



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020

Report

Cook Islands

Rome, 2020



FAO has been monitoring the world's forests at 5 to 10 year intervals since 1946. The Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA) are now produced every five years in an attempt to provide a consistent approach to describing the world's forests and how they are changing. The FRA is a country-driven process and the assessments are based on reports prepared by officially nominated National Correspondents. If a report is not available, the FRA Secretariat prepares a desk study using earlier reports, existing information and/or remote sensing based analysis.

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Introduction

Report preparation and contact persons

The present report was prepared by the following person(s)

Name	Role	Email	Tables
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Introductory text

No report has been received from Cook Islands. This report is the result of a desk study prepared by the FRA secretariat in Rome, which is based on the existing available information and previous FRA reports.

The Cook Islands became a “self governing country” in free association with New Zealand in 1965. It consists of a group of 15 volcanic islands and raised coral atolls, split between the Southern and the Northern group and located between the Society Islands on the east and Niue and Samoa on the west.

It has a land area of 24 000 hectares and surrounded by 2,000,000 km² of the Pacific Ocean and populated by approximately 18,000 people with the 70 percent of these on the mainland Rarotonga.Land in the Cook Islands is predominantly owned by traditional landowners and are divided and sub divided into portions along family lines.

The forested area consists of Makatea Atoll, Coastal and High mountain forests. Forest plantations, dominated especially by Pinus caribaea and Acacia species, occur on four islands namely Mangaia, Rarotonga, Mauke and Atiu. A small plots of sandalwood has also been established on these islands either around home surrounding as well as in identified Makatea sites.

1 Forest extent, characteristics and changes

1a Extent of forest and other wooded land

National data

Data sources

1991	References	OLIVER. W. 1992 Plantation forestry in the South Pacific: A compilation and assessment of Practices. Project RAS/86/036, UNDP/ FAO, Rome
	Methods used	Other (specify in comments)
	Additional comments	

1998	References	Oliver. W. 1999. An update of plantation forestry in the South Pacific RAS/97/330. Working paper, UNDP/FAO, Rome
	Methods used	Other (specify in comments)
	Additional comments	Used as a source for national reporting since 1998

2013	References	Government of Cook Islands (2014) The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources Cook Islands Country Report, https://cookislands-data.sprep.org/system/files/Tokari%20-%20Country%20Reports%20for%20the%20State%20of%20the%20World%27s%20Forest%20Genetic%20Resources%20%282010%29.pdf
	Methods used	Other (specify in comments)
	Additional comments	National reporting data

Classifications and definitions

1991	National class	Definition
	Littoral Forest	The littoral zone in the Cook Islands, were not pre-empted by human modification, includes coastal area forest dominated by some combination of trees such as: Hibiscus tilliaceus, Aleurites moluccana, Artocarpus altilis, Artocarpus hererophyllus, Averrhoa carambola, Bambusa vulgaris, Bischofia javanica, Erythrina variegata, Cocos nucifera, Pandanus sp, Pisonia grandis, Plumeria sp, Pometia pinnata, Hernandia nymphaeifolia, Guettarda speciosa, Barringtonia sp, Calophyllum inophyllum, Cassia sp, Casuarina equisetifolia, Ceiba pentandra, Delonix regia, Cordia subcordata, Ficus sp, Mangifera indica, Terminalia catappa, Tamarindus indica, Melia azedarach, Morinda sp, Persia Americana, Cananga odorata, Pisonia grandis, Pemphis acidula
	Makatea Forest	

