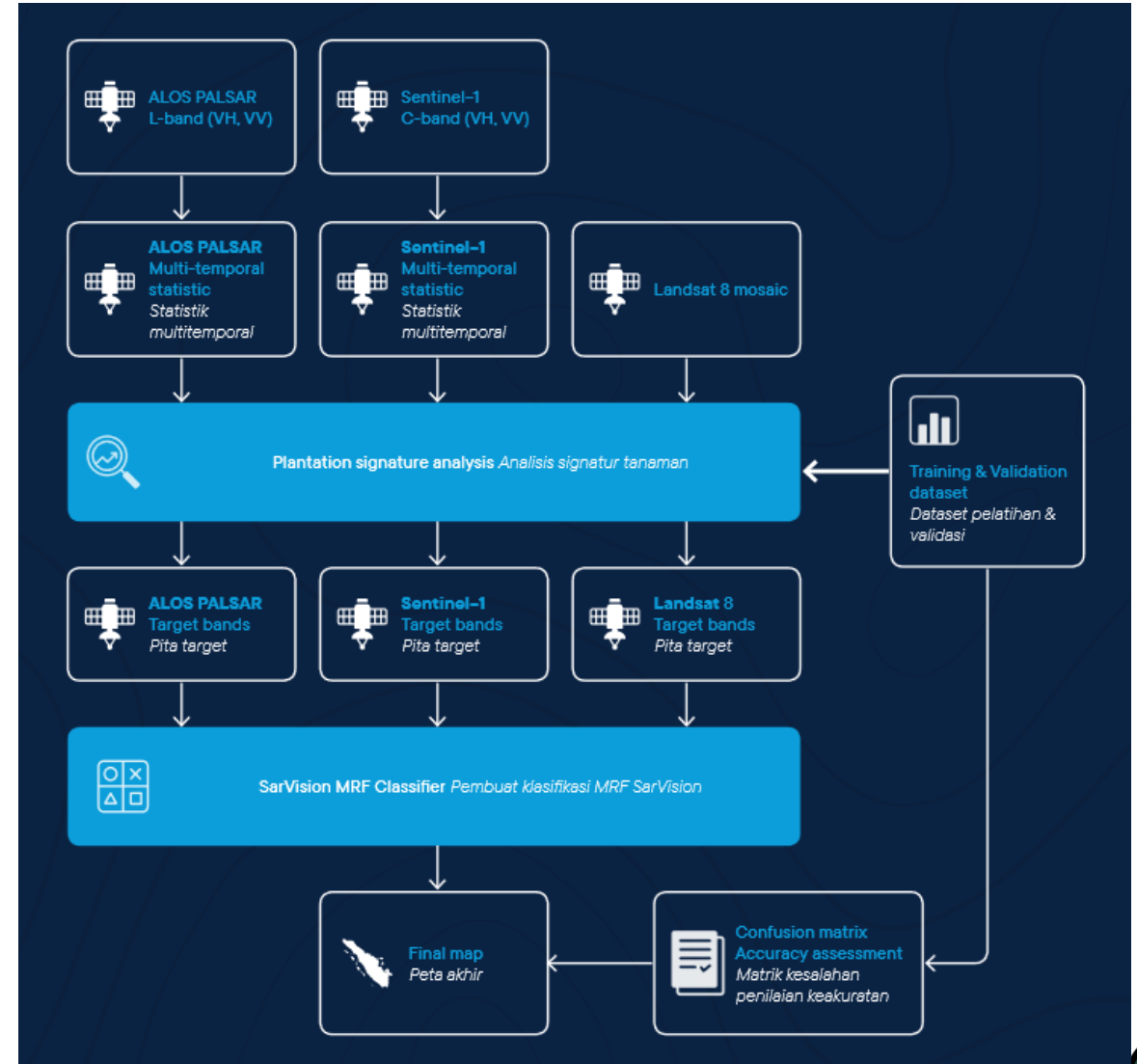
Indonesia Land Cover Mapping

- 22 classes of land cover
- 1990–2014
- Many remotely-sensed datasets



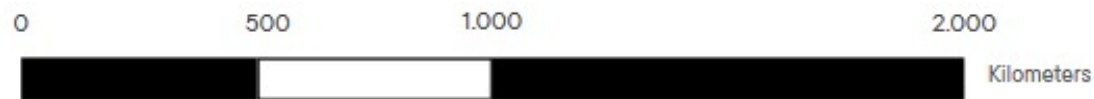
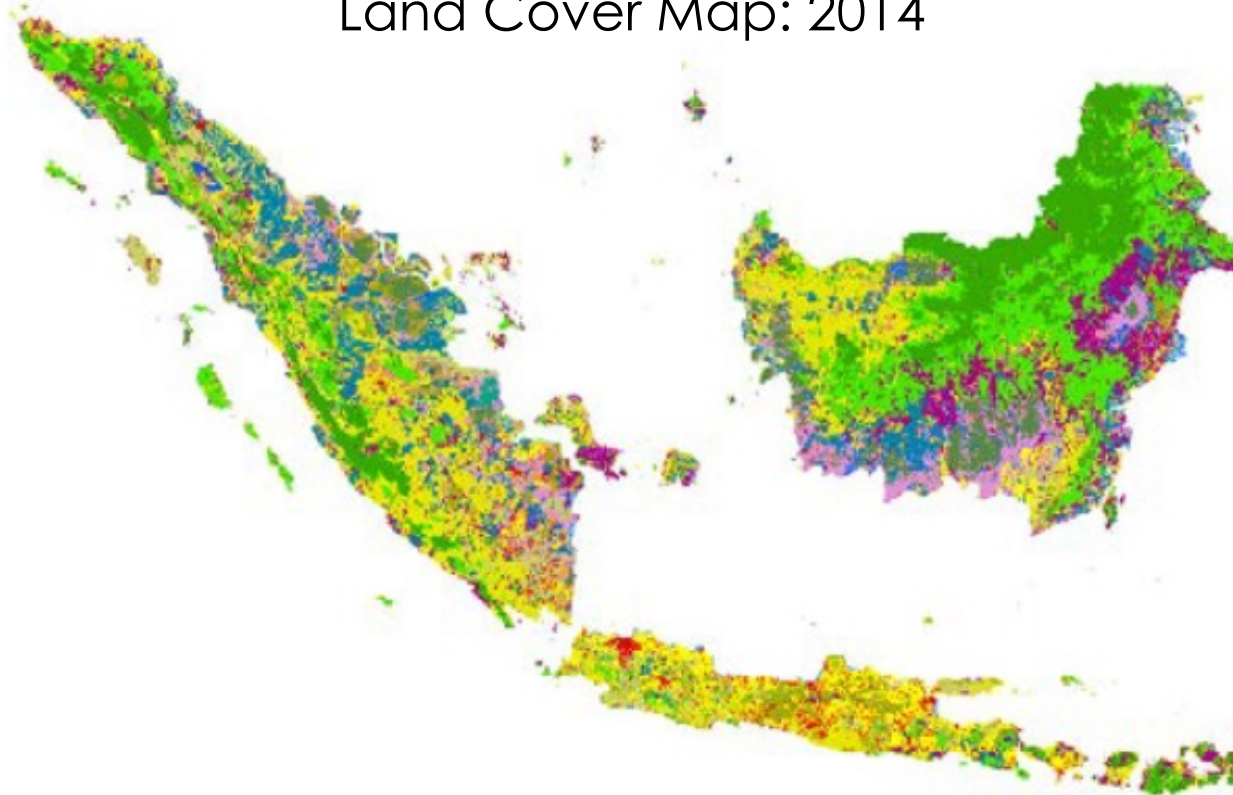
Real-color composite of the generated mosaics for Sumatera and Kalimantan in 2017, Image Credit: [World Bank 2019](#)

Image Classification Workflow: Image Credit [World Bank 2019](#)



Land Cover

Land Cover Map: 2014



- | | |
|---|--|
|  Primary dry land forest
Hutan lahan kering primer |  Degraded peat swamp forest
Hutan rawe gambut terdegradasi |
|  Degraded dry land forest
Hutan lahan kering terdegradasi |  Plantation forest
Hutan tanaman |
|  Primary peat swamp forest
Hutan rawe gambut primer |  Primary mangrove
Bekau primer |
|  Degraded mangrove
Bekau terdegradasi |  Savana
Sabana |
|  Shrub
Belukar |  Perennial crop
Tanaman tahunan |
|  Wetland shrub
Belukar lahan basah |  Dry cultivation
Pertanian kering |

Image Credit: [World Bank 2019](#)



Land Account Key Takeaways

- The land account displays the changes in land cover over time.
- The major type of land conversion has been from forest to plantations.
- Perennial crops and plantation forestry may be significantly underestimated in official statistics.
- Indonesia lost about 33 million ha of its natural forests (about 17% of Indonesian land area) from 1990 to 2014.
- Perennial crops, which are currently dominated by oil palm plantation, were rapidly expanding from 1990 to 2014.
- Land cover change clearly varies in different island groups.



Adi Lumaksono, Principal Secretary of BPS hands over two technical reports of the I-WAVES program to Dr. Ir. Arifin Rudiyanto, Deputy Minister of Maritime and Natural Resources of Bappenas. Image Credit: World Bank



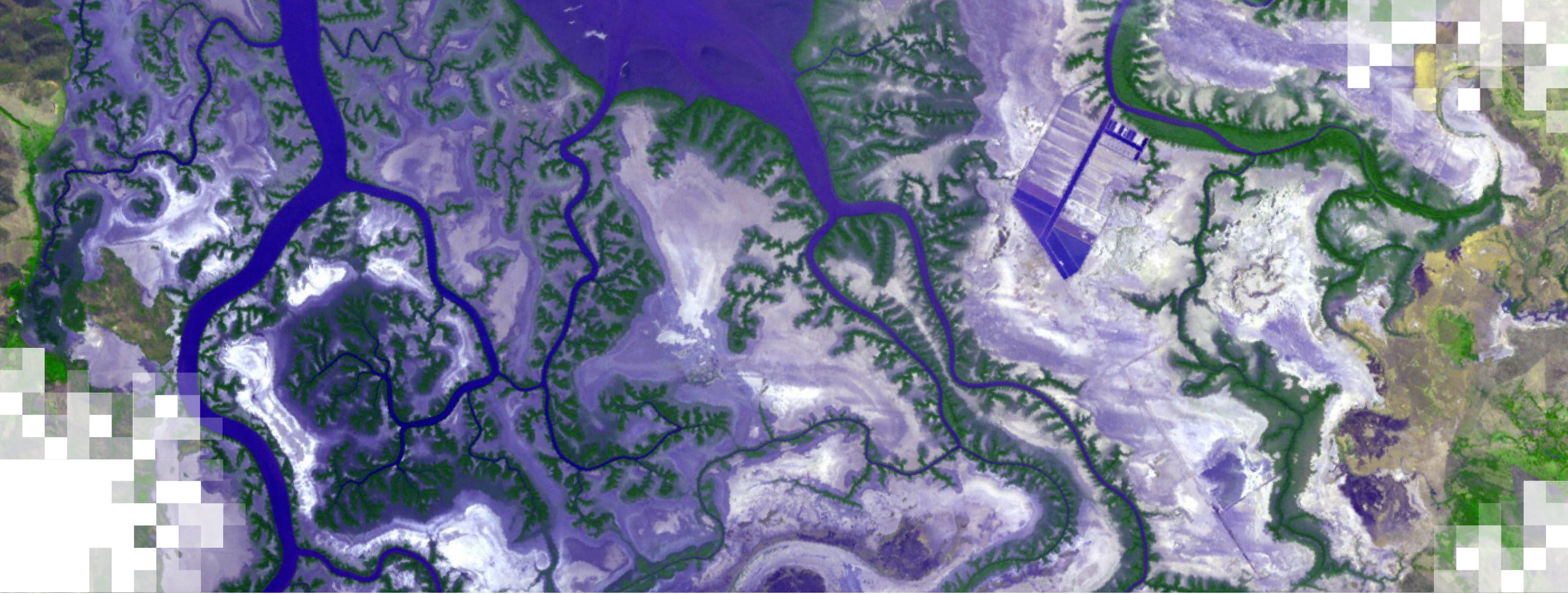
Extent Account Key Takeaways

- Policy implications similar to land account
- Remote sensing data key:
 - Use of Sentinel -1, Landsat, ALOS Palsar
 - WorldView and Planet data used in support
- Need to differentiate classes of perennial and plantation forests into crop and tree species
 - Difficult for some plantations
- Oil palm is the dominant perennial crop in both islands, acacia is the main plantation forestry species.



Palm Oil. Image Credit: [joakimbkk](#)





Ecosystem Services of Coral Reefs

Ecosystem Services of Coral Reefs

- Coral reefs are among the most biodiverse and biologically complex ecosystems of the world.
- Provide habitat to >25% of all known marine species including plants, algae, invertebrates, and vertebrates.
- Provide a food source for millions of people through fisheries.
- Major source of recreation and income to local communities through tourism activities.



