

Land Cover Types Slideshow

Images and descriptions of Land Cover Types

For more information, activities, and resources related to land cover, biomes, climate, and earth observation data see:

<http://studentclimatedata.unh.edu/>

Deciduous Broadleaf Forest

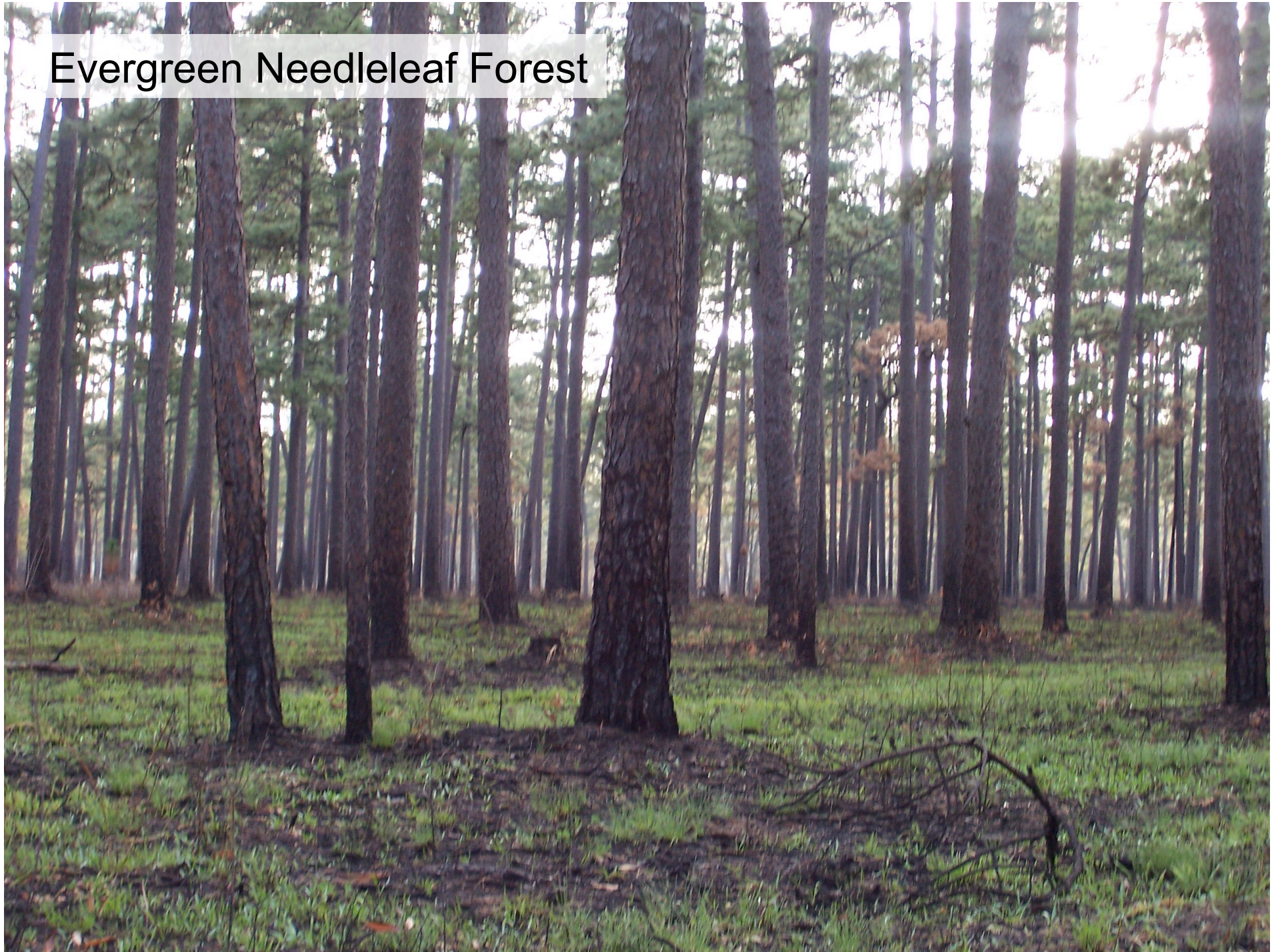


Evergreen Needleleaf Forest



Image Credit: US Forest Service

Evergreen Needleleaf Forest



Deciduous Needleleaf Forest



Image credit: Kong Fu Wang

Evergreen Broadleaf Forest



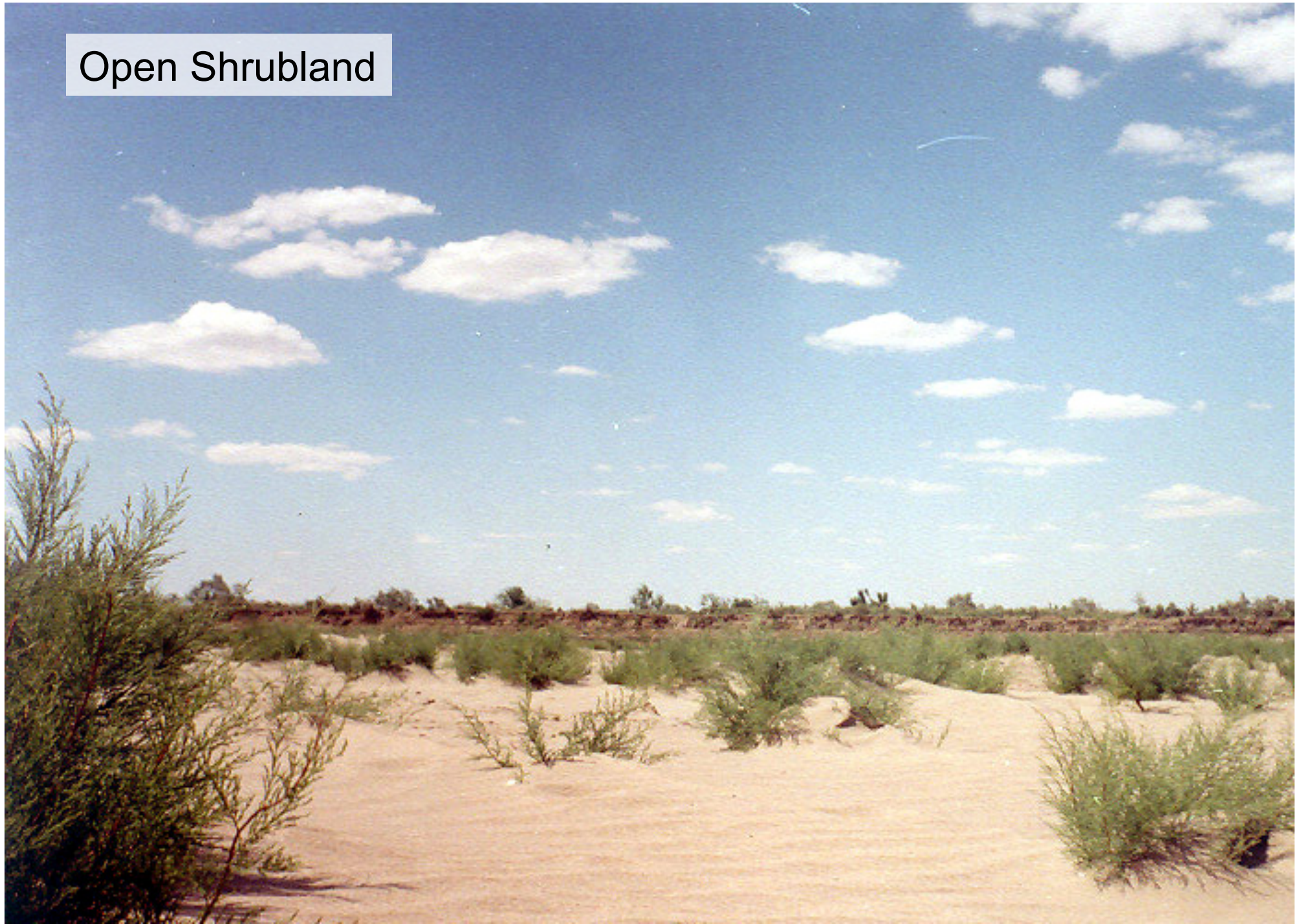
Mixed Forest



Mixed Forest



Open Shrubland



Closed Shrubland



Woody Savanna



Open Savanna



Grassland



Permanent Wetlands



Cropland



Urban/ Built-up



Urban/ Built-up



Cropland/ Natural Vegetation Mosaic



Barren



Barren



Snow and Ice



LAND COVER TYPE DESCRIPTIONS

1. An **Evergreen Needleleaf Forest** is dominated by needleleaf trees with a percent canopy cover of greater than 60% and height exceeding 2 meters. Almost all of its trees remain green all year. Its canopy is never without green foliage.
2. An **Evergreen Broadleaf Forest** is dominated by broadleaf trees with a percent canopy cover of greater than 60% and height exceeding 2 meters. Almost all of its trees remain green year all year. Its canopy is never without green foliage.
3. A **Deciduous Needleleaf Forest** is dominated by trees with a percent canopy cover of greater than 60% and height exceeding 2 meters. It consists of seasonal needleleaf tree communities with an annual cycle of leaf-on and leaf-off periods.
4. A **Deciduous Broadleaf Forest** is dominated by trees with a percent canopy cover of greater than 60% and height exceeding 2 meters. It consists of seasonal broadleaf tree communities with an annual cycle of leaf-on and leaf-off periods.
5. **Mixed Forest** is dominated by trees with a percent canopy cover of greater than 60% and height exceeding 2 meters. It consists of tree communities with interspersed mixtures or mosaics of the above four forest cover types. None of the forest types exceeds 60% of landscape.
