



**PUBLIC SUMMARY
SURVEILLANCE 2 AUDIT (3rd CYCLE) ON
KEDAH FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT
FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION
(NATURAL FOREST)**

**Certificate Number: FMC 0003
Date of First Certification: 9 June 2010
Audit Date: 20-23 Aug 2017
Date of Public Summary: 25 March 2018**

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**

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Surveillance 2 Audit on the Kedah Forest Management Unit (hereafter referred as the Kedah FMU) was conducted on 20-23 Aug 2017 to assess the continued compliance of the overall forest management system of the Kedah 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 Kedah FMU.

This Surveillance 2 Audit was conducted by a 4-member team comprising Ismail Adnan bin Abdul Malek (Trainee Lead Auditor), Mohd Razman bin Salim (Auditor), Dr. Mohd Nazre Saleh (Auditor). Cik Rahayu binti Zulkifli participated in this audit process as Trainee Auditor.

Based on the findings of this Surveillance 2 Audit, it was found that Kedah FMU had continued to comply with the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest). This Surveillance 2 Audit had resulted in the issuance of one (1) major and one (1) minor Non Conformity Reports (NCRs). The Major NCR was an upgrade from a Minor NCR raised during the last Surveillance 1 Audit which was not addressed. No Observation for Improvement (OFI) was raised.

This public summary contains the general information on the Kedah FMU, the findings of the Surveillance 2 Audit, NCRs raised as well as the decision on the continued certification of the FMU.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Name of FMU

Kedah Forest Management Unit (Kedah FMU)

2.2 Contact Person and Address

Dato' Mohd Nasir Hj Abu Hassan
Director, Kedah State Forestry Department
Level 8, Bangunan Sultan Abdul Halim
Jalan Sultan Badlishah
05000 Alor Setar, Kedah
Phone # : 04 733 3911
Fax # : 04 731 0610

2.3 General Background on the Kedah FMU

The Kedah FMU is managed by the Kedah State Forestry Department (KSFD). The KSFD is committed to the management of the FMU on a sustainable basis. The administration of the FMU is divided into (4) forest districts namely the Langkawi, North, Central and South Kedah Forest Districts.

The inland forest is managed under a Selective Management System (SMS) on a 30-year rotation period. Under the Eleventh Malaysia Plan (2016-2020), the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) for the Kedah State FMU had been set at 3122 ha. A Forest Management Plan (FMP) covering the period from 2016 to 2025 had been presented during the audit.

During Recertification Audit (2012), approximately 7000 ha of the PRF has been removed from the scope of the audit. The areas are as follows:

- I. HS Gunung Inas - Compartments 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10
- II. HS Pedu – Compartments 48 & 50
- III. HS Rimba Teloi – Compartment 1
- IV. HS Bukit Perangin – Compartments 27 & 28

The size of the FMU is 334,983 ha, which has remained unchanged since the Recertification Audit in 2015. The FMU comprises about 35.5% of the state's total land area of 942,600 ha. The PRFs within the FMU comprise mainly of inland Dipterocarp forests covering an area of 300,845 ha with the remaining PRFs covering 6,201 ha consist of mangrove forests.

A map of the FMU showing the significant features of the forest is attached in Attachment 1.

2.4 Date First Certified

9th June 2010

2.5 Location of the FMU

The FMU is located between 5° 03' 58" N, 99° 35' 47" E and 6° 31' 07" N, 101° 08' 57" E

2.6 Forest Management System

The FMU had followed the principles of sustainable forest management (SFM) and the requirements of the Licence Agreement of the State government. A draft of the Forest Management Plan (FMP) 2016 to 2025 was presented during this audit.

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

Under the Eleventh Malaysia Plan, RMK11 (2016-2020), the annual allowable cut (AAC) for the FMU had been set at 3,122 ha.

2.8 Environmental and Socioeconomic Context

In view of the state-wide scale of the Kedah FMU, an appropriate macro-level environmental impact assessment (MEIA) was conducted in 2007. Recommendations from the MEIA report were incorporated in the FMP (2016 – 2025) (Draft). Sensitive areas were demarcated, mapped and protected in specific conservative forest use categories. Such areas included high elevation areas (1000 m or higher), steep slopes (>40 degrees), riparian buffers. HCVF areas were identified, demarcated, mapped and systematically protected. Environmental impact assessments on rare and threatened species of flora and fauna were included in the MEIA report on the FMU. The need for biological corridors for wildlife movement was also addressed in the report. The KSFD has played a major part in establishing and maintenance of the Central Forest Spine. Documents on the: PL5 Ulu Muda – Gunung Inas wildlife corridor In the Central Forest Spine (CFS) Programme, several biological corridors were planned within the FMU to conserve wildlife movement and habitats. The KSFD is a prominent and active member of the CFS working committee (Jawatankuasa Kerja CFS). The KSFD also conserves biological corridors for wildlife movement and is an important and active member of the Central Forest Spine (CFS) Programme and working committee (Jawatankuasa Kerja CFS). The KSFD has played a major part in establishing and maintenance of the Central Forest Spine. Documents on the: PL5 Ulu Muda – Gunung Inas wildlife corridor

Environmental impact assessments on rare, threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna were included in the MEIA report on the FMU. In compliance with the MEIA recommendations, a survey on the Dipterocarp flora showed 11 species native to the FMU were classified as endangered out of a total 60 for the country. The FMP listed endemic and rare flora in the FMU including a list of protected flora. However, no new ERT species were identified until this audit.

The Kedah Forest Management Plan (2016 – 2025) had incorporated measures to mitigate the environmental impacts from forest harvesting as identified in the assessments. The establishment of riparian buffer zone, road and skid trail construction complying with the specifications in the “Guidelines on Forest Road Specifications 2010 (Amended 2013) and enrichment planting were examples of mitigation efforts implemented.

Monitoring on socio-economic impact was conducted in all forest districts of KSFD pre, during and post logging operations using the social impact assessment form entitled “*Maklumat Kajian Impak Sosial Dalam Sektor Pembalakan*” (Information on Social Impact Evaluation in the Logging Sector). Socio economic impact mitigation measures were identified.

The Orang Asli or local communities did not have any right of ownership over land in the PRF. However the Orang Asli were allowed under the Act to freely access the forest and collect forest resources for their own consumption. The Kedah FMU recognized and supported these legal rights of the Orang Asli. There was no case reported of forest operations carried out by the KSFD/logging contractors in aboriginal reserves or areas. Neither was any civil court case pertaining to legal or customary tenure or use rights within the PRF recorded.

In cases where the Orang Asli had established settlements in forest areas or forest peripheries before or after the forests were gazetted as PRF, the rights of the community to informal tenureship and use of surrounding forest resources for subsistence were taken into account by the KSFD in its forest management, planning and implementation.

3.0 AUDIT PROCESS

3.1 Audit Dates

20 -23 August 2017 (12 man-days)

3.2 Audit Team

Ismail Adnan bin Abdul Malek (Trainee Lead Auditor, Forester)
Mohd Razman bin Salim (Lead Auditor, Forester)
Dr Mohd Nazre Saleh (Trainee Auditor, Botanist)
Cik Rahayu binti Zulkifli (Trainee Auditor)

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 July 2017 for a period of one month. Three (3) comments were received from the stakeholders as shown in **Attachment 3**.

3.5 Audit Process

The audit was conducted to evaluate the level of continued compliance of the FMU's current documentation and field practices in forest management with the detailed of the 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 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 overall compliance in the indicator and decided whether or not to issue a major or minor NCR or an OFI.

An NCR raised during an audit is categorized as either major or minor as follows:

(i) A major NCR is a non-compliance deemed by the Auditor to be critical and is likely to result in an immediate hazard to the quality or standard of forest management system and practices in the FMU. The FMU is requested to notify SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd. (SIRIM QAS International) of the proposed corrective actions taken within one month from the last date of the Surveillance Audit. The corrective actions as notified by the FMU shall be verified by the Audit Team Leader or a member of the audit team within three months from the last date of audit.

