

PUBLIC SUMMARY SURVEILLANCE AUDIT 1 (3rd CYCLE) ON NEGERI SEMBILAN FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

Certificate Number: FMC 0002

Date of First Certification: 29 Dec 2009

Audit Date: 25-26 Oct 2016 & 28 Feb - 1 March 2017

Date of Public Summary: 28 Nov 2017

Certification Body:

SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd. Block 4, SIRIM Complex No. 1, Persiaran Dato' Menteri Section 2, 40700 Shah Alam Selangor MALAYSIA

Tel: 60-3-5544 6400/5544 6448

Fax: 60-3 5544 6763

Website: www.sirim-qas.com.my

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page No.
1.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
2.	INTRODUCTION	4
2.1	Name of FMU	4
2.2	Contact Person and Address	4
2.3	General Background on the Negeri Sembilan FMU	4
2.4	Date First Certified	4
2.5	Location of the FMU	4
	Forest Management System	4
2.7	Annual Allowable Cut/ Annual Harvest Under the Forest Management Plan	5
2.8	Environmental and Socioeconomic Context	5
3	AUDIT PROCESS	5
3.1	Audit Dates	5
3.2	Audit Team	5
3.3	Standard Used	5 5
3.4	Stakeholder Consultations	5
3.5	Audit Process	5
4.	SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS	6
<u>Atta</u>	achments .	
1	Map of Negeri Sembilan FMU	15
2	Experiences and Qualifications of Audit Team Members	16
3	Surveillance 2016 Audit Plan	18
4	Surveillance Audit Findings (2016) and Corrective Action Taken	20
5	Verification on Previous Recertification Audit (2015) Audit Findings and Action Ta	aken 22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Surveillance Audit (2017) on the Negeri Sembilan Forest Management Unit (FMU) was conducted on 25-26 Oct 2016 & 28 Feb – 1 March 2017 to assess the continued compliance of the overall forest management system of the Negeri Sembilan FMU against the requirements of the *Malaysian Criteria* and *Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest)* [MC&I (Natural Forest)] using the verifiers stipulated for Peninsular Malaysia. The scope of this surveillance audit was limited to the forest management system and practices on the Permanent Reserved Forest (PRF) within the Negeri Sembilan FMU.

This surveillance certification audit was conducted by a 3-member team comprising Khairul Najwan Ahmad Jahari (Lead Auditor), Dr. Samsudin Musa (Auditor) and Dr. Zahid Emby (Auditor).

Based on the findings of this surveillance audit, it was found that the Negeri Sembilan FMU had continued to comply with the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest). This surveillance audit had resulted in the issuance of three (3) minor Non Conformity Reports (NCRs) and two (2) Opportunities for Improvements (OFIs) were raised.

This public summary contains the general information on the Negeri Sembilan FMU, the findings of the surveillance audit. NCRs raised as well as the decision on the continued certification of the FMU.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Name of FMU Negeri Sembilan Forest Management Unit

2.2 Contact Person and Address En. Salim bin Aman Director Negeri Sembilan State Forestry Department Level 4, Blok C, Wisma Negeri Jalan Dato' Abdul Malek 70503 Seremban NEGERI SEMBILAN

Phone #: 06-765 9849 Fax #: 06-762 3711

2.3 General Background on the Negeri Sembilan FMU

The Negeri Sembilan FMU is managed by the Negeri Sembilan State Forestry Department (NSSFD) comprised of 155,825 hectares of PRF of the state's total land area of 665,700 hectares. The total area was increased from 154,676 hectares to 155 825 hectares as evidenced in a letter of instruction dated 7 May 2012 from Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia Headquarters and new gazzetment of 1,149 hectares on Paya Bakau Forest Reserve, Kenaboi Forest Reserve and Gemas Selatan Forest Reserve. The state total land area was also increased from 664,591 hectares to 665,700 hectares based on letter dated 18 September 2012 from Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia Headquarters. However, during this surveillance audit, it was found the several of Permanent Reserved Forest (PRF) area were degazeted for educational facilities, agricultural, and Orang Asli Reserved. Thus, the total hectares were reduced from 155,825.00 ha to 155,649.56ha in Negeri Sembilan FMU.

The PRF consists mainly of inland forest with a small area of 215 ha of Beach Forest while the mangrove forest in the State is under Stateland. The inland PRF consists mainly of Hill and Upper Hill Dipterocarp Forests with patches of Lowland Dipterocarp which are protected mainly for research purposes.

The administration of the FMU had been divided into two forest districts namely the East Negeri Sembilan and West Negeri Sembilan Forest Districts. The map of the FMU is attached as **Attachment 1**.

A final draft Forest Management Plan (FMP) covering the period from 2016 to 2025 (pending for endorsement from State Government) had been written and presented during the audit. The Negeri Sembilan FMU continues to be managed on a sustainable basis with the inland forest area under a Selective Management System on a 30-year rotation period.

2.4 Date First Certified 29 Dec 2009

2.5 Location of the FMU

The FMU is located between 2° 29' N to 3° 5' N and 101° 49' E to 102° 35' E.

2.6 Forest Management System

The FMU had followed the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM) under the Selective Management System (SMS), a tropical shelterwood system with advance regeneration, and the requirements of the Licence Agreement of the State government. A Forest Management Plan (FMP) 2006-2015 was presented during this audit.

SQAS/MSC/FOR/30-27a Issue 1 Rev 0

2.7 Annual Allowable Cut/Annual Harvest under the Forest Management Plan

Forest Management Plan (FMP) covering the period from 2016 to 2025, stated that the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) for the FMU had been set at 2,397 ha.

2.8 Environmental and Socioeconomic Context

The audit is basically limited to the Negeri Sembilan FMU, a gazetted entity under the management and jurisdiction of the NSSFD, and demarcated on the ground by clear boundaries. A total of 155,649.56 ha of the FMU were subjected to the certification process. The physical environment, and related forest-based operations referred to in the audit, and their associated documentation, is confined within the borders of the said FMU. Similarly, the socioeconomic context referred to in the audit is also confined within the FMU borders. The audit report does not concern with matters outside the designated FMU boundaries except, where relevant, for those impacted by FMU activities around the periphery but referred to only for report completeness.

