

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	International Journal of Environment and Climate Change
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJECC_122950
Title of the Manuscript:	Forest cover change detection over North Eastern Ghat Zone of Odisha, India using Multi-year Landsat data
Type of the Article	

Review Form 3

PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript addresses a critical issue by evaluating the dynamics of forest cover change in the North Eastern Ghat Zone of Odisha, India, over a thirty-year period (1990-2020). The research is of significant importance as it provides valuable insights into the consequences of deforestation driven by population growth and urban expansion, which are global concerns affecting environmental sustainability and climate change. The integration of satellite-based remote sensing techniques, especially using the Google Earth Engine (GEE), adds to the methodological rigor and makes the findings relevant for policy-making and forest management. However, the study could be further enriched by comparing the findings with other regions facing similar challenges.</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>The title of the manuscript is suitable as it accurately reflects the content of the study. It succinctly conveys the focus on forest cover change detection using Landsat data over a specified geographical area and time period.</p>	
<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>The abstract is generally comprehensive, summarizing the study's aims, methodology, key findings, and conclusions effectively. However, it could be improved by including specific details about the accuracy of the classification methods used and by briefly mentioning the potential implications of the findings on policy and conservation efforts.</p>	
<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>The structure of the manuscript is appropriate, with clear subsections that guide the reader through the study's context, methodology, results, and conclusions. Each section logically follows the previous one, ensuring a coherent narrative. The inclusion of detailed methodological explanations and the use of tables and figures to illustrate results are well executed. However, the discussion section could benefit from a more in-depth comparison of the results with previous studies in the region or similar environments.</p>	
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>The manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. The use of multi-temporal Landsat data and the GEE platform for LULC classification is a well-established method in remote sensing studies. The statistical analysis presented, particularly the correlation between forest cover dynamics and population/settlement growth, supports the study's conclusions convincingly. The accuracy assessment, with a reported overall accuracy of 87.5% and a kappa coefficient of 0.84, indicates a high level of reliability in the classification results. Nevertheless, the study could explore the potential limitations of the data and methodology in greater detail, such as the impact of cloud cover on satellite imagery or the precision of classification in heterogeneous landscapes.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form. :</p>	<p>The references cited are generally sufficient and relevant, covering key studies related to LULC changes, remote sensing techniques, and the environmental impacts of deforestation. However, some of the references are slightly outdated, particularly those related to the broader impacts of deforestation on climate change. It would be beneficial to include more recent studies, especially those published within the last five years, to ensure that the discussion reflects the current state of research in this area.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The language and English quality of the article are generally suitable for scholarly communication. The manuscript is written in clear and concise English, with minimal grammatical errors. However, there are occasional awkward phrasings and minor issues with sentence structure that could be improved for smoother readability. A thorough proofreading session would be beneficial to polish the manuscript further.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>		

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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?		

Reviewer Details:

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