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**Vianna, A.L.M. & P.M. Fearnside.
2014. Impact of community forest
management on biomass carbon
stocks in the Uatumã Sustainable
Development Reserve, Amazonas,
Brazil. *Journal of Sustainable
Forestry* 33(2): 127-151.**

doi: 10.1080/10549811.2013.836717

ISSN: 1054-9811 (Print), 1540-756X (Online)

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The original publication is available at
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10549811.2013.836717>

Impact of community forest management on biomass carbon stocks in the Uatumã Sustainable Development Reserve, Amazonas, Brazil

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Running head

Impact of community forest management, Brazil.

ABSTRACT

Forest management can result in net losses of carbon stock. To quantify the impact of the management it is important to assess losses or gains of carbon, as well as the sustainability of the management system. This study quantified the impact management under a Small-Scale Sustainable Forest Management Plan, which is a recently created category of authorized management for small managers in the state of Amazonas, Brazil. Impact was quantified on the number of individuals, the biomass of natural regeneration and the damage to the remaining trees two months after logging. The impact of these changes on carbon stock was estimated. The study was carried out in the Uatumã Sustainable Development Reserve, Amazonas, Brazil, where two areas of small-scale forest management and one control were evaluated. Average total carbon stock previous to logging was estimated at 161.25 ± 9.66 MgC ha⁻¹. Two months after logging, reductions were found of 3% in one managed area (MA1) and 8.3% in the other (MA3), including the carbon stock from the harvested timber. For each harvested tree, the logging caused damage to 12 trees in MA1 and four trees in MA3. The reductions in carbon stock and number of trees damaged per harvested tree were less than the reductions found for higher-impact forest management and other experiences in community forest management. No significant alteration was found in the carbon stock of natural regeneration. However, there was an increase in the number of individuals, both in the logged areas and in their respective control areas.

Keywords

Biomass, logging, emissions reduction, REDD, global warming, conservation units.

1. Introduction

In Brazilian Amazonia 0.08 Gt (Gigatons = 10⁹ tons) of carbon are emitted per year by logging (Asner et al., 2005). Emissions from forest management can result in net losses or benefits that will be different depending on which alternative one compares it to: unlogged forest, unsustainable logging or deforestation. In comparison to unlogged forest, sustainable forest management represents a net loss of carbon; in comparison with the other two alternatives, forest management would result in net gains (Fearnside, 1995). Carbon losses

and benefits resulting from forest management, in addition to varying as a function of the alternative to which it is compared, also will depend on the biomass of the forest. The losses also vary depending on the methods and techniques used in carrying out the forest management.

Forest biomass is a function of the number of individuals, the basal area and the wood density of the species. In the Amazon Basin these three variables are influenced by soil type, solar radiation and precipitation (Nogueira et al. 2008; Malhi et al., 2006). Wood density varies inversely with soil fertility, the frequency of natural disturbances, the availability of light in the understory and the humidity. In the southern and the southwestern portions of Brazilian Amazonia forest biomass is lower than that in other parts of the region. Forests that are open or naturally disturbed tend to have a greater number of fast-growing trees with less-dense wood and a lower number of individuals per hectare. Since the canopy is more open, there is greater penetration of light as compared to dense forest. In these forests, the annual precipitation is lower and the dry period is longer than that in the central and western portions of Amazonia. In the coastal portions of Brazilian Amazonia such as Amapá, and in the Guianas, there is high forest biomass as a result of the high basal area and high wood density due to low soil fertility (Malhi et al., 2006). The Amazon Basin has a forest area of 5.76×10^6 km² with dry above-ground live biomass generally between 250 and 350 Mg per hectare (Malhi et al., 2006).

Management can reduce above-ground live biomass and the carbon stock of the forest by 20% after logging (Gerwing and Vidal, 2002), and increase necromass by 200%, which increases the risk of forest fires (Veríssimo et al., 1992). Reducing emissions from forest management requires adopting lower-impact techniques. Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) can reduce emissions by 32% per hectare managed as compared to conventional logging. Note, however, that emission reduction per m³ harvested under RIL would be less than the per-hectare reduction. Even with RIL, the initial carbon stock may not be recovered by the end of a 30-year cycle. A study in the state of Pará found a 6% decrease in the maximum stock in one cycle (Putz et al., 2008: Table S2).

The future stock of biomass can be jeopardized if the impacts on natural regeneration and damage to the remaining individuals are greater than the regenerative capacity of the forest. In areas managed under a high-impact regime where machines are used for dragging logs there tends to be a reduction in the number of individuals of natural regeneration in the first years after logging, with the number of individuals increasing later until the initial number is re-established (Carneiro, 2010). The number of remaining trees damaged per harvested tree can be between 20 and 27 individuals in areas managed with the use of machines (Johns et al., 1996; Veríssimo et al., 2002a, b).

In Brazil, studies on the impact of the forest management have mostly been done in experimental areas or in areas of logging with the use of machines. Very few studies have been done in areas under management without use of machines, and no study has been done on the impact on the forest in areas managed under the norms of the Small-Scale Sustainable Forest Management Plans (PMFSPE), a newly created category for low-intensity management in the state of Amazonas. This category of management plan accounted for 85% of the permitted management plans in Amazonas in 2009/2010 (Amazonas, SDS, 2010). Discussions are underway to make the plans more consistent with the reality of the small managers the plans are intended to serve.

The objective of this study is to quantify the impact of community management of timber under the norms of the PMFSPE in terms of the carbon stock of the vegetation in the Uatumã Sustainable Development Reserve. More specifically, this study quantified: the alterations caused by logging in the carbon stock of the vegetation of the Forest Management

Areas, the alterations in the biomass and in the number of individuals of natural regeneration, and the damage caused by logging.

2. Material and Methods

2.1. Study area

The study was carried out in the Uatumã Sustainable Development Reserve (RDS), which was created in June 2004 with 424,430 ha located 250 km to the northeast of the city of Manaus in the municipalities of Itapiranga and São Sebastião do Uatumã (2° 27' to 2° 4' S; 59° 10' to 58° 4' W). Approximately 250 families distributed in 20 communities inhabit in the reserve. The residents obtain income from agriculture, extractivist production and fishing.

<Figure 1 here >

The climate is tropical (AmW, Köppen classification), with temperature varying from 20° C to 38° C. The average annual precipitation is 2077 mm, with standard error of 438.3 mm (Amazonas, SDS, 2009). The RDS is situated in two major units of relief: Low plateaus of Amazonia and Amazonian Plain, where the predominant soil orders are: Latosols (in higher areas); argisols (on the slopes); spodosols (in areas with sandy profiles) and neosols and gleys (in the floodplains of the Uatumã River and its tributaries) (Amazonas, SDS, 2009; Brazil, Projeto RADAMBRASIL, 1978). The forest types present are: dense ombrophilous forest on *terra firme* (unflooded uplands), igapó (blackwater swamp forest), and floodplain; in addition to *campinarana* and *campina* (oligotrophic woody vegetation) (Amazonas, SDS, 2009; Veloso et al., 1991). The present study was carried out in Dense Ombrophilous Forest on *terra firme* (unflooded uplands).