Photo Credit: Juan L. Torres-Pérez



Ecosystem Services of Coral Reefs

- Spalding et al (2017) estimated the total global value of coral reefs for tourism at \$36 billion per year.
- In the US, the touristic value of coral reefs alone is estimated to be ~\$1.2 billion per year.
- For example, in Florida, it is estimated that ~70,400 jobs depend on coral reefs.
- Overall, the annual economic value of the world's coral reefs (including tourism, fishing, local jobs, and shoreline protection) is estimated between \$375 billion and \$9.9 trillion! (Costanza et al 2014)

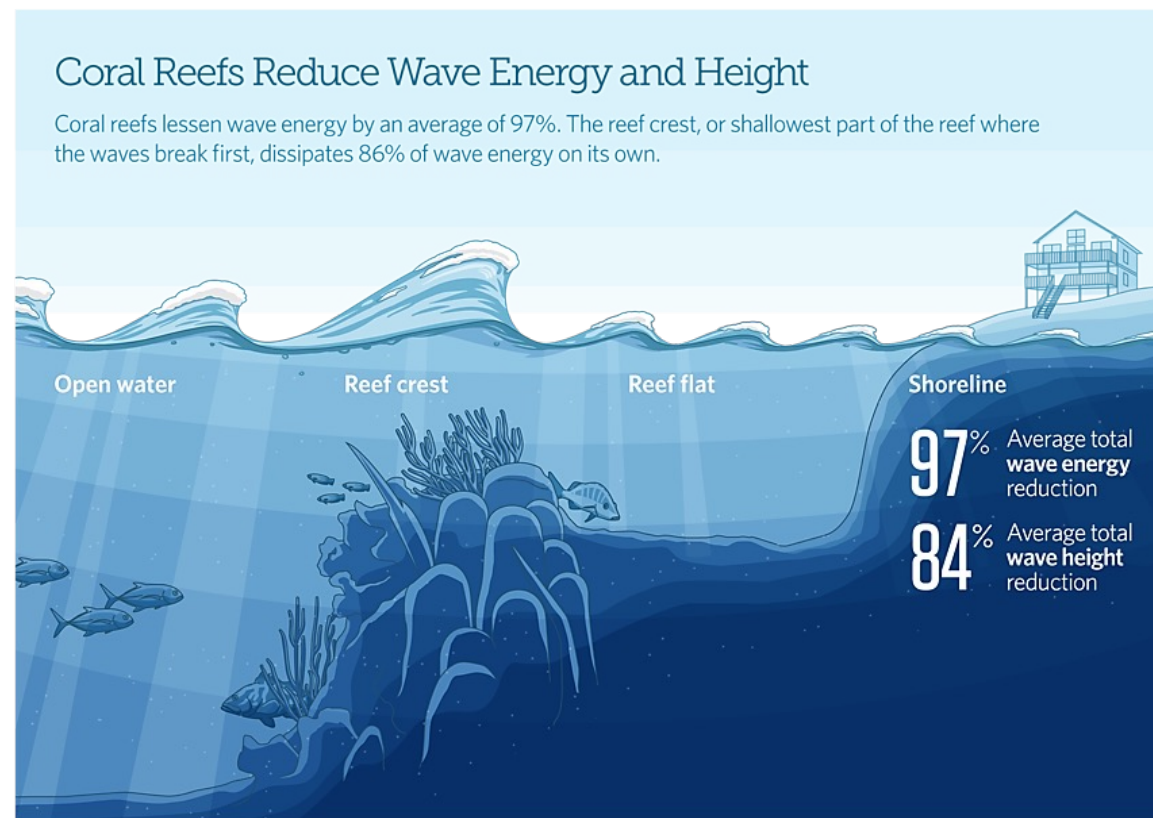


Photo Credit: Juan L. Torres-Pérez



Ecosystem Services of Coral Reefs

- Reefs can dissipate ~97% of the wave energy resulting in decreased coastal flooding (Ferrario et al (2014)).
- Storlazzi et al (2019; 2021) estimated the value of coral reefs for flood protection to be ~\$1.8 billion for the US alone.
- Benefits of reef restoration were estimated at ~\$232 million for Florida and ~\$40 million for Puerto Rico annually (Storlazzi et al 2021).
- The present value of large-scale reef restoration for FI and PR (when reefs are considered as natural infrastructure) exceeds \$3.75 billion per year.

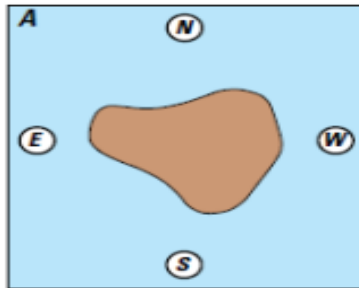


Credit: Ferrario et al (2014)

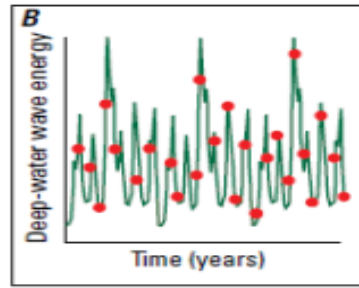


Evaluating the Role of Coral Reefs on Coastal Risk Reduction

HAZARDS: Downscaling waves to shore



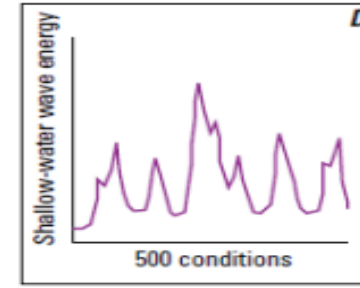
Offshore wave data



Representative sea states

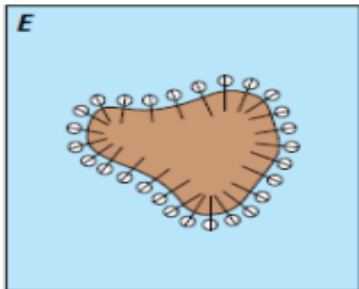


Propagate to nearshore

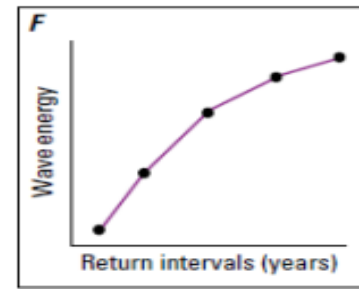


Reconstruct shallow water wave data

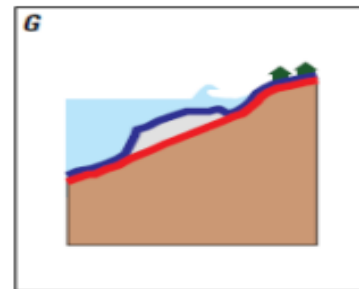
ECOSYSTEM: Reef flood modeling



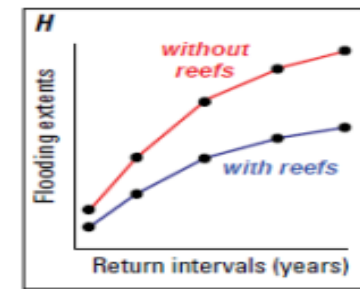
100-m reef profiles



Storm intensity

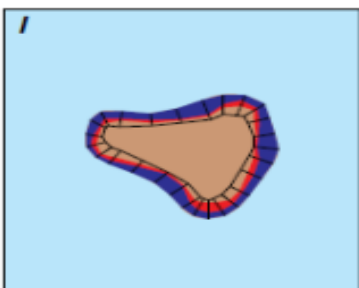


Effects of the reef

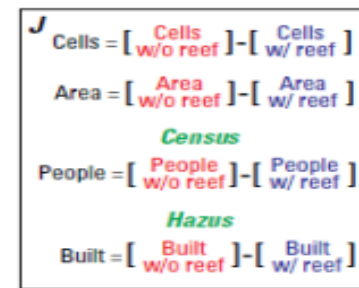


Flood frequency

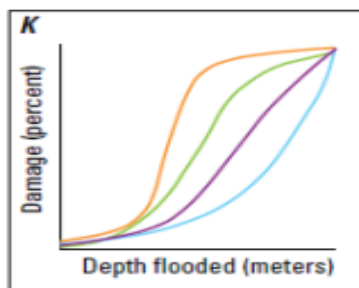
CONSEQUENCES: Assessing impact and benefits



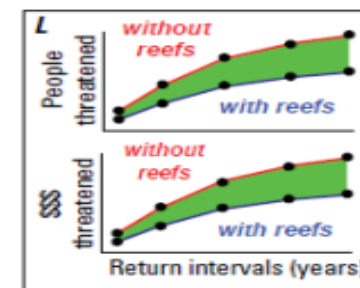
Map flood zones



Assess exposure



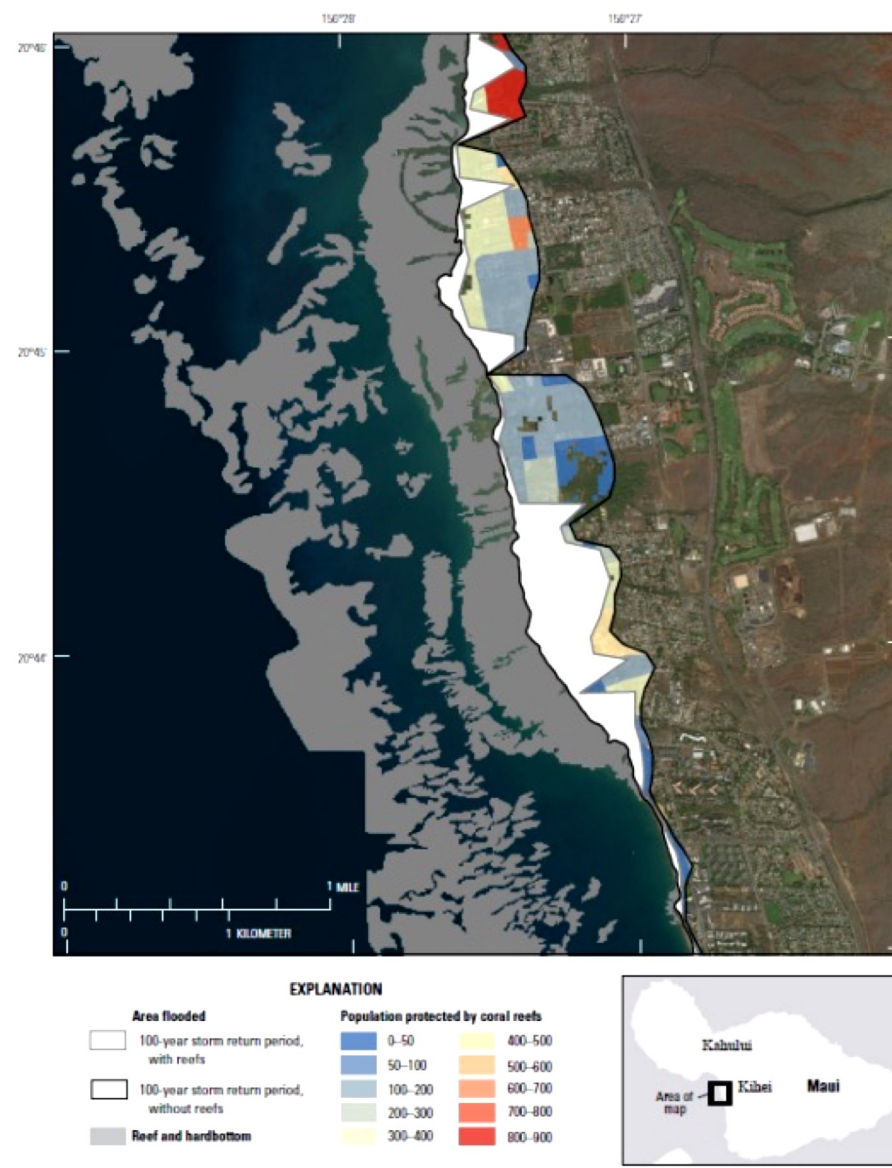
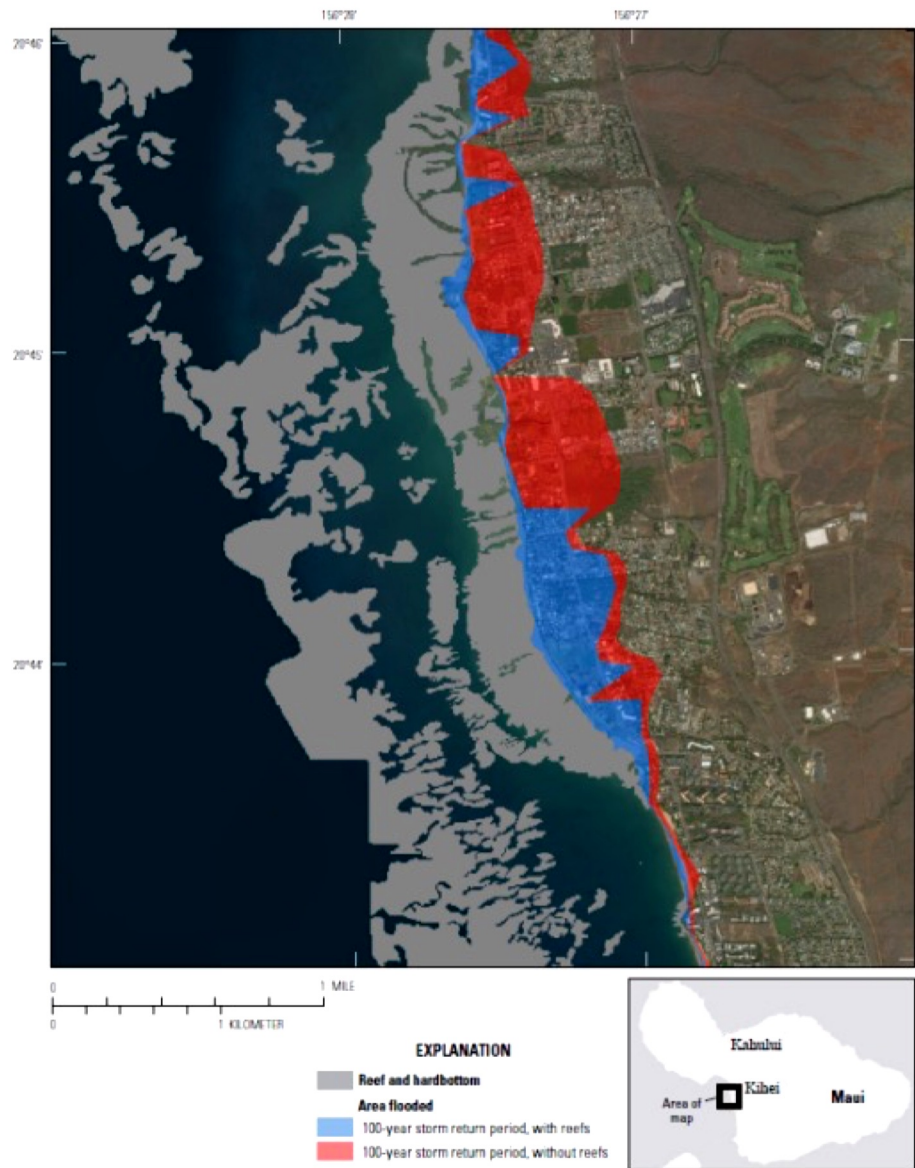
Economic damage



