Deforestation, Drought and Humans: The Collapse Theory is Dead-New Evidence of Sustainability and Survival

pdf version of presentation from original AIA 116th Annual Conference, New Orleans, Jan 8-11 2015 Author: Candace Gossen, PhD Contact: info@blackcoyotemedicine.org

FG @ 2007 (

in the navel of the world - Te Pito O' Te Henua

lorana hello and goodbye

maururu thank you

Huri A Urenga - the time keeper









Andratalia









































Vaihu

Vai



Rano Kao vai and plantas

Deforestation, Drought and Humans: The Collapse Theory is Dead -New Evidence of Adaptability and Hope



The most isolated-inhabited land mass on planet Earth





South Pacific Subtropical Gyre

currents follow a shallow subsurface flow that surfaces along the equator





Ocean current map Easter Island and Southern Pacific







- 3 months ago 4.8 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 4 months ago 4.9 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 4 months ago 5.1 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 6 months ago 6.0 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 6 months ago 5.2 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 7 months ago 5.4 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 7 months ago 5.2 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 8 months ago 5.3 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 8 months ago 5.1 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island
- 8 months ago 5.4 magnitude, 10 km depth Easter Island







tectonics near Rapa Nui

geophysicists @ Cornell make Wax model to explain the "chimera" of the mid-ocean trench and plates near Rapa Nuiwhen the paddles pull the surface apart at a certain rate, a rare spiral feature of mid-ocean ridges called microplates form and evolve, mimicking structures known to exist in the East-Pacific Rise such as the Easter microplate just off Easter Island in the Pacific.

Rainfall 38" annually


wet events(200cm) every 17-22yrs and drought(50cm) every 7-10 years.

Easter Island Annual Rainfall History 1941-2008



Reference: NOAA Global Historical Climate Network V2



The largest palm tree known to exist on the planet

Jubaea chiliensis 20-30m tall/ 2-3m diam. discovered thru pollen analysis Related to the Chilean wine palm still surviving in Chile





massive soil erosion with the loss of trees





What Happened to the Trees?



Coring Rano Kao

Image © 2006 DigitalGlobe

Google



















Learning more about the structure of Rano Kao...... How deep is the water?



1 /



In one's mind's eye, can you imagine what this looks like.....

Coring of Rano Kao

attempt a core between Flenleys Kaol & kao2 sites from 1980



19 meters total 9 meters KAO3 (9meters of water below 3 meter totora mat) None @ KAO5 beyond 19 meters of rods KAO6 3 meters KAO4 2 meters RKU1 5 meters



Kao3 - 9metres 1*5,*000 years





Radiocarbon dates of KAO3

Climate affects a fragile island

Finding indicators of moisture change Using oxygen isotopes

d180 lake water current evaporation 2.53 curiched depleted rainfall trend -1.6 Results -20.00 -15.00 -10.00 -5.00 0.00 5.00 8-12cm surface 88-92cm 115-120cm bottom of mat d018lw.... 0.00 top of lake sediment core KAO3 0.15 0.35 -0.55 -0.72 -1.06 1.25 1.45 1.65 Trendline 2 - 9274 C14 yrs. BP - Current 2.00 Beginning with the hottest event in the KAO3 record Trendlines & The environment oscillates between wet/warm events 2.20 to cool/dry peaks on average every 700 years. 2.40 -The most extreme align with volcanic events 2.60 verified with tephra in pollen slides. 2.80 The trend is towards cooling and wetter. Cycles 2.96 trendline 2 In 2005 evaporation measured 2.53 3.02 In 2008 evaporation measured 2.6 increasing 3.18 towards dry and hot. 3.40 peak hot 637 year Cold/Dry 3.60 events 719 3.80 yeair average 3.98 peak cool events 719 year Hot/Dry 4.05 -637 year average **۱**5 no water in lak &tavari forms mat 5.40 5.60 5.80 5.99 -6.03 -6.20 -6.40 6.60 6.80 6.97 7.03 Trendline 1 - 12,930 - 9274 C14 yrs BP 3,656 years trend increasing from cool/dry to wet and then 7.20 hot/dry again. Triumfetta forests that prefer a cool environment 7.40 gives way to a palm and fern landscape. 7.60 In 9274 BP the environment becomes hot/dry, the 7.80 hottest in the 15,000 year record of Rano Kao. 18 trendlin 8.05 8.20 8.40 11393 11952 8.60 8.80 12511 8.97 12930 meters Rano Kao, KAO3 core, Isotone graph



