



**PUBLIC SUMMARY  
STAGE 2 ON  
SYARIKAT SAMLING TIMBER SDN BHD –  
KUALA BARAM FOREST PLANTATION MANAGEMENT UNIT (FPMU)  
FOR FOREST PLANTATION MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION**

**Certificate Number : FMC- FP -0019  
Date of First Certification: 27 December 2022  
Audit Date : 19 to 21 April 2022  
Date of Public Summary : 22 January 2023**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This stage 2 audit on Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd – Kuala Baram Forest Plantation Management Unit (hereafter referred as the Kuala Baram FPMU) was conducted on 19 to 21 April 2022 to assess the compliance of the overall forest plantation management system of the Kuala Baram FPMU against the requirements of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management [ MC & I SFM] using the verifiers stipulated for Sarawak. The scope of this stage 2 audit was limited to the forest plantation management system and practices on the Kuala Baram FPMU.

This stage 2 audit was conducted by a four (4)-member team comprising of Mohd Razman Salim (Lead Auditor), Khairul Najwan Ahmad Jahari (Auditor), Puteri Arlydia Abdul (Auditor), and Azrul Ikhsan Mohamed (Trainee Auditor).

Based on the findings of this stage 2 audit, it was found that Kuala Baram FPMU had complied with the requirements of the MC&I SFM. This stage 2 audit had resulted in the issuance of one (1) major and three (3) minor Non Conformity Reports (NCRs) respectively.

This public summary contains the general information on the Kuala Baram FPMU, the findings of the stage 2 audit, NCRs raised as well as the decision on the certification of the FPMU to MC & I SFM standard.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Name of FPMU

Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd – Kuala Baram Forest Plantation Management Unit

### 1.2 Contact Person and Address

Name : David Marsden  
Designation : Forestry Advisor  
Address : Wisma Samling, Lot 296,  
Jalan Temenggong Datuk Oyong Lawai Jau,  
98000 Miri, Sarawak  
Phone # : 085 413099  
Fax # : 085 412751

### 1.3 General Background on the Kuala Baram FPMU

Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd had signed a Licensed Planted Forests LPF/0004 of 40,648 ha with the Sarawak State Government to establish and maintain a forest plantation in the LPF/0004 – Kuala Baram for 60 years from 8 December 1998 to 7 December 2058. The license was issued under the Forests Ordinance 1954 Section 65B Licence for the establishment of planted forest. Almost the whole LPF lay within the Lower Baram Forest Reserve (GN 1806 dated 24<sup>th</sup> August 1965).

The FPMU was under the License for Planted Forests No. LPF/0004 of Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd (SST) for industrial tree plantation (ITP). The FPMU had been licensed for forest plantation from 8/12/1998 to 7/12/2058 for 60 years. The FPMU had planted five (5) tree species which were *Acacia hybrid*, *Eucalyptus pellita*, *Melaleuca spp.*, *Acacia mangium* and *Acacia crassicaarpa*. For sustainable management, a harvesting rotation of 5-6 years was applied to ensure efficient timber production.

Licensed Planted Forests of LPF/0004 covered an area of 40,648 ha that comprised of (i) 3,000 ha of MTCS Kuala Baram FPMU, (ii) 8,497 ha of Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) which was not eligible for certification due to cut-off date of 31 December 2010, and (iii) 29,151 of Woodman Oil Palm Plantation area (certified under MSPO scheme).

The eligibility for forest plantation certification was determined through the application of the Forest Department of Sarawak's (FDS) operational control system known as Permit to Enter Coupe (PEC). The plantation area was a peat swamp forest that had been converted to a forest plantation before the cut-off date of 31 December 2010. Historically, the area contained mixed Peat Swamp Forest to the Padang Forest. No undisturbed primary forest was known to remain at the time the LPF licence was issued on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1998. Kuala Baram Forest Plantation Management Unit (FPMU) was located in the Kuala Baram, Miri Division of the state of Sarawak. The FPMU area covered about 3,000 hectares (Part of Coupe 2AP, Coupe 4B, Coupe 5B and Coupe 6B) from the total area of LPF/0004 of 40,648 ha and comprised of 2,163 ha (72%) of production areas, 775 ha (26%) of protected area and 62 ha (2%) of non-forested area (road line). There were no areas of undisturbed natural forest within the FPMU area and classified as a degraded forest area.

Socio-economic surveys showed there was no local community living within the FPMU area. The SIA study had shown there were 4 villages (Rh. Asam, Rh. Asam Paya Hulu, Kg. Asam Paya Hilir and Rh. Nawah (previously Rh. Nanang) located nearby of the FPMU (3 km radius). While Kg. Sg. Kejaman was located outside of the FPMU area (9 KM from the nearest FPMU boundary). All the inhabitants in the local community were Iban, Punan and Sekapan while other races are Kenyah, Tanjong and Kayan.

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

#### 1.4 Date First Certified

27 December 2022

#### 1.5 Location of the FPMU

The FPMU area covered about 3,000 hectares (Part of Coupe 2AP, Coupe 4B, Coupe 5B and Coupe 6B) from the total area of LPF/0004 of 40,648 ha (mostly covered with oil palm plantation) and lies between latitudes 04° 21' 00" N to 04° 33' 00" N, and longitudes 114° 00' 00" E to 114° 18' 00" E.

#### 1.6 Forest Management System

The Kuala Baram FPMU had followed the principles of sustainable forest plantation management and the requirements of the Licence Agreement of the Sarawak State government. A Forest Plantation Management Plan (FPMP) (1 Feb 2020 – 31 January 2030) was presented during this audit.

#### 1.7 Annual Allowable Cut/Annual Harvest under the Forest Management Plan

The FPMU planned to harvest an average of 24,632 m<sup>3</sup> as forecast over the next 10 years. This was in line with FPMP Clause 10.1 Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) and Table 10.1 [Summary of Kuala Baram's Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)]. As only trees were planted, there would be no non-timber forest product to be harvested from this FPMU, with only a limited area of 3,000 ha. This was in line with FPMP Clause 10.1 Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) and Table 10.1 [Summary of Kuala Baram's Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)]. During this stage 2 audit, the size of the FMU is 3,000 ha.

#### 1.8 Environmental and Socioeconomic Context

EIA report for the FPMU titled 'Environmental Impact Assessment Study of the Proposed Kuala Baram Forest Plantation Project under Licence for Planted Forests No. LPF/0004 Miri Division, Sarawak', November 1999 was made available as required under the prescribed activities of the Natural Resources and Environment (Prescribed Activities) Order 1994). Approval of the EIA report from Natural Resources and Environment Board Sarawak (NREB) for Kuala Baram Forest Plantation under licence for planted forests was received on 3 January 2000 (Ref. No.: (7)NREB/6-11/66).