2.2. Forest Management System of the Uatumã RDS

In the Uatumã RDS there are seven permitted forest management plans in seven different communities. The plans were drafted in accordance with the state norm that regulates Small-Scale Sustainable Forest Management Plans, or PMFSPEs (Normative Instruction SDS 002 of 2008); these are the first such plans in *terra firme* in a conservation unit in Amazonas. Each PMFSPE has a management area of around 500 ha and a logging intensity of 1 m³ ha⁻¹ year⁻¹. Logging intensity is calculated based on the “Area of Effective Management,” which is calculated by subtracting the “Area of Permanent Preservation” (APP) [legally protected areas on steep slopes, hilltops and stream banks] from the Total Area of Management. Thus, as an example, an Area of Management of 500 ha with 100 ha of APP has an Area of Effective Management of 400 ha, with the maximum limit of annual logging of 400 m³ (1 m³ ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ multiplied by 400 ha) and a logging limit of 25 m³ per inventoried area per management cycle. As a condition for harvesting an individual the tree must have DBH (diameter at breast height: 1.3 m above the ground or above any buttresses) over 50 cm and the area must have two other trees of same species with DBH between 20 and 50 cm. In June 2011 the Amazonas State Council on the Environment approved a resolution regulating PMFSPEs; this resolution modified the intensity of logging to 0.86 m³ ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ and increased from two to three the number of remaining trees necessary to allow a tree to be harvested.

The bucking (cutting into rough planks) of the harvested trees is done in the field using chainsaws and a portable sawmill. The planks are transported in a cart pulled by an ox or by a small agricultural tractor (*jerico*) to the edge of a narrow river or stream, where

transport to the community proceeds by boat. No logging decks (clearings for stockpiling logs) are opened in the management area and the trails cut for the inventory are used as paths for transporting the planks to streams; it is only necessary to widen the trails, and there is no need to damage or to remove larger-diameter individuals.

In this study three forest management areas were studied that have the characteristics presented in Table 1.

<Table 1 here>

The wood from this harvest was sold to the company that won the bidding held by INCRA (National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform). The managed wood is for building houses for the inhabitants of the conservation unit and thus will remain in the reserve.

2.3. *Initial carbon stock and alterations as a result of logging*

Carbon stock was estimated for live above-ground biomass (which encompasses the arboreal components, lianas and palms), for biomass of coarse roots (≥ 2 mm diameter), and for necromass, which corresponds to dead trees both standing and fallen.

To quantify alterations in the carbon stock of the managed vegetation two measurements were made: one in October 2009, prior to logging (Time 1 or T1) and the other in March 2011, two months after the logging (Time 2 or T2). The studied alterations were based on the differences found between the two inventories, as well as in comparison to an unharvested (control) management area (MA2), which was also inventoried in the two periods. All inventoried trees were numbered and marked; the location of the measurement was painted on the trunk so that both measurements were made in the same place. Given that at the time of the forest inventory after logging the trees were still present in the management areas, any alteration in the carbon stock is the result of the opening of trails, cutting lianas and felling trees.

Censuses were carried out in three annual operation units in three different management areas. The units have areas of five hectares (200×250 m), where all individuals with DBH over 30 cm were measured. Data collected on this DBH class were denominated as “Level I.”

In each studied unit three plots of 10×250 m were installed, each distant 85 m from the next plot. All individuals with $DBH \geq 10$ cm were measured (denominated “Level II”). In each 10×250 -m plot three sub-plots of 10×10 m were installed where all individuals with $DBH > 5$ cm were measured (“Level III”). All measured individuals were botanically identified and grouped by life form: tree, palm and liana.

2.5. *Quantification of the carbon stock*

The biomass for each component was estimated from the equations presented in Table 2.

<Table 2 here>

The equation for arboreal individuals $DBH > 5$ cm was adapted from the study by Silva (2007), in accordance with the advice of Niro Higuchi (Personal communication, 2010).

The equation was multiplied by a factor of 0.9265, which resulted from dividing the dominant height obtained in the field in the Uatumã RDS by measuring fallen trees (26.5 m)

by the height found at the study site of Silva (2007) (28.6 m). This correction was carried out to prevent the estimate of carbon stock from being either under- or overestimated, had the heights of the trees at the study site been different from the heights at the location where the equation we used was developed.

Dry biomass for each individual was obtained by correcting for the water content of the fresh biomass: 41.6% in accordance with Silva (2007). The estimate of the dry biomass of each individual was multiplied by the carbon concentration of 48.5% for primary forest in central Amazonia (Silva, 2007). The fresh biomass of roots was obtained using the equation of Silva (2007) and this was converted to dry biomass using the 44.5% water content measured by Silva (2007), after which the carbon stock was estimated using 47% as the carbon concentration (Silva, 2007).

Necromass was estimated for dead trees either standing or fallen. The estimate of necromass in standing dead trees in initial state of decomposition was obtained using the equation for live above-ground biomass with a reduction of the values by 10% to compensate for the losses of leaves and twigs (Delaney et al., 1998). The carbon content used was 48.5% (Silva, 2007).

2.4. Alterations in natural regeneration as a result of logging

The term “natural regeneration” has a wide variety of definitions, with important implications for understanding the regeneration process as a whole. However, with regard to the forest stock it is defined by Rollet (1974) as the juvenile phases of the species, for example as plants with DBH < 5 cm. It therefore refers to the initial phases of establishment and growth of the plants, since a favorable environment will permit formation of the forest (Narvaes et al., 2005). In the present study the term “natural regeneration” refers to individuals with circumference at ground level below 15 cm, independent of height.

The alterations in natural regeneration were quantified based on the change in the number of individuals and in the carbon stock between the measurements before and after logging (T2 - T1), for the three management areas (MA1, MA2 and MA3), as well as for their respective control areas (C1, C2 and C3).

2.4.1 Quantification of carbon stock and analysis of data

For each of the three management areas, 18 plots of natural regeneration were installed, nine of which were inside and the other nine (as control plots) outside of the management area, totaling 54 plots of natural regeneration. The plots had dimensions of 5 × 5 m. The height (H) and the circumference at ground level (CGL) and for palms the circumference at breast height were measured for all individuals with CGL between 3 and 15 cm.