		The vegetation of makatea is generally well preserved because the rough surface, for it is unsuitable for cultivation or human habitation. Examples can be seen on the islands of Mangaia, Atiu, Mauke and Mitiaro. The vegetation becomes more species rich with distance inland. The coastal makatea forest changes with distance inland from a combination of the followings: Pandanus sp, Casuarina equisetifolia, Calophyllum inophyllum, Cordia subcordata, Thespesia populnea, Hibiscus tiliaceus, Terminalia catappa, Tectona grandis, Syzygium cumii, Pisonia grandis, Homalium acuminatum, Pemphis acidula, Scaevola taccada, Fitchia speciosa, Cocos nucifera, Albizia sp, Spathodea campanulata, Pimenta racemosa, Mangifera indica, Tournefortia agentea, Artocarpus altilis, Acacia sp, Aleurites moluccana, Averrhoa carambola, Pinus caribaea, Casuarina equisetifolia, Melia azedarach, Hernandia nymphaeifolia, Erythrina variegata, Plumeria sp, Cassia sp, Citrus sp, Psidium guajava, Guettardata speciosa, Spathodea campanulata, Schizotachyum spp, Musa sp, Erythrina variegata, Pometia pinnata, Artocarpus heterophyllus, Syzygium cumini, Ceiba pentandra, Leucaena leucocephala, Litchi sinensis, Leucaena Leucocephala, Fagraea berteriana, Cananga odorata, Spondias dulcis, Tamarindus indica, Inocarpus fagifer, Annona spp, Pandanus spp, Satalum sp, etc
	Montane and Cloud	This comes from an assumption since no further explanation is given in the source
	Plantation	Santalum sp, Pinus sp, Acacia sp, and Eucalyptus sp mainly on Rarotonga where fernlands, were once growing but because of human made fires, soil erosion occurs, hence these trees were introduced. Also, Mangaia and Atiu were once the queens of growing pineapples for export etc during the 1940s – 1980s, but were lost due to lack of market access/availability and prices, hence soil erosion again occurs, Mauke and Mitiaro same as Rarotonga.
	Other Land	Trees are scattered because these land are only used mainly as agricultural land uses, and trees growing on these lands are Coconut (Coco nucifera), Mango (Mangifera indica), Breadfruit (Artocarpus altilis), Malay apple (Syzygium malaccense), Polynesian plum (Spondias dulcis), Polynesian chestnut (Inocarpus fagifer) Lichee (Litchi sinensis), Avacado pears (Persia Americana), Tava (Pometia piñata) Noni (Morinda citrifolia), Candlenut (Aleurites moluccana), Tamanu (Calophyllum inophyllum), Kapoc (Delonix regia), Chinaberry (Melia azedarach), Poumuli (Fleuggea flexuosa), Hibiscus tree (Hibiscus tiliaceus), (Bandanus sp), Bay-rum-tree (Pimenta racemosa), Pisonia (Pisonia grandis)

1998	National class	Definition
	Other Land	Trees are scattered because these land are only used mainly as agricultural land uses, and trees growing on these lands are Coconut (Coco nucifera), Mango (Mangifera indica), Breadfruit (Artocarpus altilis), Malay apple (Syzygium malaccense), Polynesian plum (Spondias dulcis), Polynesian chestnut (Inocarpus fagifer) Lichee (Litchi sinensis), Avacado pears (Persia Americana), Tava (Pometia piñata) Noni (Morinda citrifolia), Candlenut (Aleurites moluccana), Tamanu (Calophyllum inophyllum), Kapoc (Delonix regia), Chinaberry (Melia azedarach), Poumuli (Fleuggea flexuosa), Hibiscus tree (Hibiscus tiliaceus), (Bandanus sp), Bay-rum-tree (Pimenta racemosa), Pisonia (Pisonia grandis)
	Littoral Forest	The littoral zone in the Cook Islands, were not pre-empted by human modification, includes coastal area forest dominated by some combination of trees such as: Hibiscus tiliaceus, Aleurites moluccana, Artocarpus altilis, Artocarpus heterophyllus, Averrhoa carambola, Bambusa vulgaris, Bischofia javanica, Erythrina variegata, Cocos nucifera, Pandanus sp, Pisonia grandis, Plumeria sp, Pometia pinnata, Hernandia nymphaeifolia, Guettarda speciosa, Barringtonia sp, Calophyllum inophyllum, Cassia sp, Casuarina equisetifolia, Ceiba pentandra, Delonix regia, Cordia subcordata, Ficus sp, Mangifera indica, Terminalia catappa, Tamarindus indica, Melia azedarach, Morinda sp, Persia Americana, Cananga odorata, Pisonia grandis, Pemphis acidula
	Makatea Forest	

