

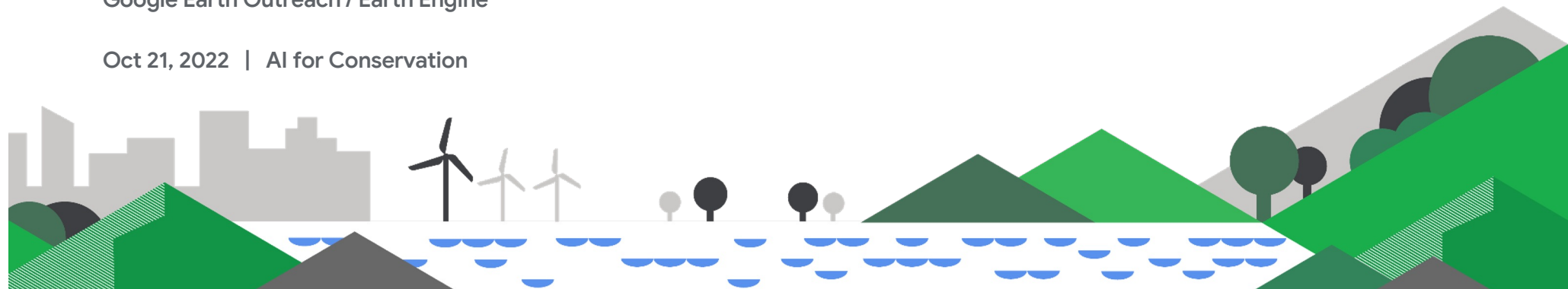
Dynamic World & Wildlife Insights



Tanya Birch

Sr. Program Manager, Forests & Nature
Google Earth Outreach / Earth Engine

Oct 21, 2022 | AI for Conservation



[Earth Engine Apps](#)

Boundary Lines

Country Boundaries

Global Safety Net layers

Foundational layer

☒ Terrestrial protected areas

Additional unprotected areas

☒ Rare species sites

☒ High biodiversity areas

☒ Large mammal landscapes

☒ Intact wilderness areas

☒ Climate stabilization areas

Reference Layers

☒ Inland surface water*

☐ Terrestrial ecoregions

☐ Potential wildlife corridors

*Source: Global Surface Water Layer (JRC)

0.42

About

Dark

Satellite

Click inside boundary to retrieve data

4.885949, -1.812900

Google

Privacy

Keyboard shortcuts | Imagery ©2022 NASA, TerraMetrics | 1000 km | Terms of Use



Earth Engine Apps

Boundary Lines

Country Boundaries

Global Safety Net layers

Foundational layer

☒ Terrestrial protected areas

Additional unprotected areas

☒ Rare species sites

☒ High biodiversity areas

☒ Large mammal landscapes

☒ Intact wilderness areas

☒ Climate stabilization areas

Reference Layers

☒ Inland surface water*

☐ Terrestrial ecoregions

☐ Potential wildlife corridors

*Source: Global Surface Water Layer (JRC)

0.42

About

Dark

Satellite

Click inside boundary to retrieve data

Google

Privacy

An aerial photograph of a dense tropical forest. A dark, winding river or stream flows through the center of the image, surrounded by thick, lush green vegetation. The trees are dense and cover the entire landscape, with the river providing a clear path through the forest. The lighting is bright, highlighting the vibrant green of the foliage.

What wildlife live here?



©Will Burrard-Lucas



©eMammal, Akesai County Mammal Survey Project



©eMammal, Students Discover Kenya Project

Barriers

1 Slow data flow

Millions of photos collected.
Data can take months or
years to process

2 Data is siloed

Individual storage means risk of
loss; data is not standardized for
collaboration

3 No easy tools to gain insights

Camera trap data can be difficult
to analyze

Wildlife Insights

Leveraging big data, cloud technology and machine learning to transform wildlife conservation



Solutions

1 Powered by AI

Identifies species and
separates 'blanks'
10x faster than other systems

2 Cloud-based data sharing

Easily share data to understand
trends across projects and borders

3 Automated analytics

Anyone can run science-based
models and generate reports

2022-10-14 1:38:44 AM M 5/5

51°F



Identify Edit photo Metadata

ANIMALS IN THIS IMAGE

Author	Computer vision
ID date	10/20/2022 21:28:42
Common name	Mule Deer
Count	1
Confidence	99%

Accept

Edit

Blank

Bounding boxes ?

Does every animal have a bounding box?

