



PERUVIAN AMAZON ECOLOGICAL CONSERVATION

*Assessing Land Cover Changes in the
Peruvian Amazon to Identify Exploitative
Agriculture Using NASA EO and PerúSAT-1*

Beck De Fazio

Ashley Laveriano

Brian Arruda

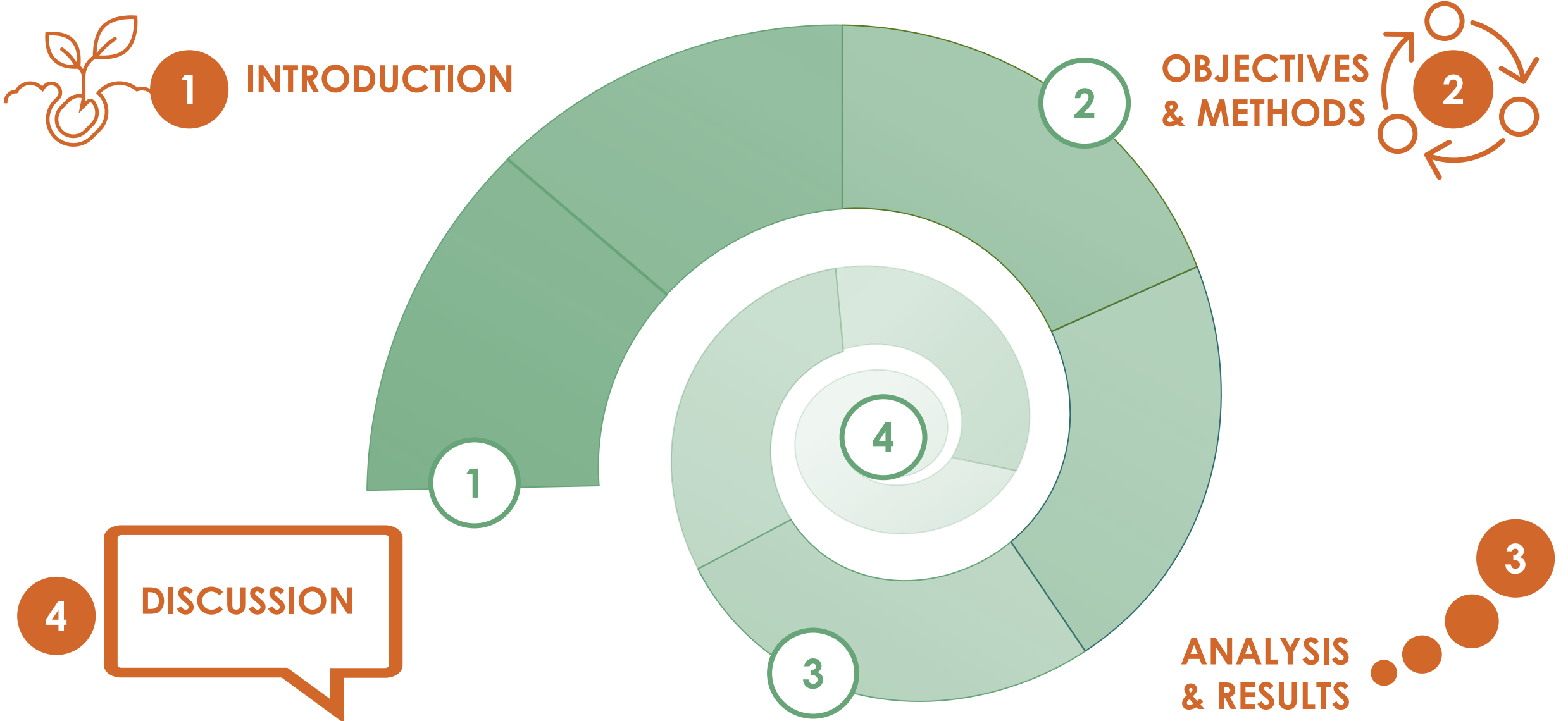
Margaret Cox



Alabama – Marshall | Summer 2024



Roadmap



Meet the Team



Brian Arruda



Beck De Fazio



Margaret Cox



Ashley Laveriano

The Amazon



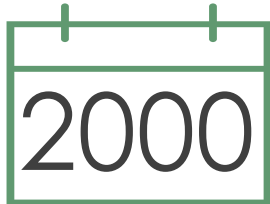
Palm Oil in the Peruvian Amazon



Increase
in exports
since 2013



Expansion
on forested land
(2000-2010)



Declared a
commodity of
national interest



5 Tons/ha crop
productivity



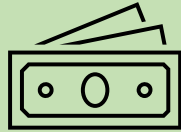
Community Concerns



People

Smallholder farmers

Industrial Corporations



Economy

Partnerships

Economic Disparities

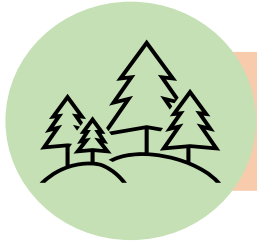


Environment

Land use differences

Loss of ecosystem services

Project Partners

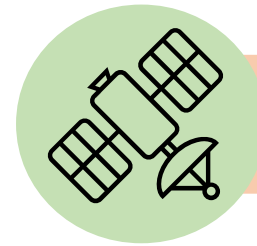


End User

**Organismo de Evaluación y
Fiscalización Ambiental (OEFA)**

Evaluation and **prevention** of
environmental impacts

Supervision and compliance
with regulations



Collaborator

**Comisión Nacional de Investigación y
Desarrollo Aeroespacial (CONIDA)**

Promote R&D of space science
and technology

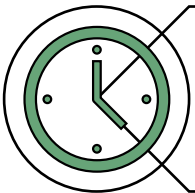
Generate products for the
socioeconomic development
and security

