Appendix 9.

Further results of the MAES-HU forest condition assessment

We present some results of the forest condition assessment as an example. Figure 9.1 shows the distribution of the final 5 categories by area. The majority of forests belong to the 'least favourable' category. These are mainly non-native plantations, mostly situated on the plains and the low foothills. In such areas the remaining patches of native forests stand out like islands of biodiversity, even if their overall score is only mediocre.
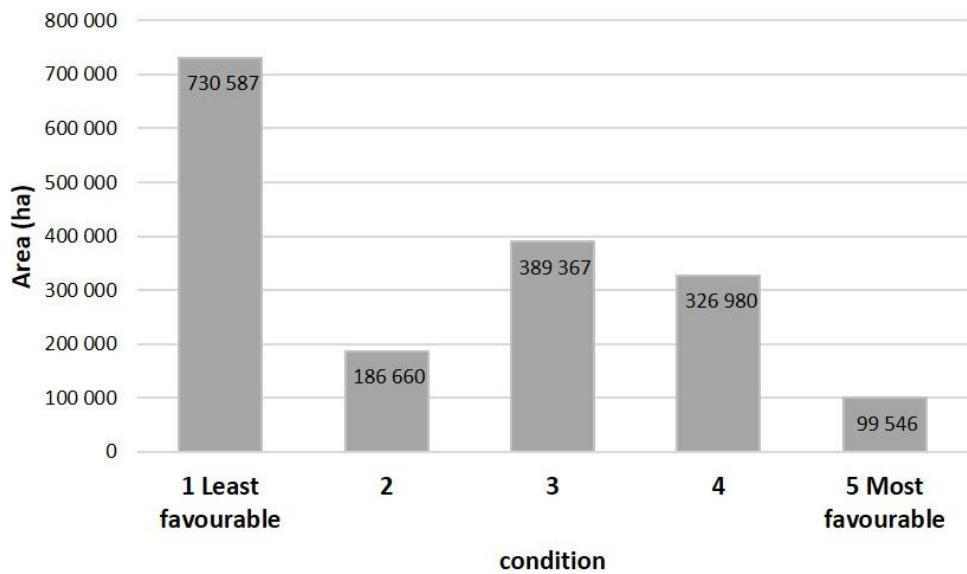

Figure 9.1 *The distribution of the simplified forest condition scores by area*

Examining the summed composition and structure scores (Figure 9.2) separately allows a more nuanced assessment than the (simplified) overall scores. In the case of the composition scores, the distribution is strongly defined by the difference between non-native plantations and the native forests. By design, the former can only reach 70% of the maximum score but is mostly lower than that (mean = 28.4%), whereas native forests mostly exceed 60% with a mean of 76.1%. Structure, on the other hand, does not show this distinction. The values are generally low, the overall mean is only 38% and compartments with values over 50% are scarce.
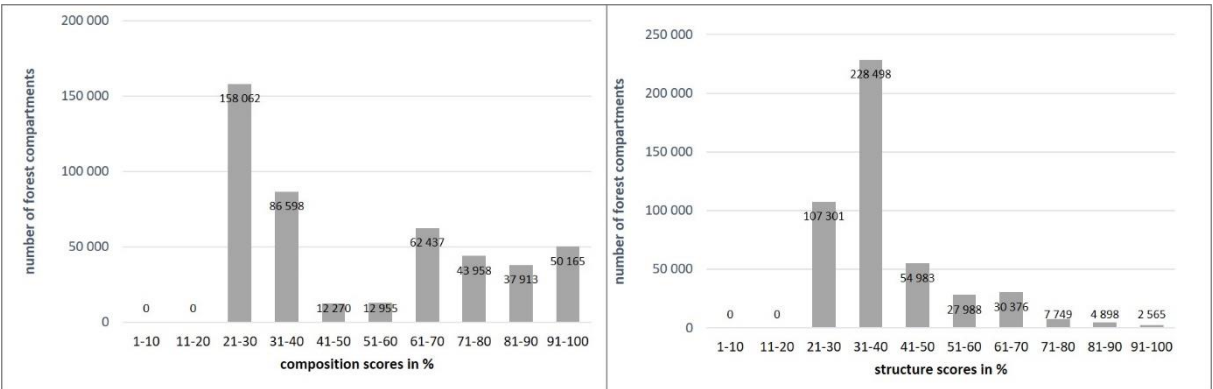

Figure 9.2 Distribution (number of forest compartments) of the forests according to the composition scores (left) and structure scores (right)
(each type of scores is expressed in percentage of its overall maximum)