Yes

No



Highlight



Download



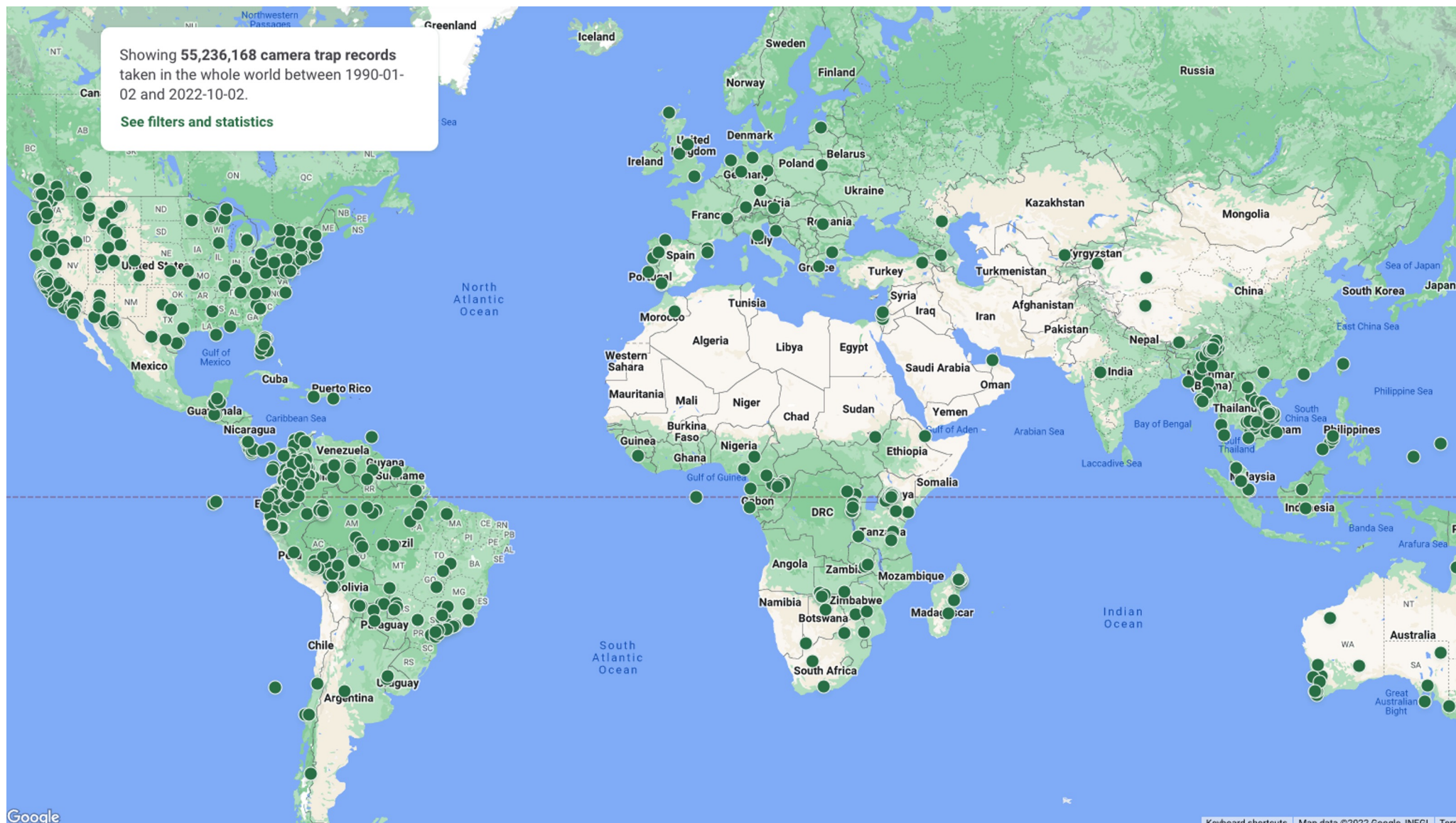
Delete



Shortcuts

Showing 55,236,168 camera trap records
taken in the whole world between 1990-01-02 and 2022-10-02.

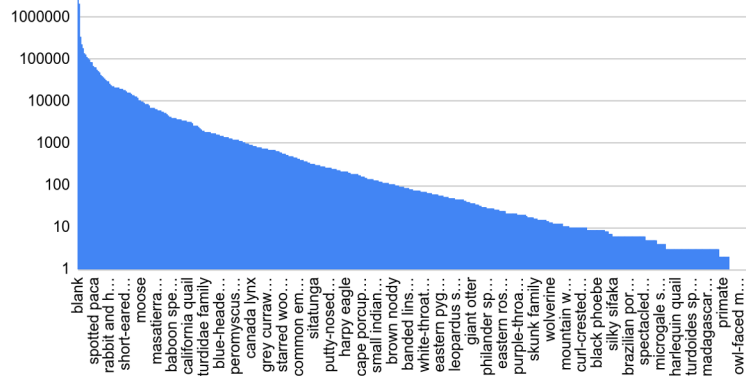
[See filters and statistics](#)



Imbalanced data, geospatially sparse, and noisy labels

Top 10 classes (out of 1,000)
account for 70% of the data

Images per-class (log scale)



User data has to be vetted for
quality



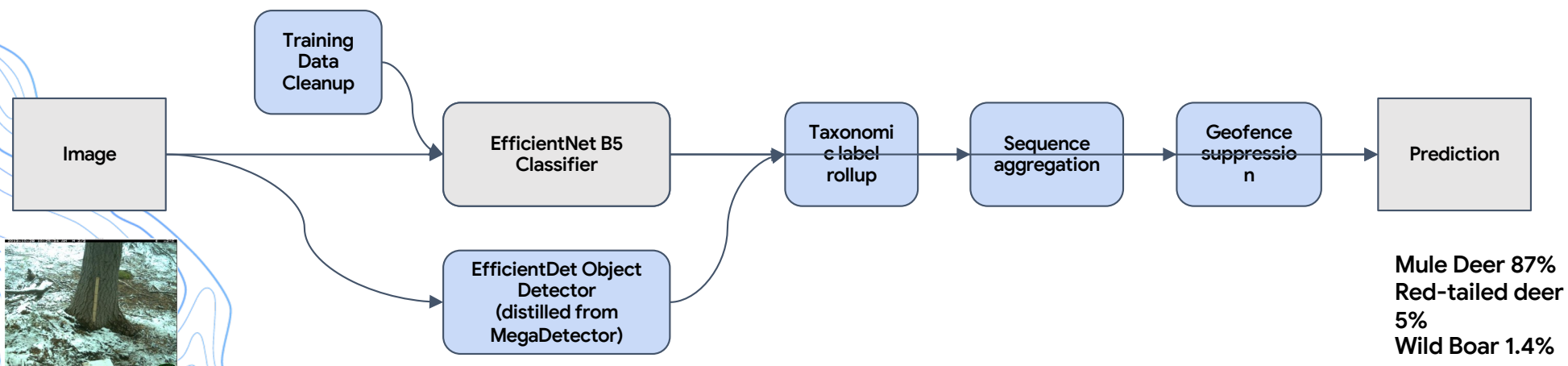
Classification Model → Classification System