Potential impacts from forest plantation operations on endangered, rare and threatened (ERT) species of flora and fauna, and the need for biological corridors in forest plantation management had been identified in the EIA report, Chapter 3: Existing Environment, and mitigation plan mentioned under Chapter 4: Environmental Impact Assessment and Mitigation Assessment.

Measures to mitigate environmental impacts caused by harvesting activities were identified in the EIA report in section 6.3 Environmental Impact Mitigation. The Forest Plantation Management Plan 2020 – 2030 incorporated measures to mitigate environmental impacts in Chapter 6: Environmental Considerations. Based on the findings of the EIA study, the plantation area had been severely logged on several occasions resulting in a degraded forest ecosystem. This LPF was heavily harvested under various forest timber licences such as Forestcom (T/0188) in the 1960s. The FPMU area was cleared before 31st December 2010 and planted after 31st December 2010. No undisturbed primary forest was known to remain at the time the LPF licence was issued on 8th December 1998. When the ITP started planting in 2007, there was virtually no residual timber left after the complete removal of the forest cover of *Shorea albida*.

Socio-economic surveys conducted during the SIA study had shown there were 4 villages located nearby of the FPMU (3 km radius). Rh. Asam and Rh. Asam Paya Hulu were located inside the licenced area (in Coupe 04B) but outside of the certification/MTCS area. Longhouses located opposite of the Batang Baram river which were Kg. Asam Paya Hilir and Rh. Nawah (previously Rh. Nanang).

There was no local community living within the FPMU area. All the inhabitants were Iban, Punan and Sekapan while other races were Kenyah, Tanjong and Kayan.

Records of consultations held with the local communities / indigenous peoples to identify and document areas traditionally used and sites of significant importance to them (e.g., cultural, religious and burial sites, water intake points) were reported through Social Impact Assessment Report for Samling's Kuala Baram Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) within LPF/0004 (SIA) dated 29/12/2020 by Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). No significant cultural, religious, burial, or water intake points were addressed by the local community as they had shifting agriculture outside the certified area and the burial area was sited at Miri town. To date, villagers casually could still enter the certified FPMU area for forest produce (bamboo, rattan, herbs, wild fruits and vegetables, wild meats and birds, and even firewood) & river produces (fish) occasionally. Their use rights were protected whereas they were allowed to enter as per legal prescriptions.

## **2. AUDIT PROCESS**

### **2.1 Audit Dates**

19 to 21 April 2022 (9 auditor days)

### **2.2 Audit Team**

Mohd Razman Salim (Lead Auditor)  
Khairul Najwan Ahmad Jahari (Forester)  
Puteri Arlydia Abdul (Forester)  
Azrul Ikhsan Mohamed (Trainee Auditor)

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

### **2.3 Standard Used**

Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (MC & I SFM) using the verifiers stipulated for Sarawak.

### **2.4 Stakeholder Consultations**

A one-month stakeholder consultation was conducted beginning March 2022 to solicit feedback from stakeholders on the compliance of the Kuala Baram FPMU against the requirements of the MC&I SFM. During the one month stakeholder consultation period, there were no comments received.

### **2.5 Audit Process**

The audit was conducted primarily to evaluate the level of compliance of the Kuala Baram FPMU's current documentation and field practices in forest plantation management with the details of standard of performances (SOPs) listed in the MC&I SFM, using the verifiers stipulated for Sarawak.

For each Indicator, the auditors had conducted either a documentation review, consultation with the relevant personnel of the FPMU, 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 FPMU'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 SFM,
- (ii) a minor NCR is a deviation or a lapse in complying with the requirements of the MC&I SFM; and

- (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 SFM but without sufficient objective evidence to support a non-conformance.

Consultations were held with the local communities (Rh. Asam, Rh. Fredick Belaja Kg. Asam Paya Hulu, Rh. George Kg Sungai Kejaman & Rh. Ngelingkong Sg Teraja) as well as contractors and workers operating in the FPMU. Meetings were also held with the officers and the field staff of the Kuala Baram FPMU.

The coverage of this stage 2 audit is as shown in the Stage 2 Audit Plan in **Attachment 3**.

The Kuala Baram FPMU had sent corrective actions and corrective action plans to the audit team to address the one (1) major and three (3) minor NCRs which the audit team had reviewed and accepted. The audit team had prepared an interim stage 2 audit report and had sent it to the Kuala Baram FPMU for comment. A second draft stage 2 audit report which had incorporated the comments received from the Kuala Baram FPMU was then prepared and sent to two peer reviewers for independent reviewing. A final Stage 2 audit report was prepared after the comments from peer reviewers had been incorporated.

### **3. SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS**

Based on the findings of this stage 2 audit, it was found that the Kuala Baram FPMU had managed to be in compliance with most of the requirements of the MC&I SFM. This stage 2 had resulted in the issuance of one (1) major and three (3) minor NCRs. The details on the NCRs raised are shown in **Attachment 4**.

The audit team had reviewed, accepted and verified the corrective actions taken by the Kuala Baram FPMU to address the one (1) major NCR raised during this stage 2 audit. The audit team was satisfied that the corrective action had been effectively implemented and had therefore closed out the major NCR. The audit team had also reviewed and accepted the Kuala Baram FPMU's proposed corrective actions to address the three (3) minor NCRs. However, these corrective actions would be verified by the audit team during the next audit.

The audit team had also verified on the corrective actions taken by the Kuala Baram FPMU to address the three (3) Minor NCRs which were raised during the audit. The responses made by the audit team leader on these corrective actions and on the final status of the NCRs are as in **Attachment 4**.

On rights of local communities, there were mechanisms in place, publicly accessible to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights through meetings and consultations held with local communities / indigenous peoples. It was observed that there was no recorded civil court case pertaining to legal or customary tenure or use rights filed against the Kuala Baram FPMU.

The Criterion 6.10 in the MC&I SFM is not applicable for Kuala Baram FPMU.

As the major NCR raised during this stage 2 audit had been closed out, the audit team had therefore recommended that the Certificate for Forest Plantation Management be awarded to the Kuala Baram FPMU for five (5) years commencing from 27 December 2022 to 26 December 2027.