(ii) A minor NCR is a single observed lapse in compliance by the FMU to the MC&I (Natural Forest). The FMU shall respond in writing to SIRIM QAS International within one month from the last date of audit detailing the actions to be taken to address all minor NCRs. The effectiveness of the resulting actions taken by the FMU must be verified at the next surveillance visit.

(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 non-conformity. The closing of an OFI shall be made during the next Surveillance Audit.

The Surveillance 2 Audit Plan is shown in **Attachment 4**.

4.0 SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS

Based on the findings of this Surveillance 2 Audit, it was found that the KSFD had continued to manage the Kedah FMU in compliance with most of the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest). This Surveillance 2 Audit had resulted in the issuance of one (1) major and one (1) minor NCRs and no OFIs. The details on the NCRs/OFIs raised are shown in **Attachment 5**.

One (1) Minor NCR in the previous Surveillance 1 Audit has been raised to a Major NCR in this Surveillance 2 Audit. The audit team was satisfied that corrective action had been effectively implemented and had therefore closed out the major NCR. The audit team had also reviewed and accepted the KSFD's proposed corrective actions to address the one(1) minor NCR in this audit. However, the corrective action shall be verified by the audit team during the next audit.

The audit team had also verified on the corrective actions taken by the KSFD to address the remaining five (5) Minor NCRs raised during the previous Surveillance 1 Audit, The response made by the audit team leader on the respective corrective actions taken and on the final status of the NCRs of previous Surveillance 1 Audit are as in **Attachment 6**.

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 KSFD.

With regard to Criterion 6.10, there was no conversion of the PRF to forest plantations or other non-forest land uses during the intervening period since the last audit. The PRF in the Kedah FMU has therefore remained the same at 334,983 ha to the date of the present Surveillance 2 Audit.

As the one Major NCR raised was closed and the Corrective Action Plan for all minor NCR raised was received for this Surveillance 2 Audit, the audit team had therefore recommended that the Certificate for Forest Management against MC&I (Natural Forest) awarded to the Kedah FMU be maintained.

The summary on the findings of the Surveillance Audit 2 on the Kedah FMU against the requirements of the MC&I (Natural Forest) are as follows:

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Principle 1 Compliance With Laws and Principles</p>	<p>KSFD officers were aware of the regulations and forest violations, including follow-up actions which were recorded. All relevant national and local laws and regulations and policies related to forest management were up-dated and available.</p> <p>Auditors sighted the list of all legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes, and other charges. Records of payment, including on royalty, premium, deposit, were kept and receipts verified.</p> <p>The forest managers were aware of all the binding international agreements and their relevance to forest management. The documents were sighted at the KSFD head office.</p> <p>There was no documented conflict between the Principles and Criteria with local laws and regulations pertaining to forest management. The forest managers demonstrated willingness to participate in resolution of such conflicts if they were to arise.</p> <p>The state FMU is legally protected by the provisions in the National Forestry Act 1984 Section 7 to Section 13 which guided the gazettelement or degazettelement of its area. The FMU is demarcated on the ground, to ensure resource safety, with well-defined compartment boundaries regularly verified during audit. The latest of such exercise was recorded in 15 November 2016. The FMU conducted various monitoring activities, some integrated with relevant agencies, to check and control forest encroachment. Records for 2017 were verified in the audit.</p> <p>Policies and statements of commitment to</p>	<p>There were no negative findings</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>manage forest resources on a sustainable basis are clearly stated in the National Forestry Policy 1984 which had been adopted by the KSFD as incorporated in its mission and vision statements of the proposed Forest Management Plan 2016-2025. KSFD officers testified that these policies/statements of commitment were incorporated into good management practice as consistent with the principles and criteria of the MC&I (Natural Forest). This had also been communicated throughout the organisation, to the contractors and also the general public via the departmental website.</p>	
<p>Principle 2 Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities</p>	<p>There was no change in FMU area of 334,983 ha within the audit period. Copies of the gazette records of FMU areas were available as referred to the state-level <i>Warta Kerajaan Negeri Kedah</i> (Register of Reserves). Legal use rights of logging contractors in the PRF were clearly stated in concession agreements, forest harvesting licenses, entry permits, road permits and use permits issued by the KSFD. There was no recorded claim by local communities on FMU land during the audit period. Relevant mechanism was instituted by the KSFD to resolve any potential claim if necessary.</p> <p>Relevant documentations of legal or customary tenure or use rights of local communities (e.g. the National Forestry Act, 1984, Aboriginal Peoples Act, 1954 and United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007) were available.</p> <p>Mechanisms to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights were in place at various levels. Relevant transactions were documented such as in minutes of the responsible committee (<i>Jawatankuasa Tanah Negeri Kedah Darul Aman</i>) which were perused. Customer complaint forms were also made available to the public.</p>	<p>There were no negative findings</p>
<p>Principle 3 Indigenous People's Rights</p>	<p>Documents on the pertinent customary rights of indigenous peoples' (Orang Asli) lands, namely the Aboriginal Peoples Act, 1954 (Sections 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 19), were available.</p> <p>In general, the customary rights of the Orang Asli within PRFs, were respected in forest management planning, implementation as well as in the use of forest resources. The Kedah Forest Management Plan 2016 – 2025 ensured clear boundary markings were made to</p>	<p>Since there is no available procedure for identifying and protecting sites of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to the Orang Asli in the FMU, a Minor Non-Conformity for Indicator 3.3.1 (MRS 01/17) was raised during this Surveillance 2 Audit.</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>avoid conflicts or claims with the community. There is no evidence of sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to the Orang Asli within the Kedah FMU. There was also no evidence of recorded conflict between KSFD and the community regarding such sites. However, there was no available procedure to identify these sites in the FMU.</p> <p>The Orang Asli community affirmed that their traditional forest-related knowledge and practices were not used by the FMU in the forest management system. Nevertheless, a compensation mechanism for the use of indigenous knowledge is available.</p>	
<p>Principle 4 Community Relations and Workers' Rights</p>	<p>The department gave preference to local communities who were employed by logging contractors in the Ulu Muda PRF. Department workers and staff were given sufficient training in facilities such as those located in Jeniang Forest Range and Gurun Forest Nursery.</p> <p>Field workers in Ulu Muda were aware of applicable laws on occupational safety and health including the need for the use of PPE during operation. They were regularly briefed on various aspects of forest management including safety. Minutes of a Health and Safety Committee meeting in 2017 were verified. Field inspection in Ulu Muda showed that proper safety procedures were followed and related safety equipment and medical aid displayed were well maintained including fire extinguishers and first aid boxes. Use and maintenance records for equipment, including chainsaws and bulldozers, were kept updated and were sighted.</p> <p>KSFD employees were members of CUEPACS, the public sector employees union and of the Malay Forest Officers Union of Peninsular Malaysia. Contract workers however were not members of any union. The KSFD resolves grievances and conflict among its non-executive staff members through the designated mechanism, the <i>Majlis Bersama Jabatan</i> (MBJ). Contract workers of logging contractors on the other hand were covered by the Employment Act and their grievances were channelled to their employers. Various laws and regulations were available to assure the right of workers to benefits and protection. Employees of SFD for example were assured with contribution to a</p>	<p>There were no negative findings.</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>government pension fund (EPF). Monthly paid contract employees were also assured with contribution to EPF and SOCSO as well as group insurance coverage. Appropriate procedures to address grievances by KSFD staff were available in accordance with various Acts. These were documented and were sighted.</p> <p>Forest district officers had carried out social impact assessments of logging operations in Ulu Muda PRF using Borang E or Borang MTCC/UPM (A and B) as provisioned in department procedures. Results of the assessments were incorporated in the forest planning stage (prior to undertaking logging operation) by the forest districts.</p> <p>Legal provisions exist within national legal frameworks to prevent loss or damage affecting local communities. Article 8 and Article 13 of the Federal Constitution of Malaysia were specifically relevant. Further, the Aboriginal Peoples Act 1954, Article 134 requires that all forestry operations observe the legal requirements. There was no evidence of loss or damage to the local communities observed in the active harvest areas in Ulu Muda or in Kg. Tanjung Pari.</p>	
<p>Principle 5 Benefits From the Forest</p>	<p>Investments and reinvestments were made in forest management, including aspects of forest administration, research, human resource development, protection, economy, conservation, environment and social. Total collected income up to July 2017 was RM 25.9 million or about 52.6 % of estimated revenue of RM49.2 for 2017. The budgeted income of 2017 include RM46 million from royalties and RM3 million from non-royalty sources. The wood-based industry recorded 176 registered mills in 2017 with 42 mills active. Provisions and management prescriptions were made to maintain, restore or enhance the productive capacity and ecological integrity of the FMU to ensure its economic viability mainly through the adoption of sustainable forest management (SFM) principles. Field Audit in Ulu Muda verified compliance to proper tree tagging procedures with cutting girth limits of 65cm (Dipterocarp) and 55cm (Non-Dipterocarp) followed including volume limit of 61cum/ha for second entry forest.</p> <p>Forest management practices in the FMU encouraged the optimal use of forest resources mainly through production of non-timber forest products (NTFP) and the broadening of the wood-based industry</p>	<p>There were no negative findings</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>sector. Important NTFP products included the supply of pristine water supply and provision for forest recreation. Ecosystem functions were also important (resource protection and conservation; and environmental safeguards) but are presently of intangible values. The establishment of multi-species forest plantation (Rubber, Teak, Sentang, Acacia, Pine, Khaya, etc.) was also considered as diversifying of timber resources with the added advantage of lessening market pressure on natural lumber.</p> <p>RIL guidelines for reduced/low impact logging (Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia, 2003) were implemented to minimize damage and wastage to residual stand. RIL procedures (including tree tagging, directional felling and protection trees) were seen implemented in harvesting operation in Ulu Muda. KSFD staff were given regular training on RIL techniques of reduced-impact logging. The 2017 training programme was sighted. Tagging procedure of some trees was verified in the field. Documents sighted (permits for minor products, use of metais, roadings, and workers' insurance, contract agreements, etc.) were found in order. Constructions of logging roads, skid trails, and erosion control, were all RIL compliant. KSFD staff were given regular training in RIL procedures. The training facilities included Pusat Latihan Perhutanan Jeniang, Pusat Latihan Perhutanan Kepong and Kompleks Latihan Perhutanan Sungai Siput. The 2017 training programmes were sighted.</p> <p>Forest management has no restriction for harvesting NTFP products such as rattan and bamboo, particularly by local community enterprises. However, there was no application on harvesting of such products throughout 2017.</p> <p>Guidelines and/or procedures to identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water, watercourses and wetlands [(FMP, National Forestry Act 1984 (Section 10)] were implemented in the FMU. Compliance was observed in active logging areas and in post-harvest areas. River buffer zones were clearly demarcated and marked as specified. Such measures (e.g. soil conservation/protection above 1000m and >40 degrees slope; buffer strips on waterways; RIL compliance in harvesting) observed in Ulu Muda, contributed to</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>maintaining/enhancing forest values and resources. Furthermore the adoption of specific forest use categories were directly aimed at protecting and conserving such sensitive areas.</p> <p>The estimation of AAC for the 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-2020), as set in the FMPP, was 3,122 ha a year or a total of 15,610 ha over the duration of the plan. The FDPM has also set the volume limit of 61 m³/ha for secondary forests and 85 m³/ha from primary or virgin stands. These limits were related to the 30-year rotations of the bi-cyclic SMS based on the sustainability of timber production in the FMU. The KSFD maintained records on the volume of timber harvested both at the Checking Station, Forest District and State Forest Offices. Records for Kedah Tengah forest district and at Galau checking station were verified.</p>	
<p>Principle 6 Environmental Impact</p>	<p>A state-wide scale macro-level environmental impact assessment (MEIA) was conducted in 2007 in Kedah FMU and available at the KSFD headquarter office and also at all the forest districts. Recommendations from the MEIA report were incorporated in the review of the FMP. The MEIA covered rare and threatened species of flora and fauna in the FMU and suggested the need for biological corridors for greater wildlife movement. The KSFD played a major part in establishing and maintenance of the state Central Forest Spine project with the planning of the Ulu Muda–Gunung Inas wildlife corridor. The Dipterocarp flora revealed 11 species, native to the FMU, as endangered, out of 60 for the whole country. The FMP also listed endemic and rare flora in the FMU including a list of protected flora. No new ERT species were since identified. The final draft of the new Forest Management Plan for Kedah (2016 – 2025) incorporated measures to mitigate environmental impacts from forest harvesting identified in the assessments through establishment of riparian buffer zone, road and skid trails and enrichment planting.</p> <p>Guidelines exist and were implemented for identifying and protecting ERT species including features of special biological interest. Some residual trees were retained as mother trees and protection trees in Ulu Muda. Guidelines also exist and were made available for establishing conservation and protection areas, in accordance with existing forest ecosystems. The FMU has 12 categories of forest uses for production and conservation purposes. Cooperation exists</p>	<p>There were no negative findings</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>and documented between forest managers and conservation organizations and regulatory authorities in implementing conservation and management activities. Department of Environment (DOE) was invited to pre-operation briefing. The KSFD participated in the Central Spine Project for wildlife conservation. Activities such as illegal hunting, fishing and collecting were controlled and inappropriate activities prevented in the FMU. The KSFD listed various offences recorded within and adjacent to the FMU for 2017. Recent records of forest offences were sighted. Local communities were aware of the existence of ERT species in the FMU. They were duly informed of the need to protect the wildlife. Workers were informed in pre-harvest briefings by forest managers. Posters in wildlife protection were sighted in Ulu Muda.</p> <p>Guidelines to assess post-harvest natural regeneration and their promotion in the FMU, was available and documented in the standard Forestry Manual (2003). In the FMU, guidelines for the conservation of genetic, species and ecosystem diversity were also available. These were included in various documents such as the Forest Management Plan for Kedah (2016-2025), National Policy on Biological Diversity 1998, Forestry Manual 2003 and Guidelines for the Establishment and Maintenance of Virgin Jungle Reserves, 1987. Conservation efforts included wildlife sanctuaries and game reserves, State Park, seed production areas, preservation of mother trees, protection trees and fruit trees. Harvesting was designed in the FMU taking into consideration the need for the conservation of biological corridors and buffer zones for features of special biological interests for wildlife conservation. Buffer zones were demarcated and mapped in Ulu Muda. The KSFD also participated in the state Central Forest Spine (CSF) projects which provide biological corridors for movement of wildlife.</p> <p>Under Criterion 6.2.2, representative areas of existing forest ecosystems, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management operations in Kedah FMU were identified, demarcated and protected in their natural state. Production forests, which comprised the largest category in the FMU, had a network of virgin jungle reserves (VJRs) to preserve in its pristine state the original vegetation and environment of the forest in the area. The list of VJRs in the FMU was</p>	