The following equations were used to quantify the dry weight (DW) of the individuals:

for pioneer and non-pioneer trees:

$$DW = 0.178269 \times DGL^{2.528425} \text{ (Ribeiro, 2010);}$$

for palms:

$$DW = \exp(-6.3789 - 0.877 \times \ln(1/DBH^2) + 2.151 \times \ln(H)) \text{ (Saldarriaga, 1988);}$$

for lianas:

$$\ln(DW) = -7.114 + 2,276 \times \ln(DGL) \text{ (Gehring et al., 2004),}$$

where: DW=dry weight, DBH=diameter at breast height, H=height, DGL = diameter at ground level.

The carbon stock in each individual of natural regeneration was obtained from the dry weight by multiplying by a factor of 0.458, which is the average carbon concentration for natural regeneration (Ribeiro, 2010).

Alterations in the number of individuals and the carbon stock were evaluated by comparing the alterations in the plots in each management area as compared to the alterations in their respective control areas. The t test was used to establish differences between the control plots and the plots submitted to logging. Each t test used 18 plots of natural regeneration, nine of which were inside and the other nine (as control plots) outside of the management area.

2.5 Evaluation of damage

As a part of the evaluation of the impact of logging, evaluation of the un-harvested individuals was carried out by observing damage and the state of forest health, in accordance with the methodology of Holmes et al. (2002) and Johns et al. (1996). Each individual in the evaluated plots remaining after logging was categorized in accordance with the following codes and criteria: Code 0 for no damage to the trunk or the crown, Code 1 for light damage to the trunk and damage to up to 1/3 of the crown, Code 2 for moderate damage to the trunk and damage to up to 2/3 of the crown, and Code 3 for heavy damage to the trunk and the crown destroyed.

The data were analyzed by quantifying the number of individuals damaged under each damage criterion. This was related to the number of harvested individuals and to the reduction in basal area and carbon stock.

3. Results

3.1. Carbon stock and alterations due to logging

Previous to logging the forest, the three areas had an average carbon stock of $161.25 \pm 9.66 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ in above-ground live biomass of individuals with $\text{DBH} > 5 \text{ cm}$ and $24.51 \pm 1.25 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ in coarse roots, or $185.80 \pm 10.7 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ for the total carbon stock.

Considering the average of the three managed areas, trees were responsible for almost all of the carbon stock. The highest percent found for palms was for individuals with DBH between 5 and 10 cm and represented only 0.26% of the stock. Lianas did not occur in these DBH classes, only being represented by individuals with $\text{DBH} < 5 \text{ cm}$.

Table 3 presents the results of the carbon stock for the first measurement (Time 1). With the objective of allowing comparison of the results of this study with those of other studies, we calculated the totals and their respective confidence intervals (Tables 3 and 4). The confidence intervals relate to the value obtained for trees with $\text{DBH} > 30 \text{ cm}$ in the censused areas, with the upper (and lower) limits adjusted by adding (or subtracting) the maximum (and minimum) values of the confidence intervals of the 10 to 30 cm and 5 to 10 cm DBH classes. The level of significance used was of 95%.

<Table 3 here>

After logging reductions in the total live carbon stock were found of $6.78 \pm 1.48 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$, or 3.0% for MA1, and $15.95 \pm 4.15 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$, or 8.27% for MA3, considering

individuals with DBH > 5 cm. These reductions consider the total of harvested and dead trees in the management areas after the logging. Natural causes were responsible for a reduction of 0.98 MgC ha⁻¹ in MA1 and 0.10 MgC ha⁻¹ in MA3.

The natural increment in the carbon stock was added to the decrease caused by the logging. The natural increment was found in all of the three areas studied during the 18-month, period between the evaluations. For MA2 (an unharvested area), the increment was 1.13 ± 1.46 MgC ha⁻¹ or 0.59% of the total carbon stock. In the harvested areas the increments in the period between the evaluations were 1.56 MgC ha⁻¹ or 0.89% for MA1 and 0.03 MgC ha⁻¹ or 0.01% for MA3. Table 4 presents the results of the impact of logging on the carbon stock (which includes the natural increment and the decrease caused by the logging).

<Table 4 here>

Of the total carbon stock in dead individuals, which includes harvested and dead trees, the carbon in harvested trees was 9.62 MgC for MA1 (1.93 MgC ha⁻¹) and 26.87 MgC for MA3 (5.38 MgC ha⁻¹). Since the harvested trees will be used to construct houses inside the reserve, part of this carbon will be fixed as wood. Considering that the sawn planks represent only 34% of the wood that is bucked in the field using chainsaws and a portable sawmill (Koury, 2007), the total amounts of carbon that will be fixed are 2.94 MgC for MA1 (0.59 MgC ha⁻¹) and 8.22 MgC for MA3 (1.64 MgC ha⁻¹). Therefore, the totals for carbon in dead wood in the management areas, discounting the wood that will be fixed, were 6.19 MgC ha⁻¹ for MA1 and 14.31 MgC ha⁻¹ for MA3.

3.2. Natural regeneration

Increases in the number of individuals (DBH < 5 cm) per hectare were found in all of the areas studied, except for Management Area 2 (MA2). For the carbon stock, increases were found for the following areas: Management Area 1 (MA1), paired control for Management Area 1 (C1) and paired control for Management Area 3 (C3). Reductions were found in the carbon stock of natural regeneration in Management Area 2 (MA2), paired control for Management Area 2 (C2) and Management Area 3 (MA3). Table 5 presents the results for natural regeneration.

<Table 5 here>

The alterations in the number of individuals in the management areas when compared to the alterations in the control areas were statistically significant at the 5% level for MA1 and MA2. For carbon stock, the alterations in the three areas were not significant.

In Appendix A, the results of the alterations in the number of individuals and the carbon stock of natural regeneration are discriminated by life form: pioneer, non-pioneer, palm and liana.

3.3. Evaluation of damage

The evaluation of damage was carried out for MA1 and MA3, where four and 16 trees had been harvested, respectively. In MA1, 24 individuals had only sustained damage to the trunk and five only to the crown, which resulted in 46 damaged individuals or 12 individuals damaged per harvested tree. In MA3, 43 individuals only sustained damage to the trunk and five only to the crown, which resulted in 65 damaged individuals or four individuals damaged per harvested tree.

Figures 2 and 3 show the damages in percentage by category and per harvested tree, considering the three levels of damage. Type-three damage to the trunk is characterized as lethal to the tree, while the other damage categories are considered non-lethal.

<Figures 2 & 3 here>

Other factors identified were: reduction of basal area and reduction of the carbon stock as a result of lethal damage (DT3). The lethal damage caused a reduction of $1.9 \text{ m}^2 \text{ ha}^{-1}$ of basal area in MA1 or 6.3% and a reduction of $2.25 \text{ m}^2 \text{ ha}^{-1}$ or 8.4% in MA3.

