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Conserving and creating habitats to protect biodiversity

Rainforest Alliance's Biodiversity Conservation approach

Fabián Calvo Romero, Biodiversity Conservation Manager, 20th May 2021

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Our vision is a world where people and nature thrive in harmony.

The Rainforest Alliance is an international non-profit organization working at the **intersection of business, agriculture and forests**.

Photo: Mohsin Kazmi

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Holistic approach

Regenerative and Climate Smart Agriculture as part of the solution

Vehicles to scale solutions

Shared responsibility

Impact investment

Sustainability Standards

Improved access to information, markets, finance

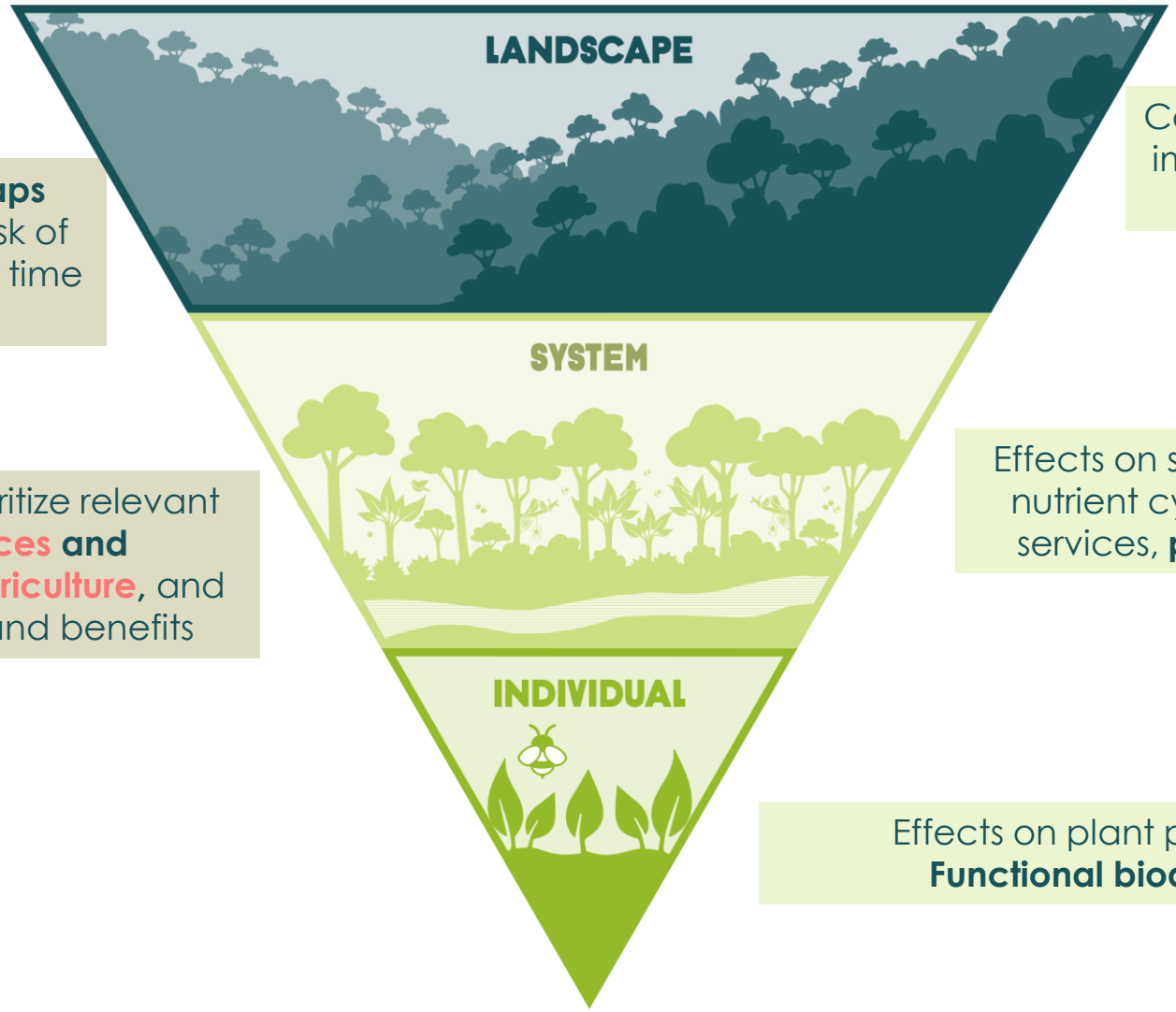
Capacity building

Research

Solutions

Climate impact maps understanding the risk of climate change over time (suitability)