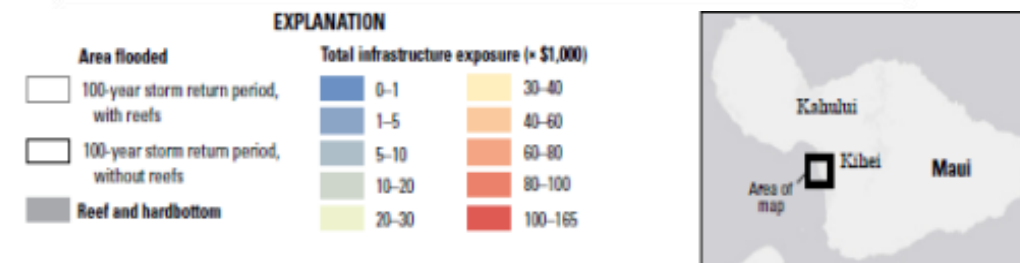
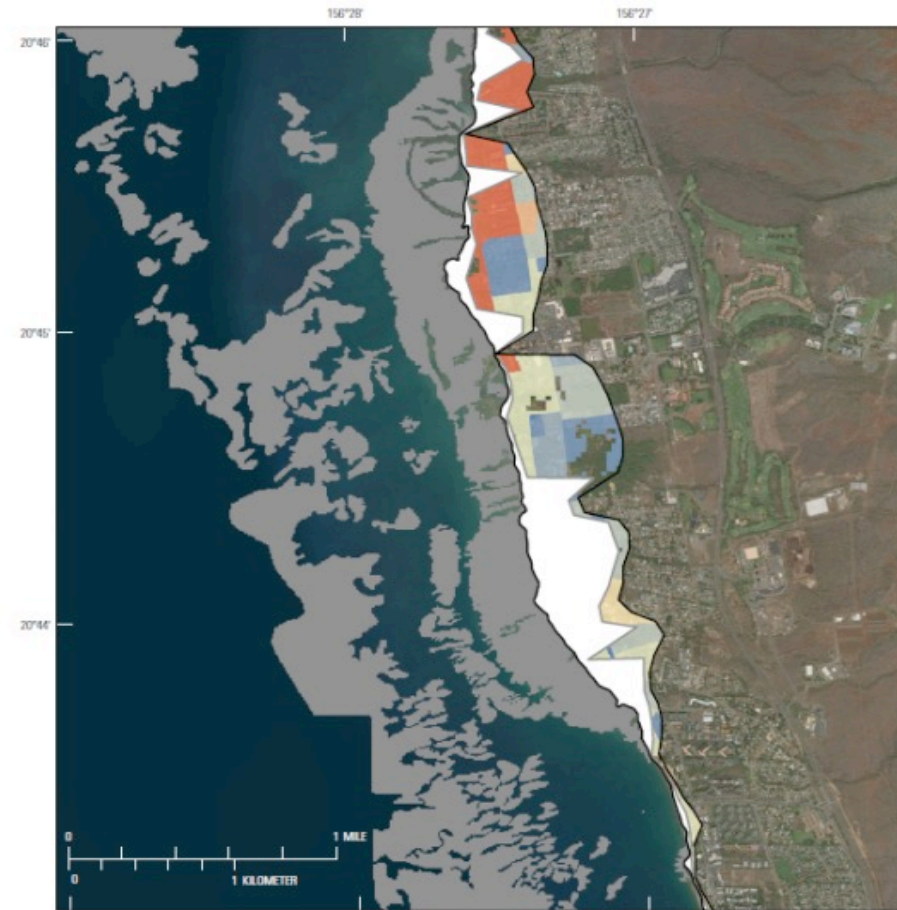
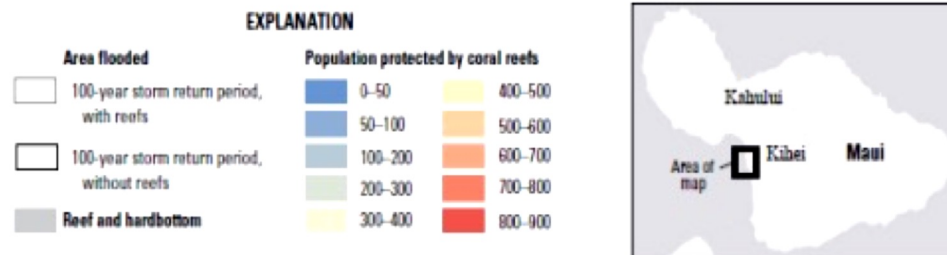
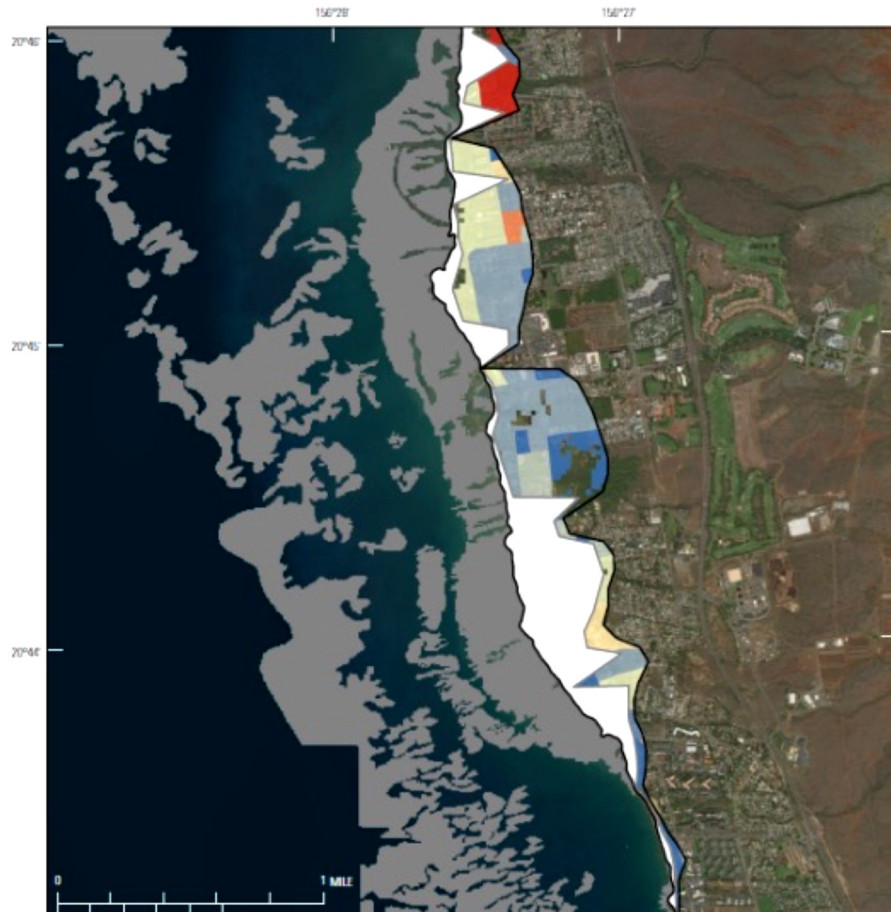
Assess risk reduction benefits



Coastal Protection by Coral Reefs – Maui, HI



Coastal Protection by Coral Reefs – Maui, HI

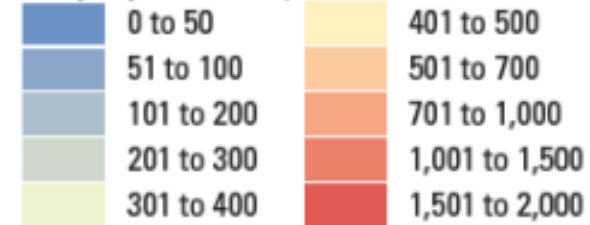


Coastal Protection by Coral Reefs – Puerto Rico and FL

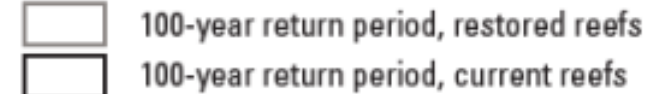


EXPLANATION

People protected by reef restoration



Flooded area



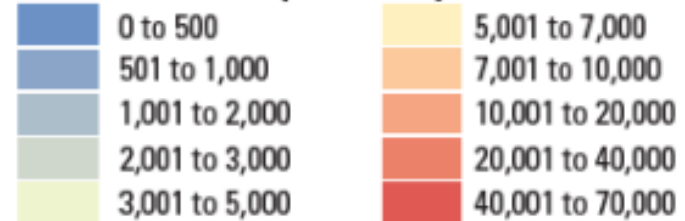
Coral reef and hardbottom



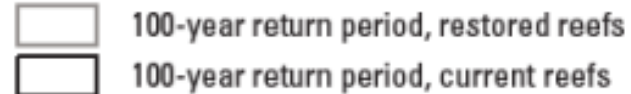
Restoration line



Total infrastructure protected by reef restoration



Flooded area



Coral reef and hardbottom

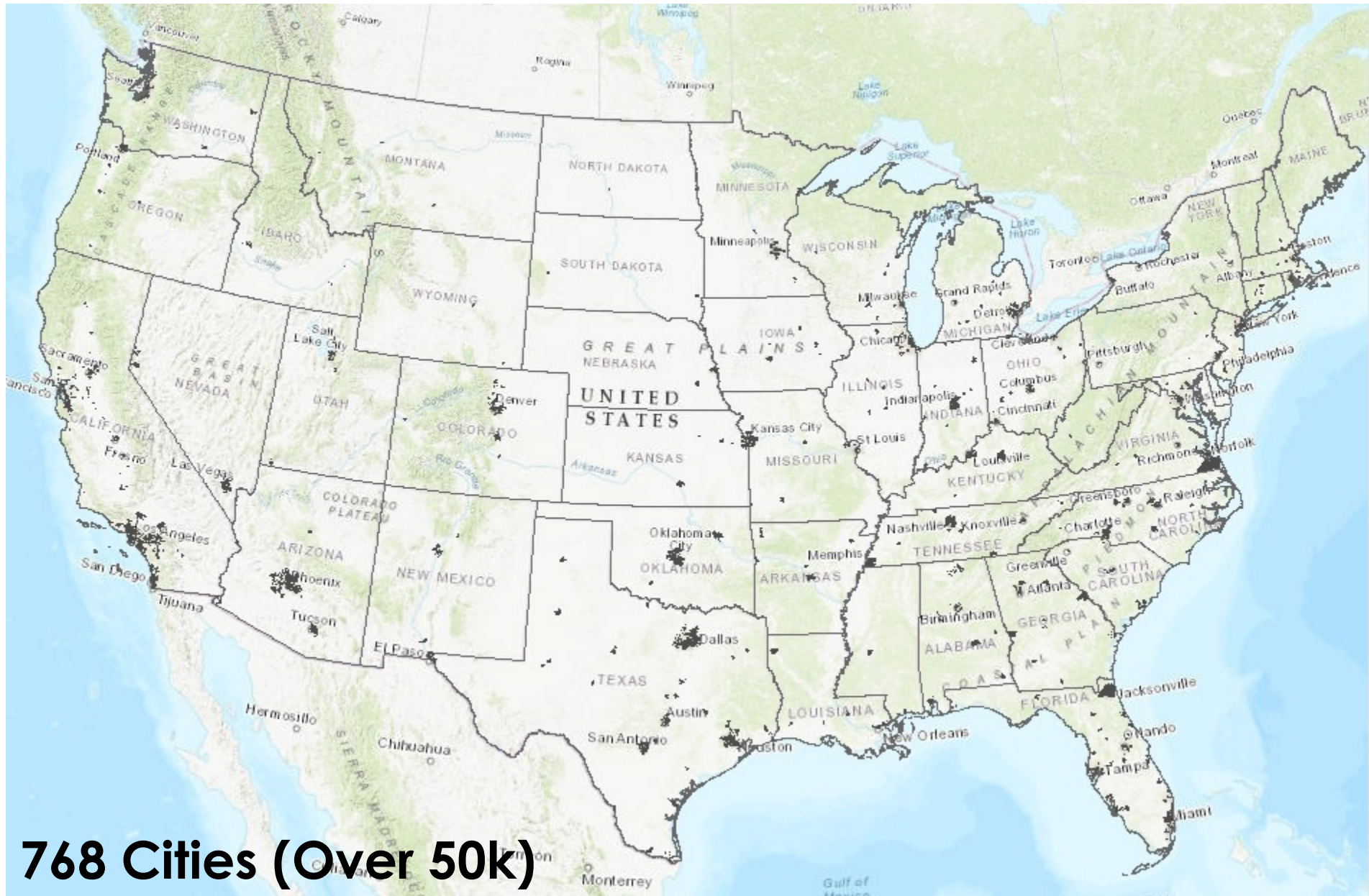


Restoration line





Guest Speaker: Mehdi Heris (Hunter College
City University of New York)



768 Cities (Over 50k)

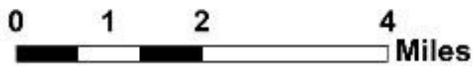




Legend

Tree Coverage

% of Cells (30mX30m)



Ecosystem Services of Urban Trees

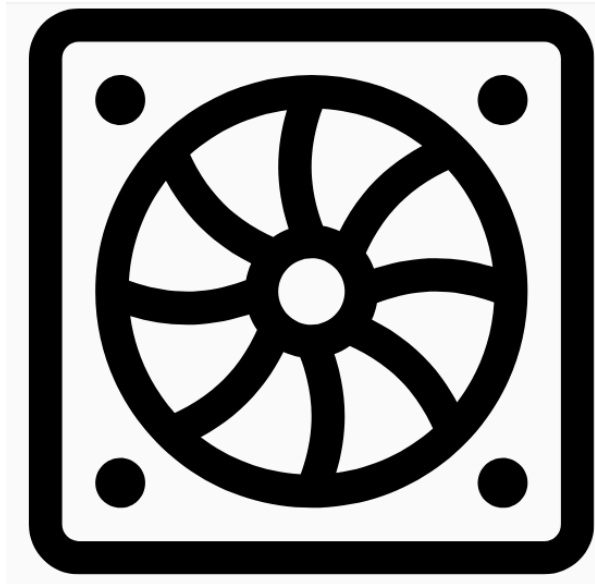
- We will discuss valuation of:
 - Urban heat mitigation
 - Storm water reduction through rainfall interception
- Other Services:
 - Air quality regulation
 - Biodiversity
 - Habitat
 - Aesthetic value translated to land value
 - Positive impact of the environment on mental health



