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W3

# Monitoring biodiversity

# w3 Lesson 1

## Using AI for

# Biodiversity Monitoring

# AI and Climate Change

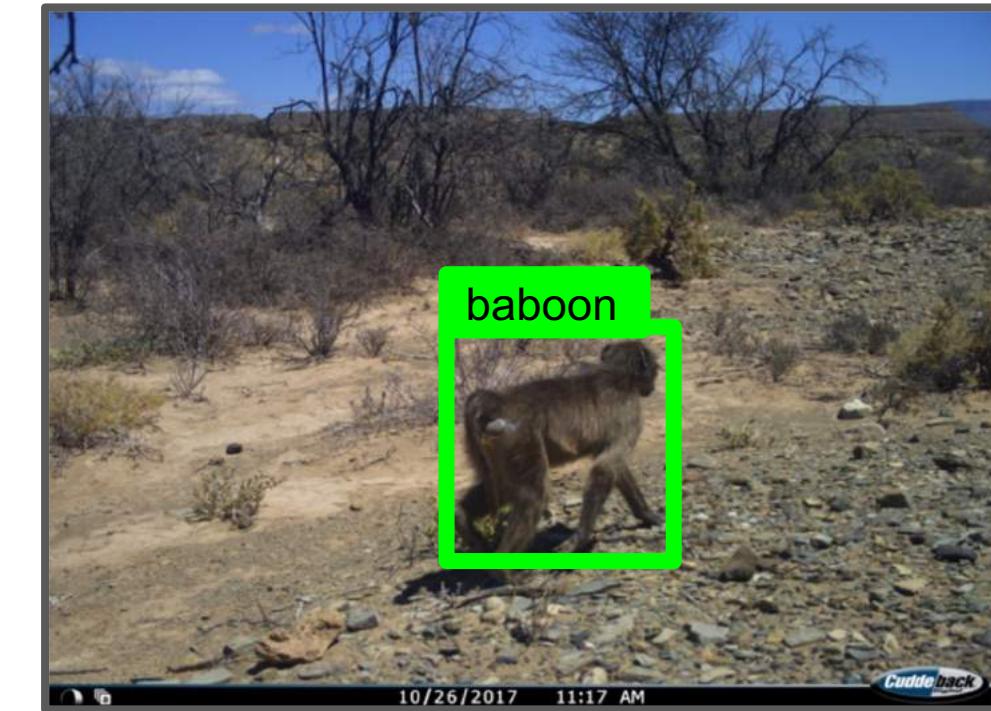
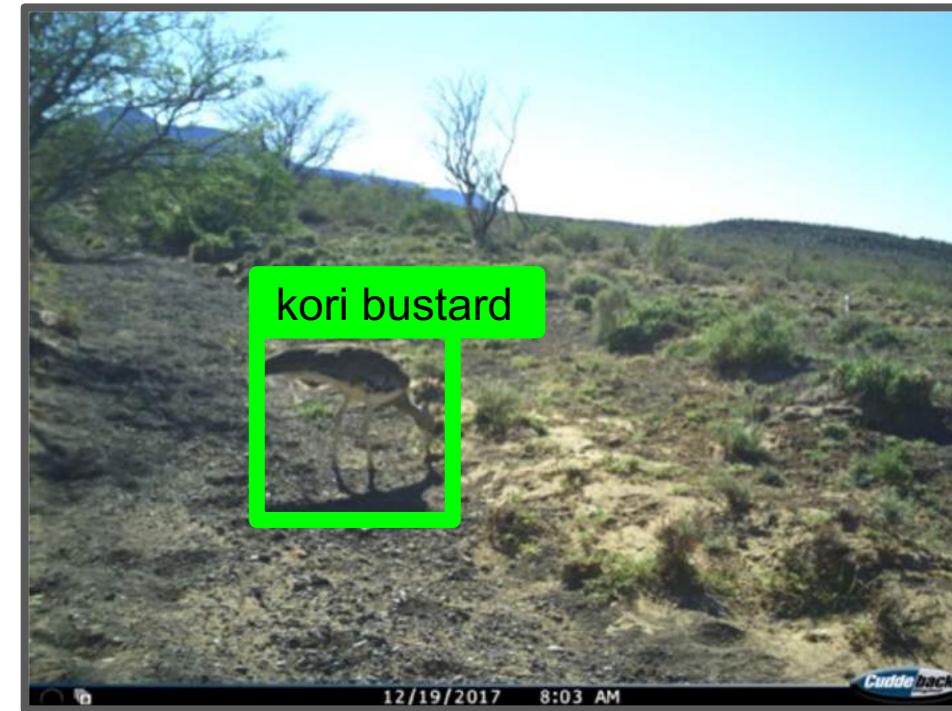
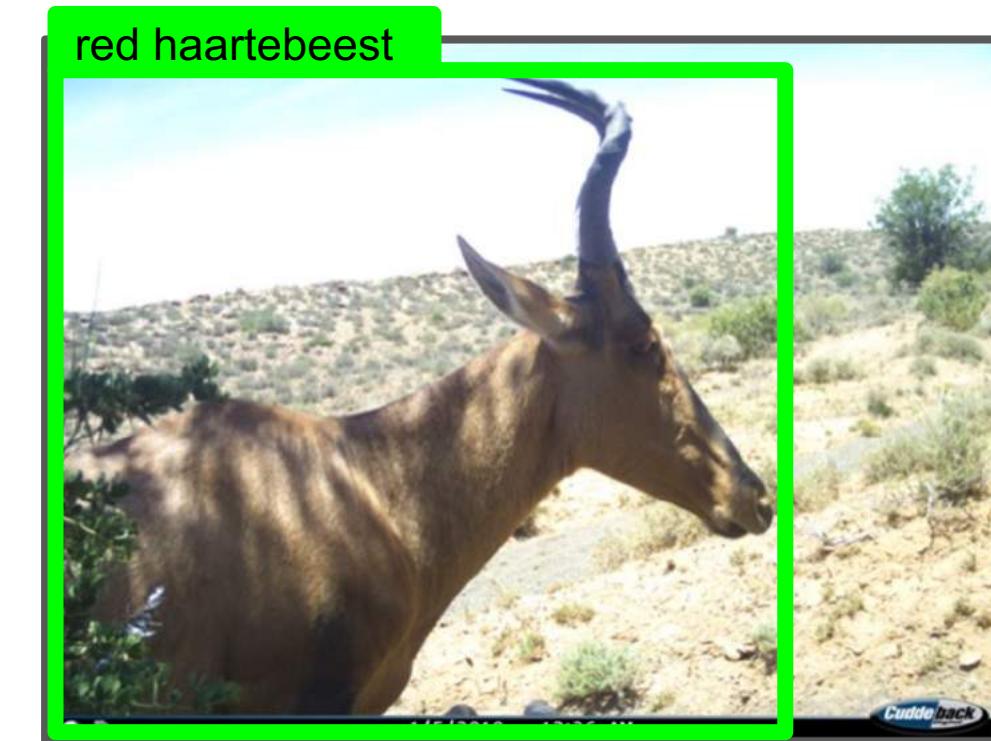
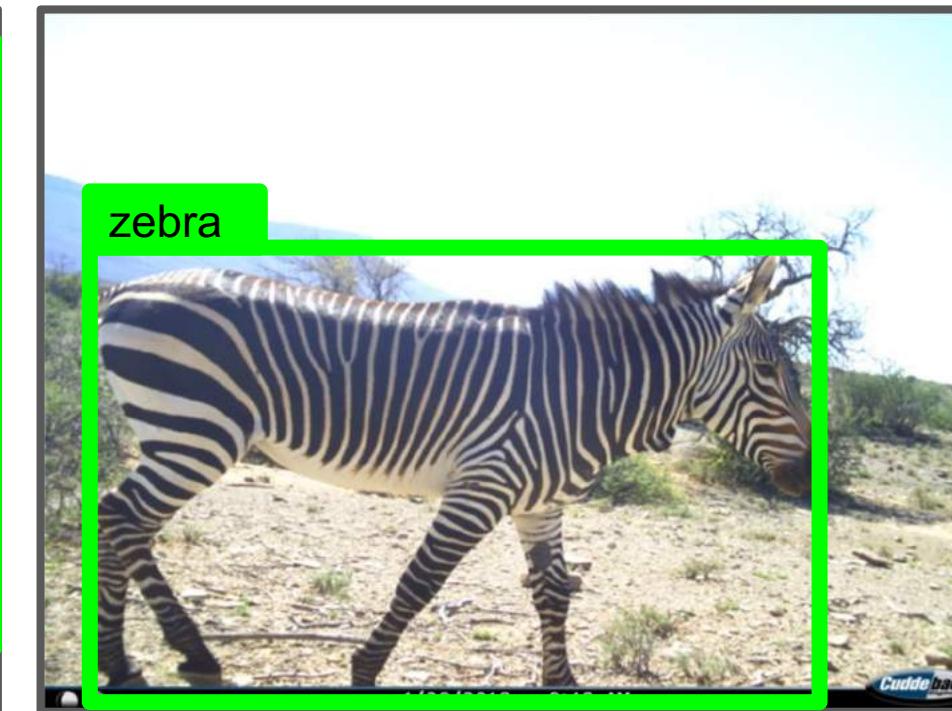
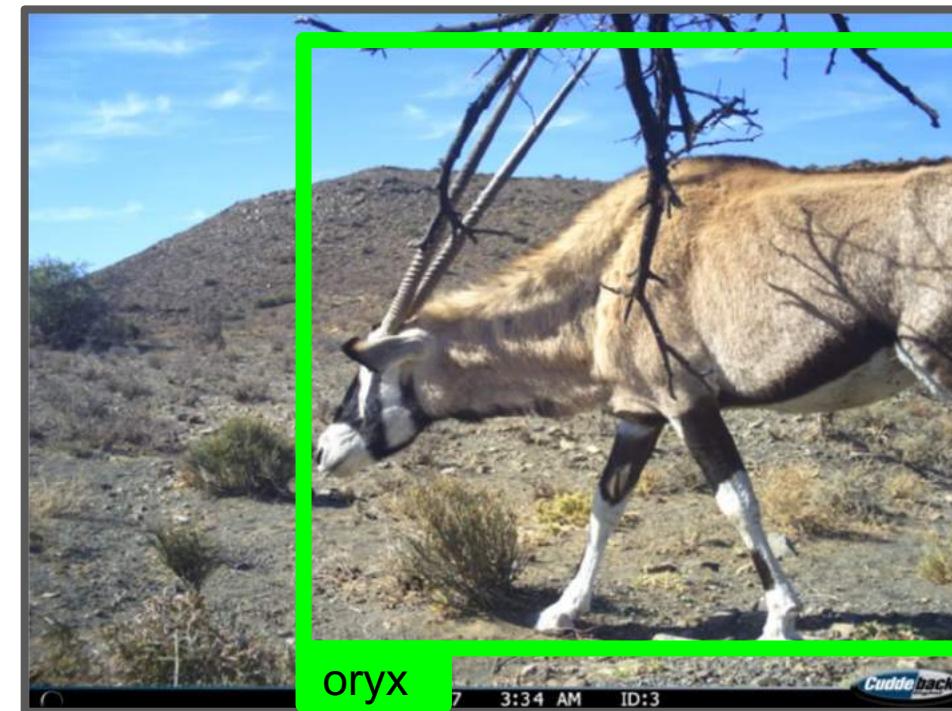
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Welcome to  
Week 3

# Monitoring biodiversity







# AI and Climate Change

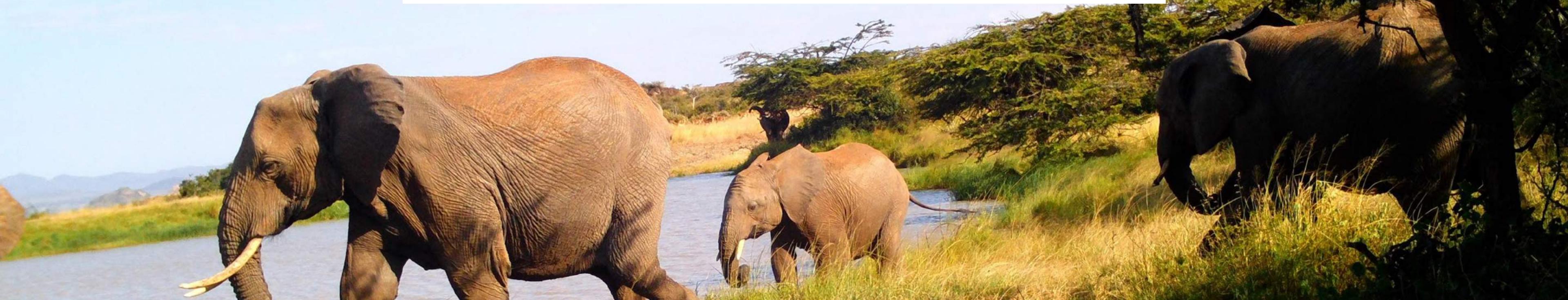
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DeepLearning.AI

**Project Spotlight:  
Sara Beery - Why  
Monitor Biodiversity?**

# Living Planet Report



nature

Published: 02 March 2011

## Has the Earth's sixth mass extinction already arrived?

Anthony D. Barnosky , Nicholas Matzke, Susumu Tomiya, Guinevere O. U. Wogan, Brian Swartz, Tiago B. Quental, Charles Marshall, Jenny L. McGuire, Emily L. Lindsey, Kaitlin C. Maguire, Ben Mersey & Elizabeth A. Ferrer

*Nature* 471, 51–57 (2011) | [Cite this article](#)

114k Accesses | 2183 Citations | 1290 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

nature

NEWS | 06 May 2019 | Update [06 May 2019](#)

## Humans are driving one million species to extinction

Landmark United Nations-backed report finds that agriculture is one of the biggest threats to Earth's ecosystems.

Jeff Tollefson

# Sixth mass extinction

Percentage of species threatened with extinction:



Amphibians

**40%**



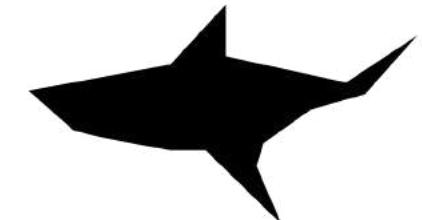
Conifers

**34%**



Reef Corals

**33%**



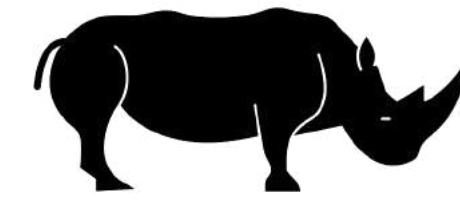
Shark and  
Rays

**31%**



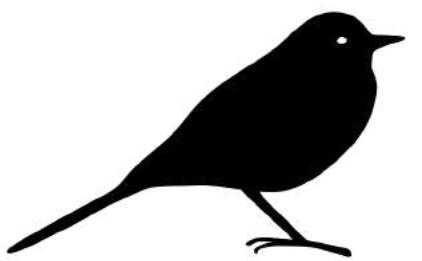
Crustaceans

**27%**



Mammal

**25%**



Birds

**14%**

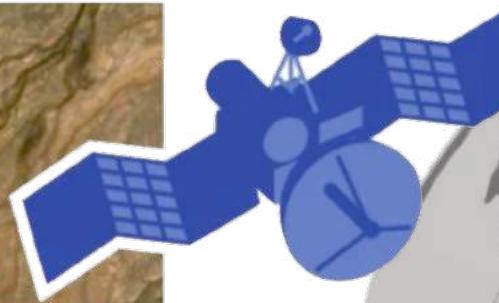
**68%** of animal population lost since 1970

"What does 'endangered species' mean?. WWF, 2023

# Biodiversity monitoring sensors are diverse

## Mobile Sensors

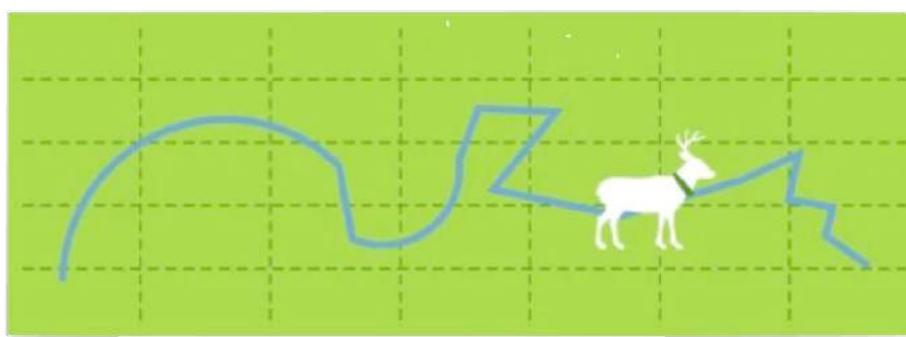
Satellite (optical, SAR, LiDAR)



UAV (RGB, thermal, LiDAR)

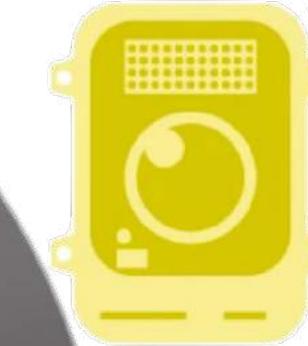


On-Animal Sensors

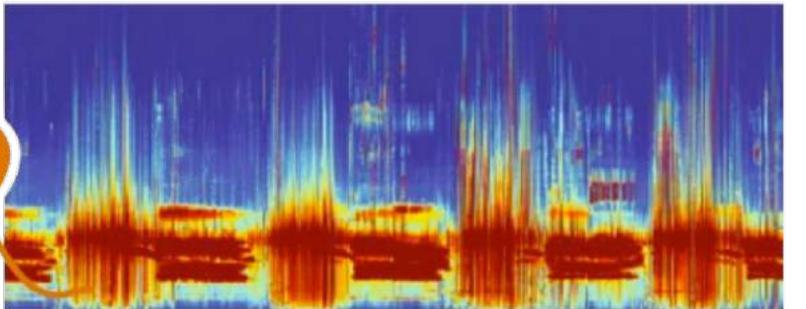


## Stationary Sensors

Camera Traps

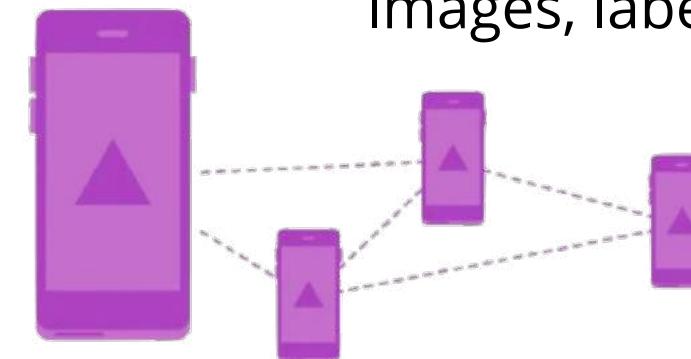


Bioacoustic Sensors



## Community Scientists

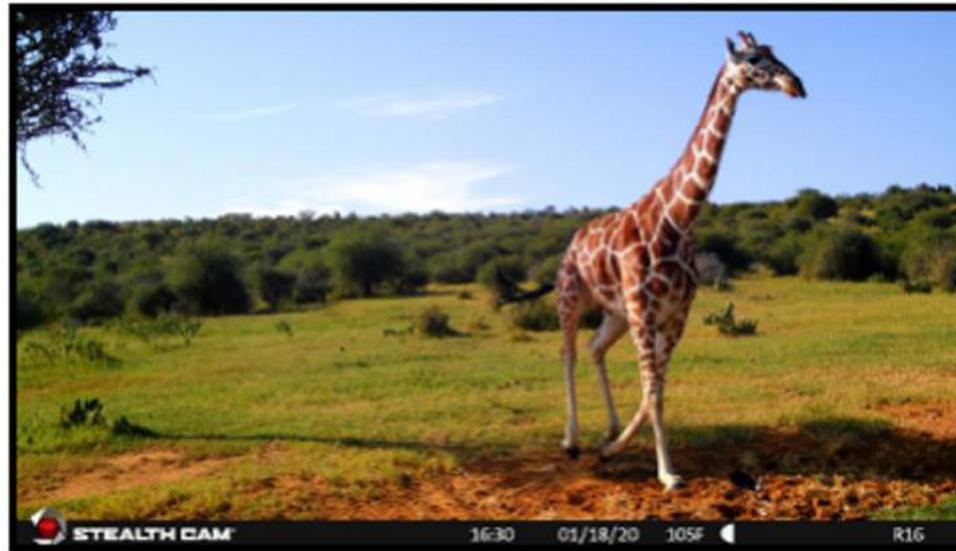
Images, labels, etc.