3. AUDIT PROCESS

3.1 Audit Dates

25-26 Oct 2016 & 28 Feb - 1 March 2017 (9 man-days)

3.2 Audit Team

- 1. Khairul Najwan Ahmad Jahari (Lead Auditor)
- 2. Dr. Samsudin Musa (Forester)
- 3. Dr. Zahid Emby (Sociologist)

The details on the experiences and qualifications of the audit team members are as in **Attachment 2.**

3.3 Standard Used

Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) [MC&I (Natural Forest)] using the verifiers stipulated for Peninsular Malaysia.

3.4 Stakeholder Consultations

A stakeholder consultation was conducted in August 2016 for a period of one month. However, there was no comment received from the stakeholders. Consultations were held with the Orang Asli communities in Kg Klaka, Kg Kelapi, Kg Bari, Kg Charik and Kg Pa'Bai which is located within the Negeri Sembilan PRF. It was confirmed (see 4.1.2) that the local communities were given work preference as well as contract work for jobs within the FMU. The audit team had also held meetings with the officers and the uniformed field staff of the NSSFD.

3.5 Audit Process

The audit was conducted primarily to evaluate the level of continued compliance of the Negeri Sembilan FMU's current documentation and field practices in forest management with the detailed of the standard of performances (SOPs) listed in the MC&I (Natural Forest), using the verifiers stipulated for Peninsular Malaysia.

For each Indicator, the auditors had conducted either a documentation review, consultation with the relevant personnel of the FMU, local community or stakeholders or field audit or a combination of

these methods. Depending on the compliance with the verifiers for a particular indicator, the auditors then decided on the degree of the FMU's overall compliance with the indicator and decided whether or not to issue a major or minor NCR or an OFI which is defined as follows:

- (i) A major NCR is a non-compliance with the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest).
- (ii) A minor NCR is a deviation or a lapse in complying with the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest).
- (iii) An OFI is a situation where the auditor has noted an area of concern on the capability of the forest management system to achieve conformance to the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest) but without sufficient objective evidence to support a non-conformance.

The coverage of this surveillance audit is as shown in the surveillance Audit Plan in Attachment 3.

4 SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS

Based on the findings of this surveillance audit, it was found that the NSSFD had continued to manage the Negeri Sembilan FMU in compliance with most of the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest). This surveillance had resulted in the issuance of three minor NCRs and two OFIs. The details on the NCRs/OFIs raised are shown in **Attachment 4.**

The audit team had reviewed the corrective actions taken by the NSSFD to address the four minor NCR raised during the recertification 2015 audit. Except for one minor NCR (SAM-01-2017) the audit team reviewed and accepted the NSSFD's proposed corrective actions to address the minor NCRs. The re-issued minor NCR shall be verified in the next audit.

The audit team had also verified on the corrective actions taken by the NSSFD to address the four OFIs which were raised during the previous audit. The responses made by the audit team leader on these corrective actions and on the final status of the NCRs and OFIs are as in **Attachment 5**.

On indigenous peoples' rights, there were mechanisms in place to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights through meetings held with the Department of Orang Asli Development or *Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli* (JAKOA). It was observed that there was no recorded civil court case pertaining to legal or customary tenure or use rights filed against the NSSFD during the period of the audit.

During this stage surveillance audit, the Negeri Sembilan FMU has increased in size from 154,676 ha to 155 825 ha following the new gazettement of 1,149 ha of the forest as PRF. However, this was reduced during period of audit to 155,649 ha due to degazettment for educational facilities, agricultural and Orang Asli reserves.

As the major NCR raised during the surveillance 2015 audit had been closed out and the audit team had therefore recommended that the Certificate for Forest Management be awarded to the Negeri Sembilan FMU be maintained from 28 December 2015 – 27 December 2018.

The summary on the findings of the surveillance 2016 audit on the Negeri Sembilan FMU against the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest) are as follows:

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
Principle Principle 1 Compliance with Laws and Principles	Strengths The NSSFD had continued to maintain records of all the relevant national and local laws, regulations and policies related to forest management. These were updated and made available. Forest officers at the level of District Forest Officers and above had demonstrated an understanding of and were found to be knowledgeable on the national and local laws and regulatory framework. Records of violation of local and national laws and of actions taken, were made available in the State Forestry Department office. All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes, and other charges were sighted during the audit. Records of payment made were available as shown in the <i>Penyata Kutipan Hasil Pejabat Hutan Negeri</i> . The forest managers were found to be aware of all the binding international agreements and their main intentions on forest management.	Weaknesses There was no negative finding.
	Criteria with standing laws and regulations. Forest managers were willing to participate in the resolution of such conflicts if any were to occur. The FMU is legally protected by the provisions in the National Forestry Act 1984 Section 7 to Section 13. FMU also has identified areas which are highly potential for illegal encroachment and monthly inspection was regularly conducted. Forest Monitoring using Remote Sensing (FMRS Plus) was also employed. The NSSFD had adopted policies and statements of commitment to manage forest resources on a sustainable basis which are clearly stated in the National Forestry Policy 1984. These policies had been communicated throughout the organisation and to the contractors and made available to the public via the department's website.	
	http://www.forestry.gov.my/negerisembilan/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=84&Itemid=115⟨=en	
Principle 2 Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities	Gazettment in the FMU was conducted in line with the National Forestry Act 1984. The full list of gazetted PRFs, including information on gazettment numbers and dates, was made available for the audit. Since the previous audit, two new gazettments were made (Warta 1004 and Warta 166) which increased the area of the FMU from 154,676.23 ha to 155,825.00 ha. Some areas of the PRF were however degazetted during the audit leaving the total FMU to a net area of 155,649.56ha. There was no record of any conflict on legal or customary tenure and/or forest use rights of the land or forest resources from the local non-aboriginal and/or Orang Asli communities living in the vicinity of the PRF. Mechanisms to resolve land claims were however available.	There was no negative finding.
	Documents pertaining to customary tenure or use rights of Orang Asli local communities such as the National Forestry Act, 1984 (Sections 19, 28, 33, 34, 40 and 62), Aboriginal Peoples	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	Act, 1954 (Sections 6, 7, 8, 10, 13 and 19), and the United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007, were readily available. Forest managers recognized, respected, and collaborated with holders of duly recognized legal or customary tenure or use rights when carrying out forest activities such as the collection of non-timber forest produce in the PRFs and access to communal water source for domestic consumption. Several mechanisms are available for resolving disputes over tenure and use rights in the FMU such as the use of Form E/SIA to monitor disputes and meetings with the JKKK (village work committee).	
Principle 3 Indigenous People's Rights	Documentation of the customary rights of Orang Asli lands within relevant federal, state and local laws made available to the auditors included the Aboriginal Peoples Act and the United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007. Relevant records related to these documents were also sighted (PHN.NS.156/01/101/386KLT.4). Since forest operations does not encroach into Orang Asli Reserves the need for the community delegating control, with free, prior and informed consent to the FMU does not arise. The mechanisms used to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights as elaborated in 2.3 above were also used to resolve conflicts and grievances.	There was no negative finding.
	The NSSFD had recognized in principle that forestry activities would not be conducted in land areas which had been recognized by the Aboriginal Peoples Act 1954 as Orang Asli lands. As such no forestry activity was carried out in areas recognized by the Act. Findings of the micro-level impact assessment prior to, during and after harvesting operations (A,B,C and D Forms) in the PRF assist the department in taking actions to prevent or mitigate potential or actual adverse impacts on the community and to enhance the positive ones.	
	Appropriate procedures for identifying and protecting sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples settled within or adjacent to the FMU and provisions for rights of access to these sites by indigenous peoples were recorded in the FMP and FMU management procedures. Cultural areas and burial grounds, for examples, were mapped and the information incorporated in FMU management. Micro-level impact assessment and consultations with local communities are conflict-avoidance measures that help to identify potential or consequential impacts of forest operations.	
	There were no records to show that Orang Asli traditional forest-related knowledge and practices were used in forest operations. As such the need for appropriate mechanisms and equitable compensation for commercial use of their indigenous knowledge does not arise.	
Principle 4 Community Relations and Workers' Rights	NSSFD provided sufficient support for training, retraining, local infrastructure, facilities and social programs for departmental staff. The Training Plan compiled for 2016/17 covering organisation activities for various levels of personnel were sighted during audit. The local community is given preference for employment and contract works as confirmed by records	There was no negative finding.

