

1 **Title:** Tropical nature reserves are losing their buffer zones, but leakage is not to blame

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14 **Abstract**

15 Tropical forests provide important ecosystem services to humanity, yet are threatened by
16 habitat loss resulting from deforestation and land-use change. Although reserves are
17 considered the cornerstones of conservation efforts in the tropics, their efficacy remains
18 equivocal. One question that remains unresolved is whether leakage – the unanticipated
19 displacement of deforestation from inside reserves into the unrestricted zones just beyond a
20 reserve’s administrative boundary – is common around tropical forest reserves, or whether
21 the zones are acting as buffers between the protected area and the outside world. To resolve
22 this question, we used the Landsat-derived Global Forest Change dataset to estimate
23 deforestation rates between 2000 and 2012 inside and outside of 60 nature reserves spread
24 across the tropics. Deforestation rates inside reserves (within 5 km of the administrative
25 boundary) were generally lower than those immediately outside the reserves (i.e. in buffer
26 zones 0-10 km from the boundary), suggesting that reserves are effective at protecting forests.
27 We hypothesised that leakage would result in greater deforestation rates in reserve buffer
28 zones than in the broader reserve landscapes, but such a pattern was observed in only five
29 African sites, suggesting that leakage does not often occur on the edge of established reserves.
30 However, roughly 80% of reserves experienced deforestation rates that increased gradually
31 from their interiors to the outer periphery of their buffer zones. Thus, while leakage may not
32 be a pervasive phenomenon around tropical reserves worldwide, tropical reserves are often
33 losing their buffer zones, resulting in increased isolation that could have ramifications for
34 ecosystem services provisioning and tropical conservation strategies.

35

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37 remote sensing

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40 **Introduction**

41 Tropical forests provide important ecosystem services to humanity, and thus their protection
42 is key. Serving as globally significant stores of carbon, tropical forests also harbour the
43 majority of terrestrial diversity, affect the earth's energy balance via their influence on
44 hydrology, and support individual and community livelihoods across multiple scales
45 (Naughton-Treves *et al.*, 2005; Bonan, 2008). However, habitat loss resulting from
46 deforestation and land-use change serves as a core destructive force in the tropics (Asner *et al.*,
47 2005; Pereira *et al.*, 2010) and threatens the provisioning of these services. Designed to
48 curb habitat loss and associated declines in biodiversity, protected areas are widely
49 considered the cornerstones of modern conservation efforts in the context of rapid
50 anthropogenic change (Dudley, 2008). Over the past several decades, the global protected
51 area system has seen rapid expansion, to the extent that roughly 14.6% of the planet's
52 terrestrial surface is now covered by ostensibly protected areas (Naughton-Treves *et al.*,
53 2005; Butchart *et al.*, 2015).

54 However, measuring the success of conservation action in protected areas remains
55 challenging (Parrish *et al.*, 2003). Diverse, and at times competing, agenda imposed on
56 protected areas inhibit the creation of a unified or globally accepted metric of protected area
57 efficacy (Chape *et al.*, 2005; Naughton-Treves *et al.*, 2005). Meanwhile, from a conservation
58 biology perspective, available evidence suggests that the success of protected areas at
59 preserving biodiversity depends greatly on the effectiveness of local enforcement agencies
60 and thus varies on a global scale (Leverington *et al.*, 2010; Geldmann *et al.*, 2013). In the
61 tropics, protected areas have been able to prevent, or at least curtail, land clearing and
62 deforestation within their boundaries (Bruner *et al.*, 2001; Naughton-Treves *et al.*, 2005).
63 However, deeming a protected area with lower deforestation rates within its boundaries than
64 in its immediate surroundings as "successful" may be unjustified if deforestation is, in fact,
65 simply shifted to the protected area's exterior (Gaveau *et al.*, 2009; Joppa and Pfaff, 2010).
66 This phenomenon is known as "leakage" – the unanticipated displacement of the very
67 deforestation that protected areas are intended to control against into nearby, unrestricted
68 areas beyond their administrative boundaries (Ewers and Rodrigues, 2008; Murray, 2008).

69 Quantifying leakage within the vicinity of protected areas is crucial because of the
70 potential ramifications of leakage. For example, carbon management initiatives, such as
71 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) projects, can be
72 subverted by leakage if the deforestation that they aim to restrict within a specified area is
73 offset by magnified deforestation rates elsewhere (Venter and Koh, 2012). Land-use change

74 around protected areas can also reduce their core area and introduce detrimental edge effects
75 (Hansen and DeFries, 2007). Such processes can constrain the abilities of protected areas to
76 maintain species richness and ecosystem functions, and reduce additional conservation
77 options in areas adjacent to the protected areas themselves (Ewers and Rodrigues, 2008).

78 Leakage analyses generally involve identifying any disproportionate spatial
79 distribution of human impacts, quantified by metrics such as deforestation or habitat loss,
80 across a reserve and its surrounding area. While many previous studies have analysed spatial
81 deforestation patterns across reserve boundaries (see Joppa and Pfaff, 2010), few have
82 attempted to quantify leakage (Clark *et al.*, 2008). Oliveira *et al.* (2007), for example,
83 identified leakage arising from newly created forest concessions in the Peruvian Amazon, and
84 others have explicitly identified evidence of leakage events in East Africa's tropical
85 evergreen forests (Pfeifer *et al.*, 2012). However, little is known about the pervasiveness of
86 leakage across the global network of reserves within tropical forest ecosystems

87 In this study, we aimed to fill critical knowledge gaps with respect to leakage as a
88 global occurrence. To assess the prevalence of leakage around tropical forest reserves, we
89 quantified deforestation that occurred between 2000 and 2012 near reserve boundaries for a
90 pan-tropical network of 60 protected areas, comparing deforestation rates inside reserves with
91 those on land bordering the reserves and in the wider landscape. Defining leakage as
92 deforestation rates in border areas that exceed those within both the reserve and the wider
93 landscape, we analysed the prevalence of leakage across the protected area network. If
94 leakage were occurring, deforestation trends would be illustrated by a piece-wise function in
95 which deforestation trends inside and immediately outside reserves differ quantifiably and
96 exhibit a sharp change or jump at the reserve boundary. Deforestation immediately outside
97 reserves would also likely be highest closest to the reserve boundary and decrease with
98 distance from the boundary. If leakage were not occurring, the reserve boundary would have
99 no effect on deforestation and we would expect the same deforestation trend inside the
100 reserve as immediately outside the reserve, illustrated by a linear trend in deforestation across
101 the reserve boundary.

102

103 **Methods**

104 **Selection of protected areas**

105 The 60 tropical forest reserves included in this study (20 each in Africa, the Americas, and
106 the Asia-Pacific region) were the same as those studied by Laurance *et al.* (2012) (Fig. 1).
107 Shapefiles of the boundaries of each of the 60 reserves were downloaded from the World

108 Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) (IUCN and UNEP-WCMC, 2014) which offers a
 109 comprehensive global spatial dataset inventory of the world's marine and terrestrial reserves.
 110 Accurate shapefiles of eight of the reserves were not available on the WDPA website and
 111 thus were obtained from academic experts conducting research at those sites (Table A.1.)
 112



113 **Figure 1. Map of all 60 reserves included in this study, with 20 reserves each in the Americas, Asia-Pacific,**
 114 **and Africa.** Alphabetically: 1 = Amacayacú National Park (NP), Colombia; 2 = Anamalai Tiger Reserve, India;
 115 3 = Barro Colorado Island Biological Station, Panama; 4 = Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments Project,
 116 Brazil; 5 = Brownsberg Nature Park, Suriname; 6 = Budongo Forest Reserve, Uganda; 7 = Bukit Timah Nature
 117 Reserve (NR), Singapore; 8 = Bwindi Impenetrable NP, Uganda; 9 = Caxiuanã National Forest, Brazil; 10 =
 118 Chamela-Cuixmala Reserve, Mexico; 11 = Chitwan NP, Nepal; 12 = Crater Mountain Wildlife Management
 119 Area, Papua New Guinea; 13 = Danum Valley Conservation Area, Malaysia; 14 = Dinghushan Mountain NR,
 120 China ; 15 = Dja Faunal Reserve, Cameroon; 16 = Ducke, Brazil; 17 = Dzanga-Sangha Special Reserve, Central
 121 African Republic; 18 = El Yunque (Luquillo) National Forest, Puerto Rico; 19 = Gir NP and Wildlife Sanctuary,
 122 India; 20 = Gola Rainforest NP, Sierra Leone; 21 = Gunung Palung NP, Indonesian Borneo; 22 = Hahpen
 123 (Fushan) NR, Taiwan; 23 = Henri Pittier NP, Venezuela; 24 = Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary, Thailand;
 124 25 = Kahuzi Biéga NP, Democratic Republic of the Congo; 26 = Kakamega Forest National Reserve, Kenya; 27
 125 = Khao Yai NP, Thailand; 28 = Kibale NP, Uganda; 29 = Kilum-Ijim/Mount Oku Forest Reserve, Cameroon;
 126 30 = Kinabalu NP, Malaysia; 31 = Korup NP, Cameroon; 32 = La Selva Biological Station, Costa Rica; 33 =
 127 Lac Télé Community Reserve, Republic of the Congo; 34 = Lambir Hills NP, Malaysia; 35 = Lopé NP, Gabon;
 128 36 = Lore Lindu NP, Indonesia; 37 = Los Amigos Conservation Concession, Peru; 38 = Los Tuxtlas Biosphere
 129 Reserve, Mexico; 39 = Manú NP, Peru; 40 = Monteverde Protective Zone, Costa Rica; 41 = Mount
 130 Spec/Paluma Range NP, Australia; 42 = Mudumalai Biosphere Reserve, India; 43 = Ndoki (Dzanga-Ndoki) NP,
 131 Central African Republic; 44 = Noel Kempff Mercado NP, Bolivia; 45 = Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park,
 132 Philippines; 46 = Nouabalé-Ndoki NP, Republic of the Congo; 47 = Nouragues National NR, French Guiana; 48
 133 = Nyungwe Forest NR, Rwanda; 49 = Okapi Wildlife Reserve NP, Democratic Republic of the Congo; 50 =
 134 Paranapiacaba, Brazil; 51 = Pasoh Forest Reserve, Malaysia; 52 = Ranomafana NP, Madagascar ; 53 = Salonga
 135 NP, Democratic Republic of the Congo; 54 = Santa Rosa NP, Costa Rica; 55 = Sinharaja Forest Reserve NP, Sri
 136 Lanka; 56 = Taï NP, Cote d'Ivoire; 57 = Tikal NP, Guatemala; 58 = Udzungwa Mountains NP, Tanzania; 59 =
 137 Xishuangbanna NR, China; 60 = Yasuni NP, Ecuador.