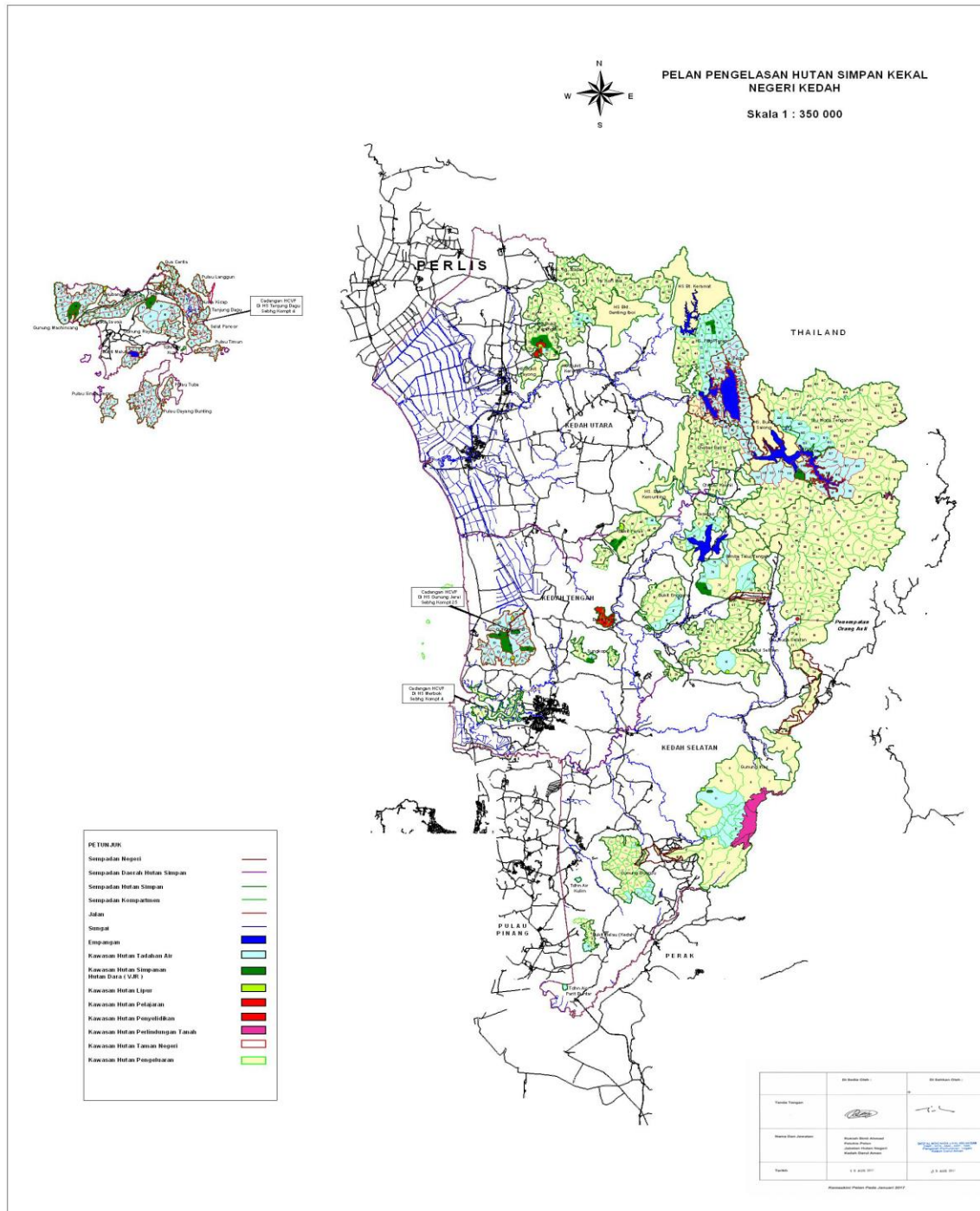
Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>provided during audit. The plots were periodically inventoried and monitored.</p> <p>Harvesting procedures to protect the soil from compaction by harvesting machinery and erosion during harvesting operations were available and implemented. Guidelines for reducing harvesting impact on soil included the Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia, 2003, Guidelines for Forest Road 2010 (Amended 2013) and the Forest Harvesting Plan of Kedah (2016-2025). The proper construction of skid trails and protection of soil during harvesting were verified in the Ulu Muda. The practice of reduced/low impact logging (RIL) was strictly observed in order to minimize damage to the environment in the FMU. Workers were informed through pre-operation briefings by the district forest officers. Site inspection in the Ulu Muda verified that the contractors complied with roading guidelines (Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010 (Pindaan 2013)) where side drainage, side bar, and sumps were maintained on the access road. Guidelines for conservation of buffer strips along streams and rivers were also available and implemented. Buffers were prominently drawn in harvesting maps and marked on the ground as noted in logging areas visited.</p> <p>The FMU used pesticides in nursery operation in accordance with the procedures on approved chemical handling consistent with the pesticides act. Nursery operations, stock, storage and handling of poisons and fertilizers were found satisfactory and in accordance with SOP. These included use of proper and safe clothing. PPE and method of chemical application manuals were prominently displayed on stand-alone bill boards at the nursery. Only approved chemicals were used. Movement for poisons (only Class III and IV being handled) and fertilizers were found to be current and in order. Stock taking was regular and well monitored. Training on the handling of chemicals for the KSFDF's staff was conducted on 30 June 2015.</p> <p>KSFDF had established in 2007 SOPs on waste disposal and re-cycling of liquid and solid non-organic wastes and records of disposal of containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes, including fuel and oil for Kedah FMU. Appropriate waste disposal procedures were verified during field inspection in Ulu Muda. The storage and handling of poisons and fertilizers in the</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>forest nursery were found satisfactory and in accordance with SOP. Record of disposal of empty pesticides containers was made available for verification at the nursery. To date biological control agents have not been used in the FMU management.</p> <p>Only indigenous forest species from the locality, as a matter of policy, were used in all reforestations of natural stands in the FMU.</p> <p>Allocation of PRF areas into forest plantation by the KSFD was conducted in accordance to legal requirements and it was below 5% allowable deforestation cap (Indicator 6.10.2) as verified by the auditor. EIA and Benefit Cost Analysis reports were available for forest plantation projects visited. No planned conversion of PRF into forest plantation was reported during the audit period.</p>	
<p>Principle 7 Management Plan</p>	<p>The final draft of the new FMP (2016-2025) for Kedah FMU was made available and sighted. The audit team however noted the exclusion of some primary elements from the draft. Some attachments on specific topics were however not available during audit.</p> <p>The final draft of FMP for Kedah (2016-2025) had incorporated new available scientific and technical information to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances as provided in Chapter 3.4-Biological Diversity (pg. 63-76), Chapter 3.5 - Wood Based Industry (pg. 77-83) and Chapter 3.7 – Socio-economic (pg. 135-154). Other new information incorporated included data on 1 ha inventory plots (<i>Ringkasan Perbandingan Spesies, Bilangan dan Bilangan Pokok Sehektar Bagi Data Inventori Pos-F dan Pra-F 2016</i>) and from the new VJR plot in Gunung Jerai FR.</p> <p>The KSFD staff were mostly trained at the training centre in Jeniang Range (<i>Pusat Latihan Perhutanan Jeniang</i>). The 2017 programmes sighted (<i>Senarai Kursus yang dianjurkan oleh Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Kedah Tahun 2017</i>) included seven courses conducted until August, covering management and skills training. The staff training records and certificates issued were also made available. In addition, some staff also attended programmes ran by the JPSM Head Office.</p> <p>The FMP summary was made public on the updated official department website: http://www.kedforestry.gov.my/en/maklumat-pengenalan/mc-i/ringkasan-eksekutif.html</p>	<p>Verification of the presented Forest Management Plan (2016-2025) for the Kedah FMU noted that the following attachments on specific topics in the plan were still not available at time of the audit i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Lampiran 5 : Cadangan kawasan bagi Post-F ii. Jadual 6.2: Penandaan Pokok iii. Lampiran 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 & 6.4 iv. Description on existing HCVF areas (Chapter 6.4 pg 416) <p>The Minor NCR (KN01/2016) issued on the Indicator 7.1.1 in the previous audit has not been addressed, hence, the Minor NCR was upgraded to a Major NCR (MN 01/17) in this audit.</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Principle 8 Monitoring and Assessment</p>	<p>The KSFD has complied with the regulatory monitoring procedures in accordance with relevant federal and state guidelines of the Forestry Departments and other relevant agencies. The monitoring form A-D, issued under the Director General Directive, covers infrastructure, harvesting, environment and production output. This was verified for the active areas audited in the Ulu Muda FR. The department also uses standard JPSM from to monitor social, ecological, environmental and economic impacts of forest management operation. This was also verified during the field audit.</p> <p>The list of information (a-e) under Indicator 8.2 has been incorporated in the final draft of the Forest Management Plan for Kedah (2016-2025).</p> <p>The audit verified that information on some tagged trees assessed on site tallied with tagging records kept at the relevant checking stations in Ulu Muda FR. Records of log movement in Weng and Galau forest checking stations were found to be in order. The documents checked included the exit pass (<i>Pas bagi Memindahkan Hasil Hutan</i>), extraction control book (<i>Buku Kawalan Pengeluaran Kayu</i>) and report on timber tagging (<i>Laporan Ringkasan Aktiviti Menanda Pokok Secara 'Timber Tagging' dan Taksiran Isipadu Pokok Berdiri</i>).</p> <p>The final draft of the Forest Management Plan of Kedah (2016-2025) specifically discussed the topic on monitoring activities in Chapter 7.0 <i>Pemantauan, Pengawalan dan Penilaian</i> (page 550-571).</p> <p>Results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2, were updated with data from the 5th National Forest Inventory (IHN) and together with information on flora and fauna, growth rate, regeneration and condition of the forest were included in the summary and made available in the following website: http://www.kedforestry.gov.my</p>	<p>There were no negative findings.</p>
<p>Principle 9 Maintenance of High Conservation Values</p>	<p>KSFD had demarcated in total, three HCVF areas in the FMU, namely; Compt. 23 Gunung Jerai PRF - Slipper orchid (<i>Paphiopedilum rothschildianum</i>), Compt. 4 Tanjung Dagu PRF – Mangrove vegetation, and Compt. 23 Ulu Muda PRF – Tualang (<i>Koompassia excelsa</i>) trees. Establishment work on the mangrove HCVF is ongoing and verified during audit inspection. The Tualang HCVF was however delisted due to death of</p>	<p>There were no negative findings.</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>the Tualang trees due to vandalism.</p> <p>The KSFD consulted with several agencies including Majlis Daerah Yan, Majlis Perbandaran Sungai Petani, Jabatan PERHILITAN, Jabatan Perancang Desa dan Wilayah Kedah, Jabatan Minerologi dan Geosains Kedah/Perlis/Pulau Pinang and WWF-Malaysia, regarding maintenance and enhancement of the HCVF areas. Forest managers interviewed confirmed their understanding for the need of HCVF to be protected and considered in all forest management operations.</p> <p>The three HCVF areas were demarcated with maps, maintenance records and inventory reports as verified during the audit. The final draft FMP (2016-2025) specifically stated for HCVF areas to be managed and their attributes enhanced. These are included in the FMP summary made publicly accessible at the website: http://www.kedforestry.gov.my/en/maklumat-pengenalan/mc-i/kawasan-hutan-pemeliharaan-tinggi.html</p> <p>The HCVF guidelines sighted prescribed for annual monitoring to assess the effectiveness of protection and management of such sites. Report on such monitoring included that for the Slipper Orchid Plot (Compt. 23 Gunung Jerai PRF)(HCVF) dated 27 July 2017. HCVF activities, including proposal of new HCVF areas, were incorporated in the final draft of the FMP for Kedah (2016 -2025).</p>	