Area of Interest



Study Area

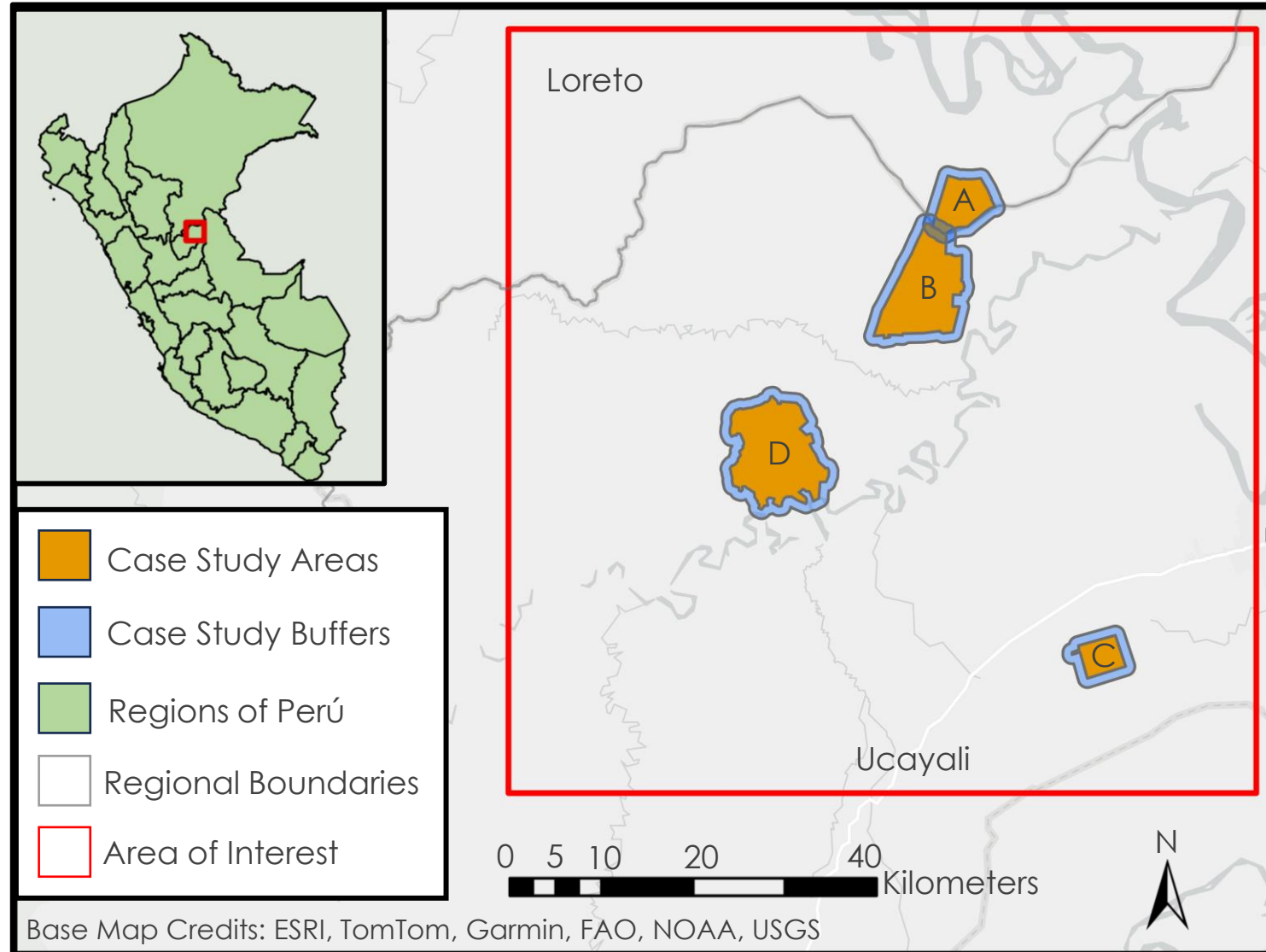
- Peru: Ucayali & Loreto



Study Period

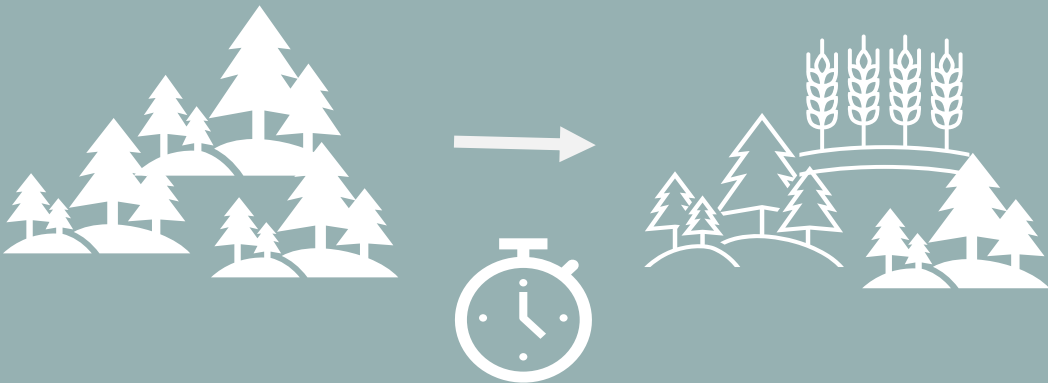
- Jan. 2017 – Dec. 2023

- Area of interest spans approximately **6,800 sq km** in the **Peruvian Amazon**
- **Four** focus case study areas that encompass designated **agroforestry** land

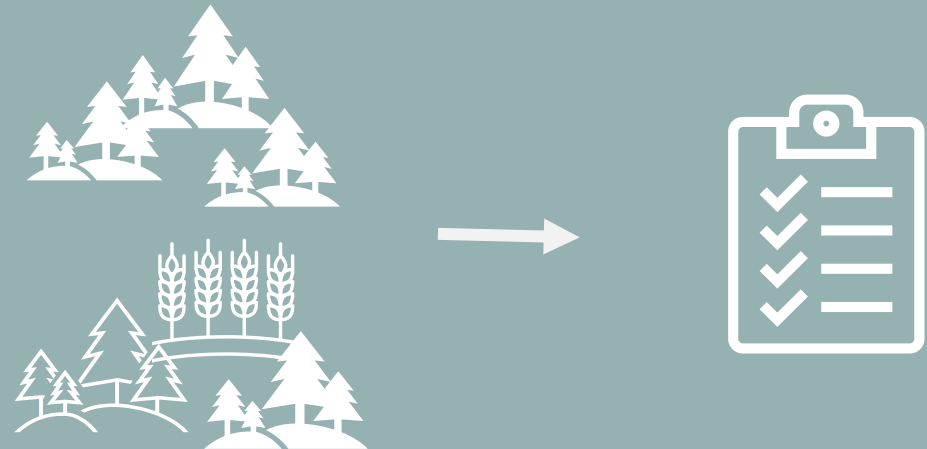


Objectives

Quantify
deforestation in Perú using
Landsat



Classify & Validate
change detection using
PerúSAT-1



Earth Observations



Landsat 7 ETM+

Image Credit: NASA

Landsat 4 and 5 TM

Image Credit: NASA

Landsat 8 OLI

Image Credit: NASA

Landsat 9 OLI-2

Image Credit: NASA

PerúSAT-1

Image Credit: Beck De Fazio, Rebecca Davis

Image Credit: pngimg

Remote Sensing Indices Used

CCDC-SMA: Continuous Change Detection and Classification Spectral Mixture Analysis

Combines deforestation detection time series and spectral mixture analysis through GEE

Endmembers: green vegetation (GV), soil, non-photosynthetic vegetation (NPV), shade, cloud

NDFI: Normalized Difference Fraction Index

$$\frac{GV_{shade} - (NPV + Soil)}{GV_{shade} + (NPV + Soil)} \quad \text{where} \quad GV_{shade} = \frac{GV}{1 - Shade}$$

Represents the fraction of each endmember in a pixel:
↑ Soil & ↓ NDFI = Disturbance (Soil – NDFI will always be > 0)

NDVI: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index

Proxy for vegetation health

$$\frac{NIR - Red}{NIR + Red}$$

EVI: Enhanced vegetation index

Corrects for atmospheric condition and canopy background noise

$$2.5 \times \frac{NIR - Red}{(NIR + (2.4 \times Red) + 1)}$$

Methods

Land Cover Maps

Utilizing Landsat 8
OLI & Landsat 9 OLI 2

Google Earth
Engine

Normalized
Difference
Vegetation
Index

Enhanced
Vegetation
Index

Vegetation Loss



Methods

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Vegetation Loss

Time Series Change Detection

Via Landsat Series

Continuous
Change Detection
and Classification Spectral
Mixture Analysis

Normalized
Difference
Fraction Index

**Square km Lost &
Forest % Remaining**



Methods

Land Cover Maps

Utilizing Landsat 8
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Time Series Change Detection

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Normalized
Difference
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**Square km Lost &
Forest % Remaining**