Lethal damage (DT 3) caused a reduction on the carbon stock of 1.5 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with $\text{DBH} \geq 30 \text{ cm}$ and from 0.68 to 1.34 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with DBH 10 to 30 cm in MA1. For MA3 the reduction in carbon stock was 4.10 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with $\text{DBH} \geq 30 \text{ cm}$ and from 0.86 to 1.65 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with DBH 10 to 30 cm. The reduction of carbon stock by lethal damage considered only damaged trees; the harvested trees were not accounted for this result.

For damage classes DT1 and DT2 (which are considered non-lethal), in cases where the damaged individuals later died the reduction in the carbon stock was 3.99 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with $\text{DBH} > 30 \text{ cm}$ and from 0.73 to 0.81 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with DBH 10 to 30 cm in MA1. For MA3 the reduction in carbon stock was 5.00 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with $\text{DBH} \geq 30 \text{ cm}$ and from 1.01 to 1.21 MgC ha^{-1} for individuals with DBH 10 to 30 cm.

In Appendix B the results for total damage and for damage to the trunk and to the crown are presented by DBH class.

4. Discussion

4.1. Carbon stock and alterations due to logging

The results obtained for live above-ground carbon stock before logging for $\text{DBH} > 10 \text{ cm}$ ($136.42 \pm 5.67 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ for MA1, $146.84 \pm 7.78 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ for MA2 and $150.03 \pm 7.79 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ for MA3) are similar to other biomass findings found for the Manaus region: $157.69 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ (Nascimento and Laurance, 2002) and $148.45 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ (Castilho et al., 2006).

For the three studied areas, the above-ground carbon stock is concentrated in the $> 30\text{-cm}$ DBH class. On average, the distribution of the carbon stock was: 50% for $\text{DBH} > 30 \text{ cm}$, 40% for DBH 10 to 30 cm and 10% for DBH 5 to 10 cm. Therefore, estimates for these areas that consider only $\text{DBH} > 10 \text{ cm}$ would not be reporting 10% of the above-ground carbon stock. The value obtained in the present study was higher than those found in other studies in the Manaus region, such as the values obtained by Nascimento and Laurance (2002) of 6% and by Silva (2007) of 3%.

The results for carbon stocks in palms and lianas were lower than those in other studies in the Manaus region, which found stocks of 2.5% for lianas and 0.4 to 1.8% for palms (Nascimento and Laurance, 2002; Castilho et al., 2006; Silva, 2007). In the present study, the above-ground carbon stock of these life forms represented less than 0.05% of the total.

The reductions reported in this study were smaller than those reported in studies in areas that were logged at higher intensity and with the use of machines. After the logging 97% (MA1) and 91.7% (MA3) of the initial stocks remained. In a study by Gerwing and Vidal (2002) in Paragominas, Pará, 80% of the initial biomass remained five years after logging where the intensity was $30 \text{ m}^3 \text{ ha}^{-1}$. Another study in Paragominas, Pará (also with a

logging intensity of $30 \text{ m}^3 \text{ ha}^{-1}$), indicated that 94% of the initial stock is recovered after 30 years (Putz et al., 2008).

We found necromass increases of 98% for MA1 and 99% for the MA3 after logging. Initially the totals for the three areas were: $0.09 \pm 0.17 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ or 0.18 Mg ha^{-1} of dry biomass (MA1); $0.77 \pm 1.25 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ or 0.16 Mg ha^{-1} of dry biomass (MA2) and $0.07 \pm 0.13 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1}$ or 0.14 Mg ha^{-1} of dry biomass (MA3). The increase obtained in the studied areas was less than that obtained by Veríssimo et al. (1992) in Paragominas, Pará, where necromass increased by 200% after logging in an area managed with the use of machines. Considering the decomposition constant for necromass of 0.17 per year estimated by Chambers et al. (2000), one can expect emissions of $1.05 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ in MA1 and $2.43 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ in MA3. These emissions are lower than the values in Pará for conventional logging estimated by Keller et al. (2004), who calculated an emission of $4.5 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$; however, they are higher than the emissions for reduced-impact logging, which were estimated by these authors at $1.5 \text{ MgC ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ with a logging intensity of $25 \text{ m}^3 \text{ ha}^{-1}$.

Based on the increments in carbon stock obtained for the three studied areas the increments in biomass were: $2.14 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ (MA1); $1.55 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ (MA2) and $0.03 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ (MA3). These increments are smaller than those obtained in primary forest and in forests managed experimentally under different logging intensities (low, medium and high), which, according to Higuchi et al. (1997), are: $2.4 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$, $3.1 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$, $4.6 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ and $4.9 \text{ Mg ha}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$. The data for increment refer to a single measurement interval. The extreme drought during the study could have decreased the increments in carbon stock, making it necessary to continue monitoring the studied areas to perfect the increment estimates.

4.2. *Natural regeneration*

In comparing the MA2 and C2 areas, significant alterations in the number of individuals were found. Since MA2 was not logged, differences in seedling dynamics between the areas are not only the result of logging. Therefore, the methodology did not demonstrate the effect of logging by itself. Factors preventing the method from quantifying the effect of logging on natural regeneration were: the variability in growth and in the response of natural regeneration to logging, the short period between the logging and the measurements and the fact that the measurements were done in different seasons of the year (the first during the dry season and the second during the rainy season).

A reduction was expected in the number of individuals of natural regeneration soon after logging, as in the study in Manaus by Vieira (1989), which found 3% fewer individuals as compared to the control area one year after logging; however, the logging intensity ($49 \text{ m}^3 \text{ ha}^{-1}$) was higher than in our case ($4.8 - 10.7 \text{ m}^3 \text{ ha}^{-1}$). Carneiro (2010) studied areas under forest management in Itacoatiara, Amazonas, with logging intensities of 10 to $20 \text{ m}^3 \text{ ha}^{-1}$, at different periods after logging. At the site where logging had occurred five years previously, the number of individuals with $\text{DBH} < 5 \text{ cm}$ was 5% less than in an unmanaged area; at the site measured nine years after logging there were 43% more individuals, and at the site measured 13 years after logging there were 16% fewer individuals. For larger, better-established individuals in areas of experimental logging, Magnusson et al. (1999) found a significant increase in the density of natural regeneration for individuals with $\text{DBH} \leq 10 \text{ cm}$ and height $\geq 2 \text{ m}$, in comparison with the control plot, when measured three, seven and eight years after logging.

Lower levels of precipitation and humidity cause a greater number of trees to bud and fruit (Alencar et al., 1979). The first measurement in the present study was carried out in October 2009 and second in March of 2011, after a period of extreme drought in 2010. The

question therefore arises as to whether the larger number of individuals reported occurred as a result of the timing of the measurements. This would be case independent of whether the difference occurs normally as a function of the time of the year or if it was intensified by extreme drought; in this case the greater budding and fruiting would generate a larger number of seedlings.

