

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

What is GIS?

- layers of data
- vector
- raster

Vector data representation

Raster data representation

Vector Layers

Points

Lines

Polygons

POINTS

LINE

POLYGONS

Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve

SANDAG Vegetation Data

Raster Layers

Image space

Coordinate space

Amphibian Diversity

What is GIS?

- X,Y data
- multi-layer
- spatial questions

Vector

Raster

Daily Average Temperature

Aspect

Slope

Digital Elevation Map

Aerial Photograph

Coordinate Reference Systems

- Geographic CRS
 - spherical (3D)
 - 0° latitude = equator (S = negative)
 - 0° longitude = Greenwich (W = negative)

North Pole

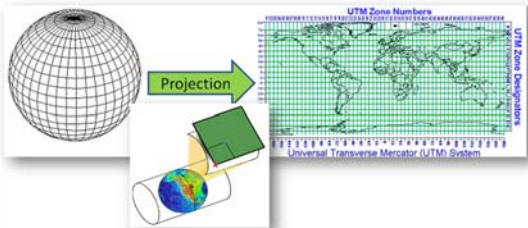
South Pole

Equator

Prime Meridian

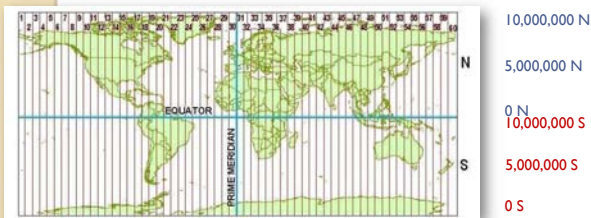
Coordinate Reference Systems

- Projected CRS
 - flattened (2D) -- mathematical transformation
 - “ellipsoid” & “datum” = spheroid shape fit to Earth
 - “projection” = convert 3D --> 2D
 - Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM)



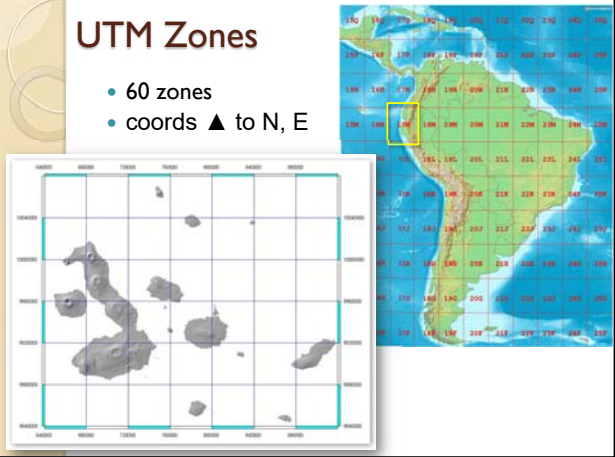
Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM)

- 1 meter = Equator-to-Pole / 10,000,000
 - “easting” from Greenwich (to E)
 - “northing” from Equator to North Pole
 - “southing” from South Pole to Equator



UTM Zones

- 60 zones
- coords ▲ to N, E



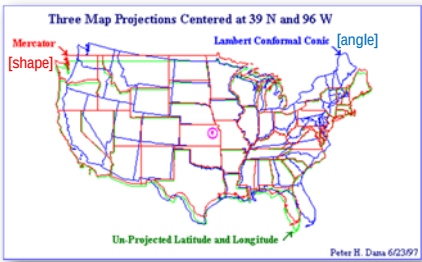
Compare Coordinate Systems

- Degrees Latitude - Longitude
 - (+) ease of understanding
 - (-) Longitude distance changes w/ Latitude
- UTM
 - (+) distances simple
 - (-) coordinates and zones can be confusing



Compare Projections

- Earth *not* perfect spheroid
 - some ellipsoids fit better (we use WGS84)
- Projections can Conserve:
 - shape (UTM), distance, angle, or area (Eckert)

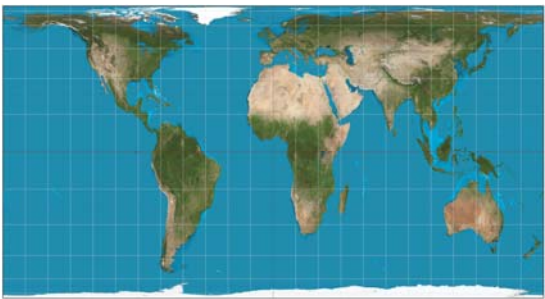


Mercator Projection



projection conserves “shape”

