

Cambio de Cobertura Boscosa en el Sureste de México, Belice, y KBAs Selectas de Guatemala, Belize, and Selected KBAs of Guatemala, Belize, and Selected KBAs of Guatemala

Datos del análisis forestal

El análisis de referencia de la cobertura y el cambio de los bosques se realizó como parte del proyecto "Refinamiento y Monitoreo de las Metas de Conservación en Mesoamérica. El análisis incluyó los cinco estados del sureste de México (Tabasco, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatán y Quintana Roo), Belice y cuatro Áreas Clave de Biodiversidad (KBAs) en Guatemala. Todas estas áreas han experimentado cierta pérdida forestal en los últimos años, aunque las estimaciones sobre las tasas de la misma han variado muchísimo. La destrucción del hábitat natural, resultado de la degradación de vegetación, representa una amenaza importante tanto para la biodiversidad como para los medios de vida de los habitantes del lugar. Por lo tanto, analizar y trazar un mapa de esta destrucción es de vital importancia para los esfuerzos de conservación en la región. En 2006, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), el Belice Tropical Forest Studies, la Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), y Conservación Internacional, apoyados por el Fondo de Alianzas para los Ecosistemas Críticos (CEPF), iniciaron un proyecto para trazar un mapa de los cambios forestales entre los años 1990-2000 y 2000-2005.

Metodología

Para este proyecto, bosque se define como una hiedra cerrada, un bosque natural maduro. Se trazó un mapa de la cobertura y los cambios forestales mediante el análisis de imágenes digitales Landsat de los años 1990, 2000 y 2005. La mayoría de las imágenes de los años 1990 y 2000 se obtuvieron gratuitamente por cortesía de Global Land Cover Facility (GLCF, glcf.umiac.edu) de la Universidad de Maryland. Considerando la falta del SIC que se produjeron en 2003, y que resultaron en bandas sin datos o espacios vacíos en una imagen Landsat, USGS usó un producto para rellenar espacios basado en un juego de imágenes Landsat 3-C de definidas por el usuario. Los productos resultantes con espacios rellenos utilizados en este proyecto fueron generados usando hasta cinco imágenes SIC-off.

Sureste de México

El análisis se realizó a una resolución espacial de 28.5 metros. Las imágenes Landsat de los años 1990 y 2000 se registraron juntas y la clasificación de la cobertura y los cambios forestales se realizaron con datos multitemporales. En la actualización del año 2005, las imágenes se registraron junto con las imágenes del año 2000 y la clasificación se realizó con datos multitemporales. Con el fin de hacer una clasificación de 3 fechas, se generó una matriz con las clasificaciones de los años 1990-2000 y 2000-2005 a fin de resaltar las coincidencias de la categoría y la redefinición, y se creó un sistema de referencia para las imágenes. Dada la complejidad del terreno, se utilizaron múltiples métodos de clasificación supervisada, entre los que se incluye el MLC, el See5 (mediante la interfaz del Arbol de Clasificación y Regresión [CART] por sus siglas en inglés) y una extensión Secuencial Máxima a Posterior (SMAP) por sus siglas en inglés). Si bien los procesos de clasificación difieren, los analistas utilizan las mismas técnicas. En todos los casos, los cambios se clasifican directamente en las imágenes multitemporales y se crearon numerosos subclases para cada clase final. Se hicieron varias iteraciones y las subclases que se obtuvieron a partir de la iteración final se unieron a la clasificación. Los analistas definieron parcelas de entrenamiento para cada categoría de cobertura de suelo o cambio, basándose en la interpretación visual y datos de referencia del terreno e imágenes de alta resolución, como Quickbird, disponibles en Google Earth. Estas parcelas de entrenamiento luego se utilizan como un aporte para el MLC, CART y See5, así como el clasificador SMAP. Las clasificaciones finales se mejoraron, en primer lugar, mediante la aplicación de un filtro de mayoría 3 por 3, seguido de un proceso de eliminación para descartar las áreas de menos de 2 hectáreas. Este método sigue a Harper et al. 2007.

