

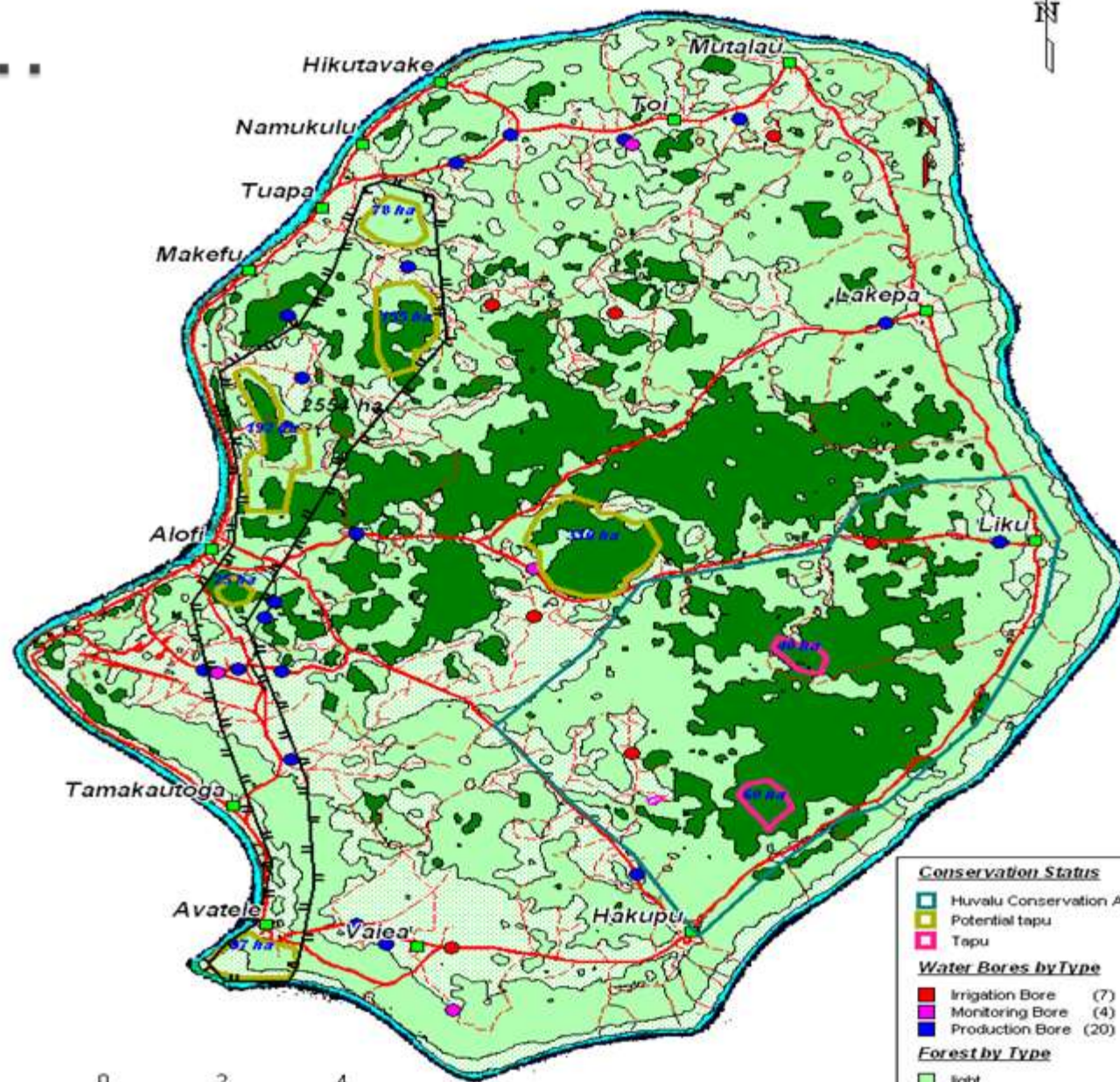
Traditional Conservation Initiative. NIUE

**9th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation
and Protected Areas.**

University of the South Pacific
Suva , Fiji.
2013.

Logo Seumanu
Department of Environment






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kilometers

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Background


- ❑ Traditionally the two villages of Liku and Hakupu have areas within their village boundaries as traditional tapu areas. These areas were for spiritual reasons or for conservation of fruit bats, pacific pigeons and coconut crabs.
 - ❑ The core(Tapu) areas are surrounded by the largest remaining rainforest on the island and are strictly forbidden to everyone.
 - ❑ The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Project(96– 01) reinforces these sites and established it as the Huvalu Forest Conservation Area covering approximately 54km²(5,400ha)
 - ❑ The Forestry and Protected Area Management project(GEF PAS FPAM) will formally declare/ legally recognized as a conservation area.
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Threats and Challenges

- ❑ The land is customary owned and land clearance can encroach into forest and tapu areas as these were not shown or clearly marked.
- ❑ The younger generations doesn't know or recognized these traditional and cultural settings/ values, and questioned their significance.
- ❑ Continuous population decline have added difficulties in monitoring activities.
- ❑ Enact Forest Bill and Environment Bill.
- ❑ Promotion of eco tours had negative impacts eg, habitat destruction, fragile ecosystems & endangered species are often targeted.
- ❑ Land clearing for agricultural purposes– not regulated due to land ownership.



Approaches and Responses.


- ❑ Awareness through village meetings, media and events.
 - ❑ Some villagers were trained in survey techniques and assisting in on going surveys of vegetation or bird populations–
 - ❑ Traditional knowledge is also utilised during the implementation phase.
 - ❑ Tourism Management Strategy developed.
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Outcomes/Lessons Learnt.

Positive

- ❑ Recognition and significance of a Tapu area is strengthened.
- ❑ Community cooperation improved.
- ❑ Income generating opportunities realized.


Negative

- ❑ Two communities involved have different expectations in managing the CA.
 - ❑ Unsustainable IGAs due to lack of capacity and no Government support.
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Stakeholder Involvement, awareness and communication.

- ❑ Village Councils– decision makers
- ❑ Elders
- ❑ Pastor– moral support
- ❑ Women– decision maker/ advocate
- ❑ Youth– involved in the implementation phase.

Awareness and Communication.

- ❑ Village meetings/consultations.
 - ❑ Signage produced.
 - ❑ News articles via radio, news paper,TV.
 - ❑ Talent quests.
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Funding Sources

- ❑ South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme(SPBCP).
 - ❑ Environment Unit(in-kind contribution)
 - ❑ Income generating activities to provide employment and to further fund conservation efforts.
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FAKAAUE LAHI

