



Seeing the Gallery Forest for the Savanna Chimpanzee

Remote Sensing for Great Ape Conservation in Kedougou, Senegal

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Presentation Overview

- Goals and Objectives
- Background
- Study Area
- Methodology
- Results
- Lessons Learned
- Questions?



Video Credit: Jill D. Pruett



Goals and Objectives

- ALL wild chimpanzees need trees to survive.
- The gallery forests are ecosystems unique to the Sudanian Zone of southeast Senegal that occur along seasonally flooded arterial watercourses.
- These ecosystems provide vital habitat for the critically endangered savanna chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) but comprise only 2% of their natural range.
- Today, they are under increasing anthropogenic pressures, primarily from mining, agriculture, and settlement development, and their preservation is becoming critical for savanna chimpanzee conservation.
- This project begins to survey the health of the gallery forests since the expansion of a 10-year gold mining boom in Kedougou, Senegal.
- This study developed a remote sensing method for tracking and mapping gallery forests in Kedougou, Senegal, using Trimble eCognition 10.3 software to apply an unsupervised classification with data fusion and object-based image analysis segmentation.
- This project supports the conservation effort to simultaneously protect gallery forest ecosystems and the critically endangered savanna chimpanzee.



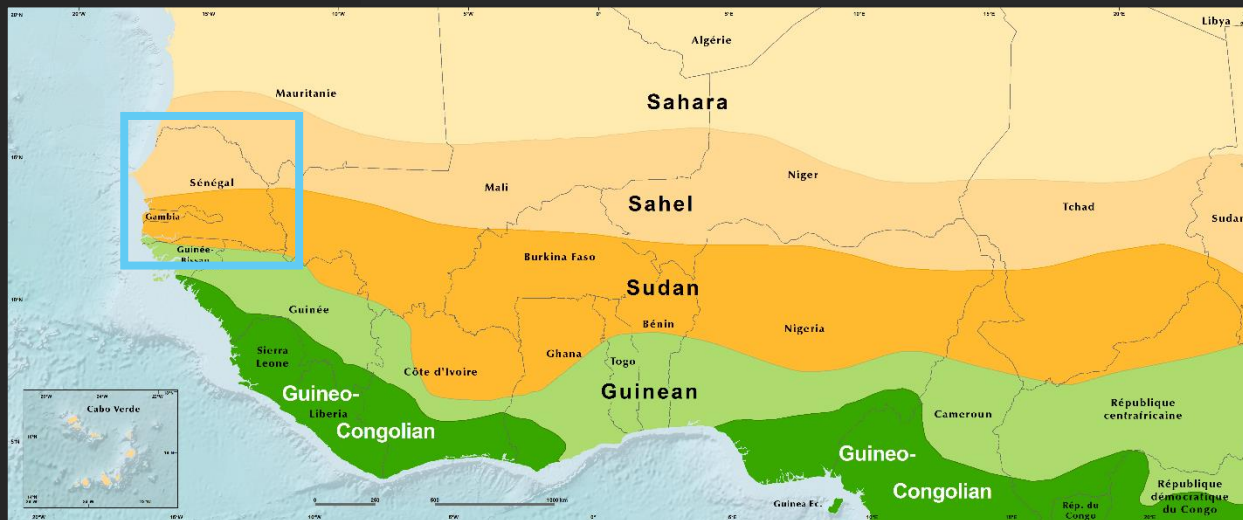
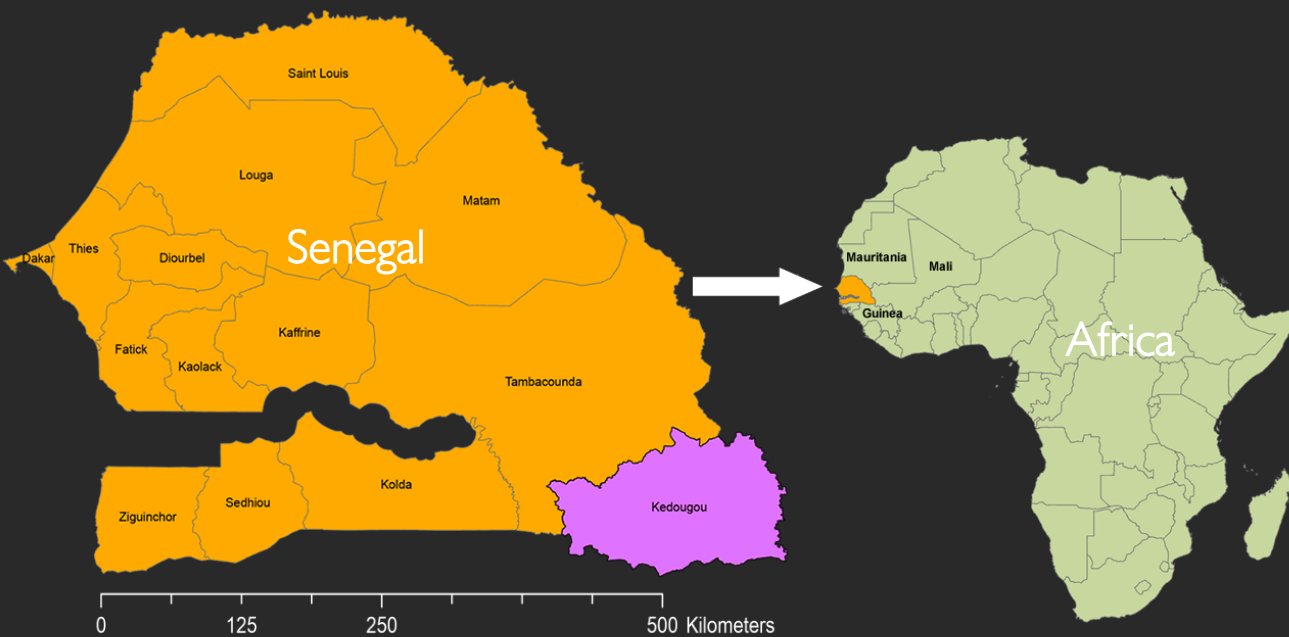
Photo Credit: Jill D. Pruett



Background

Senegal

- Senegal is slightly larger than South Dakota!
- The population is 17.32 million people (2022).
- It is the westernmost country on the African continent.
- Dakar is the capital, and its ports are known as the Gateway to West Africa.
- The region of Kedougou is in the Sudanian Zone and it is characterized as the domain of the savannas.



The Bioclimatic Zones of West Africa, the Sahara, Sahel, Sudan, Guinean, and Guineo-Congolian (CILSS, USGS, & USAID, 2016).

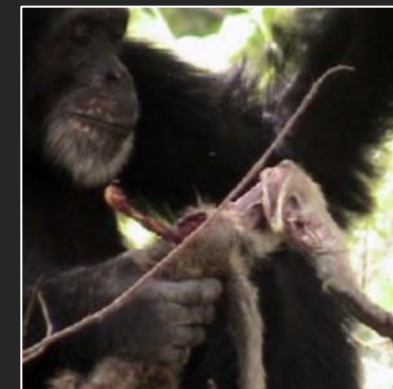
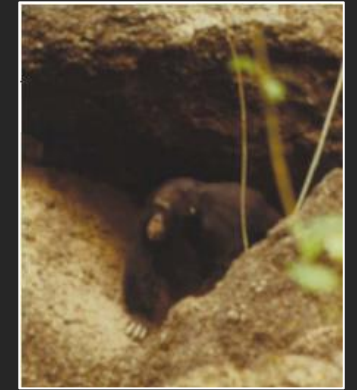




Background

Savanna Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*)

- They were listed as critically endangered in 2016 by the IUCN Red List. The next categories are **Extinct in the Wild** and **Extinct**. The population est. is 18,000 to 65,000, an 80% decline since the 90s.
- Senegal is the northernmost limit and the harshest environment for chimpanzees. The dry season temperatures can reach 40 °C (104 °F).
- They have a unique suite of behaviors adapted for an open, hot, dry, and mosaic environment.
- They termite fish, and hunt galagoes with a spear that they fashion!
- They utilize microclimates such as gallery forests, caves, and pools to cool off during the dry season.
- Only 2% of their habitat is forested.
- They would rather be in a gallery forest during the hottest time of the dry season because this is where water, food, shade, and tall evergreen trees are for nesting.
- Also, the savanna chimpanzee adaptations help us to understand how our last common ancestor survived in an open, hot, dry and mosaic environment.





Background

Gold Mining in Kedougou, Senegal

- There has been a gold mining boom in Senegal for over 10 years.
- The gold mining boom presents a great challenge for primate conservation because the mining brings new levels of anthropogenic disturbances and ecological pressures.
- The disturbances can include loss of group connectivity and loss of connectivity to habitat preference and protected areas — due to road construction, mining pits, pond tailings, fencing, settlement development, and forest degradation.
- Furthermore, gold mining brings mercury-contaminated water.



Fongoli savanna chimpanzees drink water from a polluted artisanal mining pit.



Background

Types of Mining

- **Large-scale Gold Mine**
 - Industrial mining with trained employees, using large-scale mechanized tools to extract the gold quickly.
 - Investors are foreign and West African.
- **Intermediate-scale Artisanal Gold Mine**
 - Large-scale Artisanal Mine that has more infrastructure.
- **Small-scale Artisanal Gold Mines (Djouras)**
 - This is cultural subsistence mining.
 - Gold panning with iron tools or small power machines.
 - Investors are traditional local people.
 - Djouras have been culturally present for millennia with local rules.



Large-scale: **Mako gold mine**, photo credit: Resolute, reproduced for educational purposes only.



