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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The potential for this work goes beyond the science community as it shows an example of how NASA Earth observations are making it possible for conservationists to act in near real time in addressing deforestation. This data can be used by scientists and lay audiences to inform their decision making process for land management, monitoring, and planning. While global data sets on Earth's land cover have been available for years, this effort to quantify and visualize deforestation with stakeholders has great potential for increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts. In the area of interest, Chiribiquete, Colombia, this data and conservation efforts by the Amazon Conservation Team in the region have been influential in the recent expansion of Chiribiquete National Park. In 2018 the Colombian government announced the expansion of the park by roughly 50% to be the largest National Park in the Amazon basin. Using Earth observations to detect areas of forest loss and high resolution imagery to identify the type of land cover change can be leveraged to inform decision makers of issues in near real time. This work has the potential to influence the scientific community to think about next steps for the data they create and ways to connect with end users. NASA's free archive of Landsat data made the Hansen Global Forest Change product possible which in turn has made near real time forest monitoring a reality. Earth observations are being used in the Amazon forest to make a positive difference, maintaining forest corridors and protecting the indigenous groups within them.

DESCRIPTION OF DATA SETS:

NASA Goddard Media Studio "Our Living Planet From Space" GIF NASA Earth observing satellites image NOAA Earth observing satellites image available for public use Landsat 7 greenest pixel composites created in Google Earth Engine, available for public use Hansen Global Forest Change, available for public use with citation Hansen Global Forest Loss, available for public use with citation Planet Labs images, authorized use under Amazon Conservation Association licensing DigitalGlobe images, authorized use under Amazon Conservation Team licensing Indigenous Reserves Data from Sistema de Información Ambiental de Colombia (SIAC), available through the Amazon Conservation Team System of National Protected Areas from Parques Nacionales Naturales 2014, available through the Amazon Conservation Team Amazonia biogeographical boundary from RAISG, available for public use Amazon Conservation Team images, used with permission Mario Carvajal Image, used under creative commons license