



DATA & APPLICATIONS ONLINE

Species Distribution Grids

Overview

One of the consequences of human influence on the Earth's surface is habitat loss for a large number of species. To aid conservationists in determining where these species occur and to assist with ecological modeling, a consortium of conservation organizations joined forces to develop a digital library of the distribution of the birds and mammals of the Americas and amphibians of the world. The Global Species Grids Web site provides access to vector and raster representation of the distribution of nearly 12,000 species.

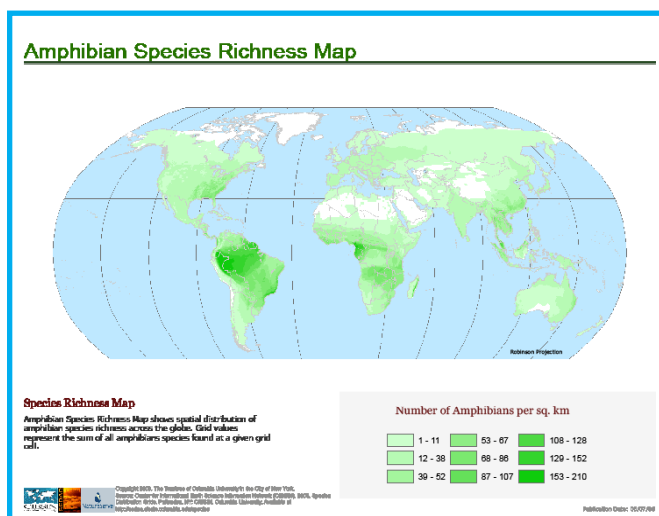
Data

Go to <http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/species> to download data.

The data download page provides the user with basic or advanced search capabilities for species in each of the three classes—amphibia, aves, and mammalia—using any number of criteria including class, family, genus, and IUCN Red List endangerment status. Users may download the search results as zip files, with a readme file explaining how to use the data and a full metadata record of each of the data sets bundled in the file.

Project Highlights

The Web site includes vector shapefiles produced by a consortium led by NatureServe, as well as original grids (a raster version of the vector data) and presence



grids (raster data depicting the presence or absence for each species), produced by SEDAC. The grids are at 1-km (30 arc-second) resolution in GeoTIFF format. In addition, SEDAC has created richness grids for each class and family.

Data sets include:

- 5,810 species of amphibia
- 4,166 species of aves
- 1,716 species of mammalia.

In addition, users may download species richness maps at continental and global scales for each of the three classes.

To learn more, go to <http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/species>