138

139 **Estimating deforestation rates with the Global Forest Change dataset**

140 Spatial deforestation patterns around each of the 60 shapefiles were analysed using ArcMAP
 141 10.0. First, five “inner” rings, each of width 1 km, were created from the reserve boundary
 142 inwards towards its core (Fig. 2). If the reserve was too small for all five rings to fit within its
 143 interior (i.e. the distance from its core to its boundary was < 5 km), the maximum number of
 144 rings less than 5 that could fully fit within its interior was created. Next, 10 “outer” rings,
 145 each of width 1 km and representing a potential deforestation leakage zone surrounding the

146 reserve, were created emanating from the reserve boundary 10 km outwards into its
147 immediately surrounding region. While the extent of such leakage zones or “zones of
148 influence” are undoubtedly highly variable depending on the realities of any given reserve
149 (Defries *et al.*, 2010), we selected a leakage zone of 10 km here in light of a study by Dewi *et al.*
150 *al.* (2013) on protected areas in the Asia-Pacific and Africa, which applied a zone of
151 influence of at least 10 km around protected areas in order to quantify deforestation changes
152 due to forest protection inside the protected area. Also, being cognizant that spatial
153 heterogeneity is scale-dependent (Turner *et al.*, 1989; Wu *et al.*, 2002), we determined that it
154 was reasonable to apply a standard fixed ring width of 1 km here given the range of reserve
155 areas (from 1.6 to 35012 km²) in our study. Using ring sizes greater than 1 km would render
156 our attempts to quantify spatial patterns of deforestation within reserve interiors for many of
157 the smaller reserves non-meaningful.

158 A third and final spatial zone comprising the region from the outermost edge of the
159 outer rings (i.e. 10 km from the reserve edge) to 25 km from the reserve edge was created as
160 the reserve “landscape.” We used a 25 km landscape or reference area after drawing insights
161 from a study by DeFries *et al.* (2005) on forest loss surrounding 198 highly protected areas
162 throughout the world’s tropical forests. DeFries *et al.* (2005) found similar forest cover and
163 change values over the 20 years prior to their study around the protected areas at distances of
164 25, 50, 75, and 100 km from the reserve boundaries. DeFries *et al.* (2005) ultimately applied
165 a 50 km perimeter around their reserves as an “arbitrary but reasonable” distance to capture
166 ecological interactions between the reserves and their surroundings. However, as their
167 reserves were all relatively large in size (greater than 256 km²) and a quarter of the reserves
168 in our study were less than 256 km² in area, we chose to define reserve “landscape” here as
169 the area contained by the smaller 25 km perimeter around reserves. Further details on the
170 spatial framework which we constructed to analyse leakage are provided in Fig. A.1.

171 Forest cover and change data were downloaded directly from the online Global Forest
172 Change dataset (GFCD) of Hansen *et al.* (2013). The GFCD, made publicly available in
173 February 2014, is the first moderate to high-resolution (30 m) globally consistent map of
174 forest cover, loss, and gain from 2000-2012 (Hansen *et al.*, 2013). From the GFCD, raster
175 files of “Tree canopy cover for year 2000,” “Global forest cover loss 2000-2012,” and “Data
176 mask” were downloaded over each of the 60 reserves in our study. In “Tree canopy cover for
177 year 2000,” each grid cell is assigned a value from 0-100 representing the percentage of
178 canopy closure for all vegetation taller than 5m in height within that grid cell. In “Global
179 forest cover loss 2000-2012,” grid cells are encoded as either 1 (representing loss, or change

180 from a forest to non-forest state from year 2000 to year 2012) or 0 (representing no loss
 181 between that same time period) (see Fig. 2B). The “Data mask” files distinguish terrestrial
 182 surfaces from water bodies. If a reserve and its surrounding region spanned multiple GFCD
 183 raster files, we mosaicked together the raster files in ArcMAP using the relatively
 184 conservative minimum mosaic operator, in which the output cell value of any overlapping
 185 areas between the rasters is reported as the minimum value of the overlapping raster cells.

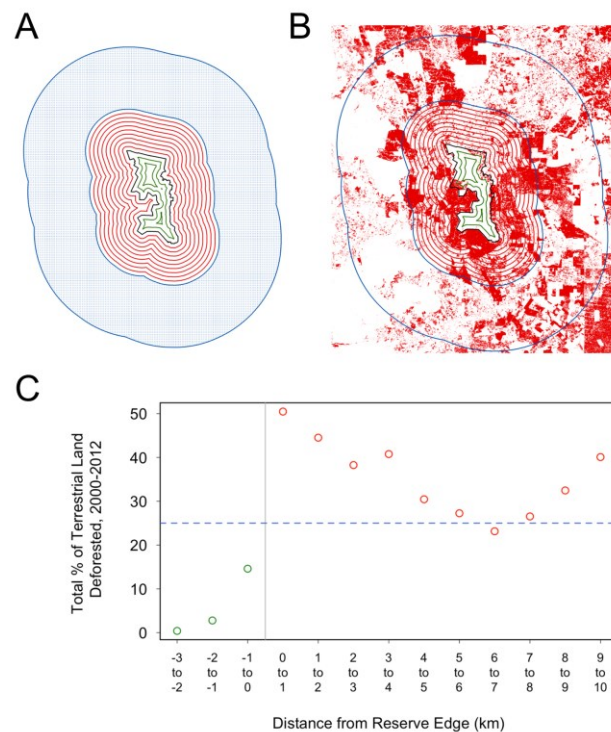


Figure 2. Spatial framework for quantifying spatial deforestation patterns across reserve boundaries. (A) Schematic of spatial framework using the example of Pasoh Forest Reserve (black outline), Malaysia. Green lines represent the “inner” rings up to 5 km within the reserve boundary, red lines represent the 10 “outer” buffer zone rings up to 10 km surrounding the reserve boundary, and the blue stippled region represents the “landscape” zone 10-25 km from the reserve edge. (B) As in (A), overlain with 2000-2012 forest loss pixels in red from the Global Forest Change dataset. (C) Deforestation that occurred between 2000-2012 in the inner (green) and outer (red) regions, separated by a vertical grey line, and compared with deforestation in the surrounding landscape (horizontal dashed blue line).

186

187 To determine total forested area in year 2000 across the reserves, all pixels with
 188 values > 10 in the “Tree canopy cover for year 2000” files were considered as forest cover, in
 189 accordance with the standard FAO definition of forest as land area with > 10% tree crown
 190 cover (FAO, 2010). These forest cover pixels were summed using ArcMAP’s Zonal Statistics

191 tool within each of the (maximum) five inner rings, each of the 10 outer rings, and within the
192 10-25 km landscape zone. Forest pixels were then converted into land area (km²), with each
193 representing an area of approximately 30 m x 30 m. Deforestation within each of the inner
194 rings, each of the outer rings, and the 10-25 km landscape zone was quantified in two ways:
195 1) by dividing the area of total forest loss between 2000 and 2012 (from the “Global forest
196 cover loss 2000-2012” raster file) by total forested area in year 2000, and expressing as the
197 percentage of year 2000 forested land area that was deforested between 2000 and 2012,
198 hereafter “deforestation (% forest)” (Eq. 1); and 2) by dividing the area of total forest loss
199 between 2000 and 2012 by total terrestrial area (from the “Data mask” GFCD files), and
200 expressing as the percentage of terrestrial land area deforested between 2000 and 2012,
201 hereafter “deforestation (% land)” (Eq. 2).

$$202 \quad \text{Deforestation (\% forest)} = \frac{\text{Total forest loss (2000–2012)}}{\text{Total forested area (2000)}} \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

203

$$204 \quad \text{Deforestation (\% land)} = \frac{\text{Total forest loss (2000–2012)}}{\text{Total terrestrial area}} \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

205 Both deforestation (% forest) and deforestation (% land) were calculated in this study since
206 both metrics offer unique insights into the nature of observed deforestation. The latter
207 provides an indication of absolute forest-clearing rates, while the former contextualises forest
208 loss within the framework of existing forest cover, thus detailing changes in the local
209 availability of forest resources over time.

