

Sub Tropical Savanna

Zimbabwe, Africa

Ecosystem + Biome:

Typically, it is very flat, with a landscape made up of small trees and shrubs that pockmark a large open grassland. It has a tropical climate and sees a copious amount of rainfall in the wet season.

Community + Populations:

different kinds of grasses, small dispersed trees

Species[animals] :

Quokka, wallaby, koala, eastern brown snake, greater bilby, Capybara, common death adder, mistletoe bird, cane toad, tiger snake, thorny devil, star finch, common wombat

Biodiversity Examples:

Grassland with few trees

(approximately 2 million large plant-eating mammals and the largest diversity of hoofed animals in the world *includes Antelope, Buffalo, Zebra, etc*)

Threats To Biodiversity:

The primary threats to the savanna biome are humans, for example poachers are killing elephants for their ivory tusks and hunting animals to the brink of extinction

Biotic Factors:

- (PRODUCERS): ferns, wild date palms, the fireball lily, pepper elder, grasses, acacia tree
- (CONSUMERS): elephant, giraffes, okapi, zebra cricket, wildebeest
- (SECONDARY CONSUMER):

Abiotic Factors:

- Precipitation (weather in general)
- Hills
- Prairies
- Rocks
- Cliffs
- Gullies

- Low-lying areas

Niche of Capybara

Habitat: dense vegetation/along the river

Behaviors: shy and associate in groups

What they eat: they are herbivores that eat; grasses, aquatic plants, barks, and sugar cane

Eaten by: Jaguars & Pumas

Impact: Help conserve the forest and Restore balance to our planet by eating their own feces

Ecosystem Change:

Grass coverage decreases, increasing of shrubs and trees in previously open grasslands and rangelands

Terrain of a savanna:

Vegetation that grows under hot, dry climatic conditions and is “characterized” as a open tree canopy

Landforms:

- Flat plains
- plateaus
- Consists of inselbergs (an isolated hill or mountain rising abruptly from a plain)

Symbiosis:

Commensalism: red headed woodpecker and the oak savanna
(oak savanna provides shelter + food, oak savanna not affected)

Mutualism: whistling thorn acacia tree and ants
(whistling thorn acacia trees award ants that defend the trees from large herbivores)

Parasitism: a tick on an elephant
(tick benefits from sucking the blood, taking advantage of its host)

Bioaccumulation Examples:

Mercury contamination in rivers

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Animals to expect: Elephant, Buffalo, Kudu, Impala, Warthog, Lions, Leopard, Hyenas

Plants to expect: Acacia + Baobab trees, Grass (Rhoades, Red oats, Lemon), and Low Shrubs