

Conditions of Use Agreement for neoSelvas LTREB data

The re-use of scientific data has the potential to greatly increase communication, collaboration and synthesis within and among disciplines, and thus is fostered, supported and encouraged. For the purpose of this agreement, the **Data User** is the individual scientist who requests permission to use the data files available at this site. The **Data Owner** is a Principal Investigator in this project and was responsible for generating and maintaining the data. The **Data Publisher** is Robin Chazdon, who manages the neoSelvas website (<http://www.neoselvas.org>) and who posts the data files. Questions pertaining to particular data files should be addressed to the **Data Contact**, who is identified in the Metadata for each file. Usually, the Data Contact is the same person as the Data Owner. Permission to use this dataset is granted to the Data User free of charge subject to the following terms:

- 1) *Collaboration*. The Data Set has been released in the spirit of open scientific collaboration. Taking into consideration that:
 - a) The purpose of long-term monitoring projects is to set up and maintain a research framework that will support the scientific efforts of the creators of the project, as well as other interest groups, over a long timeframe. As such the creators of such projects should be considered to have contributed to the scientific design and set up of any study to which their dataset contributes significantly, and that
 - b) Long-term monitoring research frameworks require a strong commitment and a large investment of professional capital of the initiators. To facilitate the long-term maintenance and continuation of such a research framework, participation of the data owners in publications is imperative. Therefore the Data User, by providing the opportunity of co-authorship, acknowledges the importance of all components of scientific research and supports the same research framework whose results he/she is using.

Data Users are **REQUIRED** to ask permission to the Data Owners for data use, consult the data owners on the specific use and offer the data owners the possibility of collaboration and co-authorship.

2) *Acceptable use*. Use of the dataset will be restricted to academic, research, educational, governmental, recreational, or other non-profit professional purposes. The Data User is permitted to produce and distribute derived works from this dataset provided that points 3-7 of the present agreement are respected and provided they are released under the same license terms as those accompanying this Data Set. Any other uses for the Data Set or its derived products will require explicit permission from the Data Owner.

3) *Redistribution*. The data are provided for use by the Data User only. The metadata and this license must accompany all copies made and be available to all users of this Data Set. The Data User will not redistribute the original Data Set

beyond this collaboration sphere.

4) *Citation*. It is considered a matter of professional ethics to acknowledge the work of other scientists. Thus, the Data User will properly cite the Data Set in any publications or in the metadata of any derived data products that were produced using the Data Set. Citation should take the following general form: *Data Owner, Year of Data Publication, Title of Dataset, Data Publisher, Dataset identifier*. For example:

Chazdon, R. L. 2009. LEP_1997_2004. Tree identification, diameter measurements and x, y coordinates. Data published by Robin L. Chazdon on <http://www.neoselvas.org>

In addition, the Data User will properly cite the most relevant scientific publication from the Data Owner, as indicated in the metadata sheet, that is based on and describes each dataset.

5) *Acknowledgement*. The Data User must acknowledge any institutional support or specific funding awards referenced in the metadata accompanying this dataset in any publications where the Data Set contributed significantly to its content. Acknowledgements should identify the supporting party, the institutions that provided financial and/or logical support for the research, the party that received the support, and any identifying information such as grant numbers. For example:

Data sets were provided by several related research projects that are now collaborating together with funding from the National Science Foundation Long-Term Research in Environmental Biology program (DEB-0639393) and other sources. Significant funding for collection of these data and establishment of study plots was provided by multiple sources and specific information is contained within the metadata files for each study area.

*Project Title: Collaborative Research/LTREB Successional pathways and rates of change in tropical forests of Brazil, Costa Rica, and Mexico. Program PI's: Robin L. Chazdon, G. Bruce Williamson, Rita Mesquita, Miguel Martinez-Ramos, Frans Bongers, and Bryan Finegan
Awardee: University of Connecticut
Award dates: February 1, 2007-December 31, 2011
Award Number: DEB-0639393*

6) *Notification*. The Data User will notify the Data Contact indicated in Metadata files when any derivative work or publication based on or derived from the Data Set is distributed. The Data User will provide the Data Contact with two reprints of any publications resulting from use of the Data Set and will provide copies, or on-line access to, any derived digital products. Notification will include an explanation of how the Data Set was used to produce the derived work.

7) By accepting this Data Set, the Data User agrees to abide by the terms of this agreement. The Data Owner shall have the right to terminate this agreement

immediately by written notice upon the Data User's breach of, or non-compliance with, any of its terms. The Data User may be held responsible for any misuse that is caused or encouraged by the Data User's failure to abide by the terms of this agreement.

I agree to these conditions for use of neoSelvas datasets.

Date: _____

Name (Printed): _____

Signature: _____

Please send a printed copy of this document to:

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