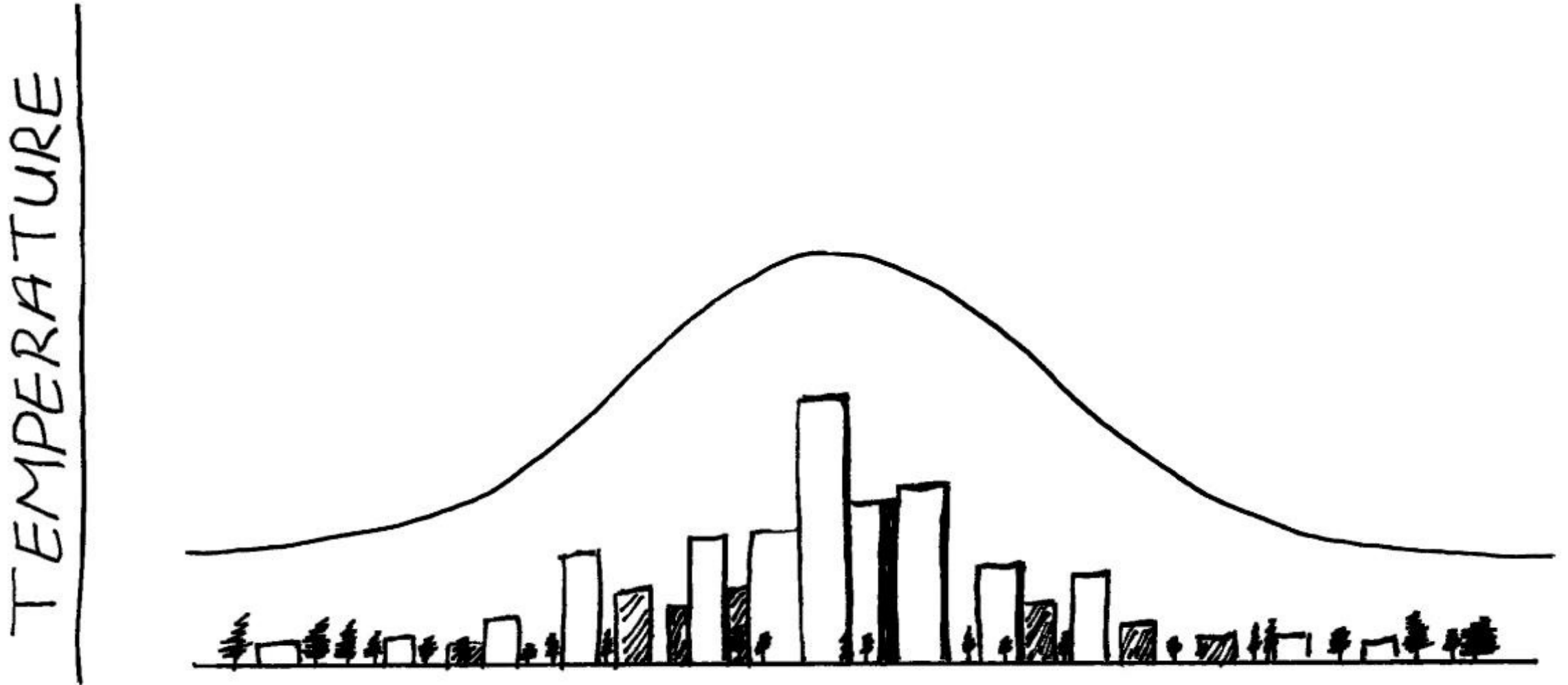


Heat Mitigation

Cooling Energy Savings



What is Urban Heat (Island)?



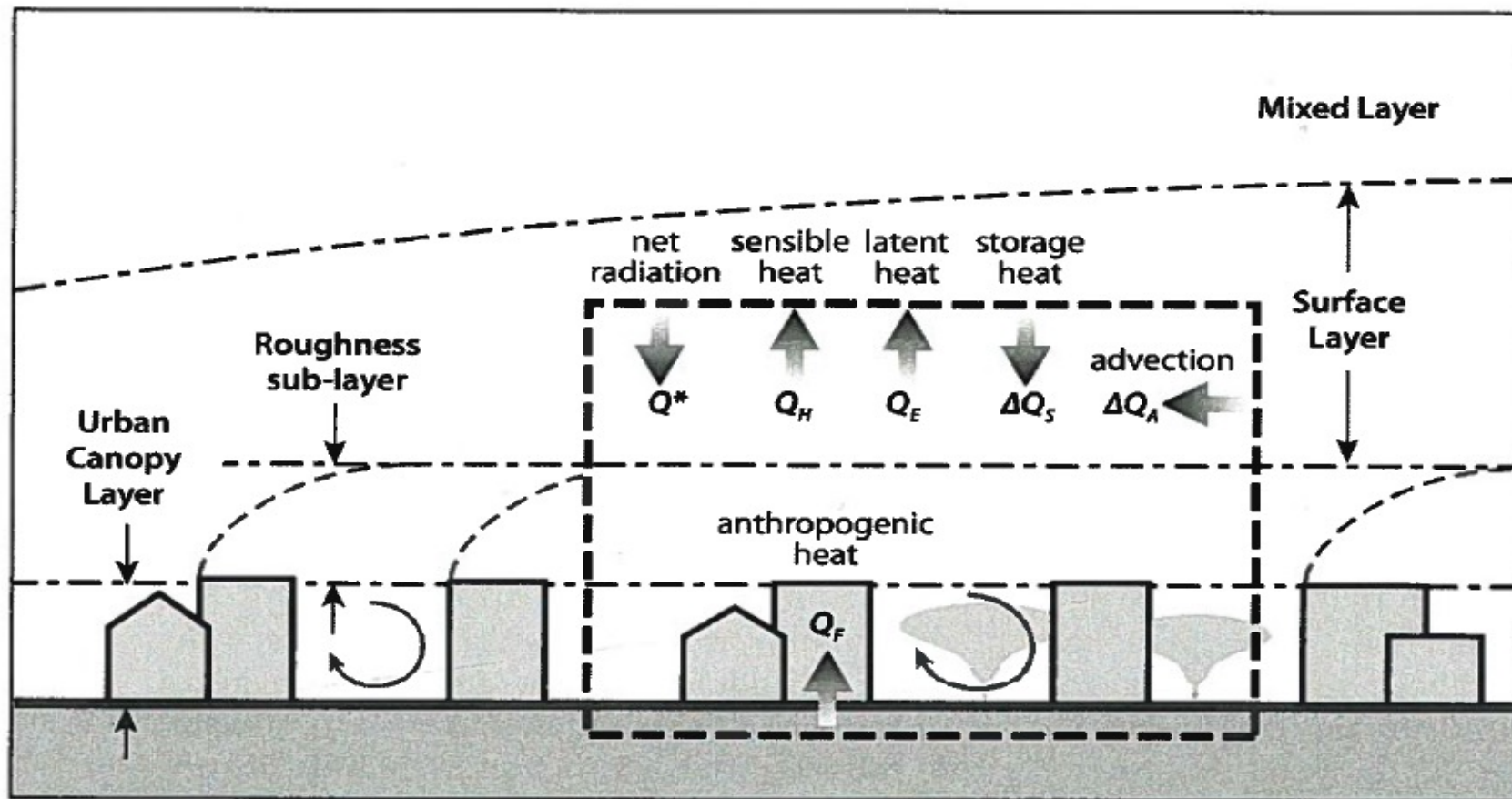
Heat Mitigation Data Infrastructure

1. Surface Temperature
2. NLCD Tree Canopy
3. NLCD Land Cover
4. Weather Station Data
5. Building Footprint Data
6. Building Energy Use Data



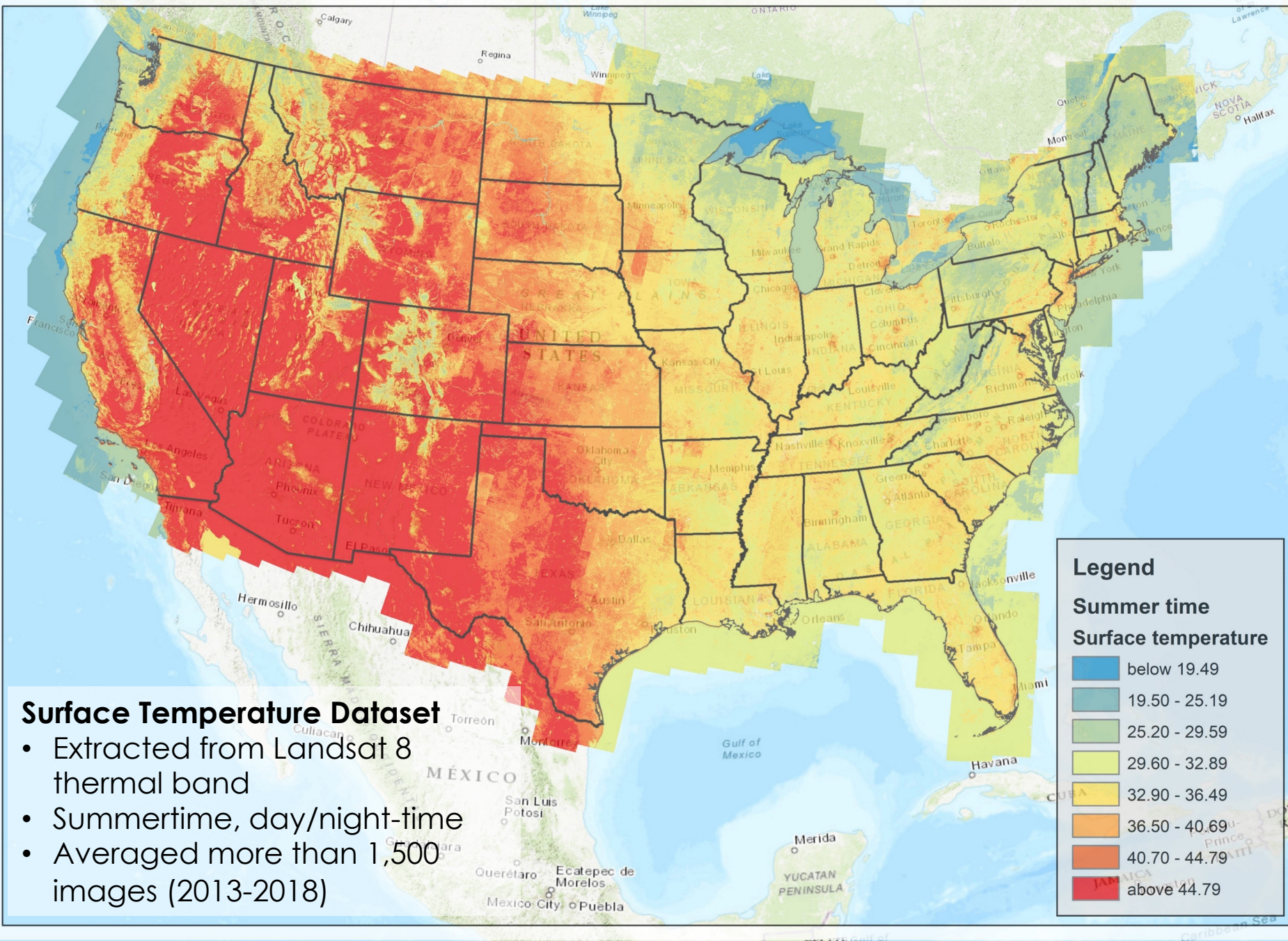
Urban Energy Balance

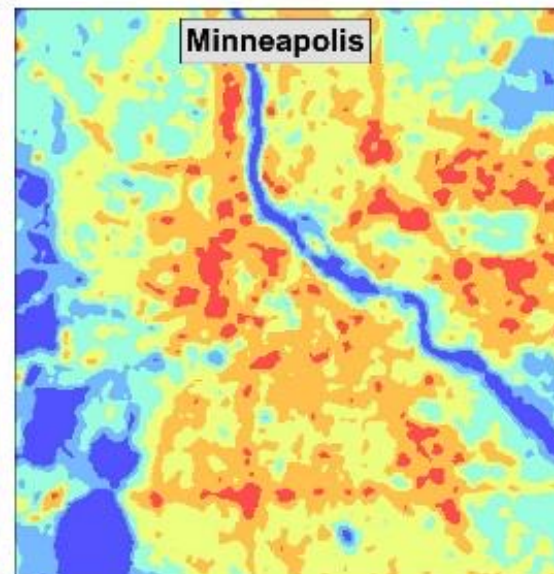
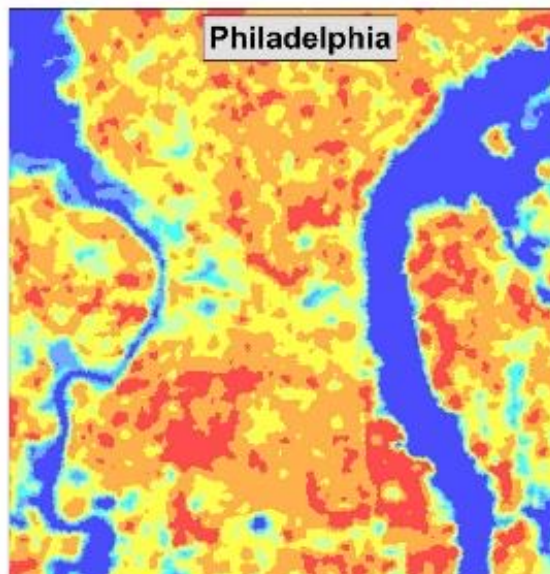
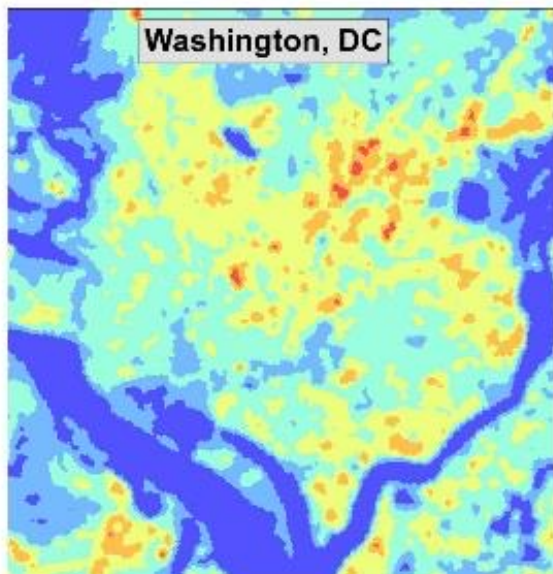
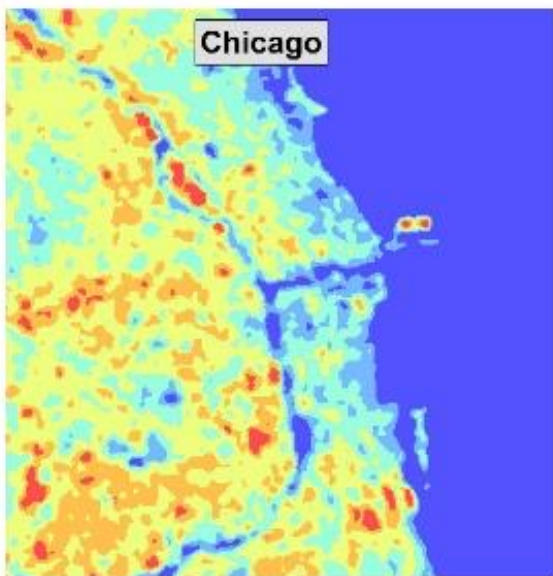
$$Q^* + Q_F = Q_H + Q_E + \Delta Q_S + \Delta Q_A$$