Identify and prioritize relevant **CSA practices and Regenerative Agriculture**, and analyze costs and benefits



Implications

Conservation of globally important conservation values

Effects on soil health, water & nutrient cycling, ecosystem services, **plant productivity**

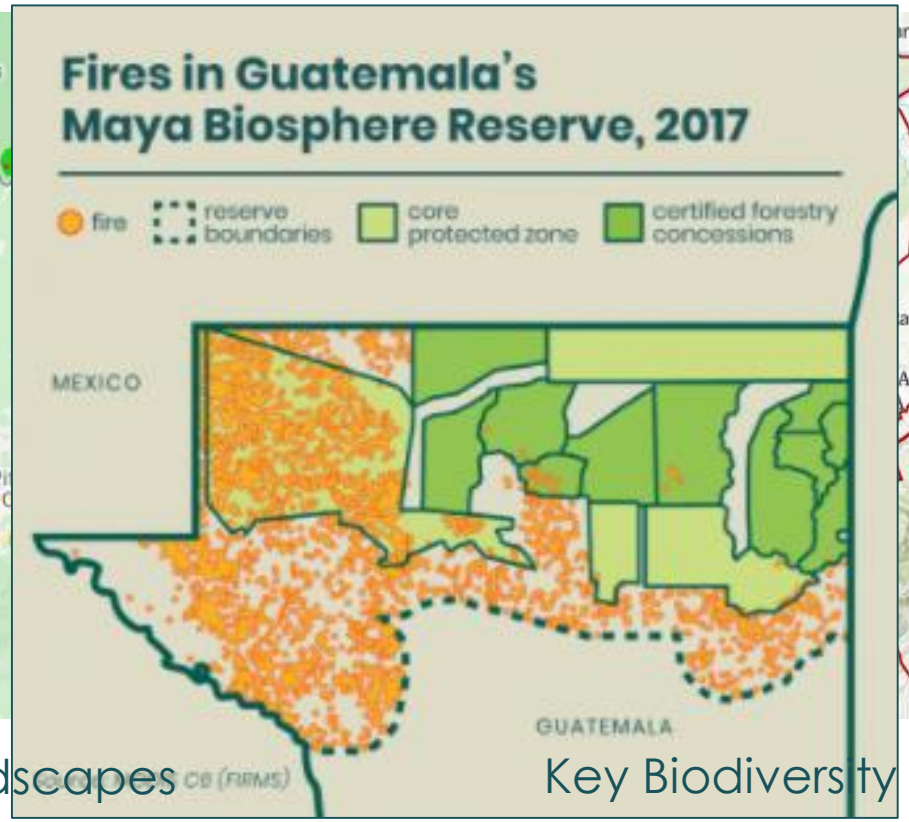
Effects on plant physiology
Functional biodiversity

What are the practices?

At landscape level:

- Landscape programs; Community Forest Management
- High Conservation Value Areas (HCV approach)

Intact Forest Landscapes



Key Biodiversity Areas

What are the practices?

deforestation-position-paper.pdf (rainforest-alliance.org)

At farm level:

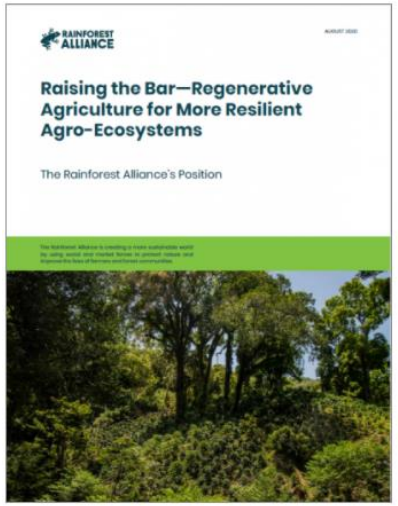
- No conversion of natural ecosystems (1st January 2014) or encroachment in protected areas.
- Farms have a minimum % of natural vegetation (10 or 15%)
- Protection of aquatic ecosystems
- No hunting
- Control of invasive species
- Human-wildlife conflicts

What are the practices?

At plot level

Regenerative agriculture practices such as:

- Soil management
- Diversification
- Integrated Pest Management
- No GMO use



https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/white-papers/raising-the-bar-regenerative-agriculture-for-more-resilient-agro-ecosystems

Pheromone traps to control coffee berry borer in Peru.

Shade trees help to prevent pests and diseases on crops by providing the right micro climate.

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Risk Maps: deforestation and production in protected areas

Cut-off date

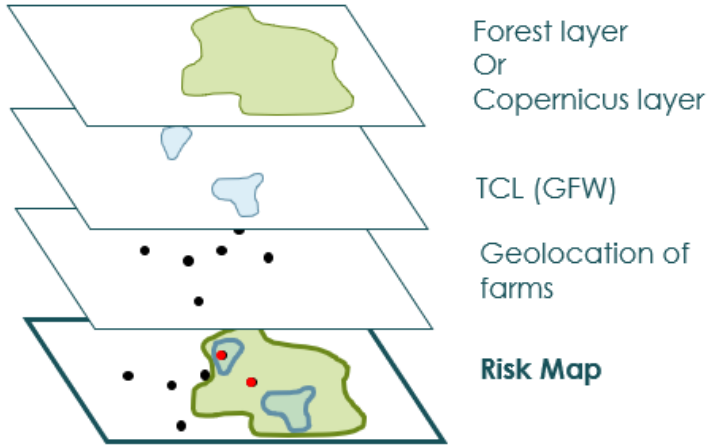
		S-farms	L-farms	Group mgt.	S/L
6.1.1	From January 1st 2014 onward, natural forests and other natural ecosystems have not been converted into agricultural production or other land uses. *Please see Annex S12: Additional Details on requirements for no-conversion*	✓	✓		✓

DEFORESTATION

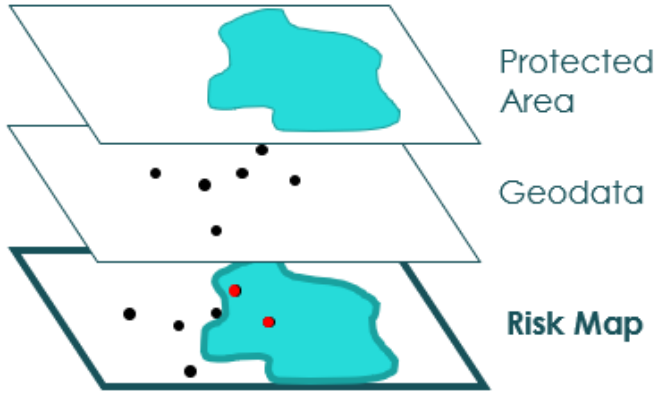
- PM UTZ and PM RA had different cut off dates.
- We chose **January 1st, 2014** as the cutoff date
  - One single cut-off date makes the requirement clearer
  - Robust data for improved data-driven assurance (**deforestation risk analysis**)
  - In one with market and sector commitments

How are geophysical risk maps made?

