

Linking up Wildlife Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation:

THE CASE OF ORANGUTANS IN INDONESIA

INTRODUCTION

BOS Foundation is the biggest primate conservation NGO, which mission is to contribute to the conservation of the Bornean Orangutan and its habitat through the involvement of the local communities. This poster presents current work of BOS Foundation in cooperation with BOS Germany and other international organizations, central and local governments, as well as local population. Work focuses on combined forest conservation and forest landscape restoration activities with Orangutan habitat protection.

BACKGROUND AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

- From 1973 to 2010 more than 56% of OU habitat was destroyed.
- Since 1990, tropical forest is cleared for the establishment of new palm plantations and timber extraction or through mining and forest fires.
- Indonesia is one of the biggest emitters of GHG emissions.
- Peatland and forest fires are the largest contributors to Indonesia's GHG emissions.
- In 2015, more than 2.5 million hectares of land in Indonesia were burned, half of them on peatland.
- COP 21: the Indonesian government announced plans to ban forest clearing in peatlands and instructed to rewet drained areas by blocking drainage canals in order to reduce CO2 emission.

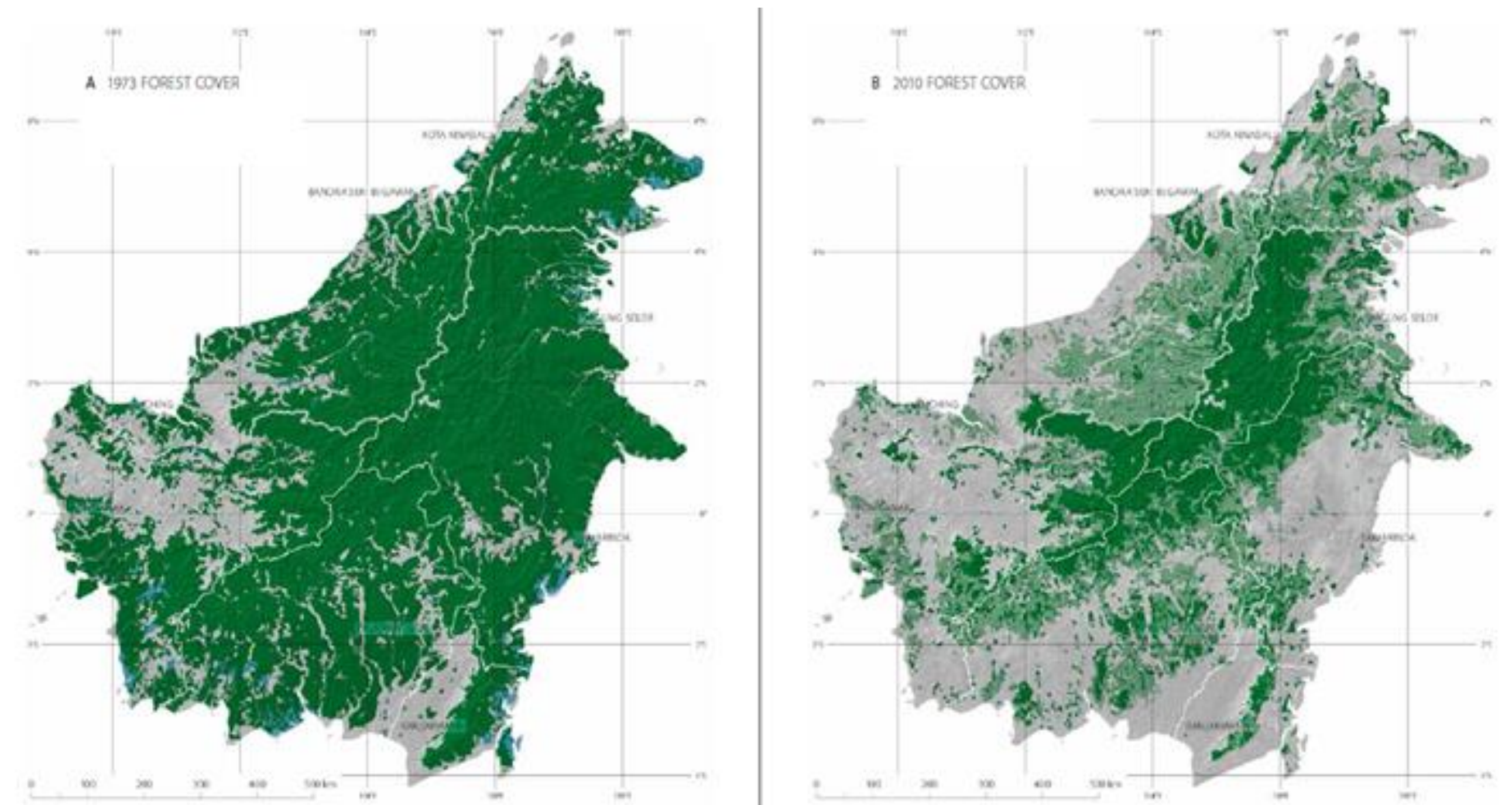


Figure 1. Forest cover in Borneo in 1973 and 2010

PROJECT AREA

Mawas is located within the ex-Mega Rice Project in Central Kalimantan. Mawas is protecting 309,000 ha, most of them forest peatlands. It is the home of one of the largest wild orangutan populations (3,000 OU), many other fauna and flora. Around 29,000 families are living in 53 villages.