El análisis forestal y de cambios del sureste de México incorporó datos de verificación del terreno de varias zonas, entre las que se incluyen: las tres reservas de la biosfera conocidas como El Ocote, La Sepultura y El Triunfo, Jaltenango y la Depresión Central, del Estado de Chiapas, así como datos también de la zona central del Estado de Quintana Roo. Los biólogos de ECOSUR, Quintana Roo, ayudaron a validar las zonas de la Península de Yucatán.

Belice

El análisis se realizó a una resolución espacial de 28.5 metros. Las imágenes Landsat de los años 1990 y 2000 se registraron juntas y la clasificación de la cobertura y los cambios forestales se realizaron con datos multitemporales. En la actualización del año 2005, las imágenes se registraron junto con las imágenes del año 2000 y la clasificación se generó en base a datos multitemporales. A fin de obtener una clasificación

Landsat imágenes usadas en análisis Landsat imagery used in analysis

trayectoria	columna	fecha alrededor de 1990	fecha alrededor de 2000	fecha alrededor de 2005	país
row	col	date c 1990	date c 2000	date c 2005	country
18	45	28/03/85	17/04/01	20/05/07	México
18	46	13/04/88	17/04/01	26/07/06	México
18	47	31/03/86	29/03/00		
19	45	17/04/84	21/04/00	08/05/06	México
19	46	13/04/88	16/12/88	21/04/04	México
19	47	20/11/90	23/01/00	28/10/05	México/Belice
19	48	18/09/02	18/04/00	03/03/03	México
19	48	20/03/91	27/03/00	19/04/05	Guatemala
19	49	28/03/94	29/05/02	21/03/06	Belice
			03/04/00		
20	45	27/04/88	06/11/00	15/03/07	México
20	46	27/04/88	27/04/88	26/04/05	México
20	47	27/04/88	27/03/00	27/02/07	México
20	48	05/11/88	27/03/00	10/04/05	México/Guatemala
20	48	17/04/90	28/03/00	26/04/05	Guatemala
20	49	13/03/86	23/01/00	27/02/07	México/Guatemala
21	45	16/04/90	06/04/01	08/03/03	México
21	46	16/04/90	06/04/01	17/01/07	México
21	47	16/04/90	16/01/01	06/05/06	México
21	48	03/04/91	03/04/91	13/02/07	México
21	48	20/05/88	03/04/00	04/04/05	Guatemala
21	49	19/02/90	19/02/90	02/02/07	México/Guatemala
21	50	30/12/88	15/02/00	03/08/08	México
22	47	03/11/88	28/03/01	23/02/07	México
22	48	11/03/86	28/03/00	23/02/07	México
22	49	19/12/87	04/12/99	06/02/06	México
23	47	18/03/86	18/03/86	18/03/06	México
23	48	18/03/86	16/03/00	23/05/07	México
23	49	28/12/88	04/04/01	28/11/06	México
			24/10/99		

Approaches were employed including MLC, See5 (through the Classification and Regression Tree (CART) interface), and Sequential Maximum a Posterior (SMAP). While the underlying classification process differs, the same techniques are employed in Mesoamerica. The analysis extends included the five sub-east states of Mexico (Tabasco, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, and Quintana Roo), Belize, and four Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Guatemala. These areas have all experienced forest loss in recent years and, yet, actual estimates of the forest loss rates have varied greatly. Loss of natural forest habitat poses a major threat to both biodiversity and the livelihoods of local people and, therefore, analyzing and mapping this loss is vital to conservation efforts in the region. In 2006, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), Belice Tropical Forest Studies, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Conservation International, and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) initiated a project to map change in forest between c.1990, c.2000 and c.2005.