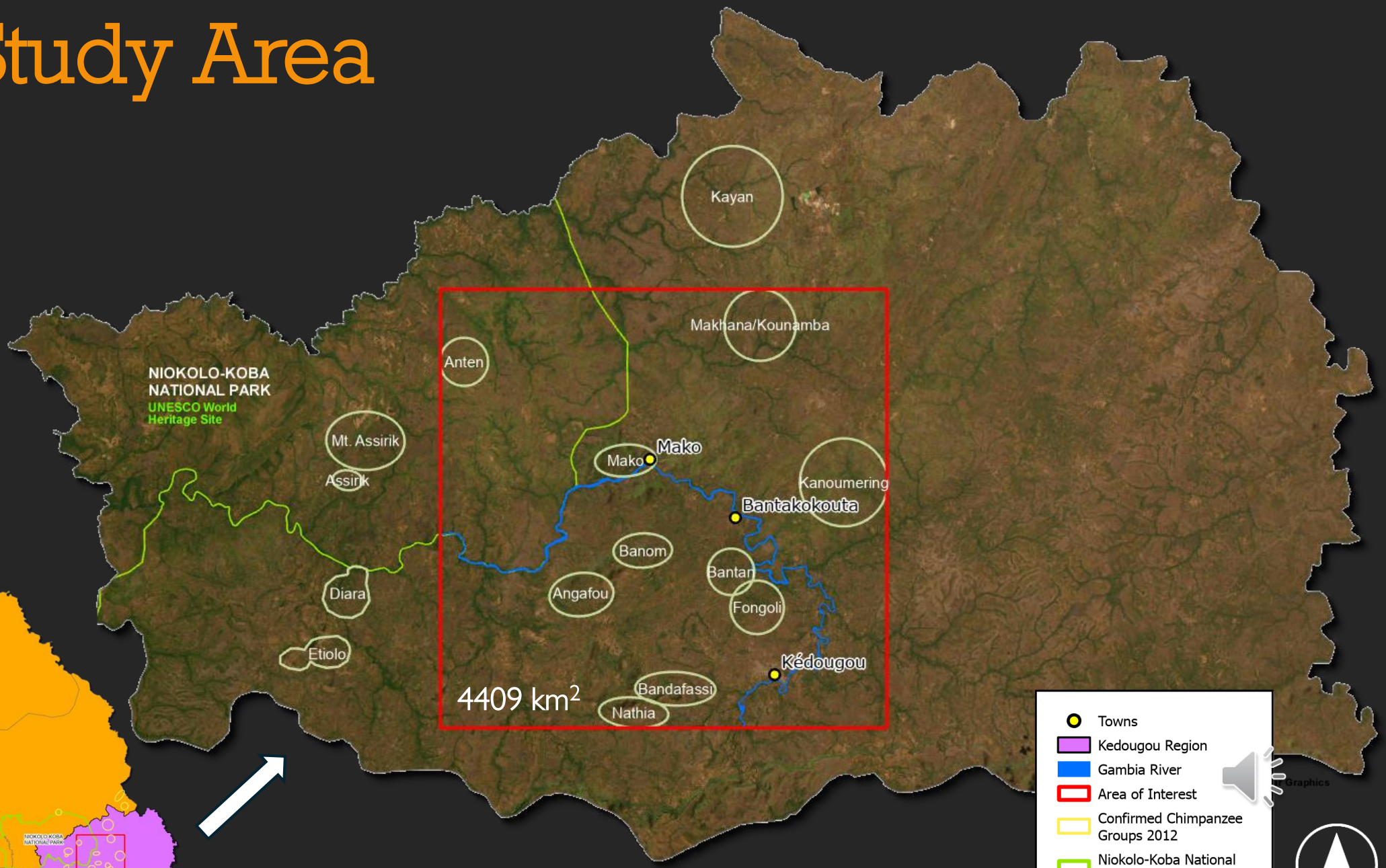
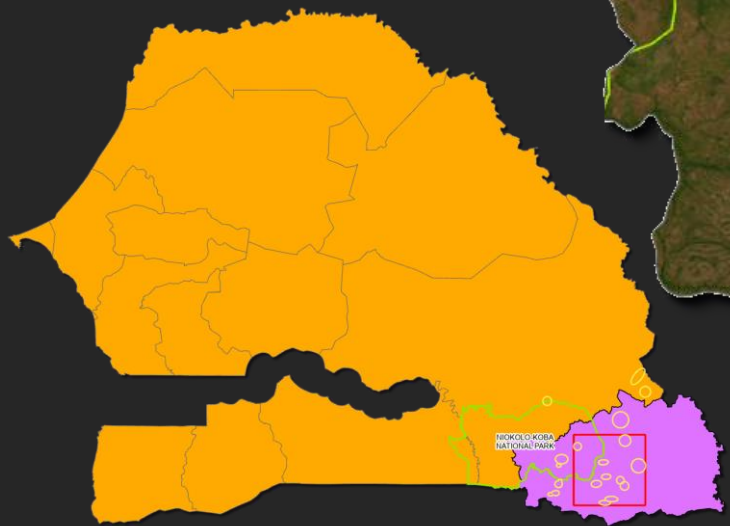
Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine: **Bantakocouta gold mine**, photo credit: niokolo.com, reproduced for educational purposes only.



Small-scale Artisanal Mine: **Open pit gold mine**, photo credit: rivergambiaexpedition, reproduced for educational purposes only.



Study Area



NIKOLO-KOBA NATIONAL PARK
UNESCO World Heritage Site

4409 km²

- Towns
- Kedougou Region
- Gambia River
- Area of Interest
- Confirmed Chimpanzee Groups 2012
- Niokolo-Koba National Park





Methodology

Workflow

STAGE 1

Data Acquisition

- SRTM DEM (NASA EarthData), PlanetScope (Planet NICFI Program), Sentinel 2A (ESA Copernicus), Landsat 8, 7, 5 (EarthExplorer).

Pre-processing

- Composite Landsat and Sentinel 2A.
- Mosaic Sentinel 2A, PlanetScope, and SRTM DEM.
- Subset all to the Area of Interest (AOI) and adjust the spatial reference to WGS 1984 UTM Zone 28N.
- Data Exploration

STAGE 2

Build Layers

- Create stream network vector and raster and local and subregional watershed boundaries using ArcGIS Pro and Arc Hydro Toolbox.
- Create soils vector, raster, tables and maps from World Soil Information.
- Create Principal Component Analysis for the AOI in 2023, 2010, 2000, and 1988.
- Create indices for NDWI, NDVI, and SAVI for the AOI for all 4 years in eCognition and export out to save and import back into eCognition.

Build Remotely Sensed Meteorological Data

- Create CHIRPS monthly mean rainfall estimates from 1988 to 2023 specifically for the AOI using Google Earth Engine.
- Create MODIS Land Surface Temperature estimates from 2000 to 2023 specifically for the AOI using Google Earth Engine.

STAGE 3

Classification

- Using Trimble eCognition to classify the AOI for 2023, 2010, 2000, and 1988.
- Ruleset refinement for unsupervised classification and multi-threshold segmentation.
- Classification for: Closed-vegetation, Ecotone, Open-vegetation, Bare Soil, Vegetation Degradation, Development, Large-scale Mine, Mine Tailing Pond, Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine, Small-scale Artisanal Mine, Water Body, Roads, and NoData.
- Export eCognition vector output to ArcGIS Pro to process and create tables, charts, and maps for the AOI, subregional watershed, and local watershed.

STAGE 4

Accuracy Assessment

- For 2023 classification using ArcGIS Pro and PlanetScope as the reference data.

Change Detection

- Using ArcGIS Pro Change Detection Wizard for 1988 to 2023.

Presence-only Prediction

- Using ArcGIS Pro Presence-only Prediction Tool to predict where the savanna chimpanzee habitat was suitable in 2023.
- Based on savanna chimpanzee nesting data, the classified 2023 AOI, stream network, dominate soils, parent soils, land forms, elevation, aspect, and OpenStreetMap roads.





Methodology

Data Window

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry	Transitional	Wet	Wet	Wet	Wet	Transitional	Dry	Dry

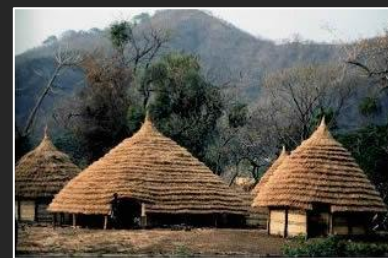


Photo Credit: Gray Tappan

- Senegal's landscape is a highly mosaic environment.
- Dry season is from **November to April** and **May** is a transitional month.
- Wet season is from **June to September** and **October** is a transitional month.
- Senegal's seasons and vegetation growth are highly correlated with annual precipitation.

- Satellite imagery was selected for the month of **December**.
- This is to get a snapshot of the gallery forests when the highest and lowest growth does not interfere with capturing the classification ... in theory.
- Gallery forests are evergreen, meaning they have some greening all year round; however, they degrade during harsh seasons and drought.