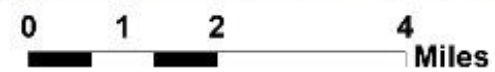
Erell, E., Pearlmutter, D., & Williamson, T. (2012). *Urban microclimate: designing the spaces between buildings*. Routledge.



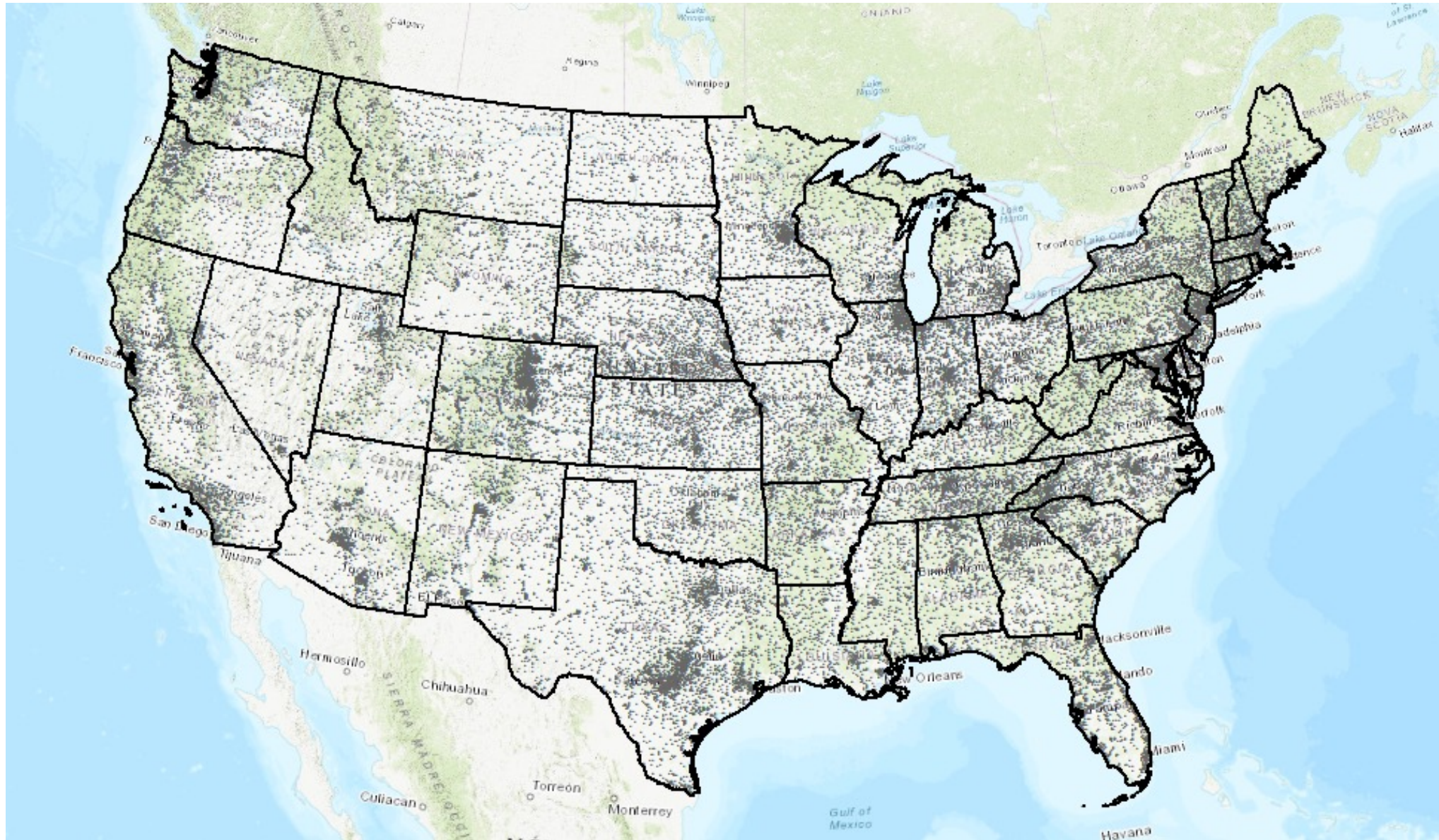




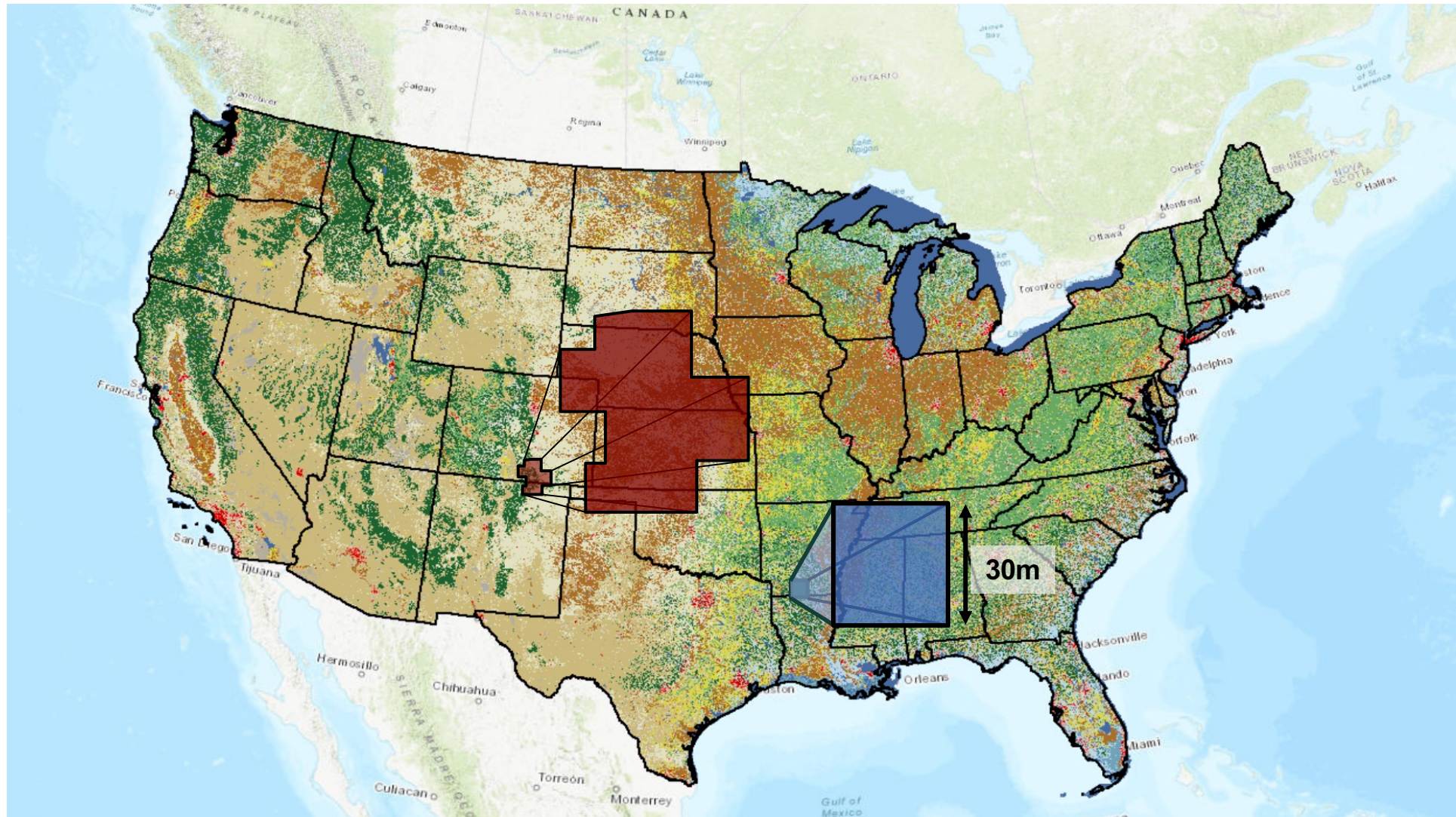
Legend



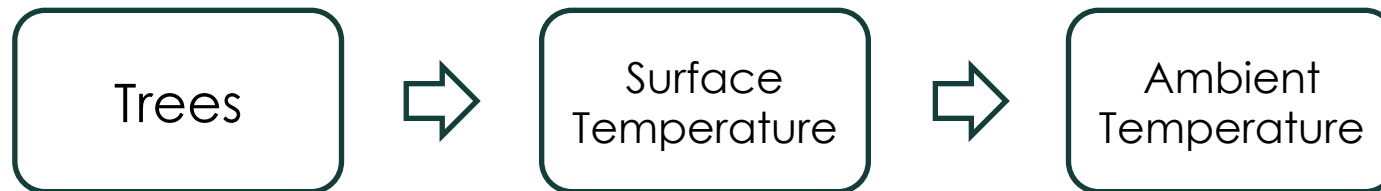
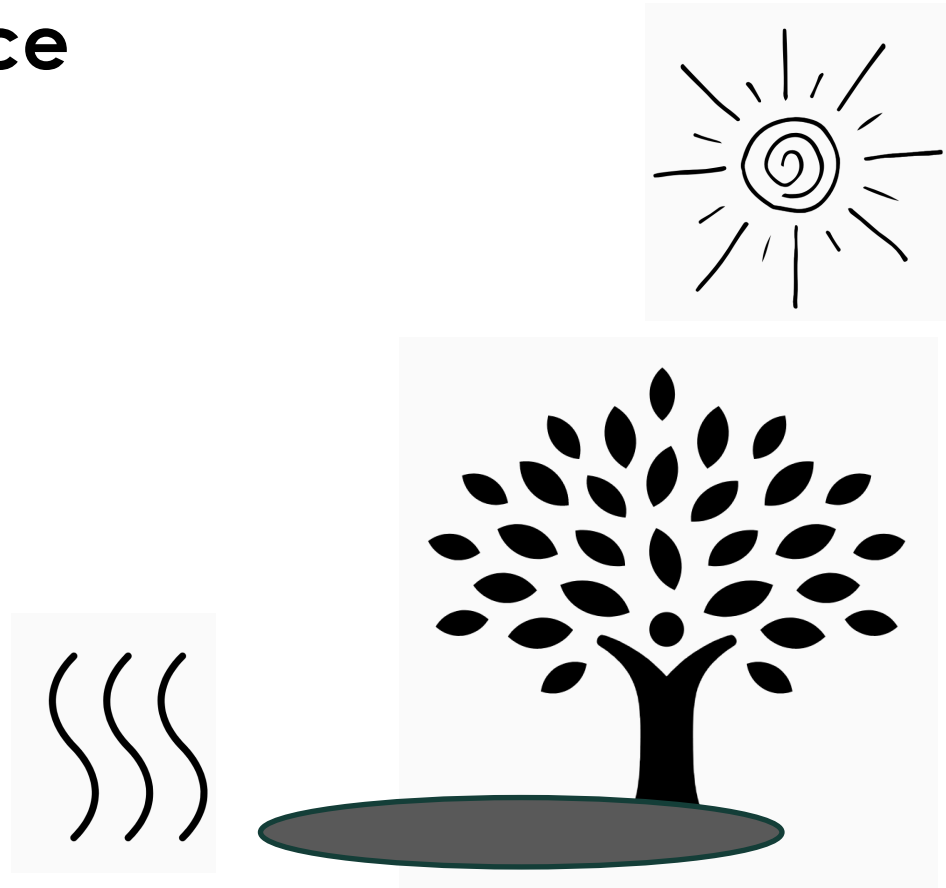
56k Weather Stations