Map of Kedah FMU



Experiences and Qualifications of Audit Team Members

Assessment Team	Role/Area of MC&I Requirement	Qualification and Experience
Ismail Adnan Abdul Malek	Assessment Team Leader / Forester	<p>Academic Qualification: Master of Forestry, University of British Columbia, Canada</p> <p>Work Experience: One year (1974-1975) experience as Sub Assistant Conservator of Forest at the Pahang Forest Department, involved with Forest Administration/Management and Enforcement. Next, seven years (1979-1986) experience as Forest Officer/Logging Superintendent at Syarikat Jengka Sdn. Bhd (SJSB), an integrated timber complex in Pahang. Responsible for Forest Licensing/ Administration, Forest Mapping, Road Construction and Logging Operations. Senior Lecturer at the Forestry Faculty, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) from 1986 to 2014. Responsible for teaching and research in Forest Mensuration, Forest Survey, Forest Road, GIS/Remote Sensing and Forest Mapping. Responsible for academic supervision of more than 100 Bachelor/Master/Phd students in their research and thesis writing. Own research at UPM include various areas such as forest mapping using geo spatial tools, forest inventories, forest harvesting and forest management system (SMS). Also involved with consultancy works which include RPH development and Forest Mapping. Participate in organizing local/international seminars on Forestry areas. Published and presented research findings at seminars/conferences and journals. Currently as Auditor at the Food, Agriculture and Forestry /ion (FAF), SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd, since 2016. Involved in conducting assessments on forest management certification MC&I (Natural Forest) & MC&I (Forest Plantations).</p> <p>Training / Research Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auditor Training Course on MC& I (Natural Forest) and MC&I (Forest Plantation V2), 9th-10th July 2015, SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd • ISO 14001:2004 Lead Assessor Training, 23rd-27th Nov 2015, SIRIM Training Services Sdn. Bhd • Training on Auditing Techniques, 26th January 2016, SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd.
Mohd Razman Salim	Assessor / Forester	<p>Academic Qualification: B.Sc of Forestry (Forest Production), University Putra Malaysia.</p> <p>Work Experience: Five years experienced as Research Officer at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) since 2007 in a various area such as ecological research for lowland and hill dipterocarp forest, Geographic Information Systems, forest inventories, forest harvesting and forest management system (SMS). Participate in organizing committee member, division level activities and projects. Coordinate and collaborate a long term ecological plot and inventory data about 25 years at the Pasoh,</p>

		<p>Negeri Sembilan with Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department, universities (local & international) and NGOs. Published and presented research findings at the seminars and conferences. Currently as Auditor at the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Section (FAF), SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd, since 2013. Involved in conducting assessments on forest management certification [MC&I (Natural Forest)] & [MC&I (Plantations)], MYNI of RSPO P&C and other management systems on ISO 9001, 14001 and OHSAS 18001</p> <p>Training / Research Areas: Was attending and pass in the following training programmes:</p> <p>Auditor Training Course on Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (Natural Forest)] & [MC&I (Plantations)] organized by MTCC, 1-4 December 2013. EMS 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 18-22 March 2013. OHSAS 18001: 2007 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 11-15 March 2013. QMS 9001: 2008 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 4-8 March 2013.</p>
<p>Dr. Mohd Nazre Saleh</p>	<p>Assessor / Forester</p>	<p>Academic Qualification: Diploma in Forestry, UPM B. Sc. Conservation Biology & Ecology (UKM) MSc. Botany (UKM) PhD. Botany (Edinburgh)</p> <p>Work Experience: One year as Research Assistant in WWF-Malaysia in the year from 1999-2000. Become an academic staff in Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Serdang Selangor from 2000 to present (16 years), starting as a tutor promoted as Senior Lecturer in 2009, and currently as an Associate Professor since 2013. Main responsibility is teaching the undergraduates in the subject of Dendrology, Forest Ecology and Ethnobotany, and Forest Dynamics for postgraduate students. Main research subjects are botany, forest ecology and, forest conservation and management done by supervising both undergraduate and postgraduate (Master/PhD) students funded by local and international grants. Appointed as Head of Department since 2010 for Department of Forest Production (2010-2012) and Department of Forest Management (2013-present). Has sat in many committees for university and ministry (national) related to forestry subjects such as Mangrove Conservation, Forest Management, Forest Protection and Forest Plantation. Published more than 50 articles in local and international book, journals, chapters in books, conference proceeding and technical reports. Attended and presented in many workshops, conferences, seminars held at both local and international levels.</p> <p>Training / Research Areas: Attended and pass the following training programmes:</p>

		<p>Auditor Training Course on MC& I (Natural Forest) and MC&I (Forest Plantation V2) (SIRIM QAS Sdn. Bhd), 9th-10th July 2015.</p> <p>EMS 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 18th – 22nd July 2016.</p> <p>Forest Management Certification (FMC) Workshop, SIRIM Bhd, 6th –7th December 2016</p> <p>Training on Auditing Techniques (SIRIM QAS Int. Sdn. Bhd), 26th January 2016.</p>
Rahayu Zulkifli	Trainee Assessor	<p>Academic Qualification</p> <p>LLB (Hons)</p> <p>John Moores University, Liverpool, United Kingdom in 1988.</p> <p>Work Experience:</p> <p>Rahayu was a practising lawyer before joining Sistem Televisyen Malaysia Berhad in 1995 to lead its Legal Department for 5 years.</p> <p>She subsequently joined Crest Petroleum Berhad in 2000 as Legal Manager and Company Secretary before joining WWF-Malaysia in 2003 to pursue her interest in environmental conservation where she eventually led the Terengganu Turtle team, working closely with local community and policy makers on turtle conservation in the State.</p> <p>She left WWF in 2013 to join RSPO as a Dispute Settlement Facility Manager in January 2014.</p> <p>In May 2015, Rahayu left RSPO and is now working as a freelance Social Auditor under the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) certification scheme.</p> <p>Rahayu is also an HCV assessor (in particular HCV 5 & 6), and a Social Impact Assessor.</p> <p>Training Areas:</p> <p>Rahayu was also trained and certified as a Mediator by the Malaysian Mediation Centre in 2014. She is currently undergoing training to be a Social Auditor under the Malaysian Criteria & Indicators for Forest Management Certification scheme.</p>

