

UNDERSTANDING THE FIJI FOREST POLICY AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT ACT



Nunia Thomas
Conservation Coordinator

NatureFiji-MareqetiViti
www.naturefiji.org

OUTLINE

1. Fiji – conservation values
2. Some case studies
3. Fiji Forest Policy (2007)
4. Some aspects of the Fiji Forest Policy
5. Environment Management Act (2005)



Fiji's Forests



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Taveuni Fiji's Fertiliser Island



- \$20 million (2008)
- Unsustainable land use practices
- Diminishing soil fertility
- Illegal short-term agricultural leases
- Reserve encroachment
- “Teitei Taveuni”



Sovi Basin – the Process

- 25 + years (international consultants)
- 3+ years (local communities, Fiji government)
- Steering Committee
- National Trust of Fiji
- Community Consultations
- 2011 – Lease offer



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Fiji's Environment Legislations

- Fiji Forest Policy (2007)
- Fiji Rural Land Use Policy (2006)
- Fiji Environment Management Act (2005)
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- National Environment Strategy

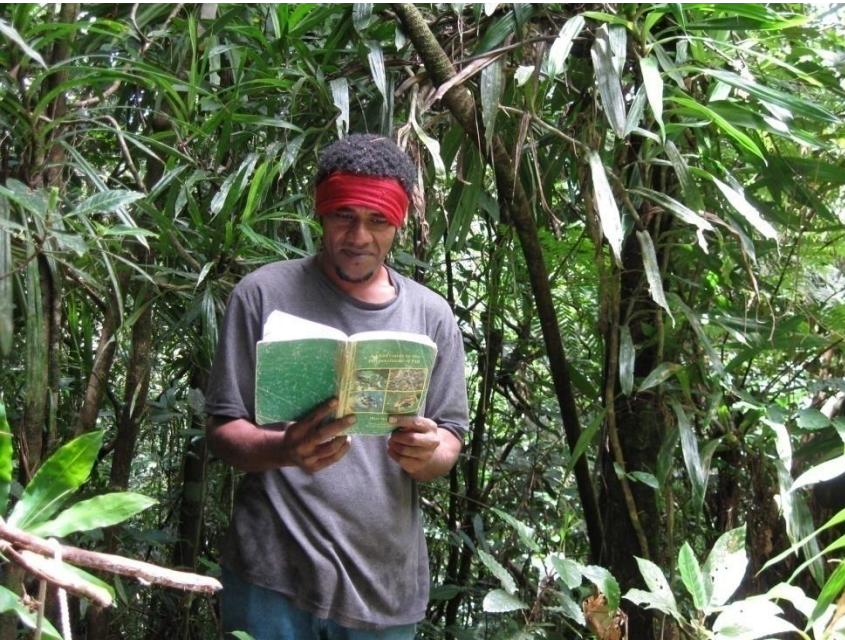
Fiji Forest Policy: 5 Objectives

1. Ensured ecosystem stability through conservation of forest biodiversity, water catchments and soil fertility;
2. Ensured sustainable supply of forest products and services by maintaining a sufficiently large permanent forest estate under efficient and effective management;
3. Increased engagement by landowners and communities in sustainable forest management and an equitable distribution of benefits from forest products and processes including ensured protection of intellectual property rights;
4. Increased employment in the forestry sector, sufficient supply of domestic markets and increased foreign exchange earnings through sustainable forest-based industry development and trade;
5. Enhanced national capacity to manage and develop the forest sector in a collaborative approach with involvement of all stakeholders.