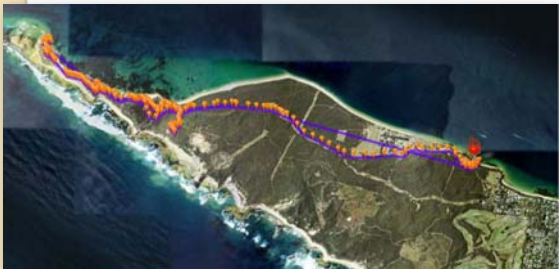
Cylindrical Equal-Area Projection



Recall “Area” hypothesis for tropical diversity: tropics are BIG

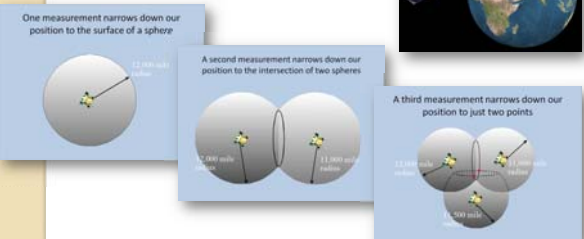
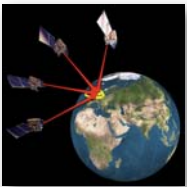
Global Positioning System (GPS)

- What Does it Do?
 - record waypoints & tracks
 - measure distances, calculate areas



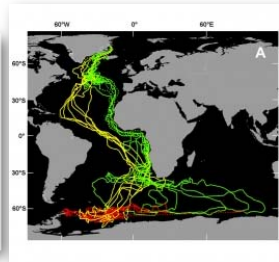
Global Positioning System (GPS)

- How Does it Work?
 - satellites send location, time
 - unit calculates position
 - error estimates (>3 satellites)



Uses of GIS - Display Data

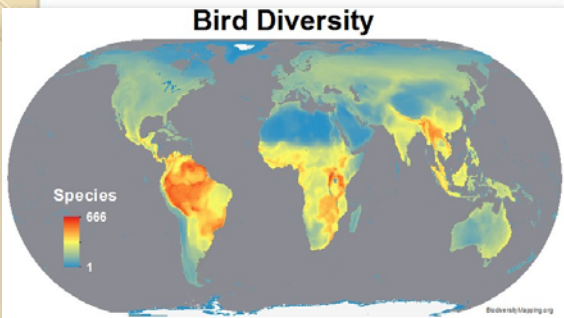
- geographic data:
 - species locations
 - migration routes
 - and much more!