Seeing biodiversity: perspectives in machine learning for wildlife conservation - In Submission

# Manual data processing doesn't scale

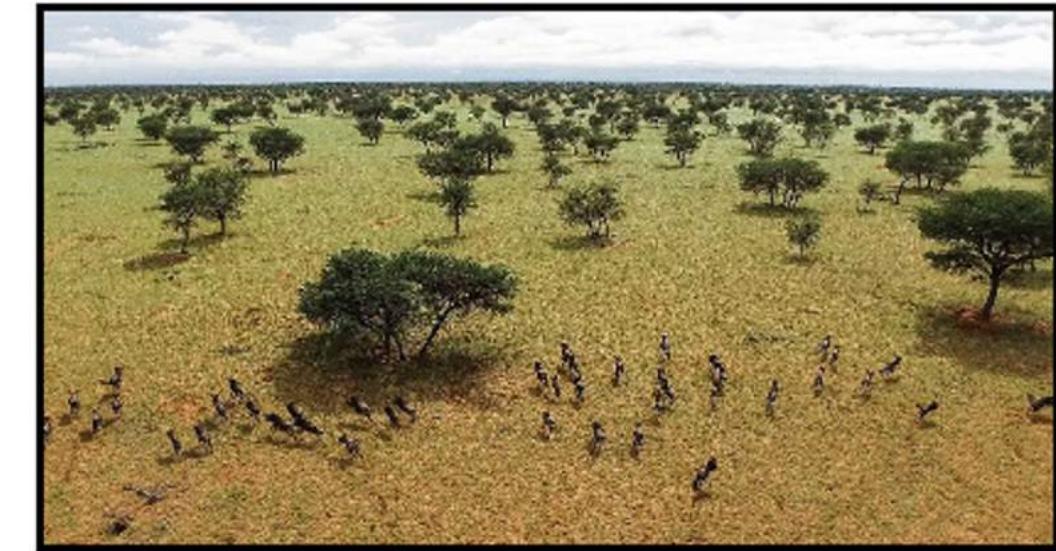
## Camera Traps



## Community Scientists



## Aerial Surveys



**One project can collect >10M images/season**

**>64M Species observations in iNaturalist**

**One survey can generate >200TB of video**

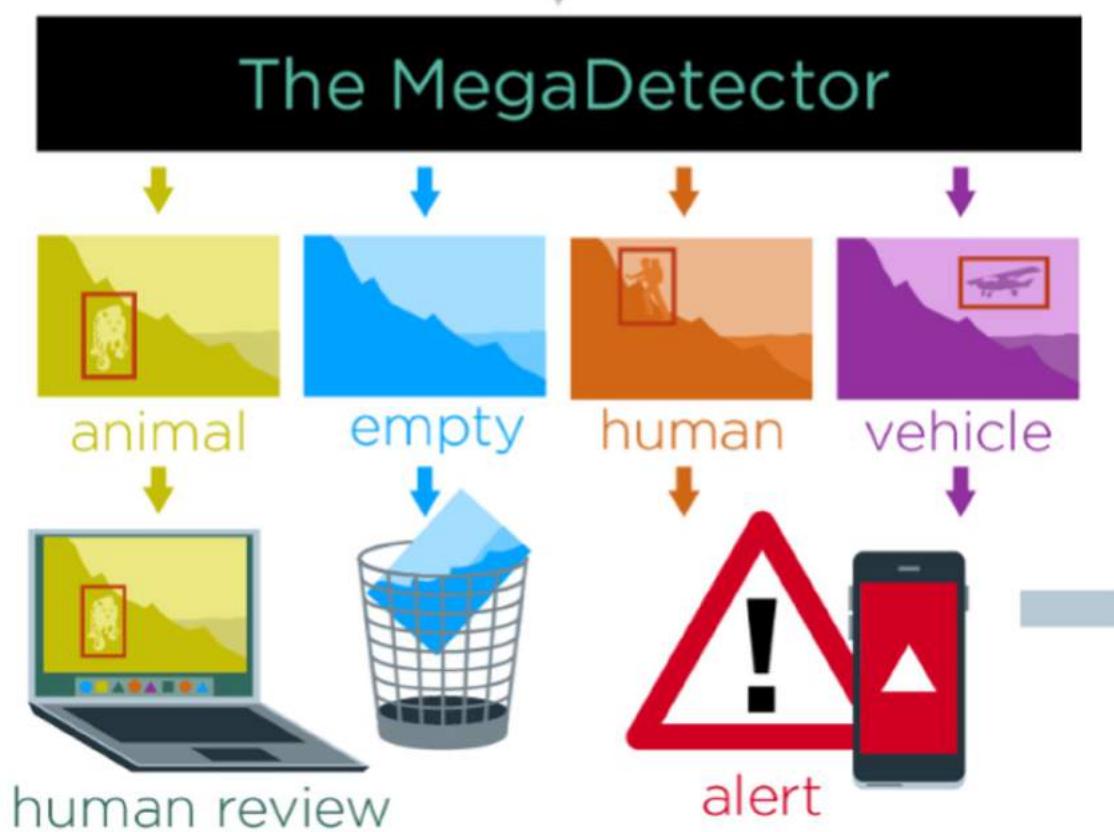
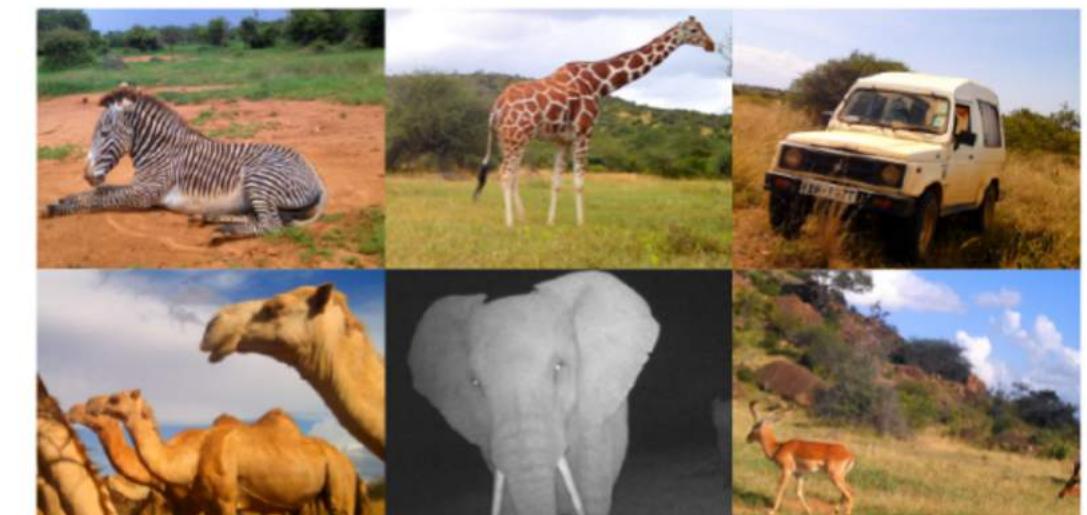
# The MegaDetector

## Conference Abstract

Biodiversity Information Science and Standards 3: e37222  
<https://doi.org/10.3897/biss.3.37222> (19 Jun 2019)

## Efficient Pipeline for Automating Species ID in new Camera Trap Projects

▼ Sara Beery, Dan Morris, Siyu Yang, Marcel Simon, Arash  
Norouzzadeh, Neel Joshi



# The MegaDetector model speeds up processing 1000x+

Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game



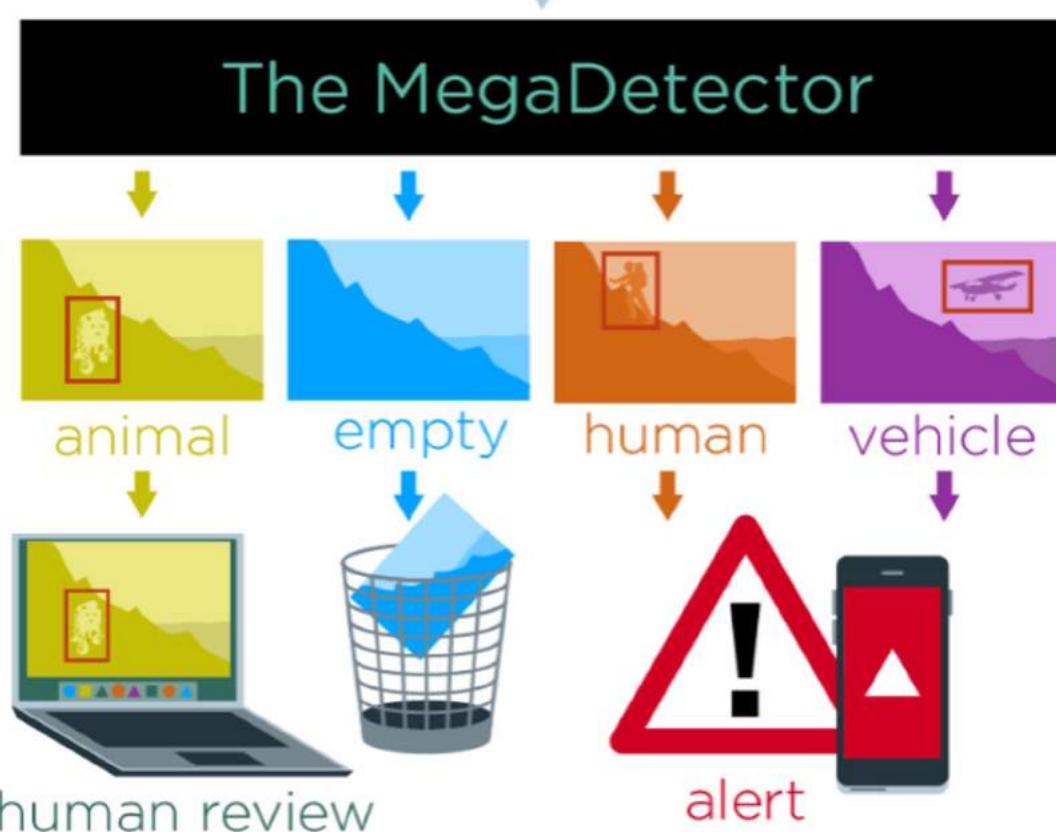
WOLF  
pop. mgmt

2,000  
cameras

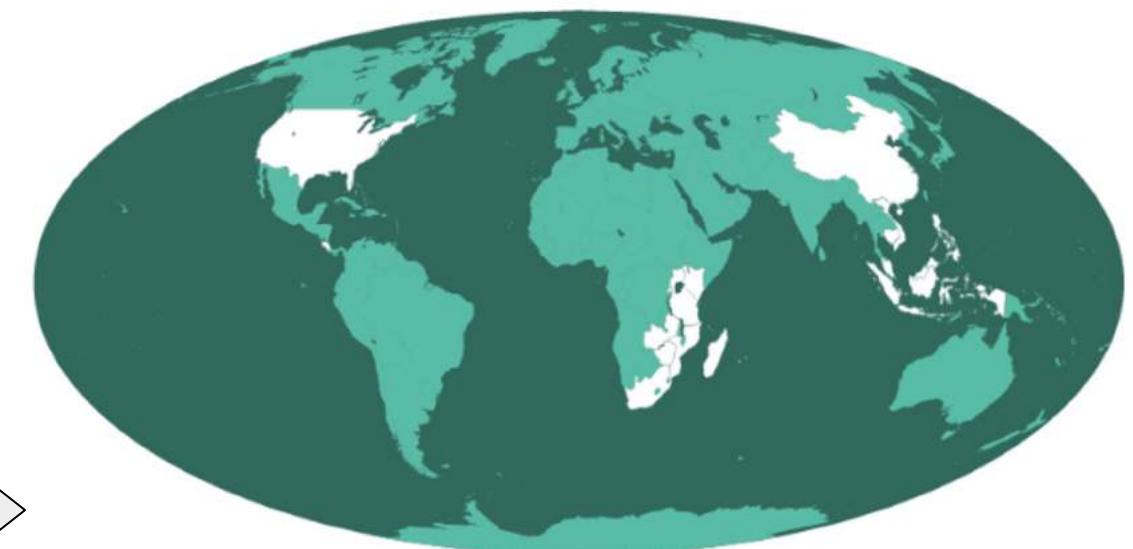
11M  
images



Less than 15% of  
images require  
human review

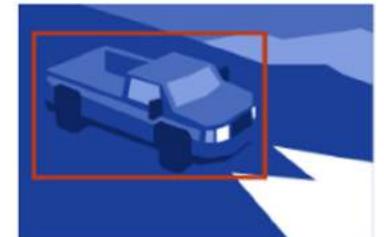


Wildlife Protection Solutions



WILDLIFE CRIME PREVENTION  
18 nations | 800 cameras | 900K images

Real-time alerts  
Detects one real wildlife threat per week on average



"Efficient Pipeline for Camera Trap Image Review." KDD 2019

# AI and Climate Change

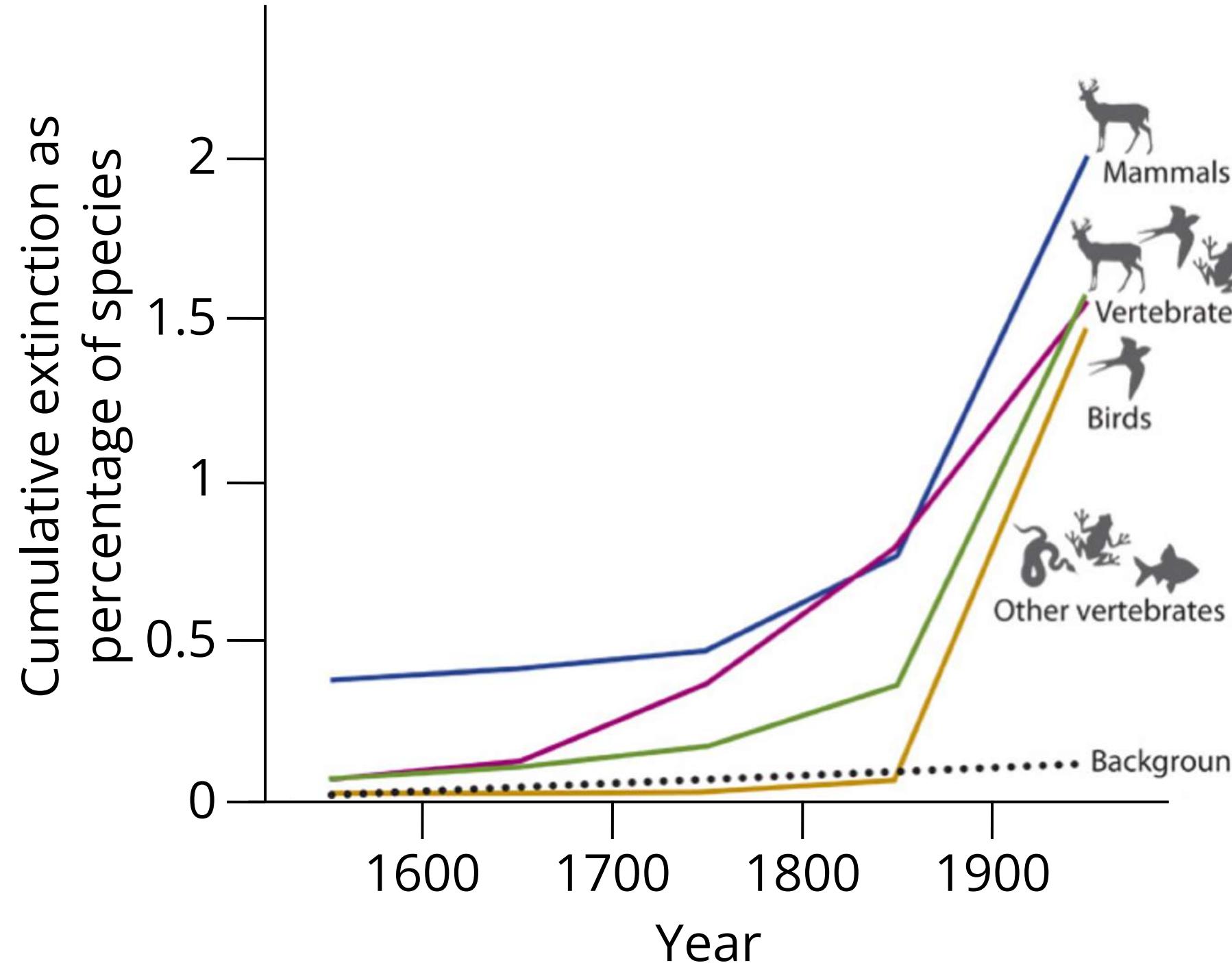
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## Climate Change & Biodiversity