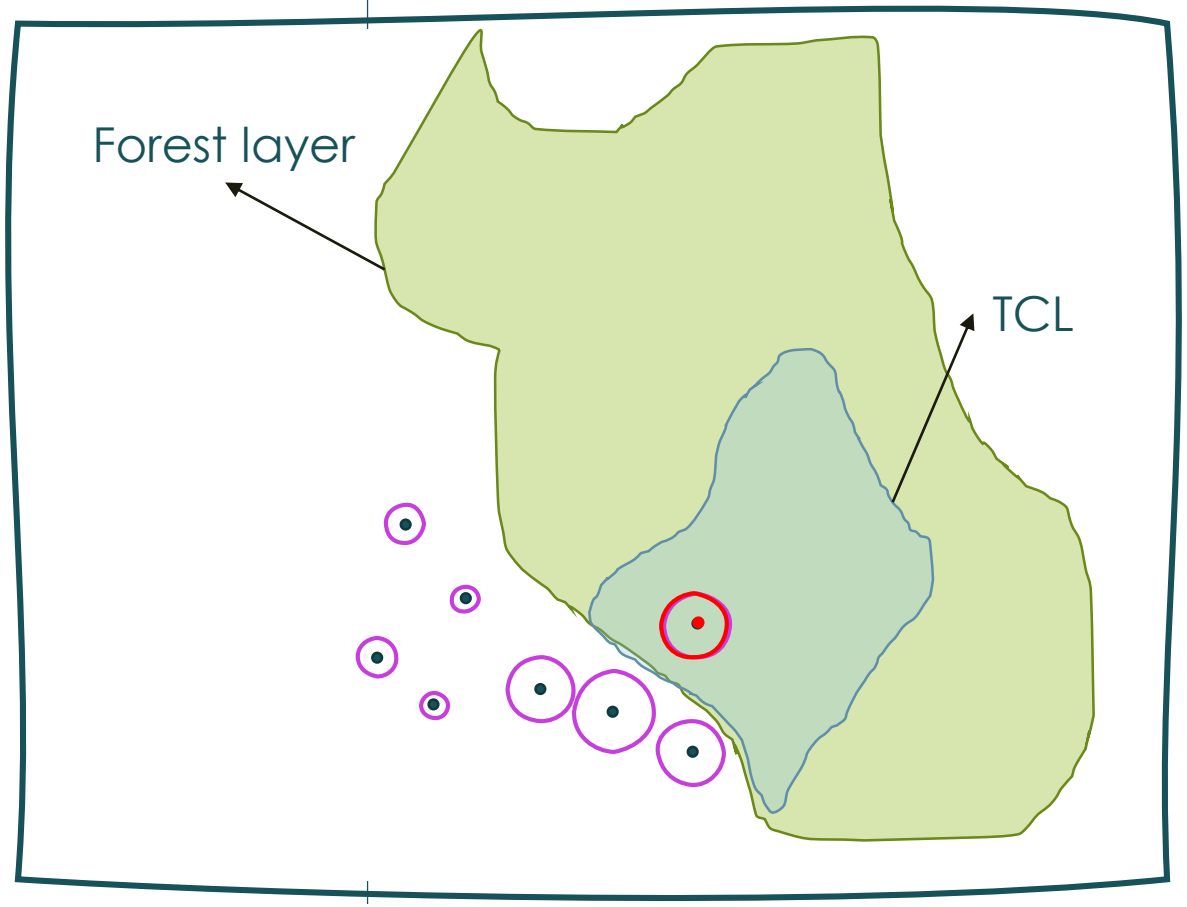
Deforestation Risk



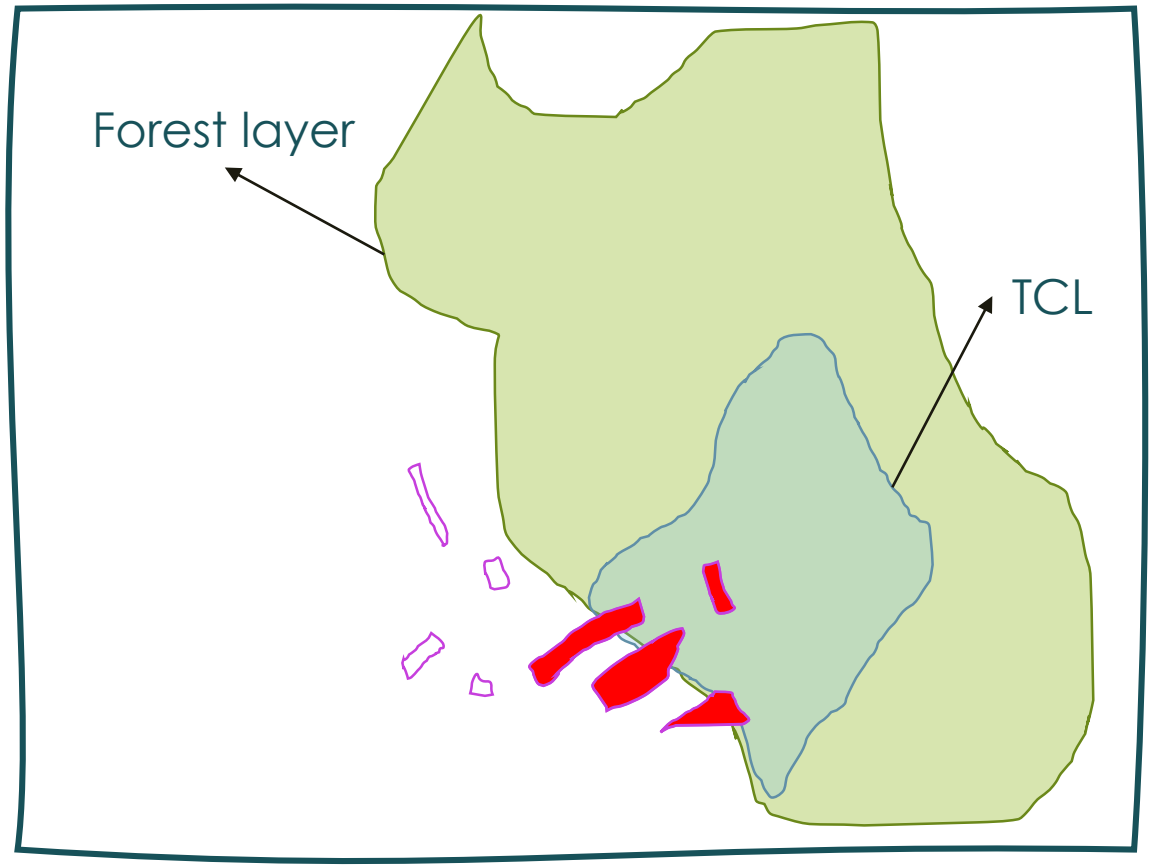
Risk of Encroachment into Protected Areas



Why are polygons so important?



