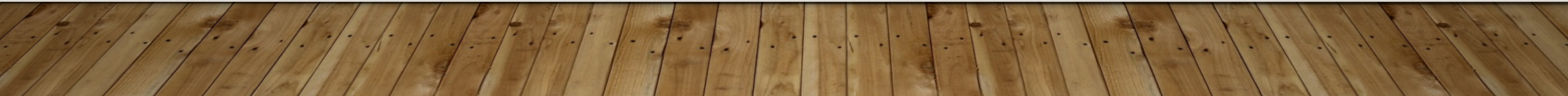


# *THE DIVERSITY, EXTENT AND STATUS OF PRIMARY FORESTS IN CHINA AND ON THEIR IMPORTANCE FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION*

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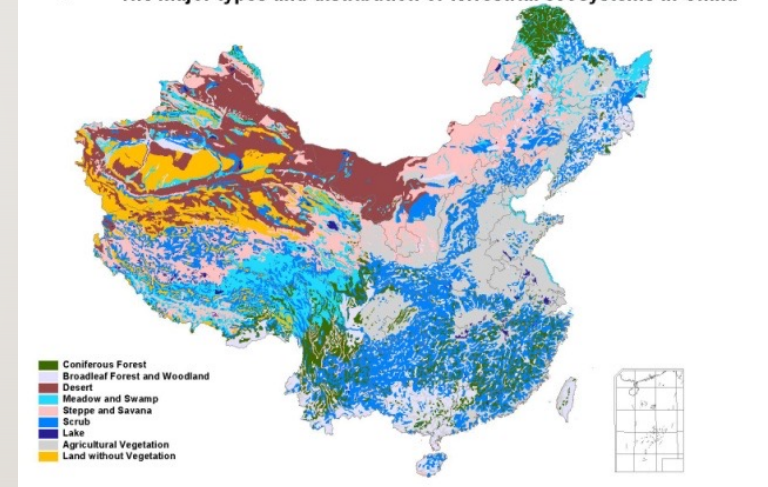
- *Diversity,*
- *Extent*
- *Status of primary forests in China*
- *The importance for biodiversity conservation*

# THE DIVERSITY OF PRIMARY FOREST IN CHINA

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- *China's vast territory, diverse climate and rich geomorphic types, provide a variety of habitats for the formation and development of various biological and ecosystem types. The relatively superior natural historical and geographical conditions of the tertiary and quaternary provide the possibility for the development of biodiversity in China. The forest ecosystem of China can be divided into coniferous forest, broad-leaved forest, bamboo forest and shrub ecosystem. Coniferous forest can be divided into cold temperate coniferous forest, temperate coniferous forest, temperate coniferous broad-leaved mixed forest, warm coniferous forest and hot coniferous forest ecosystem; broad-leaved forest can be further subdivided into deciduous broad-leaved forest, evergreen deciduous broad-leaved mixed forest, evergreen broad-leaved forest, hard leaf evergreen broad-leaved forest, seasonal rain forest, rainforest and coral Island evergreen forest.*

