

HOW ARE LEVELS OF LIFE ORGANIZED?

Biosphere

↙
Biome

↙
Ecosystem

↙
Community

↙
Population

↙
Organism



Organism- any unicellular or multicellular form exhibiting all of the characteristics of life; an individual.



Population- a group of organisms of one species living in the same place at the same time that interbreed and compete with each other for resources (ex. food, mates, shelter)



Species- Members of a population that look alike and have the ability to produce fertile offspring



COMMUNITY-
Several interacting
populations that
inhabit a common
environment and are
interdependent.

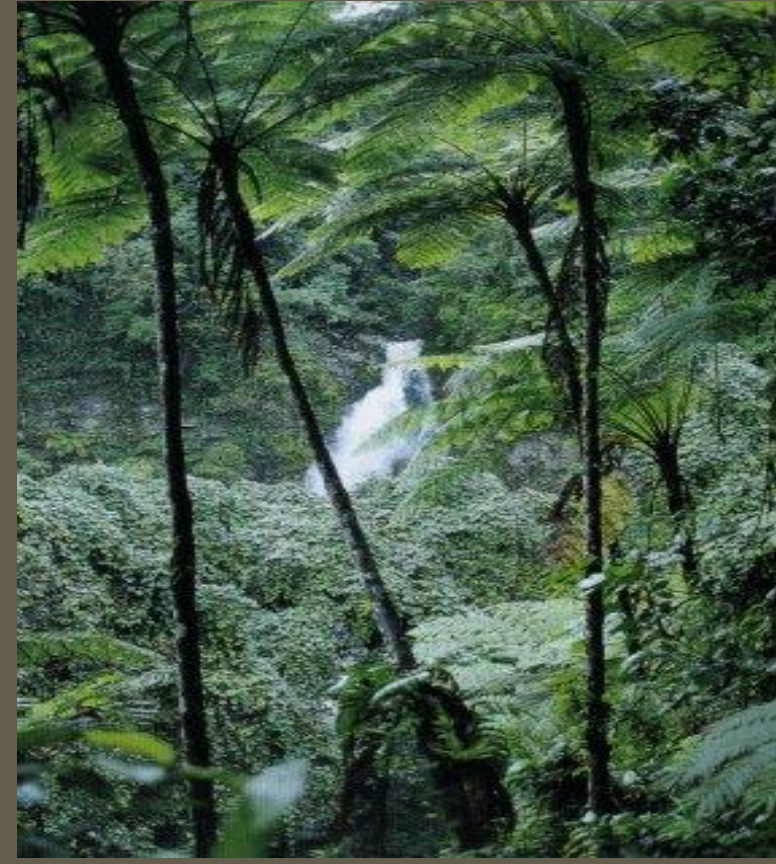


Ecosystem- populations in a community and the abiotic factors with which they interact

