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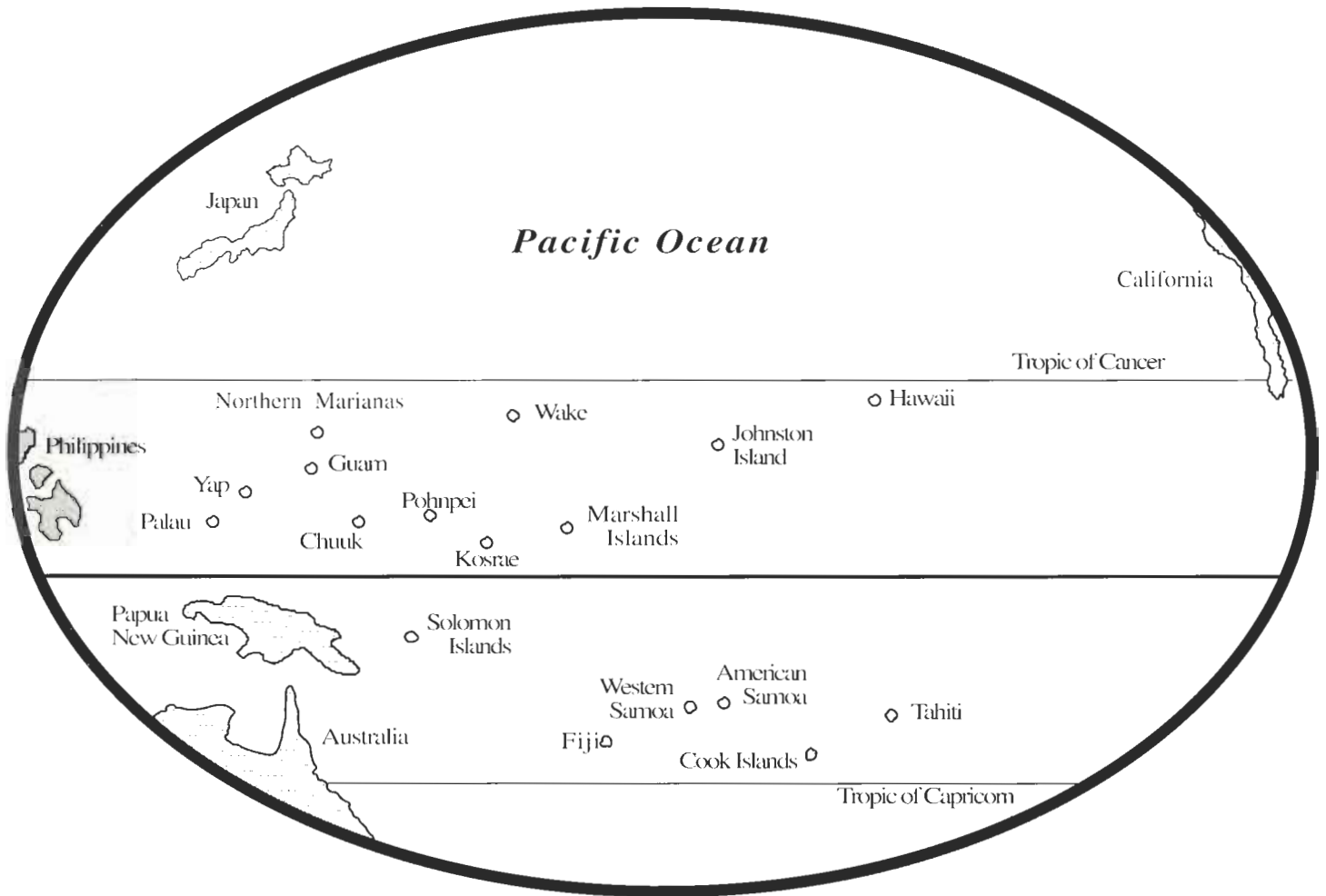
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Proceedings of the Session on Tropical Forestry for People of the Pacific, XVII Pacific Science Congress

May 27-28, 1991, Honolulu, Hawaii



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The 17 papers in the Proceedings of the Session on Tropical Forestry for People of the Pacific cover the topics of the USDA Forest Service's tropical forestry research, forestry research in Asia and the Pacific, management of tropical forests for products and energy; forest and wildlife management, the South Pacific Forestry Development Programme, tropical rainforests of northern Australia, forest resources in New Guinea, management factors affecting forests, forests of East Kalimantan, forest biological diversity, hydrologic effects on forest management, fire management in Central America, soil taxonomy and land evaluation, tropical termites and cuticular hydrocarbons, natural regeneration of Hawaiian forest species, mangrove stands in Micronesia, and introduced weeds of native Hawaiian forests.

Retrieval Terms: tropical forestry, forestry research, resource management, biological diversity, natural regeneration, soil taxonomy, mangroves, tropical termites, weeds, wildlife management, Central America, East Kalimantan, Hawaii, Micronesia, northern Australia, New Guinea, South Pacific

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C. Eugene Conrad and Leonard A. Newell, *Technical Coordinators*

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Preface

Tropical forestry for people of the Pacific is a major undertaking. The world's largest ocean is dotted with islands of all sizes, and all but the smallest are home to people. And most have forests of some kind. This Symposium offered a glimpse of the breadth of the values that the people in this huge expanse place on their forests and how they are addressing forest management issues.

What should be the role of forestry research in resolving problems and in meeting the expectations of the region? Tropical forestry in the United States, Australia, Papua New Guinea, The Federated States of Micronesia, Kalimantan, and Central America was the principal topic of this Symposium. The importance and difficulties of communication in this vast area was a topic of major concern.

On the day before the Symposium, a small group of participants met to discuss the needs of the forest environment and how to respond to those needs. A major concern was that various people and organizations coordinate with each other, to avoid duplication of work or possible destructive interference with each other or both. The organizers hoped that this group could identify some clear ideas for a resolution that could be supported by the participants of the symposium. The group agreed only

that the difficulties in meeting the desires of people who live in the tropical Pacific are similar to those facing people everywhere. People everywhere want food, security, shelter, fresh water, and hope for the future of their children.

Experiences everywhere—but especially from the Pacific basin—are the best base of knowledge to meet the forestry challenge in the area. This Symposium is one way to begin the process. The papers provide the kind of broad spectrum needed as a base for action. The first five papers present an overview of research and management issues. The next two papers address issues related to the silviculture of tropical and subtropical forest resources. The relationship of different cultures to forest management is the subject of the next three papers. The remaining papers touch on a broad array of research issues. These include hydrology, fire management, soil taxonomy, insect taxonomy, forest species regeneration, classifying mangroves, and biological control of forest weeds.

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