The Classic Biomes

Biomes ~ Potential vegetation
The terrestrial biosphere has long been understood in terms of the global ecological patterns created by adaptation to climate and other biophysical systems.

Ecosystems = f(C)
C = Climate (precipitation & temperature)

Emergence of the Anthropogenic Biosphere

More than 75% of the Biosphere has now been transformed into Anthromes

Anthropogenic Biomes
the global ecological patterns created by humans

The Classic Paradigm

“Natural systems with humans disturbing them”

- Biosphere shaped primarily by biophysical systems.
- Humans are a disturbance that can be characterized as a single dimension of “impact”, “dominance”, “footprint”, or “appropriation”.
- Sustainable management of the biosphere is based on minimizing human influence, staying within in “planetary boundaries”.

Anthropogenic Biomes

The terrestrial biosphere must be understood in terms of the global ecological patterns created by sustained interactions with humans.

Ecosystems = f(P, L)
P = Population density
L = Land use

Anthropogenic Stewardship

What kind of Biosphere do we want?