e.o.wilson BIODIVERSITY FOUNDATION | half-earth project

The Half-Earth Project Map

An atlas of biodiversity knowledge that ensures conservation is guided by precision, not guesswork.



Biodiversity holds the world steady. In the face of ongoing biodiversity loss, understanding where we have the best opportunity to safeguard the most species is critical.

The E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation's Half-Earth Project Map shares this information for free, giving anyone, anywhere, knowledge about where we should strategically focus conservation efforts.

Inspired by E.O. Wilson's "Half-Earth" call to protect half the land and the seas, the Half-Earth Project Map provides a unique and engaging global lens regarding "Which Half?" The geography of biodiversity is complex, making protection of certain places particularly significant, even critical, for global biodiversity conservation. The Half-Earth Project Map uses globally standardized species data to help inform what network of places should be prioritized for conservation to ensure no species is left behind.

The Half-Earth Project Map is also a comprehensive atlas of the Earth's biodiversity that supports public understanding and education. It is an authoritative resource for communicating, visualizing, and understanding global progress in conservation. As countries worldwide have committed to improving biodiversity conservation under the Global Biodiversity Framework and its 30 by 30 target, the Half-Earth Project Map provides information and understanding that helps track countries' progress toward this ambitious goal.

What is the Half-Earth Project Map?

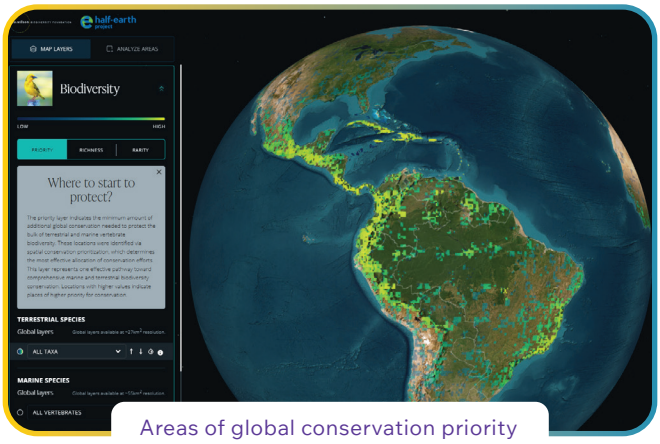
Created in collaboration with Esri, Vizzuality, and the Map of Life, the Half-Earth Project Map integrates information from thousands of layers of individual species distributions with millions of data points regarding habitat and human activity, transforming raw science into a visually engaging experience.

- Visitors can explore conservation priorities, species richness, and species rarity patterns for over 200,000 species of terrestrial and marine vertebrates, trees, butterflies, and ants.
- Regionally, it provides maps for these and other insect groups at one square kilometer resolution.
- Map users can relate species information to the geography of conservation activities, such as protected areas, and to human impacts, such as landcover change.
- Beyond visualizing patterns, users can interrogate any location on Earth for detailed information on its global importance to biodiversity and the species that are driving it.
- With its globally standardized species data, users can directly compare different locations, download area-based reports, and use that information for informing and sharing conservation progress.

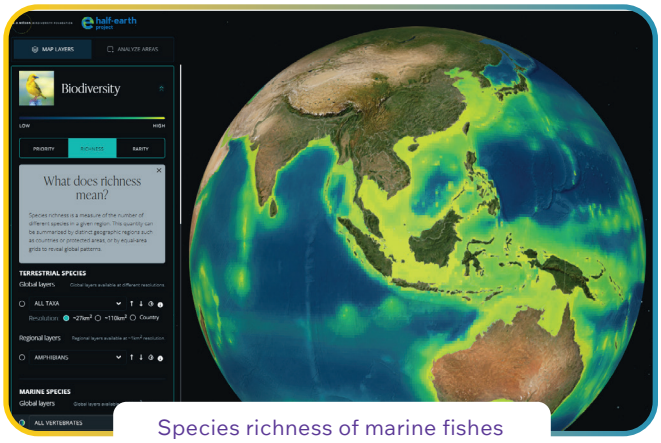
How is the Half-Earth Project Map different than other maps?

The Half-Earth Project Map provides an authoritative and highly distinct resource. Other global mapping tools support science policy and research use cases, but these are typically too complex for public use. Other maps address specific use cases, but without a comparable scientific foundation or without the comprehensive insights provided by the Half-Earth Project Map.

The Half-Earth Project Map also utilizes the Species Protection Index (SPI)—a core Global Biodiversity Framework indicator—to benchmark how increases in habitat protection translate into successes for biodiversity conservation. Based upon the SPI, the Half-Earth Project Map's National Report Cards reveal how well countries are doing in protecting species and what areas they need to protect next. The National Report Cards support strategic conservation efforts that can have an outsized impact on species protection.



Areas of global conservation priority



Species richness of marine fishes



High-resolution capture of dragonfly and damselfly diversity in the US



High-resolution patterns of geographic rarity in mammals

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The E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation's mission is to reimagine the way we care for our planet. The Foundation's major initiative, the Half-Earth Project, is working to inspire informed collective action to save the biosphere.
Visit www.eowilsonfoundation.org to learn more.

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