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
•	made available.	
	Forest workers were informed of regulations covering occupational safety and health through safety committee meetings and periodic briefings especially prior to commencement of harvesting operations. A management policy on safety and health of workers was enforced on 15 August 2008 by the department as in the Dasar Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Sembilan and made available to workers. Operational procedures on the use and maintenance of equipment was made available to forest workers in active harvesting areas visited. The NSSFD maintain up-to-date safety records including minutes of the Health and Safety Committee meetings and district level records kept since May 2009. Demarcation of hazardous areas and provision of guidelines, and compliance, for storage and handling of hazardous materials were verified at Serting Ulu Nursery.	
	Department staff were free to organize into their preferred unions in accordance with ILO Convention No. 87 – The Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 – Articles 2, 3, 5 and 11 and were members of CUEPACS, (the public-sector employees union). Malay uniformed department employees were also members of the Kesatuan Pegawai-Pegawai Hutan Melayu Semenanjung Malaysia (KPHMSM) (Union for Malay Forest Officers of Peninsular Malaysia). There was however no union for forest workers hired by the logging contractors but they were employed in accordance to the Employment Act 1955 which protected their welfare. Collective bargaining rights were given to department employees of the NSSFD through the union of government employees, CUEPACS and KPHMSM. Various mechanisms and procedures to address grievances by employees of the NSSFD are available.	
	Social impact of forest operations on indigenous and local communities were evaluated through community consultations (with survey using the Social Impact Assessment/SIA Form), an EIA conducted on the management and operation of the FMU and the District Action Committee which monthly addresses any direct impacts on the community due to forest operations. Recommendations of the SIA reports and consultations with local communities were duly incorporated into the planning and management of the felling operation as a perusal of the midterm review of the last FMP and in the present FMP.	
	Provisions within the national legal frameworks to prevent loss or damage affecting the local communities' legal or customary rights, property, resources, or their livelihoods include the Federal Constitution, the Aboriginal Peoples Act, 1954, the Forest Management Plan, and the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia Act, 1999. Appropriate mechanisms exist to assist the local community with fair and equitable compensation if negatively impacted by forest operations as assured by the regulatory laws and provisions stated above. Additionally, other venues for grievances resolution include local community consultations, monthly District Action Committee meetings an ad-hoc formal and informal dialogues with the community.	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
Principle Principle 5 Benefits from the Forest	The 5-Year NSFD Development Plan Budget from year 2012 to 2016 was made available during the audit. The total budget allocated for 2016 was RM15.22 million consisting of a development budget of 1.1 million, a management budget of RM10.6 million and cess of RM 3.5 million. The total income collected in 2016 (until Sept) amounted to RM 4.76 million. A new FMP for the period 2016-2025 has been prepared to maintain, restore or enhance the productive capacity and ecological integrity of the FMU. Timber was the main product of the FMU with a harvest rate of 1,803.15 ha until October 2016, well under the AAC. However, there was no non-timber forest product license issued for commercial use. RIL procedures were followed in harvesting operations. Relevant documents seen in the field included the Forest Harvesting Plan, additional permit conditions (Syarat Tambahan) and updated guidelines for forest road construction (Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan 2010 (Pindaan 2013). Extraction operations minimized product wastage and degradation. Tagged trees followed the prescribed felling limits, observed residual damages were acceptable and no utilizable logs were left in the stand or temporary log landings. Regular training was conducted for the staff, contractors and licensees on techniques of reduced-impact logging. The training program for 2016 for the staff was available. Five forest functional classes in the FMU were devoted to protection and conservation – wildlife, VJR, teaching, research and water catchment. Measures taken included protection of areas above 1000 meters or with slopes exceeding 40 degrees and implementation of the RIL in harvesting. The FMP and its revision contained requirements for protecting soil and water courses, specification for secondary roads, skid trails and buffer zones. The Negeri Sembilan FMU complied with the set AAC of 2,397 ha as stated in the FMP (2016 - 2025) with the maximum removal of 61m³/ha from second-entry forests. Records	Weaknesses There was no negative finding.
	however showed annual opening much lower than the AAC; between 761 ha -1803 ha in 2014-Oct 2016. Statistics for non-timber products were available, derived mainly from shuttle return records.	
Principle 6 Environmental Impact	The Macro Environmental Impact Assessment (MEIA) of the FMU was completed in 2007 and made available during the audit. Additions were included in the draft midterm review (2006-2015) referring to new high biodiversity sites, environmental issues due to harvesting impacts and associated mitigation measures. The FMP also recorded a listing of endemic and rare flora species including ERT species. HCVF sites, such as one for the endangered <i>Vatica yeechiongii</i> was adequately protected. The Forest Manual 2003, contained guidelines to protect ERT species and maintain forest diversity including fruit trees for wildlife. The Macro EIA 2007 report listed ERT flora and fauna.	A minor NCR was raised in the previous recertification audit on this indicator as there retaining walls were not constructed to prevent loose soil from entering into the river system. In this audit, in the inspection of Compartment 41 Serting FR and Compartment 35 Triang FR the construction of retaining walls was evident at several waterway crossings. However, there was still one area in where the retaining walls were not
	Associated documents seen included the Malaysia Plant Red List and Endangered dipterocarp species in Peninsular Malaysia	constructed. Since the measures have been taken but were still not adequate

