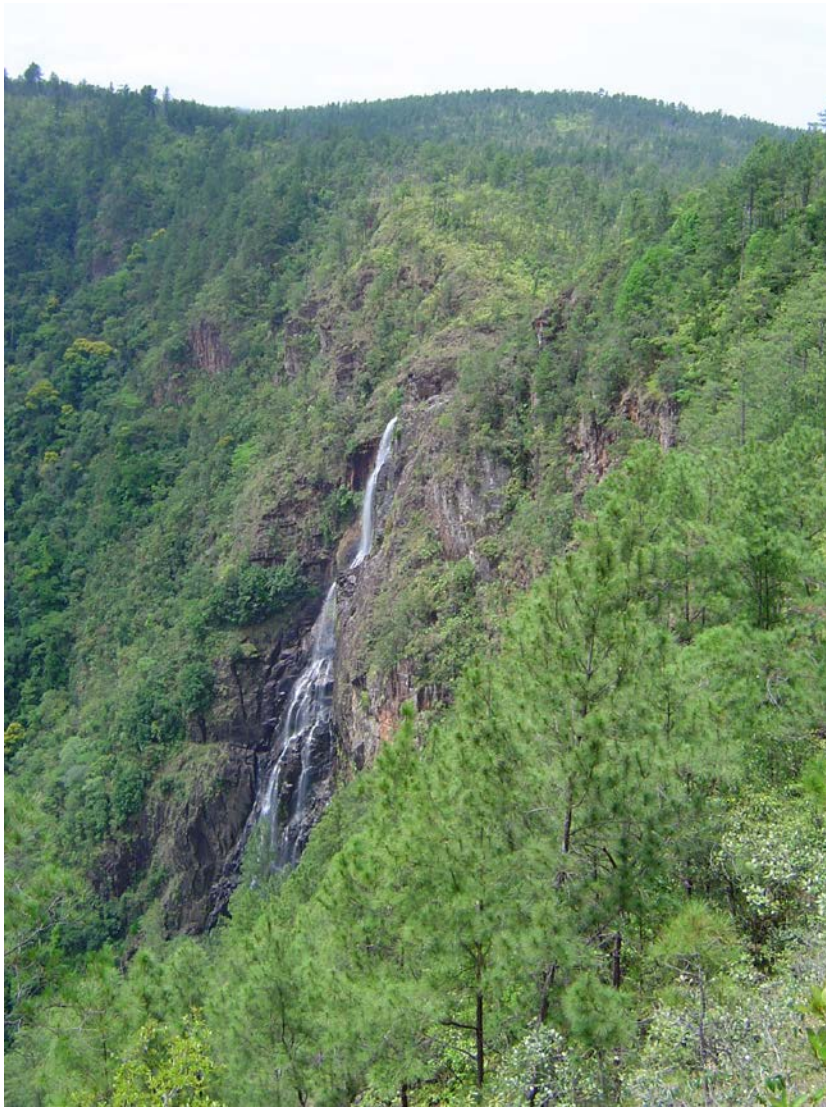


Tropical/subtropical coniferous or mixed forest



BELIZE

CREDIT: KRISTINA J. ANDERSON-TEIXEIRA

Vegetation

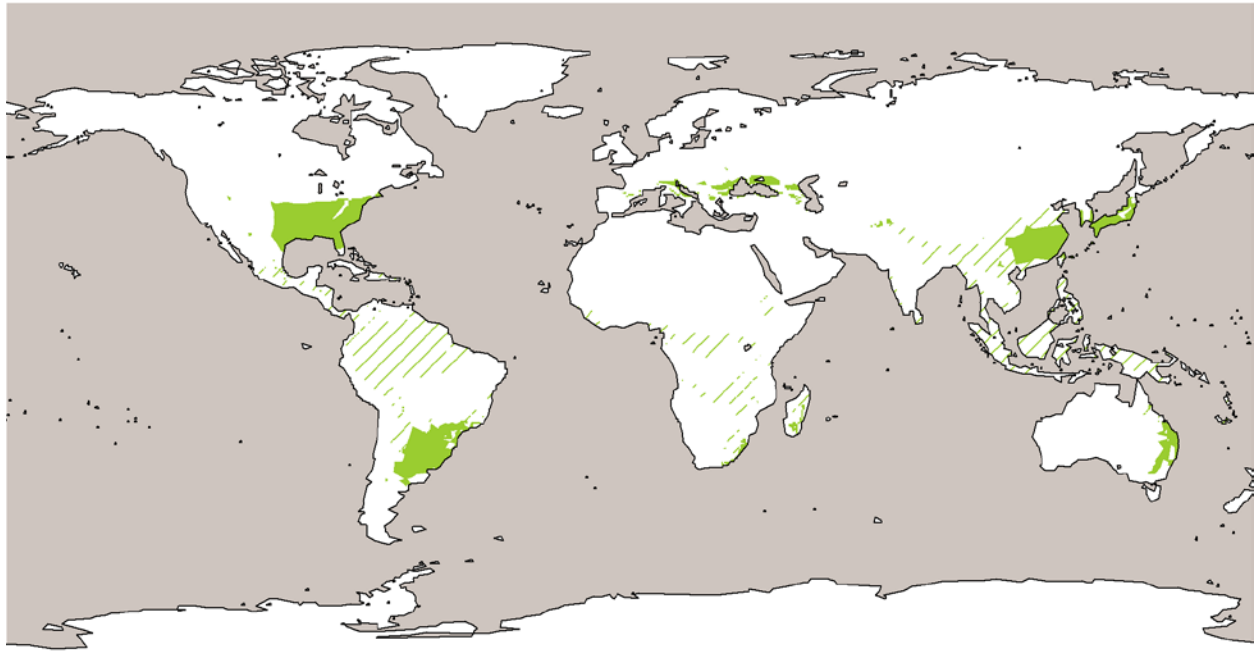
Tropical/subtropical coniferous or mixed forests are dominated by needleleaf trees or a mix of needleleaf and broadleaf trees. Needleleaf trees, which are very rare in tropical climates, have needle-shaped leaves and produce seeds in cones. Broadleaf trees have flat leaves and produce seeds protected by fruits.

Climate

Tropical/subtropical coniferous or mixed forests are found in relatively moist tropical or subtropical climates (Köppen-Geiger zones Af, Am, Cwa, Cwb, Cfa).

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 1031 metric tons CO₂-equivalents per hectare over a 50 year time frame (t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹). This includes 759 t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹ from storage of organic matter that would result in greenhouse gas release if cleared and 272 t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹ from ongoing greenhouse gas exchange between the ecosystem and the environment.

When biophysical effects are taken into account, the average climate regulation value for ecosystems of this type is 945 metric tons CO₂-equivalents per hectare (t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹). This is an 8% decrease relative to the value based on greenhouse gas regulation alone.

Considering an average car, emitting 1.1 lb CO₂ per mile driven, clearing 100 square feet (9.3 m²) of this ecosystem type would, on average, be equivalent to driving 1,917 miles/3,085 km (counting greenhouse gasses only). Counting biophysical effects, clearing the vegetation would be equivalent to driving 1,758 miles/2,829 km.