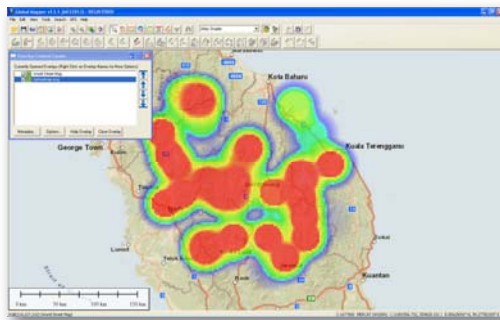


Uses of GIS - Create Maps

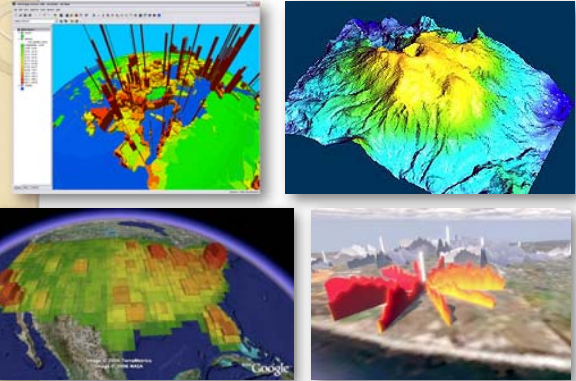


Uses of GIS - Data Visualizations



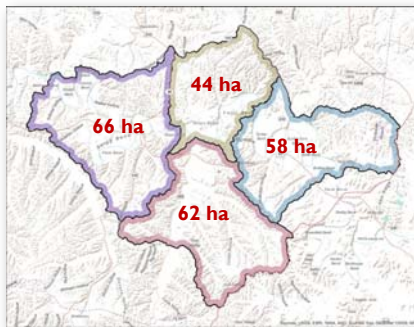


Uses of GIS - Advanced Visualizations



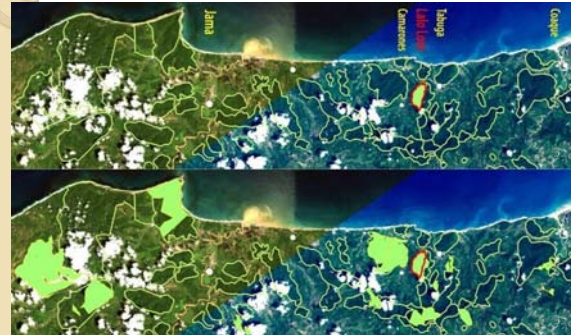
Uses of GIS - Spatial Analysis

- Distances & Areas



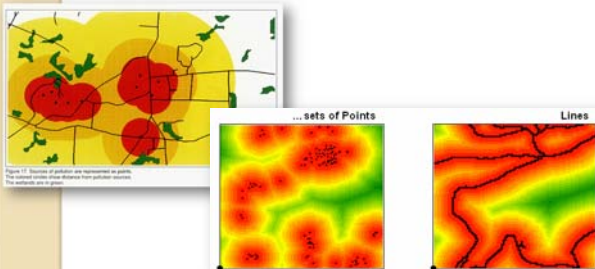
Uses of GIS - Spatial Analysis

- Manabí Biological Corridor



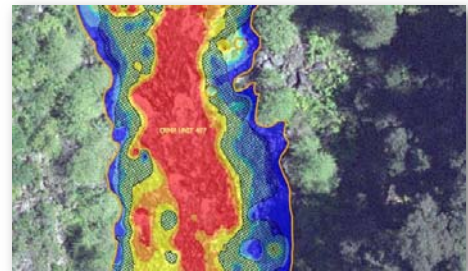
Uses of GIS - Spatial Analysis

- **Proximity**
 - pollution sources → wetlands
 - towns or roads → bird nests



Uses of GIS - Spatial Analysis

- Combine Data: reserve location
 - towns, slope, elevation, habitat, rainfall, etc.



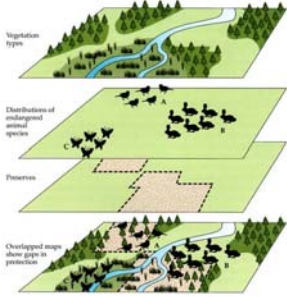
Uses of GIS - Advanced Analyses

- watersheds
- home range
- extract data for modelling



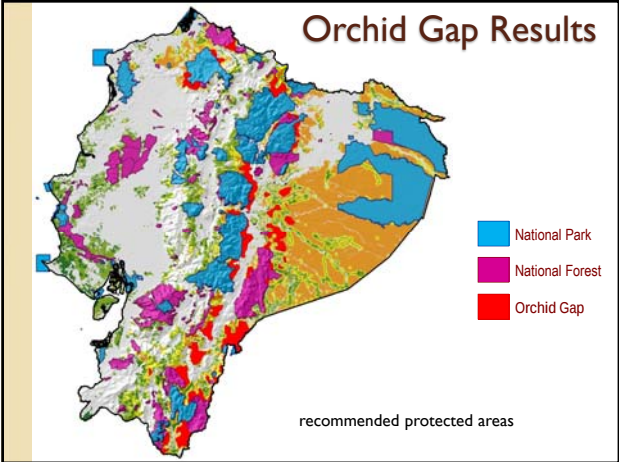
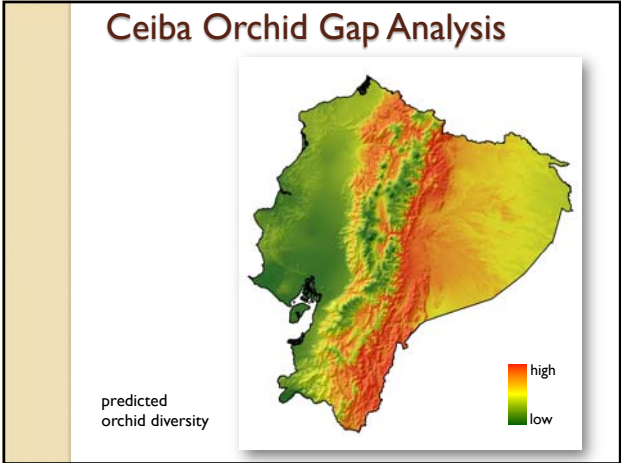
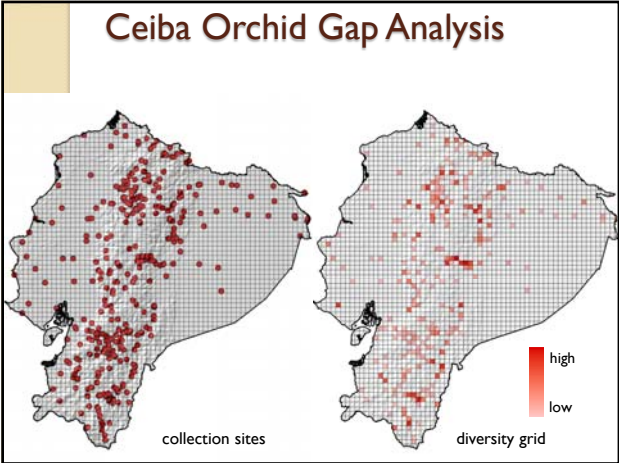
Ceiba GIS Projects

- Orchid Gap Analysis



METHOD

- 1) map species distributions
- 2) map reserve & protected areas
- 3) find unprotected areas ("gaps")
- 4) recommend new reserves



Ceiba GIS Projects

- Manabí Wildlife Mortality
 - weekly highway surveys
 - GPS all roadkill



roads