2019 - beta launch

- 8.7M images
- 614 classes

2021 - GA

- 15M images
- 1000 classes



Results: recall increase w/ similar precision

Overall performance

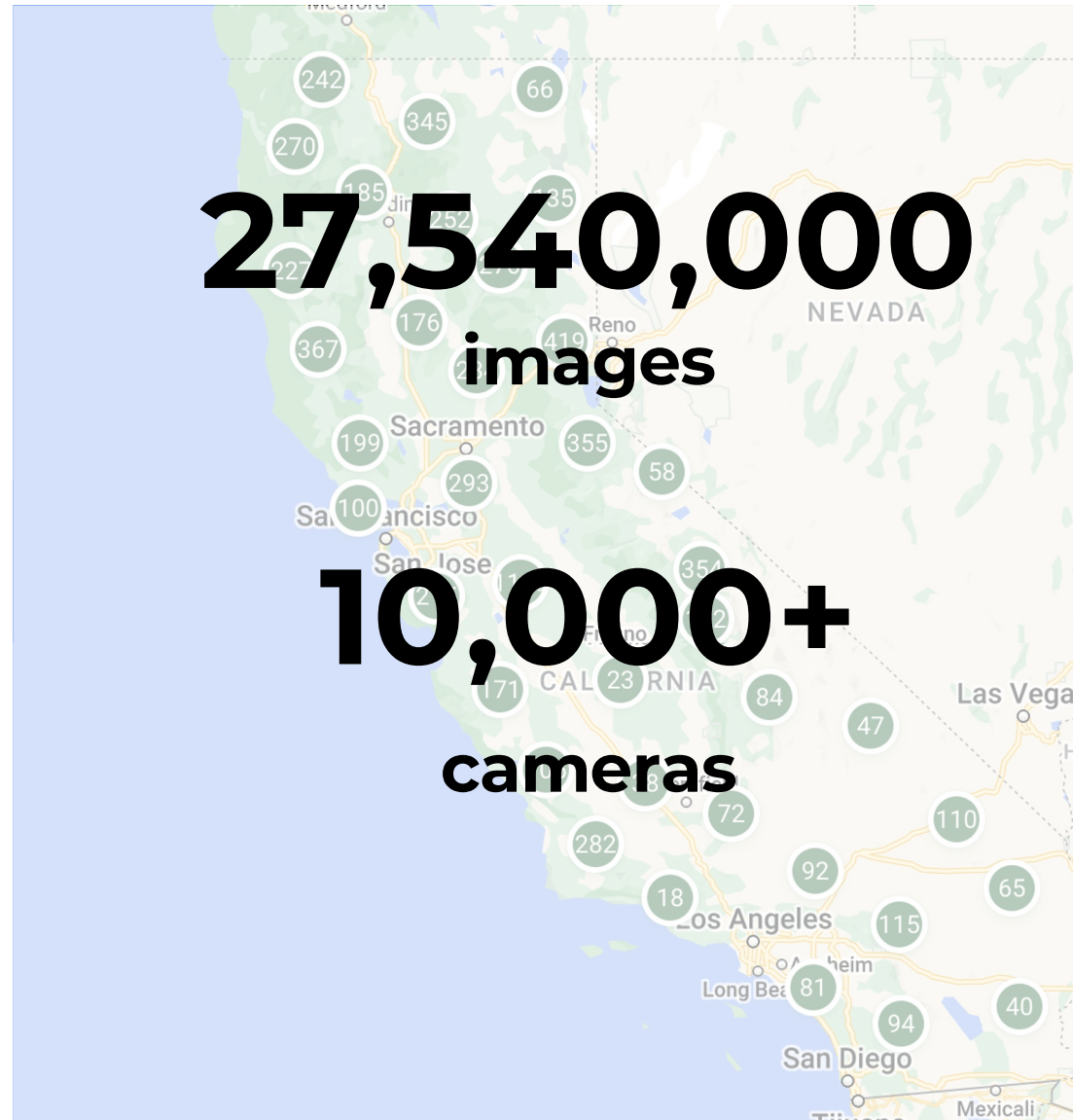
- 20% increase in animal recall
- 13.5% increase in recall@species-level
- 44% decrease in unclassified images

	Overall	Animals			Blanks	
	% Classified	Recall (any taxonomic level)	Precision (any taxonomic level)	Species recall	Recall	Precision
Classifier	0.8302	0.6854	0.8597	0.6229	0.8081	0.9538
Classifier + Geofence	0.8272	0.6931	0.8694	0.6028	0.8081	0.9538
Classifier + Label Rollup	0.8823	0.7787	0.8537	0.6229	0.8081	0.9538
Classifier + Detector	0.8939	0.8121	0.864	0.6228	0.8056	0.9583
Classifier + Sequence	0.9047	0.7761	0.8239	0.7069	0.8073	0.9555
Classifier + Label Rollup + Geofence + Detector (production model)	0.9036	0.8225	0.8566	0.6027	0.8056	0.9583
Classifier + Label Rollup + Geofence + Detector + Sequence	0.9339	0.8292	0.8213	0.6884	0.8054	0.9585

CDFW is using AI predictions to reduce their workload

For some projects, staff are trusting the model to identify blanks and reducing the # of images to review.

CDFW now has close to 30 million images in Wildlife Insights and **for the first time** is beginning to explore data across the organization.



Eyes on Recovery

Using Wildlife Insights to measure the impact of the 2019-20 bushfires on Australia's wildlife

Summer 2019-20 bushfires in Australia burned **19 million hectares** (>73,000 sq. miles)

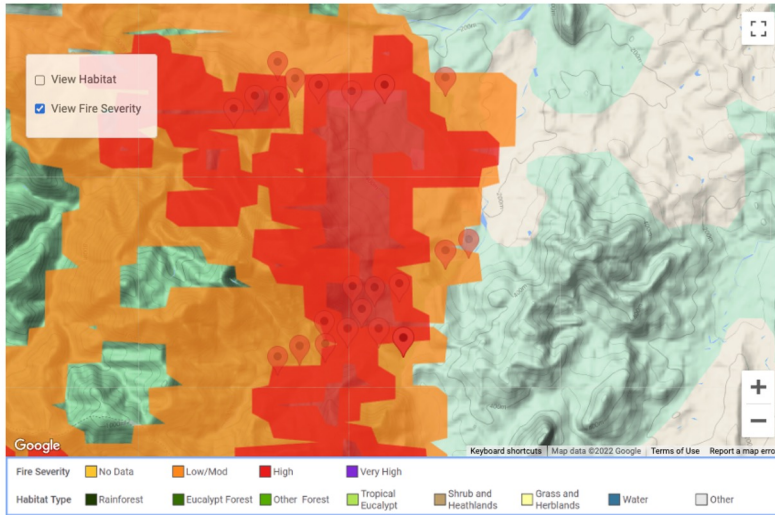
3 billion animals impacted

Unclear whether **species were recovering**



Select a species

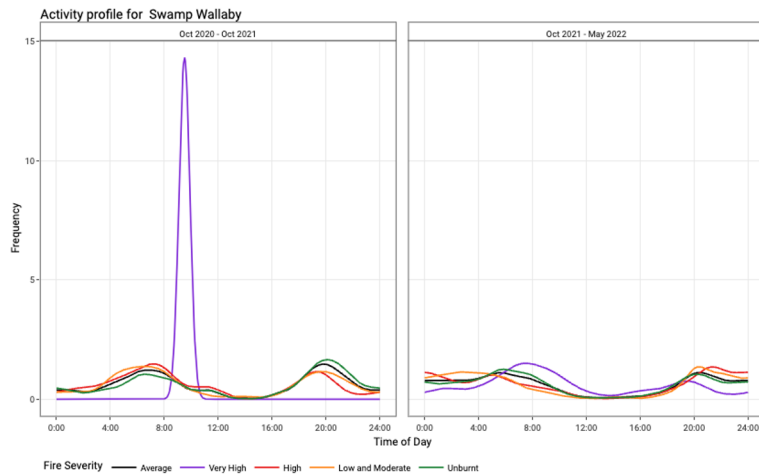
Swamp Wallaby



18 partners set out 1000+ cameras

3 million images collected to date

~500 hours of staff time saved per project location



Improving understanding of fire impacts on priority species; and informing management actions

Development

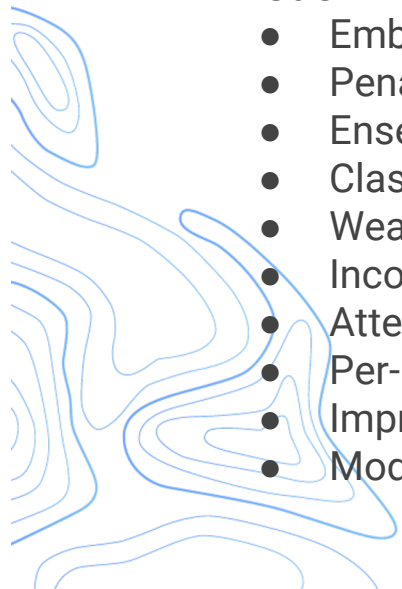
...much more than we can do!