The summary of the findings of the Stage 2 audit on the Kuala Baram FPMU against the requirements of the MC&I SFM are as follows:

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
<b>Principle 1</b> <b>Compliance With Laws and Principles</b>	<p>The FPMU had maintained and updated a legal register with records of all relevant national and local laws and regulations and policies related to forest plantation management. Copies of all relevant laws, policies and regulations stipulated in the <i>MC&amp;I SFM</i> fundamental for the FPMU management were available.</p> <p>The forest managers had demonstrated knowledge of the federal, state and local laws and regulatory framework. In addition, in-house briefings at regular intervals were conducted to familiarize field workers with these requirements.</p> <p>There was no forest offence recorded for the year 2021 as verified in the 'Annual Forest Offences Summary Report 2021' and this was confirmed by forest officers from Forest Department Sarawak. The FPMU had also maintained a list of all legally prescribed fees.</p> <p>Log yard royalty payment had to be made on the logs when harvested from the plantation and transported to the mill. However, there was no harvesting operation during the audit. The last forest harvesting conducted in Kuala Baram FPMU was in October 2019 by Woodman Kuala Baram Estate Sdn. Bhd as verified in the record 'Coupe Clearance with Certificate No 117809'. The felling removal of timber 05BPF (1), with licence No. LPF/004, station OSCC Beluru dated October 2019 was verified during the audit.</p> <p>It was observed that Samling-Kuala Baram forest managers had demonstrated awareness of all the binding international agreements such as the International Labour Organizations Conventions (ILO), Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), International Tropical Timber Agreement 1994, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat 1971, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Convention of International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) which Malaysia is signatory to.</p>	There was no negative finding under this Principle

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>Based on consultation with Heads and villagers of Rh. Sg. Kejaman Lasah, Rh. Asam, Rh. Asam Paya Hilir and Rh. Asam Paya Hulu, it was shown that the forest managers had demonstrated willingness to participate in the resolution of conflicts if they arised.</p> <p>Regular patrolling was carried out to detect irregularities in the FPMU such as encroachment and illegal activities within its boundaries and this was verified in the site visit which found there was no sign of encroachment, illegal harvesting, hunting, and settlement, or other unauthorised activities in Kuala Baram FPMU. The FPMU had implemented control measures such as signages, signboards and boundary demarcation. This was confirmed with the villagers.</p> <p>A written policy statement 'Samling Group Responsible Forest Management Policy' signed by the CEO on 1 February 2021 stating its commitment to MC&amp;I SFM was available. The policy statements could be assessed on the web page of Samling's website <a href="https://www.samling.com/our-policies">https://www.samling.com/our-policies</a>.</p> <p>Training on MC&amp;I SFM standard and company policies were also conducted for staff and field workers.</p>	
<b>Principle 2 Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities</b>	<p>There were documentation on legal status, and established forest use rights of the land or forest resources within the relevant federal, state and local laws in the FPMU.</p> <p>Forest managers had supported legally recognised mechanisms for resolving land claims through the establishment of SFM/PR 001 Procedures on Land Claim Rev 0 dated 15/03/2017 &amp; FMC/PRO-002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution Rev 1 Eff date 12/01/2022.</p> <p>The process covered in the procedures (Land claims and Conflict Resolution) involved, among others, recording claim, verification on the ground for GPS location and operation status, access to the legal status of land (cross-check with maps from L&amp;S and/or RD), document proof of ownership, arbitration, legal process, deeds (agreement) &amp; compensation</p>	<p>There was no negative finding under this Principle</p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>and closing case. There was documentation on legal or customary tenure or use rights of local communities within relevant federal, state and local laws in the FPMU.</p> <p>Forest managers had recognised, respected and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local laws. There were maps showing the location of settlements of local communities / indigenous peoples in and adjacent to the FPMU and Map Showing Year of Planted in MTCS Area in That Part of LPF/0004 Sub-licenced. Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd.</p> <p>Records of consultations held with the local communities / indigenous peoples to identify and document areas traditionally used and sites of significant importance to them (e.g., cultural, religious and burial sites, water intake points) were reported through Social Impact Assessment Report for Samling's Kuala Baram Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) within LPF/0004 (SIA) dated 29/12/2020 by UPM.</p> <p>To date, villagers can still enter the certified FPMU area for forest produce (bamboo, rattan, herbs, wild fruits and vegetables, wild meats and birds, and even firewood) &amp; river produces (fish) occasionally. Their use rights were protected whereas they were allowed to enter as per legal prescriptions.</p> <p>Mechanisms to resolve disputes were publicly accessible i.e. SFM/PR 001 Procedures on Land Claim Rev 0 dated 15/03/2017 &amp; FMC/PRO-002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution dated 12/01/2022 and process and complaint form could be publicly accessed at <a href="https://www.samling.com/sustainability/corporate-social-responsibility-csr">https://www.samling.com/sustainability/corporate-social-responsibility-csr</a>.</p>	