6.2. Transition from timber exploitation to sustainable forest management



6.3 Empowerment of landowners



6.4 Streamlining and upgrading forest industries



6.5 Reform of institutional framework



Permanent Forest Estates

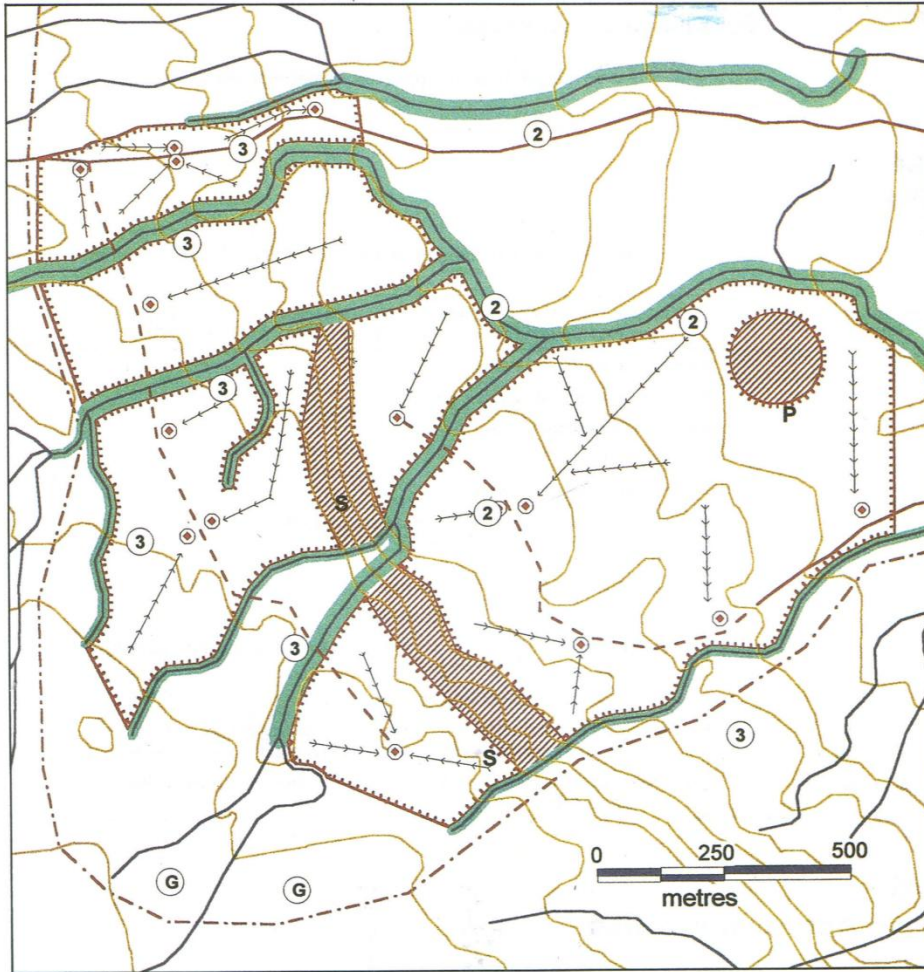
- Cornerstone of the Fiji forest policy
- Requires the engagement of multi-stakeholders:
 - Landowners
 - Department of Forests
 - Department of Agriculture
 - Department of Environment
 - iTaukei Land Trust Board



Fiji Forest Harvesting Code of Practice

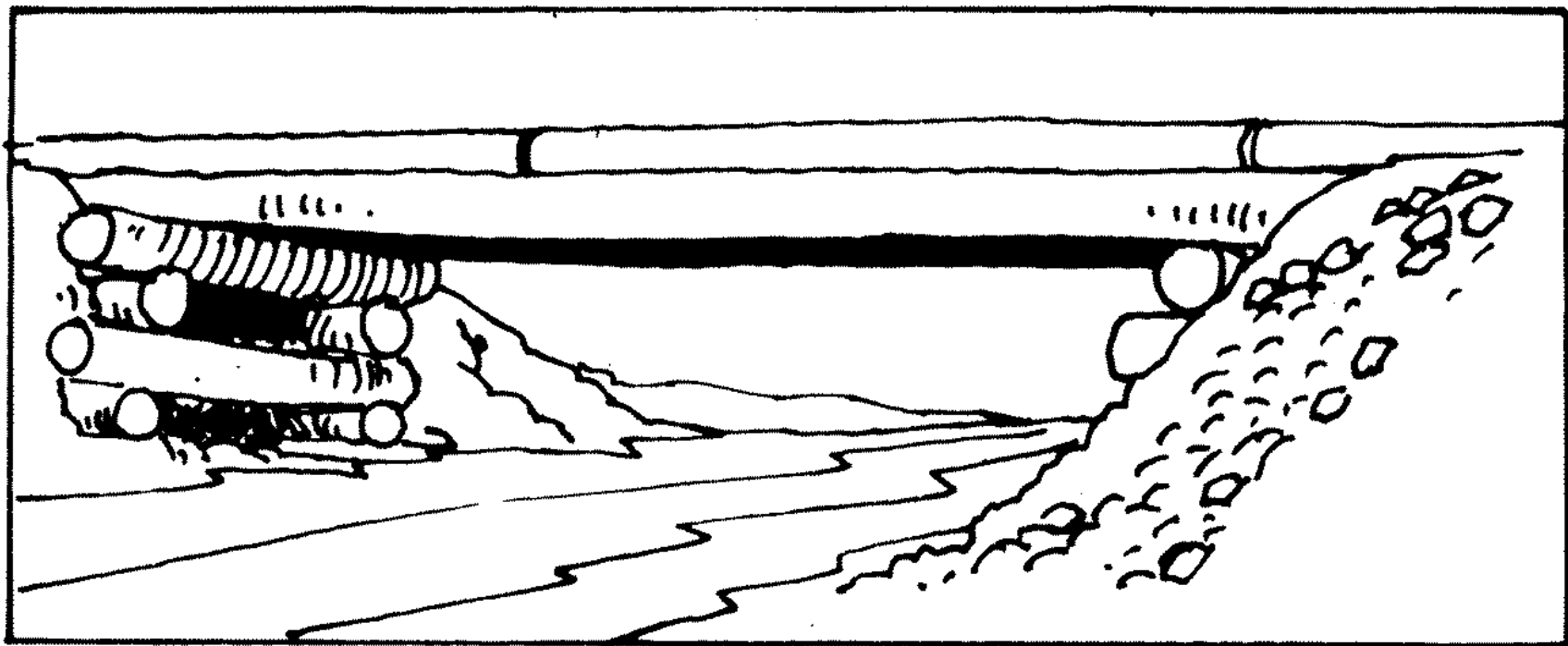


Harvesting plan



Key	
	Forestowner boundary
	Harvesting boundary, log landing
	Watercourse
	Steep, Prohibited Area, Farm Plot
	20 metre contours
	Streams and class 1,2,3,G,W
	Major Road
	Minor Road
	Skid Track and Direction