Analytics launching in 2023 → State of Wildlife Report by CI

Offline desktop client

Model improvement experiments

- Embedding the taxonomic tree in the loss
- Penalizing errors based on the the taxonomic distance
- Ensemble meta-model learning
- Classification in cropped images / bounding boxes
- Weak-segmentation
- Incorporating visual confusion in the loss
- Attention-based sequence augmentation
- Per-region models
- Improved class balancing
- Model report card - per project diagnostics







Mato Grosso, Brazil

Projected Business-as-Usual Land Needs

2010 - 2050

+40% Population Growth
+56% Crop Demand
+88% Beef/Lamb Demand
+68% Meat/Dairy Demand
+70% Wood Products Demand



+120 Mha
Expansion of Urban Areas
+400 Mha
Expansion of Pastureland
+ 200 Mha
Expansion of Cropland

Land Cover is the Earth's basemap for science, policy and action.

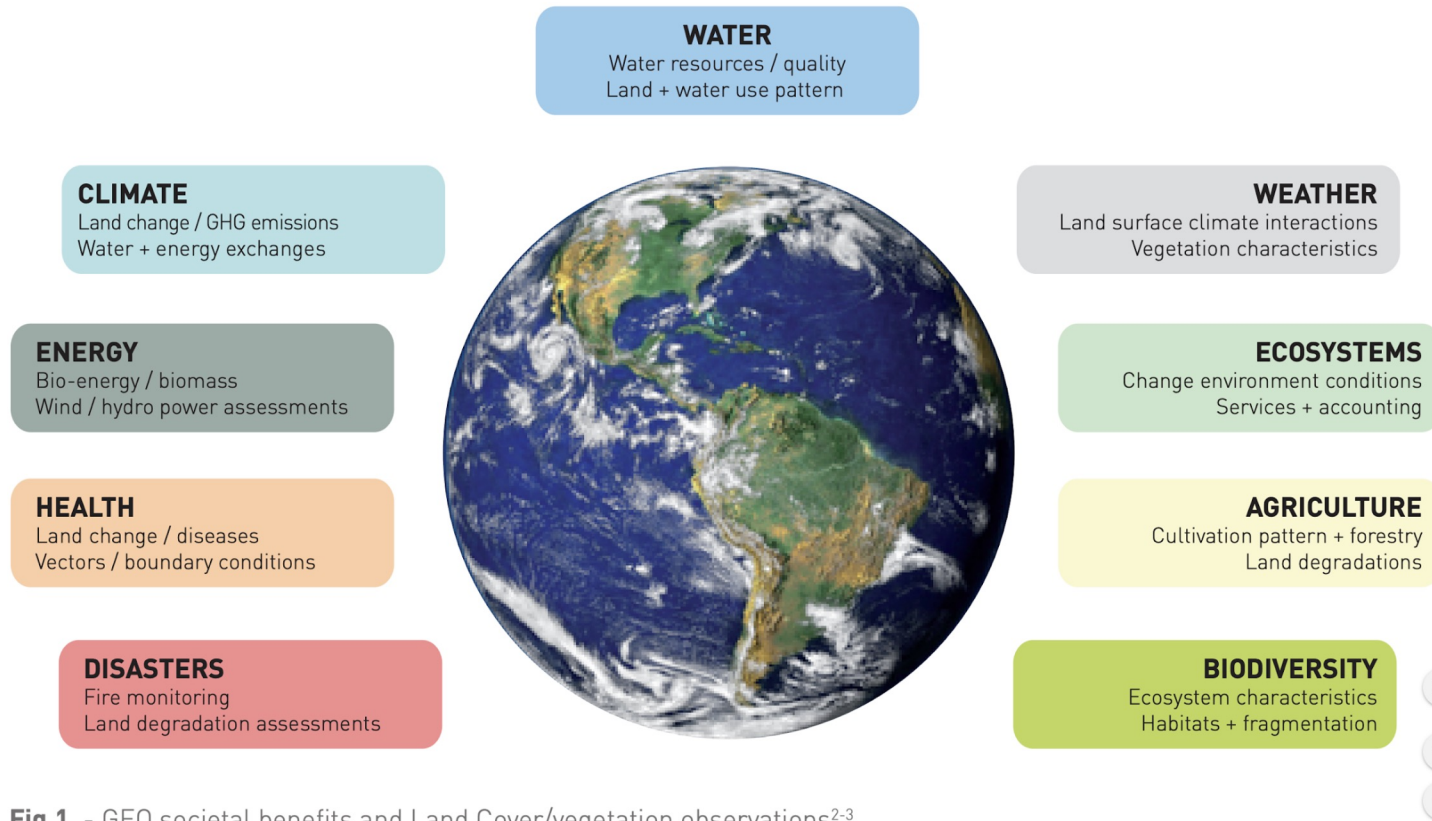


Fig.1 - GEO societal benefits and Land Cover/vegetation observations²⁻³.