Land Cover Change Classification

PerúSAT-1

ArcGIS
Pro 3.1.0

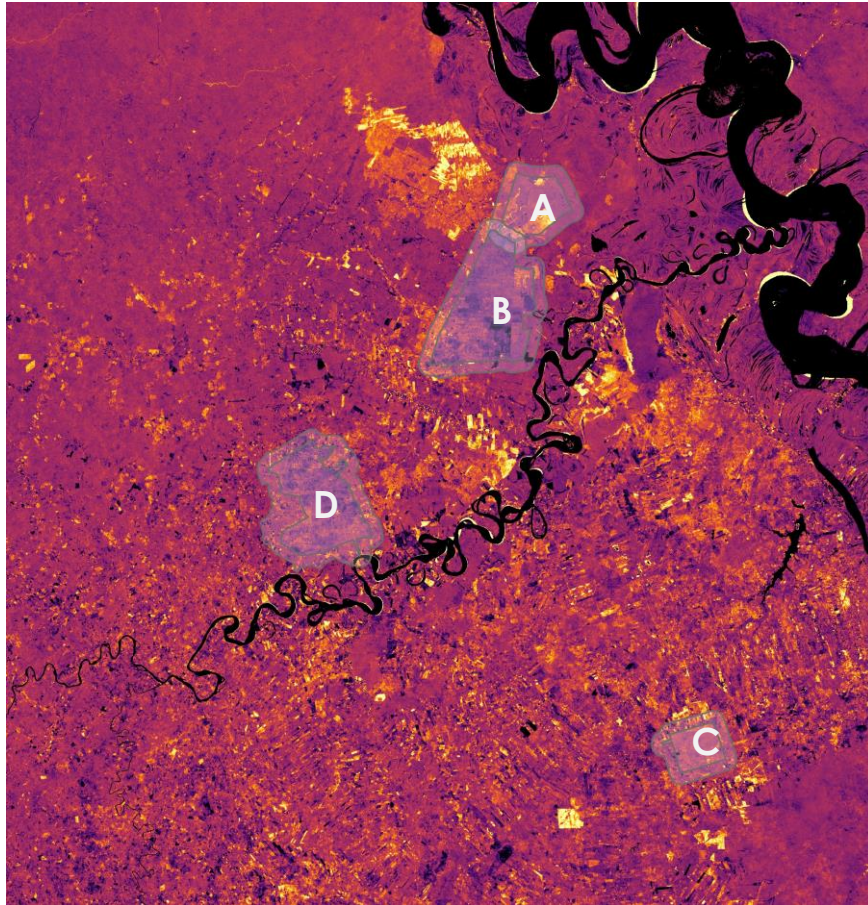
Imagery Pre-
Processing

**Identify Palm
Expansion**

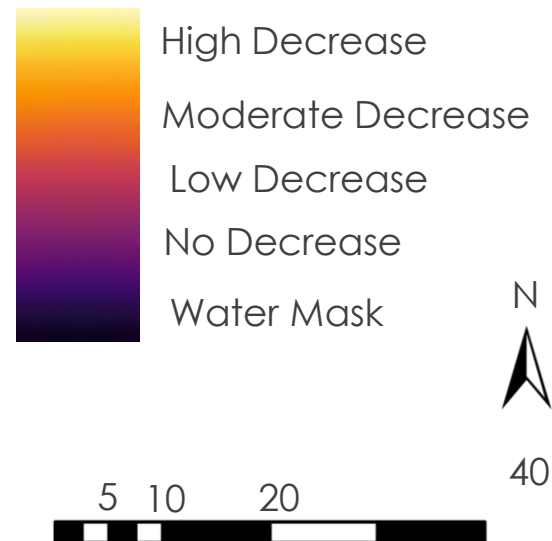
Collect
Training
Data

Supervised
Classification

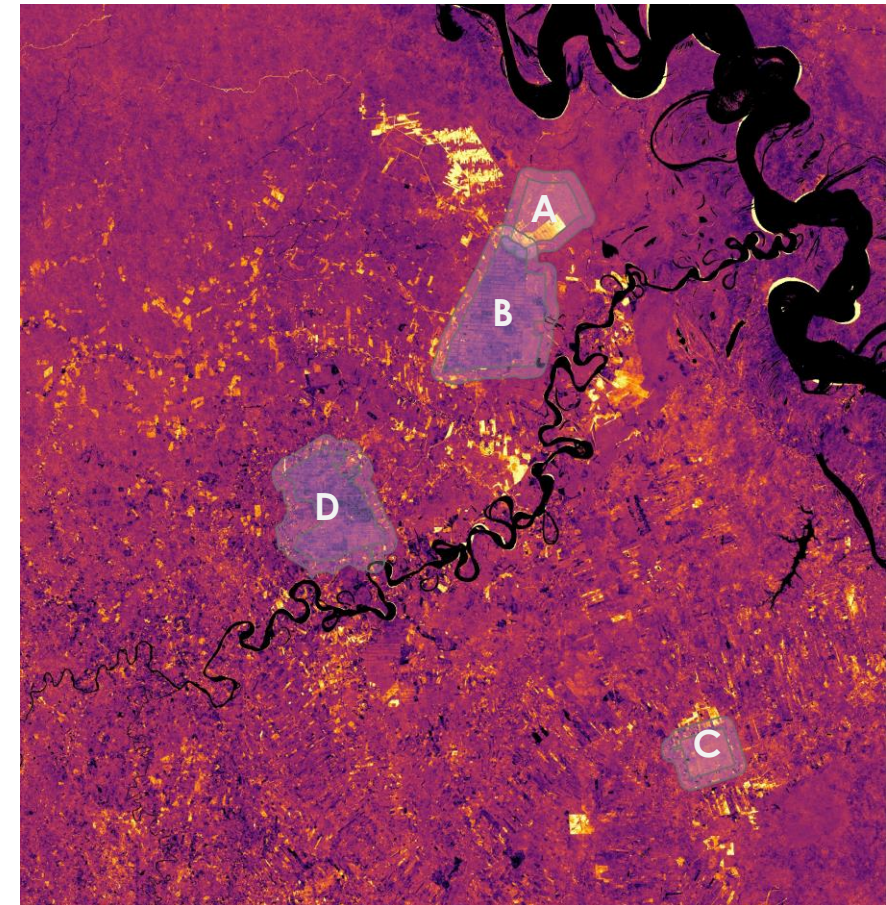
NDVI & EVI



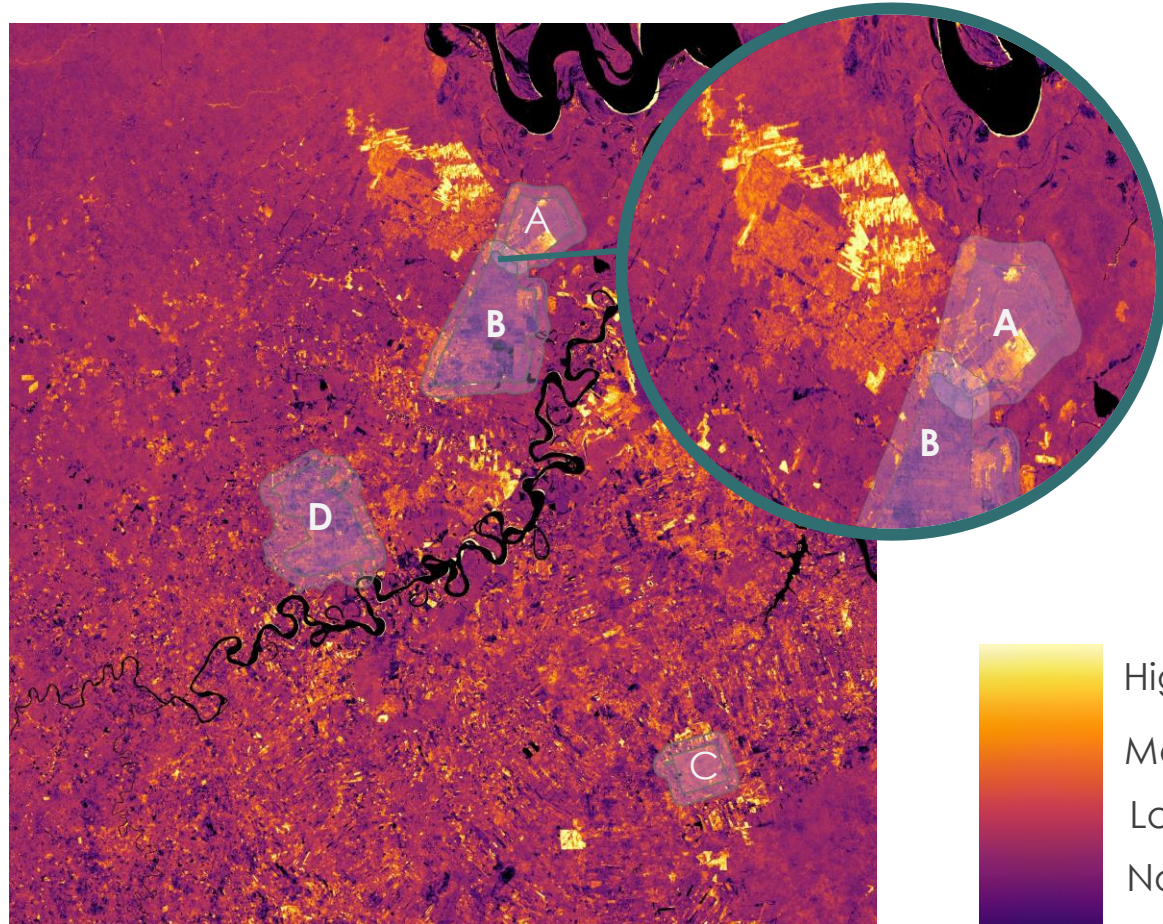
Difference in NDVI, 2017-2023



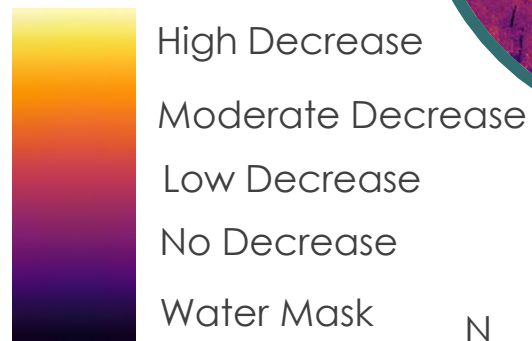
Difference in EVI, 2017-2023



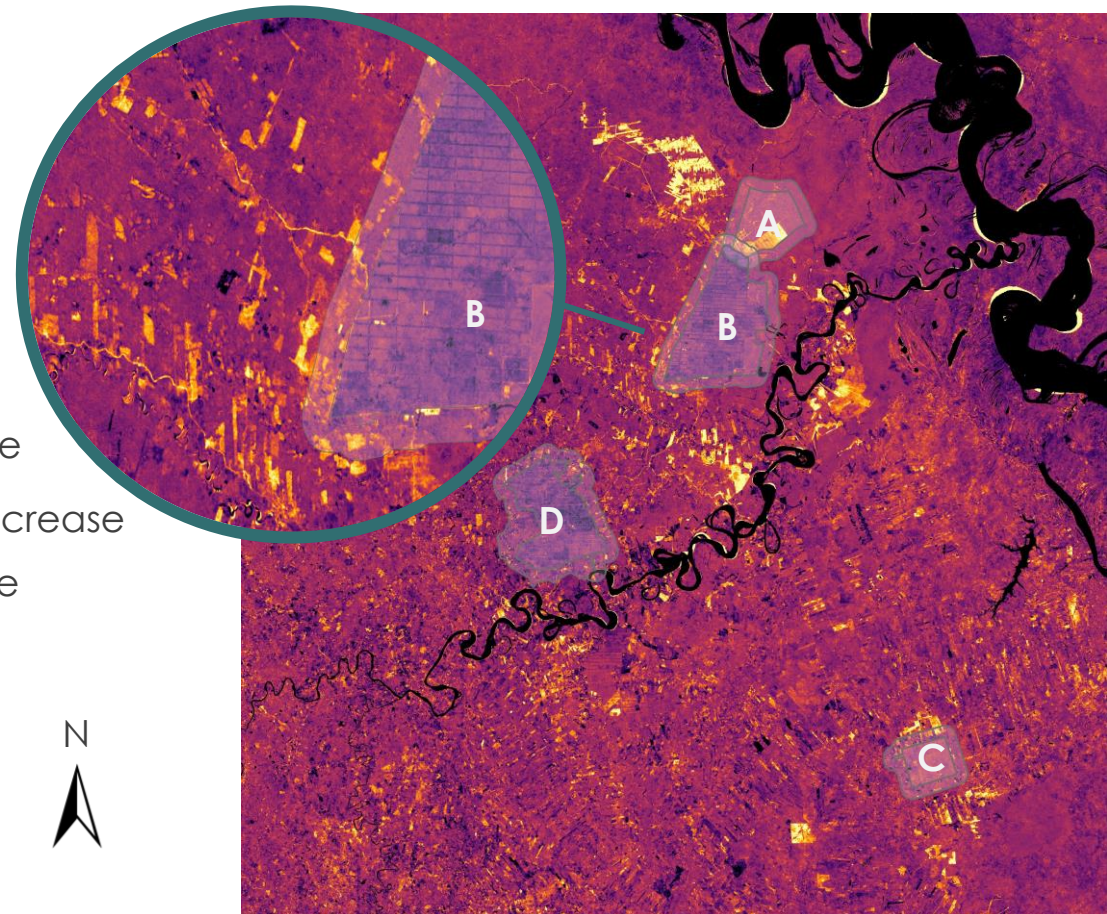
NDVI & EVI



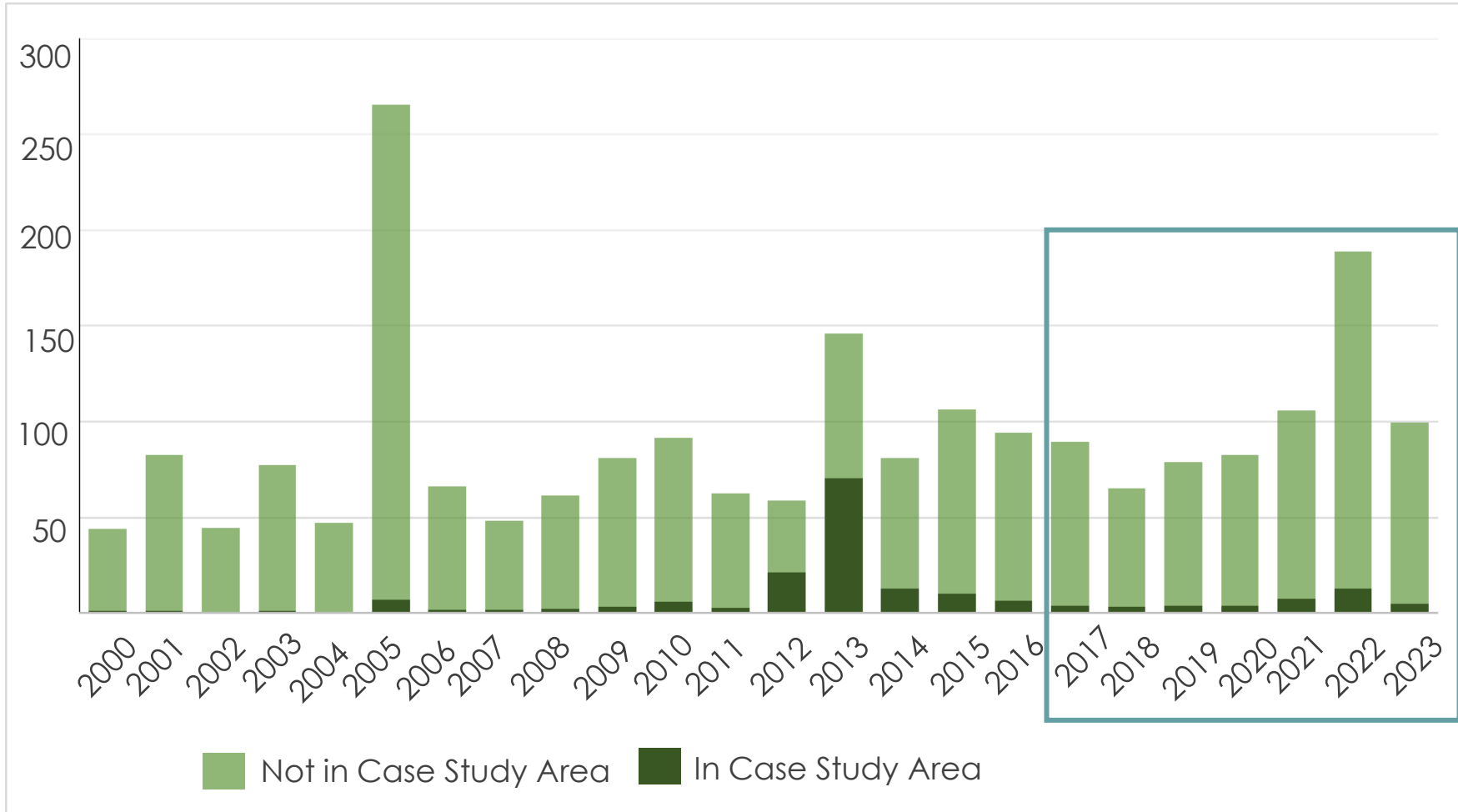
