Map 6.1: Topoclimate Diversity

Topoclimate diversity connotes the range of temperature and moisture regimes available to species as local habitat refugia under climate change scenarios (Dobrowski 2010). Areas rich in topoclimatic niches may increase species diversity (Kerr et al. 1997) and increase the likelihood for species persistence across multiple temporal scales (Luoto et al. 2008, Weiss et al. 1988). We defined the Topoclimate Diversity Index (TDI) as a combination of two extant indices, Heat Load Index (HLI) and Compound Topographic Index (CTI), each measured as a focal statistic across a 450-m radius neighborhood.