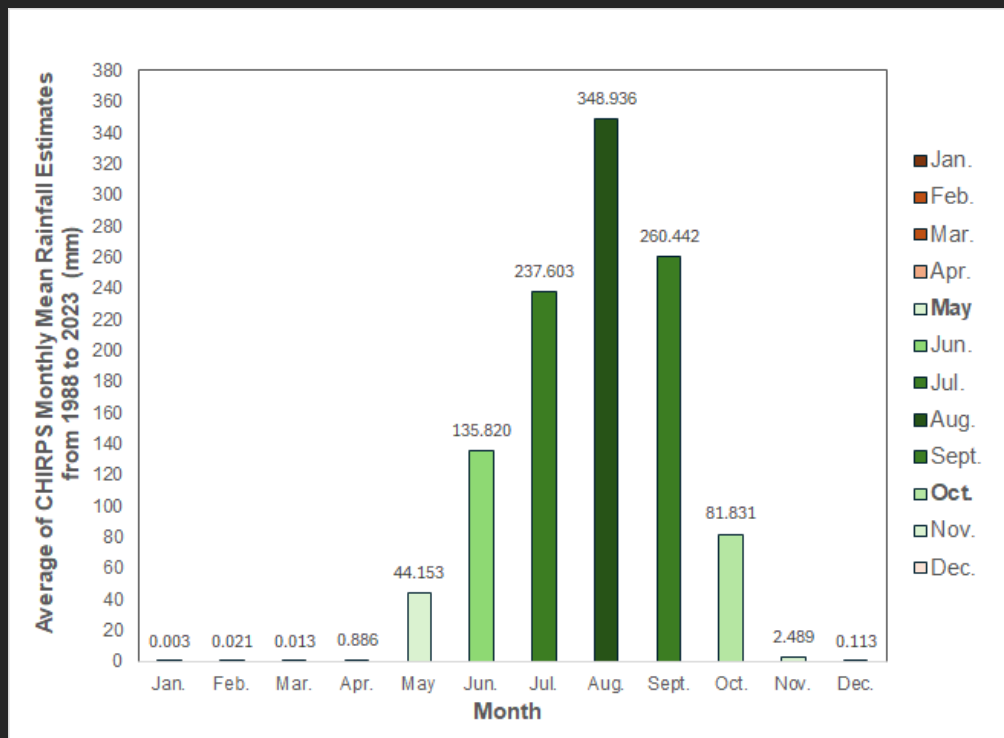




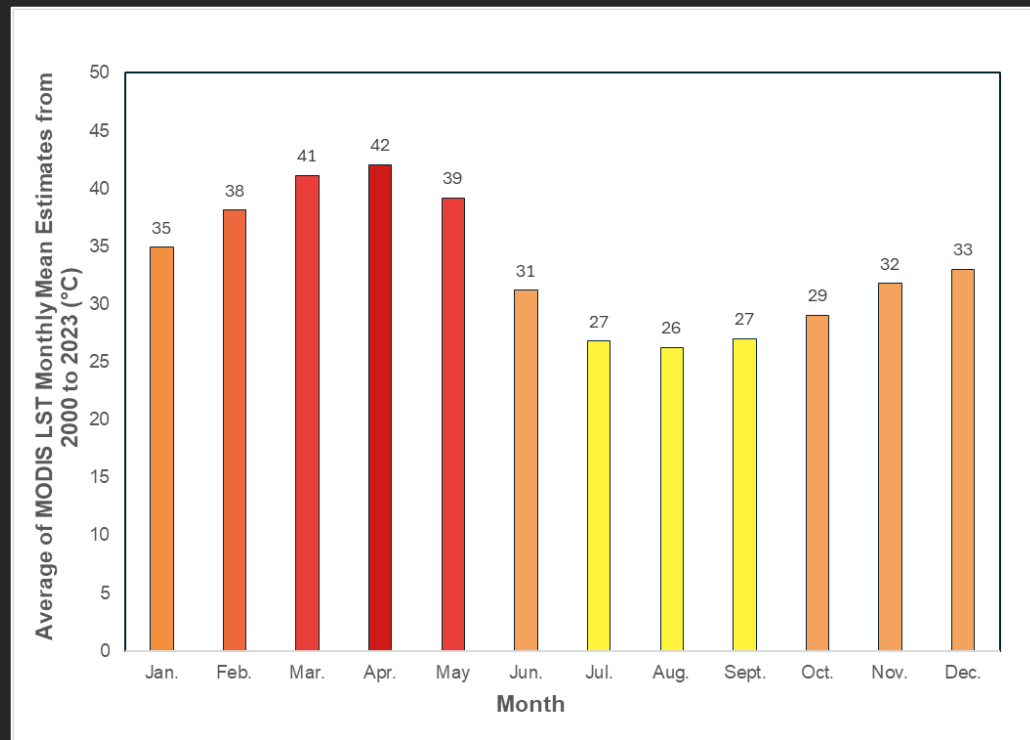
Methodology

Google Earth Engine Data

Google Earth Engine (GEE) was used to look at land surface temperature and precipitation to see the seasonality through time. This also helped select December as the focal month for the satellite imagery.



The rainfall and vegetation growth are closely correlated so that seasonality can be inferred from precipitation.



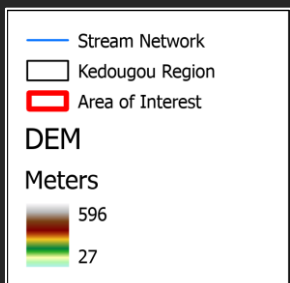
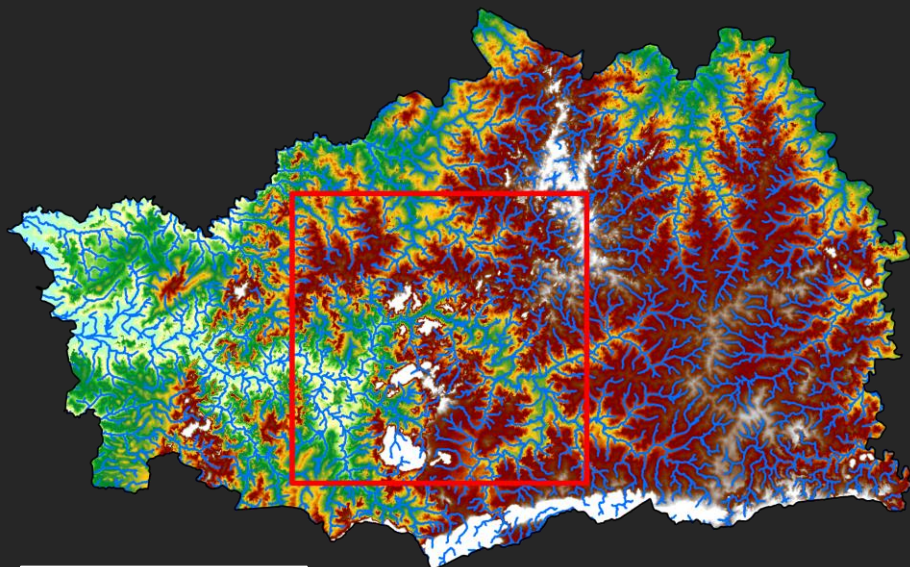
It is hot in Senegal! It is hot in the dry season, and then it cools down a bit in the wet. MODIS LST takes an 8-day average of the surface temperature every 8 days.



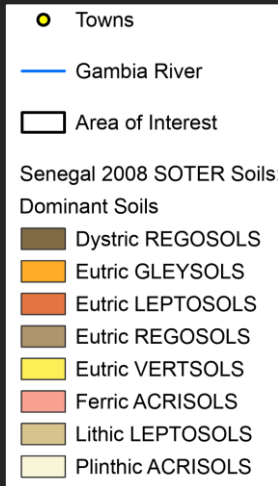
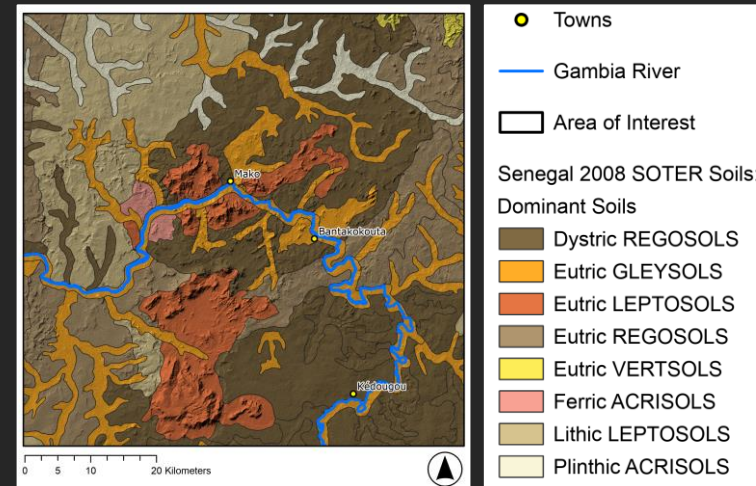
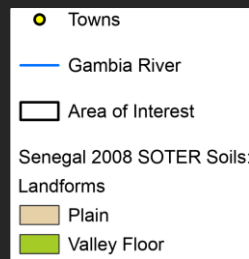
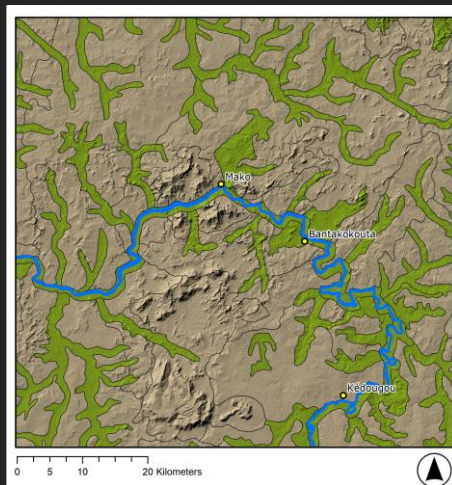


Methodology

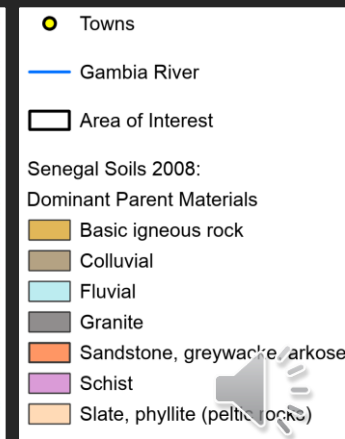
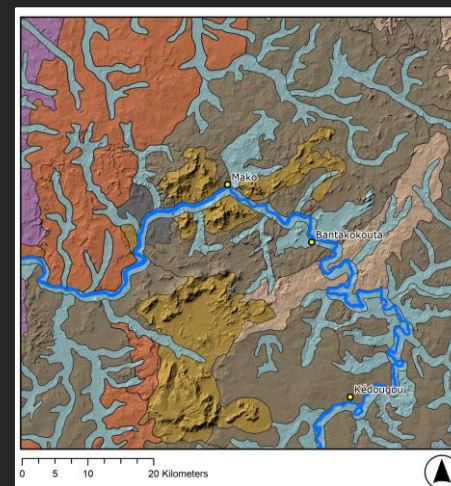
Layer Creation: Stream Network and Soils



- The stream network was derived from the 30-meter SRTM DEM using ArcGIS Pro and Arc Hydro Toolbox.
- This layer was vital because it helped locate gallery forests predominately found along watercourses.



- The soils data was acquired from the Soil and Terrain Database (SOTER) for Senegal and the Gambia.

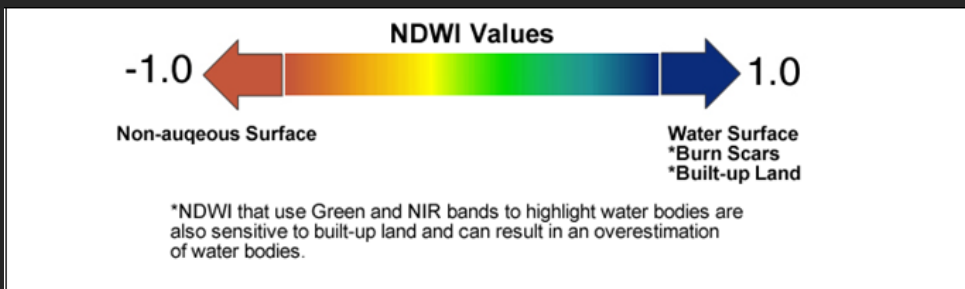
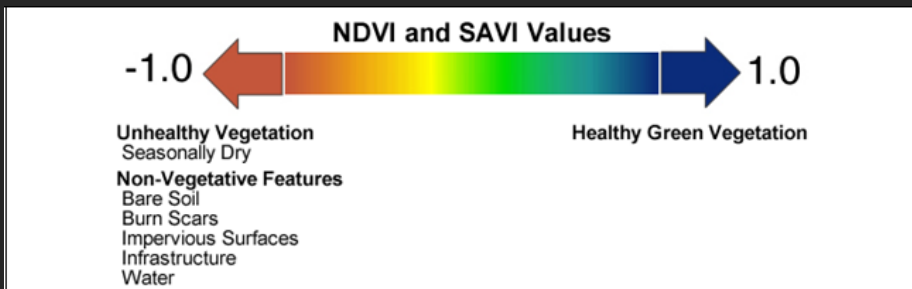




Methodology

Layer Creation: Indices and PCA

- The PCA colors are random, and feature information is clustered and extruded to show the most dominant features in the scene.
- The indices were built within eCognition by using its canned formulas.