Difference in NDVI, 2017-2023



Difference in EVI, 2017-2023



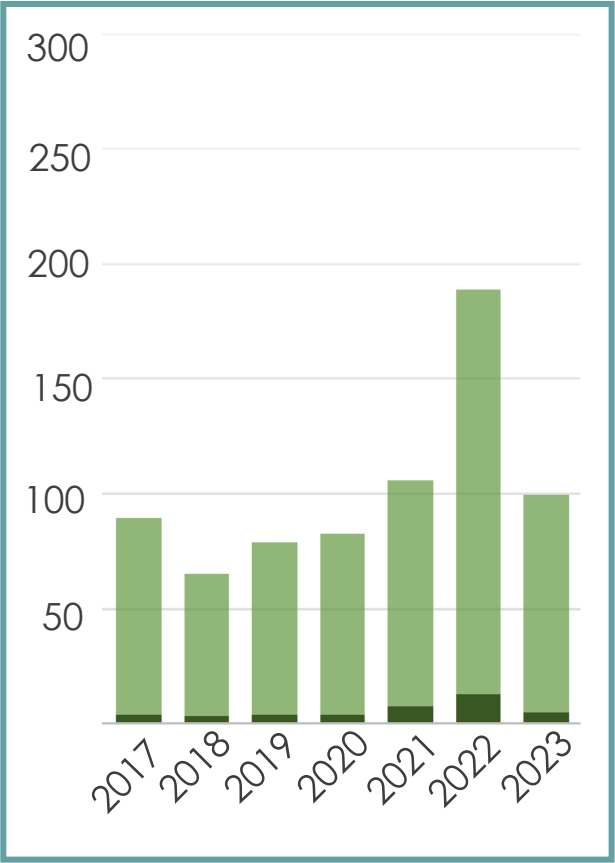
CCDC-SMA: Deforestation by Year



2165.2 km²

Total Area Deforested, 2000-2023

CCDC-SMA: Recent Deforestation



■ Not in Case Study
■ In Case Study

Total Area Deforested: **2165.2 km²**

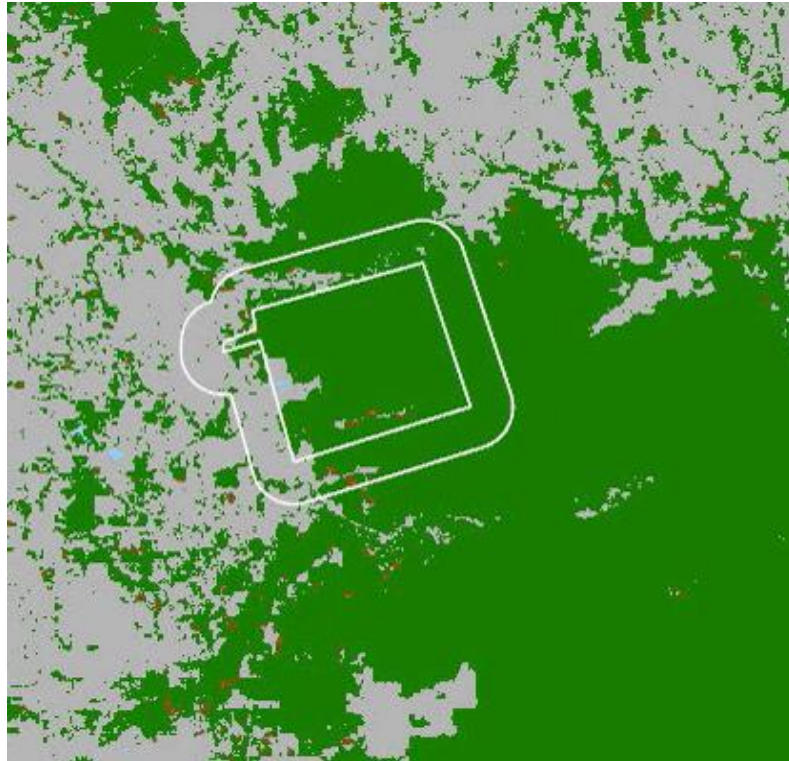
Deforestation from 2017-2023:

708.8 km²

Year	Deforested Area (km²)	% Total Loss
2022	189	26.6 %
2021	105	14.9 %
2023	99	14.0 %

Percent Intact Forest: B, C, and D

Was the case study area $> 30\%$ forest as of 2023?