210 We defined leakage as disproportionately higher rates of deforestation in a reserve’s
211 unprotected 10 km surrounding area when compared to the reserve interior as well as a
212 “baseline” deforestation rate from the 10-25 km broader landscape surrounding a reserve.
213 These “baseline” rates were assumed to serve as baselines for the regions within which each
214 reserve exists. In general, evaluations of the impact of a protected area must involve a
215 comparison of what happened in the protected area versus a counterfactual area to see what
216 would have happened in that same area had it not been protected. The underlying assumption
217 is that any differences arising from the comparison are a result of the protection status of the
218 reserve. The counterfactual can be determined by metrics such as country-wide or regional
219 deforestation rates, deforestation rates in the immediate vicinity or buffer zone of the reserve,
220 or historical deforestation rates prior to reserve establishment (Joppa and Pfaff, 2010). In this
221 study, we combined the former two (spatial) approaches, as recommended by Ewers and
222 Rodrigues (2008), using deforestation rates in a reserve’s 10 km outer buffer zone to assess
223 the presence of leakage against the “baseline” counterfactual of deforestation rates in the 10-

224 25 km regional landscape zone surrounding the reserve. To test for leakage, differences in the
225 response variable of 2000-2012 deforestation (both % forest and % land) across the three
226 categorical explanatory variables of inner reserve region, outer reserve buffer region, and the
227 10-25 km landscape zone were analysed for significance with a Kruskal-Wallis test and post-
228 hoc Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney (Wilcoxon matched pairs) tests.

229

230 **Statistical analyses of deforestation trends**

231 We log₁₀ transformed the observed deforestation rates (replacing zero values with the
232 lowest non-zero values calculated across sites) and analysed the data by (a) fitting smoothed
233 curves and interpreting them visually; and (b) fitting linear models and using formal
234 inference tests. For the curve-fitting approach, we fitted splines through each dataset using
235 the *smooth.spline* function in the *car* package of R, with 4 degrees of freedom (see Results,
236 Fig. 3). Estimates of deforestation from concentric zones are likely to show a degree of serial
237 autocorrelation, with implications when making inferences. Applying the Durbin-Watson test
238 to residuals of the spline models, we obtained an average value of 1.5 with a standard error of
239 0.065. Since $d = 2$ indicates no autocorrelation, and $d < 1$ indicates strong positive
240 autocorrelation, the observed d values indicate residuals were only weakly autocorrelated
241 (Gujarati and Porter, 2009), so no further consideration was given to this.

242 The formal analysis focussed on fitting linear models to log-transformed deforestation
243 rates at each site (using the *lm* function in R), and then testing for marked changes in
244 deforestation rates at reserve boundaries by also fitting linear models to the inner and outer
245 zones separately. Regressions for inner deforestation were only conducted for reserves with
246 greater than two deforestation bands in their interiors, i.e. reserves that were large enough to
247 fit at least 3 1-km wide rings in their interiors. Then, we tested whether the piecewise
248 regression model segmented at the reserve boundary led to an improvement of fit over the
249 original linear regression model by computing the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) value
250 for each model. AIC values were based on the log-likelihood of the model given the data and
251 penalized by the number of parameters included in the model. The two models were
252 considered similar if $\Delta\text{AIC} < 2$, while a model with the lower AIC was considered the better
253 supported if $\Delta\text{AIC} \geq 2$.

254 All statistical analyses were conducted in R version 3.0.2 (R Core Team, 2013) using
255 the R Studio version 0.98.932 (RStudio, 2012) environment.

256

257 **Results**

258 **Deforestation rates across the pantropical network**

259 The average deforestation rate (% land / year) within reserves was $0.073 \pm 0.009\%$ (mean \pm
260 standard error), which was significantly lower ($p < 0.0001$) than that observed immediately
261 outside the reserve boundaries ($0.29 \pm 0.02\%$) and the wider landscape ($0.32 \pm 0.07\%$) (Table
262 1, Table A.2). All but 9 of the 60 reserves had lower deforestation rates inside their
263 boundaries than observed in the wider landscape (i.e. deforestation rates in inner rings were
264 consistently below the landscape average), the exceptions being Kakamega Forest National
265 Reserve (site 26), Lac Télé Community Reserve (33), and Lopé National Park (35) in Africa;
266 Brownsberg Nature Park (5), El Yunque National Forest (18), and Nouragues National
267 Nature Reserve (47) in the Americas; and Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary (19),
268 Lore Lindu National Park (36), and Mount Spec National Park (41) in Asia-Pacific (Fig. A.2).
269 Additionally, the majority of reserves (37 of 60) had consistently lower rates of deforestation
270 inside their boundaries than in their outer zones, suggesting the outer zones were acting as a
271 buffer. However, there was considerable variation among reserves (Fig. A.2).

272 Globally, there was no significant difference between average deforestation rates (%
273 land / year) in the outer and landscape regions ($p > 0.1$) (Table 1, Table A.2). Thus, there was
274 no evidence that leakage (defined as deforestation rates in the outer zone that exceed those in
275 both the inner zone and wider landscape) is rife. However, our study pinpoints sites, all in
276 Africa, where deforestation patterns are consistent with leakage, namely Dzanga-Sangha,
277 Kahuzi Biéga, Kakamega, Lac Télé, and Lopé (Fig. A.2). At these five sites, deforestation
278 rates significantly increased from the reserve core to the reserve edge, only to significantly
279 decrease from the reserve edge out towards the broader landscape. For 12 other reserves (in
280 Africa: Budongo, Bwindi, Nyungwe; in the Americas: Chamela-Cuixmala, Ducke, Los
281 Tuxtlas, Nouragues; in Asia-Pacific: Huai Kha Khaeng, Khao Yai, Lore Lindu, Northern
282 Sierra Madre, Pasoh), most of the 10 buffer zone rings featured deforestation rates that
283 exceeded those both in reserve interiors and in the surrounding landscape, but deforestation
284 patterns were not conclusively indicative of leakage (e.g. deforestation did not significantly
285 increase from reserve core to reserve edge, or deforestation in the buffer zone did not
286 significantly decrease from reserve edge out towards landscape) (Fig. A.2).

287 Globally, deforestation rates calculated as a percentage of forested area were
288 significantly greater than rates calculated as a percentage of land area. The average annual
289 inner deforestation (% forest) rate between 2000 and 2012 ($0.080 \pm 0.010\%$) was
290 significantly less than the outer buffer deforestation (% forest) rate ($0.35 \pm 0.03\%$) ($p <$
291 0.0001), which in turn was significantly less than the landscape deforestation (% forest) rate

292 (0.41 ± 0.09%) ($p < 0.05$). (Table 1, Table A.2). So, rather than leakage, these data provide
293 evidence for buffer areas less rapidly declining in forest cover than the wider landscape
294 globally.

295 Regionally, inner, outer, and landscape deforestation (% land) rates generally saw
296 significantly lower inner deforestation rates than deforestation in both the outer and
297 landscape zones, with outer deforestation being statistically similar to that in the broader
298 landscape (Table 1, Table A.2). Deforestation (% forest) in Africa and the Asia-Pacific
299 region showed similar qualitative patterns, although deforestation in the Americas was
300 significantly different across all three reserve regions, continually increasing from the reserve
301 interior out to its broader landscape (Table 1).

302 While the reserves in Africa featured the greatest percentage of forest cover in 2000
303 when compared to reserves in the Americas and Asia-Pacific, they also featured some of the
304 lowest deforestation rates (both % land and % forest) across the inner, outer, and landscape
305 regions (Table 1). On the other hand, Asia-Pacific reserves featured both the lowest
306 percentage of forest cover yet the highest deforestation rates (both % land and % forest)
307 across the inner, outer, and landscape regions (Table 1). Across the African reserves, both %
308 land and % forest deforestation rates were similar to each other given the relatively high
309 percentage of forested land in 2000 (Table 1). However, reserves in the Americas and, to an
310 even greater extent, in the Asia-Pacific region experienced higher deforestation (% forest)
311 rates than deforestation (% land) rates (Table 1), an indication of the magnitude of existing
312 forest-cover loss and the high demand for forest resources from these geographies.

313 When compared to deforestation values reported above, all of which were based on
314 the spatial framework of quantifying deforestation 5 km into reserves and 10 km just outside
315 of reserves, we found similar qualitative results when comparing deforestation rates up to 10
316 km into reserves with those up to 10 km outside of reserves, as well as those up to 5 km into
317 reserves with those up to 5 km outside of reserves (results not shown).

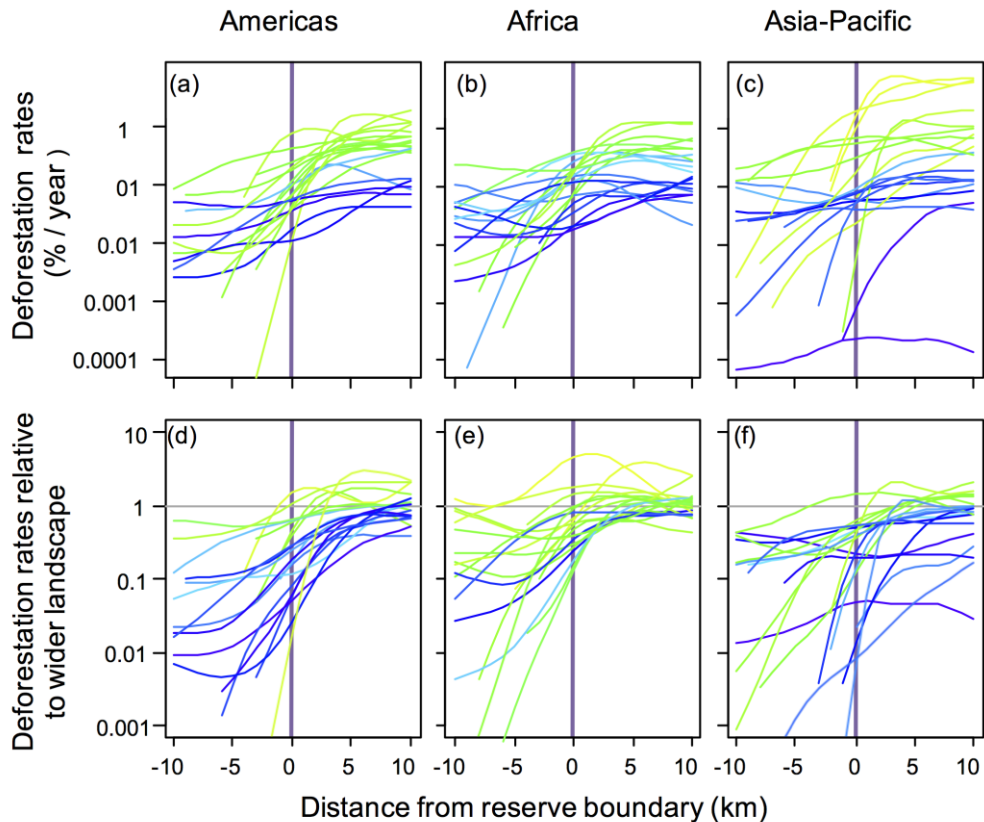
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321 **Table 1. Summary of deforestation rates from 2000 to 2012 in the inner 5 km, outer 10 km, and 10-25 km landscape regions of tropical forest reserves,**
 322 **aggregated globally and across each of the three major world regions.** Deforestation rates are presented as both average annual percentage of land deforested
 323 from 2000-2012 ± SE (% land), and average annual percentage of year 2000 forested land that was deforested from 2000-2012 ± SE (% forest). Percentages of
 324 terrestrial forest cover in year 2000 are also presented. Significant differences at the 95% confidence level within columns are identified with superscript letters;
 325 Table A.2 details the test statistics associated with these statistical analyses. Global inner, outer, and landscape deforestation rates are means from 60 samples each.
 326 Inner, outer, and landscape deforestation rates by world region are means from 20 samples each.