# Rise in extinction rates



Reasons for extinction:

- Hunting and fishing
- Land development
- Environmental pollution
- Climate change

Ceballos et al. (2015). Accelerated modern human-induced species losses: Entering the sixth mass extinction. *Science Advances*

# Impacts of climate change

Science

**Biodiversity redistribution under climate change:  
Impacts on ecosystems and human well-being**

Science

**Rapid Range Shifts of Species Associated with High  
Levels of Climate Warming**

nature climate change

**Global imprint of climate change on marine life**

- Half of all species are on the move
- 17 km per decade on land
- 72 km per decade at sea

# Impacts of climate change

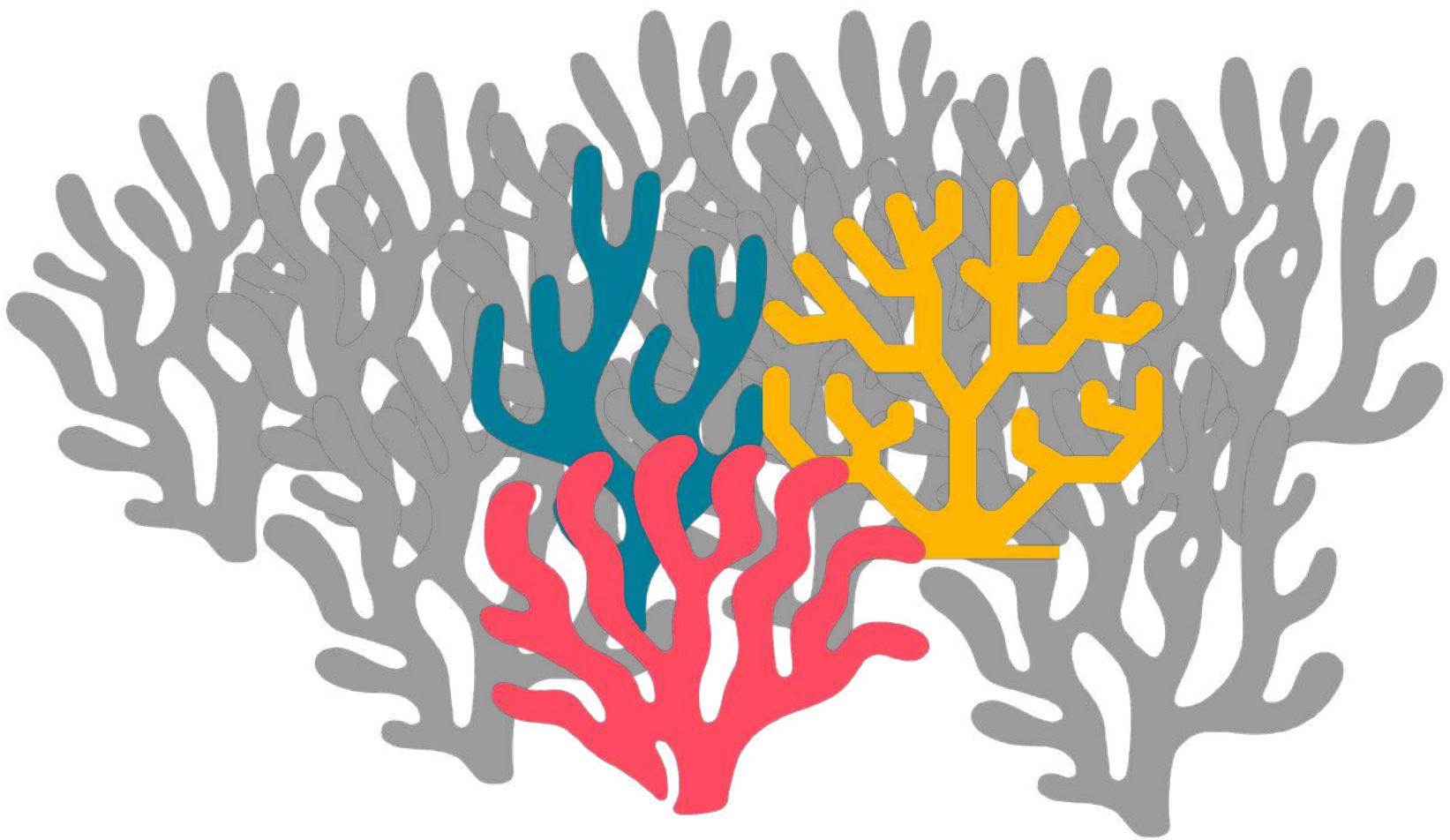


First mammal extinct due to climate change



# Coral reef depletion

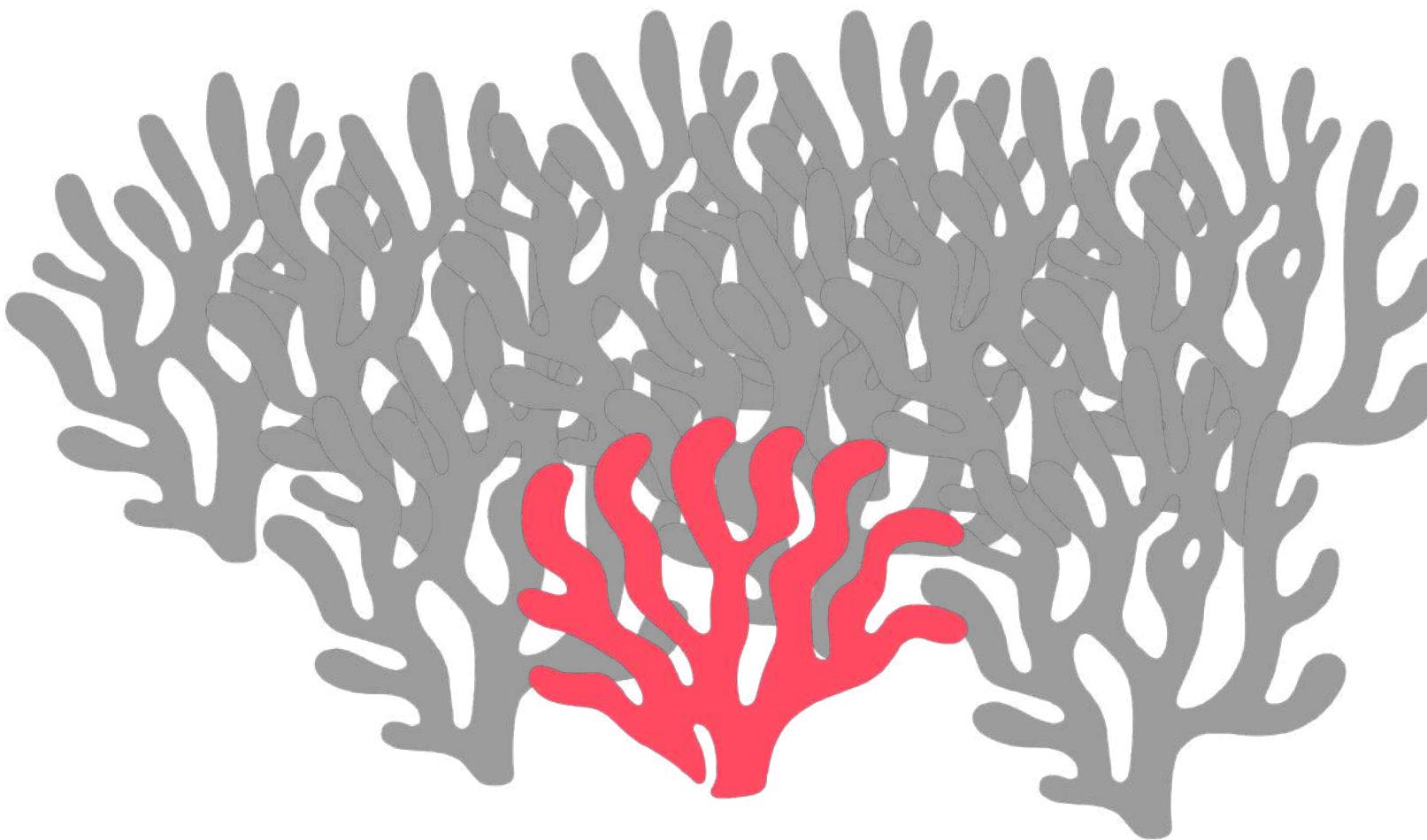
**+1.5 °C**



**70-90%**

of coral reefs will disappear

**+2.0 °C**



**99%**

of coral reefs will disappear

"How is climate change affecting biodiversity?" @United Nations Climate Change [un.org/en/climatechange/](http://un.org/en/climatechange/)

# Ocean wildlife extinction

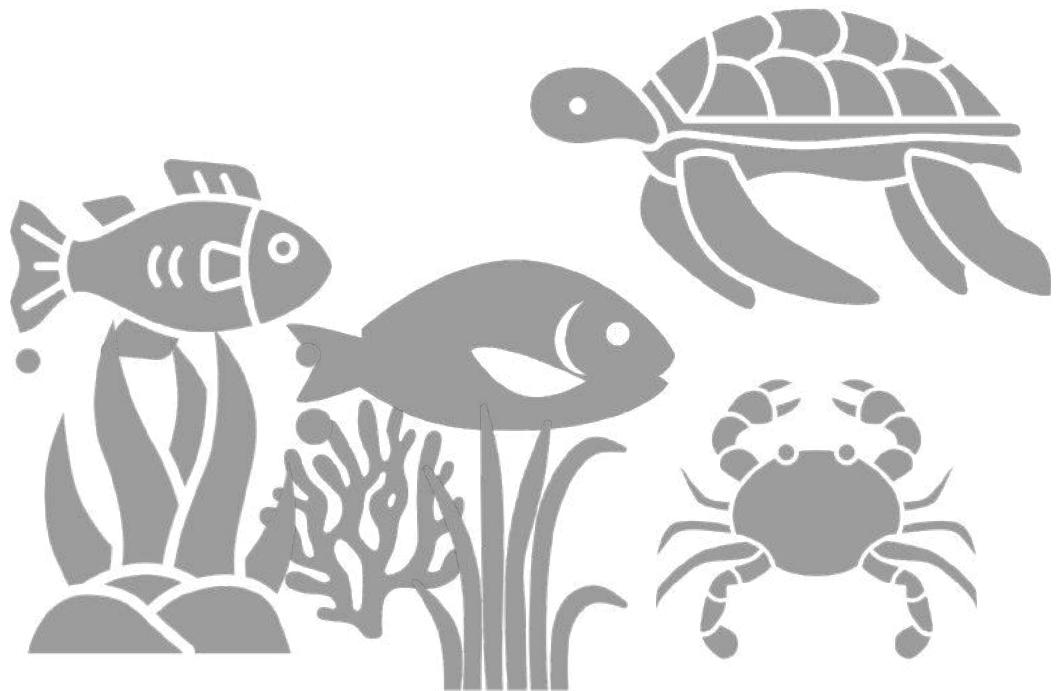
**nature climate change**

Article | Published: 22 August 2022

## A climate risk index for marine life

[Daniel G. Boyce](#)✉, [Derek P. Tittensor](#), [Cristina Garilao](#), [Stephanie Henson](#), [Kristin Kaschner](#), [Kathleen Kesner-Reyes](#), [Alex Pigot](#), [Rodolfo B. Reyes Jr.](#), [Gabriel Reygondeau](#), [Kathryn E. Schleit](#), [Nancy L. Shackell](#), [Patricia Sorongon-Yap](#) & [Boris Worm](#)

[Nature Climate Change](#) 12, 854–862 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

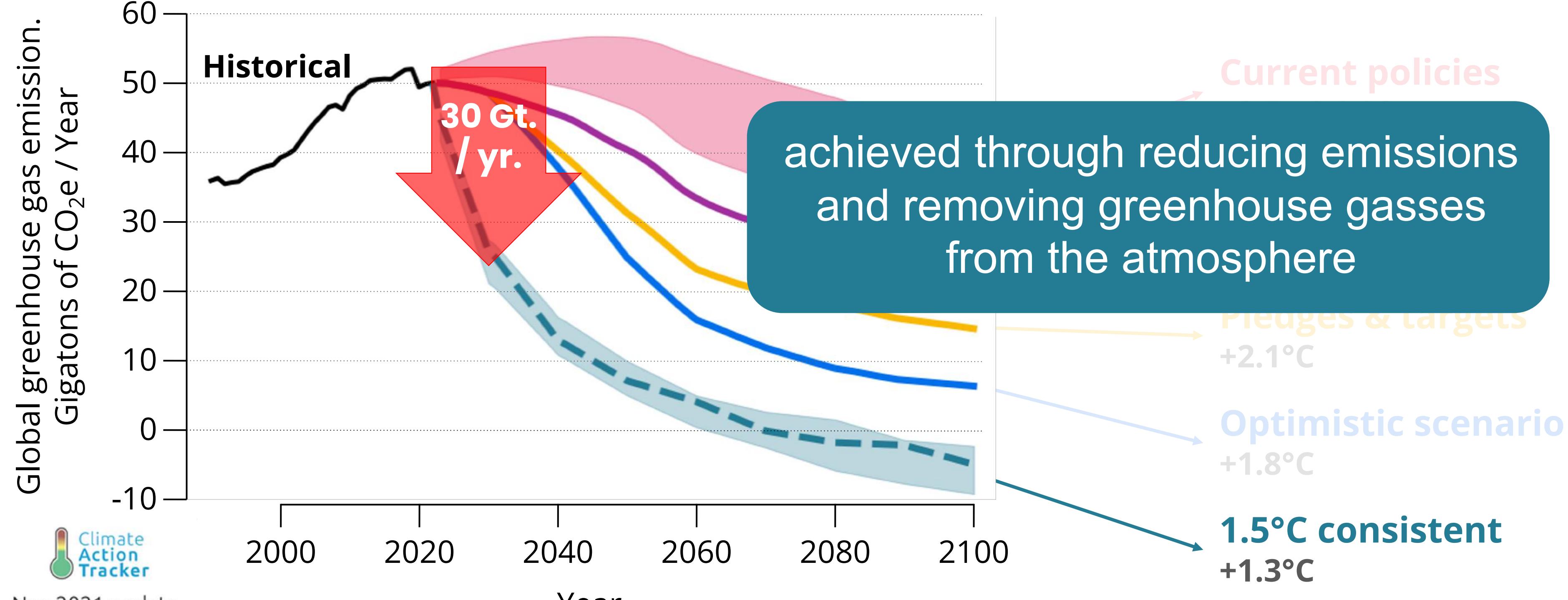


**90%**

of all ocean plants and animal species could be at risk of extinction by 2100

Boyce, D.G., Tittensor, D.P., Garilao, C. et al. (2022). A climate risk index for marine life. *Nat. Clim. Chang*

# 2100 warming projection



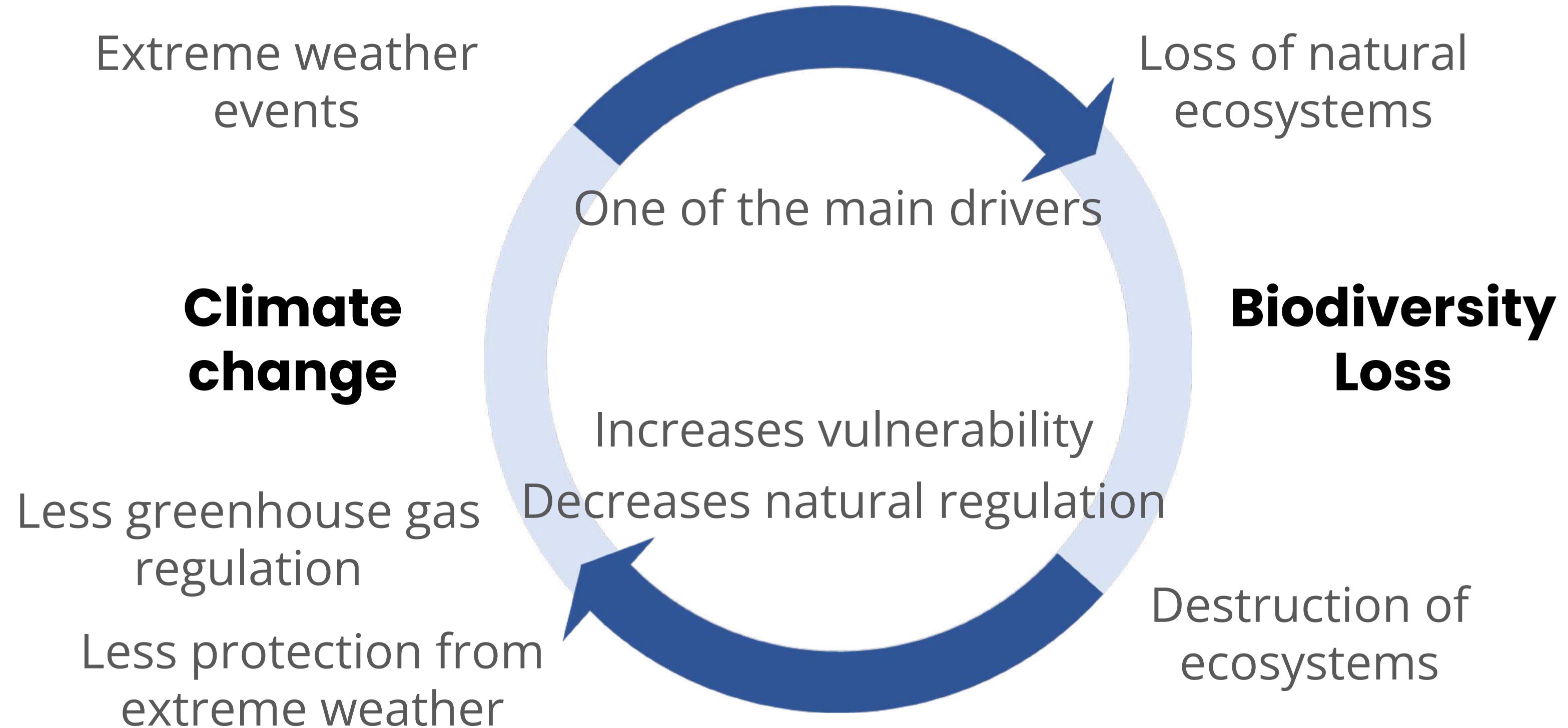
Source (Adapted): Climate Action Tracker Copyright © 2021 by Climate Analytics and NewClimate Institute. All rights reserved.