0 2 4
Kilometers

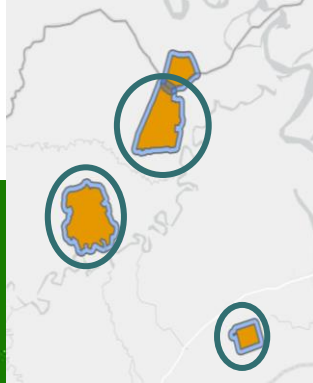
C: **68.2%**



B: **12.8%**



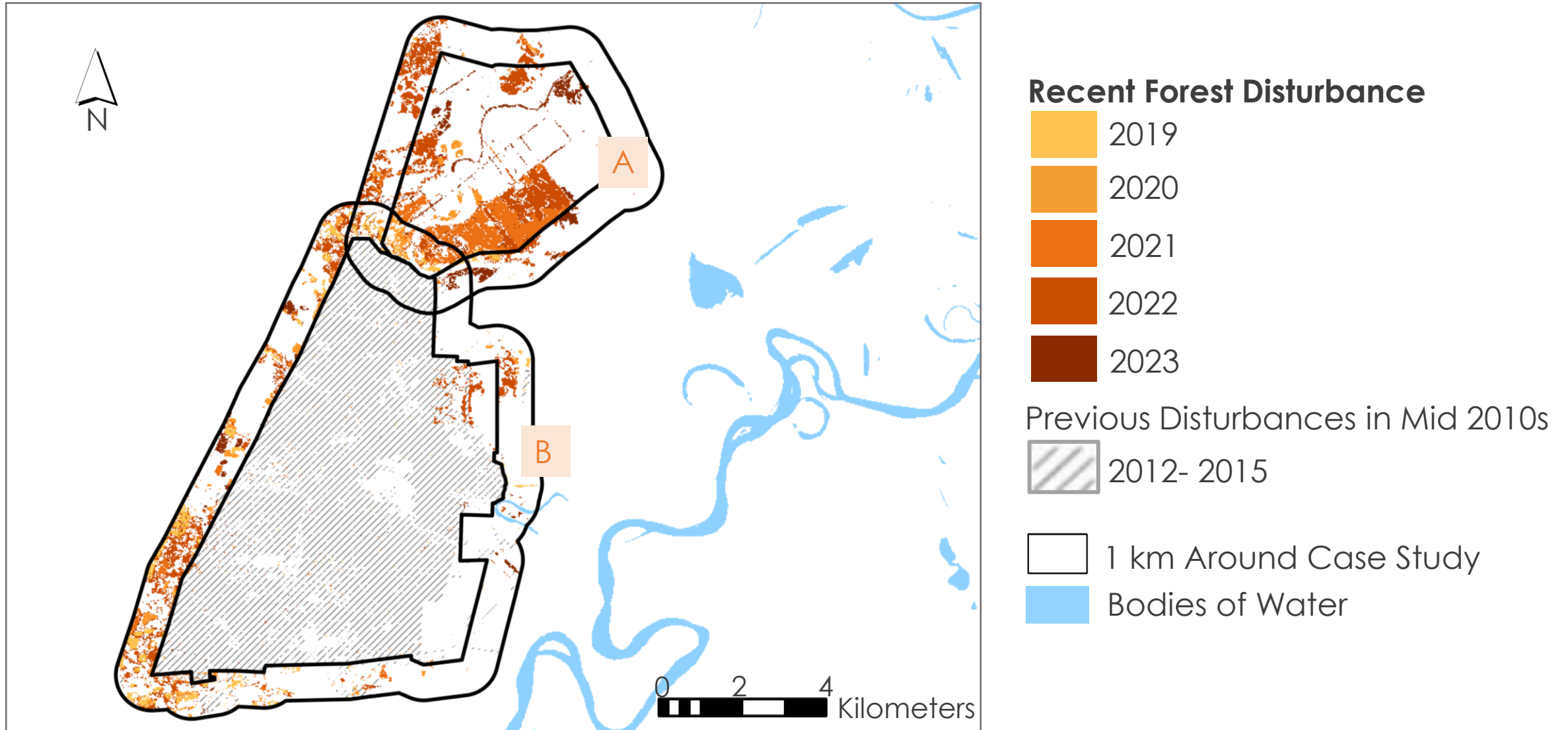
D: **25.7%**



Percent Intact Forest: A



Deforestation in Case Study A & B



PerúSAT-1 Imagery