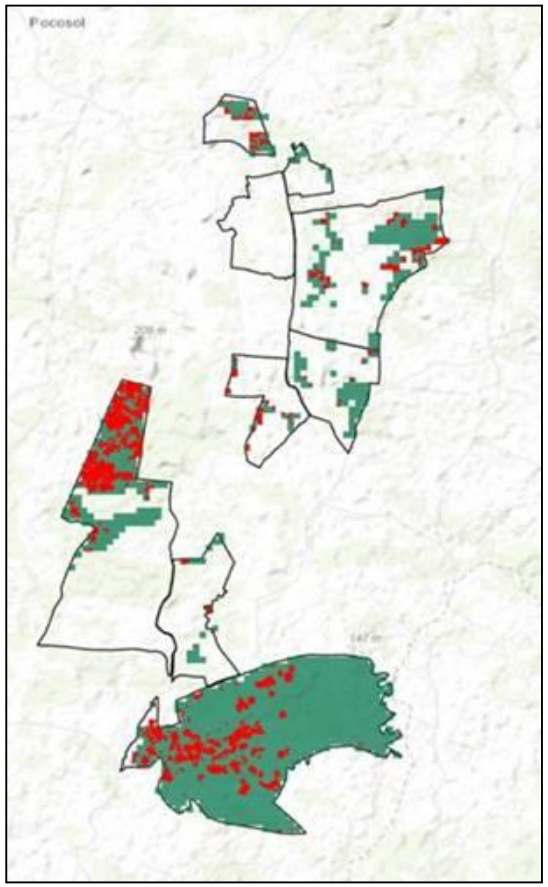
Location points



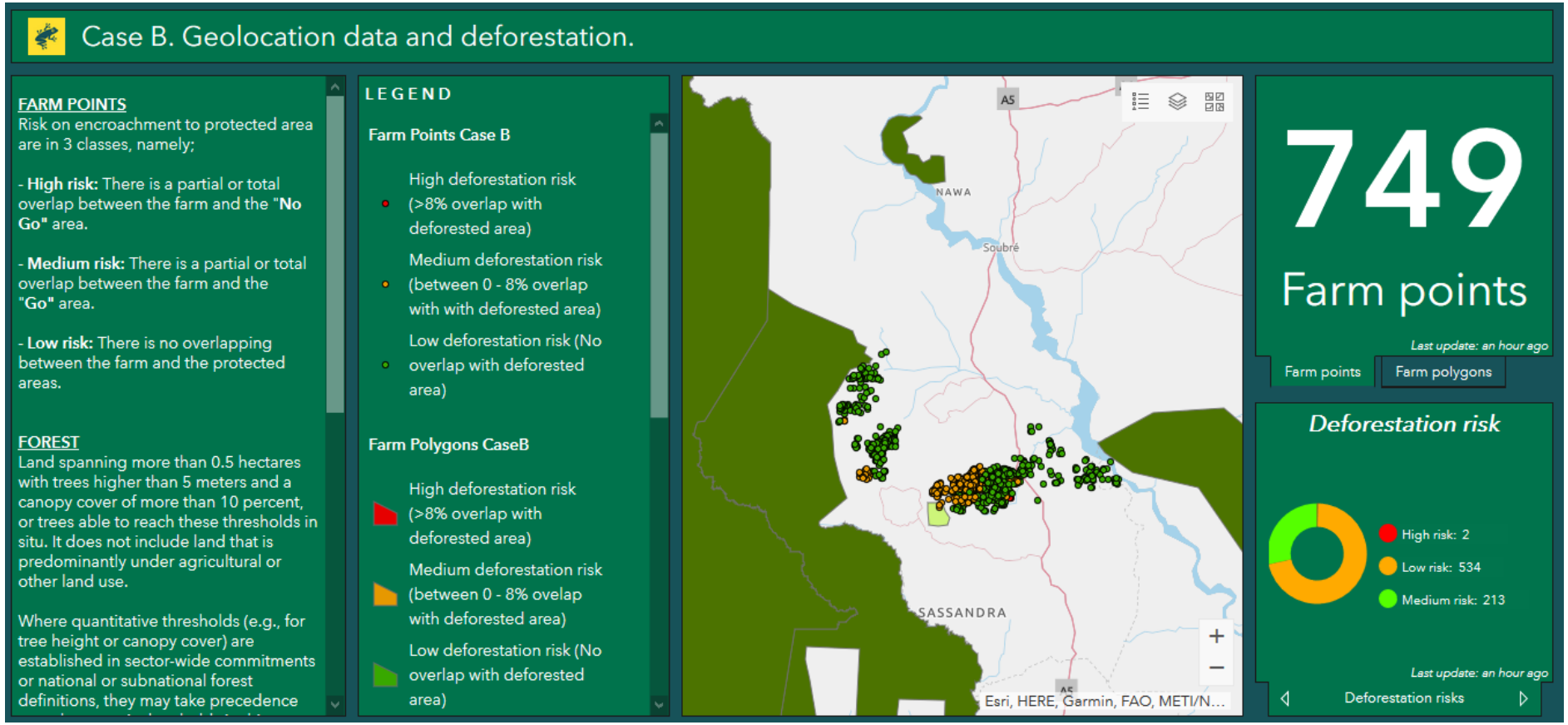
Polygons

Application

- We **potentially** identified a total area of 185 ha affected by deforestation in the last 5 years.



Dashboard example



Link to dashboard
https://ragis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ab5972d42f1941f0bd797a2743d84246

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