

## Change in the Subtropical Forest Cover of Paraguay During the 1990s

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Investigations of changes in forest cover in South America have typically focused on the tropics. But, much of the rapid deforestation in the 1990s occurred in subtropical regions such as in Paraguay. The Rio Paraguay bisects the country into two distinct ecological regions. To the west are the dry woodlands of the Gran Chaco, while the humid subtropical Atlantic Forest of the Upper Parana is dominant in the east. All forest types are combined in the forest cover map shown here. The primary pattern of land use / land cover change in both regions is large scale conversion of forest agriculture.

This preliminary forest cover change map was derived from imagery acquired by the Landsat satellites. For 22 tiles, an ETM+ image from 1999-2001 was coregistered to an orthorectified TM image from 1989-1991. Both images were processed simultaneously to produce a forest cover map for that tile. The tiles were mosaicked together to produce the map shown here. The map has not yet been validated and is subject to revision.

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