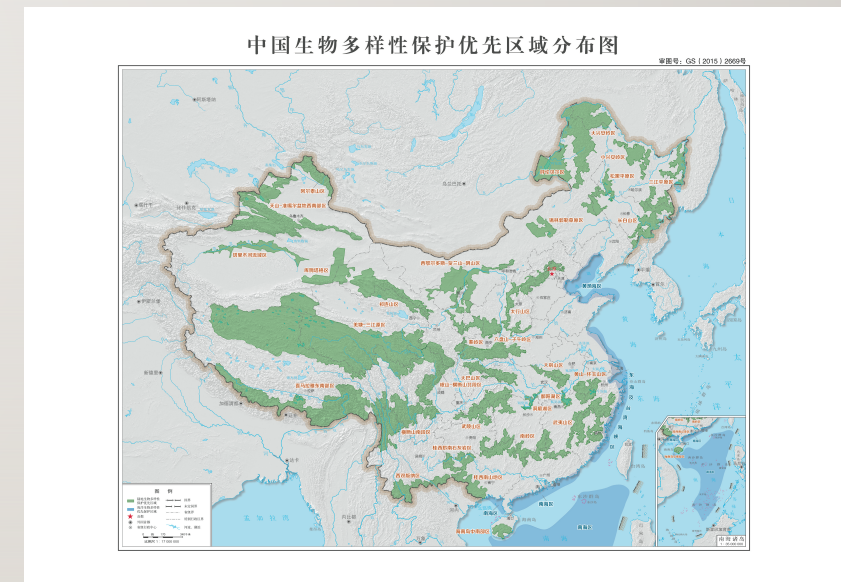
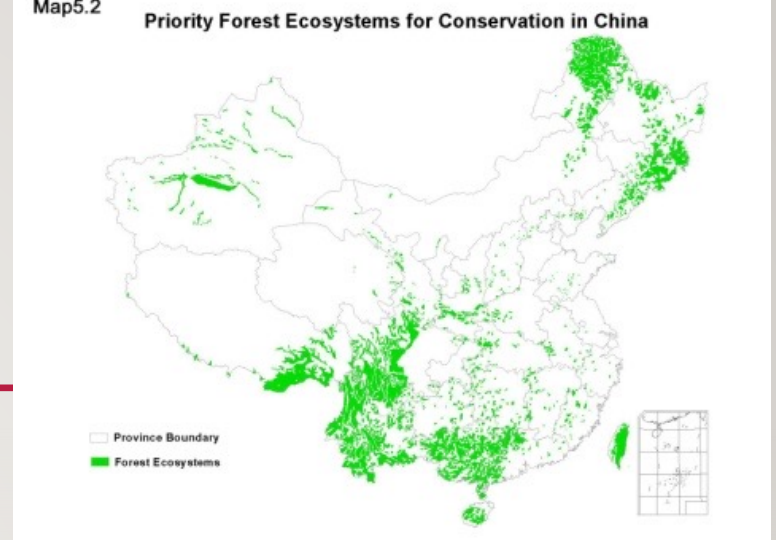
Map1.1 The major types and distribution of terrestrial ecosystems in China