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	(Spesis Dipterokarpa Terancam di Semenanjung Malaysia). A collaboration with the Wildlife Department conducted on 17-27 June 2013 listed out wildlife presence.	the Minor NCR SAM-01/2017 issued is retained.
	Consultation with the logging contractors showed awareness of the need to protect fruit trees, trees in riparian area and untagged trees. The Forest Manual 2003 also gave guidelines to establish VJRs (<i>Panduan Penubuhan dan Penyelenggaraan Kawasan-kawasan Hutan Dara, 1987</i>) to conserve and protect representatives of local vegetation. A total of 8 VJRs had been established in the FMU. The NSSFD established active cooperation with other government agencies regarding conservation efforts, especially the Department of Wildlife and National Park Peninsular Malaysia (PERHILITAN), Department of Aboriginal Affairs Malaysia (JAKOA), Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) and Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) as well as local universities. The NSSFD controlled and regulated hunting and collecting activities within the FMU in concurrence with the national Forestry Act the Wildlife Conservation Act 2011. No permits were issued for hunting and fishing and main access gates were installed as controls. Posters on wildlife protection were distributed to the public and logging contractors showed awareness during consultations.	
	Post-felling inventories to assess regeneration of residual trees were carried out in accordance to guidelines in the Field Manual on Post-felling Forest Inventory and Field Manual of Selective Management System (SMS). Enrichment planting was implemented in accordance with guidelines in the Handbook on Enrichment Planting 1978. Analysis on change in species composition following harvesting indicated a reduction in number of species within the compartment studied, from 97 to 77 species after logging. To mitigate the reduction in species diversity, bared areas in the residual stands (skid trails, log landings) were planted with commercial species. The system of logging by scheduled forest blocks prevent fragmentation of the PRF thus providing wildlife movement into surrounding unlogged or regenerating forest stands away from the harvest area. This connectivity within forest vegetation was mainly achieved through proper planning of the harvesting sequence including leaving sufficient residual cover immediately after logging.	
	The FMU has indicated measures to mitigate the environmental impacts identified in the environmental impacts assessment will be included in the revision of the FMP which is underway. Inspection of the final draft FMP 2016-2025 indicated that mitigation measures have been incorporated. The draft FMP (2016-2025) included maps of Virgin Jungle Reserves (VJR) representing different forest types found in the FMU. The plots were established according to the Guidelines for the Establishment and Maintenance of Virgin Jungle Reserves 1987 to ensure that representative areas were protected in their natural states for ecosystem conservation. A total of 8 VJRs were established in the FMU with an area of 3,802 ha. Other representative forest ecosystems protected included watersheds (51,020 ha), wildlife reserves (9,036 ha) education forests (9,377 ha), research forests (2,987 ha) and recreation forests (3,250 ha).	
	Harvesting operations in the FMU are conducted along the	

