**Forest Census Plot on Barro Colorado Island**

* Geographic Area: Barro Colorado Island (BCI) in Gatun Lake in central Panama.
* General Information website: <http://ctfs.si.edu/webatlas/datasets/bci/>
* Complete Dataset download and documentation: <https://datadryad.org/stash/dataset/doi:10.15146/5xcp-0d46>
* Introduction:

The 50-ha plot at Barro Colorado Island was initially demarcated and fully censused in 1982, and has been fully censused 7 times since, every 5 years from 1985 through 2015 (Hubbell and Foster 1983, Hubbell et al. 1990, Condit et al. 2012, Condit et al. 2017). Every measurement of every stem over 8 censuses is included in this archive.

This dataset has been curated and stored in the format of “.rdata”, and you can directly click “.rdata” to load them in R.

Most users will need only the 8 R Analytical Tables in the format tree, which come here zipped together into a single archive (bci.tree.zip), plus the single R Species Table (bci.spptable.rdata). Additional tables cover all individual stems, additional measurements at multiple positions on some stems, and the full database in the original MySQL format.

* Key publications that led to the important development of Neutral Theory in Ecology :
  + Hubell 2005: description of neutral theory in community ecology
  + Hubell 2006: evolution of ecological equivalence or niche convergence, using as an example evolution of the suite of life history traits characteristic of shade tolerant tropical tree species
  + Legendre&Condit 2019: Recent publication performing spatial and temporal analysis of beta diversity in the Barro Colorado Island forest dynamics plot, Panama