		<p>The vegetation of makatea is generally well preserved because the rough surface, for it is unsuitable for cultivation or human habitation. Examples can be seen on the islands of Mangaia, Atiu, Mauke and Mitiaro. The vegetation becomes more speciesrich with distance inland. The coastal makatea forest changes with distance inland from a combination of the followings: Pandanus sp, Casuarina equisetifolia, Calophyllum inophyllum, Cordia subcordata, Thespesia populnea, Hibiscus tiliaceus, Terminalia catappa, Tectona grandis, Syzygium cumii, Pisonia grandis, Homalium acuminatum, Pemphis acidula, Scaevola taccada, Fitchia speciosa, Cocos nucifera, Albizia sp, Spathodea campanulata, Pimenta racemosa, Mangifera indica, Tournefortia agentea, Artocarpus altilis, Acacia sp, Aleurites moluccana, Averrhoa carambola, Pinus caribaea, Casuarina equisetifolia, Melia azedarach, Hernandia nymphaeifolia, Erythrina variegata, Plumeria sp, Cassia sp, Citrus sp, Psidium guajava, Guettardata speciosa, Spathodea campanulata, Schizotachyum spp, Musa sp, Erythrina variegata, Pometia pinnata, Artocarpus heterophyllum, Syzygium cumini, Ceiba pentandra, Leucaena leucocephala, Litchi sinensis, Leucaena leucocephala, Fagraea berteriana, Cananga odorata, Spondias dulcis, Tamarindus indica, Inocarpus fagifer, Annona spp, Pandanus spp, Satalum sp, etc</p>
	Montane and Cloud	This comes from an assumption since no further explanation is given in the source
	Plantation	<p>Plantation forests were established by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) on private and community owned land, principally for soil erosion control process on Mangaia, Mauke Atiu and Rarotonga. However, the performance of these plantations has been spectacular, recording good growth rates, good form and excellent site stabilisation characteristics. The covered in plantation forest is approximately 1,170 hectares. The plantations have potential for commercial timber production.</p> <p>The country has established some forest plantations, mainly of Pinus caribaea, various species of Acacia, and two species Santalum.</p>

2013	National class	Definition
	Littoral Forest	<p>The littoral zone in the Cook Islands, were not pre-empted by human modification, includes coastal area forest dominated by some combination of trees such as: Hibiscus tiliaceus, Aleurites moluccana, Artocarpus altilis, Artocarpus hererophyllum, Averrhoa carambola, Bambusa vulgaris, Bischofia javanica, Erythrina variegata, Cocos nucifera, Pandanus sp, Pisonia grandis, Plumeria sp, Pometia pinnata, Hernandia nymphaeifolia, Guettarda speciosa, Barringtonia sp, Calophyllum inophyllum, Cassia sp, Casuarina equisetifolia, Ceiba pentandra, Delonix regia, Cordia subcordata, Ficus sp, Mangifera indica, Terminalia catappa, Tamarindus indica, Melia azedarach, Morinda sp, Persia Americana, Cananga odorata, Pisonia grandis, Pemphis acidula</p>
	Makatea Forest	<p>The vegetation of makatea is generally well preserved because the rough surface, for it is unsuitable for cultivation or human habitation. Examples can be seen on the islands of Mangaia, Atiu, Mauke and Mitiaro. The vegetation becomes more speciesrich with distance inland. The coastal makatea forest changes with distance inland from a combination of the followings: Pandanus sp, Casuarina equisetifolia, Calophyllum inophyllum, Cordia subcordata, Thespesia populnea, Hibiscus tiliaceus, Terminalia catappa, Tectona grandis, Syzygium cumii, Pisonia grandis, Homalium acuminatum, Pemphis acidula, Scaevola taccada, Fitchia speciosa, Cocos nucifera, Albizia sp, Spathodea campanulata, Pimenta racemosa, Mangifera indica, Tournefortia agentea, Artocarpus altilis, Acacia sp, Aleurites moluccana, Averrhoa carambola, Pinus caribaea, Casuarina equisetifolia, Melia azedarach, Hernandia nymphaeifolia, Erythrina variegata, Plumeria sp, Cassia sp, Citrus sp, Psidium guajava, Guettardata speciosa, Spathodea campanulata, Schizotachyum spp, Musa sp, Erythrina variegata, Pometia pinnata, Artocarpus heterophyllum, Syzygium cumini, Ceiba pentandra, Leucaena leucocephala, Litchi sinensis, Leucaena leucocephala, Fagraea berteriana, Cananga odorata, Spondias dulcis, Tamarindus indica, Inocarpus fagifer, Annona spp, Pandanus spp, Satalum sp, etc</p>
	Montane and Cloud	This comes from an assumption since no further explanation is given in the source
	Plantation	<p>Santalum sp, Pinus sp, Acacia sp, and Eucalyptus sp mainly on Rarotonga where fernlands, were once growing but because of human made fires, soil erosion occurs, hence these trees were introduced. Also, Mangaia and Atiu were once the queens of growing pineapples for export etc during the 1940s – 1980s, but were lost due to lack of market access/availability and prices, hence soil erosion again occurs, Mauke and Mitiaro same as Rarotonga.</p>
	Other Land	