327

Region	GLOBAL			AFRICA			THE AMERICAS			ASIA-PACIFIC		
	Annual deforestation rate		% forested (2000)	Annual deforestation rate		% forested (2000)	Annual deforestation rate		% forested (2000)	Annual deforestation rate		% forested (2000)
	% land	% forest		% land	% forest		% land	% forest		% land	% forest	
Inner	0.073 ± 0.009 ^a	0.080 ± 0.010 ^a	88.1 ± 1.1 ^a	0.050 ± 0.005 ^a	0.053 ± 0.006 ^a	93.8 ± 0.4 ^a	0.046 ± 0.008 ^a	0.053 ± 0.009 ^a	87.3 ± 1.9 ^a	0.13 ± 0.03 ^a	0.14 ± 0.03 ^a	82.2 ± 2.7 ^a
Outer	0.29 ± 0.02 ^b	0.35 ± 0.03 ^b	77.1 ± 1.0 ^b	0.17 ± 0.01 ^b	0.18 ± 0.01 ^b	93.0 ± 0.3 ^a	0.20 ± 0.01 ^b	0.26 ± 0.02 ^b	72.1 ± 1.7 ^b	0.50 ± 0.06 ^b	0.62 ± 0.08 ^b	66.1 ± 1.9 ^b
Landscape	0.32 ± 0.07 ^b	0.41 ± 0.09 ^c	72.4 ± 3.3 ^c	0.16 ± 0.04 ^b	0.17 ± 0.04 ^b	89.8 ± 1.7 ^b	0.24 ± 0.05 ^b	0.32 ± 0.05 ^c	68.3 ± 5.8 ^b	0.57 ± 0.20 ^b	0.75 ± 0.24 ^b	59.1 ± 6.3 ^c



329

330 **Figure 3. Deforestation rate (top row) and deforestation rate relative to wider landscape**
 331 **(bottom row), as a function of distance from the edge of 60 reserves spanning three geographic**
 332 **regions (negative distance = inside reserve, positive distance = outside reserve).** The curves were
 333 obtained by fitting smoothing splines through deforestation rates estimated in rings of land around
 334 reserves (see Figure 1). Colours vary with maximum deforestation rates (top row) and relativized rate
 335 (bottom row).
 336

337 Visual inspection of curves allows us to draw several tentative conclusions. Firstly, they
 338 confirm that reserves are successful at curbing deforestation within their borders, as most
 339 curves trend downwards when entering the reserve. Secondly, they illustrate that
 340 deforestation rates in the outer zones are sometime higher and sometimes lower than those
 341 measured in the wider landscapes (e.g. in the bottom row of Fig. 3, curves in the +0-10 km
 342 zone are clustered around a value of one). Thirdly, Asia differs from the other continents in
 343 the range of responses; some sites show exceptionally high deforestation rates in their outer
 344 zones, while others show barely detectable deforestation rates. Fourthly, there is little
 345 evidence of leakage (i.e. relativized deforestation > 1 in the outer zone) except in a few sites.
 346 Fifthly, the effectiveness of the outer zone as a buffer zone appears to differ among
 347 continents. In Africa, deforestation rate is similar to the wider landscape until 1-2 km from
 348 the reserve boundary. In the Americas, there is a gradual transition within the outer zone,
 349 with buffering effects extending out to 10 km from the edge in several cases. In Asia, the
 350 trends defy any generalisation.

351

352 **Trends within reserves: formal analyses**

353 Log-transformed deforestation (% land) rates from 2000-2012 exhibited significant
354 relationships with distance from reserve boundary, at 1 km intervals, for 81% of the reserves,
355 with 78% of reserves seeing significant increases in deforestation from 5 km inside the
356 reserve across the reserve boundary to 10 km outside of the reserve (Table 2, Table A.3, “IO”
357 columns; Fig. A.2). However, for 87% of the reserves, these continuous linear regressions of
358 log-transformed deforestation rates across reserve boundaries performed more poorly in
359 describing spatial deforestation patterns across reserve boundaries when compared to
360 piecewise linear regressions of log-transformed deforestation rates as a function of distance
361 from reserve boundary, with a break at the boundary (Table 2, Table A.3, Fig. A.2).
362 Specifically, at the 95% confidence level, 27% of reserves experienced deforestation that
363 increased significantly from the reserve interior to the reserve boundary, while 5%
364 experienced deforestation that decreased significantly from the reserve interior to the reserve
365 boundary (Table 2, Table A.3, “I” columns; Fig. A.2). When considering deforestation in the
366 outer 10 km buffer zone surrounding reserves, a third of the reserves experienced
367 deforestation that significantly increased with greater distance away from the reserve
368 boundary at the 95% confidence level (Table 2, Table A.3, “O” columns; Fig. A.2). Another
369 17% experienced deforestation in the outer buffer zone that significantly decreased with
370 increased distance away from the reserve boundary at the 95% confidence level (Table 2,
371 Table A.3, “O” columns; Fig. A.2).

372

373

374 **Table 2. Comparison of support for two alternative models describing log-transformed**
375 **deforestation (% land) rates across the administrative boundaries of 60 tropical forest reserves.**
376 Model “IO” fits one continuous regression line through all inner and outer region deforestation rates.
377 Model “I+O” is a piecewise model comprising two regression lines: one through deforestation rates
378 up to 5 km inside reserves from their boundaries (sub-model “I”) and a second through deforestation
379 rates up to 10 km outside reserves (sub-model “O”). Values represent the percentage reserves for
380 which deforestation showed a significant positive (“+” columns) or negative (“-” columns)
381 relationship with distance from reserve boundary under each model or sub-model. The percentage of
382 reserves for which fitting the piecewise I+O model was better support (by AIC) than having a single
383 IO model is shown.

	IO		I		O		I + O better (%)
	+	-	+	-	+	-	
Global (60)	78%	3%	27%	5%	33%	17%	87%
Africa (20)	75%	0%	50%	0%	20%	35%	95%
The Americas (20)	85%	0%	20%	5%	40%	5%	90%
Asia-Pacific (20)	75%	10%	10%	10%	40%	10%	75%

384

385 **Discussion**

386 Given the high levels of threat facing tropical forests and uncertainty surrounding the efficacy
387 of efforts in preserving such areas, the aim of this study was to evaluate the degree of
388 protection success across a global network of tropical forest reserves. We used leakage as a
389 metric of protection success by analysing spatial patterns of deforestation across reserve
390 boundaries between 2000 and 2012. Overall, we found that leakage was generally not
391 occurring at a global scale, nor was it occurring at the level of major world regions on the
392 whole (Table 1). In other words, our findings indicate that, on both regional and global scales,
393 deforestation rates tend to be lower inside tropical forest reserves than outside, but not at the
394 expense of disproportionate levels of deforestation being displaced from within protected
395 areas to their broader surroundings. Serving as the first analysis of leakage around a tropical
396 forest protected area network that spans the globe, our work also supports the existing
397 literature base that recognises the effectiveness of tropical forest reserves in reducing forest-
398 cover loss within their boundaries (Bruner *et al.*, 2001; Gaveau *et al.*, 2009; Scharlemann *et*
399 *al.*, 2010).

400 Our results even indicate to a slight extent a promising, positive effect of tropical
401 forest reserves, in which reserve presence may reduce or at least temper rates of forest-cover
402 change in at least the areas immediately surrounding them. We found that, on a global scale,
403 although the 10 km buffer zones immediately outside of reserves featured significantly
404 greater proportions of forest cover than the broader 10-25 km landscapes did, deforestation
405 (% forest) in these outer 10 km regions were still significantly lower than those in the broader
406 10-25 km landscapes (Table 1). This slightly positive leakage of conservation benefits from

407 reserves into their surrounding areas has previously been observed (Andam *et al.*, 2008;
408 Gaveau *et al.*, 2009). It is also possible that this finding reflects the prevalence of
409 geographically targeted conservation efforts on a global scale. In some cases, conservation
410 activities are deliberately implemented in the buffer zone surrounding a core protected area,
411 such as the buffer zone being legally declared as part of the protected area itself (Dudley,
412 2008).