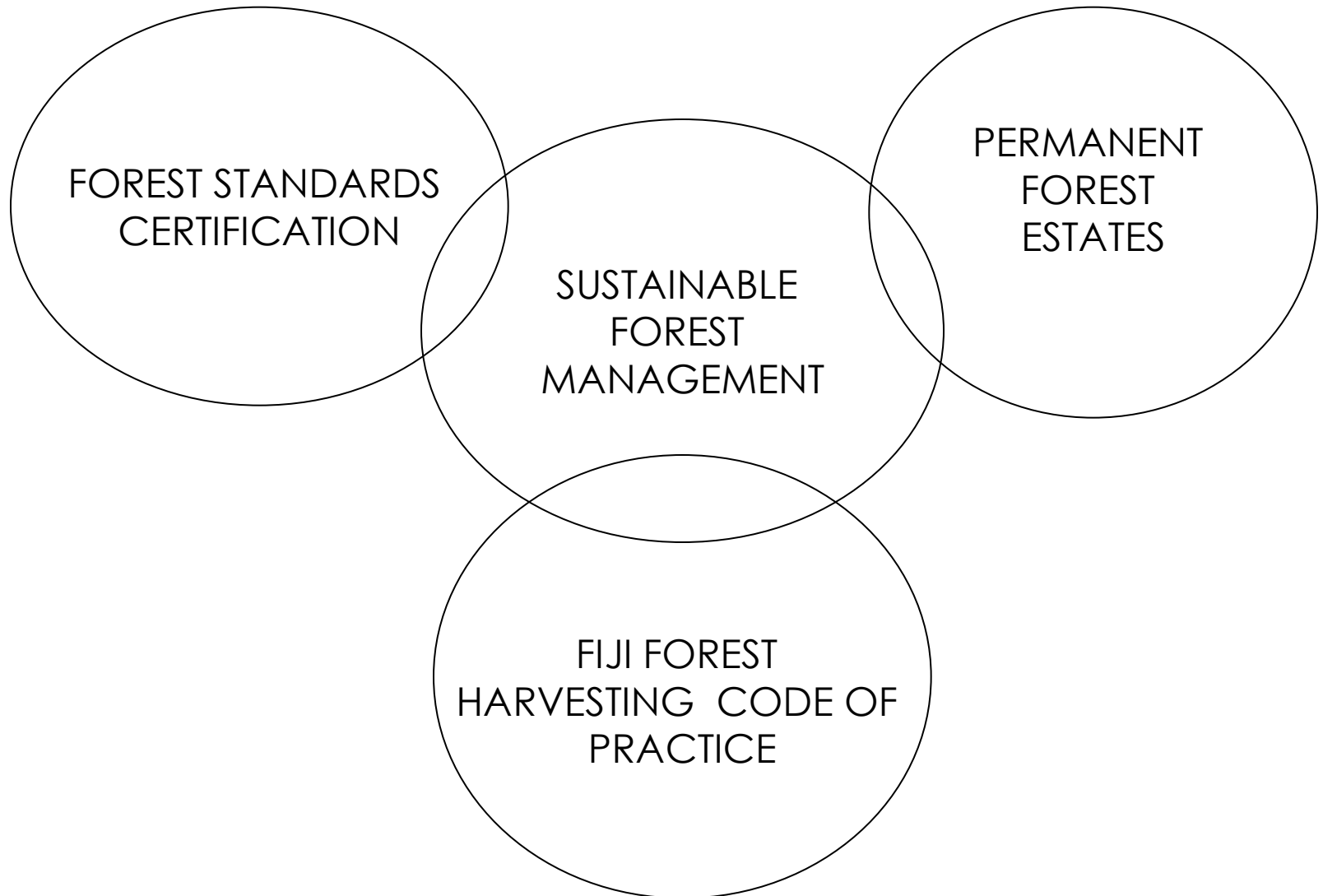
Map Scale 1: 10,000



Safety



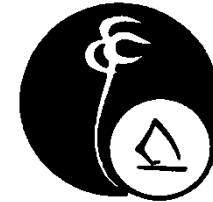
Sustainable Forest Management



VINAKA VAKALEVU



AAGE V. JENSEN CHARITY FOUNDATION



Ministry of Indigenous
Affairs

Department of iTaukei
Language and Culture



SPC/GTZ

Ridge2Reef
Management

Creation of Permanent Forest Estates for the
Benefit of Fiji's People and Biodiversity