# Greenhouse gas removal

- Halting deforestation (3 Gt/year)
- Actively managing and restoring forests (5 Gt/year)
- Nature-based solutions across all ecosystems (11.7 Gt/year)

Nature based solutions are actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems that are natural sinks or reservoirs of carbon.

# Climate change and biodiversity



# AI and Climate Change

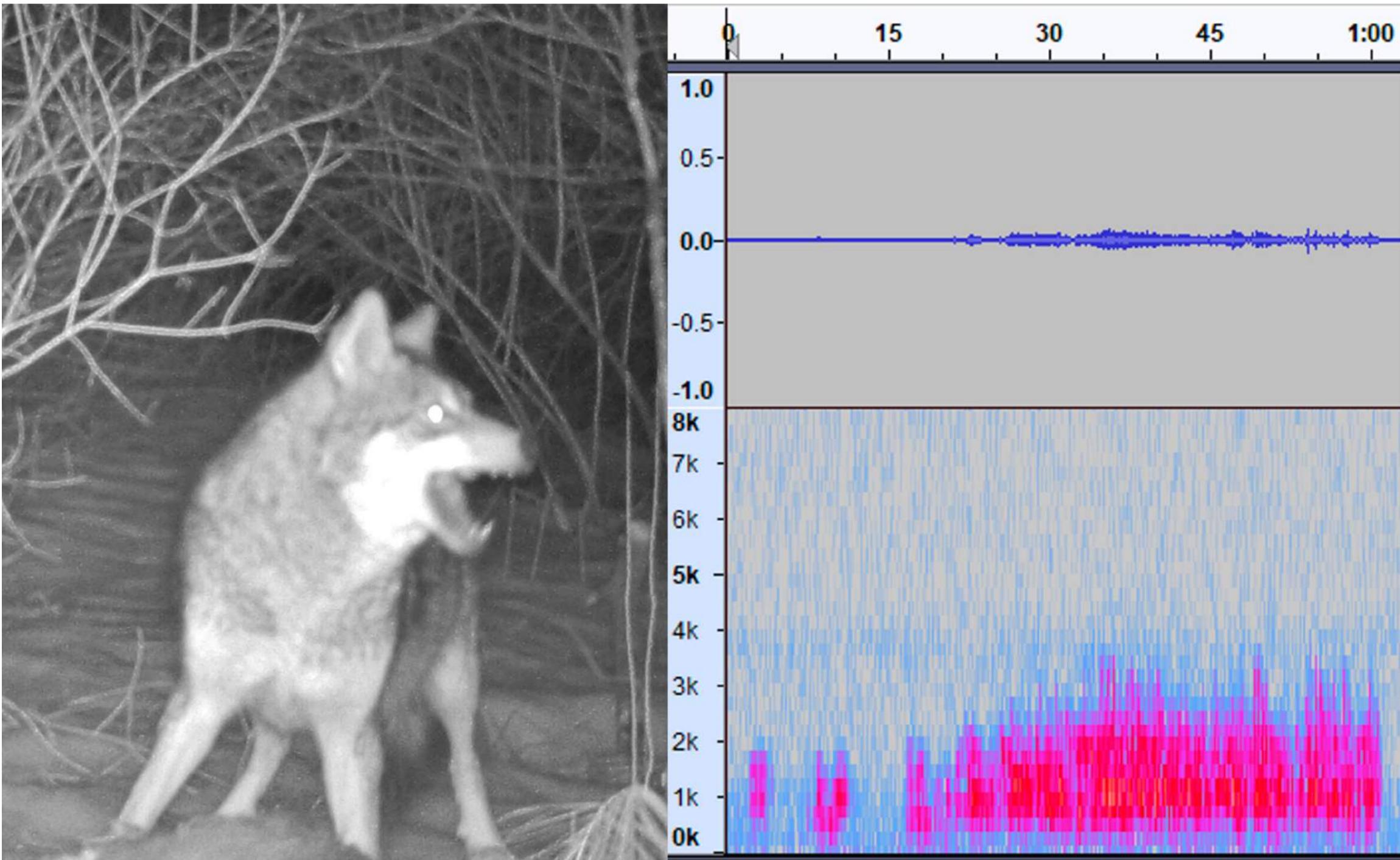
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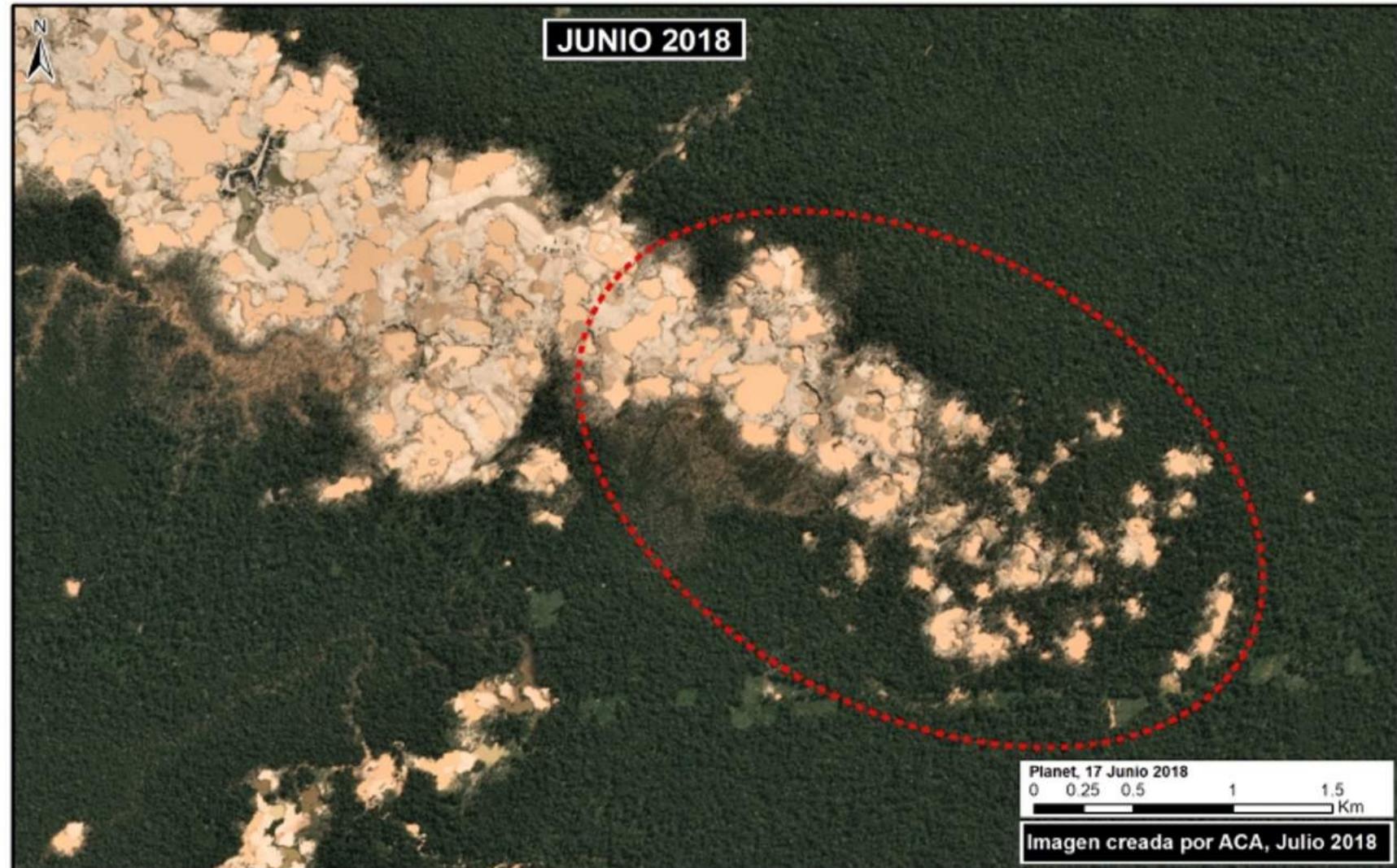
## Monitoring Biodiversity

# Camera Trap & Microphones



*Using an Acoustic Logger to Capture Wildlife Sounds. Winterberry Wildlife*

# Aerial Imagery

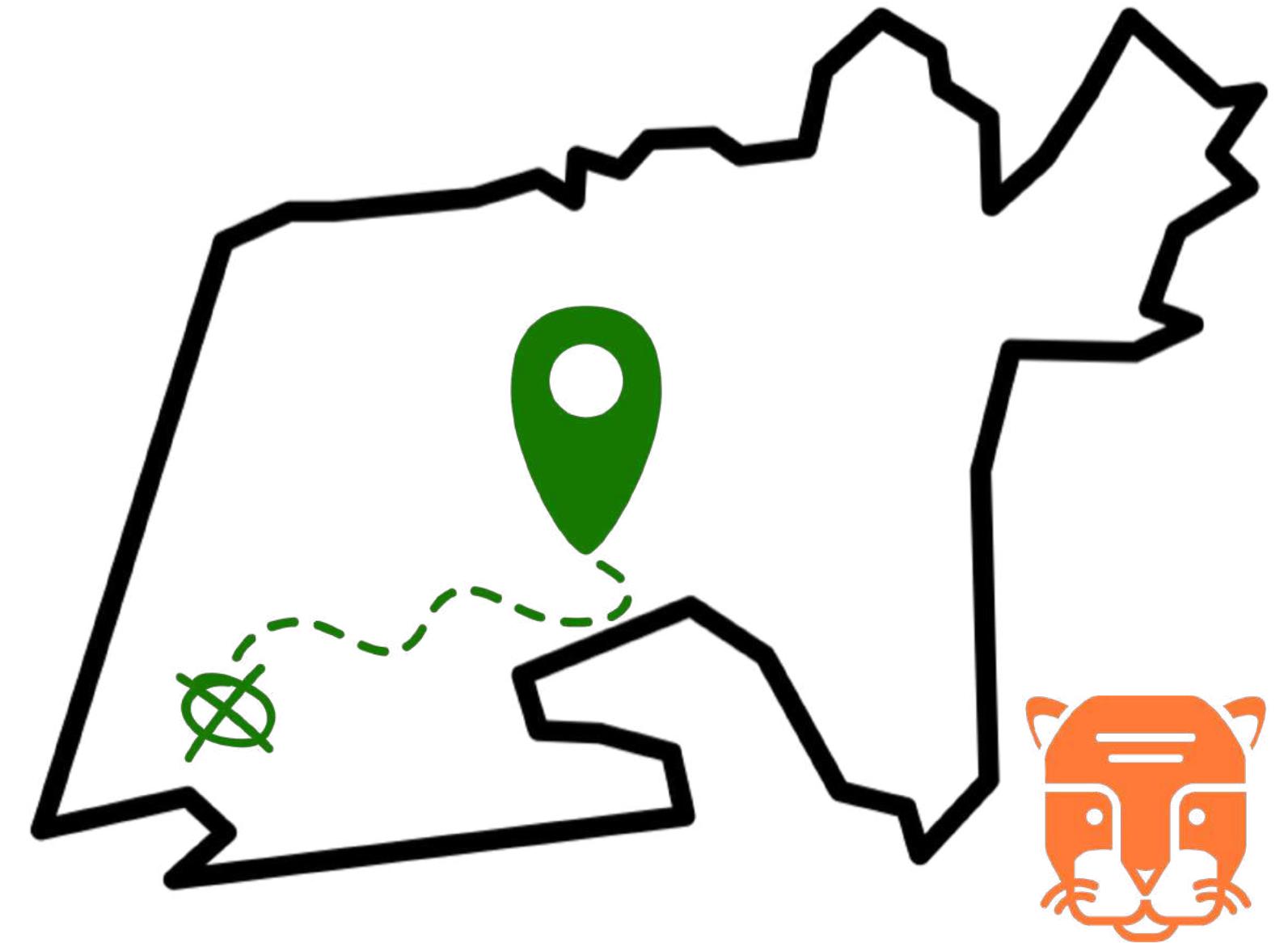


"Illegal gold mining in La Pampa and Tambopata National Reserve, Peru".  
@Max Stoesser on Environmental Justice Atlas.

# On-animal sensors



*Tigress with radio collar in Tadoba Andhari National Park, India. [PR Ganapathy](#)*