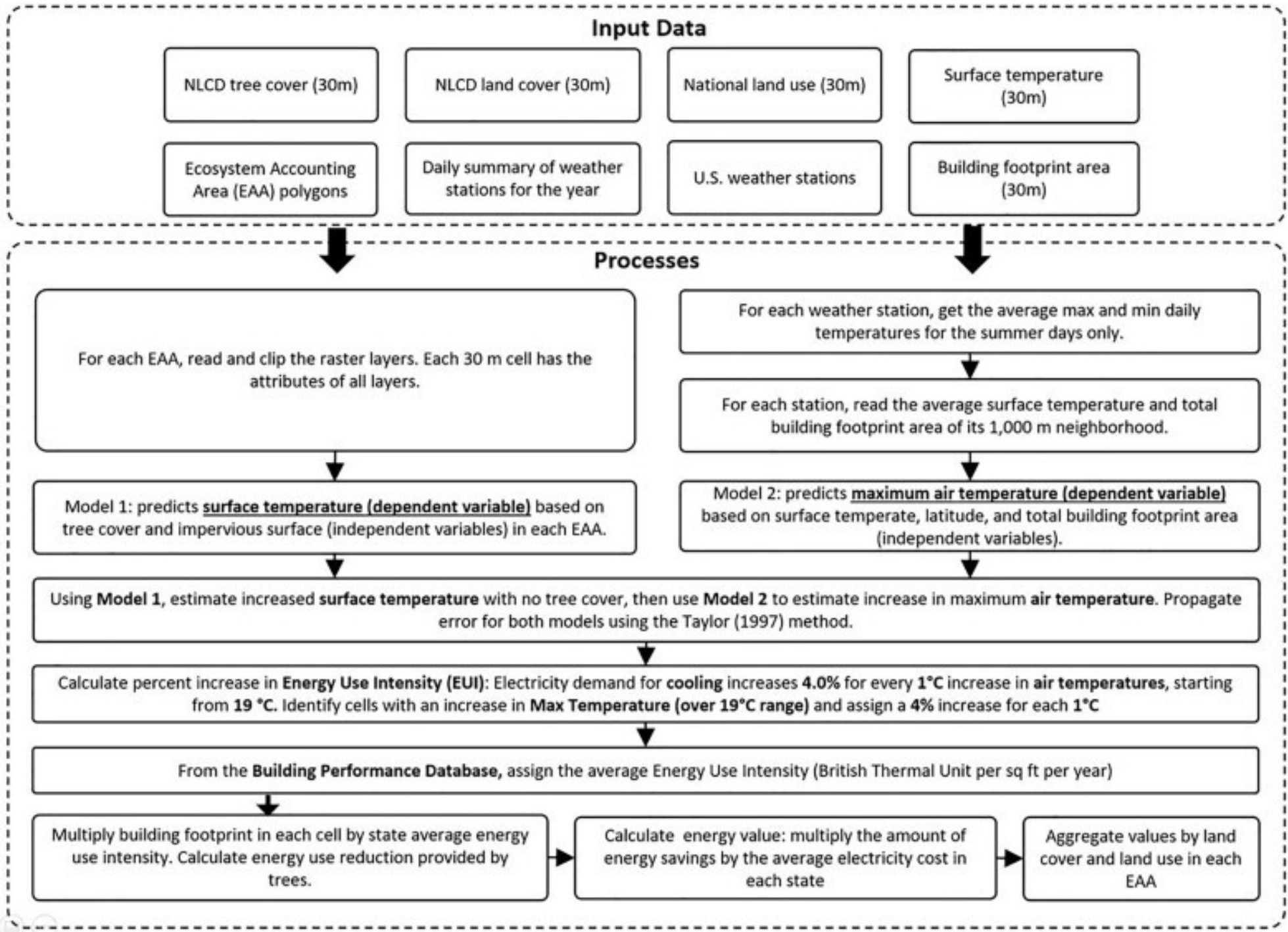
Spatial Data Unit vs. Ecosystem Accounting Area



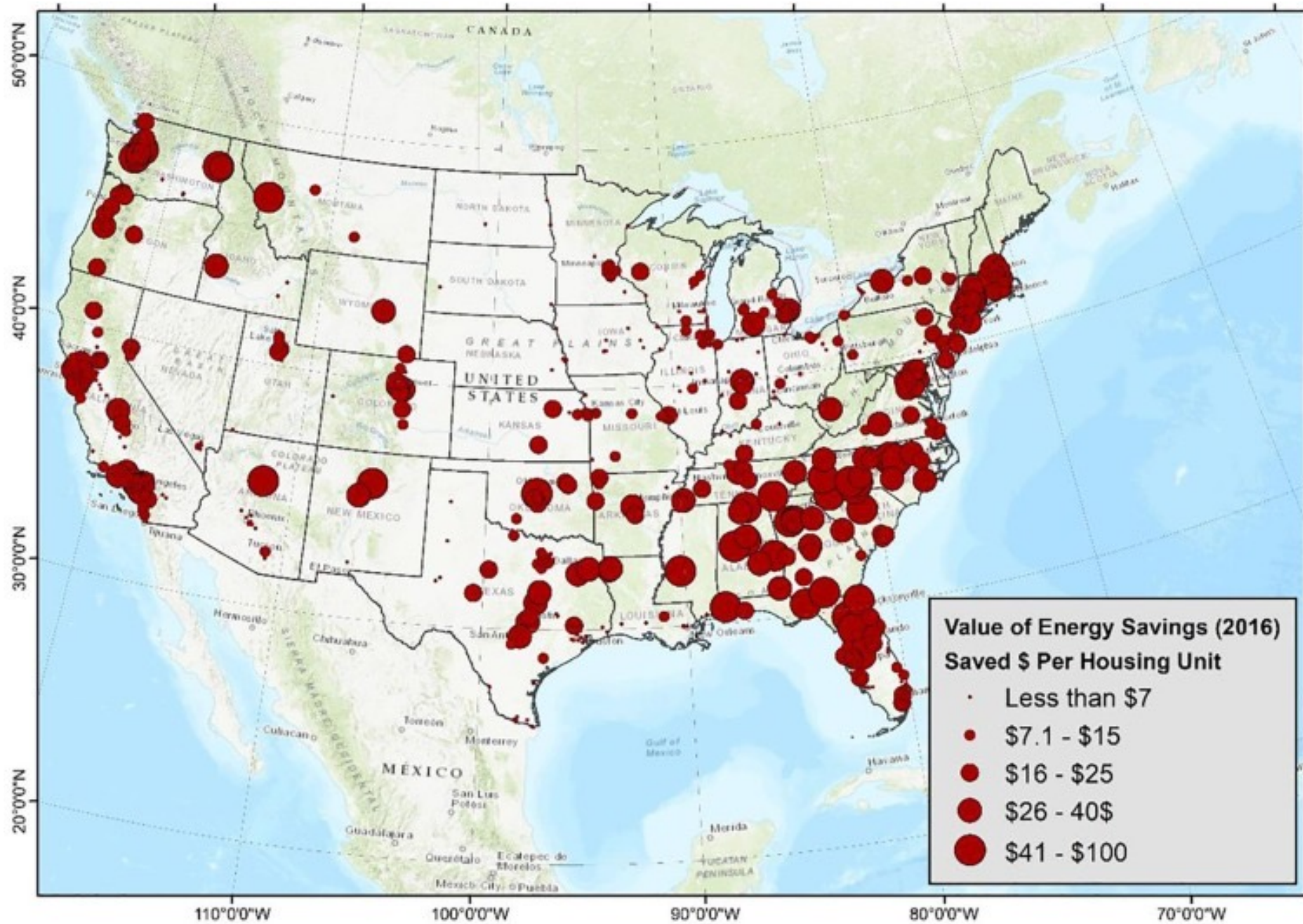
Conceptualizing the Role of Trees in the Energy Balance



The Heat Mitigation Model



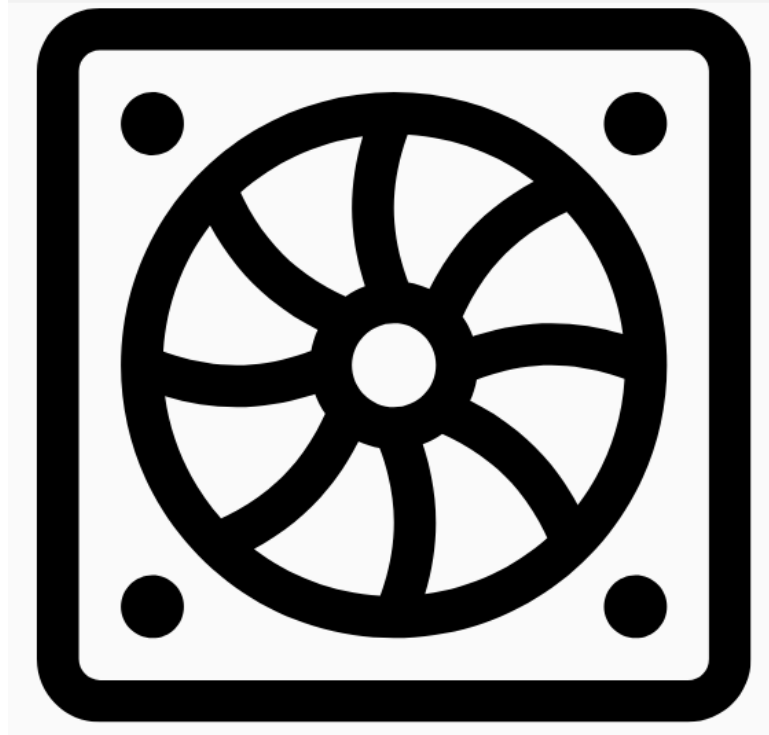
Results

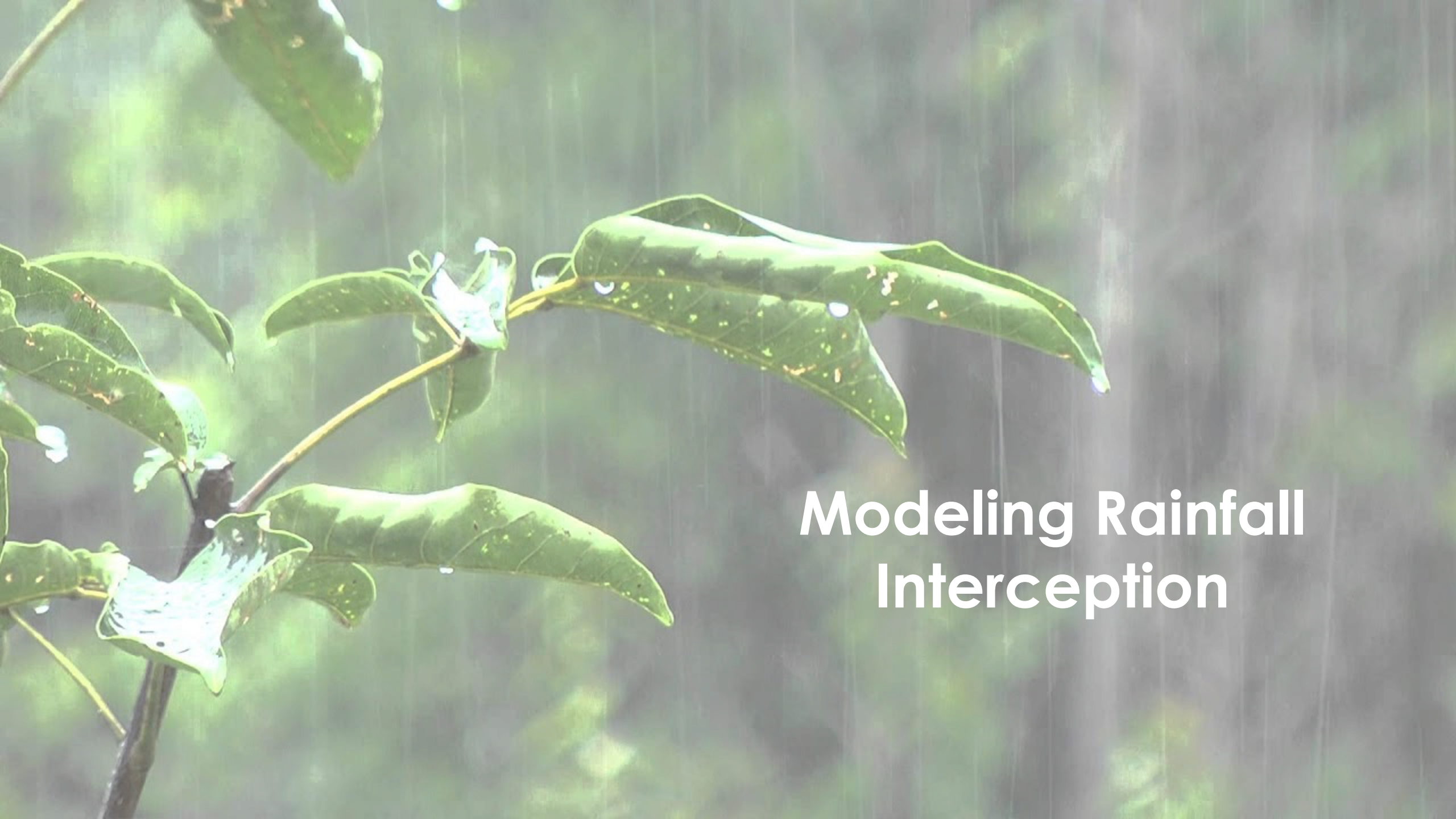


Results

In 2011:
4,098 and, valued at
\$523 million

In 2016:
4,229 GWh valued at
\$539 million





Modeling Rainfall Interception

Rainfall Interception Data Infrastructure

1. NLCD Tree Canopy
2. NLCD Land Cover
3. Weather Station
4. MODIS Seasonality



What is leaf area index (LAI)?

Leaf area index (LAI) quantifies the amount of leaf material in a canopy. By definition, it is the ratio of one-sided leaf area per unit ground area. LAI is unitless because it is a ratio of areas. For example, a canopy with an LAI of 1 has a 1:1 ratio of leaf area to ground area (Figure 1a). A canopy with an leaf area index of 3 would have a 3:1 ratio of leaf area to ground area (Figure 1b).