413 Our study's conclusion that leakage is not a pervasive phenomenon around the pan-
414 tropical network of forest reserves corroborates the previously proposed notion that leakage
415 extent – and, perhaps by extension, reserve effectiveness – may be primarily determined by
416 factors that hold more relevance on regional and local scales (Douglas *et al.*, 2013; Joppa *et*
417 *al.*, 2008). Rates, patterns, extents, and drivers of deforestation have indeed been found to
418 differ for reserves in Asia, Africa, and Latin America (Nagendra, 2008). Factors on the
419 ground that have been found to contribute to conservation effectiveness include geographic
420 variables such as site elevation and distance to roads, towns, and major water bodies (Brown
421 *et al.*, 2007); the presence of on-site guards monitoring the area (Bruner *et al.*, 2001; Pelkey
422 *et al.*, 2000); the degree to which natural resources found within the park are integral to the
423 livelihoods of local communities (Straede and Treue, 2006); country-level poverty and
424 corruption (Sodhi *et al.*, 2009; Wright *et al.*, 2007); and the long-term presence of researchers
425 (Campbell *et al.*, 2011) – a so-called “science safe-guarding effect” in which scientists
426 function as *de facto* park guards (Laurance, 2013). Also of import in determining the efficacy
427 of protected areas are the political economies within which they are steeped. The extent of
428 land-clearing pressures and threats to which protected areas are exposed can be influenced by
429 the type and effectiveness of protection governance practised on the reserve (Leverington *et*
430 *al.*, 2010; Pfaff *et al.*, 2014) and its assigned protection category (i.e. strict protection,
431 multiple-use protection, or indigenously protected areas) (Nelson and Chomitz, 2009).
432 Broader, national land tenure action and policies also serve as some of the most influential
433 underlying determinants of deforestation and successful carbon management in tropical
434 forests (Larson *et al.*, 2013; Robinson *et al.*, 2014; Sunderlin *et al.*, 2014). Extensions of our
435 study could include efforts to identify the extent to which these ground-level variables can
436 explain not only the presence but also the intensity of leakage identified for the 60 reserves
437 studied here.

438 The notion that reserve efficacy is highly dependent upon local variables is illustrated
439 by our study's ability to pinpoint site-specific occurrences of possible leakage across the
440 world despite its finding that deforestation leakage is not globally pervasive. Of the 60
441 reserves in this study, the five reserves that we found to have experienced deforestation

442 patterns consistent with leakage events between 2000 and 2012 are located exclusively on the
443 African continent, and primarily in Central Africa (Fig. 1, Fig. A.2). In Central Africa,
444 selective industrial logging of high-value tree species has become an extensive form of land
445 use over recent decades, with new logging expansion frontiers rapidly forming in the
446 Democratic Republic of Congo in particular (Laporte *et al.*, 2007). Meanwhile, inadequate
447 protected area management due to shortcomings in law enforcement and poaching threats has
448 been found to dominate protected areas in the Central African Republic (Blom *et al.*, 2004).
449 Evidence of leakage events driven by human population growth and forest accessibility in
450 East Africa's tropical evergreen forests has also been previously identified (Pfeifer *et al.*,
451 2012). Alternatively, rather than deforestation being actively displaced from within the
452 reserve interiors, reserve buffers may be disproportionately targeted for deforestation
453 activities at these five sites and the additional 12 sites featuring greater deforestation rates in
454 their buffer zone rings than their broader landscapes. Given the projected expansion and
455 intensification of tropical agriculture, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, the regulation of
456 opportunistic agricultural expansion that particularly disrupts unprotected habitats adjoining
457 nature reserves is viewed as an urgent priority in the tropics (Laurance *et al.*, 2014). Our
458 results may directly capture this process of opportunistic land conversion in unprotected areas
459 bordering reserves.

460 Our results underscore the need for further scrutiny and investigation of perceived
461 protection efficacy on the ground. Results from our study corroborate forest cover-change
462 patterns in and around tropical forest reserves previously derived from site-specific satellite
463 imagery studies – see land cover-change studies at, for example, Kibale by Naughton-Treves
464 *et al.* (2011), Kinabalu by Phua *et al.* (2008), and Gunung Palung by Zamzani *et al.* (2009).
465 Thus, our global study demonstrates at least some degree of local relevance, and can be used
466 to inform, prompt, and manage ground-level conservation efforts that balance leakage
467 prevention with efforts that work to ensure the livelihoods of the local communities that may
468 still heavily depend on natural resources from such protected areas and their surroundings
469 (Straede and Treue, 2006).

470 Despite our finding that leakage may be a phenomenon that occurs on a site-by-site
471 basis, we cannot ignore the lack of significant difference we found globally between
472 deforestation rates in the 10 km buffer zones immediately surrounding reserves and their
473 broader 10-25 km landscapes. These deforestation rates, both in the surrounding buffer and
474 landscape of a reserve, tend to be significantly higher than those within reserves (Table 1).
475 Furthermore, deforestation rates tend to intensify from a reserve's interior to its outermost 10
476 km buffer (Table 2, Fig. A.2) – even, on a global scale and in the Americas, continuing on to

477 increase through its 10-25 km landscape region (Table 1). Taken together, these findings
478 underscore the conclusions of previous studies (DeFries *et al.*, 2005; Seiferling *et al.*, 2012):
479 that protected areas are becoming increasingly isolated habitat remnants due to deforestation
480 and land-use changes in their immediately surrounding regions.

481 The implications of such land cover-change dynamics are of critical importance to the
482 integrity of reserves. DeFries *et al.* (2005) reported that healthy forest surrounding tropical
483 forest reserve boundaries can increase the effective size of protected areas and thus support
484 vital ecological processes between protected areas and their surroundings. Changes in land
485 cover surrounding reserves have also been shown to affect material flows and disturbances
486 into and out of reserves, influence population source and sink dynamics, and introduce a
487 number of edge effects, each of which harbours a unique set of implications for reserve
488 health (Hansen and DeFries, 2007). Reserves that are smaller in area have also been found to
489 be especially susceptible to transformation – in fact, degradation – to the dominant land use-
490 change pattern in their embedded landscapes (Maiorano *et al.*, 2008). Alternatively, the
491 surrounding landscape matrix can also play a key role in promoting the rapid recovery of
492 tropical forests (Chazdon, 2003). Thus, structurally and compositionally intact forest
493 landscapes are fundamental and necessary for sustaining the world’s increasingly degraded
494 and disturbed tropical forests.

495 Confounding factors involving the location bias of protected areas must be considered
496 when interpreting the results of our leakage analysis. We used deforestation rates in the
497 surrounding landscape of reserves as a metric of “baseline” land cover-change dynamics, or
498 deforestation rates that we might see in the absence of the reserve. However, reserves are
499 often non-randomly distributed through space, such that landscape characteristics of
500 protected areas and their immediately surrounding unprotected areas may not in fact be
501 comparable (Mas, 2005). For example, reserve networks have been known to experience *de*
502 *facto* protection simply because they occupy “rock and ice”; their placement, especially for
503 reserves afforded higher protection status, is biased towards locations that are unlikely to face
504 high land-conversion pressures even in the absence of protection (e.g. regions of high
505 elevations, steep slopes, and greater distance to roads and cities) (Joppa and Pfaff, 2009). In
506 such scenarios, higher deforestation rates detected immediately surrounding reserves, even if
507 greater than “baseline” rates in the broader landscape, may simply be a consequence of the
508 heterogeneity of spatial variables that might allow for, say, greater accessibility to the
509 immediately surrounding region, rather than a direct outcome of *displaced* deforestation due
510 to the reserve’s protection status. To address this problem, matching studies have been
511 proposed (Andam *et al.*, 2008; Beresford *et al.*, 2013; Nelson and Chomitz, 2009). In

512 matching studies, protected areas are paired with unprotected areas that have similar
513 likelihoods of receiving protection based on their landscape characteristics (e.g. slope,
514 elevation, rainfall, proximity to major roads and cities). Then, land-cover change in the two
515 matched areas is compared. Matching studies have already been demonstrated to decrease
516 estimates of reserve success in the tropics (Alix-Garcia *et al.*, 2012; Joppa and Pfaff, 2010;
517 Mas, 2005). Determining baseline deforestation rates and assessing leakage through the use
518 of matching methodologies would serve as a highly informative means of refining and
519 extending the analysis conducted here.

520

521 **Conclusion**

522 Tropical forests provide important ecosystem services to humanity as a whole, sustaining the
523 livelihoods of local peoples by improving social welfare, guarding local security, and
524 providing economic benefits. Thus, reducing the impact of global change on these forests and
525 the services they provide is a defining issue of our time. Our study has demonstrated the
526 utility in using contemporary satellite imagery-based global forest-cover data products such
527 as the GFCD to enhance our understanding and evaluation of conservation success in tropical
528 forest protected areas. As the first leakage analysis conducted across a pan-tropical protected
529 area network, our study indicates that deforestation is not disproportionately displaced
530 outside of reserve boundaries on a global scale and addresses knowledge gaps surrounding
531 the phenomenon of leakage as a detrimental consequence of land protection. Our study also
532 indicates that deforestation occurring in the regions immediately surrounding tropical forest
533 reserves is converting such areas into increasingly isolated habitat remnants, a finding that
534 holds critical ramifications for modern conservation strategies. Our study comes at a time
535 when the conservation community is increasingly recognising the need to account for
536 deforestation leakage when estimating reserve efficacy and capitalising upon the use of
537 modern remote sensing products to achieve this very aim. We demonstrate the utility of new
538 remote sensing products such as the GFCD in directing the modification and priority-setting
539 of conservation efforts so that they more appropriately address the most urgent and relevant
540 conservation challenges of today – particularly with respect to understanding the linkages
541 between priority areas of high conservation value and the surrounding landscapes within
542 which they exist.