Activities:

- Orangutan conservation
- Forest conservation
- Forest landscape restoration
- Community education
- Community empowerment

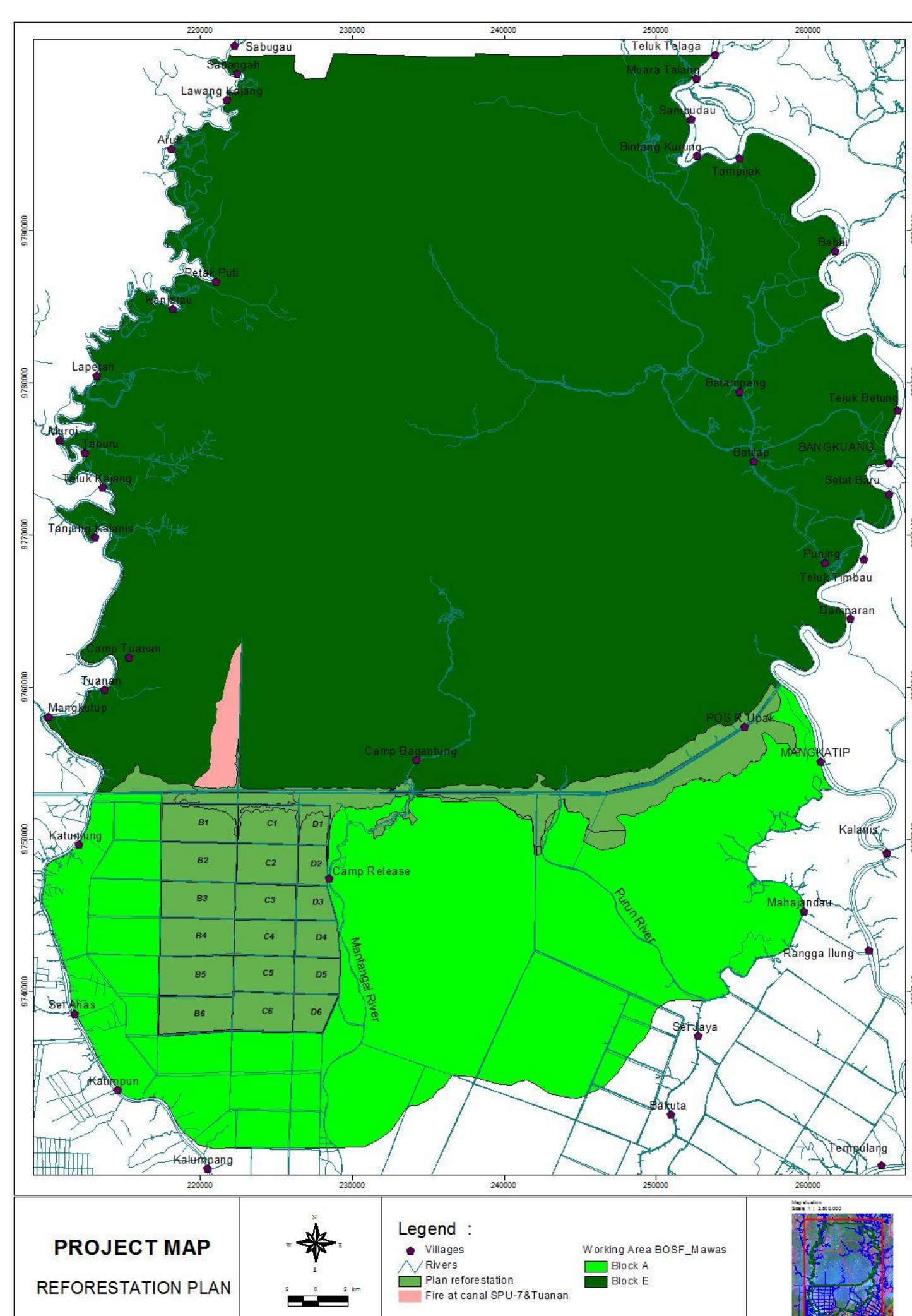


Figure 2. Map of Mawas Area in Borneo, Indonesia

BENEFITS

- Helping to decrease the world's greenhouse gas emission effects. Mawas is an important storage of giga-tonnes of sequestered carbon. Wildlife conservation activities involving forest conservation, reforestation and research thus unfold a direct positive impact on GHG mitigation.
- Raising international awareness on endangered species and their long-term conservation in natural habitat.
- Positive economical influence for the communities residing in and around Mawas.
- Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Agenda 21 (climate change, sustainable business development etc.), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.
- Opportunities to conduct research in Mawas.



Orangutan Conservation



Forest Conservation



Blocking Canals



Reforestation with Native Trees



Sustainable Livelihoods



Forest Fires Patrols

RESULTS

- Reforestation of more than 40 ha is completed and 27 canals are blocked, which represent a total of 58.4 Km of drainage canals.
- More than 1500 ha has been rewetted, which in turn is protecting an estimated area of 5000 ha of community forest.
- Community Development: establishment of rural patrols; microfinance for women in 4 villages; development of village development plans in 6 villages; meetings with government representatives; meetings and trainings on rights of indigenous people and environmental education, etc.

FUTURE

- New proposals which seek to combine REDD+ activities with community development and Orangutan protection are in preparation.
- New community development projects.
- Feasibility study to establish connective corridors to the Sebangau national park.