Year	Res.	NDVI (NIR-Red)/(NIR+Red)	SAVI ((NIR-Red)/(NIR+Red+L)) * (1+L) L=0.75	NDWI (Green-NIR)/(Green+NIR)	Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
Dec 2023 Sentinel 2A	10 meters				
Dec 2010 Landsat 5 TM	30 meters				
Dec 2000 Landsat 7 ETM	15 meters				
Dec 1988 Landsat 5 TM	30 meters				



Methodology

eCognition Data Fusion

eCognition Data for 1988	eCognition Data for 2000	eCognition Data for 2010	eCognition Data for 2023
Landsat 5 TM, C2L2 Tier 1, 16 Bit, 30 m, Date: 12/10/1988 PCA of Landsat 5	Landsat 7 ETM C2L1, 15 m, Date: 12/19/2000 Panchromatic PCA of Landsat 7 C2L2 Pansharpened	Landsat 5 TM, C2L2 Tier 1, 16 Bit, 30 m, Date: 12/23/2010 PCA of Landsat 5	Sentinel2A, 10 m Date: 12/27/23 PCA of Sentinel2A
DEM, 30 m, Date: 2/11/2000	DEM, 30 m, Date: 2/11/2000	DEM, 30 m, Date: 2/11/2000	DEM, 30 m, Date: 2/11/2000
Constructed in eCognition with Landsat SAVI_1988.tif NDVI_1988.tif NDWI_1988.tif	Constructed in eCognition with Landsat SAVI_2000.tif NDVI_2000.tif NDWI_2000.tif	Constructed in eCognition with Landsat SAVI_2010.tif NDVI_2010.tif NDWI_2010.tif	Constructed in eCognition with Sentinel SAVI_2023.tif NDVI_2023.tif NDWI_2023.tif
Overlays in eCognition for Classifying Soils, Vector, Date: 2008 Stream Network, Vector, Date: 2/11/2000 Artisanal Mines, Vector, 2014 OpenStreetMap Roads Fishnet Guide	Overlays in eCognition for Classifying Soils, Vector, Date: 2008 Stream Network, Vector, Date: 2/11/2000 Artisanal Mines, Vector, 2014 OpenStreetMap Roads Fishnet Guide	Overlays in eCognition for Classifying Soils, Vector, Date: 2008 Stream Network, Vector, Date: 2/11/2000 Artisanal Mines, Vector, 2014 OpenStreetMap Roads Fishnet Guide	Overlays in eCognition for Classifying Soils, Vector, Date: 2008 Stream Network, Vector, Date: 2/11/2000 Artisanal Mines, Vector, 2014 OpenStreetMap Roads Fishnet Guide
Reference Data: N/A	Reference Data: N/A	Reference Data: N/A	Reference Data: PlanetScope 4.47 m Date: 12/27/23

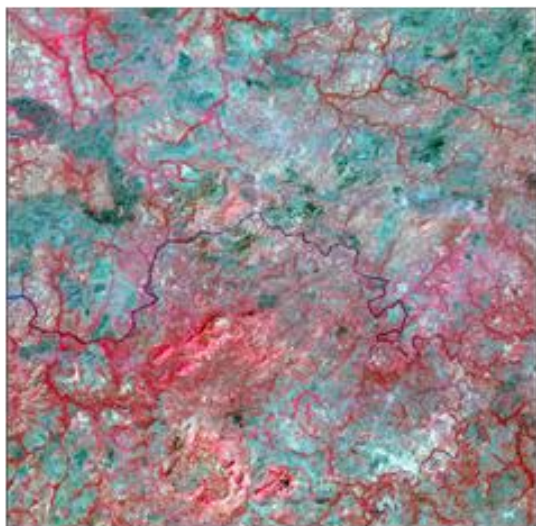




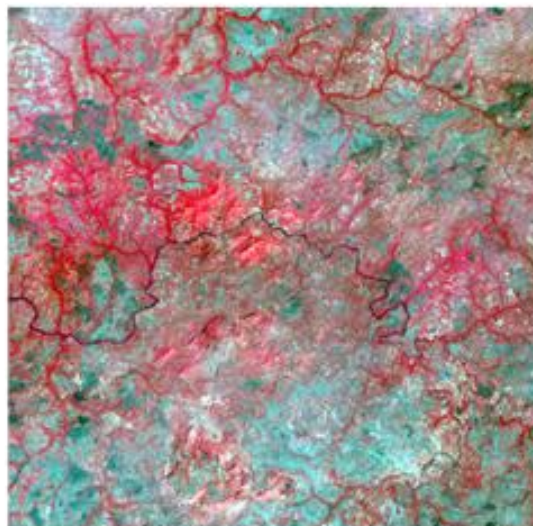
Methodology

eCognition Data Fusion

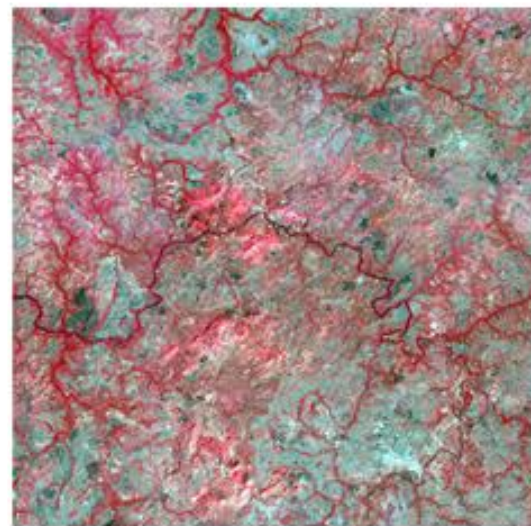
10 December 1988
Landsat 5 TM, C2L2
30 meters



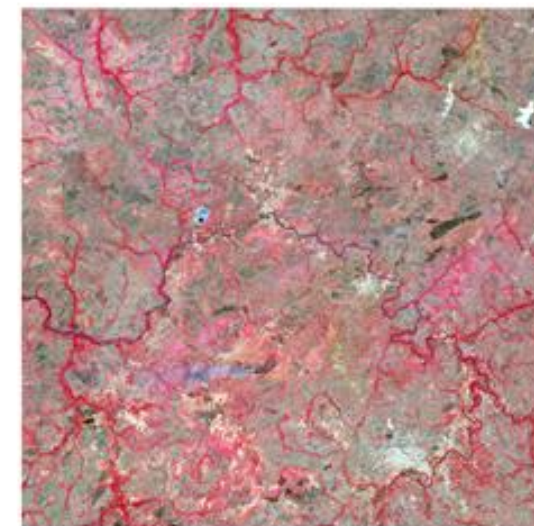
19 December 2000
Landsat 7 ETM, C2L1
15 meters



23 December 2010
Landsat 5 TM, C2L2
30 meters



27 December 2023
Sentinel-2A
10 meters



This is the primary satellite imagery used to set the resolution for each eCognition project. Landsat 7 ETM and Landsat 5 TM used B4, B3, and B2, and Sentinel 2A used B8, B4, and B3 (RGB) to display healthy vegetation in color infrared.





Methodology

eCognition Classification Ruleset

The screenshot displays the 'Process Tree' window in eCognition software. The tree is organized into several main sections:

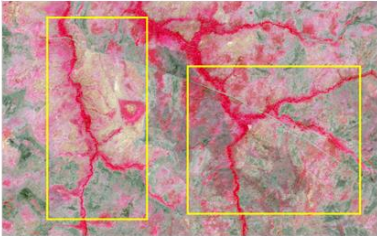
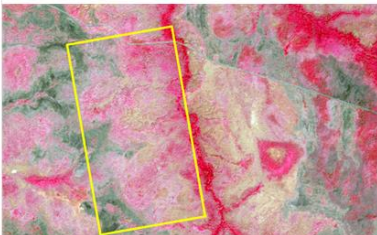

- Ruleset**
 - PREPROCESSING**
 - index layer NDVI 'NDVI_2023' (S2A_Red, S2A_NIR)
 - index layer NDWI 'NDWI_2023' (S2A_Green, S2A_NIR)
 - index layer SAVI 'SAVI_2023' (S2A_NIR, S2A_Red)
 - UNSUPERVISED CLASSIFICATION**
 - unsupervised classification (ISODATA): [DEM_SRTM, S2A_Blue, S2A_Green, S2A_NIR, S2A_PCA_1, S2A_PCA_2, S2A_PCA_3, S2A_PCA_4, S2A_Red] -> SN_2023e (num iterations=35,max clusters=15, min cluster size=50)
 - export image to ExportImage
 - CREATE OR UPDATE GENERIC CLASSES**
 - 15x: create/update class "<auto>"[-,superclass=,group=-,rgb=-1,-1,-1,scope=Global]
 - MULTI-THRESHOLD SEGMENTATION**
 - delete 'New Level'
 - 15x: multi-threshold: creating 'New Level': Class.104 <= 1 < Class.105 <= 2 < Class.106 <= 3 < Class.107 <= 4 < Class.108 <= 5 < Class.109 <= 6 < Class.110 <= 7 < Class.111 <= 8 < Class.112 <= 9 < Class.113 <= 10 < Class.114 <= 11 < Class.115 <= 12 < Class.11
 - ASSIGN CLASSES**
 - Class.106 at New Level: Closed-vegetation
 - Class.111 at New Level: Ecotone
 - Class.107 at New Level: Open-vegetation
 - Class.105 at New Level: NoData
 - Class.114 at New Level: Artisanal Small-scale Mine
 - Class.113 at New Level: Bare Soil
 - Class.110 at New Level: Water Bodies
 - Class.109 at New Level: Burn Scars
 - Class.112 at New Level: Development
 - Class.104 at New Level: Other
 - Class.108 at New Level: Roads
 - Class.115 at New Level: Large-scale Mine
 - Class.116 at New Level: Mine Tailing Ponds
 - Class.117, Class.118 at New Level: Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine
 - REFINE**
 - manual classification (brush: 5) Water Bodies -> Burn Scars
 - Artisanal Small-scale Mine, Bare Soil, Burn Scars, Closed-vegetation, Development, Ecotone, Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine, Large-scale Mine, Mine Tailing Ponds, NoData, Open-vegetation, Roads, Water Bodies at New Level: merge region
 - Closed-vegetation with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Ecotone with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Open-vegetation with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Bare Soil with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Burn Scars with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Development with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Roads with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Water Bodies with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Large-scale Mine with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Mine Tailing Ponds with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Artisanal Small-scale Mine with Area <= 10 Pxl at New Level: remove objects (merge by shape)
 - Artisanal Small-scale Mine, Bare Soil, Burn Scars, Closed-vegetation, Development, Ecotone, Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine, Large-scale Mine, Mine Tailing Ponds, NoData, Open-vegetation, Roads, Water Bodies at New Level: merge region
 - EXPORT**
 - at New Level: export object shapes to SN_2023_Classification

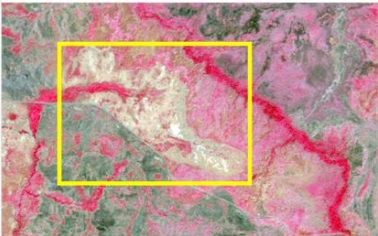
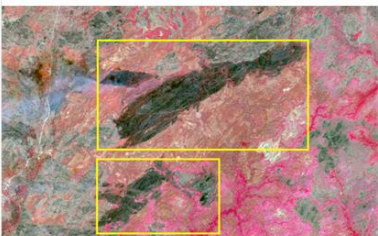
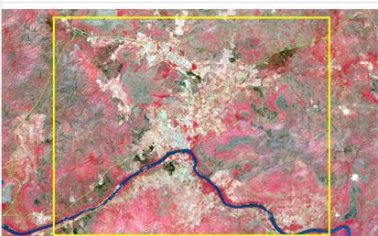
1. Preprocessing indices.
2. Run unsupervised classification. This can take 20 to 30 minutes.
3. Create /Update Generic Classes.
4. Run Multi-threshold Segmentation. This creates the number of clusters (or classes) you assign.
5. Assign classes.
6. Refine the classification.
7. Export.