Comments Received from Stakeholders and Responses by Audit Team Leader

No.	Stakeholder	Comments/Issues Raised	Response by Audit Team
1	TPr Hj Idris Rahim Timbalan Ketua Pengarah (Pembangunan) PLAN Malaysia Jabatan Perancang Bandar dan Desa Negeri Kedah	<p>Draf Rancangan Struktur Negeri Kedah 2035 (RSN Kedah 2035) telah menetapkan dasar, strategi dan inisiatif pelaksanaan yang melibatkan aspek pengurusan hutan simpan oleh Jabatan Perhutanan seperti berikut:</p> <p><u>Dasar Kemampanan Alam Sekitar (KAS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pengurusan Sumber Alam Semula Jadi Secara Mampan <p><u>Strategik KAS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mengurus Kawasan Hutan Simpan Kekal (HSK) Dan Central Forest Spine (CFS) Sedia Ada Secara Mampan <p><u>Inisiatif Pelaksanaan</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Meningkatkan kerja-kerja pengurusan kesemua kawasan HSK iaitu KSAS sektoral perhutanan tahap 1 (zon perlindungan), ii. Mengamalkan kaedah kejuruteraan yang mesra alam sekiranya pembangunan infrastruktur melibatkan kawasan HSK. iii. Mewartakan Task Ahning, Task Pedu, Tasik Muda, Task Bens, HSK Ulu Muda, HSK Gunung Inas, HSK Padang Terap, HSK Bukit Keramat dan HSK Bukit Salong sebagai Hutan Tadahan Air. iv. Menyediakan zon peralihan yang mencukupi di semua kawasan rezab hidupan sebagai penampakan dan impak pembangunan di: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Pusat pemuliharaan hidupan liar tuntung, Bukit Pinang 	<p>The Policy, Strategy and Implementation Initiatives with regard to aspect of forest management by the Forestry Department forwarded in the 'Draft Structure Plan for Kedah 2035' by the 'Jabatan Perancang bandar dan desa' were noted and forwarded to JPN Kedah.</p> <p>On its own, Kedah FMU has and followed policies and Acts specific to Sustainable Forest Management including and Sustainable Environmental Resource Management including;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) National Forestry Policy (Ammended 1992) b) National Biological Biodiversity policy 2016 -2025 c) National Climate Change Policy 2010 d) National Environmental Quality Policy 2002 e) National Water Resource Policy 2012 f) National Timber Industry Policy 2009-2020 g) National Tiger Conservation plan 2008-2020 h) National Ecotourism Plan i) Access to Biological resource and Benefit Sharing 2017 j) National Forestry Act 1984(Ammended 1993) k) Aborigines Act 1954 l) Establishment/Maintenance and Monitoring of CFS corridors involving PRF in Kedah

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Pusat pemuliharaan hidupan liar tuntung, Sidam iii. Taman Pulau Singa Besar, Langkawi v. Mengekalkan lima rangkaian koridor CFS (primer dan sekunder) untuk mengelakkan pemecahan habitat dan gangguan laluan hidupan liar di: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. PL5 (HS Ulu Muda-HS Gunung Inas) -Menyambungkan antara kompleks Hutan Ulu Muda dan Bintang Hijau ii. PL8 (HS Kenderong-HS Bintang Hijau) -Meningkatkan rangkaian antara kompleks Hutan Bintang Hijau (Perak-Kedah) iii. SL7 (HS Ulu Muds- HS Pedu-HS Chebar) -Laluan ini menghubungkan hutan simpan Ulu Muda, Pedu dan Chebar yang juga merupakan kawasan takungan air untuk empangan Muda, Pedu dan Ahning iv. SL8 (HS Ulu Muda-HS Rimba Telui) -Menjadi penghubung kepada hutan simpan Ulu Muda, Pedu dan Rimba Telui yang juga merupakan kawasan tadahan air untuk empangan Muda, Pedu dan Ahning. v. SL13 (HS Gunung Bongsu-HS Gunung Inas) -Kawasan ini meningkatkan intergriti ekologi hutan simpan Gunung Bongsu yang merupakan hutan yang luas tetapi terpisah daripada kepulauan hutan. 	
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		<p>vi. Mengurus bersama perancangan guna tanah di kawasan bersebelahan CFS di Negeri Perak dengan lebih ketat supaya tidak mengganggu kestabilan ekosistem hutan di:</p> <p>i. PL5 (HS Ulu Muda-HS Gunung Inas) ii. PL8 (HS Kenderong-HS Bintang Hijau)</p> <p>vi. Memullharaan dan menanam pokok hutan bakau yang berfungsi sebagai penebat hakisan pantai dan untuk mengurangkan impak kejadian tsunami di Daerah Kuala Muda.</p>	
2	<p>Mohd Firdaus Yahya</p> <p>Penolong Pegawai Hidupan Liar PERHILITAN Negeri Kedah</p>	<p>FMU di Kedah menekan kerja penguatkuasaan melibatkan Jabatan PERHILITAN dibawah 1NRE Enforcement. Pengurusan melibatkan 'habitat management' hidupan lair juga diambilkira dibawah program kerjasama seperti Program Central Forest Spine, NECAP dan NTCAP.</p>	<p>Noted and forwarded to JPN Kedah</p> <p>Already in place are the 'Joint Inter – Departmental' (PERHILITAN/JPN Kedah) enforcement programmes (e.g. Central Forest Spine, NECAP dan NTCAP).</p>
3	<p>Mohd Rosli Mohd Noor</p> <p>Pegawai Kawalan Kanan Jabatan Alam Sekitar Negeri Kedah</p>	<p>Keperluan menjalankan kajian EIA dan mendapat kelulusan Ketua Pengarah Alam Sekitar terlebih dahulu sebelum kerja-kerja pembalakan dijalankan bagi tujuan perubahan hutan kepada kegunaan tanah yang lain yang meliputi kawasan seluas 100 hektar atau lebih tetapi kurang daripada 500 hektar</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Kedah FMU is aware of the requirements of 'Perintah Kualiti Alam Sekeliling Aktiviti yang di Tetapkan EIA – 2015'</p>

Surveillance 2 Audit Plan

DAY	TIME	PROGRAM		
		AUDITOR (AUDIT TEAM LEADER) (Ismail Adnan)	AUDITOR (Dr. Nazre Saleh)	AUDITORS (Razman & Rahayu)
Day 0 (19/08/2017)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Travel from KLIA to Alor Setar ○ Briefing by Audit Team Leader on the Surveillance 2 Audit plan 		
Day 1 (20/08/2017)	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opening Meeting with representatives of FMU ● Briefing session by Forest Manager of the FMU on progress of forest activities ● Evaluation of changes to the management of the FMU ● Check on progress of planned activities ● Check on complaints, stakeholder comments and follow-up actions ● Check on verification for closing NCRs raised during the previous audit ● Evaluate on procedures for internal audit ● Evaluate on management review system 		
	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documentation and records review ○ Relations and Workers' Right ○ Principle 5 – Benefits from the forest ○ Principle 6 – Environmental Impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documentation and records review ○ Principle 7 – Management Plan ○ Principle 8 – Monitoring and Assessment ○ Principle 9 – Maintenance of High Conservation on Value Forests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documentation and records review ○ Principle 1 – Compliance with Laws and Principles ○ Principle 2 – Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities ○ Principle 3 – Indigenous Peoples' Right ○ Principle 4 – Community
	4.00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All auditors travel to Pulau Langkawi (Kedah Utara Forest District) 		
Day 2 (21/08/2017)	8.30 am – 5.30 pm	Auditors (Ismail Adnan and Dr Nazre) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visit to HCVF (kompt. 4, Tanjung Dagu) ○ Visit Forest Services area (UNGAWA) 	Auditors (Razman and Rahayu) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consultation with local community ○ Meeting with officers of Langkawi Forest District Office ○ Visit Forest Services area (UNGAWA) 	
	5.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All auditors travel to Sungai Petani (Kedah Selatan) 		
		Auditor (Ismail Adnan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visit to active logging area (Compt 103B, Ulu Muda) PRF ○ PRF, Compartment and River buffer boundaries inspection 	Auditor (Dr Nazre Saleh) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visit to HCVF (Orkid Selipar) and VJR (Compt 20) at Gunung Jerai PRF (taman 	Auditor (Razman and Rahayu) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Document review at Kedah Selatan Forest District Office ○ Visit to active logging area (Compt. 36B, Ulu