Despite the increase in the number of individuals, reduction was found in the carbon stock, except for C1. This would indicate that the larger individuals were compensating for a larger number of seedlings with small CGL (circumference at ground level). However, the reduction in the carbon stock was not significant at the 95% level as compared to the control areas (t test).

4.3. *Evaluation of damage*

A greater number of cases of damage to the trunk was found in MA3 as compared to MA1, mainly as a result of the larger number of cases of lethal damage (DT3). This result was expected due to higher intensity of logging in MA3. However, with respect to damage to the crown, there was a greater number of cases of damage in MA1, while most of the damage in MA3 was of type DT3, which knocks down the tree completely and precludes finding any damage to the crown.

The number of trees damaged per harvested tree was greater in MA1 (12 cases) than in MA3 (4 cases). This result was not expected; however, it was found that in MA1, out of four harvested trees a single individual accounted for 39% of the damage caused (damage to 18 trees) due to the greater biomass of its crown. It was visually apparent that this individual had a much greater crown biomass than any of the other trees harvested in the two managed areas.

Table 6 presents comparisons between the damage found in the present study and results in the literature. Damage in the Uatumã RDS management areas was lower than in areas logged with machines. Damage in the Uatumã RDS was comparable to that found in other areas logged without the use of machines. For the relation between wood volume damaged per unit of volume extracted, we found that MA3 did not follow the trend to having a higher value of damage per m³ harvested in the areas with higher logging intensity.

<Table 6 here>

When one compares the average number of trees damaged in the present study (eight individuals damaged per harvested tree, at an intensity of two individuals harvested per hectare) with three studies cited in Table 6 (Johns et al., 1996; Veríssimo et al., 2002a, b), one observes that a greater number of individuals harvested per hectare resulted in a proportionally greater number of damaged individuals. This trend was not found in other studies relating damage to the volume harvested, and therefore agrees with Jonkers (1988) and Veríssimo et al. (2002a) that the increase in the damage to unharvested trees is not proportional to the increase in the volume harvested.

With respect to the carbon stock, for individuals with DBH > 10 cm lethal damage caused by logging reduced the carbon stock by 1.6% in MA1 and by 3.3% in MA3. When we consider all levels of damage (both lethal and non-lethal), these values are 3.4% for MA1 and 4.0% for MA3 assuming that all damaged individuals later die.

In addition to the intensity of the logging, another important factor to be considered in evaluating the impact of logging is the opening of roads and logging decks. Veríssimo et al. (2002b) found that 46% of the damage to trees is caused by the opening of roads and 54% from felling the trees. This means that damage to the managed forest is reduced when the

wood is processed in the field, as is done in the Uatumã RDS in order to facilitate transport without the opening of roads and logging decks in the management area.

5. Conclusion

The reductions in the carbon stock, the basal area and the number of trees damaged per harvested tree were lower than those for forest management with the use of machines and are consistent with the findings of other studies in areas logged without the use of machines. The carbon stock two months after logging was similar to the stock found after 30 years of recovery in forests under management with the use of machines. The losses were less than those reported in other situations, mainly due to the lack of roads and logging decks that are used in the categories of management plans that include the use of machines.

Therefore, it was possible to quantify the impact of forest management in the Uatumã RDS, and the activity in the reserve can be characterized as having low impact on the carbon stock of the managed vegetation. These results will be useful for future projects, such as REDD+ initiatives associated with small-scale forest management plans (PMFSPE).

Acknowledgements

This study received financial support from the Ecological Corridors Project of the Ministry of the Environment through IDESAM (Institute for Conservation and Sustainable Development of Amazonas), from the National Institute for Research in Amazonia (INPA) and from the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). The manuscript benefited from helpful reviewer comments.

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APPENDIX A- Detailed results by life form for alterations in natural regeneration

<Tables 7 & 8 here>

APPENDIX B - Detailed results by DBH class for evaluation of logging damage

<Tables 9, 10 & 11 here>.

Figure Legends

Figure 1. Study area. The three management areas are indicated with black rectangles. The inset maps show the location in Brazil and in the state of Amazonas.

Figure 2. Percentage of trees with damaged crowns. DC = damage to the crown; DC 1 = damage to up to 1/3 of the crown; DC 2: damage to up to 2/3 of the crown; DC 3 = crown destroyed; MA = Management area.

Figure 3. Percentage of trees with damaged trunks. DT = damage to the trunk; DT 1 = light damage to the trunk; DT 2 = moderate damage to the trunk; DT 3= heavy damage to the trunk; MA = Management area.

Table 1. Characteristics of the forest management areas studied.

Community	Identification	Area of the Plan (ha)	Area inventoried (ha)	Volume suitable for harvest (m ³)	Volume harvested (m ³)	Logging intensity (m ³ ha ⁻¹)	Number of harvested trees
Nossa Senhora do Livramento	MA1	497.55	5	115.26	24.12	4.82	4
Santa Luzia do Jacarequara	MA2	280.91	5	117.05	0	0	0
Monte Sião Leandro Grande	MA3	500.00	5	120.91	53.29	10.65	16

MA = Management area.

Table 2. Equations for estimating fresh and dry biomass (kg)

Component		Allometric equation	Author
<i>Live biomass</i>			
Trees	DBH (> 5 cm)	$FW = (2.7179 \times DBH^{1.8774}) \times 0.9265$	Adapted from Silva, 2007
Palms	DBH (> 5 cm)	$DW = \exp(-6.3789 - 0.877 \times \ln(1/DBH^2) + 2.151 \times \ln(H))$	Saldarriaga, 1988
Lianas	DGL > 1 cm)	$\ln(DW) = -7.114 + 2.276 \times \ln(DGL)$	Gehring <i>et al.</i> , 2004
Coarse roots	DBH (> 5 cm)	$FW = 0.0469 \times DBH^{2.4754}$	Silva, 2007
<i>Necromass</i>			
Initial decomposition	DBH (> 5 cm)	$FW = ((2.7179 \times DBH^{1.8774}) \times 0.9265) \times 0.90$	Delaney <i>et al.</i> , 1998
Final decomposition	DBH (> 10 cm)	$DW = BA \times H \times 0.78 \times 0.34$	Cummings, 1998
	DBH (5 - 10 cm)	$DW = BA \times H \times 0.78 \times 0.41$	

BA = Basal area; DBH = Diameter at breast height; DGL = Diameter at ground level; DW = Dry weight; FW = Fresh weight; H = Height

Table 3. Quantification of carbon stock at Time 1 or first measurement.