543

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551

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719 **Appendices**

720

Table A.1. Alternative sources of reserve boundary shapefiles that were unavailable on the World Database Of Protected Areas website.

Protected Area	Source and Affiliation
Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments Project (BDFFP)	<i>Dr. Marion Pfeifer</i> Faculty of Natural Sciences, Imperial College
Dinghushan Biosphere Reserve	<i>Dr. Xiuzhi Chen</i> Dinghushan Forest Ecosystem Research Station, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Hahpen (Fushan) Nature Reserve	<i>Dr. Jung-Tai Chao</i> Division of Forest Protection, Taiwan Forestry Research Institute
Kilum-Ijim/Mount Oku Forest Reserve	<i>Mark Balman</i> GIS Support Analyst, BirdLife International
La Selva Biological Station	<i>Antonio Trabucco</i> GIS Laboratory Manager, Organization for Tropical Studies (file downloaded from http://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=231b3aa3503347978dac65622c9a6aef)
Los Amigos Conservation Concession	<i>Megan MacDowell</i> Amazon Conservation Association
Paranapiacaba Remnant	<i>Dr. Beatriz Beisiegel</i> Centro Nacional de Pesquisas para a Conservação dos Predadores Naturais
Pasoh Forest Reserve	<i>Dr. Joseph Wright and Dr. Patrick Jansen,</i> Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

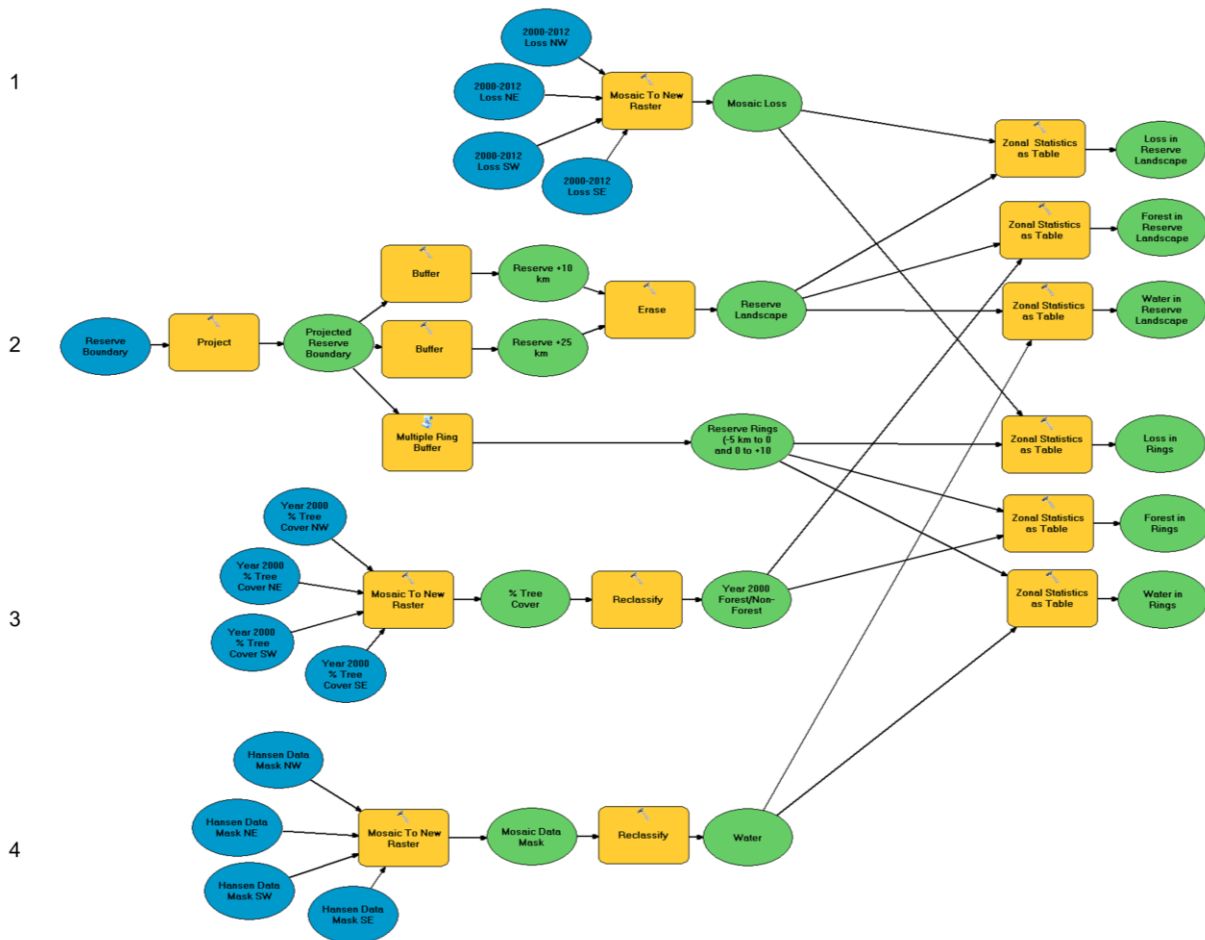
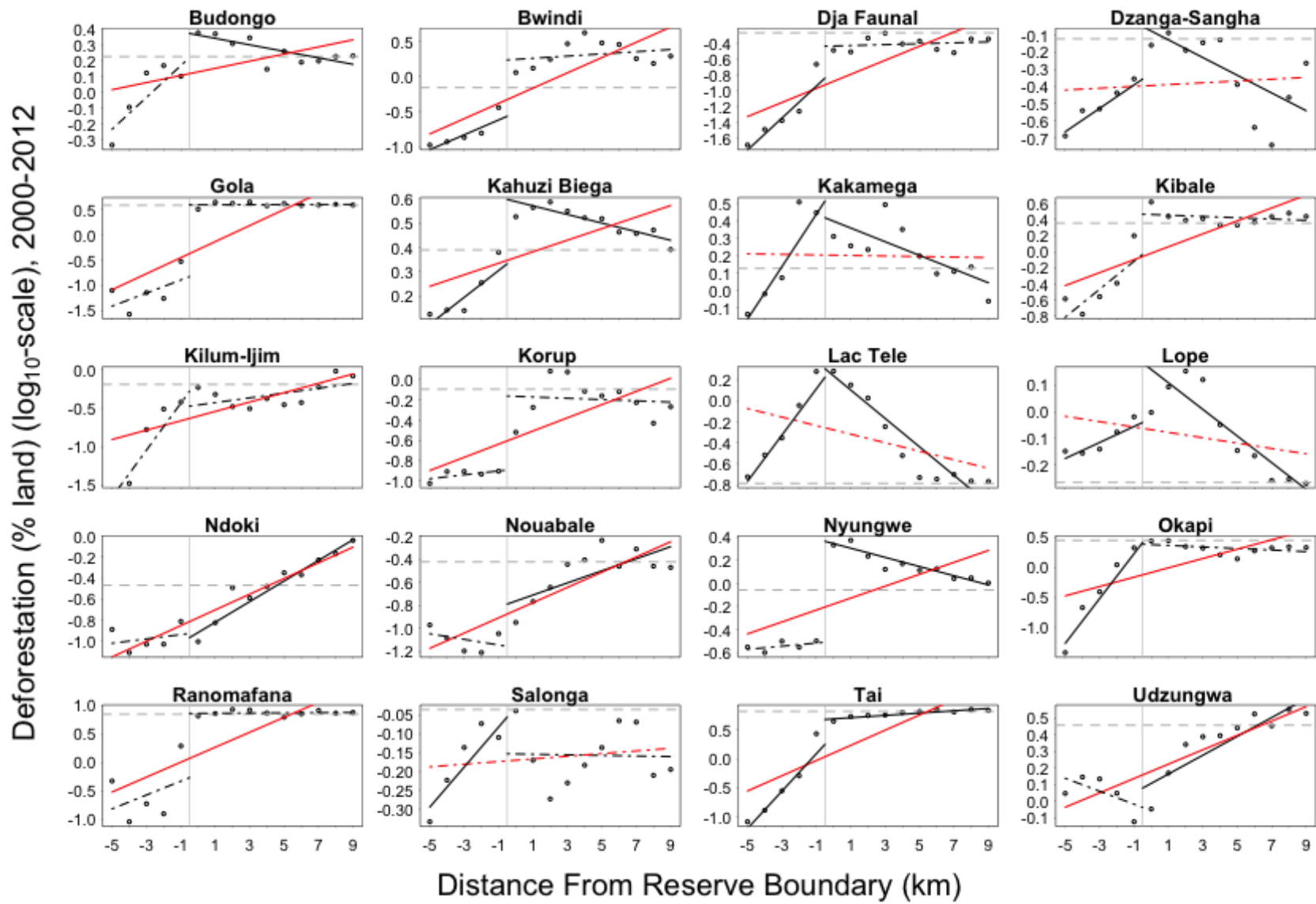


Figure A.1. Illustrative representation of ArcGIS workflow used to quantify spatial deforestation patterns around reserves. Blue circles represent data inputs, yellow rectangles represent ArcGIS analysis tools, and green circles represent derived data outputs. Broadly, Rows 1, 3, and 4 represent the steps necessary to prepare forest loss (row 1), forest cover (row 2), and water (row 3) raster files from the Global Forest Change dataset for analysis. Row 2 represents the steps necessary to create the 5 interior rings from the reserve edge, the 10 rings emanating up to 10 km outside of the reserve, and the broader 25 km landscape zone surrounding the reserve.