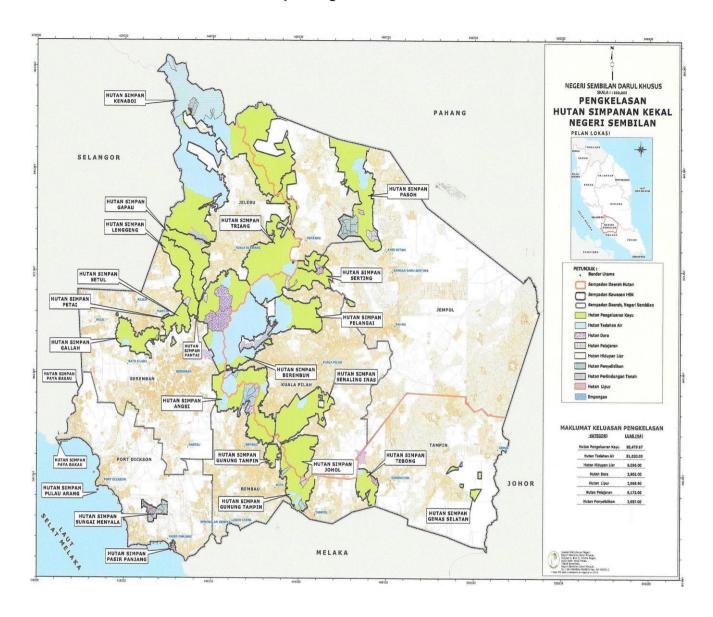
Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
·	requirements of the Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia 2003 and the Forest Road Guidelines 2010 (Amended 2013) to reduce soil compaction due to use of heavy machinery and therefore to protect soil through minimizing erosion. The logging is also guided by the approved harvesting plan. Old access roads were reused thus help in reducing soil disturbance. Retaining walls at several waterway crossings were constructed in the field. The contractor was briefed on RIL procedures prior to entry. All stages of road construction were monitored by departmental staff.	
	Only Class III weedicides (Roundup, Malathion and Enchozac) were used, and minimally, in nursery operations. Workers were adequately trained in the handling of chemicals by the Department of Safety and Health and the Department of Agriculture. Chemical handling was demonstrated during the nursery audit. The training schedules for 2016/17 were made available.	
	The department has established a SOP in hazardous waste handling and disposal. Lubricants and engine oil at the logging camps were properly stored in stores. Diesel fuel was also stored in drums next to the store. Empty containers were sent to the poison control unit (<i>Unit Kawalan Racun Perosak</i>) for proper disposal.	
	There was no application of biological control agents in the FMU.	
	Exotic species had not been introduced in any silvicultural treatments. The guidelines for enrichment planting do not encourage the planting of exotic species.	
	The conversion of 67.5 ha from natural forest to TLC in the FMU, since the last audit, was approved by the department (Surat Kelulusan bil (1) dalam PHN.NS&M, 156/04/210/738T dated 13 March 2014). To date a total 2,761.96 ha of TLC have been established since 2012.	
Principle 7 Management Plan	The final draft of the Forest Management Plan (FMP) 20016-2025 was available but incomplete since some aspects need further elaboration. Pending its acceptance and approval, harvesting operations were guided by department approved harvesting plans in order to minimize negative impacts.	7.1.1 The Forest Management Plan 2016 – 2025 has not been fully completed and officially endorsed.
	The draft FMP has provisioned for a midterm review to be conducted. Forest managers were generally aware of new scientific and technical information gained through scientific conferences and meetings and participation in scientific exploration such as the one organised in Jelebu district (Expedition Saintifik Gunung Besar Hantu, Lata Kijang, Jelebu", May 2010).	A copy of the final draft of the Forest Management Plan 2016 – 2025 was available. However, it has yet to be finalized and upon inspection, it was still found to be incomplete. The FMP has also not been approved by the Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department and has also not been endorsed by the Negeri Sembilan State
	JPSM has adequate training facilities in the main campus in the Forestry Training School in Kepong, Selangor state, and off-campus complementary training centres for forest harvesting (Kuala Berang, Terengganu state), ecotourism (Sg. Menyala, Negeri Sembilan state) and forest nursery (Mantin, Negeri Sembilan state) manned by experienced senior staff training staff and external instructors. Every staff of the department undergoes a series of courses throughout their career centered	Government. A Minor NCR SAM02/2017 was raised. 7.4.1 The public summary of the primary elements of the FMP 2016-2025 which has been made available to the public on the Negeri Sembilan Forestry

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	on forest management to assist them in implementing the management plan. A total of 13 courses were conducted by departmental staff in year 2016 involving several agencies including FORTRAN, MPC, JKKPNS, SPRM and Agricultural Department.	Department official website, was not up-to-date. Accordingly, a Minor NCR KN01/2017 was raised.
Principle 8 Monitoring and Assessment	The NSSFD had continued to apply the procedures to monitor ecological, environmental and economic impacts through the use of monitoring Forms A, B, C and D as required by the Director General's circulars. Monitoring records were sighted for harvested compartments. The social impact assessment (using form entitled Maklumat Kajian Impak Sosial Dalam Sektor Pembalakan) was conducted before, during and after forest harvesting. Monitoring (using Monitoring Procedures on Logging Effect against Local Communities in Permanent Forest Reserve in Negeri Sembilan) records for some compartments were also sighted.	There was no negative finding.
	The FMU has regularly enumerated growth plots and conducted wildlife surveys with Wildlife Department (PERHILITAN) on 17-27 June 2013. Analyses on pre-F/post-F data showed that the residual stand has sufficient advanced regeneration for the next cut.	
	Log movement from stump to mill complied with set procedures of the department. Logs leaving the harvested stand were issued with a delivery order prepared by the logging contractor with details such as tree number, species and log production number recorded. The removal pass records were verified at the nearest checking station where individual logs were certified and the documented information compared with those from the Record of Tree Tagging.	
	Results from HCVF monitoring activities and scientific research were incorporated into the draft forest management plan (2016-2025).	
	Results from growth plot analyses were updated and included in the public summary as in the web page below; http://www.forestry.gov.my/negerisembilan/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=94&Itemid=30&Iang=my	
Principle 9 Maintenance of High Conservation Values	The presence of HCVF was determined with the cooperation of relevant research institutions and government agencies. The sites included endemic species of Resak (vatica yeechongii) in Setul PRF and a stand of representative Lowland Dipterocarp Forest in Sungai Menyala PRF. However, no new HCVF was identified during audit period.	9.1.1 It was found that consultation with relevant stakeholders to determine the presence of HCVF attributes in the FMU was not sufficient. The development of the new Forest Management Plan also did not include
	A list of 16 stakeholders were consulted on the extant HCVFs areas (letter on 2 September 2015) eliciting three replies with the requested comments. NSSFD had protected HCVF areas in their forest management operations as incorporated in the old and draft Forest Management Plan (2016-2025).	consultation with relevant stakeholders on aspects related HCVF. An OFI Indicator 9.1.1 was raised.
	Management prescriptions for HCVF were developed including site maps and included in the draft FMP (2016-2025). However, measures to demarcate, maintain and enhance HCVF attributes had not been improved and similarly documented. These measures to demarcate, maintain or enhance HCVF were included in the public summary on the department's web. page;	9.4.2 The result obtained from the monitoring results from HCVF areas at Setul PRF and Sungai Menyala PRF were not adequately incorporated in the new FMP (2016-2025). Thus, OFI Indicator 9.4.2 was duly raised.

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	http://forestry.ns.gov.my/index.php/my/sumber/mc-i/hcvf	
	Monitoring procedures to assess the effectiveness of measures in the management of HCVF sites in the FMU was made available. These included records on an endemic species of Resak (vatica yeechongii) in Setul PRF, and representative of surviving Lowland Dipterocarp Forest in Sungai Menyala PRF.	