# Bioacoustic monitoring

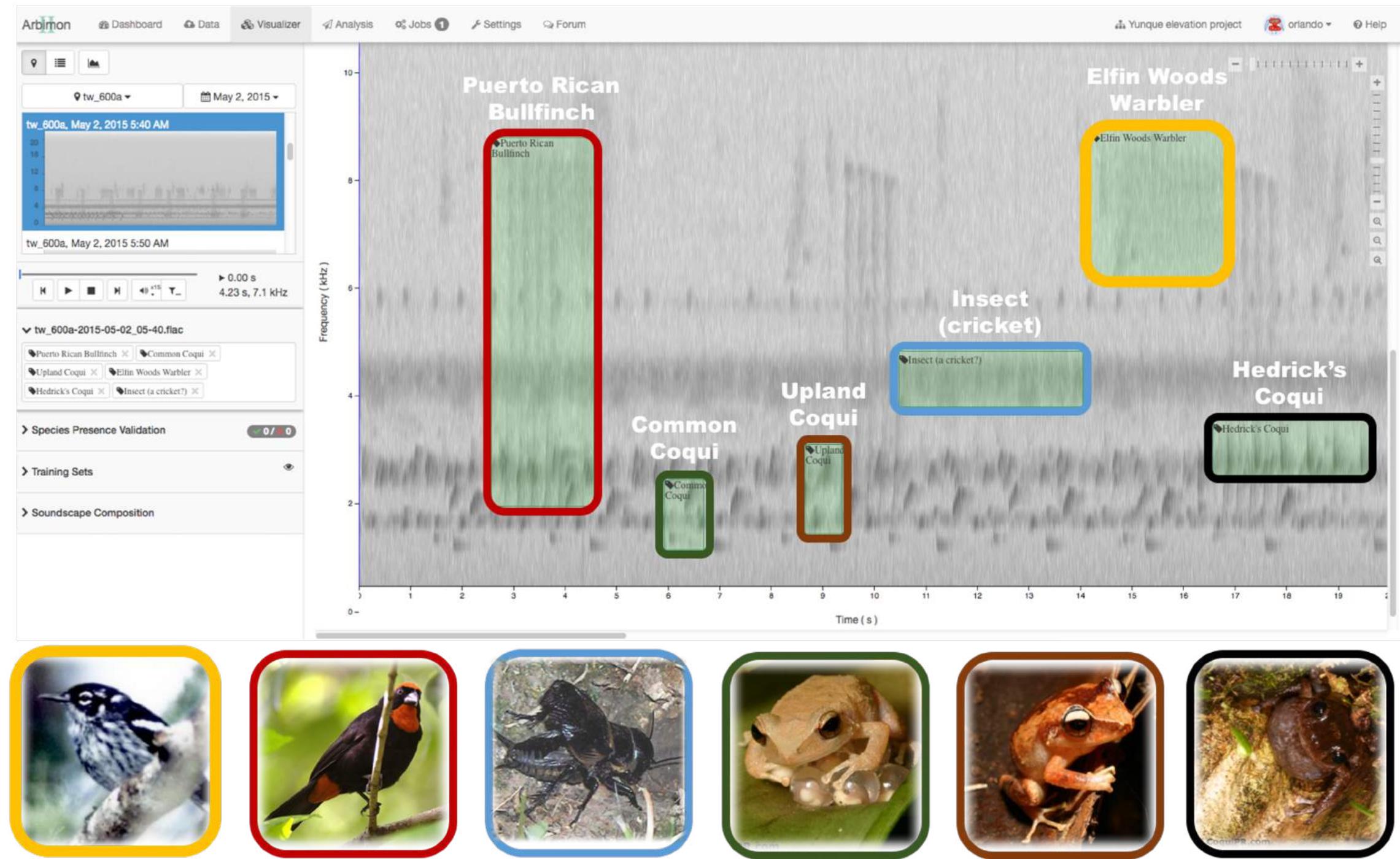


Image courtesy of Marconi Campos/ ARBIMON

Year of Forest Loss

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

VENEZUELA

COLOMBIA

ECUADOR

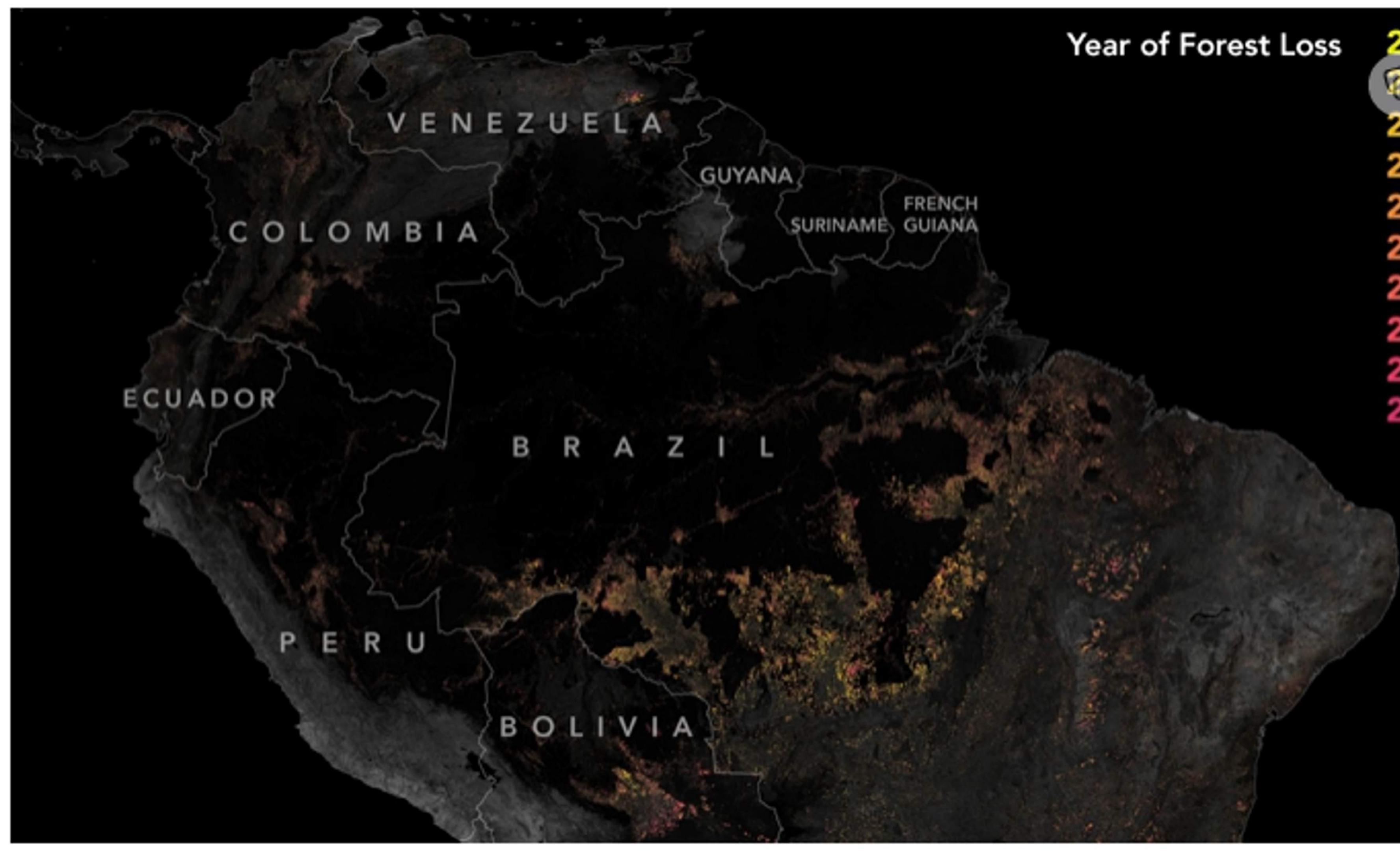
GUYANA

SURINAME  
FRENCH  
GUIANA

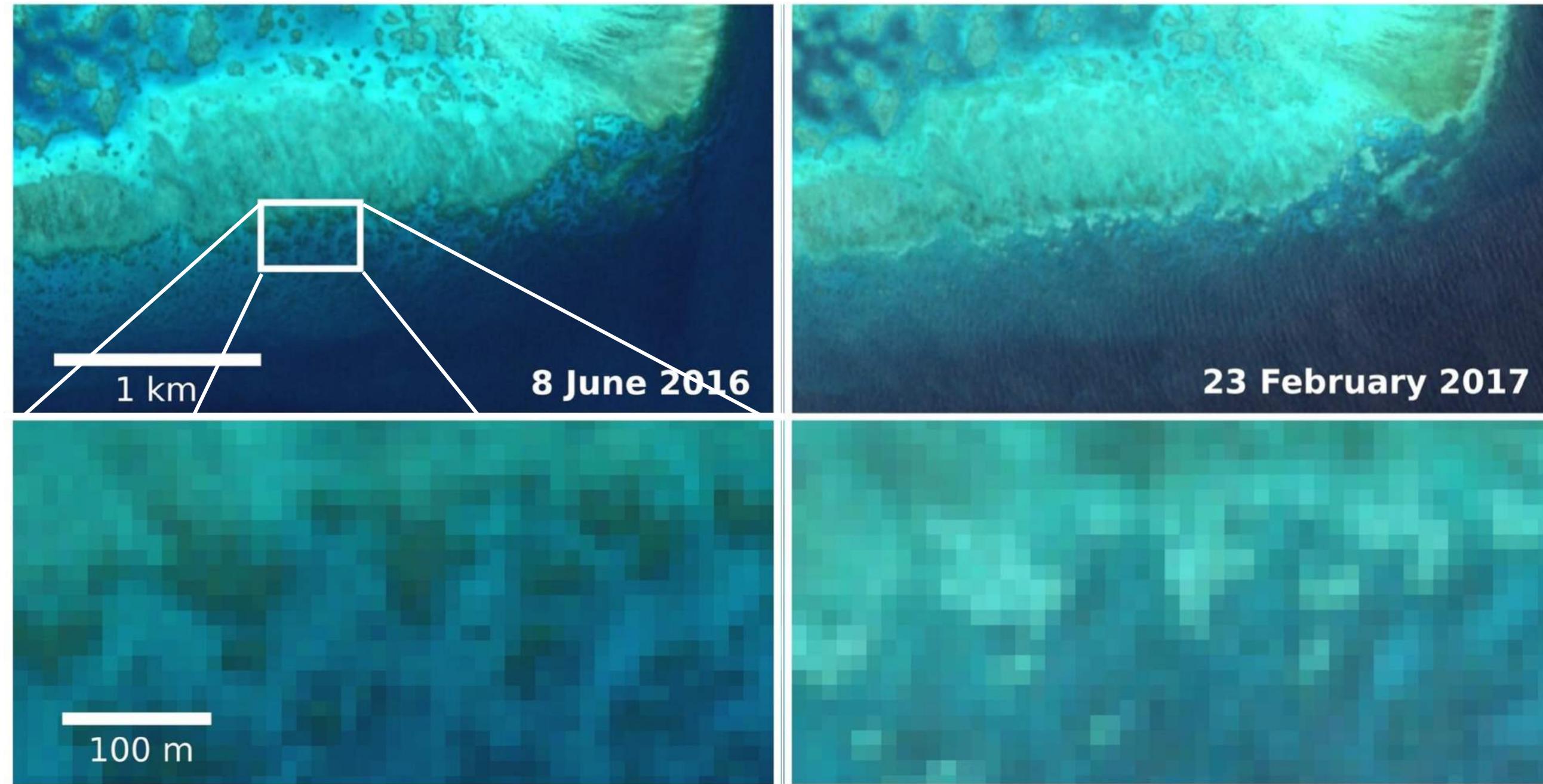
BRAZIL

PERU

BOLIVIA

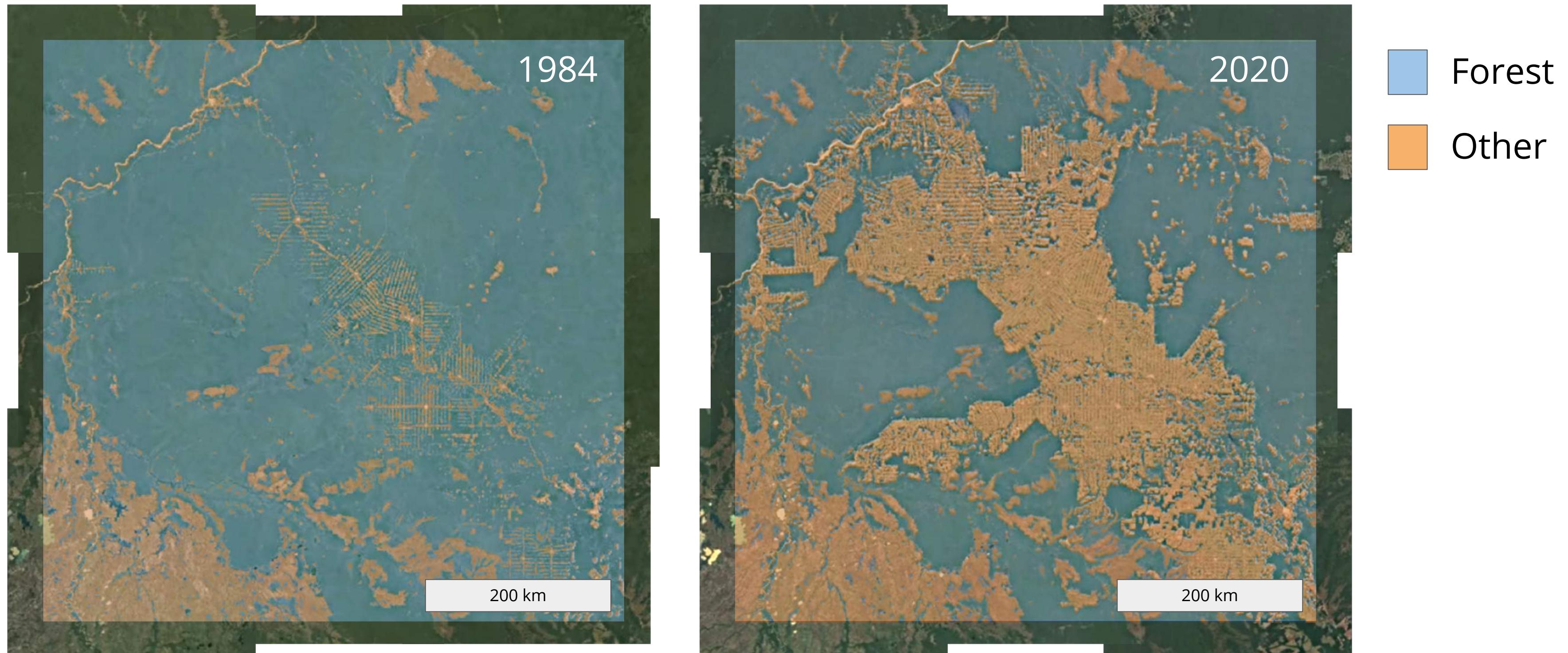


# Satellite data: Sen2Coral project



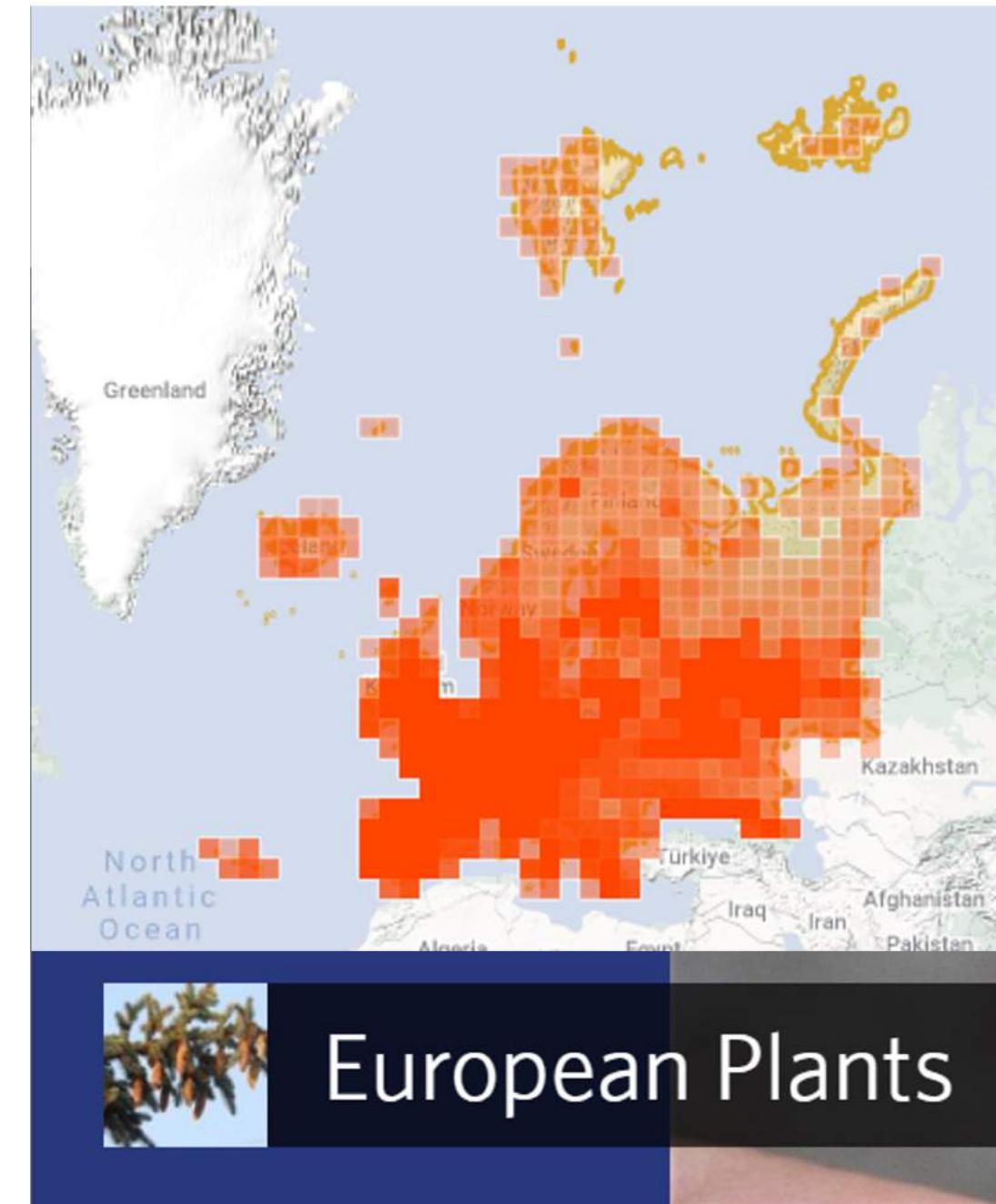
"Sentinel-2 captures coral bleaching of Great Barrier Reef" @ESA, The European Space Agency [esa.int/Applications/Observing\\_the\\_Earth](http://esa.int/Applications/Observing_the_Earth)

# Satellite data



Rondônia, Brazil - <https://earthengine.google.com/timelapse/>

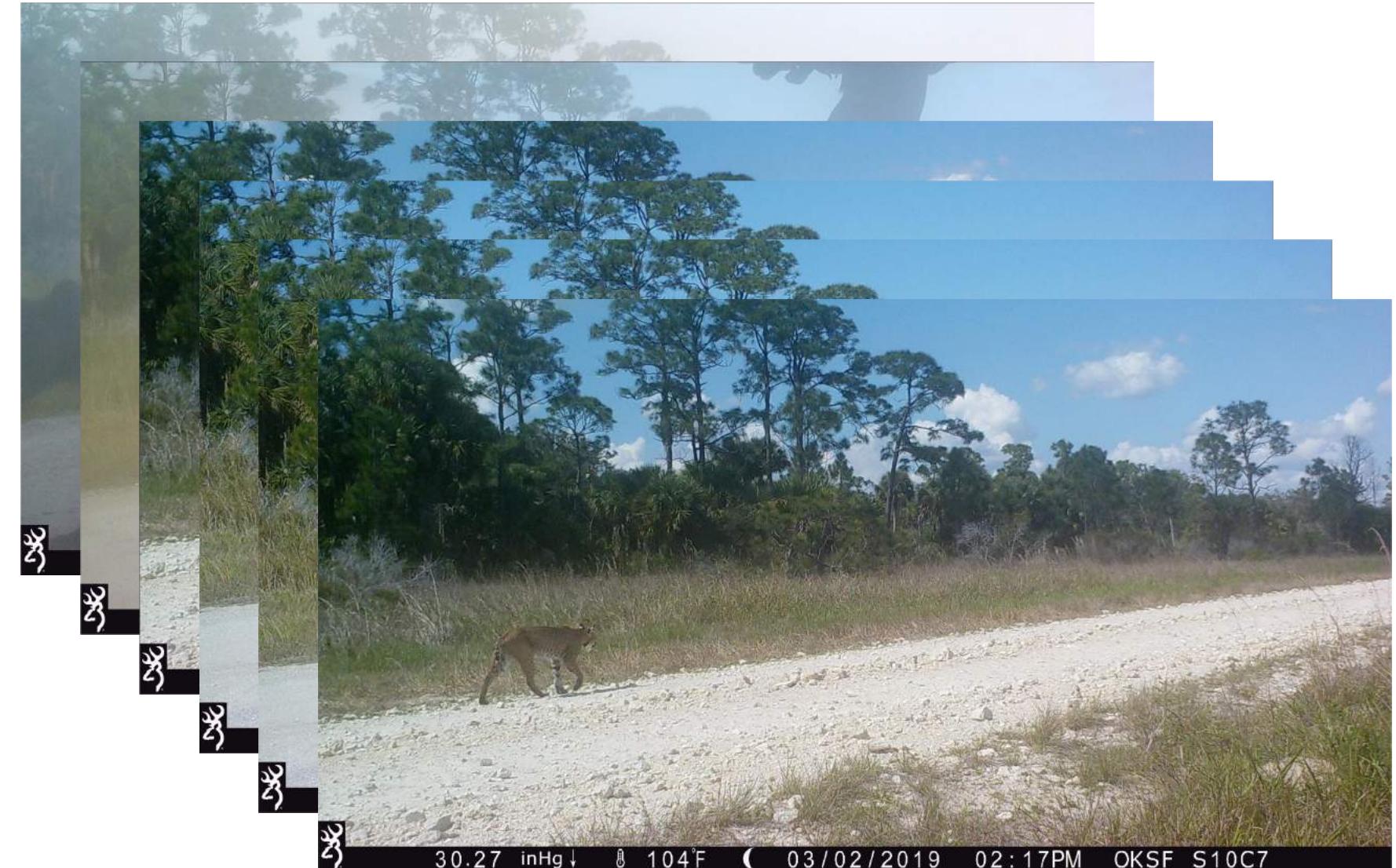
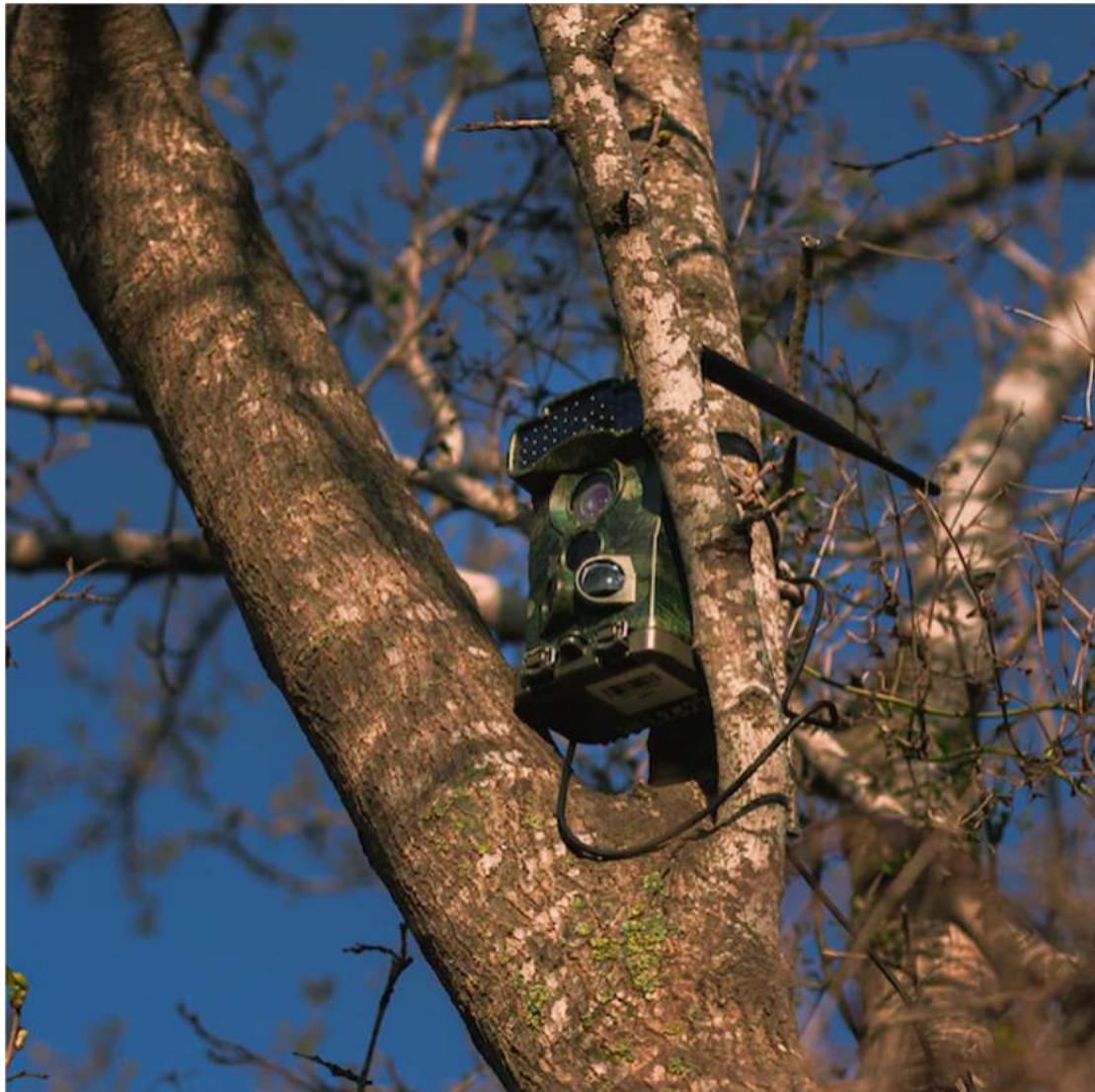
# Citizen science data