<p><b>Principle 3 Indigenous People's Rights</b></p>	<p>Documentation of legal or customary tenure or use rights of local communities within relevant federal, state and local laws in the FPMU was available.</p> <p>SFM/PR 001 Procedures on Land Claim Rev 0 dated 15/03/2017 &amp; FMC/PRO-002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution Rev 1 Eff date 12/01/2022 had been established. The process covered in the procedure involved among others recording claim, verification on the ground for GPS location and operation status, access to the legal status of land (cross-check with maps from L&amp;S and/or RD), document proof of ownership, arbitration, legal process, deeds (agreement) &amp; compensation and closing case. These procedures were appropriate to address mechanisms to resolve any conflicts and grievances between the parties involved. Mechanisms to resolve disputes have also been made publicly accessible at <a href="https://www.samling.com/sustainability/corporate-social-responsibility-csr">https://www.samling.com/sustainability/corporate-social-responsibility-csr</a>.</p> <p>A complaint on use right was recorded from Rh. Asam regarding the planted trees from the planting block often felled and blocked their main access. Action had been taken to clear the tree on 8/04/2022 and the CSR program (including stakeholder consultation) was conducted with the local community. This was confirmed with the complainant.</p> <p>There were consultation/records on the comments of the stakeholders on MTCS awareness (MC&amp;I Principles), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) &amp; High Conservation (HCV) findings. The forest plantation management practices and documentation was available on indigenous people's lands recognised within relevant federal, state and local laws which showed these areas had not been threatened or diminished, either directly or indirectly local communities' resources or tenure rights.</p> <p>There were records reported through Social Impact Assessment Report on consultations held with the local communities / indigenous peoples to identify and document areas traditionally used and sites of significant importance to them (e.g., cultural, religious and burial sites, and water intake points). There were no significant cultural, religious, burial, or water intake points by the local community as they had shifting agriculture outside the certified area and the burial</p>	<p>Implementation of mechanisms to resolve any conflicts and grievances between parties involved between Rh George (Kg Sungai Kejaman) and Kuala Baram FPMU were not conducted according to SFM/PR 001 Procedures on Land Claim Rev 0 dated 15/03/2017 &amp; FMC/PRO-002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution Rev 1 Eff date 12/01/2022. The legal status of land (cross-check with maps from L&amp;S and/or RD for Communal Forest - Kejaman) and document proof of ownership as per respective procedure were not found in the file. <b>Thus, Minor NCR LYD01/2022 against Indicator 3.1.3 was raised.</b></p>
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	<p>area. To date villagers could still entered the certified FPMU area for forest produce (bamboo, rattan, herbs, wild fruits and vegetables, wild meats and birds, and even firewood)) &amp; river produces (fish) occasionally.</p> <p>The forest manager had shown understanding of the Sarawak Biodiversity Centre Ordinance, 1997 (Cap. 24) and its regulations with regards to traditional forest-related knowledge and practices of indigenous peoples (use of forest species or management systems) in forest operations.</p>	
<b>Principle 4 Community Relations and Worker's Rights</b>	<p>Kuala Baram FPMU had provided appropriate support for training, retraining, refresher training, local infrastructure, facilities and socio-economic programs which commensurated with the scale and intensity of forest management operations and it was evident in the FPMP (1 Feb 2020 – 31 January 2030), Chapter 7 Socio-economic Context, Clause 7.2 Employment and Provision of Services.</p> <p>The FPMU had promoted job vacancies by placing vacancy' placement (without gender discrimination) for local communities at notice board for employment at the FPMU operation area. The FPMU was not involved in the employment of illegal immigrant workers, child labour, and forced labour.</p> <p>Policy on Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) dated 1 February 2021 was displayed in the main office at Kuala Baram Refo Base Camp, etc and n published on the Samling website - <a href="https://samling.com/our-policies">https://samling.com/our-policies</a>. As a guideline, the FPMU has also used <i>Garis Panduan Keselamatan &amp; Kesihatan dalam Operasi Pembalakan</i> by MOHR.</p> <p>Training on Safety Policies was provided to workers on 11 February 2022 and 11 March 2022. The Safety and Health Induction &amp; Awareness was held on 3 September 2021, 3 December 2021 and 11 February 2022.</p> <p>The FPMU had made available procedures for workshop and logging activities together with "Emergency Response Plan for Fire and Accident", "Response Procedures during Fire and Emergency" and "Safety &amp; Health Manual" and SOPs for Preventive Maintenance for Equipment and Machinery, Breakdown Maintenance, and Work Instruction for Preventive Maintenance.</p>	

	<p>Safety equipment (PPE) were found to be in good working condition including the backup PPE located in the store provided.</p> <p>Workers were provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) and showed their understanding on the need to use PPE when working, safety at the workplace and emergency preparedness and response.</p> <p>The FPMU had appointed an Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) officer in compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 and a Health and Safety Committee had been established and chaired by the Senior Plantation Executive, and the secretary was the safety and health officer.</p> <p>The FPMU had also established an Emergency Response Team (ERT), for emergency cases if they occur. During site inspection at Kuala Baram Reforestation Camp, it was found that the demarcation of hazardous areas and provision of guidelines for storage and handling of hazardous materials were found to be adequate. The safe working procedure had been placed in a strategic location for easy access such as Procedures for Handling of Hazardous Chemicals.</p> <p>Training on Safety Policies was provided to workers on 11 February 2022 and 11 March 2022. The Safety and Health Induction &amp; Awareness was held on 3 September 2021, 3 December 2021 and 11 February 2022.</p> <p>The FPMU had made available procedures for workshop and logging activities together with "Emergency Response Plan for Fire and Accident", "Response Procedures during Fire and Emergency" and "Safety &amp; Health Manual" and SOPs for Preventive Maintenance for Equipment and Machinery, Breakdown Maintenance, and Work Instruction for Preventive Maintenance.</p> <p>Safety equipment (PPE) were found to be in good working condition including the backup PPE located in the store provided.</p> <p>Workers were provided with personal protective equipment (PPE) and showed their understanding on the need to use PPE when working, safety at the workplace and emergency preparedness and response.</p> <p>The FPMU had appointed an Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) officer in</p>	
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	<p>compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 and a Health and Safety Committee had been established and chaired by the Senior Plantation Executive, and the secretary was the safety and health officer.</p> <p>The FPMU had also established an Emergency Response Team (ERT), for emergency cases if they occur. During site inspection at Kuala Baram Reforestation Camp, it was found that the demarcation of hazardous areas and provision of guidelines for storage and handling of hazardous materials were found to be adequate. The safe working procedure had been placed in a strategic location for easy access such as Procedures for Handling of Hazardous Chemicals.</p> <p>The workers had demonstrated awareness on ILO Convention No. 87 entitled Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, however, they had not established a union.</p> <p>Forest managers had employed a total of 12 workers comprising of 2 migrant workers from Indonesia and 10 local workers working with the FPMU at various operations. The audit found that the foreign workers had valid passports and working permits from Labour Department. There was also employment agreement on the right of workers to employment benefits and social protection.</p> <p>There were procedures available to address grievances raised by forest plantation workers and/or their organizations and for conflict resolution. The workers were also aware of the Grievance Procedure if they had any grievances to be voiced during their employment. The summary of SIA inside the FPMP had been published in brief and could be accessed at the website address: <a href="https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification">https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification</a></p> <p>There was Forest Plantation Management Plan (FPMP) for the MTCS Area within the Industrial Tree Plantation of Kuala Baram LPF/004 dated 1/02/2020 to 31/01/2030 – Chapter Twelve subchapter 12.5 Social Impacts.</p> <p>There was documentation available within relevant federal, state and local laws to prevent loss or damage affecting the local communities' legal or customary rights, property, resources, or their livelihoods.</p>	<p>The local communities directly affected by the forest operations had access to information on the results of the social impact evaluations conducted. Findings were discussed with local community of Kuala Baram Restoration Project (LPF0004) dated 8-9/04/2022 with Rh. Asam, Rh. Fredick Belaja Kg. Asam Paya Hulu, Rh. George Kg Sungai Kejaman &amp; Rh. Ngelingkong Sg. Teraja. The presentation slide notes had been provided to local communities as per seen in the attendance form and verified during the audit. However, the audit found another 2 villages (Rh. Budin Kg. Asam Paya Hilir and Rh. Nawah (previously Rh. Nanang) which had yet to be consulted.</p> <p><b>Therefore, Major NCR LYD02/2022 was raised against Indicator 4.4.1.</b></p>
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	<p>Consultation and briefing on the findings of Social Impact Assessment (SIA), High Conservation (HCV) and MTCS awareness (MC&amp;I SFM Principles) had been conducted by the FPMU with the local community.</p> <p>Mechanisms were available to resolve disputes made publicly accessible SFM/PR 001 Procedures on Land Claim Rev 0 dated 15/03/2017 &amp; FMC/PRO-002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution Rev 1 Eff date 12/01/2022. Also, the process and complaint form could be publicly accessed at <a href="https://www.samling.com/sustainability/corporate-social-responsibility-csr">https://www.samling.com/sustainability/corporate-social-responsibility-csr</a></p>	
<b>Principle 5 Benefits From the Forest</b>	<p>Kuala Baram FPMU had made investments and reinvestments in forest plantation operations and management, as stated in the annual operating and development budget and expenditure records. The budget had covered protection, research, conservation, and environmental and social aspect.</p> <p>It was noted there was no harvesting activity in the Kuala Baram FPMU although the FPMU has been approved by FDS in a verified letter 'Permit to Harvest' under LPF/0004. Provisions and management were made to maintain, restore or enhance the productive capacity and ecological functions of the forest plantation areas to ensure its economic viability was available in the Forest Plantation Management Plan for the MTCS Area within the Industrial Tree Plantation of Kuala Baram LPF/0004 for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2030.</p> <p>There were no activities on Under brushing &amp; Felling, Spreading, Lopping, Slashing, Marking &amp; Pitting + Lining, Spraying or Planting in March 2022 and this was verified during site inspection by the auditor at all Coupes of 2AP, 4B, 5B and 6B.</p> <p>The main product extracted from the forest plantation in the FPMU was timber. The FPMU had planned to harvest 30,017m<sup>3</sup> in the year 2023. The targeted average allowable annual cut for the next 10 years is 24,632m<sup>3</sup>. As only trees were planted, there would be no non-timber forest products to be harvested from this FPMU, with only a limited area of 3,000 ha. This was in line with FPMP Clause 10.1 Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) and Table</p>	There was no negative findings under this Principle