GROUND AREA = 1m^2
LEAF AREA = 1m^2
LAI = LEAF AREA:GROUND AREA = 1:1 = 1



GROUND AREA = 1m^2
LEAF AREA = 3m^2
LAI = LEAF AREA:GROUND AREA = 3:1 = 3

Introducing the Model Components

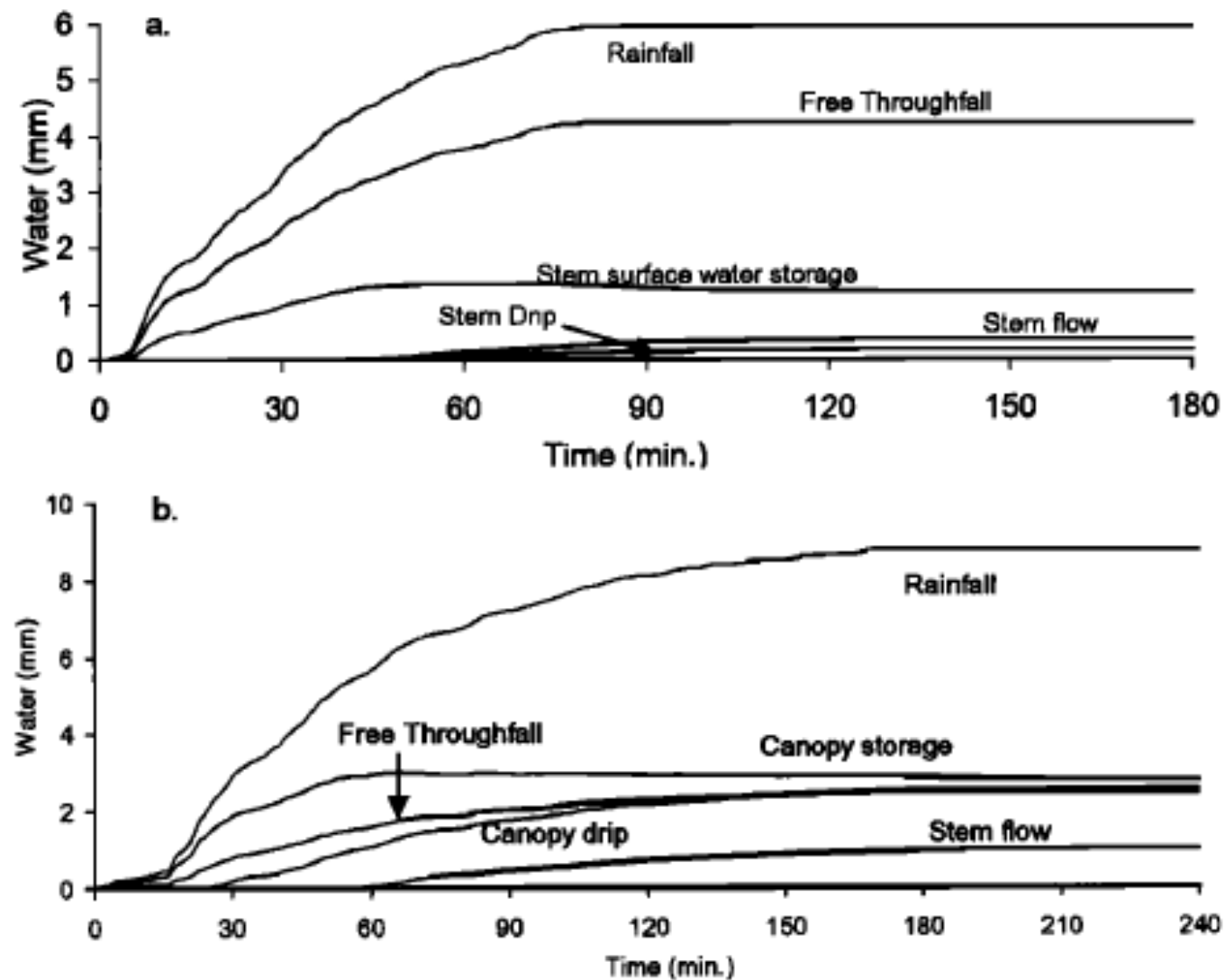
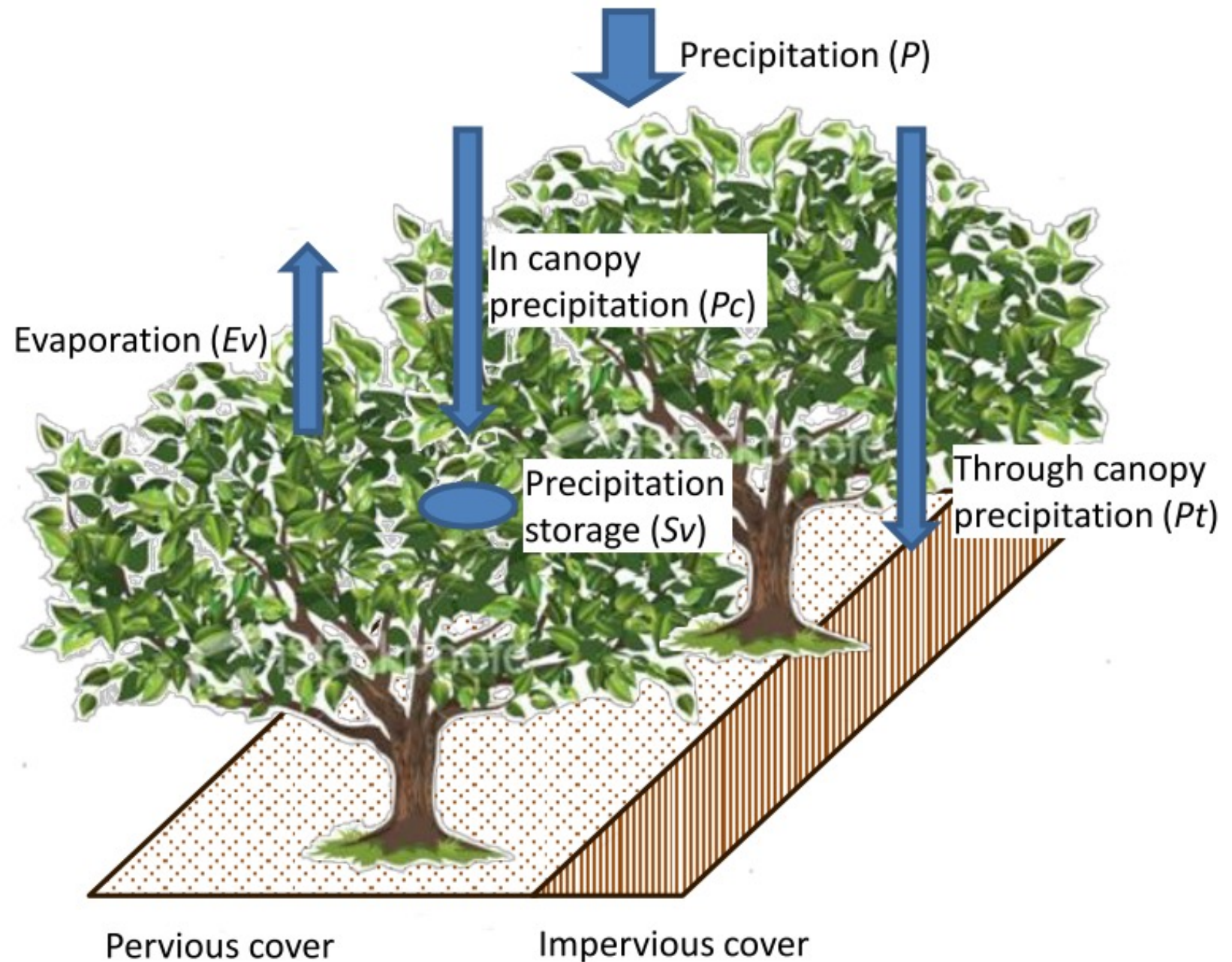
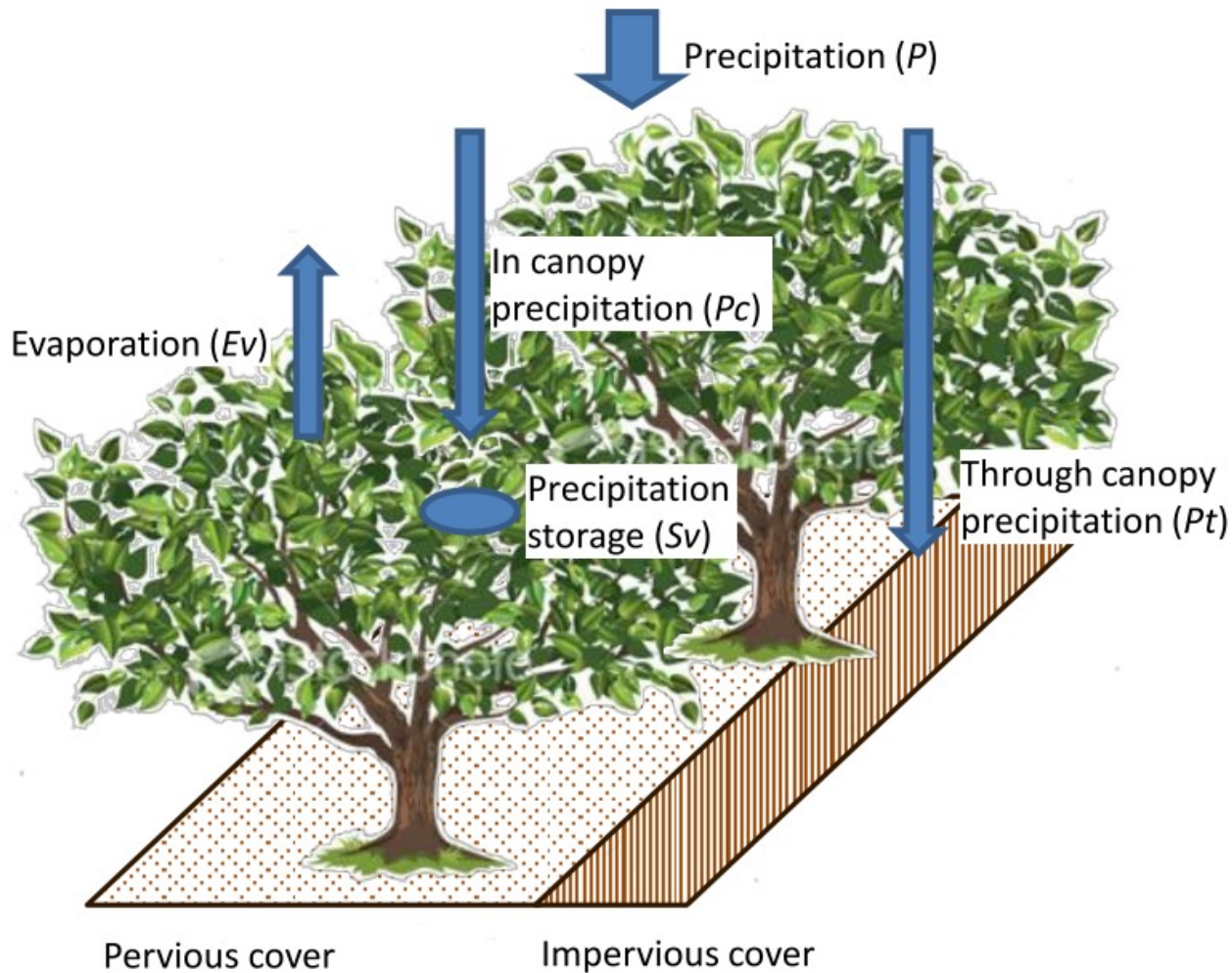


Figure 8. Rainfall interception processes. (a) Rainfall interception on the pear tree started at 0000:00, January 4, 1998, and it lasted about 3 hours. (b) Rainfall interception on the oak tree started at 0052:00, February 4, 1997, and it lasted about 80 min.

Xiao, Q., McPherson, E. G., Ustin, S. L., & Grismer, M. E. (2000). A new approach to modeling tree rainfall interception. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, 105(D23), 29173-29188.

Key Terms





$$Sv_{max} = S_L LAI$$

SL is specific leaf storage of water (=0.0002 m).

$$Pc = P - Pt$$

$$Pt = P * (1 - c)$$

$$C = 1 - e^{-k * LAI}$$

k is an extinction coefficient (=0.7 for trees and 0.3 for shrubs)

Rainfall Interception Model

Input Data

Ecosystem Accounting Area (EAA) polygons

List of stations and their coordinates

MODIS start and end of season of the year (500m)

Weather station data

NLCD Tree Cover (30m)

Copernicus LAI for leaf-on and leaf-off time (330m)

Processes

Through a loop, get the boundary of an EAA.

Find the weather stations within this EAA; if nonexistent, expand the search radius to 4.8 km.

Assign leaf-on and leaf-off dates to each station.

For each station, get all daily rainfall events with leaf-on/leaf-off tag.

For each cell, get the tree cover area.

For each cell, get the leaf-on/off LAI values.

For each cell, calculate the maximum storage capacity using tree cover and LAI.

Use the matrix multiplication function to multiply the vector of rainfall events with the flattened tree cover array to calculate the interception of each event and cell; sum interception for all events.

For cities with CSOs, value rainfall interception for wastewater treatment plants by multiplying interception by 25.5% (percentage of interception above impervious surface) and valuing intercepted rainfall at \$2.58 per m³.

Aggregate the cell-level values based on land cover in each EAA.