"iNaturalist" @ [inaturalist.org](https://inaturalist.org)

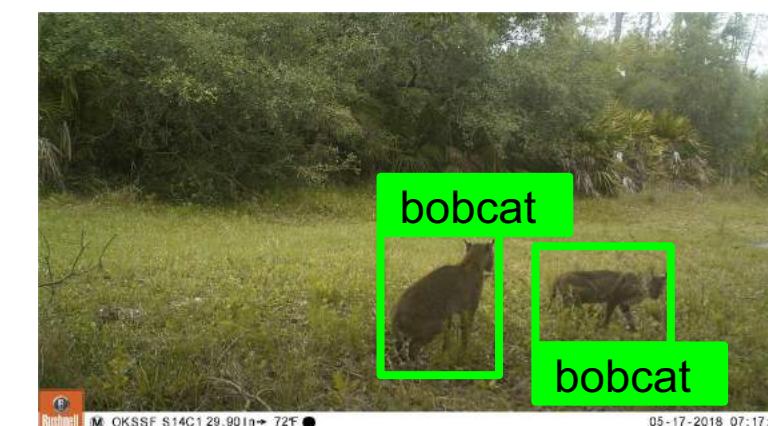
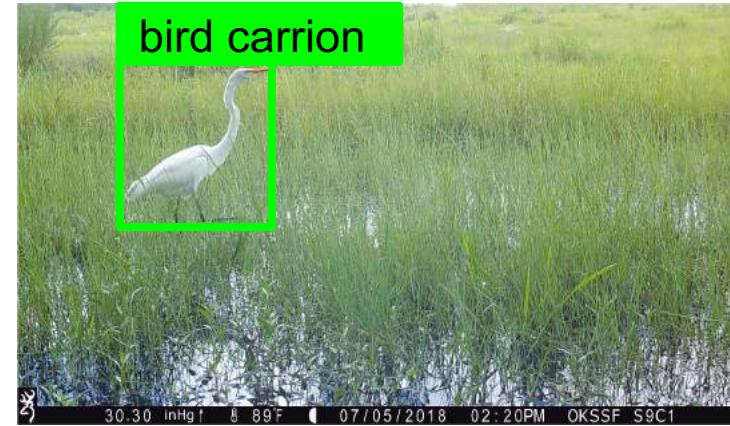
# Camera trap data

## Camera trap



"Florida Wildlife Camera Trap Dataset" @University of Central Florida, Center for Research in Computer Vision [crcv.ucf.edu/research/](http://crcv.ucf.edu/research/)

# Camera trap data



"Florida Wildlife Camera Trap Dataset" @University of Central Florida, Center for Research in Computer Vision [crcv.ucf.edu/research/](http://crcv.ucf.edu/research/)

# Quantifying biodiversity for small creatures

**Methods in Ecology and Evolution**

*Methods in Ecology and Evolution* 2016, 7, 1376–1385

doi: 10.1111/2041-210X.12607

**Measuring the biodiversity of microbial communities by flow cytometry**

Ruben Props<sup>1,2</sup>, Pieter Monsieurs<sup>2</sup>, Mohamed Mysara<sup>2</sup>, Lieven Clement<sup>3</sup> and Nico Boon<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Center for Microbial Ecology and Technology (CMET), Ghent University, Coupure Links 653, B-9000 Gent, Belgium; <sup>2</sup>Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (SCK•CEN), Boeretang 200, B-2400 Mol, Belgium; and <sup>3</sup>Department of Applied Mathematics, Informatics and Statistics, Ghent University, B-9000 Gent, Belgium



"[We describe] a computational method capable of calculating ecological alpha diversity metrics from single-cell flow cytometry data."

Props, Monsieurs, Mysara, et al. (2016). Measuring the biodiversity of microbial communities by flow cytometry. *British Ecological Society*

# The state of microbial biodiversity

**frontiers**  
in Ecology and Evolution

PERSPECTIVE  
published: 19 April 2021  
doi: 10.3389/fevo.2021.565649

## Is Global Microbial Biodiversity Increasing, Decreasing, or Staying the Same?

David S. Thaler<sup>1,2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department Biozentrum, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, <sup>2</sup> Program for the Human Environment, Rockefeller University, New York, NY, United States

**"In contrast to what we know of the world of plants and animals, we have no idea whether global microbial diversity is increasing, decreasing, or staying the same."**

Thaler (2021). Is Global Microbial Biodiversity Increasing, Decreasing, or Staying the Same?. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*

# w3 Lesson 2

# Snapshot Karoo

# AI and Climate Change

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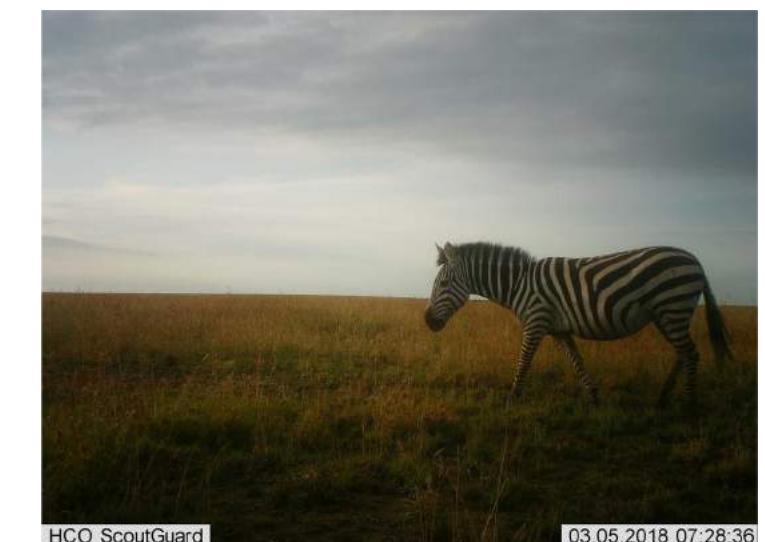
DeepLearning.AI

## Snapshot Karoo

# Snapshot safari

The image shows a screenshot of the South African Journal of Science website. At the top left is the journal's logo with three horizontal bars. To its right is a circular graphic with blue dots of varying sizes. Below these are six small images arranged in a grid: a skull, a circuit board, corn stalks, a book with glasses, protea flowers, and a DNA helix. The main title "Snapshot Safari: A large-scale collaborative to monitor Africa's remarkable biodiversity" is displayed in bold black font. Below it, a subtitle "Commentary" is in smaller blue font. At the bottom left, there are links: "HOME / ARCHIVES / VOL. 117 NO. 1/2 (2021) / Commentary".

**Snapshot Safari: A large-scale collaborative to monitor Africa's remarkable biodiversity**



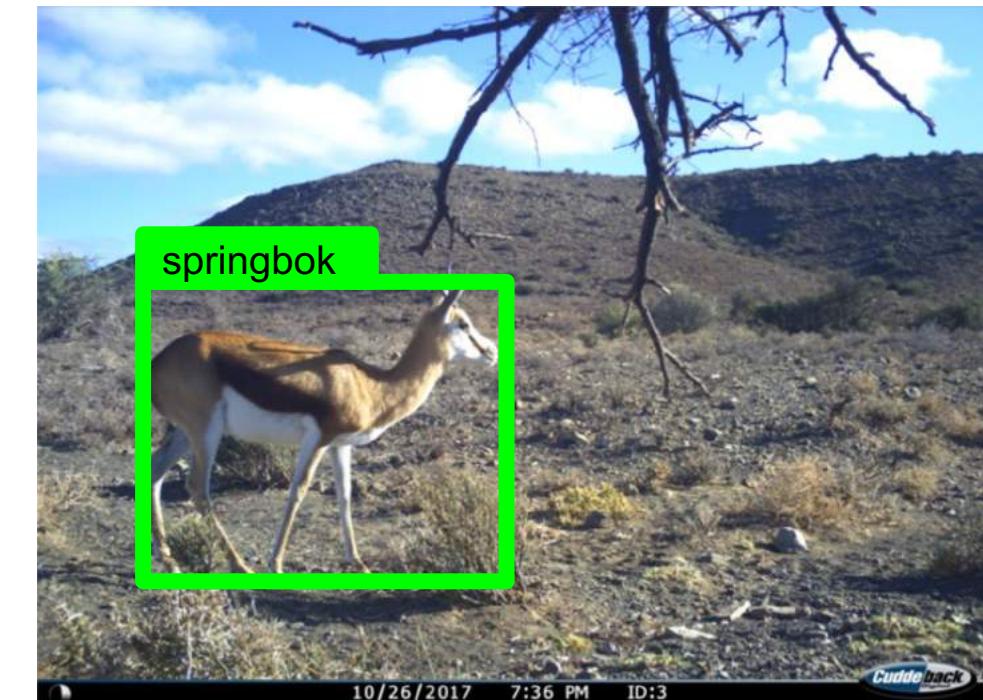
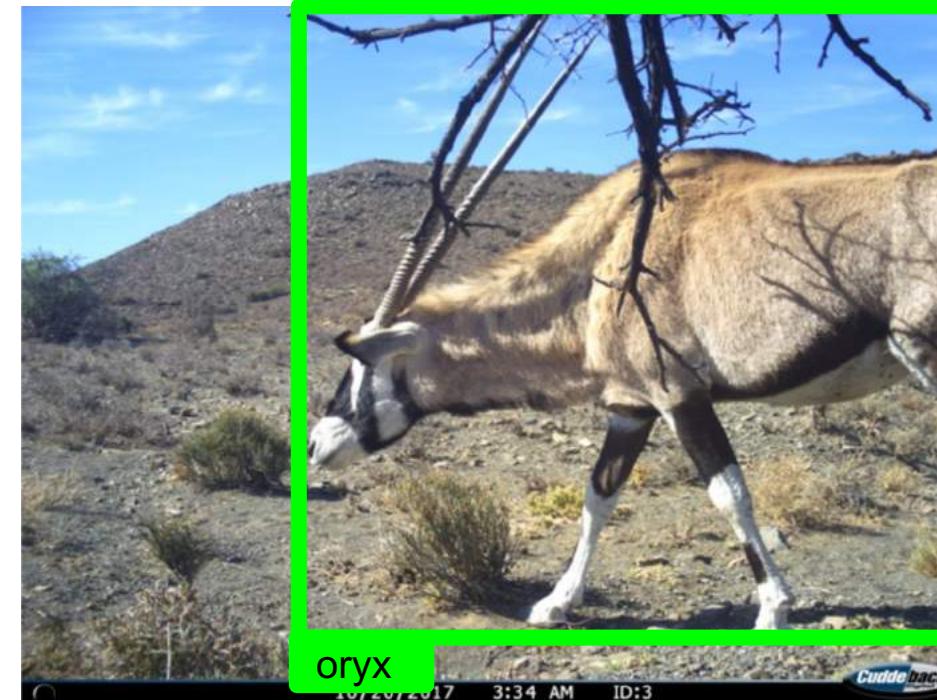
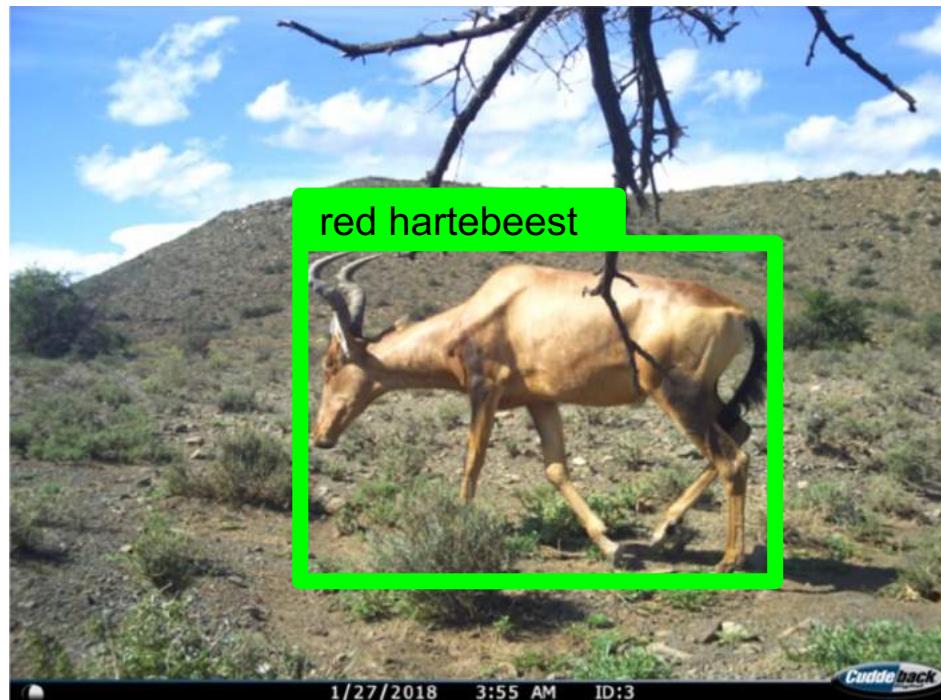
# Karoo national park



# The animals



# The animals

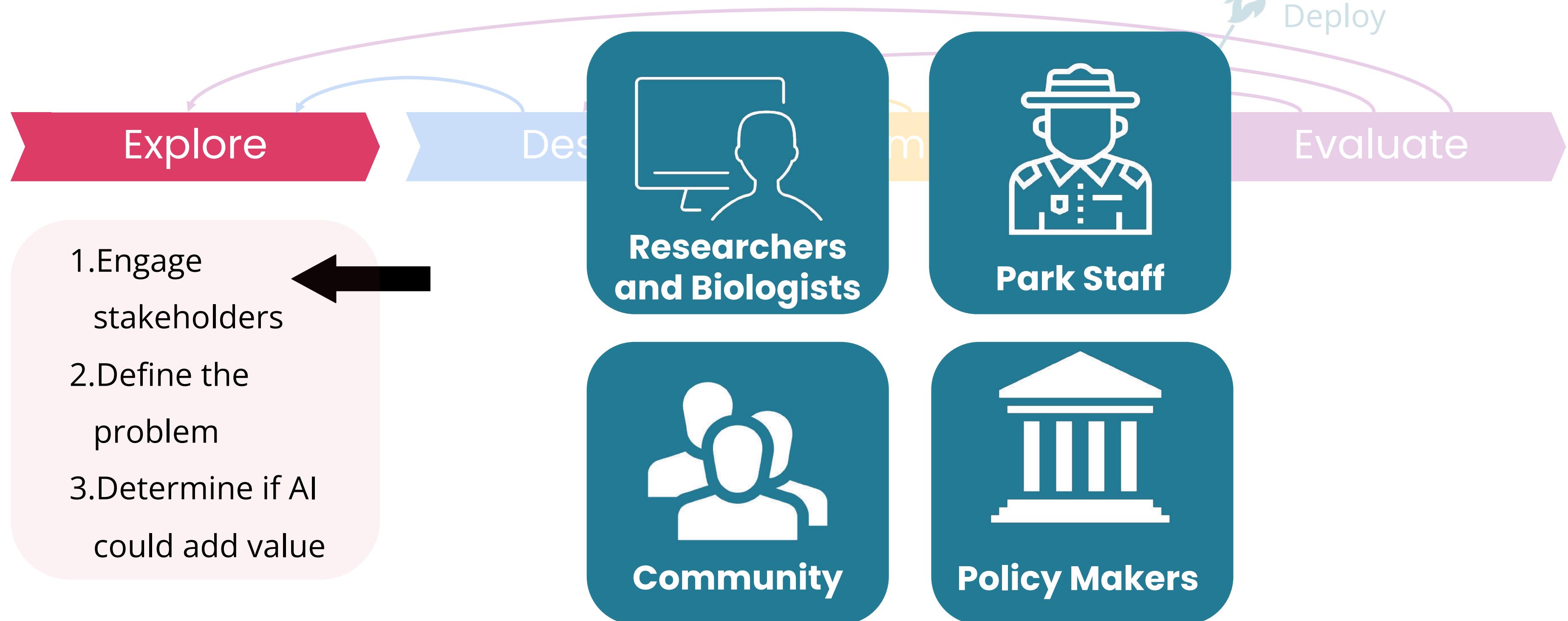


# Explore phase



1. Engage stakeholders
2. Define the problem
3. Determine if AI could add value

# Explore phase



# Explore phase



1. Engage stakeholders
2. Define the problem
3. Determine if AI could add value

**A good problem statement should:**

1. Be clear, concise, and specific.
2. Define the problem you are hoping to address.
3. Identify key stakeholders.
4. Give an idea of what success looks like.
5. Not mention the specific technology you aim to deploy.

