Central American Deforestation
Rainforest Facts

• In Central America the Rainforest stretches from Mexico to Panama
  – Central American Islands are primarily Rainforest as well
• The Rainforest is home to thousands of species of plants, animals, and insects
Tropical Rainforests Worldwide
Threats to Rainforests

• Deforestation has led to the rapid decline of the Rain Forest
  – About 60% of Central America was covered in 1950, by 1980 that had fallen to about 40%

• Loss of habitat impacts not only local species, but also migratory animals
Mapping Deforestation

- Surviving rainforest
- Deforested since 1940

Countries shown: MEXICO, BELIZE, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA, COSTA RICA, PANAMA, COLOMBIA, CARIBBEAN SEA, PACIFIC OCEAN
Causes of Deforestation

Drivers of Deforestation in Central America, 1990-2000

- Logging, 2-26%
- Small-scale, subsistence agriculture, 33-57%
- Large-scale agriculture and pasture, 17%

Deforestation in Central America