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5232e.pdf>

#GeoForGood22



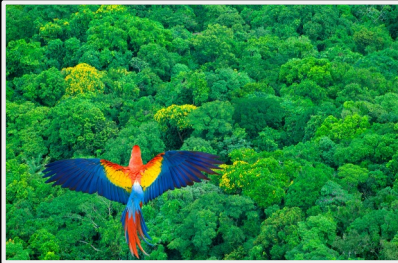
Water



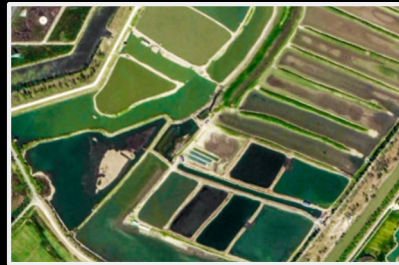
Flooded Vegetation



Built-up Areas



Trees



Crops



Bare Ground



Grass

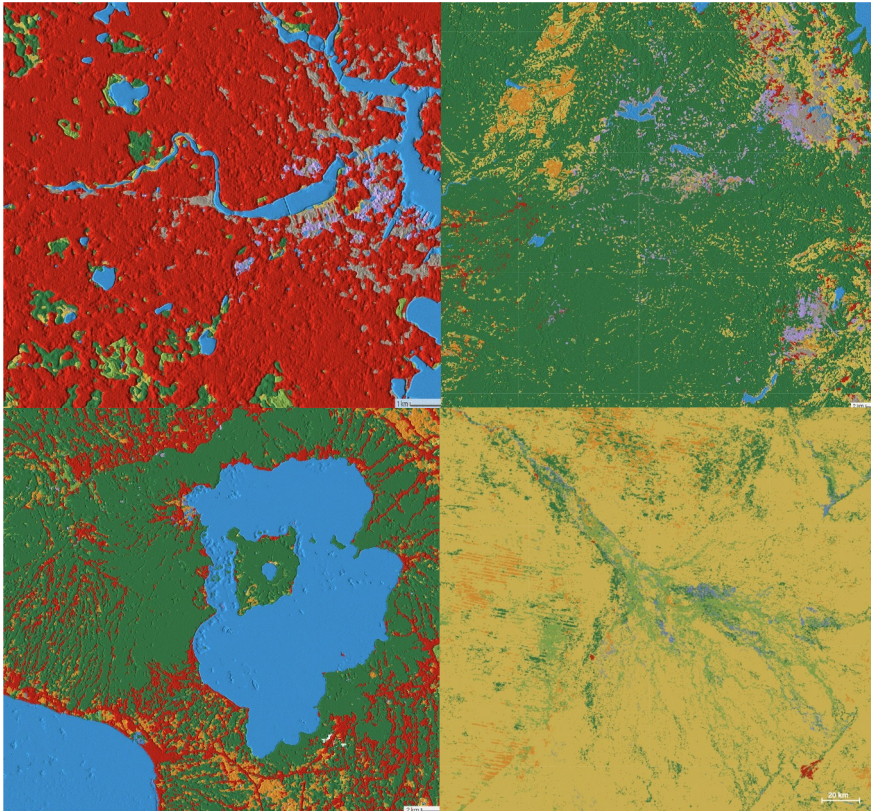


Shrub/Scrub



Snow/Ice

Land Cover data just got real-time.



Google

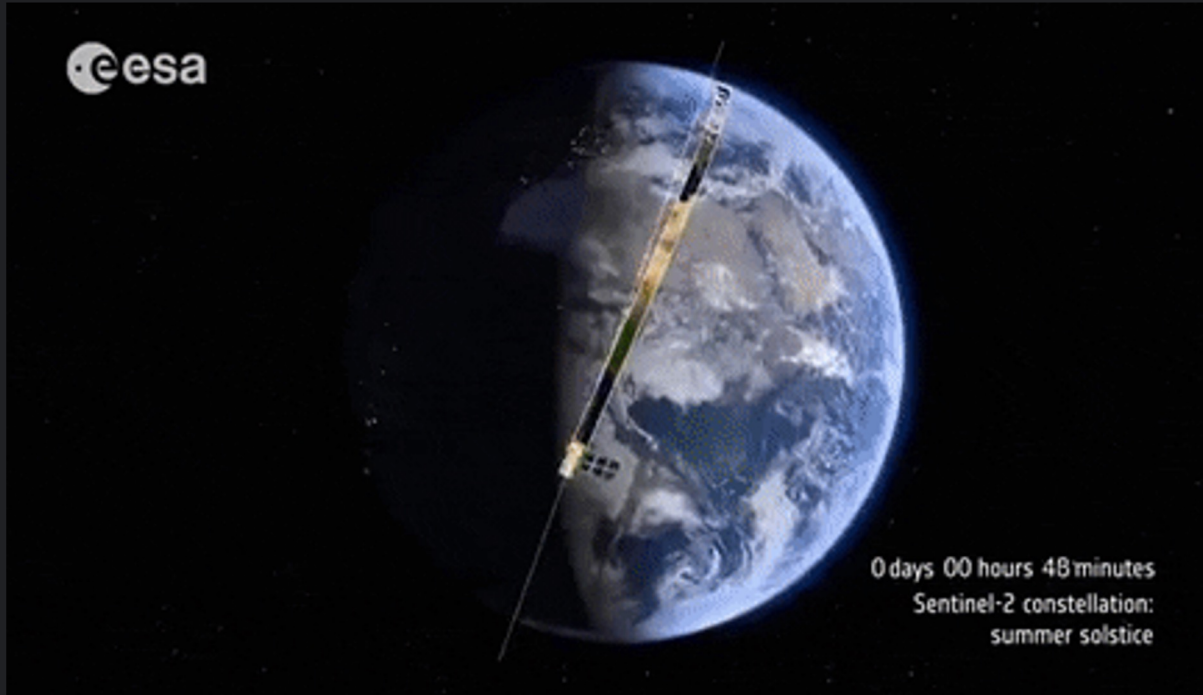


Dynamic World

Data Product and AI Model

- 01 Global Land Use Land Cover Dataset
- 02 10m resolution based on ESA Sentinel-2
- 03 Near Real Time 2-5 day global availability
- 04
- 05 Free, Open License (AI model and dataset)