Forest Analysis Data

The baseline forest cover and change analysis was performed as part of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund project. "Refining and Monitoring Conservation Objectives in Mesoamerica". The analysis extends included the five sub-east states of Mexico (Tabasco, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, and Quintana Roo), Belize, and four Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Guatemala. These areas have all experienced forest loss in recent years and, yet, actual estimates of the forest loss rates have varied greatly. Loss of natural forest habitat poses a major threat to both biodiversity and the livelihoods of local people and, therefore, analyzing and mapping this loss is vital to conservation efforts in the region. In 2006, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), Belice Tropical Forest Studies, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Conservation International, and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) initiated a project to map change in forest between c.1990, c.2000 and c.2005.

Methodology

For this project, forest is defined as closed canopy, mature natural forest. Forest cover and change was mapped by analyzing Landsat satellite imagery from circa 1990, 2000, and 2005. Most of the images for circa 1990 and 2000 were obtained at no cost from the University of Maryland's Global Land Cover Facility (GLCF, glcf.umiac.edu). Imagery for circa 2005 was purchased directly from USGS. To account for the SIC failure that occurred in 2003 resulting in no-data striping or gaps, within a Landsat image, the USGS offered a gap-filled product generated based on a suite of user-defined input SIC-off Landsat images. The resulting gap-filled products used in this project were generated using up to five input SIC-off images.

Southeast Mexico

The analysis was conducted at a spatial resolution of 28.5 meters. The Landsat images from circa 1990 and 2000 were co-registered and the classification of forest cover and change conducted with the multi-temporal data. For the circa 2005 update, the images were co-registered with the circa 2000 images and the classification created with the multi-temporal data. To produce the 3-date classification, a matrix was generated using the circa 1990-2000 and circa 2000-2005 classifications to highlight class overlap, and redefining the input matrix, performed to yield the final 3-date classification. Due to the complex terrain in the area multiple supervised classification

con 3 fechas, se creó una matriz utilizando las clasificaciones de los años 1990-2000 y 2000-2005, resaltando así las coincidencias en los valores de las categorías de los archivos de entrada y la redefinición, y se creó un sistema de referencias para las imágenes. Se aplicó el algoritmo de máxima probabilidad. Se aplicó un filtro a la clasificación final, a fin de descartar las áreas de menos de 2 hectáreas.

La exactitud de la clasificación de la cobertura del suelo en Belice se calculó mediante la comparación con un producto de referencia detallado y validado en el campo, creado por Jan Merzman. Este producto, que consiste en la actualización del año 2005 del Mapa de los Ecosistemas de Belice de 2001 (Merzman Sabido, 2001), se basa en una combinación de la interpretación de imágenes Landsat y los datos de verificación del suelo que incluyen 125 parcelas de vegetación distribuidas en una zona muy amplia, ingresadas en el Sistema de Datos de Recursos Ambientales y de Biodiversidad de Belice (BERDS: www.biodiversity.be).

Se utilizó un sistema estratificado de coordenadas para extraer la verdadera categoría de la cobertura del suelo a partir del producto de vegetación, y se comparó con el mismo punto de la clasificación, a fin de determinar las áreas de coincidencia y las diferencias.