Methodology

eCognition Classification Key

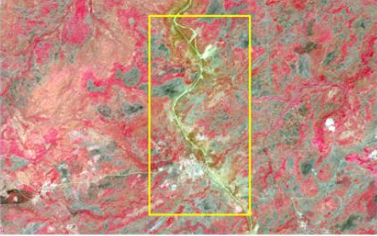
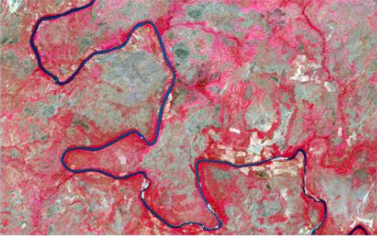

	Classification	Description	Imagery Examples in Infrared	Scale	1988	2000	2010	2023
1	Closed-vegetation (Gallery Forest)	"Closed and evergreen (e.g., gallery/riparian or thicket forest; hereafter "closed vegetation")" (Lindshield, et al., 2021).		1:38,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Ecotone	"A transitional "ecotone" category for vegetation that is neither mostly open nor mostly closed" (Lindshield, et al., 2021).		1:24,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Open-vegetation	"Open and deciduous (e.g., woodland, wooded grassland, and grassland; referred to as "open vegetation")" (Lindshield, et al., 2021).		1:38,000	✓	✓	✓	✓


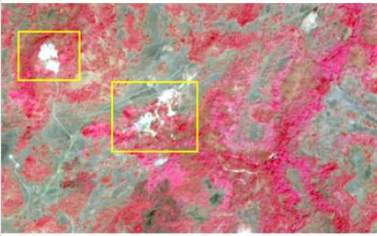

4	Bare Soil	Land with little or no vegetation cover exposing soil, and sandy areas (CILSS, 2016).		1:24,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Vegetation Degradation	"The temporary or permanent reduction in the density, structure, species composition or productivity of vegetation cover (Conacher & Sala, 1998). Such as burn scars after natural brush fires or those ignited to clear the land for agriculture. These can also be new or old burn scars and seasonally dry or dead vegetation (CILSS, 2016).		1:38,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Development	Settlements such as villages, towns, cities and local roads (CILSS, 2016).		1:38,000	✓	✓	✓	✓



Methodology

eCognition Classification Key

Classification	Description	Imagery Examples in Infrared	Scale	1988	2000	2010	2023
7	Roads Major roads.		1:24,000	X	X	X	✓
8	Water Bodies Areas with permanent or semi-permanent surface water such as the Gambia River and smaller waterways (CILSS, 2016).		1:38,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Large-scale Mine Open pit where gold is mined (CILSS, 2016).		1:38,000	X	X	X	✓

10	Mine Tailing Ponds	Structure or embankment that is built to retain gold mining waste or the byproduct of open pit mining such as fine-grained particles, waste water, arsenic and mercury (Adapted from Morrill, et al., 2020).		1:38,000	X	X	X	✓
11	Small-scale Artisanal Mine	Shallow-pocked mining locales usually near a water source where mineral extractions are mined from surface sand or gravel with little need for sophisticated tools (Allan, 2015).		1:15,000	X	✓	✓	✓
12	Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine	The intermediate-scale gold mine that is not as expansive as a large-scale mine but also not as small as an ASGM mine either. The intermediate-scale mine has more infrastructure than an ASGM and is adjacent to a village or town		1:24,000	✓	X	✓	✓
13	Other	Unidentified class or pixels, shadows, smoke, clouds, reflections of clouds in the water.	To be decided as needed.	X	X	X	X	
14	NoData	Frame border in eCognition.	To be decided as needed.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Class Count				8	9	10	13	



Methodology

eCognition Workspace

The screenshot displays the eCognition Developer workspace with the following components:

- Object Levels Panel:** A table for managing object levels with columns for Outline, Fill, and Opacity. It lists various layers such as S2A_Blue, S2A_Green, S2A_Red, S2A_NIR, and L8_SwIR_1.
- Image Layers Panel:** A list of image layers including S2A_PCA_1 through S2A_PCA_4, L8_PCA_1 through L8_PCA_6, and various NDVI and SAVI maps.
- Object Level Settings Panel:** A panel for configuring object level settings, including a list of available classes like 'unclassified', 'Closed-veget.', 'Ecotone', 'Open-vegetat.', 'Burn Scars', 'Development', 'Mine Tailing P.', 'Roads', 'Water Bodies', 'Artisanal Sma.', 'NoData', and 'Large-scale...'.
- Process Tree:** A hierarchical view of the processing workflow, including steps like PREPROCESSING, UNSUPERVISED CLASSIFICATION, CREATE OR UPDATE GENERIC CLASSES, MULTI-THRESHOLD SEGMENTATION, and ASSIGN CLASSES.
- Process Properties Panel:** A panel for configuring the 'assign class' algorithm, showing settings for Domain, Level, Class filter, Condition, Map, Region, Max. number of objects, Samples only, Algorithm parameters, and Loops & cycles.
- Class Hierarchy Panel:** A tree view of the classification classes, including 'Artisanal Small-scale Mine', 'Bare Soil', 'Burn Scars', 'Class.104', 'Class.105', 'Class.106', 'Class.107', 'Class.108', 'Class.109', 'Class.110', 'Class.111', 'Class.112', 'Class.113', 'Class.114', 'Class.115', 'Class.116', 'Class.117', 'Class.118', 'Closed-vegetation', 'Development', 'Ecotone', 'Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine', 'Large-scale Mine', 'Mine Tailing Ponds', 'NoData', 'Open-vegetation', 'Other', 'Roads', and 'Water Bodies'.
- Main View:** A central workspace showing a grid of image layers and a classification map.
- Status Bar:** Displays the current layer (New Level/1), zoom level (20%), and the number of objects (167.977).





Methodology

Post-processing in ArcGIS Pro

- Performed an **accuracy assessment** in ArcGIS Pro for the 2023 classification using stratified random sampling for 663 points.
- Performed a **change detection** analysis to track closed-vegetation (gallery forest) from 1988 to 2023.
- Last, the **presence-only prediction** tool in ArcGIS Pro was used to predict where the savanna chimpanzee habitat was suitable in 2023.

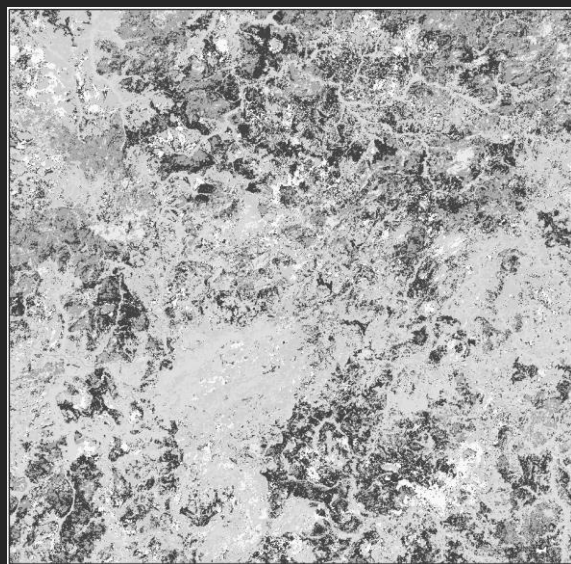


Video Credit: Jill D. Pruett

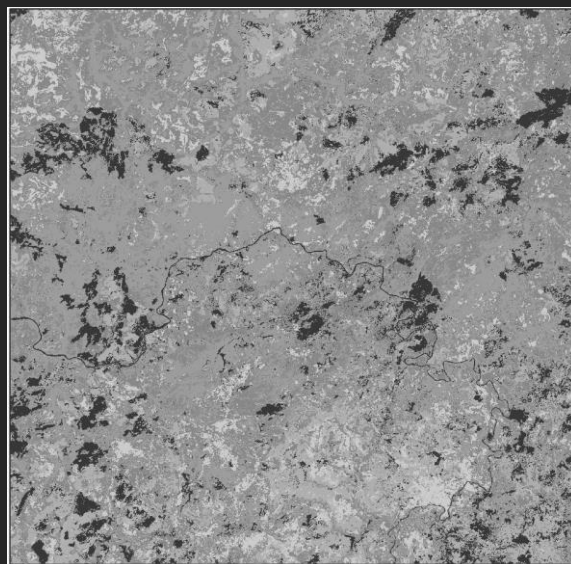


Results

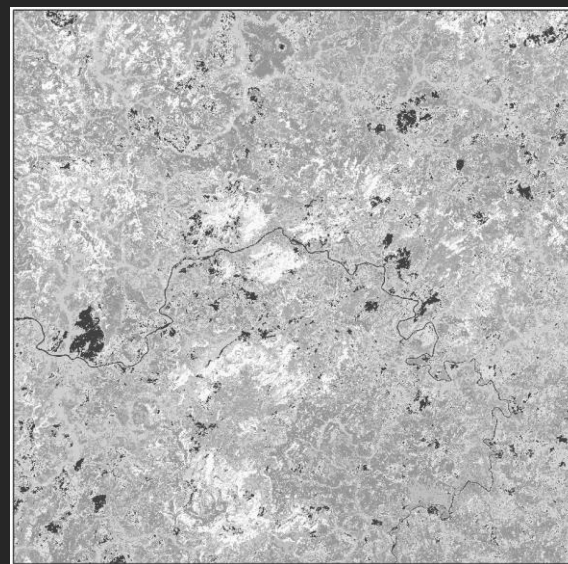
eCognition Unsupervised Classification
with Data Fusion for Each Year