	Trees are scattered because these land are only used mainly as agricultural land uses, and trees growing on these lands are Coconut (Coco nucifera),Mango (Mangifera indica),Breadfruit (Artocarpus altilis), Malay apple (Syzygium malaccense), Polynesian plum (Spondias dulcis), Polynesian chestnut (Inocarpus fagifer) Lichee (Litchi sinensis), Avacado pears (Persia Americana), Tava (Pometia piñata) Noni (Morinda citrifolia), Candlenut (Aleurites moluccana), Tamanu (Calophyllum inophyllum), Kapoc (Delonix regia), Chinaberry (Melia azedarach), Poumuli (Fleuggea flexuosa), Hibiscus tree (Hibiscus tiliaceus), (Bandanus sp), Bay-rum-tree (Pimenta racemosa), Pisonia (Pisonia grandis)
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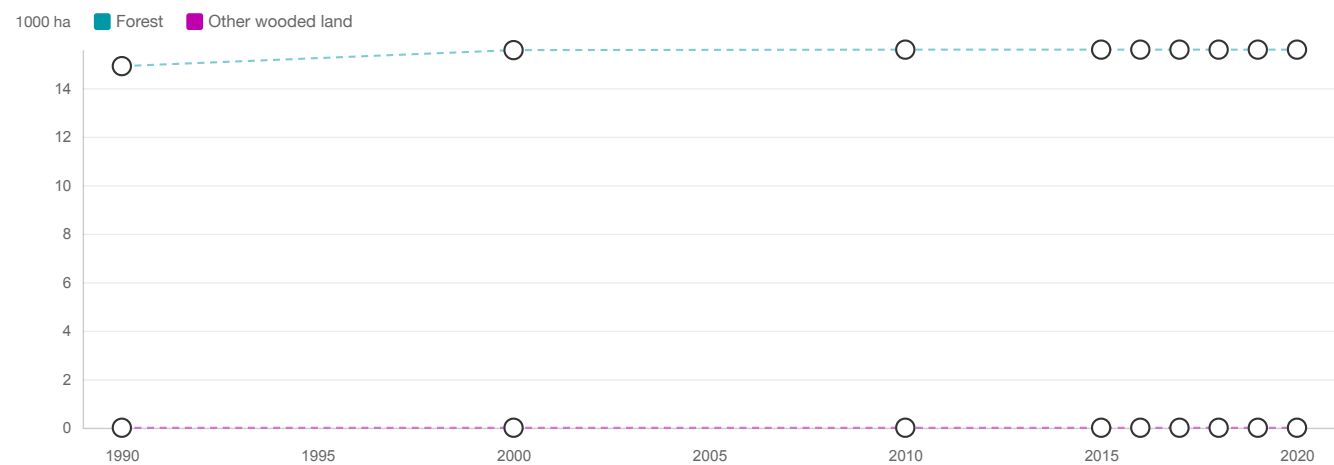
Original data and reclassification

1991	Classifications and definitions		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Other land
	Littoral Forest	4.90	100.00 %	%	%
	Makatea Forest	5.00	100.00 %	%	%
	Montane and Cloud	4.50	100.00 %	%	%
	Plantation	0.51	100.00 %	%	%
	Other Land	9.09	0.00 %	0.00 %	100.00 %
	Total	24.00	14.91	0.00	9.09

1998	Classifications and definitions		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Other land
	Other Land	8.43	0.00 %	0.00 %	100.00 %
	Littoral Forest	4.90	100.00 %	%	%
	Makatea Forest	5.00	100.00 %	%	%
	Montane and Cloud	4.50	100.00 %	%	%
	Plantation	1.17	100.00 %	%	%
	Total	24.00	15.57	0.00	8.43

2013	Classifications and definitions		FRA classes		
	Class	Area (1000 ha)	Forest	Other wooded land	Other land
	Littoral Forest	4.90	100.00 %	%	%
	Makatea Forest	5.00	100.00 %	%	%

	Montane and Cloud	4.50	100.00 %	%	%
	Plantation	1.19	100.00 %	%	%
	Other Land	8.41	0.00 %	0.00 %	100.00 %
	Total	24.00	15.59	0.00	8.41



FRA categories	Area (1000 ha)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Forest (a)	14.91	15.57	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59
Other wooded land (a)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other land (c-a-b)	9.09	8.43	8.41	8.41	8.41	8.41	8.41	8.41	8.41
Total land area (c)	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00

The FAOSTAT land area figure for the year 2015 is used for all reference years

Climatic domain	% of forest area 2015	Override value
Boreal	0.00	
Temperate	0.00	
Sub-tropical	0.00	
Tropical	100.00	

Comments

The total area of Littoral Forest, Makatea Forest, Montane and Cloud Forest is assumed to be constant (14400 ha) and is used for all reporting years. In 2013 the plantation areas is recored at 1187 ha. The plantation area for 1998 (1170 ha) is used for reporting years 2000, 2005 and 2010. The plantation area for 1991 (510 ha) is used for reporting year 1990, as per FRA 2015.

