**Introduction**

In this chapter, we provide an introduction to the general utility of the boreal forests and the associated ecosystems. The chapter begins by describing an international collaborative effort to map boreal forests worldwide and to make the mapped data available to the public. The chapter concludes with a discussion of the importance of boreal forests in the global carbon cycle and the need for continued research to better understand their role in the Earth's natural systems.

**Land Cover: Extrapolation & Comparisons Among Sites**

We used image classification to create a thematic map of the boreal forest region of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (Y-K Delta). The Y-K Delta is a major floodplain and wetland area located in southwestern Alaska, USA. The area is characterized by a diverse range of vegetation types, including forested areas, wetlands, and open water.

**Forest and Woodland Distribution: Treeline and Taiga Sites**

The boreal forest is a major ecological region that spans across northern Canada and Europe. It is characterized by a wide range of vegetation types, including coniferous forest, deciduous forest, and tundra.

**Vegetation Structure**

The distribution of vegetation structure in boreal ecosystems has been studied extensively. The structure of the boreal forest is characterized by a wide range of vegetation types, including coniferous forest, deciduous forest, and tundra.

**Inundation**

Inundation is a critical factor in the dynamics of boreal ecosystems. The chapter discusses the importance of inundation in the context of boreal forest management and conservation.

**Biomass**

Biomass is an important component of boreal ecosystems. The chapter discusses the importance of biomass in the context of boreal forest management and conservation.

**Continuity**

The chapter concludes with a discussion of the importance of continuity in the context of boreal forest management and conservation.