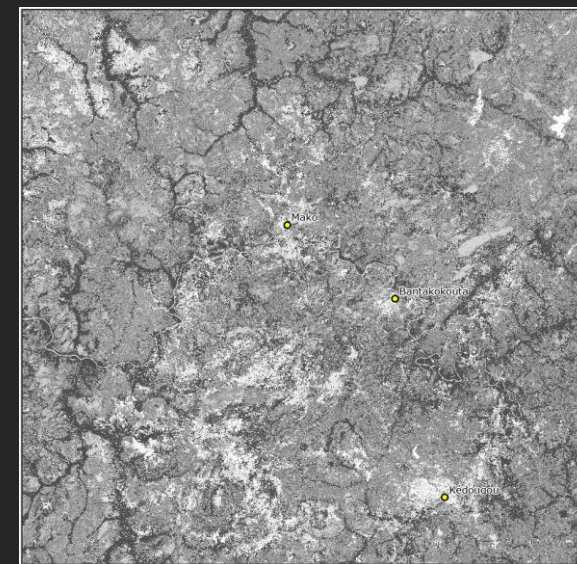
1988
30 meters



2000
15 meters



2010
30 meters



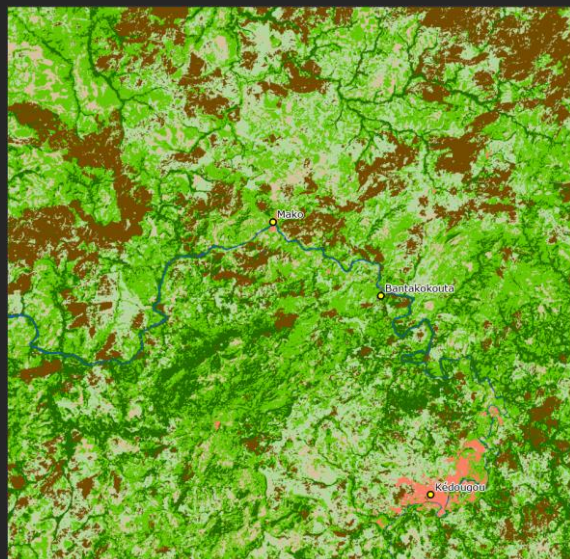
2023
10 meters





Results

eCognition Classification for the Area of Interest



1988



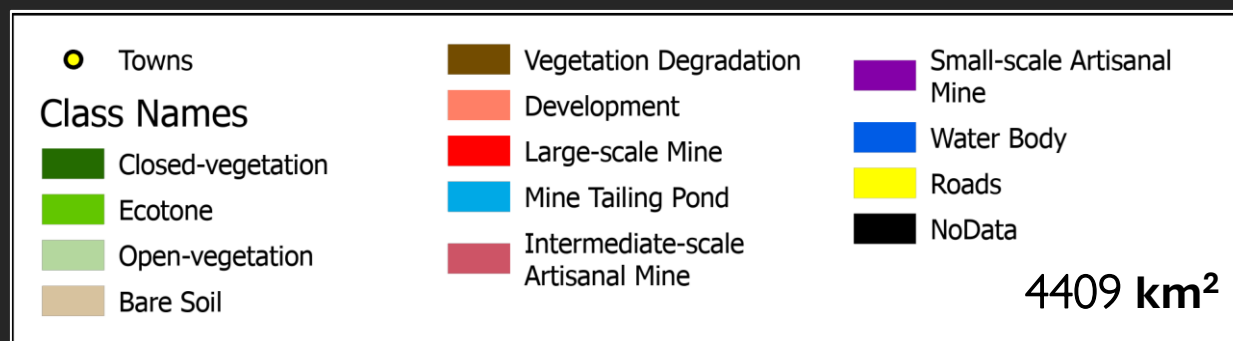
2000



2010



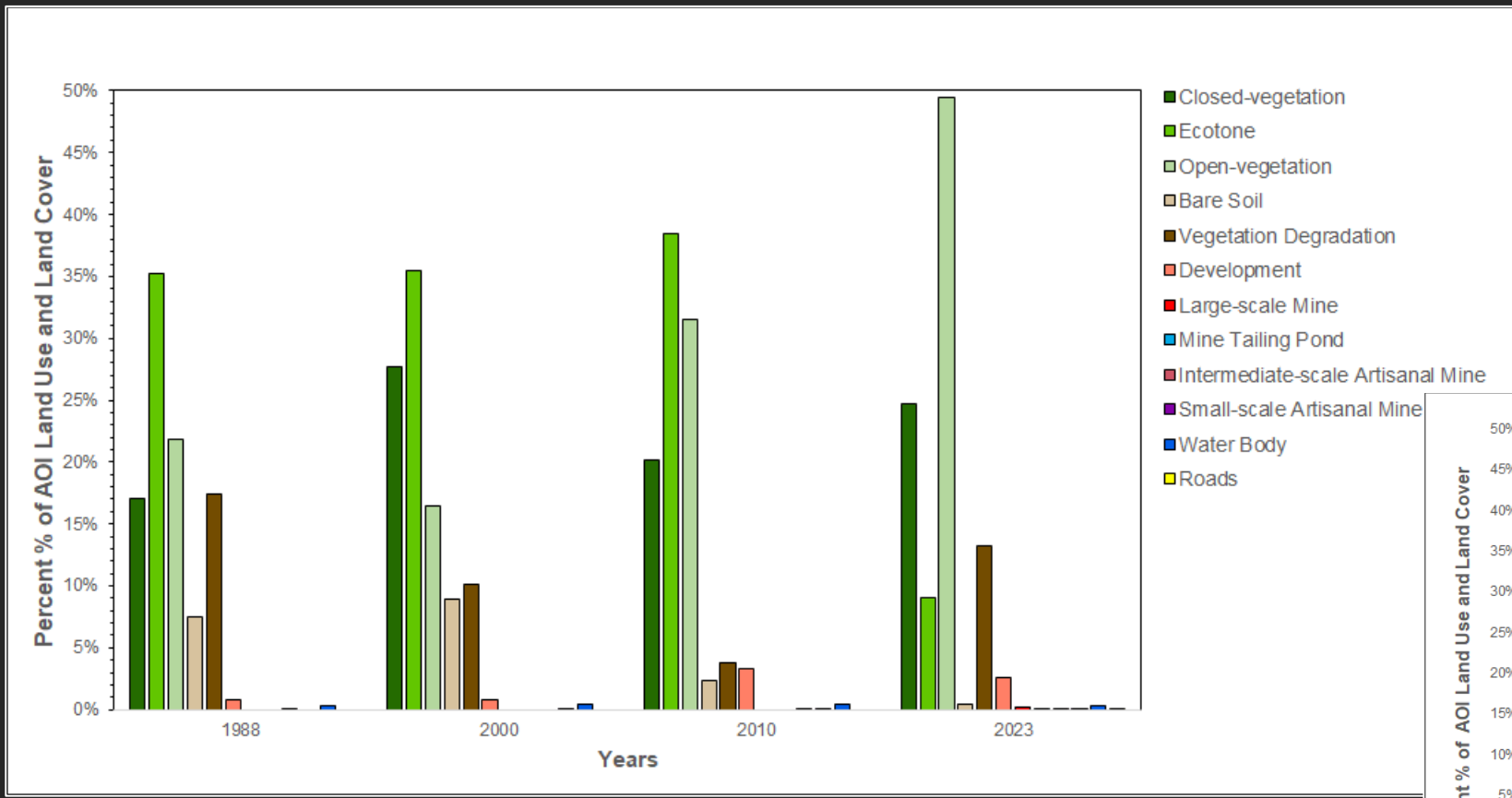
2023



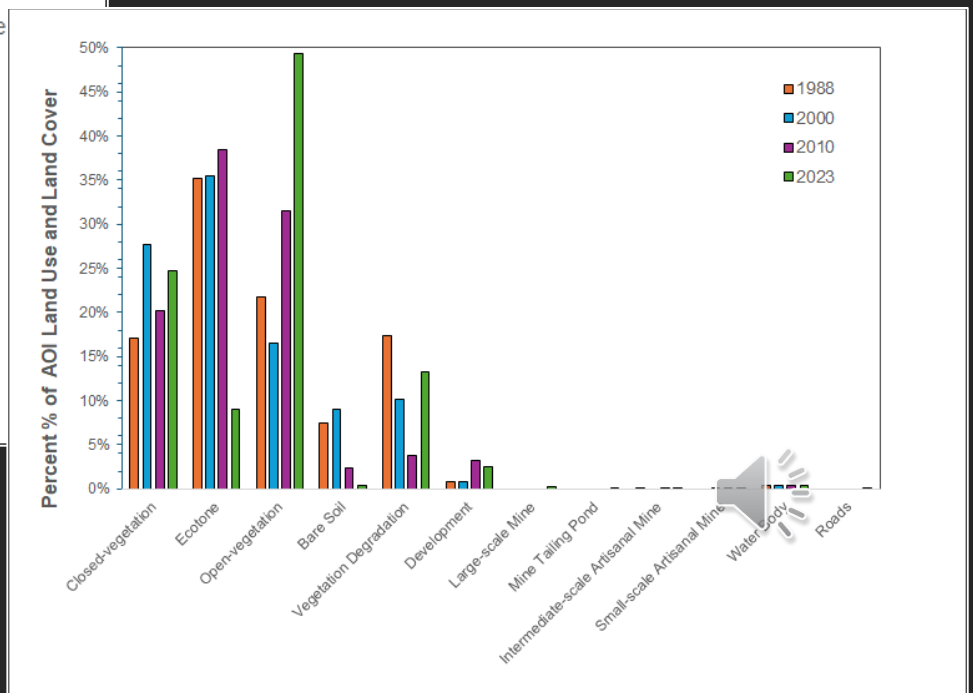


Results

eCognition Classification for the Area of Interest



- From 1988 to 2023, the LULC has shifted to predominately open-vegetation. Ecotone increased from 1988 to 2010; however, in only 13 years, from 2010 to 2023, the ecotone has dramatically declined, and closed-vegetation (Gallery Forests) has increased.

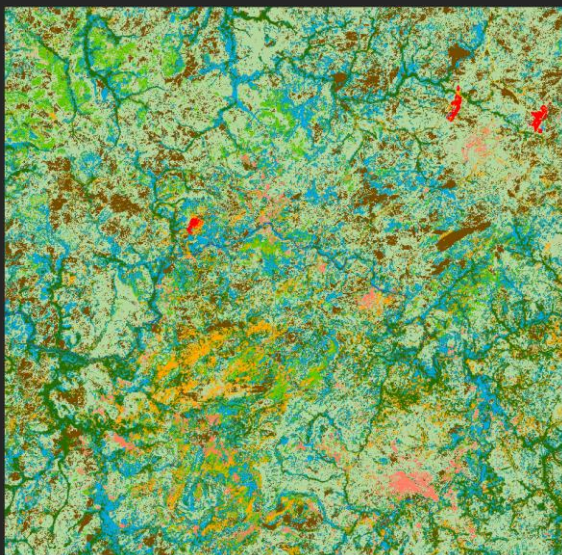


- This time interval from 2010 to 2023 corresponds with the gold mining boom in the study area.