Guatemala El análisis para la región del norte del Petén se realizó a una resolución espacial de 30 metros. Las imágenes Landsat de 1990, 2000 y 2005 se registraron juntas y la clasificación de la cobertura y los cambios forestales se realizaron con datos multitemporales. En la región Norte de Petén resultan evidentes algunas diferencias en las categorías debido a las diferentes técnicas de procesamiento utilizadas para generar el producto para esa zona en concreto y las diferencias metodológicas de cambio y categorías de cobertura del suelo utilizadas. Algunas de estas últimas, como bosques que se inundan periódicamente, definidos como no forestales por los métodos de clasificación utilizados en otras partes del mundo, pueden estar combinadas con la categoría de bosques en esta zona. Asimismo, las zonas clasificadas como cambio en la región Norte de Petén dependen del tipo resultante de utilización del suelo. La explicación de las técnicas de procesamiento utilizadas en la región Norte de Petén está disponible (WCS, 2007). Para las demás áreas incluidas en el análisis, este se realizó con una resolución espacial de 28.5 metros. Las imágenes Landsat de alrededor de 1990 y 2000 fueron registradas juntas y la clasificación de la cobertura boscosa y cambio se realizaron con los datos multitemporales. En la actualización para alrededor del año 2005, las imágenes se registraron junto con las imágenes de alrededor del año 2000 y la clasificación se generó según datos multitemporales. A fin de obtener una clasificación con 3 fechas, se creó una matriz utilizando las clasificaciones de los años 1990-2000 y 2000-2005, resaltando así las coincidencias en los valores de las categorías de los archivos de entrada y la redefinición, y creando referencias para las imágenes de entrada para crear la clasificación final de 3 fechas. Se utilizó un algoritmo de máxima probabilidad a fin de generar las clasificaciones. Se aplicó un filtro a la clasificación final para descartar las zonas de menos de 2 hectáreas.

La precisión de la actualización de la clasificación de las extensiones de terreno en Guatemala realizada alrededor del año 2005, así como las del sureste de México y Belice, se calculó a partir de imágenes de alta resolución disponibles en Google Earth. Se utilizó un sistema estratificado 3 por 3, seguido de un proceso de eliminación para descartar las áreas de menos de 2 hectáreas. Este método sigue a Harper et al. 2007.

Referencias CONAP, WCS, 2007. Estimación de la Deforestación en la Reserva de Biosfera Maya, período 2006-2007. CONAP, WCS, USAID, Guatemala.

Harper, G.J., M.K. Steininger, C.J. Tucker, D. Juhn, F. Hawkins (2007). Fifty years of deforestation and forest fragmentation in Madagascar. Environmental Conservation 34(4): 1-9.

Merzman, J. C. and W. Sabido. 2001. Central America Ecosystems Map. Belice, CCAD/World Bank/Programme for Belice. Versión 2006/04/05.

Approaches were employed including MLC, See5 (through the Classification and Regression Tree (CART) interface), and Sequential Maximum a Posterior (SMAP). While the underlying classification process differs, the same techniques are employed in Mesoamerica. The analysis extends included the five sub-east states of Mexico (Tabasco, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, and Quintana Roo), Belize, and four Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Guatemala. These areas have all experienced forest loss in recent years and, yet, actual estimates of the forest loss rates have varied greatly. Loss of natural forest habitat poses a major threat to both biodiversity and the livelihoods of local people and, therefore, analyzing and mapping this loss is vital to conservation efforts in the region. In 2006, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), Belice Tropical Forest Studies, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Conservation International, and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) initiated a project to map change in forest between c.1990, c.2000 and c.2005.

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The analysis was conducted at a spatial resolution of 30 meters. The Landsat images from circa 1990, 2000, and 2005 were co-registered and the classification of forest cover and change conducted with the multi-temporal data. For the circa 2005 update, the images were co-registered with the circa 2000 images and the classification created with the multi-temporal data. To produce the 3-date classification, a matrix was generated using the circa 1990-2000 and circa 2000-2005 classifications to highlight class overlap, and redefining the input matrix, performed to yield the final 3-date classification. Due to the complex terrain in the area multiple supervised classification

Accuracy of the final classification for Belize was estimated by comparing with an in-depth field-validated vegetation product generated by Jan Merzman. This product, consisting of the 2005 update to the 2001 Belize Ecosystems Map (Merzman &

Cambio de cobertura boscosa de 1990 a 2005 dentro de Áreas Clave de Biodiversidad (KBAs) en el Sureste de México, Belice y Guatemala.