Area	Level	----- Above ground live biomass -----					Total	----- MgC ha ⁻¹ -----		Coarse roots	Total (AGLB + CR)	Necromass		
		Tree	Palm	Liana	Total	Total								
MA1	I	78.63		0.00		0.00	78.63		15.96		94.59		0.00	
	II	57.77	±5.28	0.02	±0.02	0.00	57.79	±5.30	6.56	±0.58	64.35	±5.86	0.09	±0.17
	III	14.61	±2.15	0.04	±0.02	0.00	14.65	±2.17	0.95	±0.16	15.60	±2.30	0.00	±0.00
Total		151.01	±7.43	0.06	±0.04	0.00	151.07	±7.47	23.48	±0.74	174.55	±8.2	0.09	±0.17
MA2	I	77.71		0.00		0.00	77.71		14.94		92.65		0.10	
	II	69.12	±9.39	0.02	±0.01	0.00	69.14	±6.90	8.17	±1.22	77.30	±10.61	0.66	±1.25
	III	19.12	±1.78	0.02	±0.02	0.00	19.14	±1.80	1.21	±0.17	20.35	±2.96	0.00	±0.00
Total		165.95	±12.78	0.04	±0.03	0.00	165.99	±8.70	24.32	±1.39	190.30	±13.5	0.76	±1.25
MA3	I	86.99		0.00		0.00	86.99		17.35		104.34		0.00	
	II	63.04	±12.79	0.00	±0	0.00	63.04	±7.79	7.31	±1.77	70.34	14.57	0.07	±0.13
	III	16.76	±4.31	0.00	±0	0.00	16.76	±1.31	1.09	±0.28	17.85	4.59	0.00	±0.00
Total		166.79	±17.10	0.00	±0.00	0.00	166.79	±9.10	25.75	±2.0	192.54	±19.16	0.07	±0.13
Mean	I	81.11	±5.57	0.00	±0.00	0.00	81.11	±5.57	16.08	±1.32	97.19	±6.82	0.03	±0.06
	II	63.31	±6.18	0.01	±0.01	0.00	63.32	±6.18	7.35	±0.87	70.67	±7.06	0.27	±0.36
	III	16.83	±2.46	0.02	±0.02	0.00	16.85	±2.45	1.09	±0.14	17.93	±2.58	0.00	±0.00
Total		161.25	±9.66	0.03	±0.03	0.00	161.28	±9.64	24.51	±1.25	185.80	±10.7	0.31	±0.43

Level I = DBH > 30 cm; Level II = DBH 10 - 30 cm; Level III = DBH 5 - 10 cm; AGLB = Above-ground live biomass; CR = Coarse roots; Values preceded by ± refer to the standard error of the estimate.

The confidence intervals for the totals relate to the value obtained for trees with DBH > 30 cm in the censused areas, plus or minus the upper and lower limits of the confidence interval estimates for the 10 to 30 cm and 5 to 10 cm DBH classes.

Table 4. Impact of logging on the carbon stock, difference between estimate of initial carbon stock and estimate after logging (T1 - T2)

Area	Level	-----Above ground live biomass-----						Coarse roots	Total (AGLB+ CR)	Necromass					
		Tree	Palm	Liana		Total									
----- MgC ha ⁻¹ -----															
MA1	I	1.75	0.000	0			1.76	0.36	2.12	-3.31					
	II	2.19	±4.58	0.0013	±0	0	±0	2.19	±4.57	0.63	±0.51	2.82	±5.08	-2.38	±2.89
	III	0.25	±0.41	-0.0010	±0	0	±0	0.66	±0.41	0.03	±0.04	0.28	±0.45	-1.08	±1.41
	Total	4.20	±4.16	0.0003	±0	0	±0	4.20	±4.16	1.02	±0.47	5.22	±4.64	-6.78	±1.48
MA2	I	-0.40		-0.0002		-0.0004		-0.40		-0.21		-0.60		-0.02	
	II	-0.37	±1.56	-0.0030	±0	-0.0001	±0	-0.37	±1.56	-0.54	±0.03	-0.16	±1.59	0.00	±0.00
	III	-0.67	±0.13	-0.0010	±0	-0.0070	±0.01	-0.67	±0.13	-0.02	±0.00	-0.69	±0.13	0.00	±0.00
	Total	-1.43	±1.43	-0.0044	±0	-0.0072	±0.01	-1.45	±1.43	-0.31	±0.03	-1.13	±1.46	-0.02	±0.00
MA3	I	8.69		0.0005		0		8.69		1.86		10.55		-6.69	
	II	3.28	±2.30	0.0000	±0	0	±0	3.28	±2.30	0.75	±0.61	4.02	±2.91	-7.88	±2.65
	III	1.22	±0.15	0.0000	±0	0	±0	1.22	±0.15	0.12	±0.00	1.35	±0.15	-1.38	±1.50
	Total	13.19	±2.15	0.0005	±0	0	±0	13.19	±2.15	2.73	±0.62	15.92	±2.77	-15.9	±4.15

Level I = DBH > 30 cm; Level II = DBH 10 - 30 cm; Level III = DBH 5 - 10 cm; AGLB = Above-ground live biomass; CR = Coarse roots; Values preceded by ± refer to the standard error of the estimate; T1 = Time 1 or first measurement; T2 = Time 2 or second measurement.

Level I – census (therefore there is no confidence interval).

The confidence intervals for the totals relate to the value obtained for trees with DBH > 30 cm in the censused areas, plus or minus the upper and lower limits of the confidence interval estimates for the 10 to 30 cm and 5 to 10 cm DBH classes.

Table 5. Alterations in natural regeneration

Area	Alteration in the number of individuals T2 - T1 (number ha ⁻¹)	Calculated t	Alteration in the carbon stock T2 - T1 (MgC ha ⁻¹)	Calculated t	t value ($\alpha = 0.05$)
MA1	2,711	0.18	3.28	-1.23	2.306
C1	13,289		4.62		
MA2	-1,689	-3.11	0.24	-0.14	
C2	2,720		0.49		
MA3	6,133	0.89	4.06	-0.50	
C3	4,489		4.69		

C1, C2, C3 = Control areas; MA1, MA2, MA3 = Management areas; T2 = Time 2 or second measurement; T1 = Time 1 or first measurement.