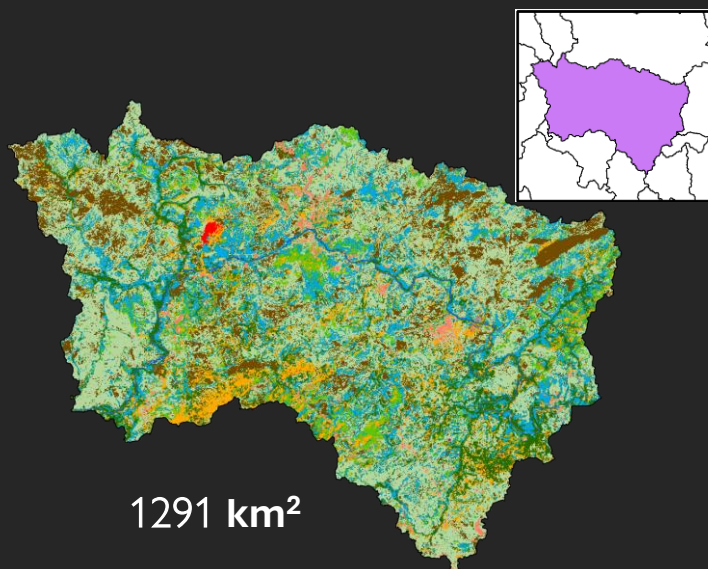


Results

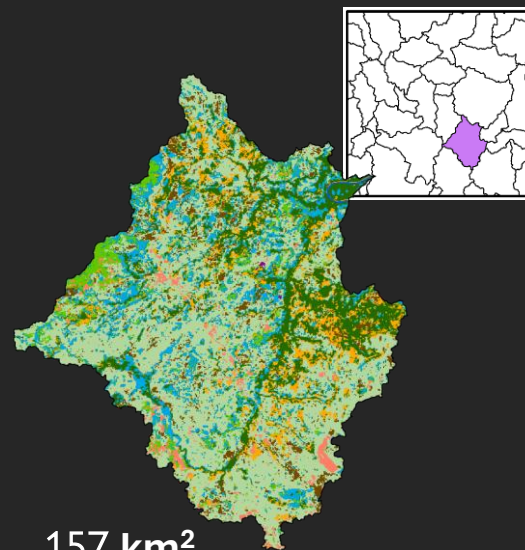
ArcGIS Pro Change Detection for 1988 to 2023



4409 km²



1291 km²



157 km²

Closed-vegetation Survey Scale	A No Change from 1988 to 2023 Color Code: Forest Green	B LULC from 1988 to Closed-vegetation in 2023 (Added) Color Code: Morea Blue	C Closed-vegetation from 1988 to LULC in 2023 (Subtracted) Color Code: Electron Gold	A + B = 2023 Total km ²	A + C = 1988 Total km ²	Closed-vegetation Gain/Loss from 1988 to 2023
AOI Change from 1988 to 2023	443	642	267	1,086	710	376
Subregional Change from 1988 to 2023	121	205	102	327	223	103
Local Change from 1988 to 2023	24	21	14	44	37	7

Change Designation

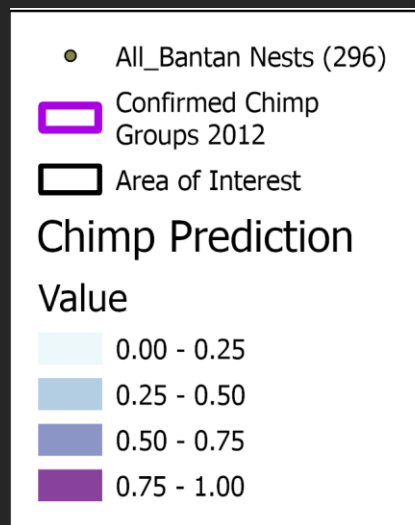
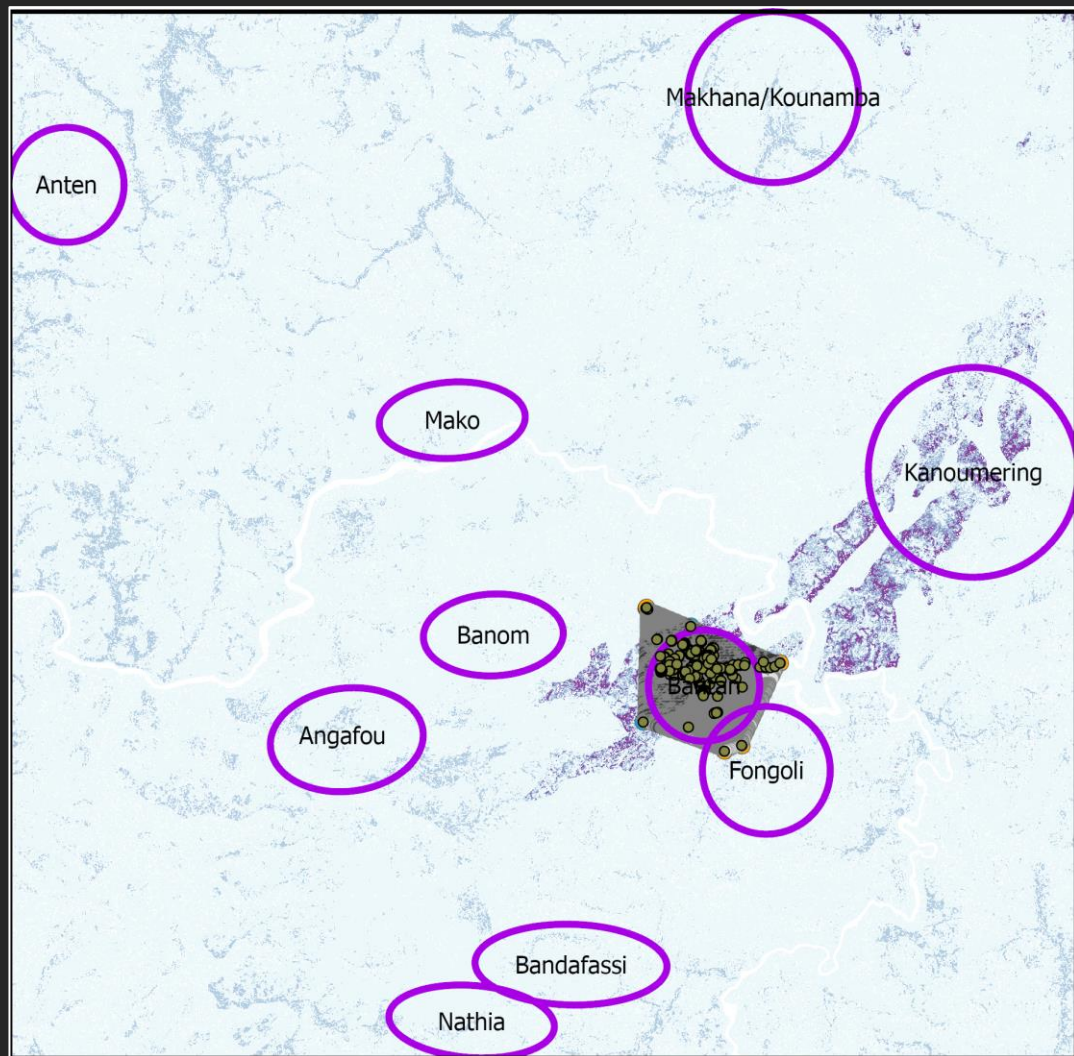
- Bare Soil->Closed-vegetation
- Closed-vegetation->Bare Soil
- Closed-vegetation->Closed-vegetation
- Closed-vegetation->Development
- Closed-vegetation->Ecotone
- Closed-vegetation->Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mine
- Closed-vegetation->Large-scale Mine
- Closed-vegetation->Mine Tailing Ponds
- Closed-vegetation->Open-vegetation
- Closed-vegetation->Roads
- Closed-vegetation->Small-scale Artisanal Mine
- Closed-vegetation->Water Body
- Ecotone->Closed-vegetation
- Intermediate-Scale Artisanal Mine->Closed-vegetation
- Open-vegetation->Closed-vegetation
- Vegetation Degradation->Closed-vegetation
- Water Body->Closed-vegetation

The change detection gain and loss for closed-vegetation at the three different scales.



Results

ArcGIS Pro Presence-only Prediction for 2023



- AUC = 0.8242, Omission Rate = 0.2748
- Applied 296 opportunistic chimpanzee nesting points, and the model used 262, and *190 classified as presence.
- Used the 2023 classified imagery, along with the 3 different soils tables, elevation, aspect, slope, the stream network, and roads from OpenStreetMap.
- It is interesting that it started to include the gallery forests surrounding the nest point cluster. If the points were distributed throughout the area, it may have shown more habitat.