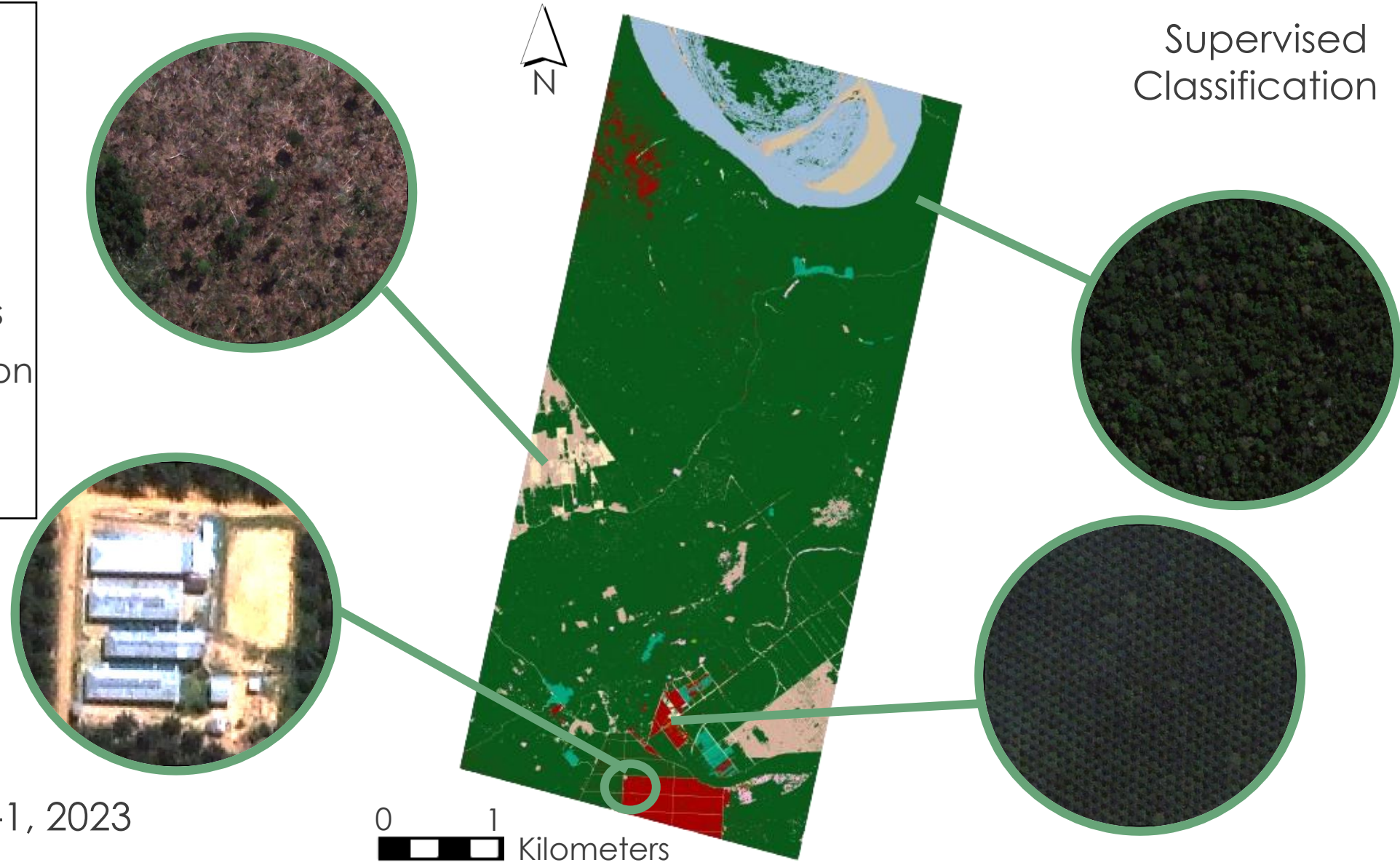
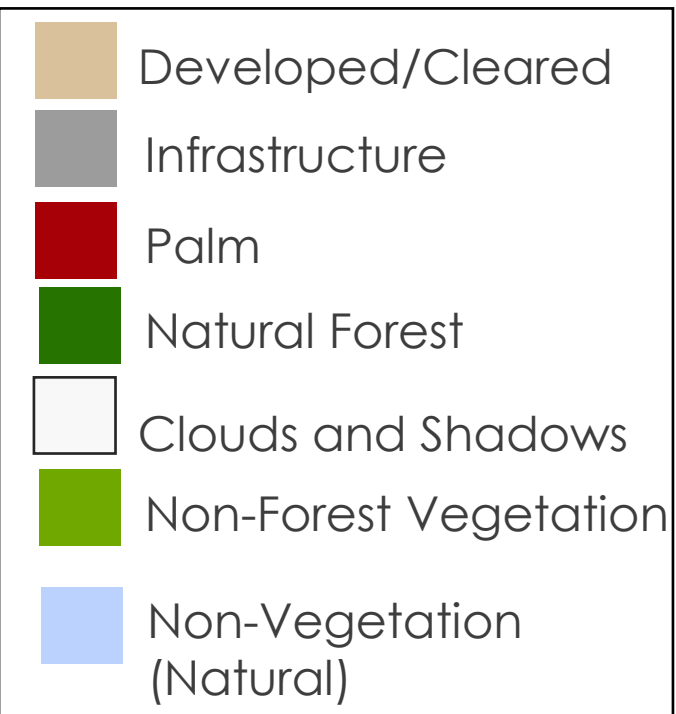
Image, PerúSAT-1, 2018



Image, PerúSAT-1, 2023

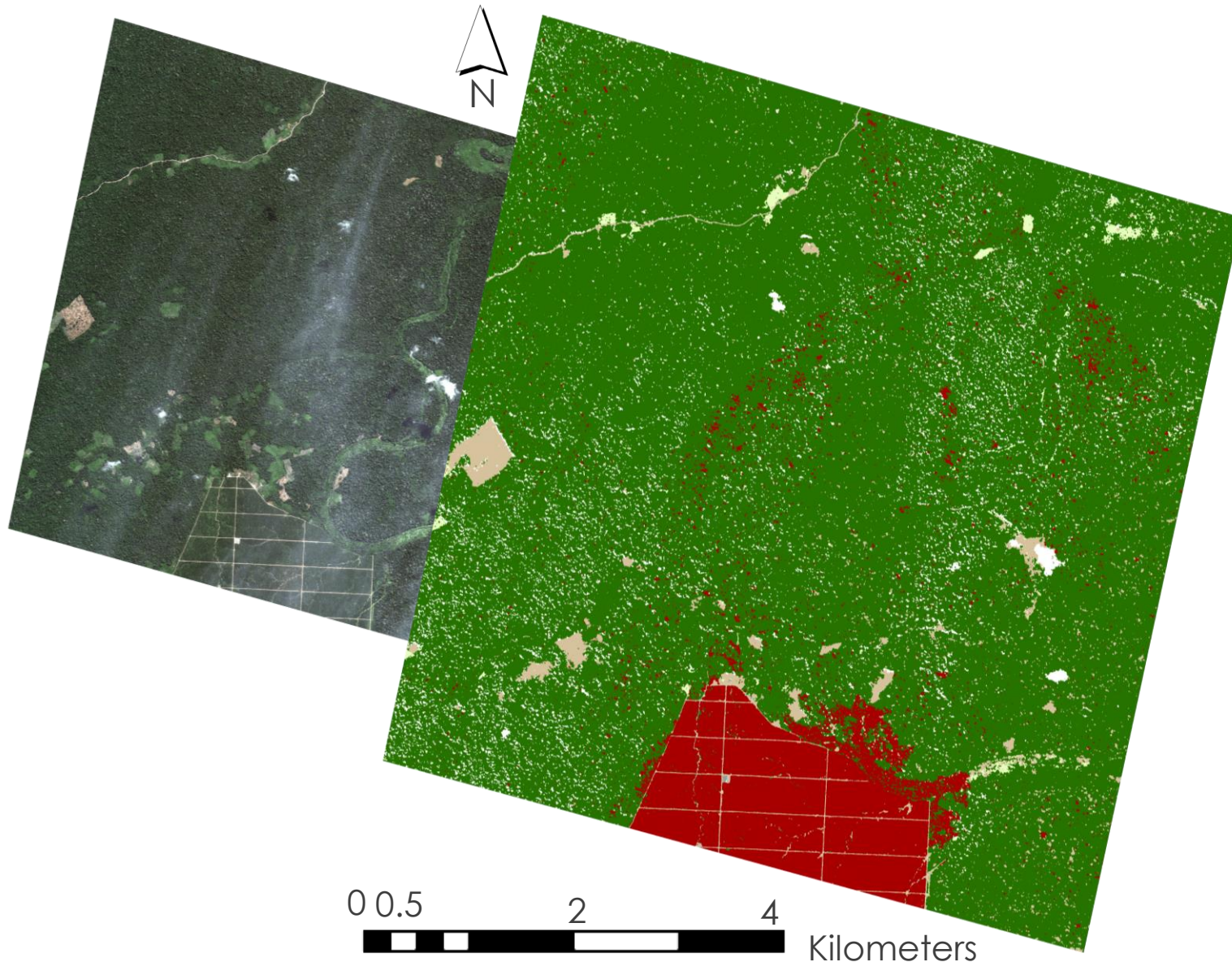


PerúSAT-1: Classification (2023)








