Climate and Geography

MIDDLE AMERICA

Climate of Middle America

- **Coniferous Forest**
- **Deciduous Forest**
- **Alpine/Mountain**
- **Mediterranean**
- **Rainforest**
- **Grassland**
- **Tundra**
- **Desert**
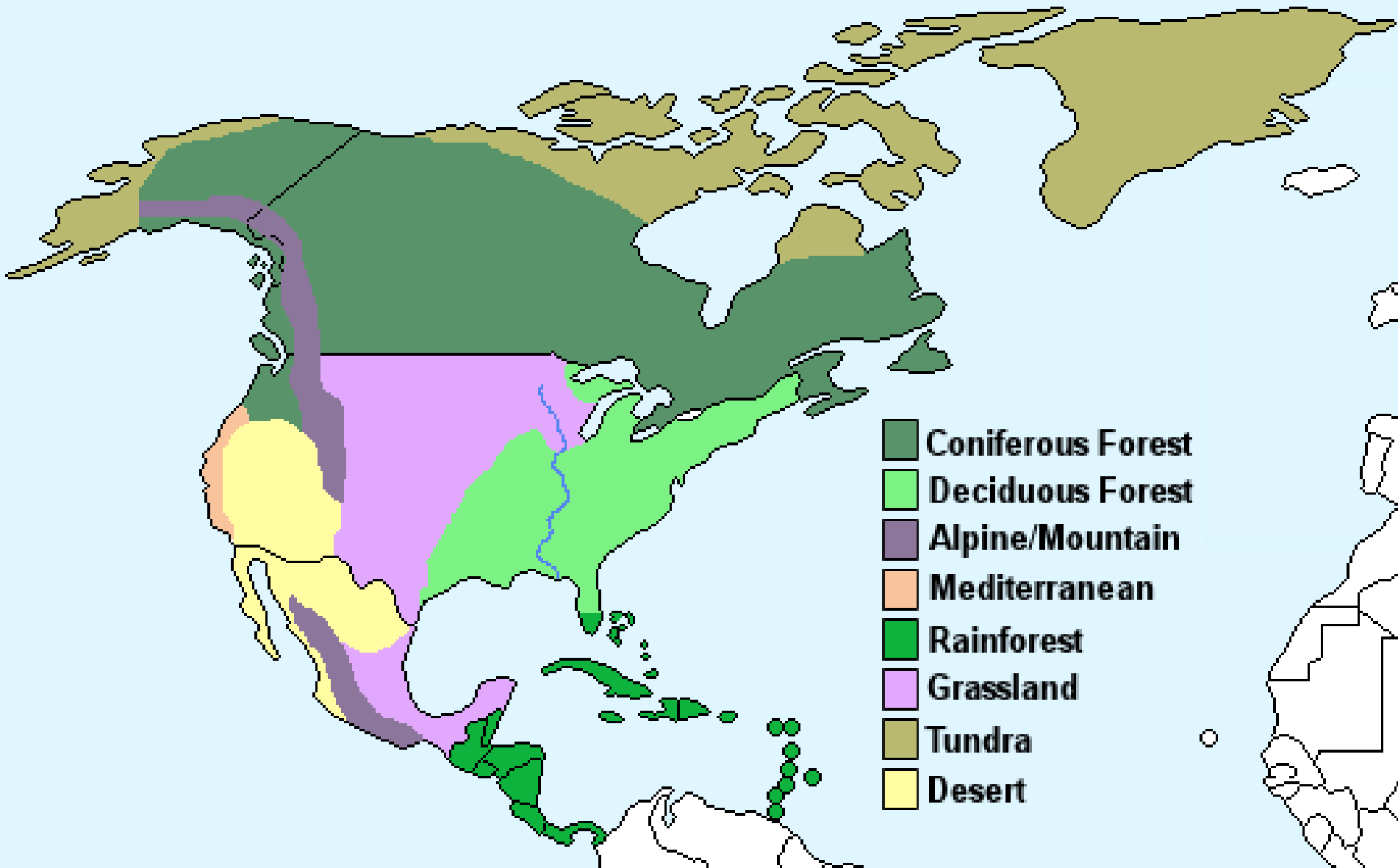
#1 Geographic Factors for Patterns of Population

- ◉ Define each in your groups:
  - Geography –
  - Factors –
  - Patterns –
  - Population –
    - ○ POPULATION DENSITY!

Factors for Middle America include: Mild climate, proximity to water, Natural resources and fertile soil.

What economic activity (industry) does this region benefit from the beautiful beaches and mild climate?

- ◉ **In other words…How do they make $$$ off the beaches and mild climate?**

#2 What are some Geographic Barriers that could effect trade?

*Think about water, landforms, locations/distances- cost of fuel (ships too)

* Trading between Cuba and the Jamaica?

* Dominican Republic and California?

Human Modifications to their Physical Environments
#3- Why do people modify their environment?
What about the rainforest, should people be chopping it down? Why do they?
Why are some countries limited in how they can modify?

Highways!

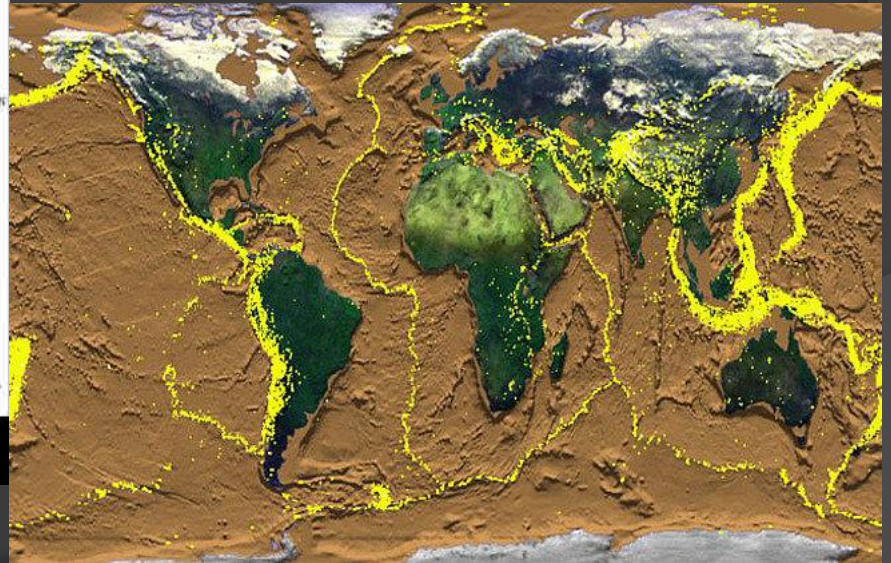Clear land for farming

Panama Canal for Economic Benefit

Earthquakes – Not so little problem!

#4 – What are 3 effects of earthquakes? What can they cause to happen? Where do they tend to happen more frequently?

What if they happen in the water?

Shows seismic activity (movement in the earth's crust)

Population Density of Middle America

#5 - Look at #1 –
- What about Panama? Why that big cluster of lights in the center?
- Why do most people live in rural areas in central America? What do they do for a living?

Central America AT Night