	<p>10.1 [Summary of Kuala Baram's Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)].</p> <p>Kuala Baram FPMU had established about 300 Permanent Sample Plots (PSP) at Coupe 2A (28 PSPs), Coupe 4B (99 PSPs), Coupe 5B (133 PSPs), and Coupe 6B (70 PSPs). The re-enumeration was visited annually as stated in Chapter 9, Monitoring Plantation Forest Dynamics, Clause 9.1 [Permanent Sample Plots] of FPMP. The result of the analysis had been verified in PSP Series dated 28 Feb 2022 and PSP Master report dated 11 April 2022. The FPMU had also monitored and analysed data on unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and invasive plant introduction to avoid adverse ecological impacts through the PSPs plot.</p> <p>There was no forest harvesting at the time of the audit. Site visits to all Coupes of 2AP, 4B, 5B and 6B found no timber was extracted from Kuala Baram FPMU. The FPMU had targeted all the logs production for local processing i.e., mainly for chip, sawn timber and plywood within the mill of the parent company.</p> <p>The FPMU had not conducted any forest harvesting operation in the Financial Year 2021-2022. The harvesting operation was planned to be conducted in the Financial Year 2022-2023. Thus, the implementation of guidelines for reduced / low-impact logging to minimise damage to other forest resources and wastage could not be audited and will be verified during the next audit.</p> <p>It was noted there was regular training conducted by Senior Executive (Operations for the staff and plantation workers on techniques of reduced-impact logging).</p> <p>There was information on planting stock, age class, size and spatial distribution of species planted in the Kuala Baram FPMU areas.</p> <p>Map of the planted area by each species and spatial distribution was made available. There were guidelines and/or procedures to identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water, water catchments, watercourses and wetlands in the FMP and buffer zones in the EIA report of the FPMU.</p>	
<b>Principle 6 Environmental Impact</b>	The EIA report for the FPMU titled 'Environmental Impact Assessment Study of the Proposed Kuala Baram Forest	There was no negative findings under this Principle