Table 6. Comparisons between the results of the present study and other studies on logging

Summary of results	Study location						
	MA1 Uatumã RDS	MA3 Uatumã RDS	Acre	Paragominas, Pará	Paragominas, Pará	Paragominas, Pará	Tailândia, Pará
Logging intensity (m ³ ha ⁻¹)	4.82	10.65	5-10	18	37	37	16
Trees harvested per hectare	0.8	1.6			4.5	6.4	2
Trees damaged per harvested tree	12	4			20.5	27	13
Volume damaged per volume harvested	1.85	0.64				1.68	1.16
Reduction in basal area (%)	6.3	8.4	7.4	20			
Author			de Oliveira & Braz (2006)	Veríssimo <i>et al.</i> (2002b)	Johns <i>et al.</i> (1996)	Veríssimo <i>et al.</i> (2002a)	Veríssimo <i>et al.</i> (2002b)

Table 7. Number of individuals per hectare at Time 1 (T1) in absolute numbers and percentage alterations as compared to Time 2 (T2)

Area	T1										Alterations (T1 - T2)				
	L		NP		P		Palm		Total		L	NP	P	Palm	Total
-----n. ind.ha ⁻¹ -----										-----%-----					
MA1	578	±742	8.222	±2.296	-	-	444	±474	9.244	±2.667	-38	27	0	40	29
C1	1.600	±1.465	3.822	±1.474	-	-	578	±726	6.000	±2.111	-31	350	0	46	221
MA2	978	±774	10.311	±3.427	222	±313	800	±535	12.311	±3.646	-27	-9	40	-72	-14
C2	360	±370	6.920	±2.656	280	±484	1.200	±1.226	10.160	±2.375	22	61	-29	110	27
MA3	1.244	±421	7.067	±3.033	133	±154	800	±1.186	9.244	±2.595	-25	87	300	-17	66
C3	1.289	±687	7.644	±2.947	44	±103	311	±337	8.489	±3.938	-45	58	0	-43	72

C = Control area; L = Liana; MA = Measurement area; NP = Non-pioneer; P = Pioneer; T1 = Time 1 or first measurement; T2 = Time 2 or second measurement.

Table 8. Carbon stock at Time 1 (T1) in Mg per hectare and percentage alterations as compared to Time 2 (T2)

Area	T1										Alterations (T1 - T2)				
	L		NP	P			Palm		Total		L	NP	P	Palm	Total
-----MgC ha ⁻¹ -----										-----%-----					
MA1	0.002	±0.002	0.76	±0.33	-	-	0.202	±0.1	0.961	±0.3	10,021.1	275.2	0.0	408.6	341.6
C1	0.004	±0.002	0.32	±0.06	-	-	0.276	±0.2	0.601	±0.2	19,283.2	1.148.2	0.0	61.6	768.5
MA2	0.565	±0.312	4.45	±1.07	0.182	±0.2	1.159	±0.5	6.356	±1.4	17.9	21.9	-62.5	-62.6	3.7
C2	0.003	±0.002	1.05	±0.22	0.016	±0.0	0.594	±0.3	1.660	±0.4	397.8	21.5	-24.7	11.7	18.2
MA3	0.004	±0.001	0.94	±0.20	0.010	±0.0	0.393	±0.3	1.351	±0.3	4,004.3	368.1	1,958.3	53.9	300.2
C3	0.005	±0.002	0.72	±0.19	0.000	±0.0	0.154	±0.1	0.878	±0.2	7,812.0	618.1	142.8	-60.4	534.2

C = Control area; L - Liana; MA = Management area; NP = Non-pioneer; P = Pioneer; T1 = Time 1 or first measurement; T2 = Time 2 or second measurement.

Table 9. Number of damaged trees in absolute numbers and as a function of the number of harvested trees

Area	Level	Only DT	Only DC	Total trees damaged	Total trees damaged per harvested tree
MA1	I	11	3	23	6
	II	8	2	18	5
	III	5	0	5	1
Total		24	5	46	12
MA3	I	17	5	37	2
	II	20	0	22	1
	III	6	0	6	0
Total		43	5	65	4

DC = Damage to the crown; DT = Damage to the trunk; Level I = DBH > 30 cm; Level II = DBH 10 - 30 cm; Level III = DBH 5 - 10 cm; MA = Management area

Table 10, Evaluation of damage to the trunk as percentages in relation to the total number of measured individuals (absolute numbers in parentheses)

Area	Level	DT 1 % (Absolute number)	DT 2	DT 3	Total DT	DTPHT [Absolute number]
MA1	I	0,8 (3)	1,7 (6)	3,0 (11)	2,8 (20)	5
	II	0,5 (2)	0,5 (2)	3,2 (12)	2,1 (16)	3
	III	0,0 (0)	0,0 (0)	8,5 (5)	8,5 (5)	1
Total		0,6 (5)	1,0 (8)	3,5 (28)	4,5 (41)	9
MA3	I	0,7 (3)	2,0 (9)	4,4 (20)	7,0 (32)	3
	II	0,3 (1)	0,0 (0)	5,9 (21)	6,2 (22)	1
	III	0,0 (0)	0,0 (0)	10,3 (6)	10,3 (6)	0
Total		0,5 (4)	1,0 (9)	6,9 (47)	6,9 (70)	4

DT = Damage to the trunk; DTPHC = Damage to the trunk per harvested tree; Level I = DBH > 30 cm; Level II = DBH 10 - 30 cm; Level III = DBH 5 - 10 cm; MA = Management area

