

Definitions of MODIS Land Cover Classes

- 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. ***