• 2 views of the same world form the same vantage point but foregrounding different subjects.
• On the left the planetary mesh of urbanization
• On the right the planetary estate of protected areas.
• The integrated global system of the former has of course been at the horrendous expense of the latter so much so that we stand on the cusp of the 6th extinction.
• These two worlds have largely been developed in isolation from one another.
• Culture on the left and nature on the right.
• But the separation of these two worlds is in the long run ecologically and also philosophically untenable.
• It is my contention, and the central subject of this brief presentation that these two worlds need to be integrated and made symbiotic as one.
• There is no future for the city without biodiversity – and I don’t mean biodiversity as pandas I mean healthy ecosystems.
• Similarly there is no future in fortress conservation – a world of isolated ad hoc fragments.
Representation and connectivity
17% Representation and connectivity
1.4% of the earth’s terrestrial surface is equal to 695,825 Central Parks.

695,825 Central Parks can wrap around the globe 70 times.
Representation ?
1. How can we enhance representation?
2. How can we achieve connectivity across scale?
3. How can we deal with the conflicts between urbanization and biodiversity
4. How can we design a more symbiotic world?
19 hotspots
55 nations
160,000 km
THE PAT-ASKA TRAIL
33/423: Hotspot Capitals
The Hotspot Cities Project

Urban Growth Projected to 2050
Green Structure Plan: Perth
Bogota 2050
A biodiverse city for a biodiverse nation
We can't just keep barricading isolated fragments of land against urban growth and its related infrastructure. In the long run it is ecologically untenable to do so.
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It is also philosophically flawed because it recapitulates a world-view where culture is one thing, and nature another. This dualism is not how the world works and it is not the world we now actually live in.
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As well as securing protected areas, we also need to come at the problem of habitat loss from the urban side of the equation and redesign urban growth so that it supports biodiversity, so cities become symbiotic with their landscapes rather than parasitic.
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Because we have colonized and irrevocably changed the ecology of the Earth we have no choice but to now be active participants in the destiny of that ecology. We have no choice but to consciously plan and design our world and in doing so be held accountable to all forms of life, not only humans.
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Imagine what it would feel like to be a constructive part of nature as opposed to its executioner.