DATA & APPLICATIONS ONLINE

Last of the Wild, version 2

Overview

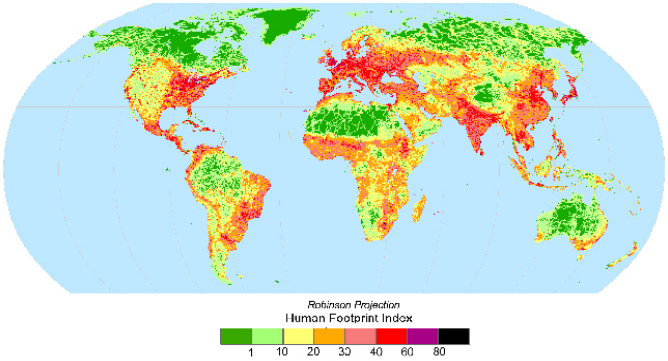
Human influence is a global driver of ecological processes on the planet, on par with climatic trends, geological forces, and astronomical variations. The Wildlife Conservation Society and CIESIN at Columbia University have systematically mapped and measured the human influence on Earth's land surface today.

Last of The Wild, version 2, depicts human influence on terrestrial ecosystems using data sets compiled on or around 2000 (1995–2004), updating and replacing the earlier version.

About the Data

Three v2 data sets: Last of the Wild (wild areas); Global Human Influence Index (GHII) (anthropogenic impacts on the environment); and Global Human Footprint (GHII normalized by biome); each are mapped in Interrupted Goode Homosoline Projection (IGHP) and geographic projections:

- Global data: available in the geographic coordinate system at 30 arc-second grid cell size, and the IGHP at 1km grid cell size
- Continental-level data: Subsets of the global data, available only in the geographic coordinate system
- Format: Grid data available in ArcInfo grids and .BIL files; vector data available in shapefiles
- Map gallery of 21 high-resolution global and continental scale maps
- Interactive map tool: global map allowing users to pan, zoom, and switch layers (between Last of the Wild, GHII, and Global Human Footprint)
- Documentation: The methods page provides detailed information on how the data sets were constructed. The individual data set pages contain data set descriptions (including the data sources used in generating the product) and product metadata. A readme file explaining how to use the data is included in each data download.



Data Access

Go to http://bit.ly/1qenMJY to download data, maps, and information.

References

Scott, M. 2003. The Human Footprint. *Sensing Our Planet: NASA Earth Science Research Features*. http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/footprint/.

Di Marco, M., Buchanan, G. M., Szantoi, Z., Holmgren, M., Grottolo Marasini, G., Gross, D., Tranquilli, S., Boitani, L., and Rondinini, C. 2014. Drivers of extinction risk in African mammals: the interplay of distribution state, human pressure, conservation response and species biology. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 369 (1643). http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2013.0198.

Sandel, B., and Svenning, J.-C. 2013. Human impacts drive a global topographic signature in tree cover. *Nature Communications* 4(2474). http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/ncomms3474.

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