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Online Cover: An army of fire ants swarm a 17th century copper engraved world map. Invertebrates such as fire ants are among the most diverse group of animals on earth and crucial players in our global ecosystem. However, according to Kass et al., global biodiversity patterns for invertebrates and their compatibility with vertebrates are largely unknown. Using various methods, Kass' group present a comprehensive biodiversity map for ants, an ecologically dominant insect. The researchers say their results raise confidence that areas important for vertebrate conservation are also likely to harbour high invertebrate diversity. Looking forward, the group predicts their research can become a "treasure map" for guiding future discoveries.

Credit: Joe MacGown, map by Gerhard van Schagen.