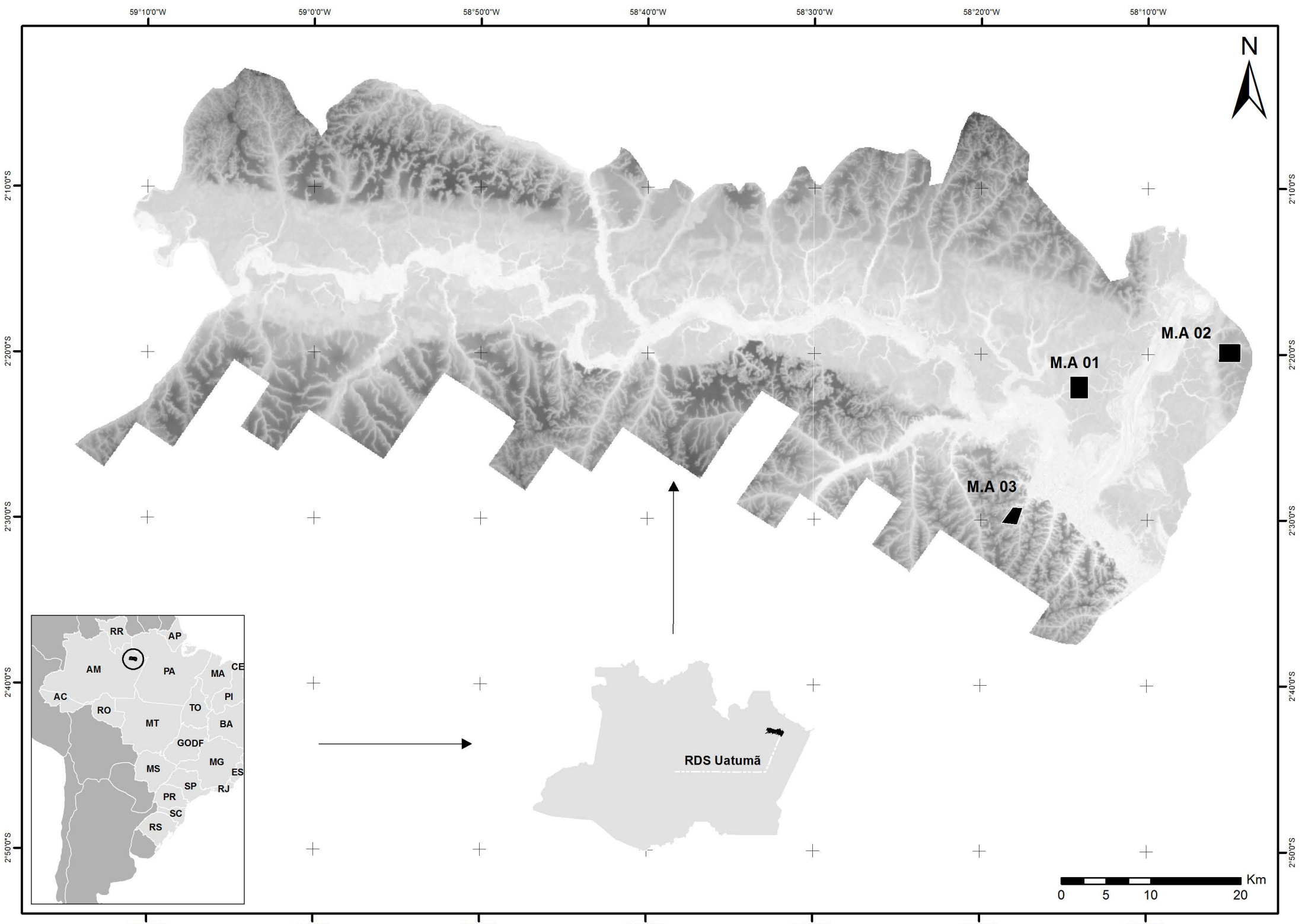
1
2
3
4

Table 11. Evaluation of I damage to the crown, percentage in relation to the total number of individuals measured (absolute number in parentheses)

Area	Level	DC 1 % (Absolute number)	DC 2	DC 3	Total DC	DCPHT [Absolute number]
MA1	I	0.3 (1)	2.5 (9)	0.0 (0)	2.8 (10)	3
	II	0.0 (0)	2.4 (9)	0.3 (1)	2.6 (10)	3
	III	0.0 (0)	0.0(0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0
Total		0.1 (1)	2.3 (18)	0.1 (1)	2.5 (20)	6
MA3	I	1.1 (5)	2.0 (9)	0.0 (0)	3.1 (14)	1
	II	0.0 (0)	0.3 (3)	0.6 (2)	0.8 (5)	0
	III	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0.0 (0)	0
Total		0.6 (5)	1.1 (12)	0.2 (2)	2.0 (19)	1

5
6
7

DC = Damage to the crown; DCPHC = Damage to the crown per harvested tree; Level I = DBH > 30 cm; Level II = DBH 10 - 30 cm; Level III = DBH 5 - 10 cm; MA = Management area



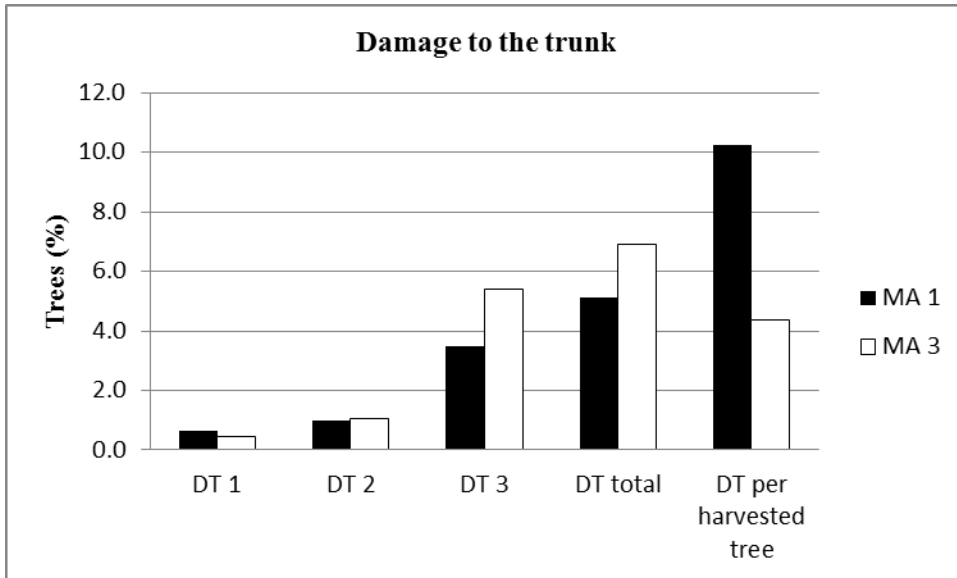


Fig. 2

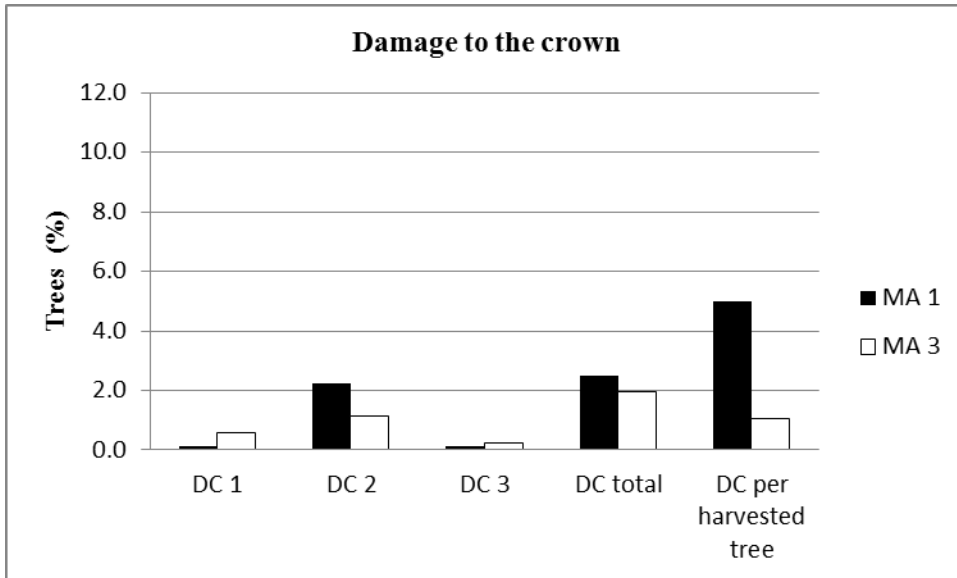


Fig. 3