1. Different factors may determine the distribution of a species on different scales
2. Most species have small geographic ranges
1. Different factors may determine the distribution of a species on different scales

- Describing a species’ geographic range on different scales can be difficult.
  - However, we can measure geographic ranges on several spatial scales.
2. Most species have small geographic ranges

- Only a small minority of species are widespread.
- Some North American birds and plants exhibit this phenomenon.