Marine



Terrestrial



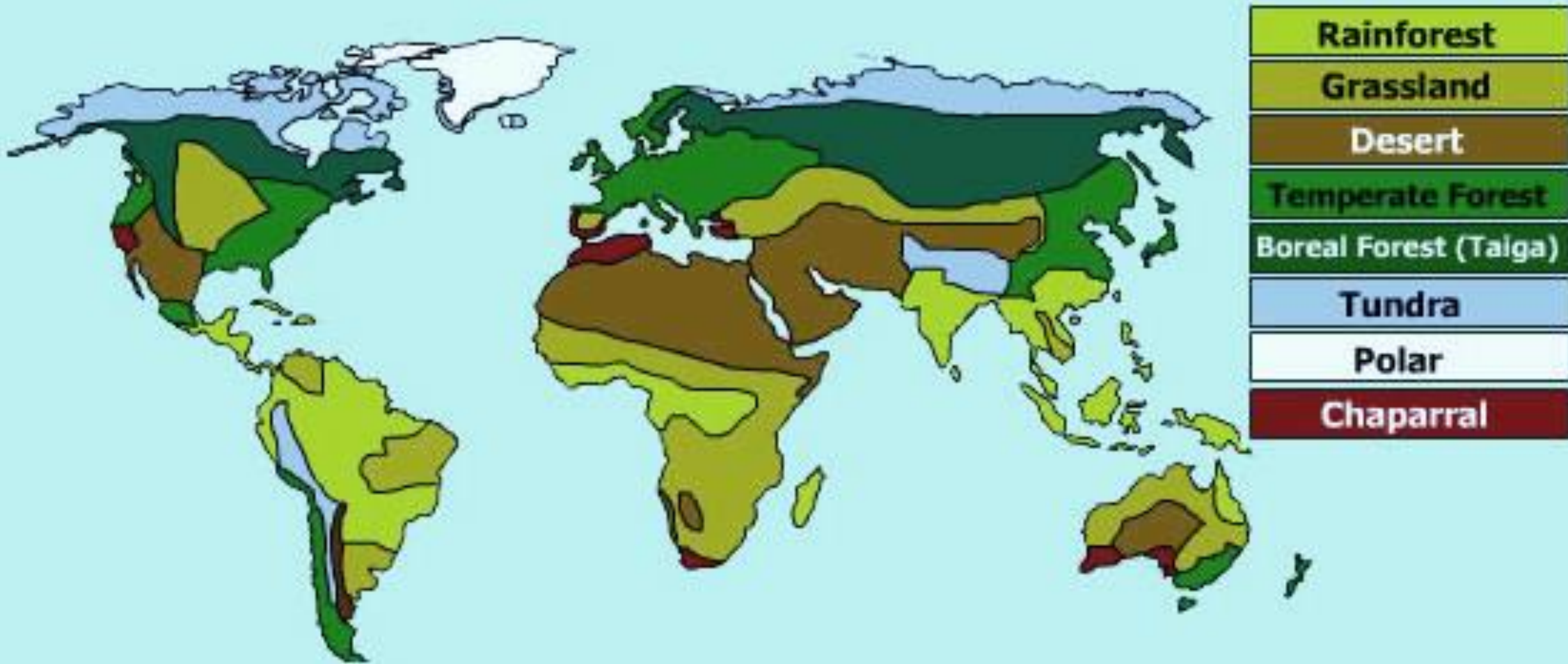
ECOSYSTEM= BIOTIC + ABIOTIC FACTORS

- Ecosystem boundaries are not always obvious. *They depend on how the ecosystem is being studied.*

Example - a single rotting log on the forest floor vs. the entire forest itself.

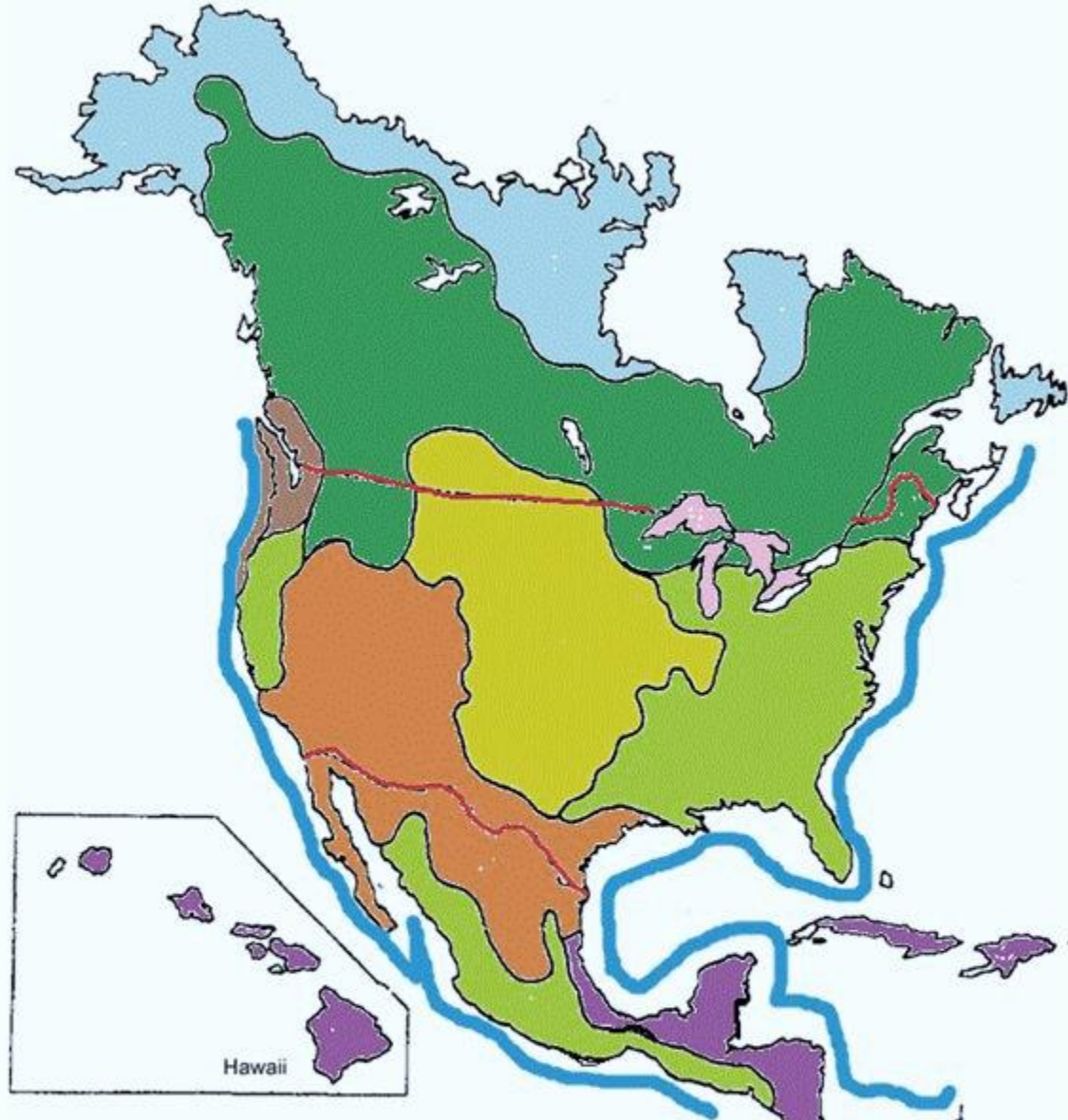
Biomes- groups of related terrestrial or marine ecosystems

Example: rainforest, grassland, desert, tundra



Biodiversity - The variety of species living within an ecosystem, biome or planet.





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|-------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Tundra |  | Deciduous Forest |  | Grassland |  |
| Desert |  | Tropical Rain Forest |  | Salt Water |  |
| Fresh Water |  | Temperate Rain Forest |  | Coniferous Forest |  |



SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD HAVE
GREATER BIODIVERSITY THAN OTHERS