10.00

245

545

1173

1200

1236

1273

1304

1325

1329

1332

1376

1581

1698

1815

1979

2213

2401

2471

2669

3045

3443

3448

3452

3454

3459 3484

4170

5443 8525

7670

8438

8589

8741

8885

8915

9044

9195

9225

9241 9265

9260

9274

9290

9306

9345

9484

9550

9674

RANO KAO KAO3 CORE EASTER ISLAND 2008







Polygonum acuminatum • Tavari Medicine: Food plants for butterflie Eaten in times of famine and leaves smoked as tobacco. Tea as treatment for asthma, and infected wounds. Internally for astringent, antiheumatic. Topical as antiseptic.



RANO KAO KAO3 CORE EASTER ISLAND 2008

GRASS AND FERNS







Curious Events of 3500BP

Lake dessicated (soil balls 5L 50cm) 4L95cm only bug found in slide (mite) Charcoal large more than 25 pieces >100um Only obsidian flakes found in lake angular not rounded Exotic pollen found (sapindus, myrsine,) Polygonum introduced to island High deposition for 100cm over 20 years Trenching between kao3 and kao6 1877 starch count highest in core 2659BP first introduction of round grass pollen (sugarcane)



Results d018lw.... Trendlines & Cycles 637 year Cold/Dry 719 year Hot/Dry



Rano Kao KAO3 core. Isotone graph





Jubaea Paschalococos

Inside contains 100 gal (400L) of sweet 18% sugar = to sugarcane tolerant of everything except cold The tree cannot go dormant, or else it will die one part cannot be injured or else it will die

The palm, each is a unique organism, each different from the other, with an animal-like vascular system

The essence "mana" of the island (antigua)













Palm trees, **monocotyledons**, are different from any other tree on the planet. They are the "world's longest lived trees because stem cells of several kinds remain active in differentiated tissues throughout the life of the palm."



"The palm behaves, in a sense, more like an organism with unitary (animal-like) construction rather than a plant-like modular construction." **a "self-regulated organism"**

> 16 million ancient giant Palms Breathing such as a human organism The essence of which produced life on Rapa Nui



"From an evolutionary perspective, all groups of organisms are genetically unique as independent lineages."

Each palm can survive in its unique way, adapting to habitats in all ranges of hydroseres, with only one limiting factor: it cannot tolerate dormant periods caused by freezing temperatures



Results: 17 Trees Species, 4 New Palms

The giant palms did not disappear entirely





the mission, the planting began 2013, the youth are planting....



Plant Origins....

everything comes from somewhere else until all that follow you come from here










Medicine: Edible. Nutritious. However contains saponins, but broken down when cooked. Fisherman use them in streams to stun fish. Nutritious. People with rheumatism, arthritis, gout, kidney stones, may aggravate condition.