La pérdida de hábitat es una de los principales factores que conducen a la amenaza de extinción de especies, así que una estrategia exitosa de conservación debería prevenir la conversión del hábitat dentro de las Áreas Clave de Biodiversidad (KBA por sus siglas en inglés)—áreas en las que ocurren especies de distribución restringida o en peligro. El monitoreo a través de plataformas de detección remota revelan modificaciones naturales y humanas de los hábitat naturales. Estos hábitat son importantes porque sostienen elementos críticos de biodiversidad y proporcionan servicios ambientales esenciales para las comunidades locales y para la sociedad en general (e.g., secuestro de carbono, protección de cuencas, polinización de plantas, formación de suelos). Datos satelitales de bajo costo a alta resolución pueden analizarse para medir cambios de cobertura de hábitat a lo largo del tiempo. El análisis que se presenta consistió en representar geográficamente en un mapa los cambios en la cobertura boscosa natural dentro de las KBAs del sureste de México, Belice, y 16 KBAs de Guatemala entre 1990, 2000, y 2005.

Change in forest cover from 1990 to 2005 within Key Biodiversity Area (KBAs) in Southeast Mexico, Belize and Guatemala

Habitat loss is a key factor causing species to be threatened with extinction, so successful conservation efforts should prevent habitat conversion within KBAs—sites where threatened and restricted-range species occur. Monitoring via remote sensing platforms reveals human and natural modifications of natural habitats. These habitats are important because they support critical biodiversity and provide essential ecosystem services (e.g. carbon sequestration, watershed protection, plant pollination, soil formation) for local communities and society as a whole. Fine-resolution, low-cost satellite data can be analyzed to track changes over time in habitat cover. The current analysis consisted of mapping change in natural forest cover within KBAs in southeast Mexico, Belize and 16 KBAs in Guatemala between 1990, 2000 and 2005. Natural forest is defined here as all closed-canopy,

natural, mature forest and woodland. The figures at right show change in the proportion of forest cover between 1990, 2000 and 2005 within protected KBAs and unprotected KBAs for southeast Mexico, Belize and Guatemala respectively. A KBA is considered "protected" if at least 80% of its extent is protected. In all three figures, protected KBAs show a higher proportion of remaining forest cover, but there is little difference seen in rates of forest decline between protected and unprotected KBAs. However, rates of forest habitat loss for KBAs in Guatemala are higher than for those in southeast Mexico and Belize, regardless of protection status. Future studies should complement regular, timely monitoring with on-the-ground studies that assess the impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as evaluate the effectiveness of protected areas in