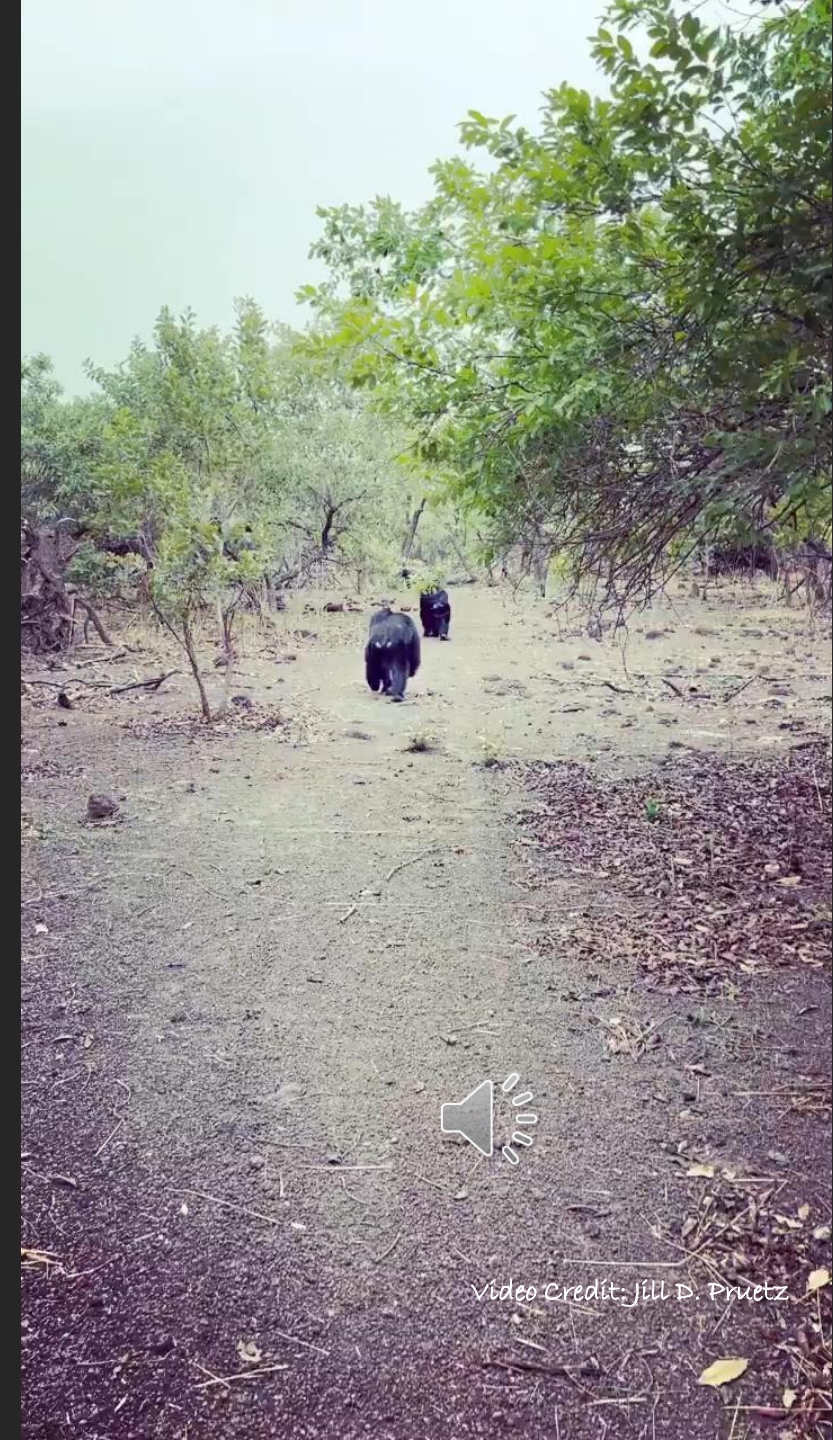


* Edit for PDF the correct value is 190.



Lessons Learned

- It's important to remember that all chimpanzees, including the savanna chimpanzee, are dependent on trees for their habitat. This fundamental fact should guide research and conservation efforts.
- The unsupervised classification results were very encouraging. The gallery forests were always the most accessible and most robust cluster to classify. Ecotone is harder.
- Classification should be a two-person job, at the very least, that includes the remote sensing analyst and a partner with intimate knowledge of the area.
- eCognition is a powerful tool. I suspect the PCA is doing the heavy lifting in the data fusion.
- The data fusion works best when the products are made from the same sensor.
- In the future, I recommend building your own indices outside of eCognition's collection of algorithms. Their NDWI uses the green band to highlight waterbodies but the green is also sensitive to built-up land like burn scars. This gave me difficulties.
- An up-to-date digital elevation model in this study area would be life-changing. 😊



Video Credit: Jill D. Pruett



References and Resources

Boyer Ontl, K. M. (2017). Chimpanzees in the Island Of Gold: Impacts of artisanal small-scale gold mining on chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) in Fongoli, Senegal (Doctoral dissertation). Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University.

Diallo, D., Ndiaye, P. I., Badji, L., & Pruetz, D. J. (2024). Savannah chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) nesting behavior in the unprotected area of Tikankali near to a mining exploitation and the Niokolo Koba National Park in Senegal. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 12(1228373).

Ndiaye, Y. H., Ndiaye, P. I., Lindshield, S. M., & Pruetz, J. D. (2024). Updating Chimpanzee Nesting Data at Mount Assirik (Niokolo Koba National Park, Senegal: Implications for Conservation. *Animals*, 14(553).

Gold Price Tracker:

<https://goldbroker.com/widget/historical/XAU?height=500¤cy=USD>

Google Earth Timelapse for Kedougou, Senegal Mining and Development from 1984 to 2022:

https://byclaudette.com/MGIS_assets/Timelapse.html

Mako Gold Mine: 12.85715,-12.3813

Bantakokouta Intermediate-scale Artisanal Mines: 12.76221,-12.22899

New Endeavor Mine: 12.964235, -12.098134

Sabodala Gold Mine: 13.197605,-12.114124

Copy and paste the coordinates into the search field, click Enter, set the speed to 1x, and then press Play.

MODIS LST Tutorial:

MODIS Land Surface Temperature (LST) Annual Timeseries using Earth Engine by Spatial eLearning.

<https://youtu.be/0ASsr6Hj6NU?si=VHDrmLcHqpeRz1RV>

CHIRPS Precipitation Data Tutorial:

Download Climate Data (Rainfall) from 1981-2022 using Earth Engine API by Spatial eLearning.

<https://youtu.be/TcpG6SbUiYU?si=IFV7KzxpfbJn7hTX>





Questions?

Thank you!

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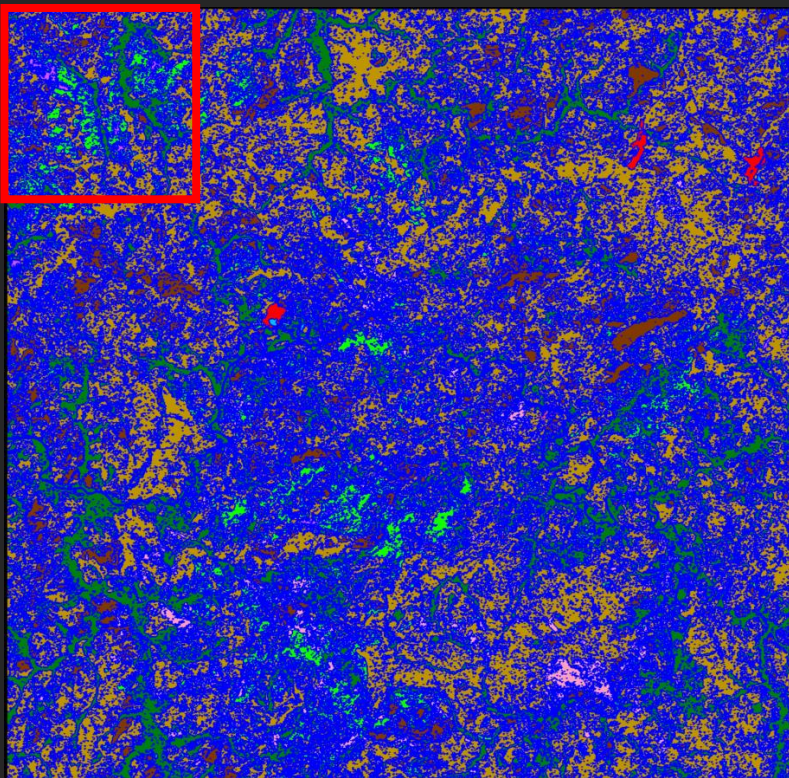


Video Credit: Jill D. Pruett

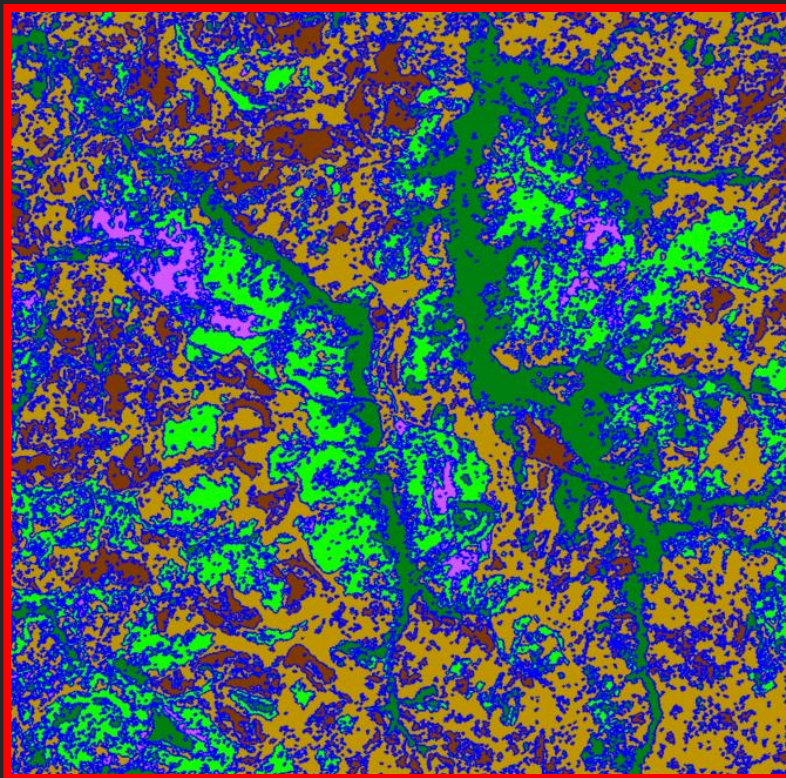


Bonus Slide

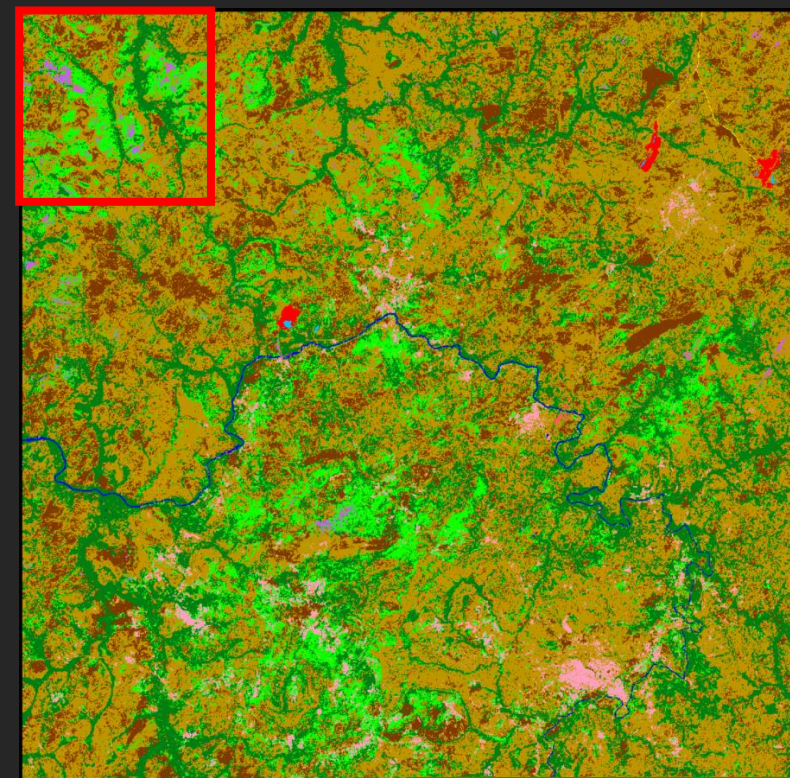
If you are interested in seeing the segmentation results



The vector results after running the multi-threshold segmentation algorithm in eCognition for 10-meter resolution (2023).



An up-close view of the segmentation results.



Results after classification and refinement steps.