1b Forest characteristics

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Government of Cook Islands (2014) The State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources Cook Islands Country Report, <https://cookislands-data.sprep.org/system/files/Tokari%20-%20Country%20Reports%20for%20the%20State%20of%20the%20World%27s%20Forest%20Genetic%20Resources%20%282010%29.pdf>

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

Forest Type	Area (ha)
Littoral Forest	4900
Makatea Forest	5000
Montane and Cloud	4500
Plantation	1187
Other Land	7800

Plantation area was further broken down by age of stand and island

Plantation (Ha)		
Island	0 – 10 yrs (ha)	10+ yrs (ha)
Rarotonga		44.72
Atiu	30	145.34
Mangaia	180	750.35
Mauke		36.11
Total	210	976.52

Source: Government of Cook Islands (2014) The State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources Cook Islands Country Report, <https://cookislands-data.sprep.org/system/files/Tokari%20-%20Country%20Reports%20for%20the%20State%20of%20the%20World%27s%20Forest%20Genetic%20Resources%20%282010%29.pdf>

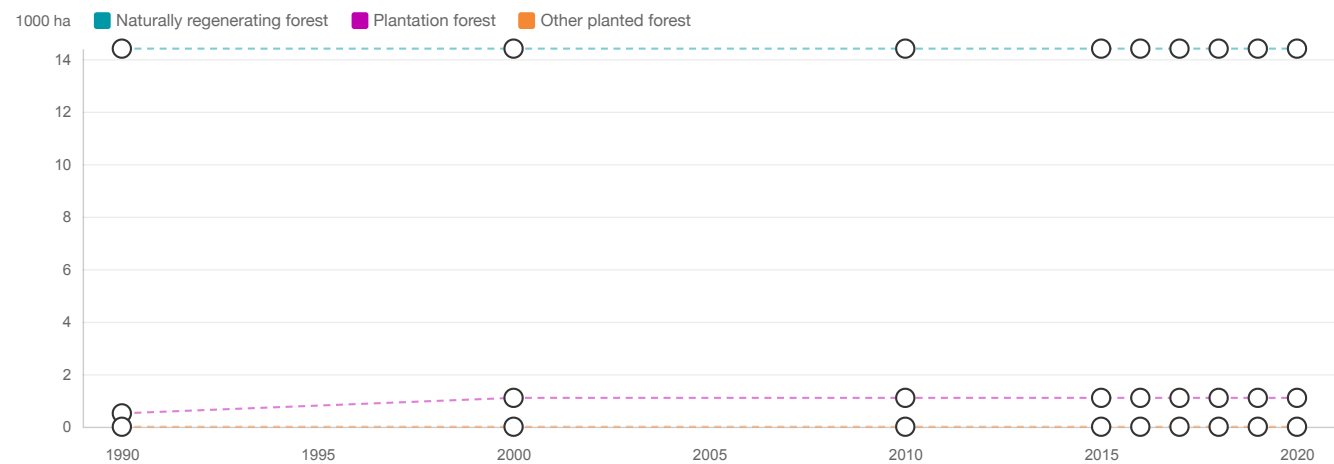
Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Forest area (1000 ha)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Naturally regenerating forest (a)	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40
Planted forest (b)	0.51	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
Plantation forest	0.51	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
...of which introduced species	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other planted forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total (a+b)	14.91	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
Total forest area	14.91	15.57	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59	15.59

Comments

1c Primary forest and special forest categories

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Area (1000 ha)				
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Primary forest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Temporarily unstocked and/or recently regenerated					
Bamboos					
Mangroves	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rubber wood	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Comments

1d Annual forest expansion, deforestation and net change

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Area (1000 ha/year)			
	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2015	2015-2020
Forest expansion (a)				
...of which afforestation				
...of which natural expansion				
Deforestation (b)				
Forest area net change (a-b)	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00

Comments

1e Annual reforestation

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Area (1000 ha/year)			
	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2015	2015-2020
Reforestation				