	<p>Plantation Project under Licence for Planted Forests No. LPF/0004 Miri Division, Sarawak', November 1999 was available. Approval of the EIA report from Natural Resources and Environment Board Sarawak (NREB) for Kuala Baram Forest Plantation under licence for planted forests was received on 3 January 2000 (Ref. No.: (7)NREB/6-11/66). The EIA report had identified potential impacts from forest plantation operations on endangered, rare and threatened (ERT) species of flora and fauna, and the need for biological corridors in forest plantation management. The EIA report had outlined measures to mitigate environmental impacts caused by harvesting activities.</p> <p>SOP titled 'Procedure GL 011: Management guidelines to establish and protect representative conservation' and 'Guidelines and Procedures: Fauna Conservation and Ecosystem Management Forest Management (GL011)' were available. However, there were no representative conservation areas i.e. undisturbed primary forests, Special Management Zones (SMZ), and Riparian Buffer Zone (RBZ) identified within the forest plantation certification area. From the HCV assessment, only a riparian area 50 m side strip along the true left bank of Batang Baram was available. This area was relatively unprotected and seasonally flooded/swampy and fell outside the scope of forest certification.</p> <p>It was noted there was cooperation between forest plantation managers, conservation organizations and regulatory authorities in implementing conservation and ongoing management activities. The FPMU had not allowed hunting and fishing within its area by placing signboards at strategic location in the FPMU area. In addition, the FPMU had issued a memo prohibiting all canteens from buying, selling, or storing protected wildlife meat and the use of poison in rivers within the plantation area.</p> <p>To demonstrate the commitment to control and prevent any unauthorised and prohibited activities, the FPMU had implemented 'Patrolling and Wildlife Monitoring Schedule' for the years 2021 and 2022. Routine patrolling was conducted by field staff and the guard house.</p> <p>The forest workers of the FPMU had shown knowledge of the ERT species within the plantation as there were regular briefings given to them. Posters showing protected</p>	
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	<p>species of flora and fauna were also posted in prominent places at the main gate, site office, nursery, and workers' quarters making them available for forest workers.</p> <p>The local communities had also shown awareness of the protected wildlife, ERT and HCV. A poster of protected wildlife and trees given by the FPMU and was displayed on the noticeboard of the longhouses.</p> <p>The FPMU had established guidelines to demarcate and protect natural forests, and measures to enhance natural regeneration in forest plantation areas titled 'Guidelines for the Conservation of Genetic, Species and Ecosystem Diversity and Guidelines for Biological Corridors and Buffer Zone for Wildlife'.</p> <p>Based on the findings of the EIA study, the LPF had been heavily harvested under various forest timber licences such as Forestcom (T/0188) in the 1960s. None of which was issued to Samling-related companies. The FPMU area was cleared before 31st December 2010 and planted after 31st December 2010.</p> <p>Standard Operating Procedures for plantation establishment had been established and would be implemented to avoid loss of topsoil nutrients, and soil erosion and compaction from inappropriate use of mechanical and chemical techniques.</p> <p>The 'Forest Fire Plan' for Kuala Baram FPMU within LPF/0004 dated 6 April 2022 was available. Fire-fighting equipment was tested/checked on a weekly basis. Training on fire fighting had been held in year 2021 and records were available.</p> <p>There were procedures on the use of fertilizer and the records of application of fertilizers and chemical pesticides were also available.</p> <p>The FPMU had set a policy titled 'Pesticide Use in the Management of Industrial Tree Plantations' on the use of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and prohibition of the use of banned pesticides, guidelines and procedures on the use of hazardous chemicals in forest management.</p> <p>There was a guideline on the "Solid Waste Management Plan – PR007" available and it includes the disposal of Scheduled waste and non-Scheduled waste.</p>	
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	<p>There was a Chemical Management System based on Occupational Safety and Health (Use and Standards of Exposure of Chemical Hazardous to Health) Regulation 2000 made available. The Chemical Management System monitor and record chemical usage. There were also procedures on the use of chemicals displayed in the chemical store. Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for pesticides such as Mamba (Class IV) and Ally (Class IV) posted in the chemical store. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) were provided for sprayers and the records of use were maintained.</p> <p>The FPMU had established an implementation plan for the reduction of the use of chemical pesticides in the forest titled 'Implementation plan for the reduced use of chemical pesticides in Samling's Industrial Tree Plantations and Nurseries'. Chemical spraying was only conducted during land preparation in forest plantation operations for weed control. The herbicide load was low with 4 to 5 litres/ha applied each round.</p> <p>Biological control agents had not been used in FPMU management. There were no records of the application of biological control agents in the FPMU.</p> <p>Exotic species were planted within the FPMU to produce peeler and saw logs, chip logs (high-density fibreboard) and wood pellets. A list of all the species was presented in the Forest Plantation Management Plan in Chapter 8. Establishment and silvicultural regimes were included in the plan including careful monitoring of these species to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</p> <p>A trial of exotic species was conducted by Samling's R&amp;D in an attempt to achieve species diversity, acceptable economic performance in producing logs, and mitigate the risk of pest and disease attacks.</p> <p>The FPMU had carried out regular patrolling to detect irregularities in the FPMU such as encroachment and illegal activities within its boundaries and monthly monitoring was conducted on exotic species.</p> <p>There was no conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations as verified during this audit. There was also no afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems occurred as verified during this audit.</p>	
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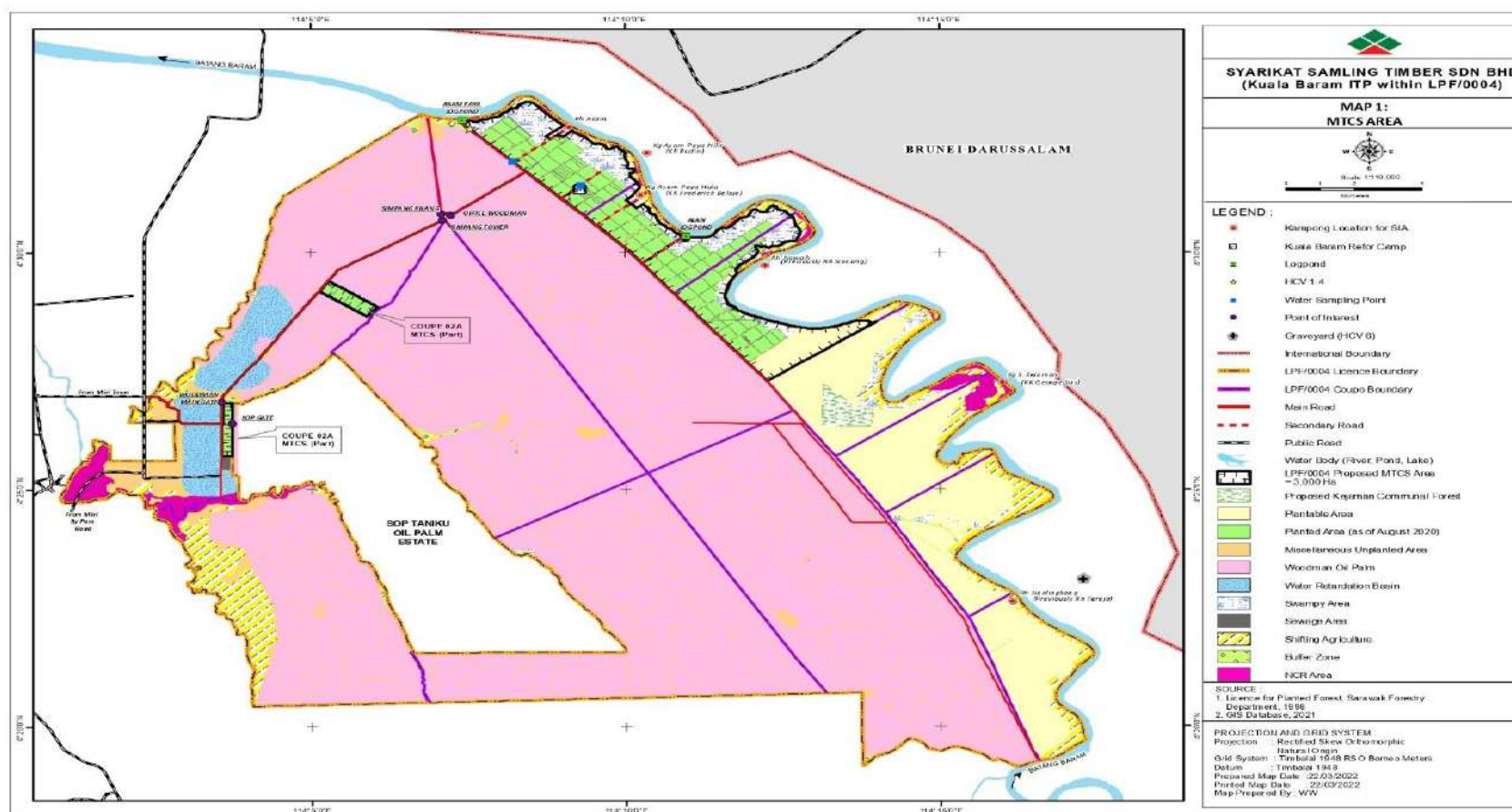
<p><b>Principle 7 Management Plan</b></p>	<p>The Forest Plantation Management Plan (FPMP) for the period 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2030 had incorporated all the items listed in Criterion 7.1 in the standard i.e. MC &amp; I SFM such as management objectives, Resource Description, Establishment and silvicultural systems, Allowable annual cut (AAC), Monitoring Plantation Forest Dynamics, Environmental Considerations Plans, Conservation, Conservation Areas, High Conservation Value Areas and Social Impacts, Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) Resource of the MTCS, Harvesting Systems, Stakeholder Consultation (Engagement). The FPMP would be revised in the fifth year of the FPMP to incorporate new information. Training on new scientific and technical information for the Senior Executive of the FPMU was provided by management. Forest managers had been given clear and defined, and had been assigned specific roles and responsibilities of the forest worker to ensure effective implementation of the forest management plan.</p> <p>There was also refresher training record for all staff and field workers and records were available.</p> <p>The publicly available summary of the forest plantation management plan was presented on the web page:  <a href="https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification">https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification</a></p>	<p>Section 7.5 The Forest Plantation Management Plan (1 February 2020 – 31 January 2030) had mentioned longhouses (Rh. Imbi &amp; Rh. Asi) that are located inside and outside the MTCS area of Kuala Baram in Chapter Five. However, the latest identification of longhouses from the Social Impact Assessment (dated 29 December 2020) had yet to be updated in the Forest Plantation Management Plan. The identified longhouses as per SIA as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rh. Asam (inside Coupe 4B but outside of the certification/MTCS area)</li> <li>2. Rh. Budin Kg. Asam Paya Hilir (adjacent to Coupe 04B certified)</li> <li>3. Rh. Fredick Belaja Kg. Asam Paya Hulu (adjacent to Coupe 05B certified)</li> <li>4. Rh. Nawah currently Rh. Nanang (adjacent to Coupe 06B certified)</li> <li>5. Rh. George Kg Sungai Kejaman (inside Coupe 08B non-certified area)</li> <li>6. Rh. Ngelingkong Sg Teraja (inside Coupe 10B non-certified)</li> </ol> <p><b>Hence, Minor NCR MRS 01/2022 against Indicator 7.1.1 was raised</b></p>
<p><b>Principle 8 Monitoring and Assessment</b></p>	<p>The Forest manager had identified and implemented appropriate monitoring procedures, in accordance with the scale and intensity of the forest management operations, for assessing social, ecological, environmental and economic impacts. The “Procedures to Monitor Social, Ecological, Environmental and Economic Impacts (PR006) dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017” were verified during the audit. The Kuala Baram FPMU was in the midst of analyzing the monitoring reports based on the procedures during the audit. The procedure had followed the guidelines in the Green Book, 2019 that was developed by the Forest Department of Sarawak.</p> <p>The Procedures to Monitor Social, Ecological, Environmental and Economic Impacts had been established and implemented by the FPMU comprising of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) social,</li> <li>2) ecological,</li> <li>3) environmental and</li> </ol>	<p>There was no negative findings under this Principle</p>

