**Rangelands of the World**

**Major World Biomes**

* **Biome:**
* **Ecoregions**:

**BIOME & CLIMATE CLASSIFICATION**

* Polar=
* Temperate =
* Tropical =

**RANGELANDS OF THE WORLD**

**Tundra**

* Treeless plains characterized by low temperatures, poor nutrients, little precipitation and short growing seasons.
* **Arctic**:
* **Alpine:**
* Large herbivores, such as musk oxen, caribou, and reindeer are well adapted to survive in these harsh climates

**Grasslands**

* Vegetation is dominated by grasses and other non-woody (herbaceous) plants
* Occur on all continents except Antarctica
* Temperate vs. Tropical
* **Steppe**: grassland plain without trees
* **Cold Steppe**: Eurasian Steppe (spans southwest Russia and Central Asia), Patagonian Steppe (Argentina), Anatolia (Turkey), Pannonian Plain (Central Europe), Puszta (Hungary), South Island (New Zealand)
* **Subtropical Steppe**: Pampas (South America), Europe (parts of Sicily, Spain and Greese), Asia (fringes of Thar Desert), and Australia (surrounding deserts)

**Shrublands**

* Plant community dominated by shrubs
* Can be the mature vegetation type or a transitory vegetation type as the result of disturbance such as fire, logging, or overgrazing
* Xeric vs. Mesic
  + **Xeric**:
  + **Mesic**:

**Shrublands - continued**

* **Desert Shrublands**: plants have small leaves to limit water loss (Xeric)
* **Mediterranean Shrublands**: Occur in Mediterranean climates of the world, commonly near the sea (Mesic)
  + Examples: G*arrigue* in France, *Phrygana* in Greece, *Tomillares* in Spain, and *Tatha* inIsrael.
* **Other Shrublands**
  + Matorral in Chile and southern Spain
  + Maquis in France and elsewhere around the Mediterranean
  + Macchia in Italy
  + Fynbos in South Africa
  + Kwongan in Southwest Australia

**Savanna**

* A type of tropical grassland with scattered trees or an open canopy of trees
* Characterized by high temperatures, seasonally dry in winter and summer with abundant rain the rest of the year
* Frequently a transition zone between forest and desert
* Wide belt along equator beyond tropical rainforests
* Two common factors of all savanna ecosystems:
* Wide belt along equator beyond tropical rainforests
* Two common factors of all savanna ecosystems:
  + Varying Rainfall
  + Dry Season Wildfires
* Tropical and subtropical savannas
  + Equatorial savannas (Serengeti of Africa)
* Temperate savannas
  + Mid-latitude savannas with wetter summers and drier winters.
* Montane savannas
  + high-altitude savannas,
  + highland savannas of the Angolan Scarp

**Deserts**

* Can occur as desert grasslands, desert shrublands, or barren land.
* Arid vs. Semi-Arid
  + **Arid**:
  + **Semi-Arid**:
* Cool deserts and temperate deserts are categorized as rangelands
* Examples:
  + Nearctic realm (Newfoundland, Greenland, Russia, Europe and northern Asia)
  + Gobi in Syberia