

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Abstract title: Environmental Sensitivity Index mapping in a freshwater environment: Jari River area, Brazilian Amazon

Abstract:

This work presents results related to the production of an Environmental Sensitivity Index map in the Jari River area, Brazilian Amazon based on NOAA guidelines adapted for some specific conditions in the study area. The area is very important in terms of transportation and storage of oil derived products by TEXACO. In this work, aerophotogrammetric data were combined to field data collection, towards the production of baseline maps in a 1:8000 and 1:5000 scales. Data regarding geomorphology, fauna, flora, socio-economy, hidrology, meteorology were collected/gathered and integrated in a GIS system. Analysis and interpretation on remote sensing and field data allow the determination of the Environmental Sensitivity index for the area. The results shows distinct sensitivity areas along the river margin and six different indexes could be derived. Also, aspects related to human use were taken into account such as water intake points and recreational areas. These results are being used in design of an effective Contingency Plan for the area.

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