Project Update: June 2016

Period reported: March to June 2016

To develop an ecologically sound management plan for timber harvesting and long-term maintenance of tropical montane cloud forest (TMCF) two different nets of sampling plots were design:

(1) Forest management inventory

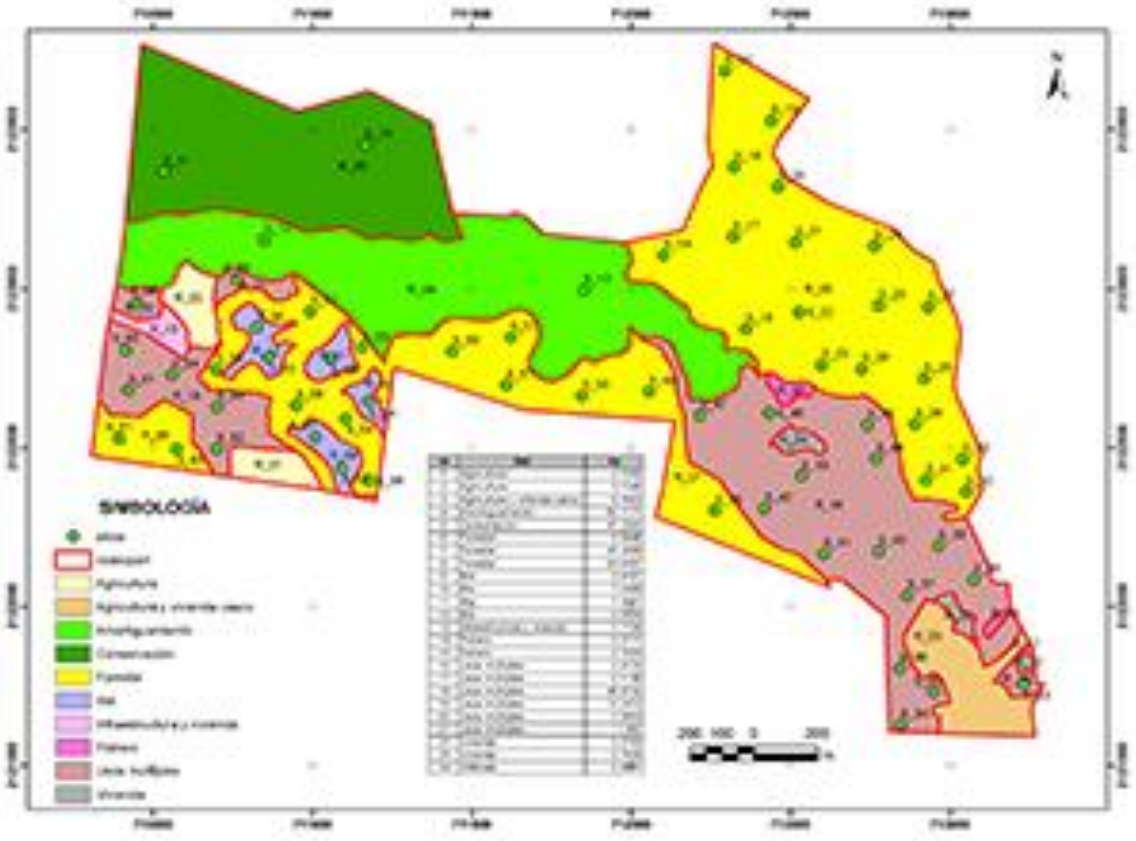
This is focused on the assessment of forest stands for the timber harvesting system. Stands were delimited, georeferenced and verified in the field. In total, 65 sampling plots were established at random (1 plot area = 1000 m^2). The total number of trees (dbh > 10 cm) registered is 1165.

(2) Cloud forest monitoring

A stratified sampling design was established to evaluate forest structure, composition, competition and regeneration in the following conditions: 15 plots in mature cloud forest (MF), 30 plots in secondary cloud forest result of passive restoration (PR), 15 plots in secondary cloud forest result of active restoration (AR) and 5 plots in a pine plantation (P). In total, 60 plots were established at random within each condition (1 plot = 200 m^2).
All the plots have been sampled but most specimens require identification.

In the following 4 months we plan to:

- Complete the identification of most individuals. More field trips are required to collect plants with reproductive structures.
- Revise databases and carry out preliminary analysis of forest structure, composition and regeneration. Soil samples will be collected for analysis.
- Discussion sessions to design a forest management system compatible with secondary forest succession and multiple use of resources.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