Comments

1f Other land with tree cover

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

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Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Area (1000 ha)				
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Palms (a)					
Tree orchards (b)					
Agroforestry (c)					
Trees in urban settings (d)					
Other (specify in comments) (e)					
Total (a+b+c+d+e)	–	–	–	–	–
Other land area	9.09	8.43	8.41	8.41	8.41

Comments

2 Forest growing stock, biomass and carbon

2a Growing stock

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Growing stock m³/ha (over bark)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Naturally regenerating forest									
Planted forest									
...of which plantation forest									
...of which other planted forest									
Forest									
Other wooded land									

FRA categories	Total growing stock (million m³ over bark)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Naturally regenerating forest									
Planted forest									
...of which plantation forest									
...of which other planted forest									
Forest									
Other wooded land									

Comments

2b Growing stock composition

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Scientific name	Common name	Growing stock in forest (million m³ over bark)				
			1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Native tree species							
#1 Ranked in terms of volume							
#2 Ranked in terms of volume							
#3 Ranked in terms of volume							
#4 Ranked in terms of volume							
#5 Ranked in terms of volume							
#6 Ranked in terms of volume							
#7 Ranked in terms of volume							
#8 Ranked in terms of volume							
#9 Ranked in terms of volume							
#10 Ranked in terms of volume							
Remaining native tree species							
Total volume of native tree species			–	–	–	–	–
Introduced tree species							
#1 Ranked in terms of volume							
#2 Ranked in terms of volume							
#3 Ranked in terms of volume							
#4 Ranked in terms of volume							
#5 Ranked in terms of volume							
Remaining introduced tree species							
Total volume of introduced tree species			–	–	–	–	–
Total growing stock			–	–	–	–	–

Comments

2c Biomass stock

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

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Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Forest biomass (tonnes/ha)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Above-ground biomass									
Below-ground biomass									
Dead wood									

Comments

2d Carbon stock

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

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FRA categories	Forest carbon (tonnes/ha)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Carbon in above-ground biomass									
Carbon in below-ground biomass									
Carbon in dead wood									
Carbon in litter									
Soil carbon									

Soil depth (cm) used for soil carbon estimates	
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Comments

3 Forest designation and management

3a Designated management objective

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Government of Cook Islands (2014) The State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources Cook Islands Country Report, <https://cookislands-data.sprep.org/system/files/Tokari%20-%20Country%20Reports%20for%20the%20State%20of%20the%20World%27s%20Forest%20Genetic%20Resources%20%282010%29.pdf>

Brown C (1997) Regional Study the South Pacific: Asia-Pacific forestry Sector Outlook Study Working paper. http://www.fao.org/3/W4354E/W4354E02.htm#P300_47465

National classification and definitions

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Original data

Forest Type	Area (ha) 1991	Area (ha) 1998	Area (ha) 2013	Natural or planted forests	Purpose
Littoral Forest	4900	4900	4900	Natural	The main purposes of the natural forests are presently for conservation and watershed protection. Sawn lumber is produced, however, from trees felled in site clearing for agricultural purposes.
Makatea Forest	5000	5000	5000		
Montane and Cloud	4500	4500	4500		
Plantation	510	1170	1186.52	Planted	Plantation forests were established by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) on private and community owned land, principally for soil erosion control process on Mangaia, Mauke Atiu and Rarotonga. However, the performance of these plantations has been spectacular, recording good growth rates, good form and excellent site stabilisation characteristics. The covered in plantation forest is approximately 1,170 hectares. The plantations have potential for commercial timber production.
Other Land	9090	8430	8413.48		

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

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Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

	Purpose	FRA 2020 Category	FRA 2020 Designated Management Objective
Natural Forests	The main purposes of the natural forests are presently for conservation and watershed protection. Sawn lumber is produced, however, from trees felled in site clearing for agricultural purposes.	Forest	Multiple use
Plantation	Plantation forests were established by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) on private and community owned land, principally for soil erosion control process on Mangaia, Mauke Atiu and Rarotonga. However, the performance of these plantations has been spectacular, recording good growth rates, good form and excellent site stabilisation characteristics. The covered in plantation forest is approximately 1,170 hectares. The plantations have potential for commercial timber production.	Forest	Protection of soil and water

Primary designated management objective

FRA 2020 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)				
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Production (a)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Protection of soil and water (b)	0.51	1.17	1.19	1.19	1.19
Conservation of biodiversity (c)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Services (d)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Multiple use (e)	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40
Other (specify in comments) (f)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
None/unknown (g)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total forest area	14.91	15.57	15.59	15.59	15.59

Total area with designated management objective

FRA 2020 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)				
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Production	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Protection of soil and water	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40
Conservation of biodiversity	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40
Social Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other (specify in comments)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Comments

3b Forest area within protected areas and forest area with long-term management plans

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Government of Cook Islands (2017) 5th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ck/ck-nr-05-en.pdf>

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

The percentage of forests on the Cook Islands that is present within protected areas is unknown due to lack of national forest inventory. However 17 terrestrial protected areas have been identified which cover a total of 7774.9 ha (33%) of the total land area (Government of Cook Islands 2017).