722 **Table A.2. Results of Wilcoxon matched pairs tests comparing deforestation rates across three spatial zones of interest globally and by**
723 **region.** Comparisons are listed by order in which they appear in the in-text Results section. *** = $p < 0.0001$; ** = $p < 0.001$; * = $p < 0.05$.
724

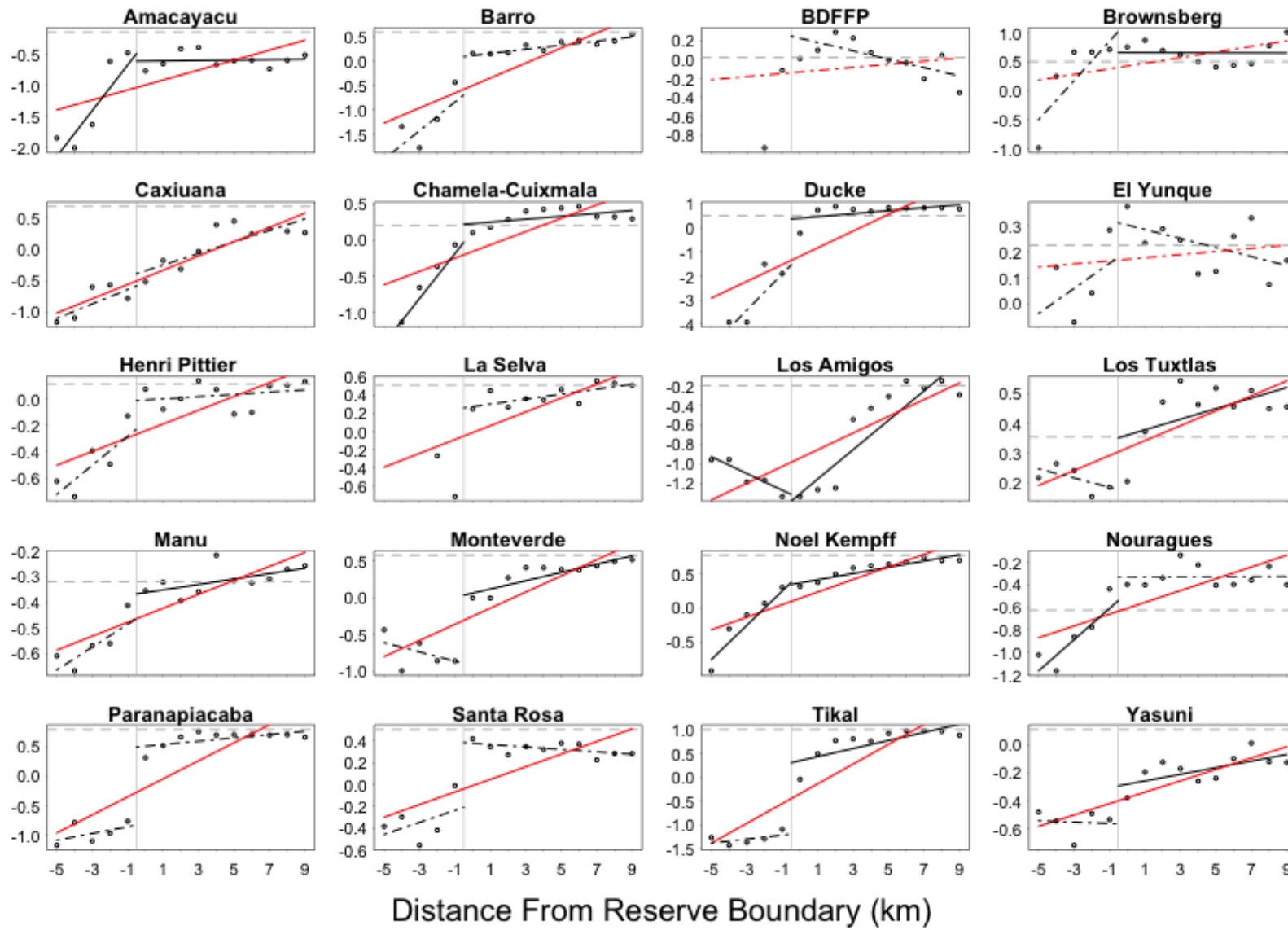
Geography	Unit	Spatial Zone Comparison		V	n	p-value	
Global	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Outer deforestation	55	120	< 0.0001 ***
Global	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Landscape deforestation	93	120	< 0.0001 ***
Global	% land	Outer deforestation	=	Landscape deforestation	785	120	> 0.1
Global	both	Deforestation (% forest)	>	Deforestation (% land)	0	120	< 0.0001 ***
Global	% forest	Inner deforestation	<	Outer deforestation	41	120	< 0.0001 ***
Global	% forest	Inner deforestation	<	Landscape deforestation	61	120	< 0.0001 ***
Global	% forest	Outer deforestation	<	Landscape deforestation	621	120	< 0.05 *
Africa	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Outer deforestation	6	40	< 0.001 **
Africa	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Landscape deforestation	35.5	40	< 0.0001 ***
Africa	% land	Outer deforestation	=	Landscape deforestation	135	40	> 0.1
Americas	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Outer deforestation	0	40	< 0.0001 ***
Americas	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Landscape deforestation	2	40	< 0.0001 ***
Americas	% land	Outer deforestation	=	Landscape deforestation	62	40	> 0.1
Asia-Pacific	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Outer deforestation	20	40	< 0.0001 ***
Asia-Pacific	% land	Inner deforestation	<	Landscape deforestation	13	40	< 0.0001 ***
Asia-Pacific	% land	Outer deforestation	=	Landscape deforestation	89	40	> 0.1

A



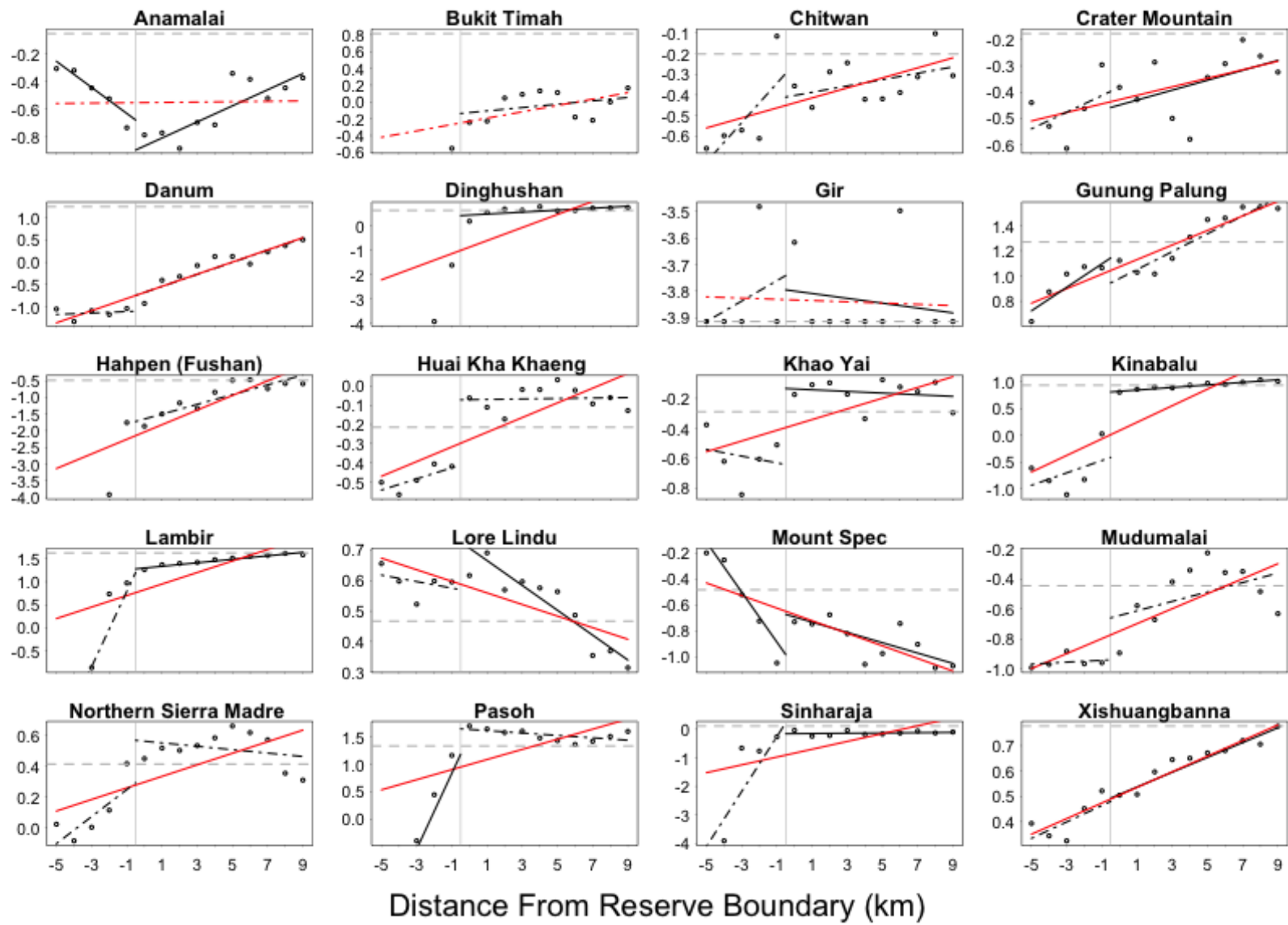
B

Deforestation (% land) (\log_{10} -scale), 2000-2012



C

Deforestation (% land) (\log_{10} -scale), 2000-2012



728

729 **Figure A.2. Deforestation (% land) rates across reserve boundaries for 60 tropical forest reserves in (A) Africa, (B) the Americas, and (C) Asia-**
730 **Pacific.** Data points represent rates within single 1 km-wide rings in the inner and outer zones, while the horizontal grey dashes represent average
731 deforestation within the 10-25 km landscape surrounding each reserve (see Fig. 2 for further explanation). Red lines represent ordinary least-squares
732 regression fits of log-transformed deforestation rates across the inner and outer regions combined. Black lines represent ordinary least-squares regression fits
733 of log-transformed deforestation rates in the inner region and outer region separately. Solid red or black lines represent regressions with significant slopes at
734 the 95% confidence level. Dot-dash red or black lines represent regressions with non-significant slopes at the 95% confidence level. X-axis label “-5” refers
735 to the region from -5 to -4 km from reserve boundary, “-4” to the region from -4 to -3 km from reserve boundary, and so on. In all but eight reserves, there
736 was strong statistical support for fitting two regression lines rather than a single line (Table A.3).