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Documents review at Gullau Checking Station ○ Inspection of Post-F area (Compt 45A, Bukit Perak PRF) ○ Consultation with forest workers and member of local community 	<p>Eko Rimba Titi Hayun)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visit to Gurun Forest Nursery 	<p>Muda (KS 01-13-2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boundary and river buffer inspection ○ Post F area inspection (Compt. 35D, Ulu Muda PRF) ○ Documents review at Weng Checking Station ○ Consultation with forest workers and member of local community ○ Inspection of boundary between Certified FMU area and Forest Plantation (Compt 8 & 9, Gunung Inas PRF)
	6.00 pm	All auditors travel to Alor Setar		
	8.30 – 9.30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Day 1, 2 & 3 Findings with Auditors 		
Day 4 (23/08/2017)	8.30 am – 1.00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of audit report and finding 		
	2.30pm-4.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing to representatives of FMU on the findings of audit • Closing Meeting and presentation of findings of audit and discussion on follow-up activities • Adjourn Closing Meeting • Travel from Alor Setar Airport to KLIA 		

Surveillance 2 Audit Findings and Corrective Action Taken

Indicator	Specification Major/Minor /OFI	Detail Non-conformances	Corrective Action Taken	Verification by Assessor
<p>Indicator 3.3.1:</p> <p>NCR #:MRS 01/17</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement : Availability of appropriate procedures within current administrative process for identifying and protecting such sites and provisions for rights of access to these sites by indigenous peoples within relevant federal, state and local laws or by mutual agreement..</p> <p>Finding : No procedures for identifying and protecting sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to aborigines.</p> <p>Objective evidence : Procedure for identifying and protecting sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to aborigines is not available.</p>	<p><i>JPN Kedah telah mengemukakan kepada Ibu Pejabat Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia pada 10 September 2017 No Surat PHNK 62/2014 Jld 2 (2) bertajuk CAR MINOR: INDIKATOR 3.3.1 SURVEILLANCE AUDIT – MC &1 (NATURAL FOREST) FMU KEDAH. Surat berkenaan adalah untuk memohon pandangan pihak Ibu Pejabat JPSM bagi prosedur yang bersesuaian dalam proses pentadbiran sedia ada untuk mengenalpasti dan melindungi tapak serta peruntukan hak masyarakat pribumi untuk memasuki tapak-tapak tersebut berdasarkan rangka perundangan persekutuan dan negeri atau persetujuan bersama.</i></p> <p><i>Bersama sama ini disertakan Pekeliling Ketua Pengarah Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia Bilangan 8 Tahun 2015, Panduan Penubuhan dan Pengurusan Kawasan Hutan Mempunyai Nilai Pemeliharaan Yang Tinggi (HCVF) dalam HSK di Semenanjung Malaysia. Pada para 4.1.4. (b) telah dinyatakan keperluan untuk melindungi kawasan hutan yang penting kepada budaya, ekologi dan aktiviti keagamaan sesuatu komuniti tempatan.</i></p>	<p>Corrective action plan and evidence were received through letter with attachments to SIRIM QAS (Ref: PHNK 62/014) dated 28 November 2017.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>The Minor NCR was verified as addressed through the 'Pekeliling Ketua Pengarah Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia Bilangan 8 Tahun 2015, Panduan Penubuhan dan Pengurusan Kawasan Hutan Mempunyai Nilai Pemeliharaan Yang Tinggi (HCVF) dalam HSK di Semenanjung Malaysia.</p> <p>Status: Closed</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.1</p> <p>NCR #:MN 01/17</p>	<p>Major</p>	<p>Requirement :</p> <p>Indicator 7.1.1</p> <p>Availability and implementation of Forest Management Plan</p>	<p><i>JPN Kedah telah mengadakan beberapa siri perbincangan bagi penyediaan Rancangan Pengurusan Hutan (RPH) bagi tahun 2016 – 2025 Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Kedah. Pihak Juruperunding</i></p>	<p>Corrective action plan and Final Draft of Forest Management 2016 – 2025 Kedah State Forestry Department were received through letter with attachments (Ref: PHNK 62/014) dated 28</p>

		<p>(c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.</p> <p>Finding : Attachment on specific topics for indicator 7.1.1 (c) in the draft of FMP are not completely provided</p> <p>Objective evidence :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Missing of <i>Lampiran 5 : Cadangan kawasan bagi post-F</i> 2. Incomplete <i>Jadual 6.2: Penandaan pokok</i> 3. Missing of <i>Lampiran 6.2,6.3,6.4 & 6.5</i> 4. No description on existing HCVF areas (chapter 6.4 pg 416) 	<p><i>telah menghantar Draf Akhir pada 7 November 2017 dengan memasukan item yang telah dipinda.</i></p> <p><i>Bersama-sama ini disertakan Rancangan Pengurusan Hutan (RPH) bagi tahun 2016 – 2025 Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Kedah</i></p>	<p>November 2017 by SIRIM QAS Int Sdn Bhd.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>Upon verification of the final draft of the 'Forest Management 2016 – 2025 Kedah State Forestry Department' mentioned above, the following were found :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "<i>Lampiran 5: Cadangan kawasan bagi post-F</i>" was still missing. Also unavailable were the items requirements of the <i>Lampiran</i> which include: Forest District, HSK, Year of Implementation, Kompatmen, HSK and area for Post F. 2. <i>Jadual 6.3</i> (previously 6.2 in previous draft FMP) titled "<i>Kerja Penandaan Pokok</i>" was not completed (without items on Forest District, HSK, Year of Implementation, Kompatmen, HSK and area for Timber Tagging) <p>Corrective evidence for item 1) and 2) above were requested and received by the Lead Auditor (through email) on 22 January 2018. The documents titled '<i>Lampiran 5.1: Senarai Cadangan Kawasan bagi Aktiviti Inventori Hutan Sebelum Tebangan (Pre-F), Penandaan Pokok (Timber tagging) dan Inventori Hutan Selepas Tebangan (Post-F) bagi Tempoh 2016 – 2025</i>' were verified by the auditor and found to be adequate.</p> <p>Status: Closed</p>
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Verification on Previous Surveillance 1 Audit Findings and Action Taken

Indicator	Specification Major/Minor/OFI	Details of Non-conformance	Corrective Action Taken	Verification by Assessor
<p>Indicator 6.5.2</p> <p>NCR #: MBH – 01/2016</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement : 6.5.2 Implementation of reduced/low impact logging to minimise damage to the environment.</p> <p>Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia, 2003.</p> <p>Finding : The construction of skid trails inspected in selected harvesting area did not follow the required specification in Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia, 2003.</p> <p>Objective evidence : Construction of skid trail was carried out before approval of forestry department as observed in Compartment 41A, Ulu Muda PRF (LP 28/1 and LP 34/1).</p>	<p>KSFD had conducted a hand-on training on MC&I (Natural Forest) – SOP on construction of skid trail dated 6-8 February 2017 at Pusat Latihan Jeniang to staff and logging contractors. The training was included in the annual training program FY2017.</p>	<p>Auditor has received official letter from Kedah FMU – PHNK 62/2014() dated 8 December 2016, where the FMU has issued a stop work order to the licensed area – PHDKS 25-68 Sj 791 Jld 2 (36) dated 7 December 2016. The licensee also has been directed to do replanting and construct water bars at the skid trail (LP 28/1 and LP 34/1) as mitigation action to prevent soil erosion.</p> <p>Site inspection of Compartment 103B Ulu Muda PRF (KT 01-06-2017); Compartment 36B Ulu Muda PRF (KS 01-13-2017) and Post felling areas (Post-F) at Compartment 45A Bukit Perak PRF and 35D Ulu Muda PRF, in the Surveillance 2 Audit found the contractors have complied with roading guidelines (Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010 (Pindaan 2013)) where side drainage, side bar, and sumps were maintained on the access road. Gradient and blading for skid trail did not exceed the maximum limit in the guidelines.</p> <p>JPN Kedah had conducted training on 'Bengkel Hand-on Pelaksanaan MC&I (Hutan Asli) dan Pengurusan Jalan Hutan bagi Jabatan Hutan Negeri Kedah; 17 – 19 July 2017</p> <p>Status: Closed</p>

