# Article information:

Remote Sensing | Free Full-Text | Mapping Annual Land Disturbance and Reclamation in a Surface Coal Mining Region Using Google Earth Engine and the LandTrendr Algorithm: A Case Study of the Shengli Coalfield in Inner Mongolia, China  
<https://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/12/10/1612>

# Article summary:

1. Open-pit mining has a significant impact on land, ecology, and the environment, leading to various secondary environmental problems such as land loss, vegetation degradation, and soil erosion.

2. Remote sensing technology can monitor and evaluate vulnerable landscapes, natural resources, ecosystems, and biodiversity conservation areas cost-effectively.

3. The Google Earth Engine platform combined with time series Landsat images and the LandTrendr algorithm can achieve fast, efficient identification of surface mining land disturbances and reclamation in open-pit mining areas.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article "Mapping Annual Land Disturbance and Reclamation in a Surface Coal Mining Region Using Google Earth Engine and the LandTrendr Algorithm: A Case Study of the Shengli Coalfield in Inner Mongolia, China" provides a detailed analysis of the impact of open-pit mining on land and vegetation in the Shengli Coalfield region. The study uses remote sensing techniques, including Landsat images and the LandTrendr algorithm, to monitor mining disturbances and reclamation activities between 2003 and 2019.

The article highlights the negative environmental consequences of mining activities, including land loss, vegetation degradation, and soil erosion. It emphasizes the importance of monitoring these changes to identify their long-term impacts on the environment and formulate effective land reclamation strategies. The use of remote sensing technology is presented as an efficient method for measuring changes in land cover and evaluating vulnerable landscapes.

The article acknowledges that previous studies have focused on using data with various levels of resolution to analyze spatiotemporal processes of vegetation disturbance. However, it argues that yearly images from specific time nodes in a particular year can only represent transient states of vegetation and land use. Therefore, monitoring events with nonlinear or highly spatiotemporal heterogeneity is difficult using this method.

The article presents GEE as a solution to this problem by allowing for the use of available massive remote-sensing satellite transit data for detecting changes in fine-grained high-temporal-resolution data. The platform's strong data analysis and processing capabilities are highlighted as being useful for areas such as urban expansion, dynamic monitoring of ecological quality, and monitoring vegetation coverage.

While the article provides valuable insights into the impact of open-pit mining on land and vegetation in Inner Mongolia, it has some potential biases. For example, it does not explore counterarguments or present both sides equally regarding the benefits versus drawbacks of mining activities. Additionally, while it acknowledges that field surveys are slow and expensive, it does not provide evidence to support this claim.

Furthermore, the article does not address potential risks associated with mining activities, such as water pollution and health hazards for workers. It also does not provide information on the socioeconomic impacts of mining activities on local communities or the effectiveness of land reclamation strategies.

In conclusion, while the article provides valuable insights into the impact of open-pit mining on land and vegetation in Inner Mongolia, it has some potential biases and missing points of consideration. Further research is needed to fully understand the environmental, social, and economic impacts of mining activities in this region.

# Topics for further research:

* Socioeconomic impacts of mining activities on local communities in Inner Mongolia
* Water pollution risks associated with open-pit mining in Inner Mongolia
* Health hazards for workers in the Shengli Coalfield region
* Effectiveness of land reclamation strategies in Inner Mongolia
* Environmental impacts of coal-fired power plants in Inner Mongolia
* Comparison of the benefits versus drawbacks of mining activities in Inner Mongolia

# Report location:

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