Peer reviewed scientific
nature SCIENTIFIC
DATA

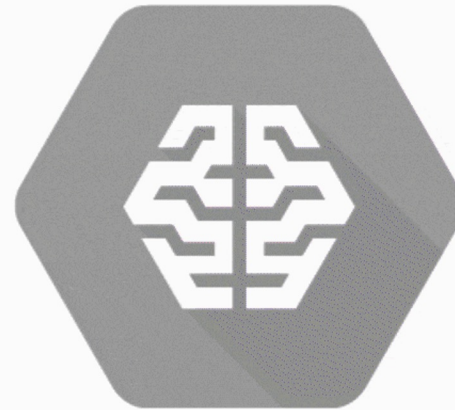


Sentinel-2A & Sentinel-2B in orbit constellation

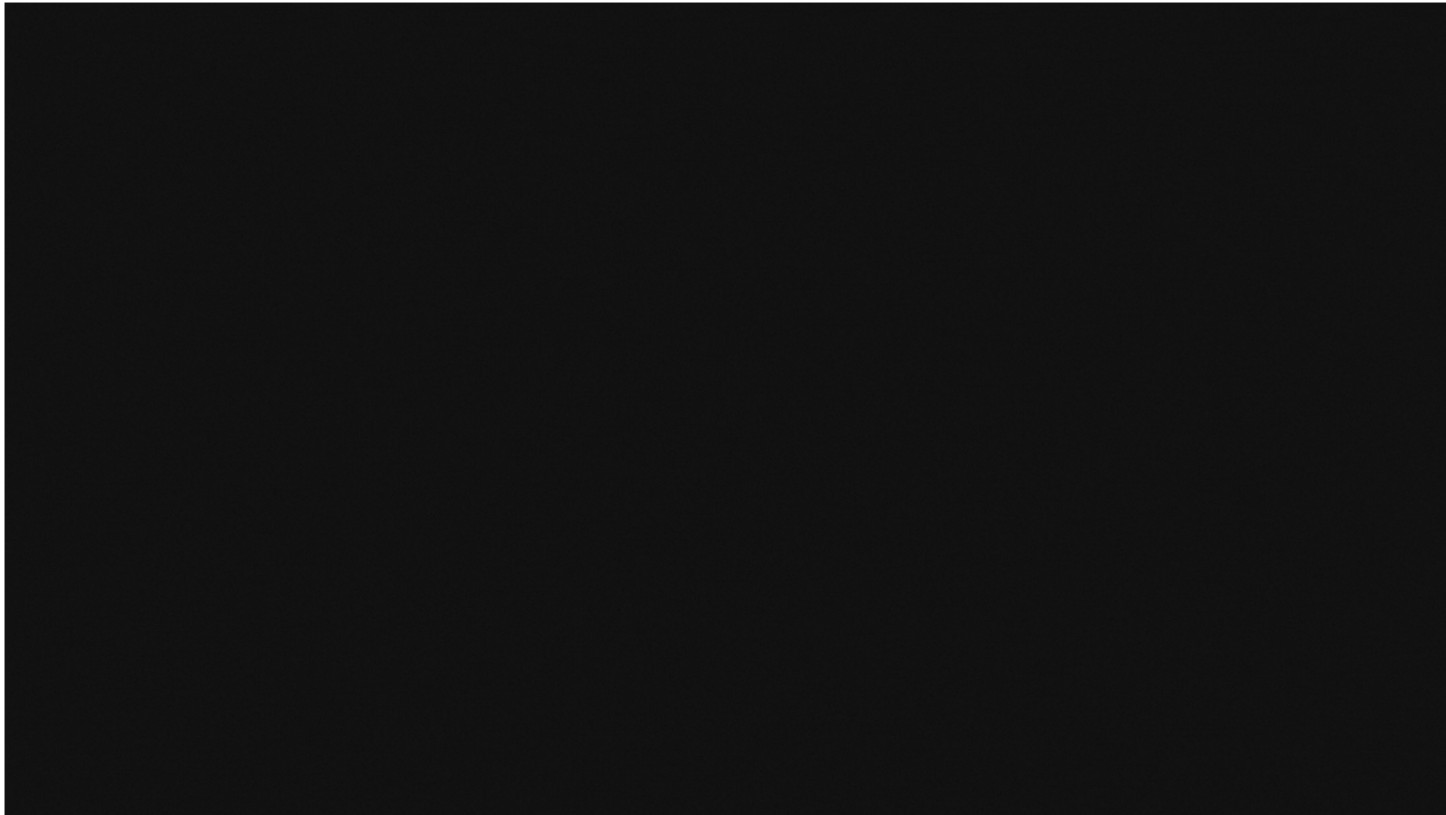
Sentinel-2

- S2A launched 2015, S2B 2017
- 10m spatial resolution
- 5 days revisit time
- 12 TBytes of data per day
- Open, full, and free data policy
- Dynamic World uses S2-L1C Top of Atmosphere (12 bands)

First we worked with NatGeo in labelling 24k Sentinel-2 scenes



Then we ran the model backwards and forwards



Google

Dynamic World data available from June 23, 2015 to....2-5 days ago.



Dynamic World Dataset

10.2 PB

In Google Earth Engine Data
Catalog

10,821,068

Total Dynamic World Assets
and counting

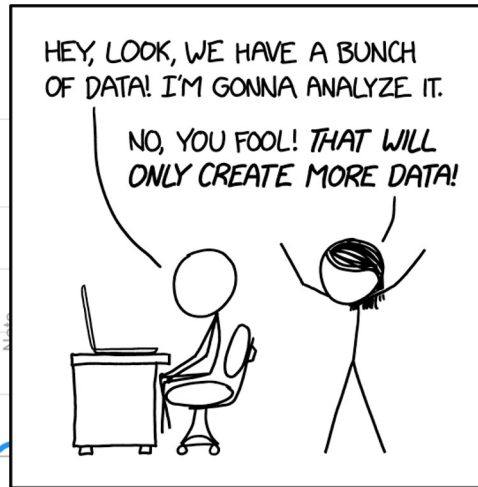
~1,000,000

CPU Hours to produce

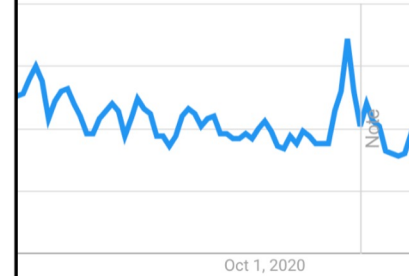
5640+

New Dynamic World
Assets per day

The Takeaways



2015



Per-pixel **probabilities** across 9 classes



Input for **derivatives**

“Map with you, not for you”