<p>Indicator 6.5.4</p> <p>NCR #: KN 01/ 2016</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement : 6.5.4 Availability and implementation of guidelines for conservation of buffer strips along streams and rivers.</p> <p>Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia, 2003.</p> <p><i>Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010.</i> (Guidelines for Forest Roads, 2010).</p> <p>Finding : Buffer zones inspected in selected harvesting areas, were found unmarked and thus did not follow the required specification.</p> <p>Objective evidence : Stretches of buffer zones with unmarked boundaries were detected in two harvesting areas inspected;</p> <p>(i) Compartment 41A, Ulu Muda PRF, beyond skid trail LP 34/1 and, (ii) Compartment 69A, Ulu Muda PRF, beyond skid trail LP 8/4.</p>	<p>KSFD had conducted a hands-on training on MC&I (Natural Forest) – SOP on buffer zoned dated 6-8 February 2017 at Pusat Latihan Jeniang to staff and logging contractors. The training was included in the annual training program FY2017.</p>	<p>Kedah Selatan District Forest Office has directed the Weng Office Ranger to do the remarking/repainting at the buffer zone area at skid trail LP 34/1 (KS 01-26-2015) and LP 8/4 (KS 01-24-2016) at Ulu Muda PRF with official letter (PHDKS 25-68 Sj 791 Jld 2 (24) dated 7 December 2016.</p> <p>Guidelines for conservation of buffer strips along streams and rivers were available and implemented. The guidelines used included Guidelines for Reduced Impact Logging in Peninsular Malaysia, 2003, <i>Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010 (Pindaan 2013)</i> (Guidelines for Forest Roads, 2010) (Amended 2013), <i>Rancangan Mengusaha Hasil Hutan bagi Kawasan Pembalakan</i> and Forest Harvesting Plan for Kedah FMU (2016-2025) as verified in the Compartments licensed for harvesting.</p> <p>Training records verified showed that JPN Kedah had conducted training on;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) MC&I (Natural Forest) – SOP on buffer zone; 6-8 February 2017 2) 'Bengkel Hand-on Pelaksanaan MC&I (Hutan Asli) dan Pengurusan Jalan Hutan bagi Jabatan Hutan Negeri Kedah; 17 – 19 July 2017 <p>Status: Closed</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.1</p> <p>NCR #: KN 02/</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement: Indicator 7.1.1 Availability and implementation of Forest Management Plan.</p>	<p>Kedah FMU had conducted series of meeting with Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) to closely monitor the</p>	<p>KSFD has revised a draft of the FMP on 21-23 December 2016. The final revised draft of the FMP available on 28 November 2017 was verified by the</p>

2016		<p>Finding: The main criteria in the draft of Forest Management Plan for 2016-2025 was not available.</p> <p>Objective evidence: Draft of Kedah Forest Management Plan for (2016-2025) was not included;</p> <p>h. Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.</p> <p>i. Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.</p> <p>j. Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.</p> <p>k. Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.</p> <p>l. Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership (not completed).</p> <p>m. Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.</p>	<p>preparation of the Forest Management Plan for Kedah FMU 2016-2025. The FMP is expected to be ready before 15 February 2017.</p>	<p>auditors in this Surveillance 2 Audit.</p> <p>It was found that attachments on specific topics for indicator 7.1.1 (b) in the FMP were still not provided i.e.;</p> <p>i) "Lampiran 5: Cadangan kawaka bagi post-F" was still missing. Also unavailable were the items requirements of the Lampiran which include: Forest District, HSK, Year of Implementation, Kompatmen, HSK and area for Post F.</p> <p>ii) Jadual 6.3 (previously 6.2 in previous draft FMP) entitled kerja "Penandaan Pokok" was not completed (without items on Forest District, HSK, Year of Implementation, Kompatmen, HSK and area for Timber Tagging)</p> <p>Status: This minor NCR #: KN 02/ 2016 was upgraded to a Major NCR (MN 01/17) for indicator 7.1.1 in Surveillance 2 Audit</p>
<p>Indicator 7.4.1</p> <p>NCR #: KN 03/ 2016</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement: 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.</p> <p>Finding: A summary of the primary elements of the forest management plan which has been made available to the public was not up-to-date.</p>	<p>Kedah FMU was in the process of preparation of the Forest Management Plan 2016-2025. Once the FMP is completed in February 2017. Kedah FMU will update the summary of the primary elements of the FMP in the Kedah Forestry Department official website before 15 February 2017.</p>	<p>KSFD has revised a draft of FMP on 21-23 December 2016. The FMP available on 28 November 2017 was verified. Executive summary of the FMP 2016-2025 was uploaded into the KSFD website after approval by the State Government.</p> <p>Status: Closed</p>

		<p>Objective evidence :</p> <p>The summary of the primary elements of the FMP at the Kedah Forestry Department official website http://www.kedforestry.gov.my/en/maklumat-pengenalan/mc-i/ringkasan-rancangan-pengurusan-hutan was not up-to-date.</p>		
<p>Indicator 8.2.1</p> <p>NCR #: NS 01/ 2016</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement:</p> <p>Indicator 8.2.1 Forest managers shall gather the relevant information, appropriate to the scale and intensity of the forest management operations, needed to monitor the items (a) to (e) listed in Criterion 8.2.</p> <p>Finding:</p> <p>Relevant information as listed in Criterion 8.2 (items a - e), not sufficiently included in the documentation</p> <p>Objective evidence :</p> <p>Draft of New Forest Management Plan (2016-2025) does not contain;</p> <p>b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest.</p> <p>c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna.</p>	<p>KSFD had revised a draft FMP on 21-23 December 2016. Relevant information as listed in Criterion 8.2 (items a - e) in the FMP 2016-2025 will be included in the FMP. Final draft of the FMP will be prepared by consultant before 15 February 2017.</p>	<p>KSFD has revised the earlier draft FMP (dated 21-23 December 2016) and made available to the auditor on 28 November 2017 for verification. Relevant information as listed in Criterion 8.2 (items a - e) in the FMP 2016-2025 had been included in the Final Kedah FMP.</p> <p>Status: Closed</p>
<p>Indicator 8.5.1</p> <p>NCR #: NS 02/ 2016</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Requirement:</p> <p>Indicator 8.5.1 A summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2, shall be made available to the public.</p> <p>Finding:</p> <p>An up-to-date summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2, was outdated or not included</p>	<p>KSFD had updated summary of the results of monitoring for (b) and (c) indicators based on 'Keputusan Analisis Petak kajian Negeri Kedah' and 'Rumusan Laporan Inventori Hutan Kebangsaan Ke-5' in the website.</p>	<p>KSFD has updated the summary of the results of monitoring for (b) and (c) indicators based on 'Keputusan Analisis Petak kajian Negeri Kedah' and 'Rumusan Laporan Inventori Hutan Kebangsaan Ke-5' in the website.</p> <p>Status: Closed</p>

		<p>Objective evidence:</p> <p>Outdated information on;</p> <p>c) composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna; is based on data on 2004</p> <p>Not included;</p> <p>b) growth rate, regeneration and condition of the forest.</p>		
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