Derived from PerúSAT-1, 2023

PerúSAT-1: 2018 Classification

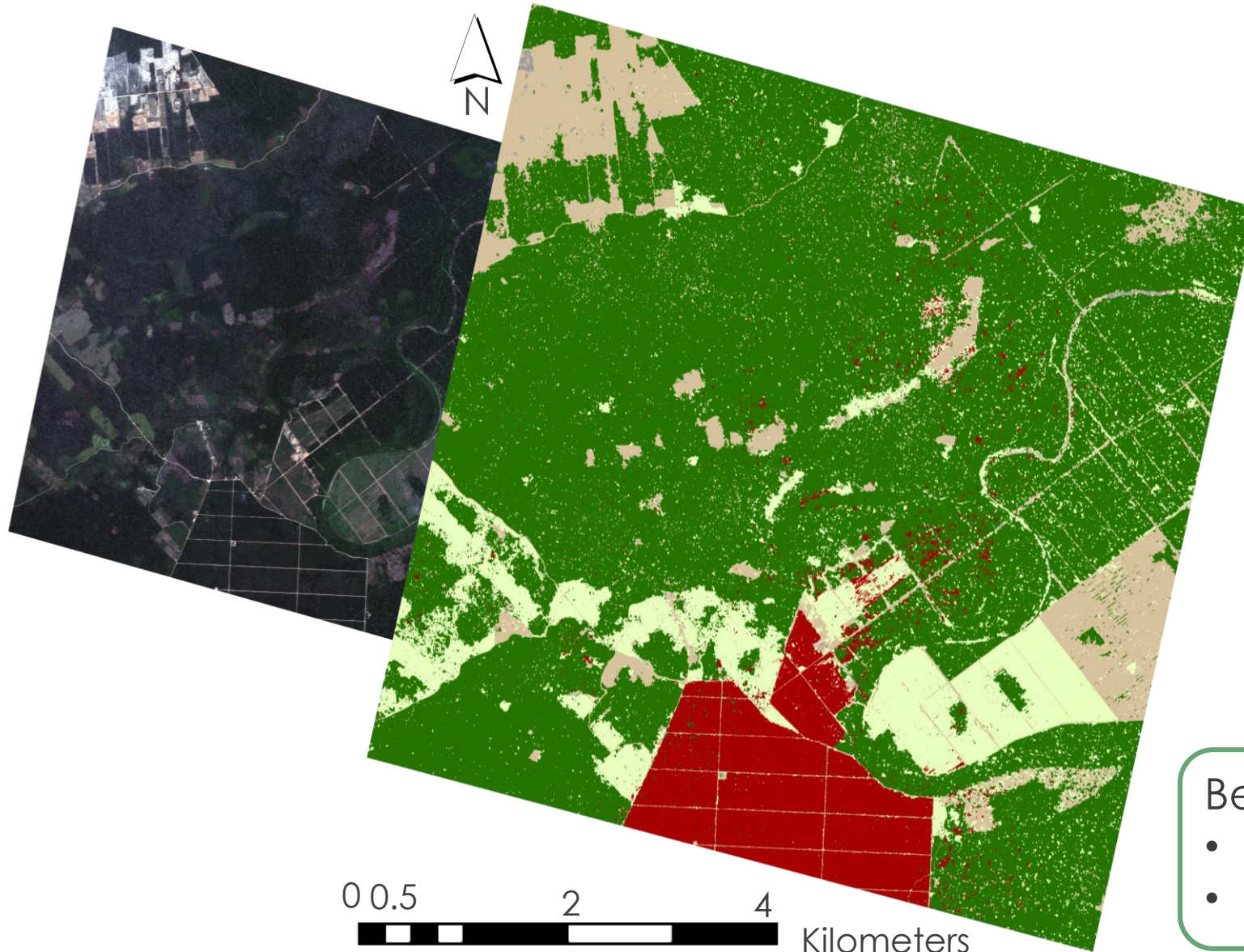


Class [2018]	% of Area
Natural Forest	83.37%
Palm (Agriculture)	8.98%
Developed/Cleared	3.01%
Non-Forest Vegetation	0.86%
Clouds and Shadows	3.72%

Land Classes *0.06% of Area is 'Other'*

	Natural Forest
	Palm
	Non-Forest Vegetation
	Developed and Cleared
	Clouds and Shadows



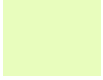

PerúSAT-1: 2023 Classification



Class [2023]	% of Area
Natural Forest	68.07%
Palm (Agriculture)	8.61%
Developed/Cleared	10.21%
Non-Forest Vegetation	12.70%

Land Classes

0.41% of Area is 'Other'

	Natural Forest
	Palm
	Non-Forest Vegetation
	Developed and Cleared

Between 2018 and 2023:

- 15.30% decrease in Natural Forest
- 7.19% increase in developed land

Conclusions

Total area deforested in the region from 2000-2023 was **2165.2 km²**

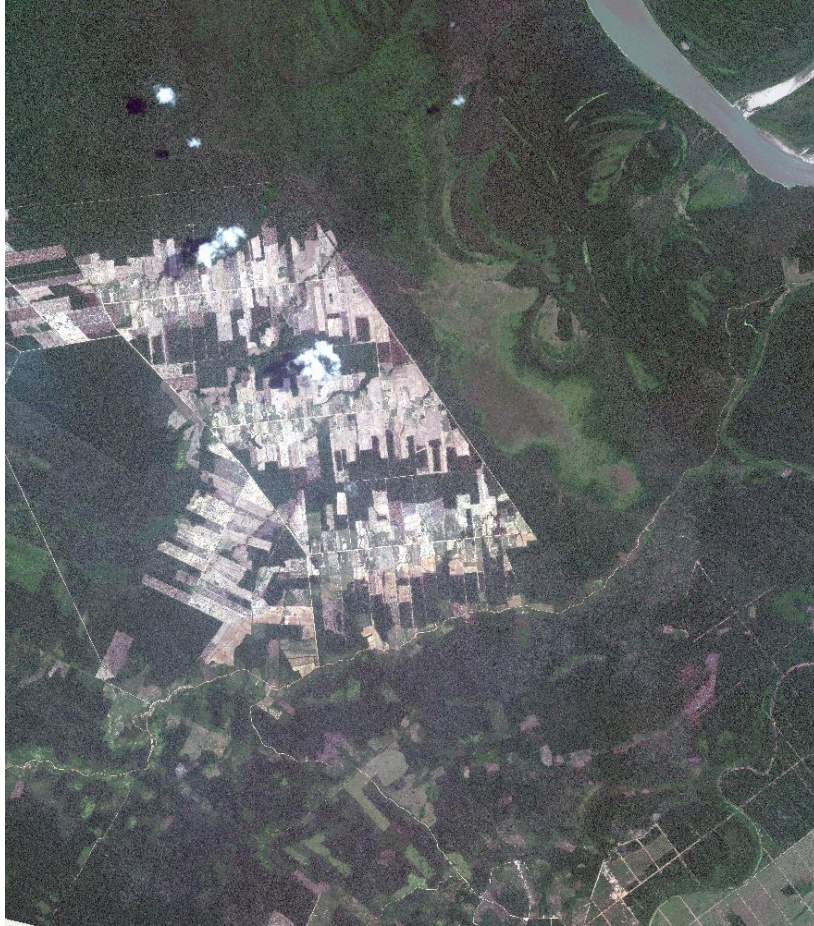
NDVI and EVI indicate an overall **decrease in vegetation** health over 2017-2023

Supervised Classification using PerúSAT-1 showed a **15.30% decline in forest cover** from 2018 to 2023 in the observed images