Attachment 1

Map of Negeri Sembilan FMU



Experiences and Qualifications of Audit Team Members

Assessment Team	Role/Area of MC&I Requirement	Qualification and Experience	
Khairul Najwan Ahmad Jahari	Audit Team Leader / Forester	Academic Qualification: B. Sc of Forestry (Forest Management), Universiti Putra Malaysia.	
		Work Experience: Appointed as contract Research Officer in the Natural For Division, Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM), since 20 Conduct and coordinate a research on 8th Malaysian Plan Project Produce technical reports, meeting, seminar and conference reports as well as quarterly physical and financial report Coordinate and participate field works, multi-level meeting seminars, conferences and workshops. Spent some time in ot existing FRIM projects (inter divisional) as an organizing commit member, division level activities and projects. Currently as Audiat the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Section (FAF), SIRIM Quant International, since 2009. Involved in conducting assessments forest management certification (MC&I and FSC P&C), MYNIRSPO P&C and other management system on ISO 9001, 140 and OHSA 1800	
		Training / Research Areas:	
		Was attending and pass in the following training programmes:	
		Auditor Training Course on Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (2002)] organized by MTCC, 30 March - 2 April 2009. EMS 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 2-6 March 2009. OHSAS 18001: 2007 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 23-27 Feb 2009. QMS 9001: 2008 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 16 – 21 Feb 2009.	
Dr. Samsudin Musa	Auditor	Dr. Samsudin bin Musa is a Senior Research Officer at the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) since 1997. He graduated in 1984 with a B Sc. Forestry from the University Putra Malaysia and has completed his PhD studies in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in 2011. From 1993 to 1997 he was the Forest Inventory Officer at the Forestry Department Headquarters, Peninsular Malaysia. Prior to that, he was the Head of Inventory Unit of the ASEAN Institute of Forest Management in Kuala Lumpur from 1987 to 1993. His area of expertise includes silviculture, climate change and forest certification. He was involved in the following forest management/chain-of-custody certification training programmes:	
		Workshop on Forest Management Certification, Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia, Kepong. (12-13 December 1996). – Resource person XXI IUFRO Pre-Congress Workshop on Sustainable forest management and Criteria & Indicators, FRIM, Kepong, Malaysia (1-4 August, 2000) – Resource person Workshop on Methodologies for Assessing Forest Biodiversity and Estimating its Recovery. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (30-31 October, 2001). – Resource person	

	1	Training in Forest Management Could and a Co. Co.
		Training in Forest Management Certification by Scientific Certification System, SIRIM, February 2000, Shah Alam, Selangor Quality Assurance Auditor/Lead Auditor Training Course and Examination, 25-29 March 2003, Moody International Certification., FRIM, Kepong, Selangor Forest Management Certification Procedures, SIRIM QAS, 19 February 2009, Shah Alam, Selangor ISO 14001:2004 EMS Lead Auditor Training Course under SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 2-6 March 2009 Auditor Training Course on MC&I 2002, 30 March – 2 April 2002 by MTCC, Kuala Lipis, Pahang
		His auditing experiences include the following:
		Member of the Team under MTCC/SGS(M) Sdn. Bhd. (Local expert/Auditor) for the testing of the application of Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (MC&I) for the State of Johor, Malaysia, 14-18 August 2001. FRIM Internal Auditor for ISO 9002. Observer for the Assessment for forest management certification of the Perak Integrated Timber Complex by SIRIM QAS International based on FSC principles in collaboration with the Scientific Certification Services (SCS) on 8-11 October 2001 GTZ-FD Project on the Development of Internal Assessment Procedures for Forest Certification. 1999 (Local expert) GTZ-FD Project on the Development of Internal Assessment Procedures for Sustainable Forest Management using new MC&I. 2000/2001 (Consultancy Project Leader) Auditor for forest management certification of the Kelantan FMU conducted by SIRIM QAS International against the MC&I under the MTCS in 2004 Auditor for forest management certification of the Kedah FMU conducted by SIRIM QAS International against the MC&I (2002), 5-9 March 2006 Auditor for forest management certification of the Perak FMU conducted by SIRIM QAS International against the MC&I (2002), 10-15 September 2006 Auditor for forest management certification of the Negeri Sembilan FMU conducted by SIRIM QAS International against the MC&I (2002), 10-15 September 2006 Auditor for forest management certification of the Negeri Sembilan FMU conducted by SIRIM QAS International against the MC&I (2002), 10-15 September 2007 Lead Auditor in Field Tests of MC&I (2002) in Sarawak FMU for the Malaysian Timber Certification Council.
Dr. Zahid Emby	Auditor / workers & community issues and related legal issues	 1977- 1992 – Lecturer, Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Educational Services, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia August 1992 – 1994 – Head, Department of Social Development Studies, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia August 1, 1998 -2001. Reappointed as Head of the renamed Department of Social and Development Science for a three year term Head, Department of Music from October 2003 until his retirement on December 17, 2006 Spent some time as a visiting scholar at University of Hull, U.K. and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Freelance consultant on social issue.

Surveillance 2016 Audit Plan

DAY	TIME	PROGRAM		
DAI		AUDITOR 1	AUDITOR 2	AUDITOR 3
Day 0	5.00 pm	 Travel from Kuala Lumpur to Seremban Check-in at Royal Bintang Seremban Briefing by Audit Team Leader on the surveillance audit plan 		
Day 1	9.00 am – 1.00 pm 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Opening Meeting with Briefing session by Forest activities Q&A Session Evaluation of change Check on progress of operation system to Check on complaints actions Orang Aslio Government NGOs Check on verification audit Evaluate on procedue Evaluate on manage Stakeholder consultations Orang Aslio Government NGOs Check on verification audit Evaluate on procedue Evaluate on manage Stakeholder consultation and records review Principle 1 — Compliance with Laws and Principles Principle 4 - Community Relations and Worker's Right (Safety issues) Principle 8 — Monitoring and Assessment	h representatives of FM Forest Manager of the Florest Manager of the Florest to the management of planned activities aime achieve improvement in a stakeholder comments agencies for closing NCRs raised res for internal audit ment review system	IU MU on progress of If the FMU ed at enhancing the overall performance s and follow-up
		 Principle 9 – Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests Review of Day 1 Fine 	ader	

