

GE 2211 Environmental Science and Engineering

Unit – II

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Types of Eco System

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Contents

- introduction, types, characteristic features, structure and function of the (a) forest ecosystem (b) grassland ecosystem (c) desert ecosystem (d) aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries)

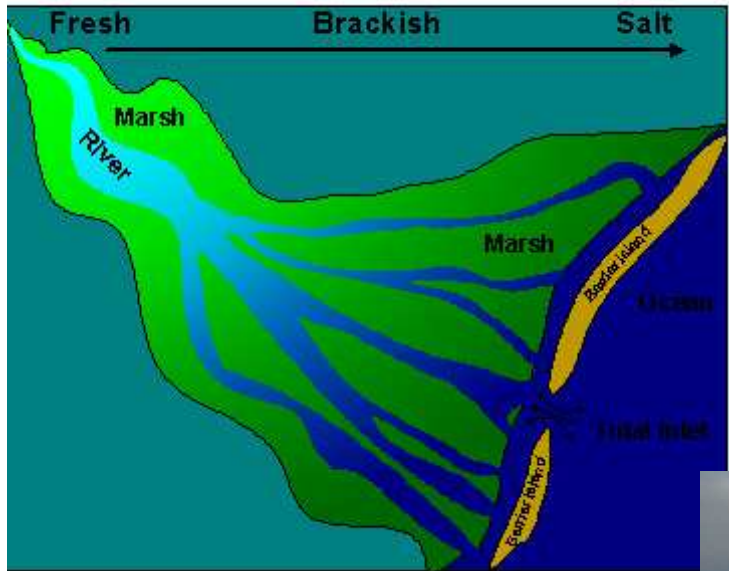
Types of Ecosystem

- Any area that contains the three abiotic and the three biotic components is said to be an ecosystem.
- Classification of ecosystems may be based on the type of biotic components present. There are, for example, forest ecosystems, grassland ecosystems, tundra ecosystems, or desert ecosystems.
- Some times ecosystems are classified according to abiotic components – the freshwater or saltwater ecosystem, for example.
- It should not be thought that the ecosystem concept applies only to natural areas. A cornfield is also an ecosystem.

A City – as an ecosystem

- Even a city can be considered an ecosystem, though a highly modified one.
- Disregarding rats, man is the major consumer in urban areas.
- There are few food plants growing in the city, and the decomposer component is also small.
- Food is brought into the urban ecosystem, and wastes (garbage) are usually taken out for action by decomposers.

The Estuary

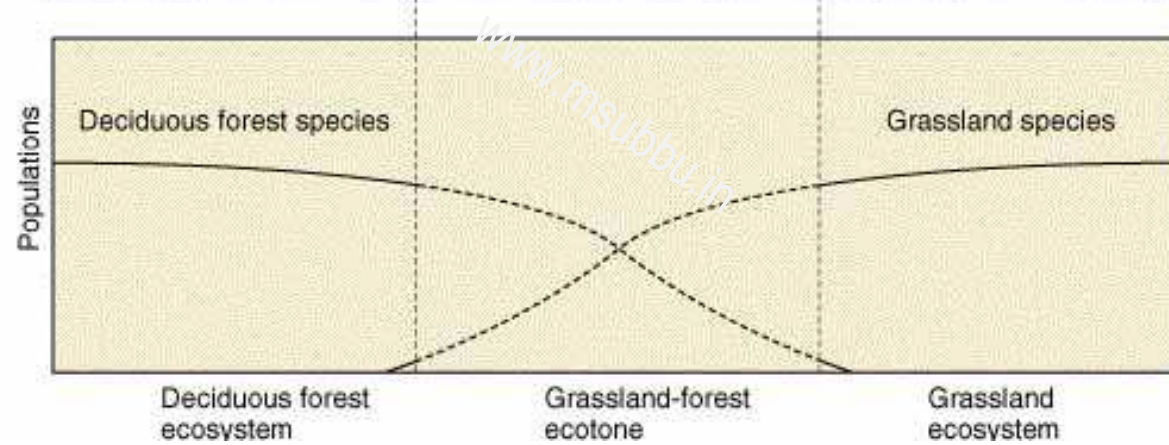
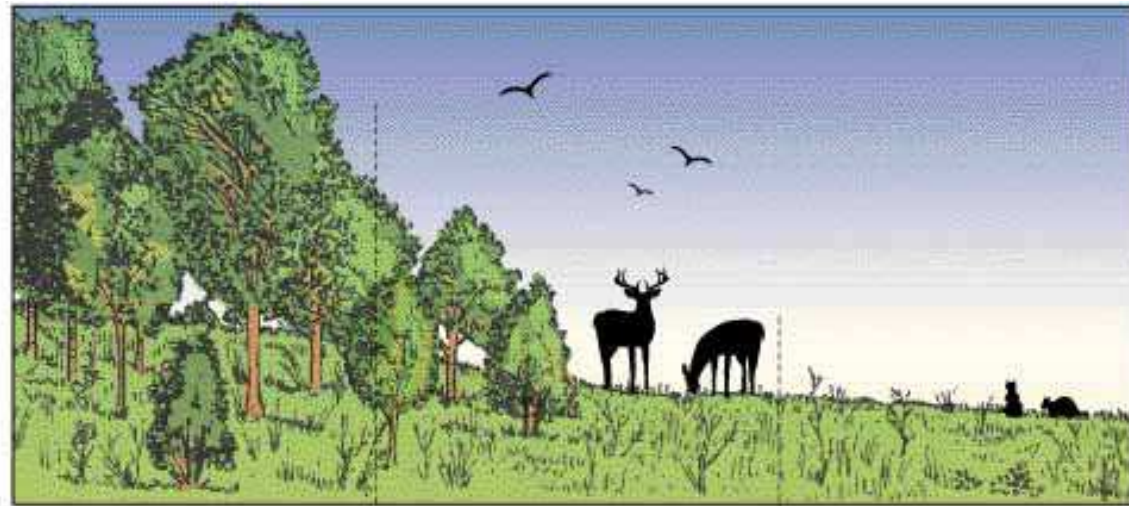


Estuary



Grass land Ecosystem





Ecosystems are not isolated from one another. One ecosystem blends into the next through a transitional region, an ecotone, which contains many species common to the two adjacent systems.

Marine Ecosystem