Per-pixel **probabilities** across 9 classes

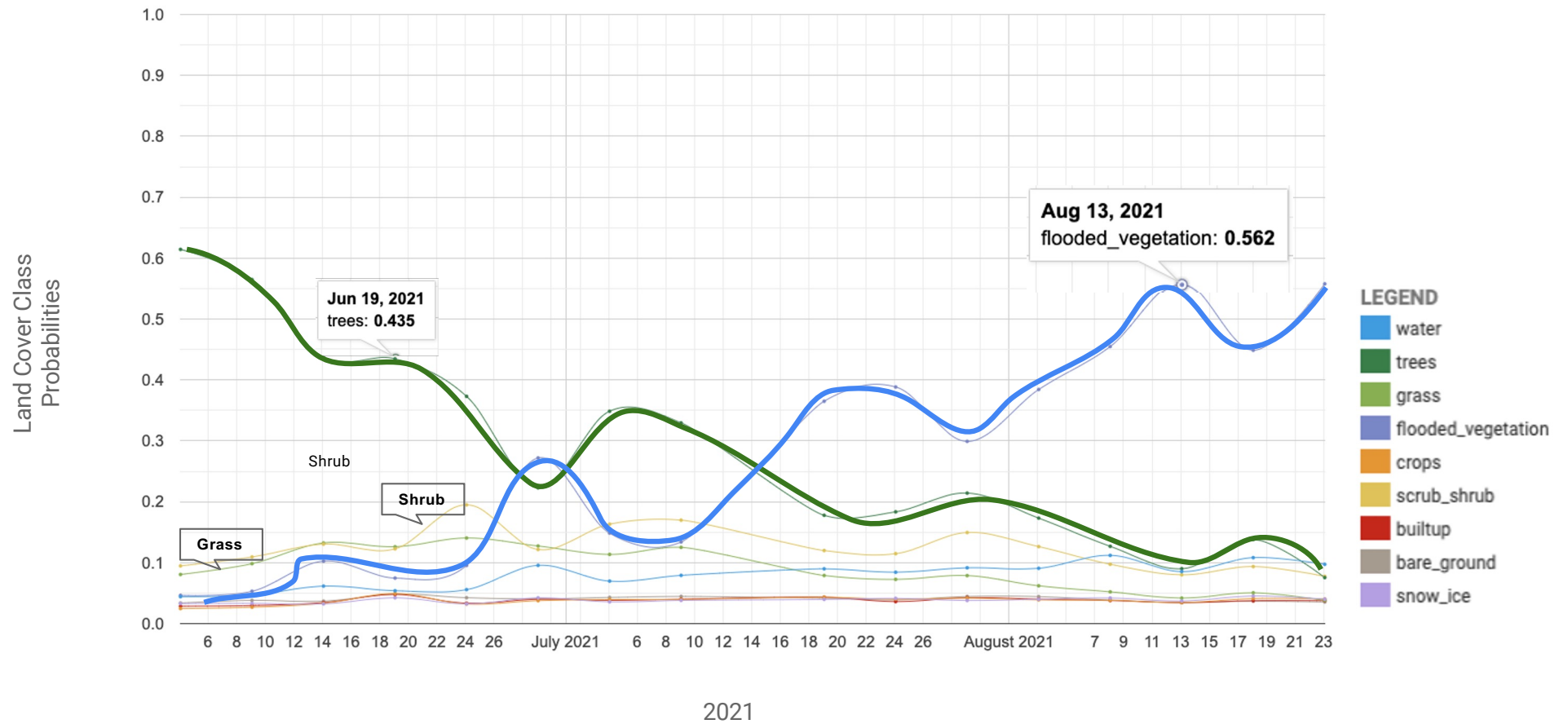


Water	0.04499815497547388
Trees	0.23571428004652262
Grass	0.0990055596921593
Flooded vegetation	0.03684693947434425
Crops	0.41711383406072855
Shrub/Scrub	0.04767815116792917
Built	0.04229519609361887
Bare Ground	0.03698766604065895
Snow/Ice	0.03931811661459505