# Explore phase



1. Engage stakeholders
2. Define the problem
3. Determine if AI could add value

“Researchers and conservation biologists need **daily information** on the number of animals sighted at various locations throughout the Karoo national park in order to **monitor trends in biodiversity and animal populations** to inform policies that can be enacted to protect and preserve park ecosystems.”

# Explore phase



1. Engage stakeholders
2. Define the problem
3. Determine if AI could add value

## Do no harm

1. Any pictures of humans or vehicles, or anything with the potential of containing personally identifying information (PII) should be treated as private and not stored, shared, or published
2. Consider protecting the identity and location of endangered species that may enable poachers to easily locate them

# AI and Climate Change

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**Biodiversity**  
**Explore the Data**

# jupyter C2\_W3\_Lab\_1\_Karoo\_Image\_data\_exploration



File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

Trusted Python 3

Code

In [2]: !ls data

baboon	gemsbokoryx	mongoosesmallcapegrey	springbok
birdother	hare	mongooseyellow	steenbok
birdsofprey	hartebeestred	monkeyvervet	tortoise
bustardkori	hyenabrown	ostrich	train
bustardludwigs	jackalblackbacked	porcupine	wildebeestblue
caracal	klipspringer		
duiker	kudu		
eland	lionfemale		
foxbateared	lionmale		
foxcape	meerkatsuricate		

## KAR\_S1: Images from Karoo dataset

Within one folder there are images of the same class. See the example below.

In [3]: !ls data/rhinocerosblack

KAR_S1_A01_R1_IMAG00049.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0024.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0331.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0025.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0332.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0145.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0333.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0350.JPG
KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0023.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0553.JPG

The file name contains some meta information about the image:

- \* KAR\_S1: It indicates that the image is from the Karoo dataset season 1
- \* A01 | A02 | B01 | B02 ...: The camera trap location code
- \* R#: Repetition. This is always R1 in this dataset
- \* IMG####: A consecutive number of the image. Must be unique within each location

### 2.1 Load Metadata

To find out which image belongs to which class and at which location it was taken, you can loop through all of the images in



File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

Trusted

Python 3



In [2]: !ls data

baboon	gemsbokoryx	mongoosesmallcapegrey	springbok
birdoother	hare	mongooseyellow	steenbok
birdsofprey	hartebeestred	monkeyvervet	tortoise
bustardkori	hyenabrown	ostrich	train
bustardludwigs	jackalblackbacked	porcupine	wildebeestblue
caracal	klipspringer	rabbitriverine	
duiker	kudu	reedbuckmountain	
eland	lionfemale	reptilesamphibians	
foxbateared	lionmale	rhebokgrey	
foxcape	meerkatsuricate	rhinocerosblack	

A01, A02, B01, .... indicates camera trap location

Within one folder there are images of the same class. See the example below:

In [3]: !ls data/rhinocerosblack

KAR_S1_A01_R1_IMAG00049.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0024.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0331.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0025.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0332.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0145.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0333.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0350.JPG
KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0023.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0553.JPG

The file name contains some meta information about the image:

- \* KAR\_S1: It indicates that the image is from the Karoo dataset season 1
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## 2.1 Load Metadata

To find out which image belongs to which class and at which location it was taken, you can loop through all of the images in



File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

Trusted

Python 3



In [2]: !ls data

baboon	gemsbokoryx	mongoosesmallcapegrey
birdoother	hare	mongooseyellow
birdsofprey	hartebeestred	monkeyvervet
bustardkori	hyenabrown	ostrich
bustardludwigs	jackalblackbacked	porcupine
caracal	klipspringer	rabbitriverine
duiker	kudu	reedbuckmountain
eland	lionfemale	reptilesamphibians
foxbateared	lionmale	rhebokgrey
foxcape	meerkatsuricate	rhinocerosblack

Within one folder there are images of the same class. See the example below

In [3]: !ls data/rhinocerosblack

KAR_S1_A01_R1_IMAG00049.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0024.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0331.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0025.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0332.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0145.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0333.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0350.JPG
KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0023.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0553.JPG

The file name contains some meta information about the image:

- \* KAR\_S1: It indicates that the image is from the Karoo dataset season 1
- \* A01 | A02 | B01 | B02 ...: The camera trap location code
- \* R#: Repetition. This is always R1 in this dataset
- \* IMG####: A consecutive number of the image. Must be unique within each location

## Rhinoceros Black Images taken from:

- A01 camera location

### 2.1 Load Metadata

To find out which image belongs to which class and at which location it was taken, you can loop through all of the images in



File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

Trusted

Python 3



In [2]: !ls data

baboon	gemsbokoryx	mongoosesmallcapegrey
birdoother	hare	mongooseyellow
birdsofprey	hartebeestred	monkeyvervet
bustardkori	hyenabrown	ostrich
bustardludwigs	jackalblackbacked	porcupine
caracal	klipspringer	rabbitriverine
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KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0332.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0145.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0333.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0350.JPG
KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0023.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0553.JPG

The file name contains some meta information about the image:

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- \* A01 | A02 | B01 | B02 ...: The camera trap location code
- \* R#: Repetition. This is always R1 in this dataset
- \* IMG####: A consecutive number of the image. Must be unique within each location

## Rhinoceros Black Images taken from:

- A01 camera location
- B03 camera location

### 2.1 Load Metadata

To find out which image belongs to which class and at which location it was taken, you can loop through all of the images in



File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

Trusted

Python 3



In [2]: !ls data

baboon	gemsbokoryx	mongoosesmallcapegrey
birdoother	hare	mongooseyellow
birdsofprey	hartebeestred	monkeyvervet
bustardkori	hyenabrown	ostrich
bustardludwigs	jackalblackbacked	porcupine
caracal	klipspringer	rabbitriverine
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Within one folder there are images of the same class. See the example below

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KAR_S1_A01_R1_IMAG00049.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0024.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0331.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0025.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0332.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0145.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0333.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0350.JPG
KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0023.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0553.JPG

The file name contains some meta information about the image:

- \* KAR\_S1: It indicates that the image is from the Karoo dataset season 1
- \* A01 | A02 | B01 | B02 ...: The camera trap location code
- \* R#: Repetition. This is always R1 in this dataset
- \* IMG####: A consecutive number of the image. Must be unique within each location

## Rhinoceros Black Images taken from:

- A01 camera location
- B03 camera location
- C02 camera location

### 2.1 Load Metadata

To find out which image belongs to which class and at which location it was taken, you can loop through all of the images in



File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help

Trusted

Python 3



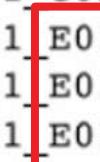
In [2]: !ls data

baboon	gemsbokoryx	mongoosesmallcapegrey
birdoother	hare	mongooseyellow
birdsofprey	hartebeestred	monkeyvervet
bustardkori	hyenabrown	ostrich
bustardludwigs	jackalblackbacked	porcupine
caracal	klipspringer	rabbitriverine
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KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0331.JPG	KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0025.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0332.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0145.JPG
KAR_S1_B03_R1_IMAG0333.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0350.JPG
KAR_S1_C02_R1_IMAG0023.JPG	KAR_S1_E01_R1_IMAG0553.JPG



The file name contains some meta information about the image:

- \* KAR\_S1: It indicates that the image is from the Karoo dataset season 1
- \* A01 | A02 | B01 | B02 ...: The camera trap location code
- \* R#: Repetition. This is always R1 in this dataset
- \* IMG####: A consecutive number of the image. Must be unique within each location

## Rhinoceros Black Images taken from:

- A01 camera location
- B03 camera location
- C02 camera location
- E01 camera location

### 2.1 Load Metadata

To find out which image belongs to which class and at which location it was taken, you can loop through all of the images in