Day 2	7.30 am – 1.00 pm	Site visit (Plan A) Inspection of active area – Compt 35 Triang and Compt 41 Serting PRF Boundaries inspection Interview with forest workers Site visit (Plan A) Inspection of active area - Kpt. 35 HS Senaling Inas Interview with contractors Interview with boundaries Site visit & consultations Local Communities - Kg. Klaka		
	2.00 pm – 2.30 pm 2.30pm - 5.00pm	 Boundaries inspection Interview with contractors Forest workers Forest Checking Station - BPH Sementara Ulu Klawang Conversion Area (if any) Chemical handling at Nursery Interview with contractors Forest boundaries Forest Checking Station - BPH Sementara Senaling Inas) New gazzeted area 		
		Review of Day 2 Findings by Audit Team Leader		
Day 3	8.30 am – 1.00 pm 2.00pm-4.00 pm	Documentation and records review Preparation of audit report and finding Briefing to representatives of FMU on the progress of audit		
	4.30pm	Closing Meeting and presentation of findings of audit and discussion on follow-up activities Adjourn Closing Meeting		

Surveillance Audit Findings (2016) and Corrective Action Taken

Indicator	Specification Major/Minor/OFI	Detail Non-conformances	Corrective Action Taken	Verification by Assessor
Indicator 6.5.1 NCR: SAM-01 /2017	Minor	Indicator 6.5.1 - Availability and implementation of harvesting procedures to protect the soil from compaction by harvesting machinery and erosion during harvesting operations A minor NCR was raised in the previous Recertification audit on this indicator as there retaining walls were not constructed to prevent loose soil from entering into the river system. In this audit, in the inspection of Compartment 41 Serting FR and Compartment 35 Triang FR the construction of retaining walls were evident at several waterway crossings. However, there was still one area in where the retaining walls were not constructed. Since the measures have been taken but were still not adequate the minor NCR issued is retained.	The contractor did not construct the retaining wall due to seasonal water stream and slow water movement and does not erode the soil. Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department has acted; I. The licencies was instructed to construct the retaining wall as required in "Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan 2013" II. Training material for briefing to every new licences area to be updated to avoid recurrence III. Refreshment training on Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan 2013 IV. Frequent monitoring to this licencies area	Accepted by auditor. Verification of the implementation to be conducted during the next audit
Indicator 7.1.1 NCR: SAM 02/2017	Minor	7.1.1 – Availability and implementation of Forest Management Plan The Forest Management Plan 2016 – 2025 has not been fully completed and officially endorsed. A copy of the final draft of the Forest Management Plan 2016 – 2025 was available. However, it has yet to be finalized and upon inspection, it was still found to be incomplete. The FMP has also not been approved by the Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department and has also not been endorsed by the Negeri Sembilan State Government	Draft FMP 2016-2025 pending for approval due to some amendment were in progress Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department will seek endorsement from Negeri Sembilan State Government before 30 April 2017	Accepted by auditor. Verification of the implementation to be conducted during the next audit
Indicator 7.4.1 NCR: KN01/ 2017	Minor	Indicator 7.4.1 A summary of the primary elements of the forest management plan as prepared and implemented under Indicator 7.1.1 shall be made available to the public	The FMP were pending endorsement from State Government, thus the public summary was also pending on the website The public summary to be	Accepted by auditor. Verification of the implementation to be conducted during the next audit

		The public summary of the primary elements of the forest management plan which has been made available to the public was not up-to-date Auditor has verified the summary of the primary elements at the Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department official website and has found that it was not up-to-date for the FMP 2016 – 2025	uploaded at Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department website subsequently after endorsement of the FMP from the State Government	
Indicator 9.1.1	OFI	Indicator 9.1.1 - Forest managers shall determine the presence of HCVF attributes in the FMU in accordance with relevant federal, state and local laws, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management operations in the FMU, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders It was found that consultation with relevant stakeholders to determine the presence of HCVF attributes in the FMU was not sufficient. The development of the new Forest Management Plan also did not include consultation with relevant stakeholders on aspects related HCVF.	Not required	-
Indicator 9.4.2	OFI	Indicator 9.4.2 - Forest managers shall incorporate the results and findings of the HCVFs monitoring activities into the implementation and revision of the forest management plan The result obtained from the monitoring results from HCVF areas at Setul PRF and Sungai Menyala PRF were not adequately incorporated in the new FMP (2016-2025).	Not required	-

Verification on Previous Recertification Audit (2015) Audit Findings and Action Taken

Indicator	Specification Major/Minor/OFI	Detail Non-conformances	Corrective Action Taken	Verification by Assessor
Indicator 8.3.1 NCR #: LYD-01 /2015	Minor	Forest managers shall provide relevant documents for identifying all forest products leaving the area to be certified so that their origin could be easily determined. Identification of forest products leaving the area did not tally with tagging record Inspection of records at the mobile checking station in Compartment 59 PRF Angsi, found that the information in the removal pass did not tally with tree tagging record	Show course letter has been issued to the person in charge of the forest checking station. The person in charge also transferred with new personnel immediately. (Letter PHD.NS.B.1/5 Klt. 1(94) dated 6 Nov 2015. The NSSFD will conduct a training on checking station and revising the SOP to improve the forest checking system implementation.	Examination of record on tagged trees and control of extracted timber "Buku Penandaan Pokok dan Kawalan Pengeluaran Kayu" at Compartment 35 Triang PRF and Compartment 41 Serting PRF that the log movement was in order without any discrepancy. Removal Passes examined were in order and information in the removal pass and the tagging records were correct. Status: Closed
Indicator 5.3.1 NCR #: SAM 01/2015	Minor	Implementation of guidelines for reduced/low impact logging to minimise damage to residual stand. Directional felling to minimise damage to residual stand was not fully adhered In the inspection of active logging site in Compartment 59 Angsi FR and Compartment 22 Pelangai FR, it was found that directional felling was not fully adhered. Tagged trees felled without adhering to the fixed direction has resulted in damage to residual stand. Trees were also found to be felled across the boundary to adjacent block.	Directional felling was not fully adhered due to safety reason and the unsafe site condition at the time of logging operation. Training on directional felling will be conducted to refresh the feller including staff and forest ranger in 2016.	RIL procedures were followed in harvesting operations in Compartment 35 Triang PRF and Compartment 41 Serting PRF. Directional felling in particular was verified along skid trails inspected. It was found that directional felling was generally followed. There are no trees were felled across the boundary to adjacent block. Status: Closed
Indicator 6.5.3 NCR #: SAM02/20 15	Minor	Availability and implementation of guidelines for forest road lay-out and construction, including log landings and drainage requirements. The construction of access roads and skid trails did not adhere to the guideline "Guidelines for Forest Road 2010 (Amended 2013)	The skid trail was constructed by not following the harvesting plan due to slope area. In addition, the contractor using the old road to reduce the opening on new skid trail	In this surveillance audit, it was found the old access roads from previous logging operation were found to be reused in the active logging areas inspected. This would prevent significant earthworks if new roads were to be