Table A.3. Comparison of two linear models describing log-transformed deforestation (% land) rates at 1 km intervals between 2000 and 2012 across the administrative boundaries of 60 tropical forest reserves arranged alphabetically within geographic region. Model “I+O” is a piecewise model comprising two regression lines: one through deforestation rates inside reserves 5 km from reserve boundaries (sub-model “I”) measured at 1 km intervals, and a second through deforestation rates outside reserves 10 km from reserve boundaries (sub-model “O”) measured at 1 km intervals. Model “IO” fits one continuous regression line through all inner and outer region deforestation rates. ΔAIC values represent the AIC of the IO model less the AIC of the I+O model; values greater than or equal to two indicate the I+O model as a better fit for the data, and values less than two indicate the IO model as a better fit for the data. The “<” symbol indicates that the I+O model has a lower AIC value than the IO model, and thus is a better fit for the data; “>” indicates that the I+O model has a higher AIC value than the IO model, and thus is a worse fit for the data. Boldface values represent regression lines with slopes significantly different from zero at the 95% confidence level. Sites with “—” symbols were too small to fit more than two rings in their interiors, and thus regressions for their inner deforestation rates and AIC_{I+O} values were not determined.

Site Name	Site No. (see Fig. 1)	Region	I + O					IO		ΔAIC ($AIC_{IO} - AIC_{I+O}$)
			I		O			Slope	Y-intercept	
			Slope	Y-intercept	Slope	Y-intercept		Slope	Y-intercept	
Budongo Forest Reserve	6	Africa	0.113	0.222	-0.02	0.374	<	0.023	0.109	20
Bwindi Impenetrable National Park	8	Africa	0.119	-0.564	0.015	0.239	<	0.109	-0.38	18
Dja Faunal Reserve	15	Africa	0.227	-0.836	0.005	-0.433	<	0.089	-0.965	26
Dzanga-Sangha Special Reserve	17	Africa	0.077	-0.357	-0.049	-0.051	<	0.005	-0.399	20
Gola Rainforest National Park	20	Africa	0.147	-0.829	0.001	0.601	<	0.16	-0.45	50
Kahuzi Biéga National Park	25	Africa	0.062	0.333	-0.017	0.597	<	0.024	0.335	33
Kakamega Forest National Reserve	26	Africa	0.17	0.515	-0.037	0.42	<	-0.002	0.206	14
Kibale National Park	28	Africa	0.195	-0.032	-0.008	0.465	<	0.08	-0.099	24
Kilum-Ijim/Mount Oku Forest Reserve	29	Africa	0.346	-0.277	0.03	-0.472	<	0.061	-0.662	8

Korup National Park	31	Africa	0.022	-0.892	-0.006	-0.161	<	0.065	-0.637	21
Lac Télé Community Reserve	33	Africa	0.248	0.224	-0.129	0.306	<	-0.041	-0.236	31
Lopé National Park	35	Africa	0.034	-0.04	-0.047	0.183	<	-0.01	-0.057	22
Ndoki (Mondika) National Park	43	Africa	0.023	-0.927	0.093	-0.967	<	0.075	-0.851	1
Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park	46	Africa	-0.027	-1.155	0.05	-0.788	<	0.066	-0.908	3
Nyungwe Forest Nature Reserve	48	Africa	0.015	-0.51	-0.038	0.366	<	0.052	-0.23	52
Okapi Wildlife Reserve National Park	49	Africa	0.42	0.41	-0.012	0.381	<	0.078	-0.167	36
Ranomafana National Park	52	Africa	0.137	-0.269	0.002	0.86	<	0.131	0.003	42
Salonga National Park	53	Africa	0.059	-0.056	-0.001	-0.153	<	0.003	-0.174	3
Tai National Park	56	Africa	0.364	0.253	0.019	0.685	<	0.13	-0.027	56
Udzungwa Mountains National Park	58	Africa	-0.044	-0.037	0.054	0.079	<	0.04	0.137	3
Amacayacú National Park	1	Americas	0.414	-0.485	0.003	-0.609	<	0.08	-1.073	21
Barro Colorado Island Biological Station	3	Americas	0.329	-0.687	0.04	0.098	<	0.153	-0.648	35
BDFFP	4	Americas	—	—	-0.042	0.247	<	0.016	-0.149	—
Brownsberg Nature Park	5	Americas	0.381	1.023	-0.001	0.658	<	0.048	0.378	9
Caxiuanã National Forest	9	Americas	0.128	-0.586	0.087	-0.39	>	0.113	-0.562	-4
Chamela-Cuixmala Reserve	10	Americas	0.351	-0.03	0.019	0.22	<	0.092	-0.249	28
Ducke Forest Reserve	16	Americas	0.849	-1.531	0.059	0.382	<	0.349	-1.517	25
El Yunque (Luquillo) National Forest	18	Americas	0.054	0.18	-0.017	0.312	<	0.006	0.165	1
Henri Pittier National Park	23	Americas	0.124	-0.228	0.008	-0.012	<	0.052	-0.293	10
La Selva Biological Station/Protected Zone	32	Americas	—	—	0.026	0.259	<	0.076	-0.088	—

Los Amigos Conservation Concession	37	Americas	-0.096	-1.313	0.143	-1.381	<	0.086	-1.027	16
Los Tuxtlas Biosphere Reserve	38	Americas	-0.017	0.178	0.017	0.351	<	0.025	0.292	4
Manú National Park	39	Americas	0.05	-0.464	0.01	-0.367	<	0.027	-0.478	7
Monteverde Protective Zone	40	Americas	-0.071	-0.895	0.054	0.031	<	0.11	-0.363	20
Noel Kempff Mercado National Park	44	Americas	0.282	0.37	0.043	0.341	<	0.092	0.046	27
Nouragues National Nature Reserve	47	Americas	0.156	-0.541	0	-0.332	<	0.052	-0.662	14
Paranapiacaba	50	Americas	0.064	-0.83	0.027	0.49	<	0.153	-0.352	32
Santa Rosa National Park	54	Americas	0.062	-0.209	-0.011	0.383	<	0.058	-0.069	28
Tikal National Park	57	Americas	0.048	-1.197	0.081	0.306	<	0.21	-0.554	26
Yasuni National Park	60	Americas	-0.005	-0.565	0.022	-0.294	<	0.04	-0.42	2
Anamalai Tiger Reserve	2	Asia-Pacific	-0.106	-0.677	0.055	-0.893	<	0.001	-0.553	20
Bukit Timah Nature Reserve	7	Asia-Pacific	—	—	0.019	-0.137	<	0.038	-0.269	—
Chitwan National Park	11	Asia-Pacific	0.107	-0.296	0.015	-0.41	<	0.024	-0.463	1
Crater Mountain Wildlife Management Area	12	Asia-Pacific	0.036	-0.398	0.018	-0.459	>	0.016	-0.445	-5
Danum Valley Conservation Area	13	Asia-Pacific	0.018	-1.104	0.129	-0.748	<	0.137	-0.817	2
Dinghushan Mountain Nature Reserve	14	Asia-Pacific	—	—	0.038	0.437	<	0.268	-1.127	—
Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary	19	Asia-Pacific	0.043	-3.741	-0.009	-3.795	>	-0.002	-3.831	-5
Gunung Palung National Park	21	Asia-Pacific	0.105	1.143	0.067	0.945	>	0.058	1.015	0
Hahpen (Fushan) Nature Reserve	22	Asia-Pacific	—	—	0.139	-1.721	<	0.219	-2.255	—
Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary	24	Asia-Pacific	0.032	-0.411	0.001	-0.073	<	0.038	-0.317	20
Khao Yai National Park	27	Asia-Pacific	-0.025	-0.642	-0.005	-0.134	<	0.036	-0.413	10

Kinabalu National Park	30	Asia-Pacific	0.13	-0.414	0.023	0.809	<	0.155	-0.067	57
Lambir Hills National Park	34	Asia-Pacific	0.922	1.201	0.036	1.28	<	0.125	0.7	52
Lore Lindu National Park	36	Asia-Pacific	-0.012	0.57	-0.039	0.726	<	-0.019	0.597	8
Mount Spec/Paluma Range National Park	41	Asia-Pacific	-0.217	-0.981	-0.038	-0.672	<	-0.048	-0.624	14
Mudumalai Biosphere Reserve	42	Asia-Pacific	0.007	-0.94	0.03	-0.661	<	0.05	-0.799	7
Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park	45	Asia-Pacific	0.099	0.292	-0.01	0.567	<	0.037	0.259	10
Pasoh Forest Reserve	51	Asia-Pacific	0.782	1.185	-0.021	1.651	<	0.093	0.905	44
Sinharaja Forest Reserve National Park	55	Asia-Pacific	1.084	0.224	0.005	-0.157	<	0.14	-0.974	43
Xishuangbanna Nature Reserve	59	Asia-Pacific	0.036	0.48	0.028	0.493	>	0.03	0.474	-1

738