

Interactive comment on “The global forest above-ground biomass pool for 2010 estimated from high-resolution satellite observations” by Maurizio Santoro et al.

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Received and published: 4 December 2020

Our team compared the growing stock volume from the GlobBiomass map against 1800 in-situ plots from the Romanian Forest National Inventory and using 104 large (1 ha) sites. For the NFI data, the comparison was carried out at both, Permanent Sample Plot - PSP level (500m²) and at NFI Grid node level (i.e., using the averaged PSP volume over the 6ha corresponding to each grid node). A grid node is the center of a square (250m x 250m) with 4 PSP as vertices.

We observed a large discrepancy between the European FRA based assessment (-8%, Paragraph 585) and our results regardless of the method used (i.e., NFI PSP, NFI

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grid node, Large sites). The difference between the mapped values and the in-situ data reached RMSE% errors between 50%-70%. The map sub-estimates the in-situ volumes by 30 m³ (oak forests) to 345 m³ (beech forests).

It would be interested to understand/discuss to what extent the GlobBiomass map may be used to estimate regional or national stocks over biomes that support high biomass values.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2020-148>, 2020.

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