Case Studies A & B are **less than 30% forest** as of 2023

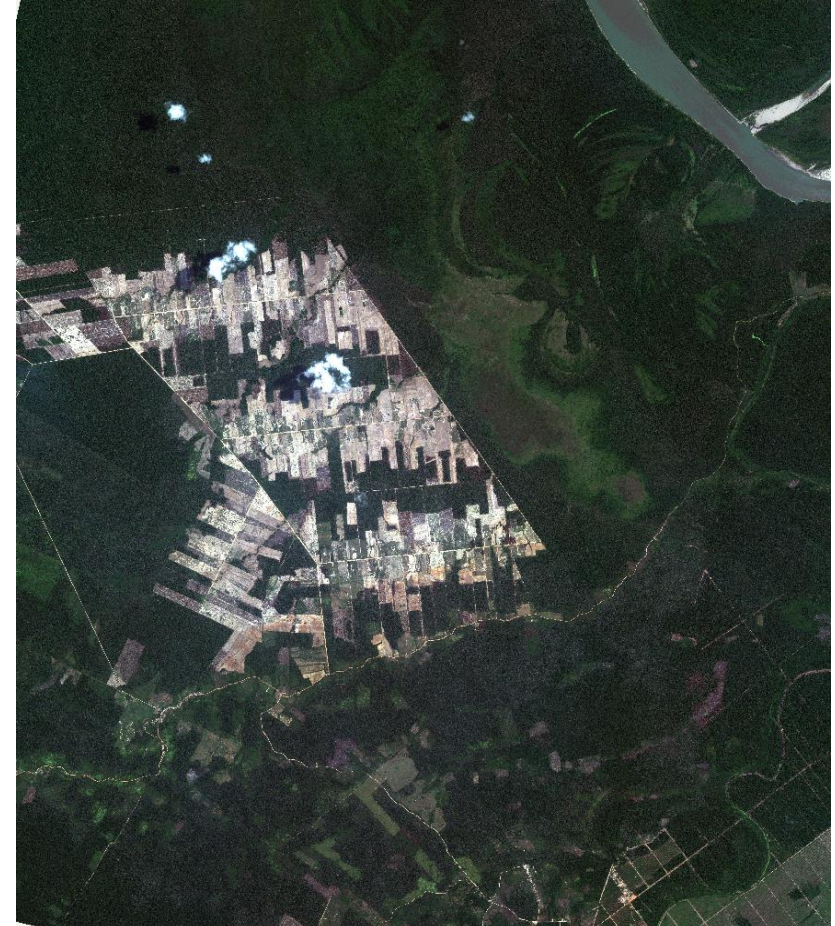
The low **temporal resolution** of PerúSAT-1 limited the coverage Potential for Supervised Classification

PerúSAT-1 Imagery Modifications



Radiance Image, PerúSAT-1

VS



Reflectance Image, PerúSAT-1

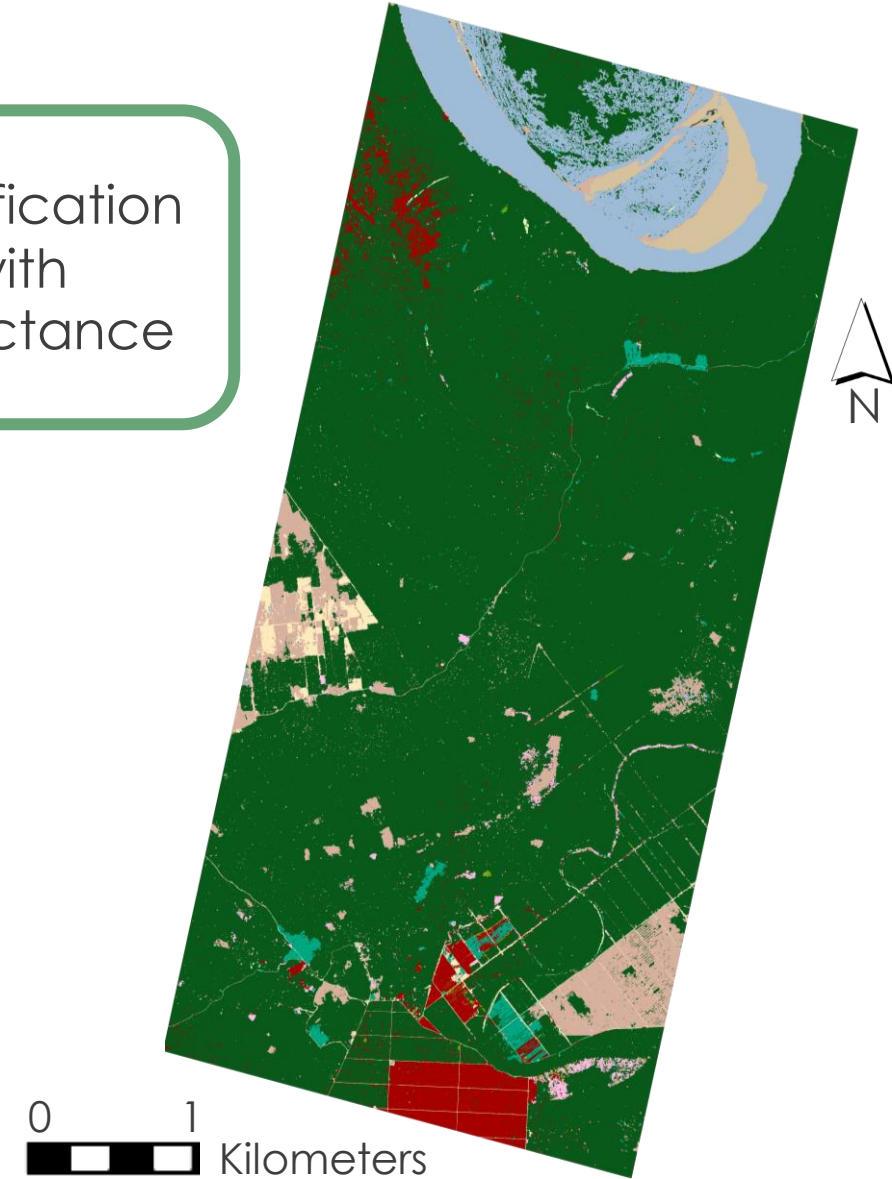
PerúSAT-1 Imagery Modifications

Classification
with
Radiance



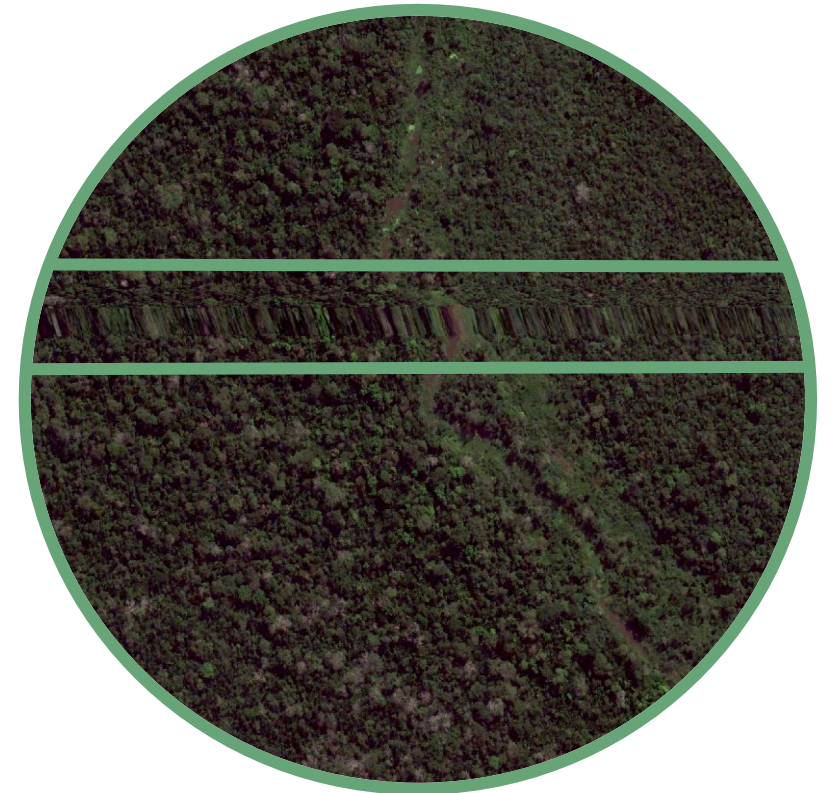
VS

Classification
with
Reflectance



Errors & Uncertainties

- Inconsistency between Landsat Series
 - Cloud cover availabilities
 - Sensor functionalities: ETM+ and OLI
- Data collection process of satellite imagery (See Image)
- Geolocation inconsistencies
 - PerúSAT-1 to ArcGIS Pro
- Training data by visual selection



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