	<p>4) economic aspects.</p> <p>The Forest manager had undertaken an annual internal audit on 23-25 March 2022 led by Sr. Executive and management review on 16 April 2022 chaired by the Assistant General Manager for continual improvement. Report on Internal Audit and Management Review was reviewed during the audit.</p> <p>A review of the internal audit report showed the findings i.e. 5 non-conformity (2 Major, and 3 Minor). of the FPMU towards the compliance with MC&amp;I SFM. The FPMU had all taken corrective actions and the findings had been closed out.</p> <p>The management review meeting had discussed on results of the internal audit, review of operational performance, review of changes in internal and external issues, and continual improvement action plan.</p> <p>Monitoring and analysis of data from the established Permanent Sample Plots had enabled the FPMU to obtain data and information on growth rates, and changes in the composition of the flora and fauna in the planted forest. There was a report on 'Growth rate' (MAI, Yield) analysis from PSP data available for the enumeration of Block 18 Coupe 4B, Block 1 Coupe 5B and Block 14 Coupe 5B.</p> <p>The FPMU had initiated monitoring of the fauna and the wildlife and had established a log flow chart standard procedure on movement of certified logs from their origin.</p> <p>A public summary providing monitoring results of Indicator 8.2 had been provided in the Forest Plantation Management Plan for the MTCS Area within the Industrial Tree Plantation Kuala Baram LPF/0004 dated 1 Feb 2020 to 31 Jan 2030.</p> <p>The indicators (a) to (e) listed in Criterion 8.2 specified were included in the public summary of the revised FPMP. It was made publicly available to the public via the Samling website:  <a href="https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification">https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification</a></p>	
<b>Principle 9 Maintenance of High Conservation Value (HCV)</b>	<p>Forest managers had conducted an assessment to identify high conservation value areas in accordance with relevant guidelines, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management operations, and in consultation with relevant</p>	

	<p>stakeholders and experts. This had been reported in the High Conservation Value Assessment Report for the MTCS area of Samling's Kuala Baram Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) with LPF/0004 dated Feb 2021.</p> <p>The FPMU had conducted consultation with relevant stakeholders (Rh. Asam, Rh. Fredick Belaja Kg. Asam Paya Hulu, Rh. George Kg Sungai Kejaman &amp; Rh. Ngelingkong Sg Teraja) through MTCS awareness (MC&amp;I Principles), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) &amp; High Conservation (HCV) and findings on briefing with local community of Kuala Baram Restoration Project (LPF0004).</p> <p>The FPMU had established High Conservation Value Assessment (HCVA) Report for the MTCS area of Samling's Kuala Baram Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) within LPF/0004 and had identified and addressed in the report the HCV 1.4 Critical temporal use – fauna feeding at Coupe 4B and this was found inline with Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998 (Cap. 26).</p> <p>Information had been incorporated into the Forest Plantation Management Plan (FPMP) for the MTCS Area within the Industrial Tree Plantation of Kuala Baram LPF/0004 dated 1/02/2020 to 31/01/2030 Chapter Twelve Conservation, Conservation Areas, High Conservation Value Areas and Social Impacts with specific subchapter at 12.2 High Conservation Value Assessment, 12.4 Analysis of the high analysis conservation value assessment and 12.6 Mitigation &amp; Enhancement Measures.</p> <p>Summary of HCVA was included in the HCV assessment report i.e.:</p> <p>HCV 1 &amp; 2 – Large Flying Fox found in the seasonally flooded/swampy area (SMZ)</p> <p>HCV 3 – Kejaman Communal Forest located outside of the MTCS/audit scope area</p> <p>HCV 4 – No water catchment identified within the MTCS area.</p> <p>HCV 5 – No true dependence on any NTFPs by the communities (self-collection) from the MCTS area</p> <p>HCV 6 – No special significance to the communities identified in the MTCS area</p> <p>HCV areas had been mapped and incorporated into the forest management</p>	
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	<p>plan and demarcated on the ground, where appropriate. These areas had been included in the forest plantation management plan (FPMP) summary made publicly available <a href="https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification">https://www.samling.com/sarawak-itp-certification</a>.</p> <p>The FPMU had established monitoring procedures to assess the effectiveness of the measures in the management of the HCV areas. Monitoring records for HCV 1.4 Critical temporal use – fauna feeding at Coupe 4B (bats feeding area) dated 24/03/2022 were available.</p> <p>The results and findings of the HCV monitoring activities would be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the forest plantation management plan FPMP Mid-term review.</p>	<p>The FPMU had established a list of relevant stakeholders consulted regarding the HCVA report. However, the following was not included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kuala Baram FPMU has established a List of Stakeholders for HCV consultation. However, researchers/experts from universities were not listed.</li> <li>2. The FPMU has yet to consult with relevant stakeholders on the findings of High Conservation Value (HCV) as listed below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Forest Department Sarawak Miri</li> <li>b. Sarawak Forestry Corporation Regional office Miri</li> <li>c. WWF Sarawak</li> <li>d. Researcher/universities</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Hence Minor NCR LYD03/2022 against Indicator 9.2.1 has been raised as:</b></p>
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Map of Kuala Baram FPMU



