

Interactive comment on “Landscape-scale changes in forest canopy structure across a partially logged tropical peat swamp” by B. M. M. Wedeux and D. A. Coomes

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General comments:

The manuscript describes a detailed analysis for forest canopy structure of peat swamp forest using ALS. I highly evaluate the manuscript, because it can widen utilization possibilities of ALS for forest observation. However, I recommend some minor revisions listed below.

Specific comments:

1. Introduction

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- I do not know what is the 'peat dome', and the term is also unfamiliar for many people. Please describe a brief explanation of 'peat dome', including its origin, spatial scale, and so on.

- Please describe the previous studies which apply ALS to canopy structure analysis, and clear the novelty of this study.

2. Material and methods

- Was the ALS measurement conducted over the entire study area of 750 km²? If so, why did the authors analyze for only 100 plots of 1 km × 1 km (= 100 km²)?

- [section 2.3.1] Because the peat depth was estimated from canopy height, I felt a little strange about the analysis of relationship between peat depth and canopy structure. I think it is better to explain that the procedure was without problems.

3. Results

- [Figure 3] In Figure 3 (a), I wonder whether the canopy top height relates well to the peat depth, because the figure only looks that two data groups differed in characteristics (logged and old-growth vs. mixed) are plotted in a graph. I think it is better to explain the correctness about this. And, two color bars are shown in Figure 3 (d). What's different?

- [Figure 4] There is a clear relationship between the peat depth and logged or old-growth, although there is no relationship for mixed. For reader's understanding, it is better to explain the reason.

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