

Alexandra Gonzalez Development Review

Description as to how my project has slightly shifted:

Since the last development review, my project was focusing on drawing data from several different databases (Bd-maps, Global Forest Watch, etc). I found that this process was complicated by the different levels of database management. Over the break, I realized that I needed to switch gears because if I wanted to make a dynamic website, I needed reliable databases to query into. Instead of layering several different maps with differing qualities, survey methods, date collected (.etc) of potential amphibian threats, I thought the best way would be to query into the IUCN database. Moreover, when I was reading through the literature again, I found a map that inspired me and showed me the potential of what could be accomplished with only the IUCN database. I thought this map was a great idea and showed how these threats overlap and are region specific. The downfalls of this map are that it is static, old (2004), and shows all amphibians (not endangered ones). Furthermore, the last “assessment review” of amphibians was completed in 2008.

The idea from my previous project remains the same, however I can pull all of the information I need to make interactive maps from the IUCN.

The IUCN database has several pieces of information I need (1) perceived threats, (2) species range info (3) conservation status (4) habitat preference (5) taxonomy. Compiling these together using a count algorithm and how many species are affected instead of trying to layer spatial data and compose statistical analysis would yield clearer and more powerful graphs like the one below.

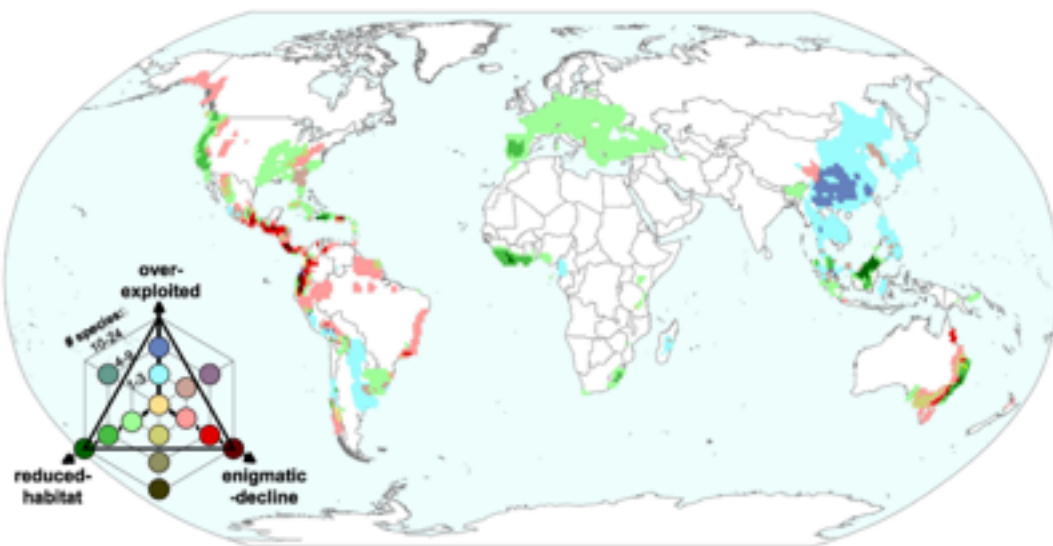


Fig 1 from Status and Trends of Amphibian Declines and Extinctions Worldwide (Stuart et. al, 2004)