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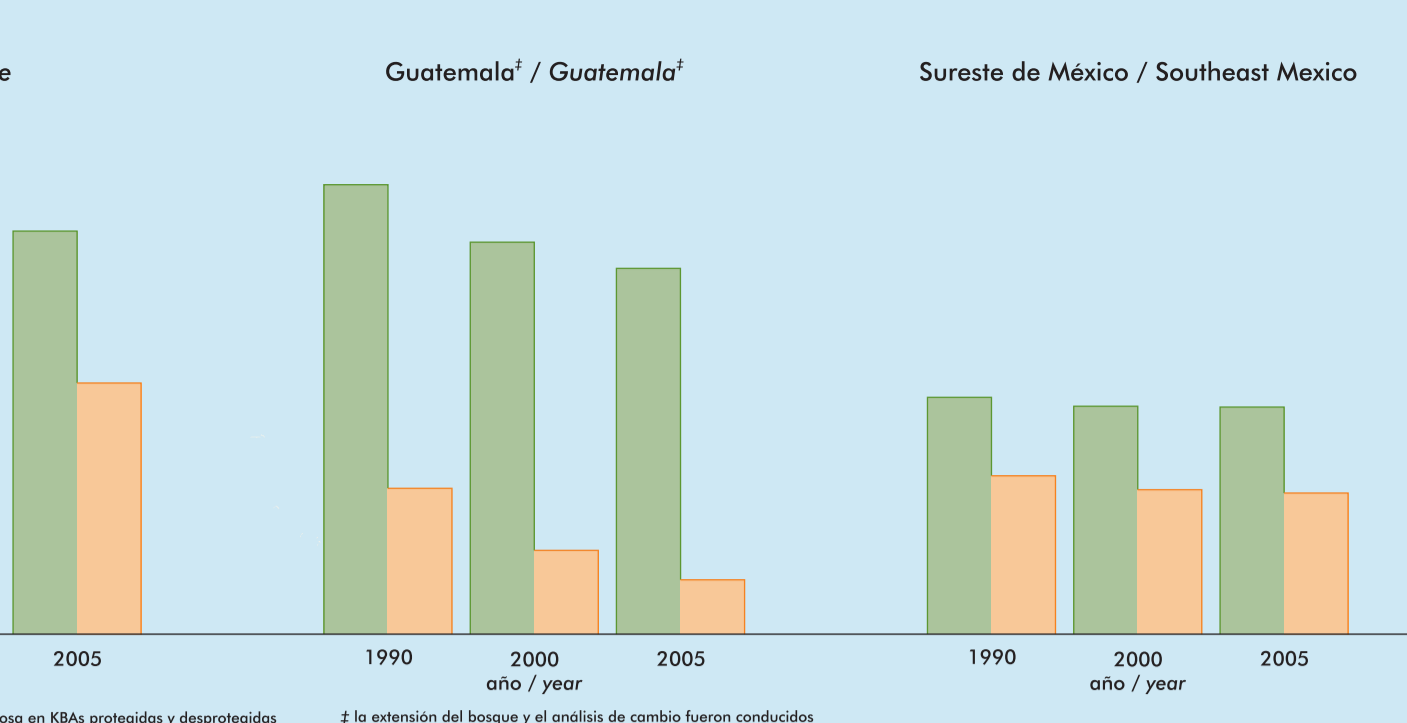
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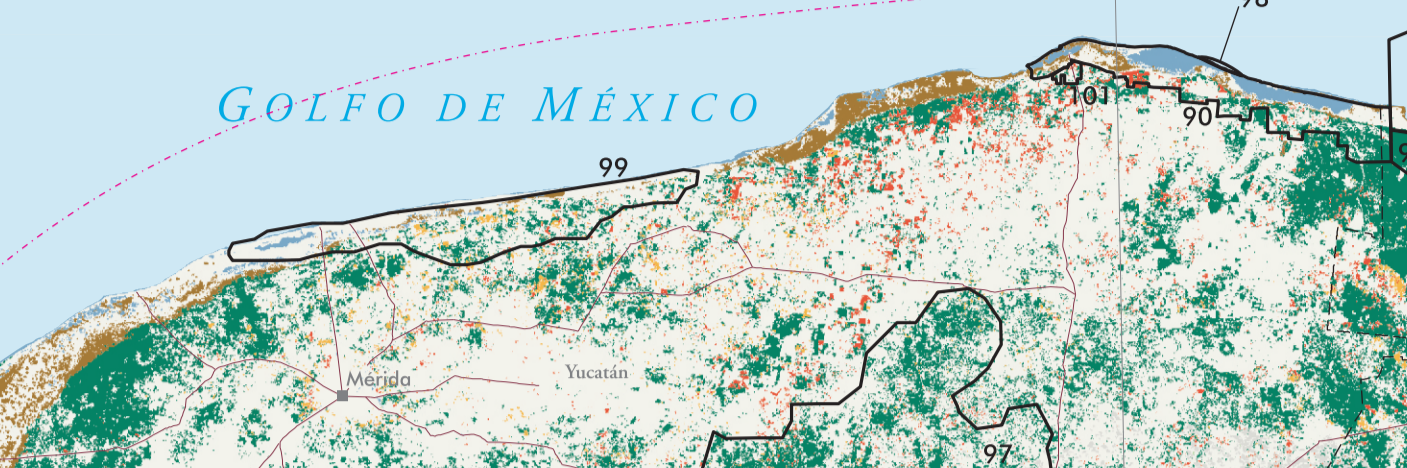
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