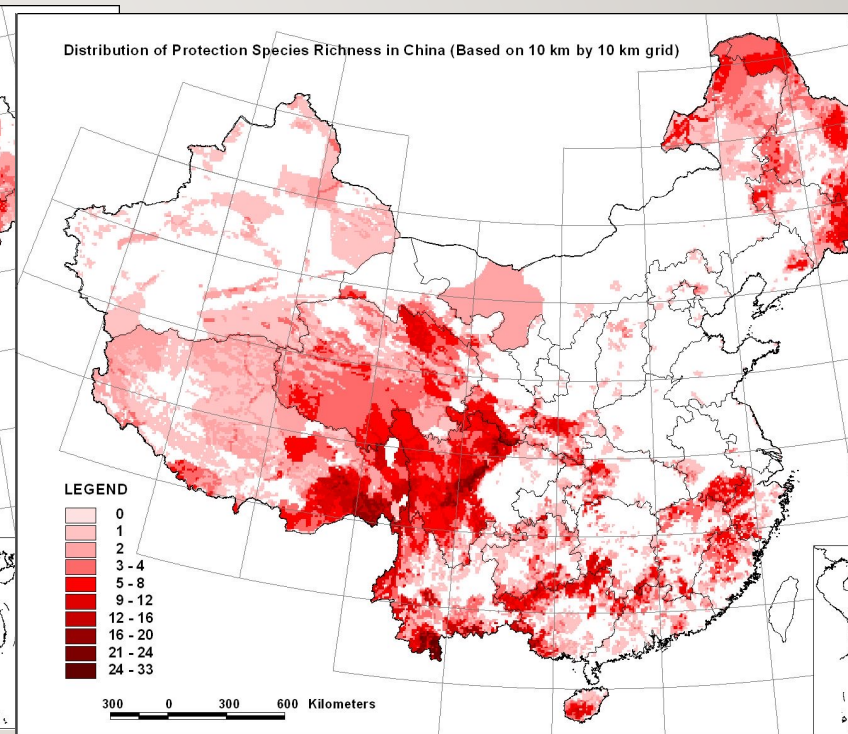
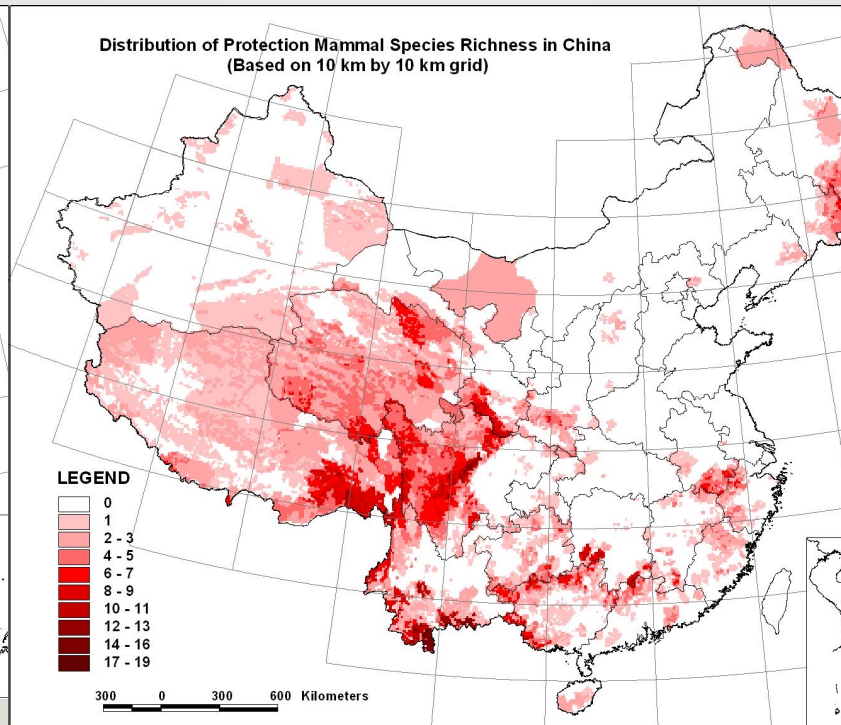
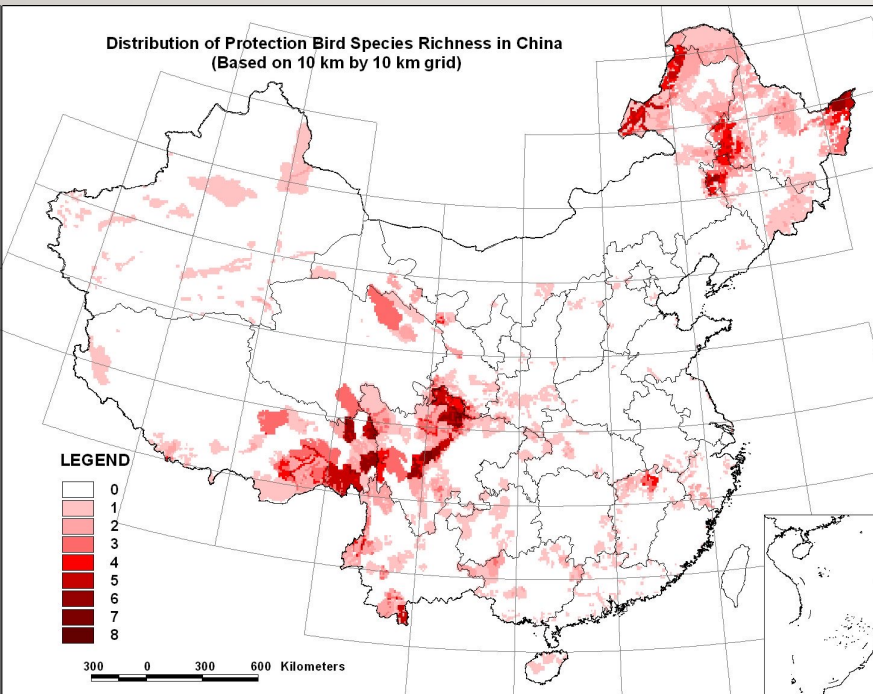
# EXTENT OF PRIMARY FOREST

- China's natural forests have been excessively damaged due to large-scale logging in the past, leaving few virgin forests. At present, China's undisturbed forests account for only 2% of China's forest area. The most concentrated areas are the large and small Xing'an Mountains, Qinba Mountains and Hengduan Mountains. Other relatively concentrated areas include the mountains at the junction of Hunan, Guizhou, Hubei and Chongqing, Changbai Mountains, Altai Mountains in Xinjiang, the mountains at the junction of Fujian, Zhejiang, Jiangxi and Anhui, the mountains in the middle and south of Hainan, the limestone areas in the southwest of Guangxi and Xishuangbanna And Nanling Mountain. Hengduan Mountain area is an obvious center of species distribution and differentiation. It is also one of the 25 hotspots of global species protection proposed by Mayer Myers et al., 2000), indicating that forest ecosystem provides a rich and diverse habitat for animal and plant species, and the protection of forest ecosystem is of great significance for the protection of biodiversity.





# THE IMPORTANCE FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION



# THE IMPORTANCE FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

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- *The ecological location of the primary forest region is extremely important, the ecological condition is extremely fragile, the natural restoration ability of vegetation is extremely weak, and the endemic rare and endangered species are enriched, which has a very important impact on the national ecological security, biodiversity protection and the sustainable development*