• huataru

• alaweo

Cocos nucifera (pantropical) niu ehi Medicine: Edible. One of the 10 most useful trees in the world. At any one time the tree has 12 crops of nuts on it. Top of tree- i damaged, whole tree dies. All parts used for charcoal, shoes, caps, clothing, roofin medicine and food. Good fo tumors and more











Jubaea chilensis

palmas de coquitos

Medicine: Chilean wine palm, coquite as nuts and flour, palmhoney, miel de palma. 4001 per tree. Palm hearts for food, Used for buildings too. Only one species remains of Jubaea. 63

4 new palms found in the KAO3 cores 2005

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We located only one at Rano Kao at the location S27.10.885 W109.26.376. It may be 30 years old now, being it was planted as a small tree and I have calculated the Jubaea grows 1cm/yr over its 300 year lifetime it could achieve 3m in diameter and 30 meters tall. This tree at Rano Kao is 1 meter tall at the top of stem and 25 cm wide approx.



Macaranga spp. (extincto)





Noted in pollen record @ 1L30cm - 1280BP Quercus (extincto)





Noted in pollen record @ 1L3cm - 1174BP



Myrsine spp.

- mapou (NZ)
- white seasoning tree (n. am.)







Podocarpus (extincto)





Noted in pollen record @ 3L25cm, 3L55cm, 7L20cm 1698BP, 1885 and 9044BP



Ephedra & Elaeocarpus (extincto)



Noted in pollen record @ 4L95cm 3452BP, and 5L50cm 3500BP







Scirpus californicus

- totora
- nga'atu

Medicine:

Rhizomes and the bottom of the stems are high in starch, eaten by humans and animals. Stems used for making boats, rafts, baskets, thatch and matting.

Indian soap also used as beads. The fruit is poisonous but used as a soap substitute for washing clothes. Baskets are made from the wood.

soapberry



sedge













12

coronillo

Saccharum offinarum L.





Noted in pollen record as cynadon 1L10cm-1200BP, 1L50cm-1260BP, 3L75cm-2213BP, and introduced at 4L15cm-2659BP

Medicine: Food Sap 18% sugar sugar cane

Starch, resting sacs, minerals, phytoliths, fungi, bacteria



Macrofossils - seeds, plant parts, insects......





RANO KAO KAO3 CORE EASTER ISLAND 2008

TREES







Candace, Max, Francisco, Christian (CONAF) Cloudy-Wet day Water - Temperado In center cold plumes felt on legs 1 meter below



Water depth 1980 - 10m (Flenley) 2005 - 12.5m (Gossen) 2008 - 12.5m (Gossen)

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Measuring the depth of the lake 2014















Ava Ranga Uka


























Ahu Henua Nua Mea



27º 10' S lat 109º 26' W long





Ava Ranga Uka



27º 10' S lat 109º 26' W long







DAI









DAI





DAI

















27º 10' S lat 109º 26' W long















173 sq. km







280

4 half-meter cores were obtained from 4 locations on the Quebrada Vaihu 30 March 2014



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A changing ecology

Pollen fossils

Results of pollen analysis

- 33 plant types identified
- At least 4 types of palm species noted
- Scirpus and polygonum are allies
- Ferns both dry and wet indicators
- Palm pollen higher when island dry, airborne pollen
- Scirpus existed on island for 15k years, but seed type changes DNA shows some variation between Kao and Raraku
- Severe drought 9000BP to 5000BP pollen low
- Lake dessicated by 4.2k event-polygonum arrives





ALL POLLEN



RANO KAO KAO3 CORE EASTER ISLAND 2008

TREES





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The palm, each is a unique organism, each different from the other, with an animal-like vascular system

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Evidence of Humans

- Charcoal > 100um
- introduced grass species >40um
- Exotic pollen
 - Trenching in lake found between kao3 and kao6
- High deposition but dry
- Quantity of pollen changes without evidence of climate change

Curious events...

The 3500BP event..

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Kao6 has 4.5 meters less Sediment but dates at the Same level to KAO3 3500BP









RANO KAO KAO3 CORE EASTER ISLAND 2008

GRASS AND FERNS



RANO KAO KAO3 CORE EASTER ISLAND 2008

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AQUATICS







POLLEN MAT



POLLEN CONCENTRATION MAT



FERNS AND GRASS



lorana hello and goodbye

maururu thank you