6. **Closed Shrublands** are lands with woody vegetation less than 2 meters tall and with shrub canopy cover greater than 60%. The shrub foliage can be either evergreen or deciduous.
7. **Open Shrublands** are lands with woody vegetation less than 2 meters tall and with shrub canopy cover is between 10-60%. The shrub foliage can be either evergreen or deciduous.
8. **Woody Savannas** are lands with herbaceous and other understory systems, and with forest canopy cover between 30-60%. The forest cover height exceeds 2 meters.
9. **Savannas** are lands with herbaceous and other understory systems, and with forest canopy cover between 10-30%. The forest cover height exceeds 2 meters.
10. **Grasslands** are lands with herbaceous types of cover. Tree and shrub cover is less than 10%.
11. **Permanent Wetlands** are lands with a permanent mixture of water and herbaceous or woody vegetation that cover extensive areas. The vegetation can be present in either salt, brackish, or fresh water.
12. **Croplands** are lands covered with temporary crops followed by harvest and a bare soil period.
13. **Urban and Built-up** are covered by buildings and other man-made structures.
14. **Cropland/natural vegetation mosaics** are lands with a mosaic of croplands, forests, shrublands, and grasslands in which no one component comprises more than 60% of the landscape.
15. **Snow and Ice** are lands under snow and/or ice cover throughout the year.
16. **Barren or Sparsely Vegetated** are lands of exposed soil, sand, rocks, or snow and never has more than 10% vegetated cover during any time of the year.

The classifications reported here are published using the International Geosphere– Biosphere Programme (IGBP) definitions. Please consult the IGBP website (<http://www.igbp.net/>) for further details.