Area	Designation	Island	Area (km2)	Area (ha)	Date of establishment
Suvarrow National Park	National Park	Suvarrow	1.62	162	1978
Takitumu Conservation Area	Other Area	Rarotonga	1.55	155	1996
Moko'ero Nui	Nature Reserve	Atiu	1.2	120	2014
Keia Puna	Ra'ui	Mangaia	7.42	742	2014
Tavaenga Puna	Ra'ui	Mangaia	11.5	1150	2014
Mangaia Tanga'eo Sanctuary	Ra'ui	Mangaia	48.35	4835	2016
Takutea Wildlife Sanctuary	Other Area	Takutea	1.2	120	1903 (reestablished 1950)
Maina Reserve	Reserve	Aitutaki	0.8	80	est. 1981
Highland Paradise	Local Nature Reserve	Rarotonga	0.32	32	Unknown
Te Miromiro	Ra'ui	Atiu	0.09	9	Unknown
Te Ana	Ra'ui	Atiu	0.019	1.9	Unknown
Unga Ra'ui	Ra'ui	Mauke	2.67	267	Unknown
Auru	Ra'ui	Mauke	0.43	43	Unknown
Kakemaunga	Ra'ui	Mauke	0.13	13	Unknown
Motu Kotawa	Ra'ui	Pukapuka	0.09	9	Unknown
Motu Ko	Ra'ui	Pukapuka	0.3	30	Unknown
Te Kainga	Ra'ui	Rakahanga	0.06	6	Unknown

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Area (1000 ha)								
	1990	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Forest area within protected areas									
Forest area with long-term forest management plan									
...of which in protected areas									

Comments

The community-managed Takitumu Conservation area has measures in place to manage tree removal. There are currently no national forest conservation programmes.

4 Forest ownership and management rights

4a Forest ownership

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Government of Cook Islands (2014) The State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources Cook Islands Country Report, <https://cookislands-data.sprep.org/system/files/Tokari%20-%20Country%20Reports%20for%20the%20State%20of%20the%20World%27s%20Forest%20Genetic%20Resources%20%282010%29.pdf>

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

According to Government of Cook Islands (2014) customary landowners own most land, although on some islands some parts of the land have been regulated by the Crown to protect water resources and to maintain the integrity of the forest. No national assessment has taken place to identify forest and land ownership.

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Forest area (1000 ha)			
	1990	2000	2010	2015
Private ownership (a)				
...of which owned by individuals				
...of which owned by private business entities and institutions				
...of which owned by local, tribal and indigenous communities				
Public ownership (b)				
Unknown/other (specify in comments) (c)	–	–	–	–
Total forest area	14.91	15.57	15.59	15.59

Comments

Whilst it is assumed that customary rights over most of the land in the Cook Islands, the Ministry of Agriculture has previously established plantations. No further breakdown of the proportion of state owned or customary land is available.

4b Holder of management rights of public forests

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Forest area (1000 ha)			
	1990	2000	2010	2015
Public Administration (a)				
Individuals (b)				
Private business entities and institutions (c)				
Local, tribal and indigenous communities (d)				
Unknown/other (specify in comments) (e)	–	–	–	–
Total public ownership	–	–	–	–

Comments

5 Forest disturbances

5a Disturbances

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Government of Cook Islands (2014) The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources Cook Islands Country Report, <https://cookislands-data.sprep.org/system/files/Tokari%20-%20Country%20Reports%20for%20the%20State%20of%20the%20World%27s%20Forest%20Genetic%20Resources%20%282010%29.pdf>

Government of Cook Islands (2017) 5th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ck/ck-nr-05-en.pdf>

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

The Government of the Cook Islands (2014) identifies two specific pests the Coconut flat moth (*Agonoxena argaula*) and Coconut termite (*Neotermes rainbowi*) as threats to the integrity of the genetic resources in forests. An increase in the intensity of cyclone activity has also been predicted due to climate change is likely to affect forest resources (Government of Cook Islands 2017), the impacts of which caused flooding in 2016 with Cyclone Victor.

