Temperate semi-arid forest or woodland

SANDIA MOUNTAINS
NEW MEXICO, USA
CREDIT: KRISTINA J. ANDERSON-TEIXEIRA

Vegetation

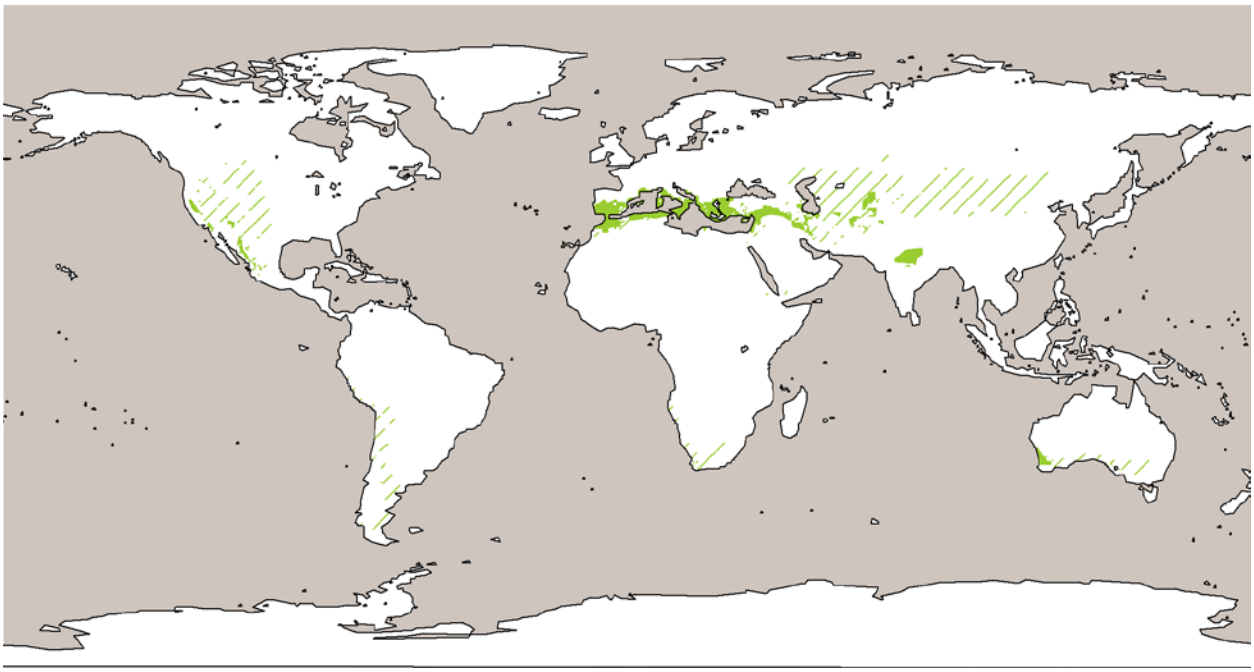
Temperate semi-arid forests and woodlands may be dominated by any type of trees (broadleaf, needleleaf, deciduous or evergreen).

Climate

Temperate semi-arid forests and woodlands are found in relatively dry, temperate climates where freezing temperatures occur: cold arid steppe (BSk), cold arid desert (BWk), and Mediterranean (Csa) climates.

Potential Distribution

This distribution map illustrates the climate zones in which this ecosystem type occurs, with stippled areas indicating climate zones where it is rare. It is not present in all parts of its climatic range.



Climate regulation value

The average greenhouse gas value for ecosystems of this type is 695 metric tons CO_2-equivalents per hectare over a 50 year time frame (t CO_2-eq ha^{-1} 50 yrs^{-1}). This includes 494 t CO_2-eq ha^{-1} 50 yrs^{-1} from storage of organic matter that would result in greenhouse gas release if cleared and 201 t CO_2-eq ha^{-1} 50 yrs^{-1} from ongoing greenhouse gas exchange between the ecosystem and the environment.

The calculator currently lacks appropriate data to calculate the biophysical effects of clearing this ecosystem type.

Considering an average car, emitting 1.1 lb CO_2 per mile driven, clearing 100 square feet (9.3 m^2) of this ecosystem type would, on average, be equivalent to driving 1,293 miles/2,081 km (counting greenhouse gasses only).