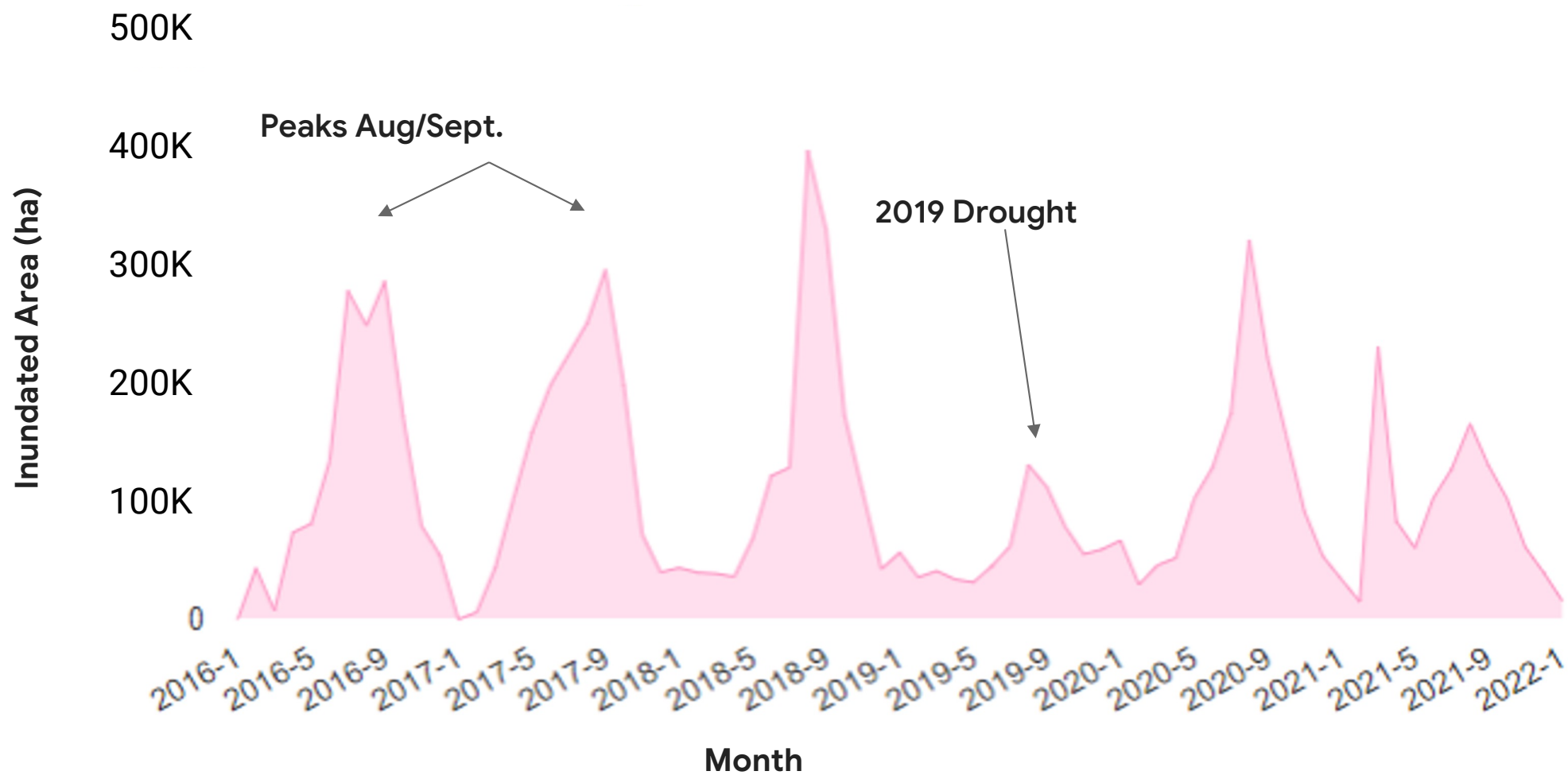


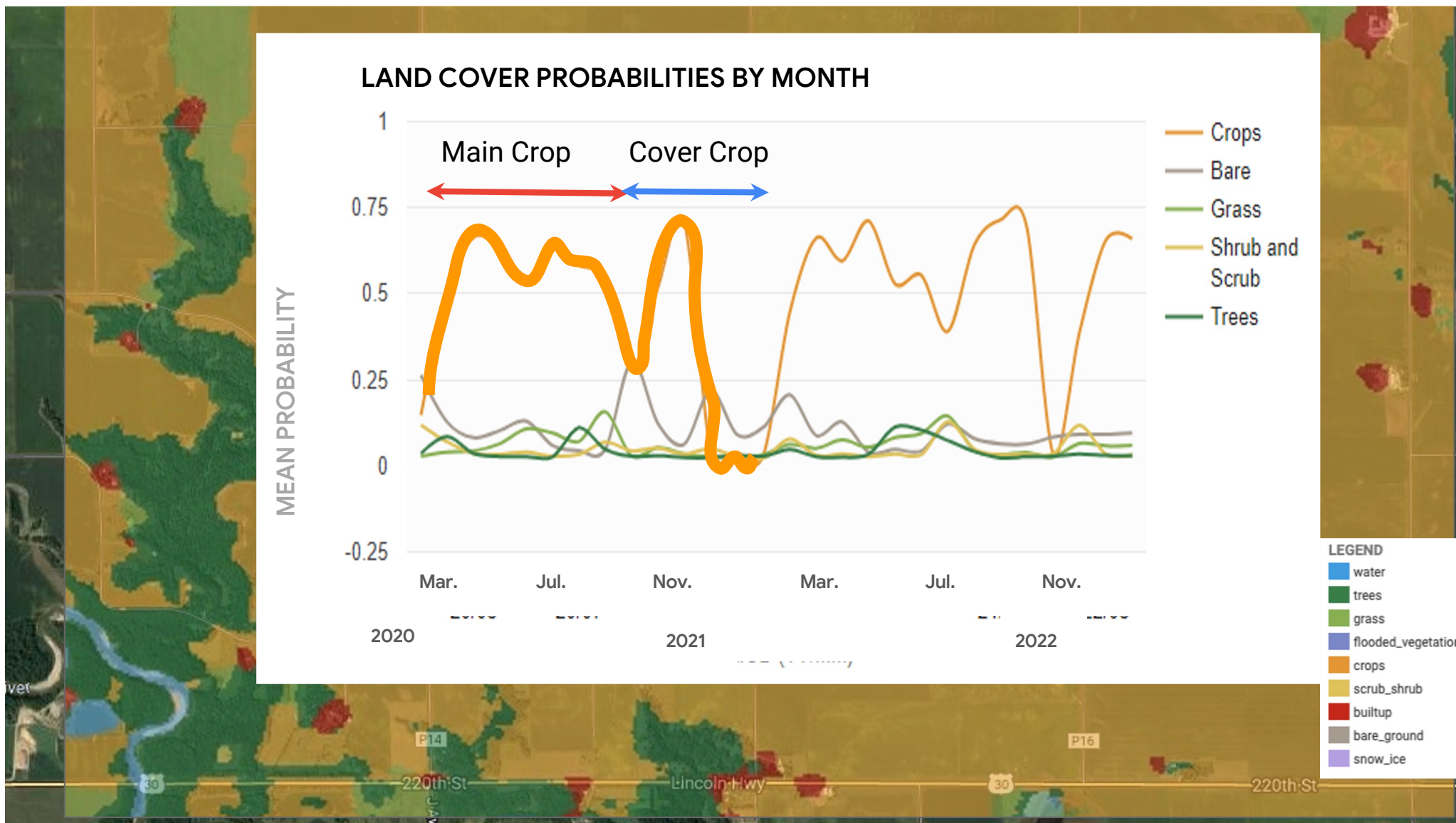
January





Inundated Area over the Okavango Delta





S.1251 - Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1251

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

THE WHITE HOUSE



BRIEFING ROOM

FACT SHEET: President Biden Announces New Actions to Address Putin's Price Hike, Make Food More Affordable, and Lower Costs for Farmers

MAY 11, 2022 • STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

- **Increase the number of counties eligible for double cropping insurance.** Double cropping allows farmers to plant a second crop on the same land in the same year, helping boost production without relying on farmers to substitute crops or cultivate new land. But it is not free from risk and some farmers who practice double cropping cannot obtain crop insurance. The Biden-Harris Administration is seeking to expand insurance for double cropping to as many as 681 additional counties, bringing the total number of counties where this practice qualifies for crop insurance to as many as 1,935, so more American farmers have the financial security they need to start or expand double cropping.

Experiments



Irish Peatbog Classifier

Oliver Guinan

- Ground-truthed data on traditional vs industrial peat bogs in Ireland
- Dynamic World as feature vector for Random Forests classification
- Derivative dataset
- [EE Script](#)

LEGEND

- Industrial Bog
- Traditional Bog
- Farmland
- Trees

Responsible Innovation

Following AI Principles at Google

Applying Ethical Principles

- WRI/Google team worked with independent consultant BSR to identify risks
- Designed safeguards to minimize risk
- Collaboration with ally organizations (WRI) to address potential harm.
- Open science & open data

Learn more

- [Google I/O Talk](#)
- [Case Study](#)



Forest Data Partnership

End commodity-driven deforestation and
accelerate restoration

The Forest Data Partnership strengthens
collaboration and application around global
monitoring of commodity-driven deforestation,
forest degradation and restoration efforts across
the globe.

forestdatapartnership.org



What we hear people ask for.

Related to forests, nature, biodiversity

Mapping Forests

- Forest / plantation NRT
- “I want to map _____”
- Deforestation Risk Modeling
- Reforestation
- Forest species composition
- Groundtruth data (carbon, crops, everything)
- Smallholder farmer incentivization

Biodiversity

- All the sensors! Acoustic → Soundscapes, eDNA, cameras, drones, and and and.....platforms!
- Species risk modeling



An aerial photograph of a rural landscape, likely in a developing country, showing a dense network of thin, light-colored roads or paths crisscrossing a dark, textured terrain. Numerous small, light-colored rectangular structures, possibly houses or small buildings, are scattered throughout the landscape, often clustered along the roads. The overall scene suggests a complex, interconnected network of infrastructure in a rural setting.

Thank you!

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape, likely in a developing region. The terrain is dark and textured, possibly forested or heavily vegetated. A complex network of light-colored roads or paths crisscrosses the area, connecting numerous small, light-colored rectangular structures that appear to be buildings or huts. The overall scene suggests a dispersed settlement or a network of small communities.

Appendix