Sustaining Tropical Forests with Forestry

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Sustainability

Longer Cutting Cycles

FLEGT

Lacey Act

Reduced Impact Logging

Silvicultural Treatments

FSC

Certification

Lower Intensity

REDD+

VCS

Community

Control

REDUCED-IMPACT LOGGING
A Molecule of Carbon Dioxide
Reducing Emissions from Deforestation & Forest Degradation REDD
Conventional selective logging
Improved forest management
Sustainable forest management

Lost carbon (GtC/y)

- L America
- Asia
- Africa

0.16 GtC
0.36 GtC
Forest carbon (tC/ha) vs. Time after selective logging (y) for Conventional and Improved practices.

- Forest carbon in conventional practice decreases rapidly and stabilizes around 30 tC/ha after 12 years.
- Forest carbon in improved practice shows a higher initial value, decreases more slowly, and stabilizes around 120 tC/ha after 30 years.

The difference in forest carbon between conventional and improved practices is 30 tC.
MESSAGES

Selective logging of tropical forests isn’t so bad in terms of:

1. Sustained yields
   (if accept a ‘Primary Forest Premium’).

2. Carbon retention and recovery.

3. Biodiversity
   (at least as species richness).
Synergistic Improvements
(timber/carbon/biodiversity)

Lengthening Cutting Cycles

and/or

Reducing Harvest Intensity \( (m^3/ha) \)

while always

Employing Reduced-Impact Logging Practices
But why are these improvements more likely than ever before?

1. Emphasis on **Legality** (FLEGT & Lacey Act).
2. Forest Product **Certification**.
3. Forest **Carbon** Valuation through REDD+.
4. Increased **Community** Control.
Longer Cutting Cycles  |  Silvicultural Treatments  |  Lower Intensity
FLEGT  |  FSC  |  REDD+  |  Community
Lacey Act  |  Certification  |  VCS  |  Control

SUSTAINABILITY

REDUCED IMPACT LOGGING