# AI and Climate Change

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DeepLearning.AI

Biodiversity  
Visualize the Data

# AI and Climate Change

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DeepLearning.AI

**Project Spotlight: Why  
Monitor Biodiversity?  
- Sara Beery**

# AI and Climate Change

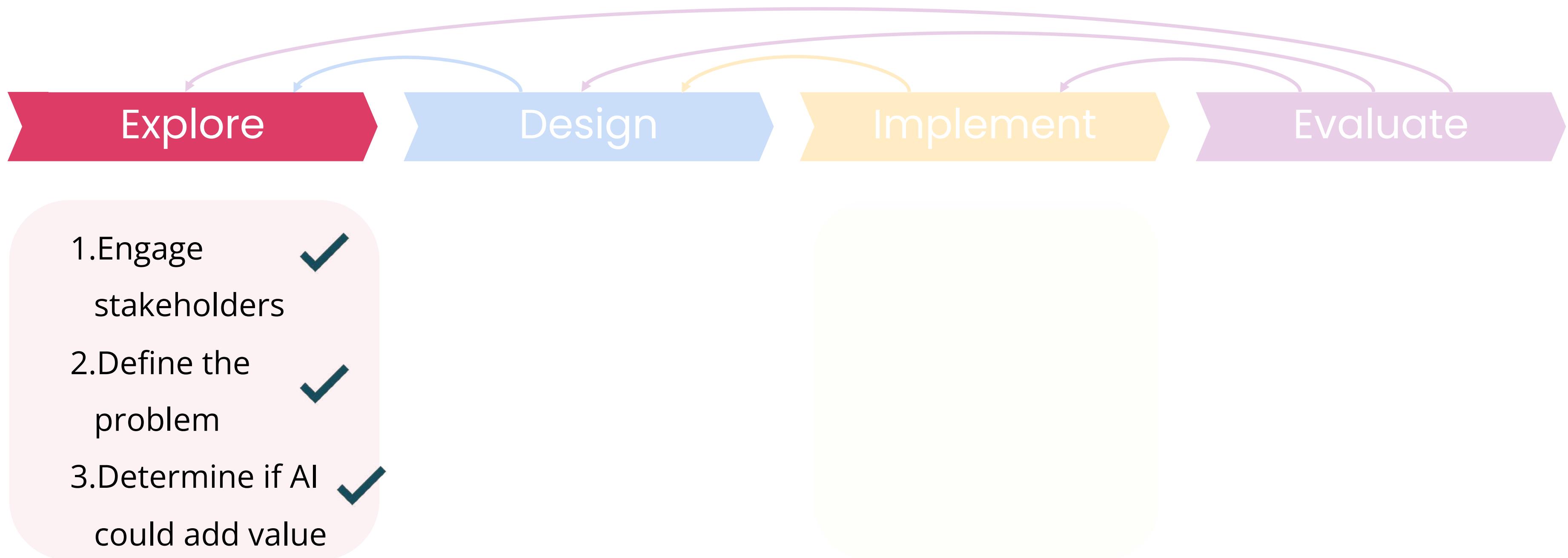
---



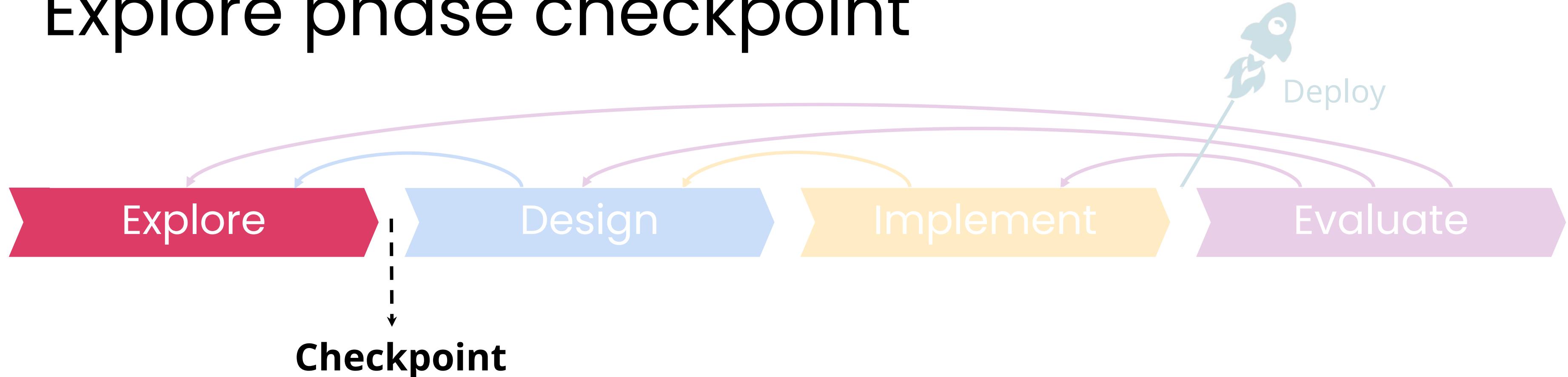
DeepLearning.AI

**Biodiversity**  
**Explore Phase Checkpoint**

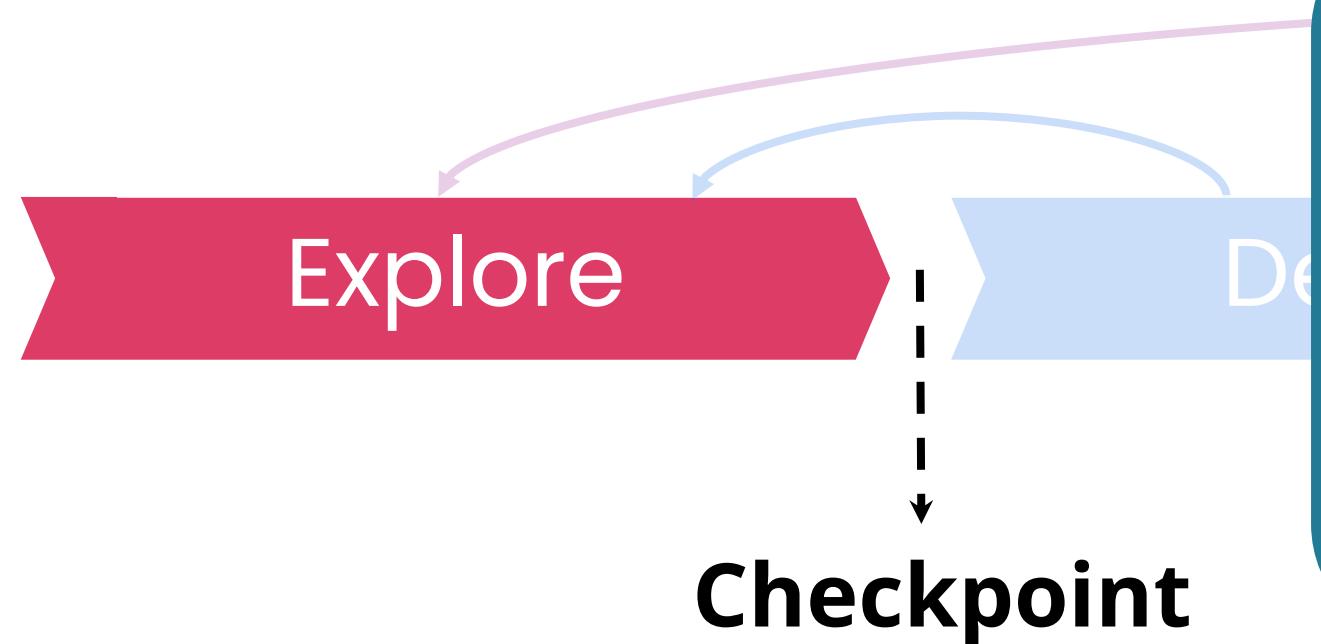
# Explore phase



# Explore phase checkpoint



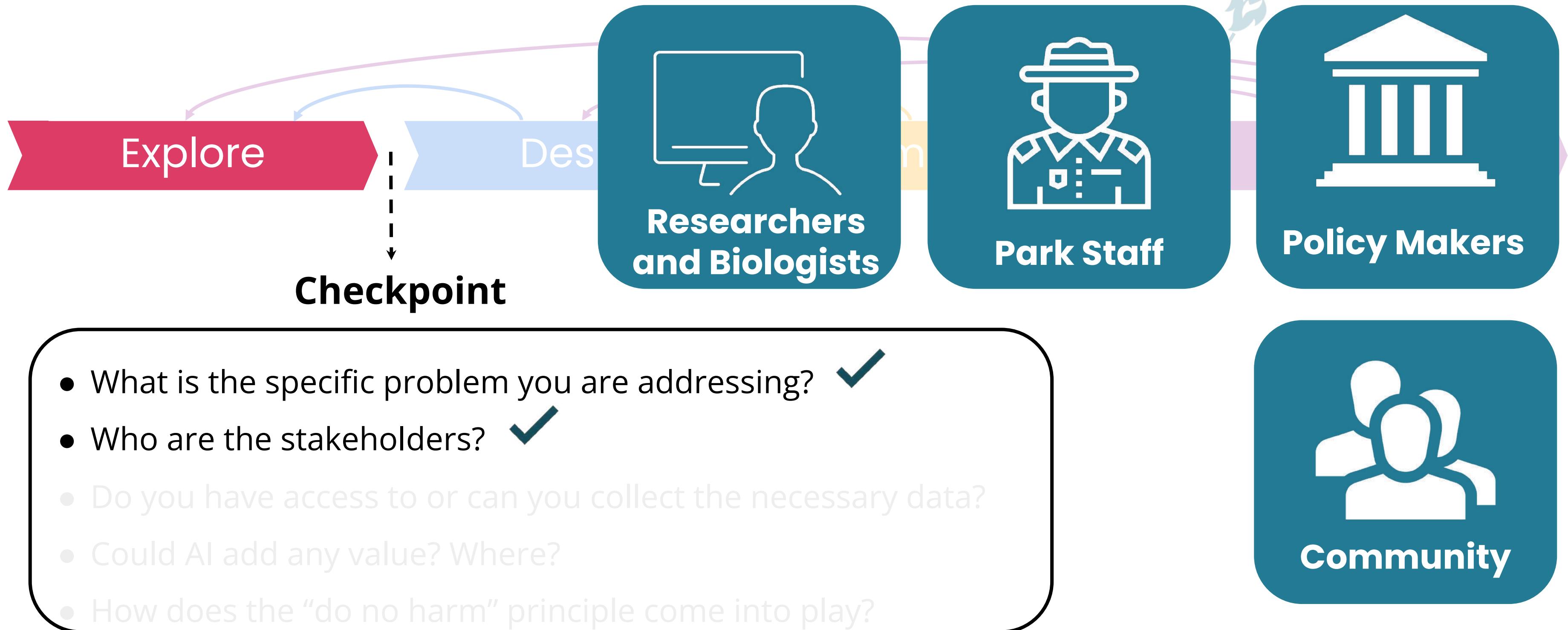
# Explore phase checkpoint



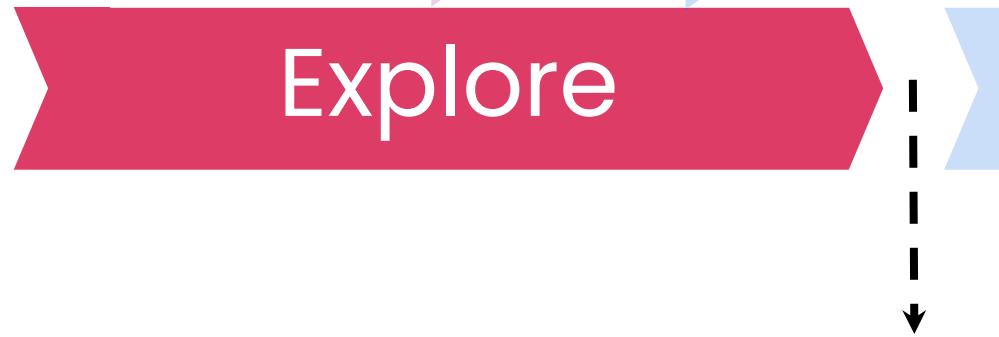
“Researchers and conservation biologists need daily information on the number of animals sighted at various locations throughout the Karoo national park in order to monitor trends in biodiversity and animal populations to inform policies that can be enacted to protect and preserve park ecosystems.”

- What is the specific problem you are addressing? ✓
- Who are the stakeholders?
- Do you have access to or can you collect the necessary data?
- Could AI add any value? Where?
- How does the “do no harm” principle come into play?

# Explore phase checkpoint



# Explore phase checkpoint



## Checkpoint

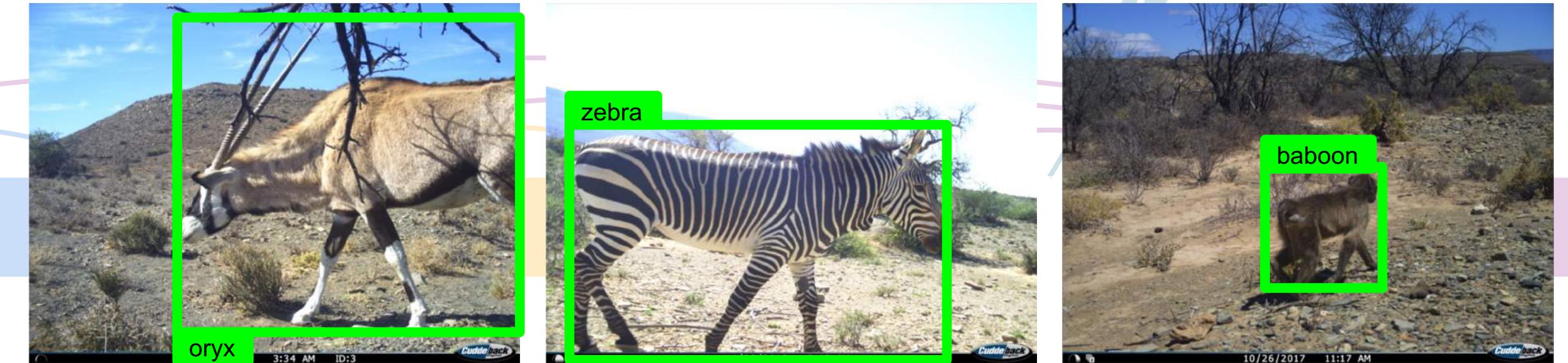
- What is the specific problem you are addressing? ✓
- Who are the stakeholders? ✓
- Do you have access to or can you collect the necessary data? ✓
- Could AI add any value? Where?
- How does the “do no harm” principle come into play?

# Explore phase checkpoint



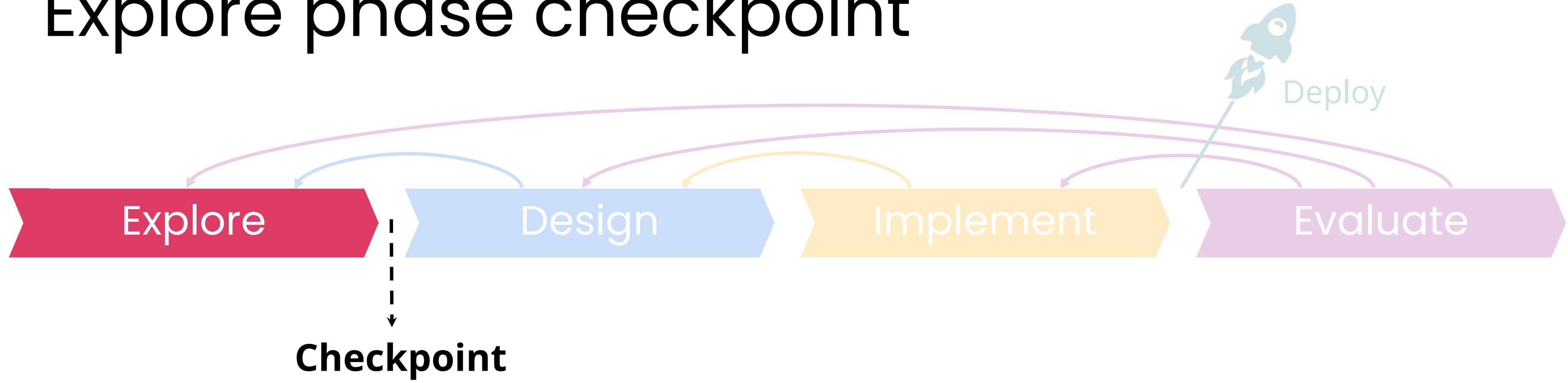
Explore

Checkpoint



- What is the specific problem you are addressing? ✓
- Who are the stakeholders? ✓
- Do you have access to or can you collect the necessary data? ✓
- Could AI add any value? Where? ✓
- How does the “do no harm” principle come into play?

# Explore phase checkpoint



# AI and Climate Change

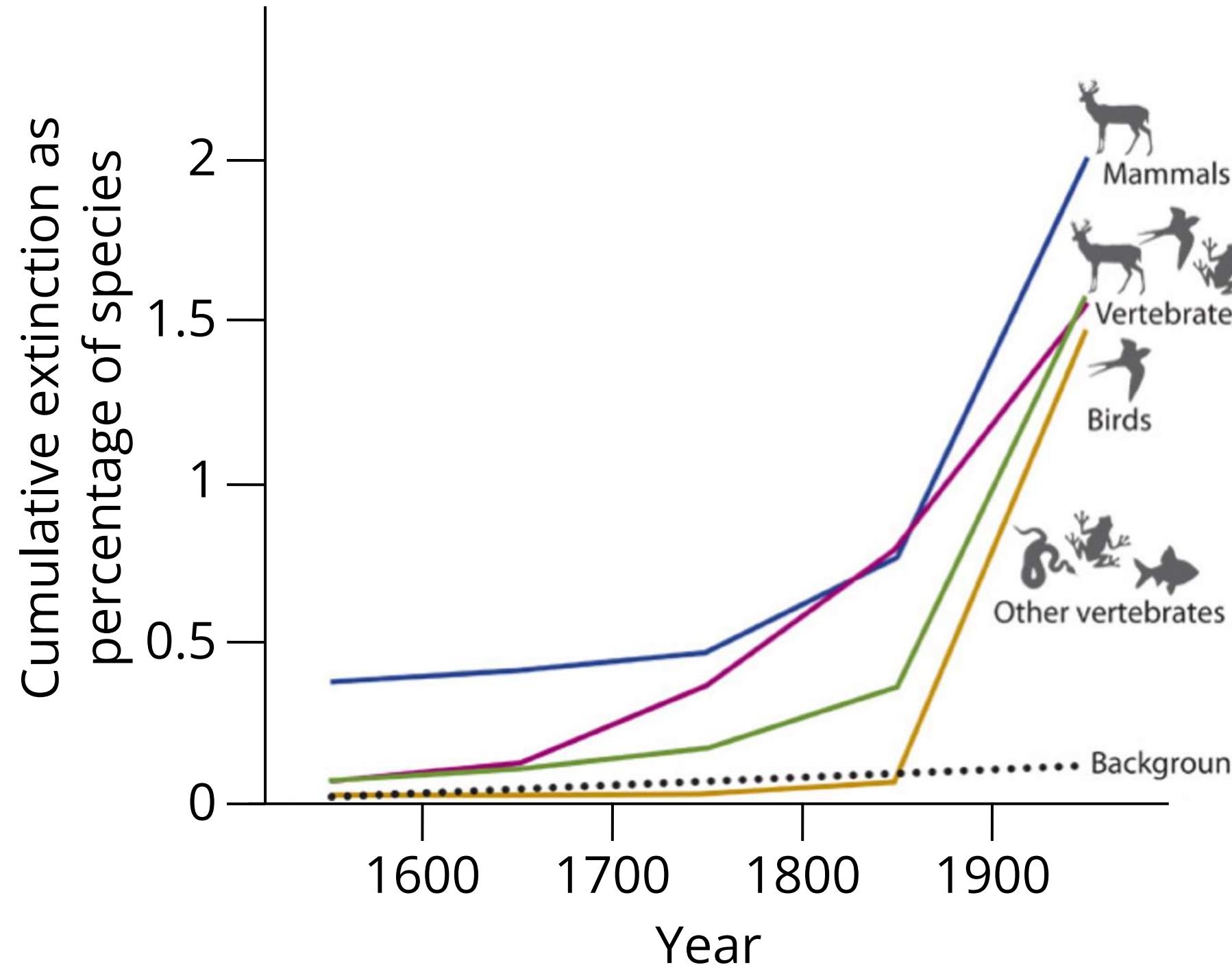
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DeepLearning.AI

**Week 3  
Summary**

# Rise in extinction rates

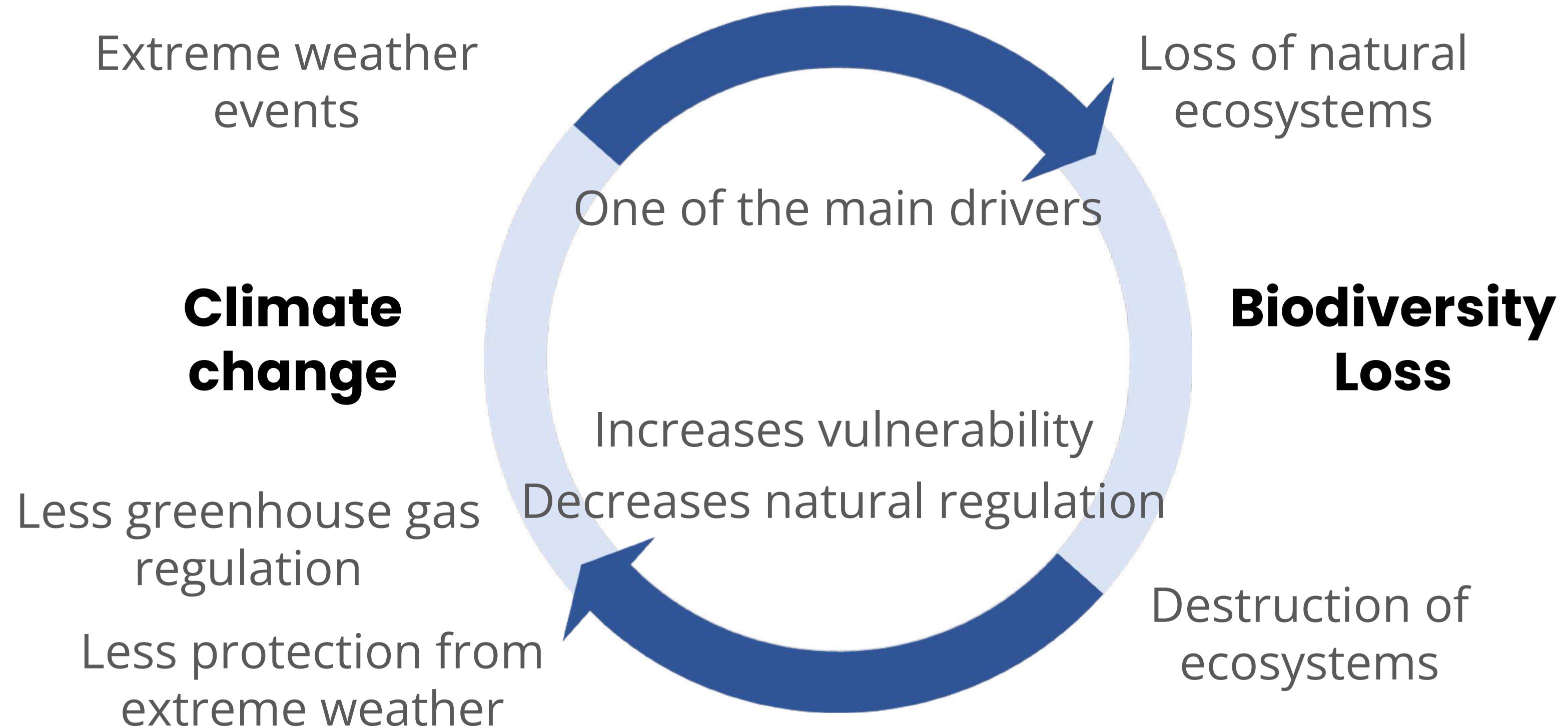


## Reasons for extinction:

- Hunting and fishing
- Land development
- Environmental pollution
- Climate change

Ceballos et al., 2015, Accelerated modern human-induced species losses: Entering the sixth mass extinction. DOI: [10.1126/sciadv.1400253](https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.1400253)

# Climate change and biodiversity

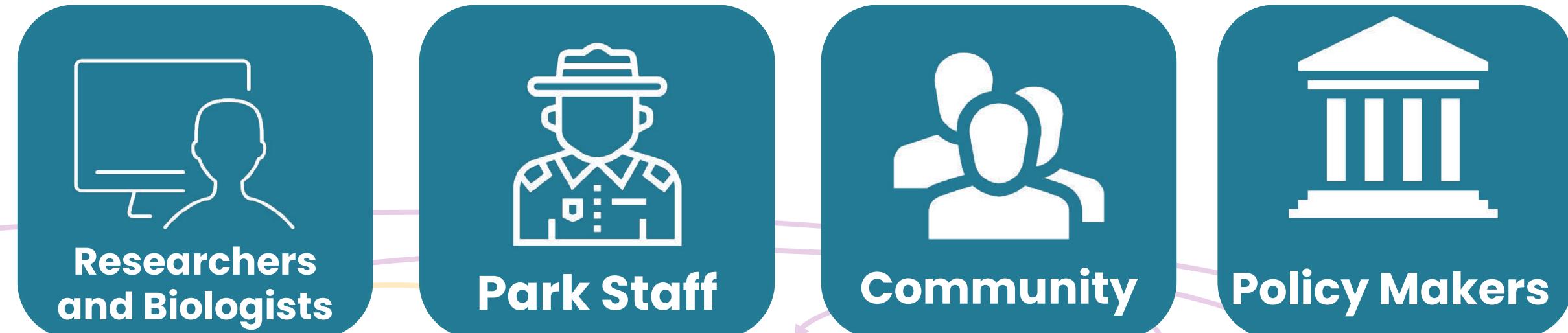


# UN estimates for greenhouse gas reduction

- Halting deforestation (3 Gt/year)
- Actively managing and restoring forests (5 Gt/year)
- Nature-based solutions across all ecosystems  
(11.7 Gt/year)

Nature based solutions are actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems that are natural sinks or reservoirs of carbon.

# Explore phase



Explore

1. Engage  
stakeholders

2. Define the  
problem

3. Determine if AI  
could add value

"Researchers and conservation biologists need daily information on the number of animals sighted at various locations throughout the Karoo national park in order to monitor trends in biodiversity and animal populations to inform policies that can be enacted to protect and preserve park ecosystems."