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Area (1000 ha)																	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Insects (a)																		
Diseases (b)																		
Severe weather events (c)																		
Other (specify in comments) (d)																		
Total (a+b+c+d)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total forest area	15.57	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15.59	–	–	15.59	–	15.59	15.59	15.59

Comments

No data is available to determine the extent of disturbances from insects, diseases and severe weather events due to a lack of forest inventory and assessment in the Cook Islands.

5b Area affected by fire

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

Analysis and processing of national data

Estimation and forecasting

-

Reclassification into FRA 2020 categories

-

FRA categories	Area (1000 ha)																	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total land area affected by fire																		
...of which on forest																		

Comments

5c Degraded forest

Does your country monitor area of degraded forest		No
If "yes"	What is the national definition of "Degraded forest"?	
	Describe the monitoring process and results	

Comments

6 Forest policy and legislation

6a Policies, Legislation and national platform for stakeholder participation in forest policy

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

Ministry of Agriculture (2017) COOK ISLANDS NATIONAL AGRICULTURE POLICY 2017-2021 <http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/cok170722.pdf>

Government of the Cook Islands (2016) Te Kaveinga Nui National Sustainable Development Plan 2016 - 2020 <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/linked-documents/cobp-coo-2017-2019-ld-01.pdf>

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

National Agriculture Policy 2017-2021 :

Under Policy Goal 3: *Increasing incomes from improved labour substituted technologies, food processing quality, food safety and market efficiency and trade*, policy objective 3.7 is to *Investigate an effective and appropriate harvesting system for sustainably managing existing forest resources*.

Te Kaveinga Nui National Sustainable Development Plan 2016 - 2020:

National development goal 11 aims to *Promote sustainable land use, management of terrestrial ecosystems, and protect biodiversity*. The Cook Islands aims to increase the area of protected land to protect the biodiversity and general health of ecosystem functions including in cloud forest areas, as well as for cultural reasons.

Indicate the existence of	Boolean (Yes/No)	
	National	Sub-national
Policies supporting SFM	Yes	
Legislations and regulations supporting SFM	No	
Platform that promotes or allows for stakeholder participation in forest policy development	No	
Traceability system(s) for wood products	No	

Comments

6b Area of permanent forest estate

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

FRA 2020 categories	Forest area (1000 ha)					
	Applicable?	1990	2000	2010	2015	2020
Area of permanent forest estate						

Comments

7 Employment, education and NWFP

7a Employment in forestry and logging

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

FRA 2020 categories	Full-time equivalents (1000 FTE)											
	1990			2000			2010			2015		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
Employment in forestry and logging	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
...of which silviculture and other forestry activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
...of which logging	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
...of which gathering of non wood forest products	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
...of which support services to forestry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Comments

7b Graduation of students in forest-related education

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

FRA 2020 categories	Number of graduated students											
	1990			2000			2010			2015		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
Doctoral degree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Master's degree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bachelor's degree	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Technician certificate / diploma	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Comments

7c Non wood forest products removals and value 2015

National Data

Data sources + type of data source eg NFI, etc

-

National classification and definitions

-

Original data

-

	Name of NWFP product	Key species	Quantity	Unit	Value (1000 local currency)	NWFP category
#1						
#2						
#3						
#4						
#5						
#6						
#7						
#8						
#9						
#10						
All other plant products						
All other animal products						
Total					-	

Name of currency	
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Comments

8 Sustainable Development Goal 15

8a Sustainable Development Goal 15

SDG Indicator 15.1.1 Forest area as proportion of total land area 2015

Indicator	Percent							
	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Forest area as proportion of total land area 2015	64.88	64.96	64.96	64.96	64.96	64.96	64.96	64.96

Name of agency responsible	
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SDG Indicator 15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management

Sub-Indicator 1	Percent						
	2000-2010	2010-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Forest area annual net change rate	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Name of agency responsible	
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Sub-Indicator 2	Forest biomass (tonnes/ha)							
	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Above-ground biomass stock in forest	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Name of agency responsible	
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Sub-Indicator 3	Percent (2015 forest area baseline)							
	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Proportion of forest area located within legally established protected areas	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Name of agency responsible	
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Sub-Indicator 4	Percent (2015 forest area baseline)							
	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Proportion of forest area under long-term forest management plan	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Name of agency responsible	
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Sub-Indicator 5	Forest area (1000 ha)							
	2000	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Forest area under independently verified forest management certification schemes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	–	–