		During the inspection of active logging sites in Compartment 59 Angsi FR it was found that the alignment some of the skid trails did not follow the harvesting plan. One of the access roads was wrongly constructed and was asked by the Forestry Department to close. However, it was found to be used to skid logs. It was also found that the slope of some of skid trails and access road in this Compartment and closed area in Compartment 98 Triang FR exceeded (>20°) the allowable limit	NSSFD will conduct briefing to all contractor to emphasized specific on road construction and specifications To conduct RIL course in 2016 The FMU has directed their officers to do the forest monitoring effectively.	constructed. In this regard, some old roads which were found to be quite steep were allowed to be used. Alignment of skid trails were found to be constructed according to the harvesting plans. Where it was changed, written permission from the DFO was received. Status: Closed.
Indicator 6.5.1 NCR #: SAM03/20 15	Minor	Availability and implementation of harvesting procedures to protect the soil from compaction by harvesting machinery and erosion during harvesting operations. The implementation of harvesting procedures to protect the soil from compaction by harvesting machinery and erosion during harvesting operations did not fully adhere to the requirements of Guidelines for Forest Road 2010 (amended 2013) In the inspection of one of the active logging site in Compartment 59 Angsi FR, it was found that the side drains were not properly maintained resulting in the formation of gullies. The site which was relatively steep also did not have adequate cross drains and side ditches to minimize soil erosion. Culverts used in the construction of cross drains were too small resulting in them being clogged up with soil.	The drainage was constructed during the harvesting, however it's not maintained due to raining season. The contractors using the old road to reduce the usage of skid trails and earthwork during the operation. Contractor was instructed to repair the roads as road specification by. Guidelines for Forest Road 2010 (amended 2013) NSSFD will conduct briefing to all contractor to emphasized specific on road construction and specifications To conduct RIL and Guidelines for Forest Road 2010 (amended 2013) course in 2016 The FMU has directed their officers to do the forest monitoring effectively.	in the previous Recertification audit on this indicator as the retaining walls for bridges were not constructed to prevent loose soil from entering into the river system. In this audit, in the inspection of Compartment 41 Serting PRF and Compartment 35 Triang PRF the construction of retaining walls were evident at several waterway crossings. However, there was still one area
Indicator 6.1.3	Minor	Forest management plans shall incorporate measures to mitigate	New mitigation measures will be	The FMU has indicated measures to mitigate the
NCR #: SAM-2	Area/Location: FMP	the environmental impacts identified in the assessments. Measures to mitigate the environmental impacts identified in the environmental impacts assessment was not adequately	included in the FMP in year 2015 Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department had conduct a meeting and made an agenda to	environmental impacts identified in the environmental impacts assessment will be included in the revision of the FMP which is underway. Inspection of

		incorporated into the FMP The EIA report developed for the FMU has specified mitigation measures to reduce the impact of logging on the environment. These include soil erosion, air pollution, noise pollution, waste management, biodiversity conservation, socio-economic impacts, microclimate and HCVF. These mitigation measures have not been adequately included in the mid-term review of the FMP	include mitigation measures in the FMP in year 2015	the final draft FMP 2016- 2025 indicated that mitigation measures have been incorporated. Status: Closed
Indicator 4.2.3	OFI	Appropriate safety and operational equipment in good working condition, including operational procedures, shall be made available to forest workers in the work place During the inspection of Compartment 132A Pasoh, First Aid Kit at the workers quarters was found to be empty	NA	During the inspection of Compartment 35 Senaling Inas PRF, Compartment 35 Triang PRF and Compartment 41 Serting PRF, First Aid Kit at the workers' quarters was made available. Therefore, OFI for Indicator 4.2.3. was closed
Indicator 4.3.3	OFI	The right of workers to benefits and protection is assured under applicable laws and/or regulations The right of workers for the benefits and protection was not sufficient e.g: 1. Compartment 59 PRF Angsi – insurance covered 7 out of 16 workers 2. Compartment 132A PRF Pasoh – proper insurance coverage for 18 workers provided was not provided	NA	Local infrastructure, facilities and social programs such as housing, medical benefits and family day were provided by the NSSFD to its employees. NSSFD made contributions to EPF and SOCSO for all their monthly-paid employees; while logging contractors provided infrastructure and facilities such as accommodation in the field (rumah kongsi), medical benefits and group insurance (under workmen's compensation) to their employees. Hence OFI raised in the last audit against Indicator 4.3.3 is closed.
Indicator 5.3.3	OFI	Regular training shall be conducted for the staff on techniques of reduced-impact logging Training records on directional felling for chainsaw operator need	NA	Regular training was conducted for the staff, contractors and licensees on techniques of reduced-impact logging. Training program 2016 for the

		to improve. Interview with forest workers at Compartment 59 PRF Angsi found that the awareness and understanding on road specification for skid trail and feeder road were not sufficient		staff of the NSSFD was available. Consultation with workers Compartment 35 Senaling Inas PRF, Compt 35 Triang PRF and Compartment 41 Serting PRF. indicated that they were aware on the regulations for directional felling. An OFI on Indicator 5.3.3 therefore was closed.
Indicator 6.3.1	OFI	Availability and implementation of management guidelines to assess post-harvest natural regeneration, and measures to supplement natural regeneration, where necessary, in the FMU Inspection of the closed area in Compartment 98 Triang FR, it was found that the planting in the skid trails was not complete. Only half of the skid trail was planted. There was also no water bar constructed in the skid trails to prevent soil erosion	NA	The inspection of Compartment 35 Triang FR and Compartment 41 Serting FR indicated that the skid trails in areas that were logged have been planted and water bars have been constructed. The OFI was closed.