Results

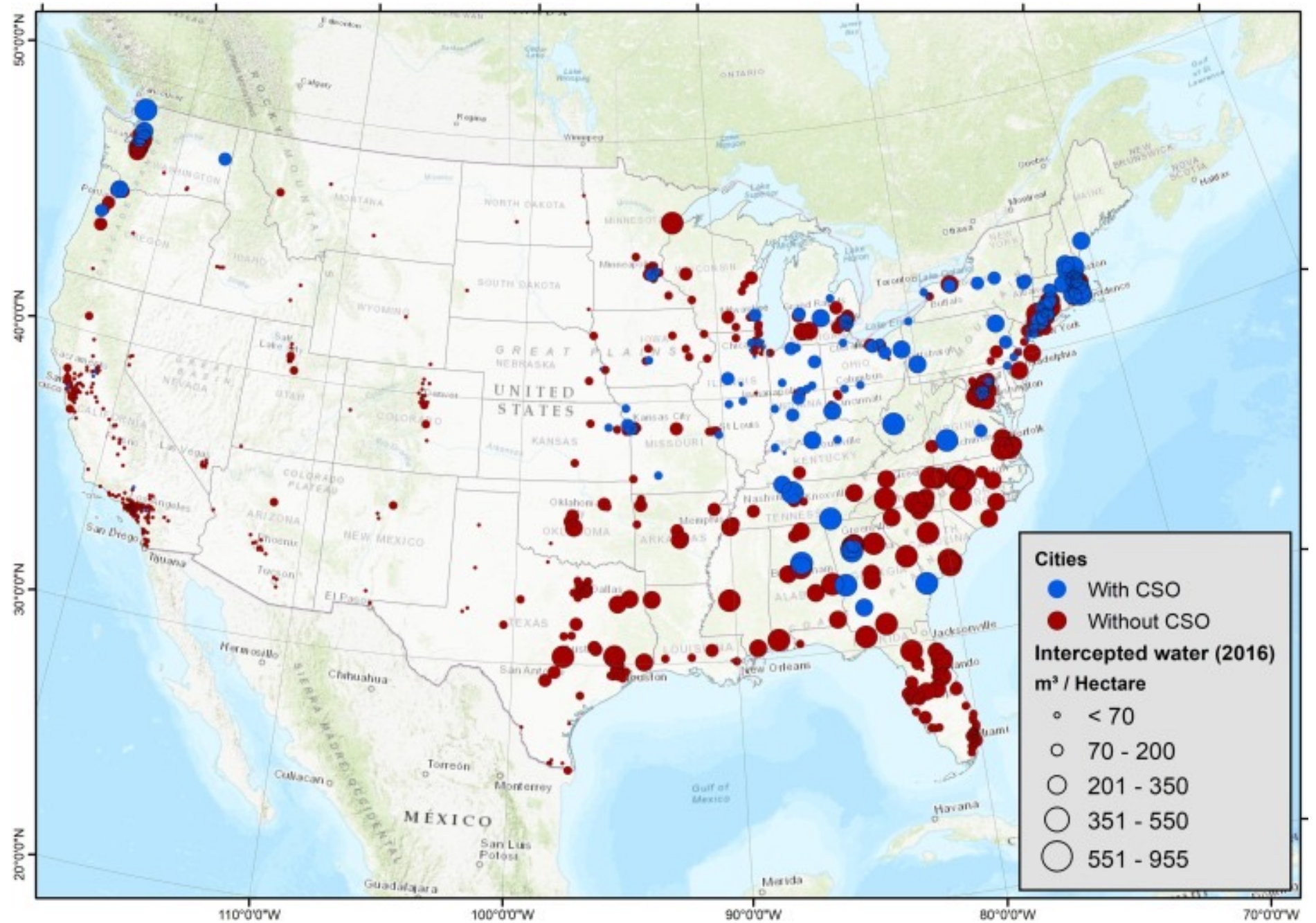


In 2011:
2,422 million m³, valued at **\$434 million**

In 2016:
2,627 million m³ valued at **\$425 million**



Results



City	Population	Average Cooling Energy Use (KBTU)	Electricity Cost (\$/KWh)	Energy Savings (million \$)						Rainfall Interception (m ³ * 10 ⁶)							
				2011			2016			2011				2016			
				Lower CI (95%)	Mean	Upper CI (95%)	Lower CI (95%)	Mean	Upper CI (95%)	Copernicus LAI	i-Tree LAI Average	i-Tree +10%	Total Canopy Rain	Copernicus LAI	i-Tree LAI Average	i-Tree +10%	Total Canopy Rain
New York, NY*	8,175,133	17	0.18	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	5.0	11.0	12.0	268.5	5.2	11.4	12.4	179.0
Los Angeles, CA	3,792,621	14	0.20	14.4	16.5	18.6	14.5	16.6	18.7	1.4	4.8	5.2	79.4	1.0	3.5	3.8	65.4
Chicago, IL*	2,695,598	15	0.13	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.5	1.3	4.3	4.6	68.2	1.2	3.9	4.3	63.3
Houston, TX	2,099,451	21	0.12	1.7	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.9	2.2	13.2	30.8	33.6	754.1	18.6	42.1	46.1	1,673.7
Philadelphia, PA*	1,526,006	27	0.14	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	3.5	6.3	6.9	150.5	3.0	5.8	6.3	94.7
Phoenix, AZ	1,445,632	30	0.12	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
San Antonio, TX	1,327,407	21	0.12	5.3	5.9	6.6	5.4	6.0	6.7	7.2	20.5	22.3	415.5	13.4	39.1	42.7	1,258.7
San Diego, CA	1,307,402	14	0.20	4.4	5.1	5.7	4.5	5.2	5.9	0.6	2.3	2.5	27.9	0.5	2.1	2.2	26.3
Dallas, TX	1,197,816	21	0.12	3.9	4.2	4.6	3.9	4.3	4.7	5.3	19.1	20.8	468.8	9.0	30.5	33.4	825.9
San Jose, CA	945,942	14	0.20	1.8	2.0	2.3	1.8	2.1	2.3	0.6	1.9	2.0	22.0	0.5	1.6	1.7	27.8
Jacksonville, FL	821,784	22	0.12	12.3	14.0	15.8	13.1	15.1	17.1	127.4	199.9	218.4	5,429.6	132.3	204.7	223.8	5,668.9
Indianapolis, IN*	820,445	23	0.12	5.7	6.2	6.6	5.8	6.2	6.7	13.8	25.8	28.1	468.3	12.0	21.3	23.2	431.6
San Francisco, CA*	805,235	14	0.20	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	5.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	8.1
Austin, TX	790,390	21	0.12	9.1	10.5	11.9	9.2	10.6	12.0	10.1	29.0	31.4	425.6	18.3	54.8	59.7	1,549.9
Columbus, OH*	787,033	20	0.12	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.3	2.4	6.3	13.2	14.4	233.0	5.2	10.7	11.7	152.3
Fort Worth, TX	741,206	21	0.12	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.6	9.8	10.7	217.7	3.3	12.5	13.6	309.8
Charlotte, NC	731,424	31	0.12	12.9	14.6	16.3	13.6	15.5	17.4	21.2	50.1	54.8	1,060.8	20.5	47.0	51.3	965.1
Detroit, MI*	713,777	14	0.15	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.7	4.6	5.0	71.9	1.6	4.2	4.5	51.1
Memphis, TN	646,889	33	0.11	4.9	5.3	5.7	5.0	5.4	5.9	19.7	39.4	43.1	1,025.8	20.2	38.9	42.6	980.8
Baltimore, MD*	620,961	20	0.13	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.4	4.8	5.3	101.8	1.8	3.9	4.2	59.6
Boston, MA*	617,594	16	0.23	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.4	3.1	3.4	51.4	1.2	2.9	3.2	35.8
Seattle, WA*	608,660	30	0.09	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.7	3.1	2.4	6.9	7.5	64.0	2.2	6.5	7.1	78.5
Washington, DC*	601,723	9	0.13	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.8	3.8	4.1	59.8	1.7	3.6	3.9	47.2
Nashville, TN*	601,222	33	0.11	6.4	7.3	8.1	6.4	7.4	8.3	79.8	118.8	129.5	2,832.2	80.3	114.0	124.5	2,632.5
Denver, CO	600,158	16	0.12	3.5	5.1	6.6	3.5	5.0	6.5	0.4	1.4	1.6	14.6	0.4	1.3	1.4	13.4
Louisville, KY*	597,337	28	0.10	2.7	3.0	3.2	2.8	3.0	3.3	31.1	47.9	52.4	1,148.3	29.6	44.5	48.6	864.4
Milwaukee, WI*	594,833	14	0.14	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	4.4	4.8	55.8	1.7	5.1	5.6	64.8
Portland, OR*	583,776	19	0.11	4.0	5.3	6.6	4.1	5.4	6.8	8.9	16.8	18.3	182.3	8.8	17.1	18.7	262.0
Las Vegas, NV	583,756	25	0.12	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Oklahoma City, OK	579,999	34	0.10	4.7	5.2	5.8	4.8	5.3	5.8	15.3	36.2	39.4	820.3	19.4	45.0	49.1	899.9
Albuquerque, NM	545,852	17	0.13	4.0	8.2	12.5	4.0	8.2	12.5	0.1	0.8	0.8	6.4	0.2	1.1	1.1	8.9

Building the Supply Table

Ecosystem Accounting Area	Service Type	year	Ecosystem types (Land cover)															
			Open Water	Developed - Open	Developed - Low	Developed - Medium	Developed - High	Barren	Deciduous Forest	Evergreen Forest	Mixed Forest	Scrub/shrub	Grassland/Herbaceous	Pasture/Hay	Cultivated Crops	Woody Wetlands	Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	Total
All U.S. cities (population>=50,000)	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2001	7,647.7	320,911.4	209,883.4	54,797.1	3,327.4	1,199.0	422,914.2	260,253.1	69,532.0	37,858.4	22,132.8	18,067.9	10,728.6	300,915.5	15,339.8	1,755,508.2
		2011	5.5	404,770.9	266,974.4	70,641.5	7,073.8	1,872.6	433,311.9	184,358.4	59,537.3	49,801.8	35,074.9	25,727.2	14,510.1	303,279.8	16,909.7	1,873,849.7
	Energy Savings by urban trees mWh	2001	0.0	686,907.8	1,195,035.5	436,080.9	39,102.9	716.8	193,749.1	134,299.6	36,265.7	25,264.6	14,026.5	12,641.4	16,846.8	32,990.7	1,291.7	2,825,220.1
		2011		967,225.9	1,799,185.3	733,586.3	87,435.7	622.4	117,722.0	70,589.8	19,465.6	20,085.0	14,030.8	8,470.0	2,902.2	13,480.5	1,210.8	3,856,012.2
Colorado	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2001	12.3	626.6	1,684.2	258.3	6.7	0.1	134.8	579.8	0.4	184.0	36.1	6.3	12.2	216.9	16.7	3,775.3
		2011	0.0	770.6	2,317.4	665.4	59.2	1.1	131.7	522.5	0.6	350.7	80.2	11.7	22.0	235.6	23.1	5,191.8
	Energy Savings by urban trees mWh	2001		11,578.5	51,036.4	8,749.4	315.5	0.3	442.0	571.3	0.9	532.6	140.0	24.4	83.5	814.1	65.2	74,354.1
		2011		16,970.1	93,034.7	30,284.4	3,441.3	6.4	486.9	628.3	5.0	876.0	216.9	30.0	32.5	720.0	62.6	146,795.0
Denver	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2001	2.5	151.7	410.8	53.0	1.9	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.6	1.8	0.2	1.0	23.7	1.0	649.4
		2011	0.0	174.0	515.8	142.8	19.6	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.7	3.0	0.1	4.8	23.8	0.8	886.8
	Energy Savings by urban trees mWh	2001	0.0	4,206.0	16,498.0	2,267.8	109.2	0.0	16.4	0.3	0.8	6.2	5.2	0.0	2.3	49.1	2.0	23,163.4
		2011	0.0	6,974.7	30,416.9	8,983.4	1,445.6	0.0	22.6	0.5	4.5	2.9	15.8	0.0	1.2	65.7	3.1	47,936.7
Sensitivity analysis on Denver	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2011	32.1	3,156.6	10,063.7	3,172.1	432.4	2.0	7.0	3.8	0.7	3.9	36.9	2.9	37.1	222.5	4.8	17,178.4
	Energy Savings by urban trees mWh	2011	0.0	6,585.6	38,124.8	12,476.1	1,880.9	0.4	14.4	0.3	2.0	3.8	5.7	0.0	3.1	40.9	1.6	59,139.7

Building the Use Table

Ecosystem Accounting Area	Service Type	Year	Economic units										Households (No NAICS Code)	No NAICS equivalent	Total
			NAICS 11 Livestock	Wastewater treatment 221320	NAICS 31-33 Manufacturing	NAICS 44-45 Retail	NAICS 48-49 Transport warehousing	NAICS 51-56 Offices	NAICS 61 Educational services	NAICS 62 Health care & social assistance	NAICS 71 Entertainment	NAICS 92 Government			
All U.S. cities (population >=50,000)	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2001	0.0	1,755,508.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,755,508.2
		2011	0.0	1,873,849.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,873,849.7
	Energy Savings by urban trees MegaWh	2001	325.6	0.0	16,047.8	28,927.2	10,951.7	28,933.7	26,132.7	9,097.3	840.5	8,615.9	2,624,267.5	71,080.1	2,825,220.1
		2011	302.3	0.0	17,722.2	25,660.4	13,799.7	31,539.6	33,475.0	9,472.4	1,421.8	6,816.4	3,639,349.7	76,452.6	3,856,012.2
Colorado	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2001	0.0	3,775.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3,775.3
		2011	0.0	5,191.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5,191.8
	Energy Savings by urban trees MegaWh	2001	0.5	0.0	76.5	248.1	98.4	311.0	561.1	166.3	11.8	177.5	71,386.3	1,316.6	74,354.1
		2011	2.7	0.0	411.0	1,218.9	330.1	1,428.8	1,621.2	513.6	77.4	611.2	137,884.7	2,695.4	146,795.0
Denver	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2001	0.0	649.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	649.4
		2011	0.0	886.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	886.8
	Energy Savings by urban trees MegaWh	2001	0.0	0.0	15.9	38.6	34.3	76.8	297.2	64.7	9.9	114.2	22,199.4	312.5	23,163.4
		2011	0.8	0.0	167.1	340.1	169.4	465.5	772.3	198.1	70.5	408.2	44,609.0	735.9	47,936.7
Sensitivity analysis on Denver	Intercepted water by urban trees (1000m3)	2011	0.0	17,178.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17,178.4
	Energy Savings by urban trees MegaWh	2011	2.1	0.0	257.0	305.3	280.3	742.2	951.5	20.7	37.6	520.7	56,004.4	17.2	59,139.7

Summary

- For modeling the ecosystem services of trees, we can use the physical models.
- Simplifying assumptions is an inevitable step in such estimations.
- Confidence intervals and error propagation is an essential component.
- Preparing accounting tables requires a model that is designed for such outputs.



Session 3 Summary

- Multiple projects were highlighted that present clear methods and policy applications for valuing ecosystems services in multiple countries and for ecosystem service types.
- Remote sensing is a major component in the valuation of ecosystem services.
- There is a need for continued use of these data, alongside other forms of data, for continued benefits of ecosystems to people and protection of these ecosystems for the sustainable health of the planet.



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Thank You!