## Experiences and Qualifications of Audit Team Members

Audit Team	Role/Area of MC&I Requirement	Qualifications and Experience
Mohd Razman Salim	Assessment Team Leader / 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, Negeri Sembilan with Negeri Sembilan Forestry Department, universities (local &amp; 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&amp;I (Natural Forest)] &amp; [MC&amp;I (Plantations)], MYNI of RSPO P&amp;C and other management systems on ISO 9001, 14001 and OHSA 18001</p> <p>Training / Research Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditor Training Course on Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&amp;I (Natural Forest)] &amp; [MC&amp;I (Plantations)] organized by MTCC, 1-4 December 2013.</li> <li>• EMS 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 18-22 March 2013.</li> <li>• OHSAS 18001: 2007 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 11-15 March 2013.</li> <li>• QMS 9001: 2008 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 4-8 March 2013.</li> <li>• Auditor Training Course on MC&amp;I Sustainable Forest Management organized by MTCC, 18 August 2020.</li> </ul>
Khairul Najwan Ahmad Jahari	Auditor/ Forester	<p>Academic Qualification: B.Sc. of Forestry (Forest Management), Universiti Putra Malaysia.</p> <p>Work Experience: Appointed as contract Research Officer in the Natural Forest Division, Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM), since 2001. Currently as Senior Lead Auditor at the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Section (FAF), SIRIM QAS International, since 2009. Involved in conducting and lead audit on Forest Management Certification FMC - MC&amp;I SFM, MYNI of RSPO P&amp;C, MSPO, MyTLAS, STLVS and management system on ISO 9001, 14001 and OHSA 1800</p>

		<p>Training / Research Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditor Training Course on Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&amp;I (2002)] organized by MTCC, 30 March - 2 April 2009.</li> <li>• EMS 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 2-6 March 2009.</li> <li>• OHSAS 18001: 2007 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 23-27 Feb 2009.</li> <li>• QMS 9001: 2008 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 16 – 21 Feb 2009.</li> <li>• Auditor Training Course on MC&amp;I Sustainable Forest Management organized by MTCC, 18 August 2020.</li> </ul>
Puteri Arlydia Abdul	Auditor/ Forester	<p>Academic Qualification:</p> <p>B.Sc of Forestry (Forest Production), University Putra Malaysia.</p> <p>Work Experience:</p> <p>1 year with Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia (JPSM) 2007-2008, 3 years with Forest Plantation Development Sdn Bhd (Wholly owned by MTIB) 2008 – 2011, 1 year with Transparency International Malaysia 2011-2012, 3 years with Intertek Certification International Sdn Bhd 2012-2015 and with Sirim QAS International from 2015 onwards. Her working experience cover forest elements among others, Geographic Information System, Remote Sensing, Forest Governance Integrity and Local Communities programs and auditing in ISO 9001 (Quality), ISO 14001 (Environment), PEFC Chain of Custody and PEFC MC&amp;I (both Natural and Plantation Forest).</p> <p>Training / Research Areas:</p> <p>Was attending and pass in the following training programmes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Auditor Training Course on MC&amp;I Sustainable Forest Management (MC&amp;I SFM) organized by MTCC, 18 August 2020</li> <li>2. ISO 9001: 2008 Lead Auditor Course dated 19-23/03/2012</li> <li>3. MC&amp;I (Natural and Plantation) Lead Auditor Course 9-10/07/2015</li> <li>4. Training on ISO 9001:2015 (final version) dated 21/09/2015</li> <li>5. ISO 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course dated 18-22/05/2015</li> <li>6. Aspect and Impact Mitigation and Environmental Laws dated 27/05/2016</li> <li>7. Schedule Waste Handling dated 1/06/2016</li> <li>8. ISO 14001:2015 dated 18/09/2017</li> <li>9. PEFC CoC by MTCC dated 6 &amp; 14/12/2017</li> </ol>
Azrul Ikhsan Mohamed	Trainee Auditor	<p>Academic Qualification:</p> <p>Bachelor of Science (Plant Resource Science and Management), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.</p> <p>Work Experience:</p> <p>Five years of Experience in the field of Forestry, 2 Years of Forest Plantation as Assistant Plantation Manager in Forestry Assets Sdn Bhd in the year from 2015 to 2017, and 4 Years in Natural Forest as Forest Manager in Reliwood Sdn Bhd in the year 2018 – 2021. Main responsibility is assisting and manage in the administrative work, forest development, and forest operations based on the MC&amp;I SFM standard. Work closely with relevant stakeholders on the development of the forest such as Enrichment planting, HCV</p>

		<p>collaboration, Improvement of the Reduced impact logging, and developing procedures.</p> <p>Training / Research Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditor Training Course on Forest Management Certification Under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) – (13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021)</li> <li>• SIRIM Lead Auditor Course Integrated Management Systems (IMS) ISO 9001, ISO 14001 &amp; ISO 45001 (LIMS02) – (25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021)</li> </ul>
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## Stage 2 Audit Plan

DAY	TIME	PROGRAM		
<b>Travel Day</b>  <b>18 April 2022</b>  <b>Monday</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Auditors travelling from KLIA to Miri (<b>MH2594: 14:20 - 16:40</b>)</li> <li>Overnight at Pullman Hotel</li> </ul>		
<b>Audit Day 1</b>  <b>19 April 2022</b>  <b>Tuesday</b>	8.00 am – 9.00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening Meeting with representatives of FPMU</li> <li>Briefing session by Forest Manager of the FPMU</li> <li>Q&amp;A Session</li> <li>Follow up on issues of concern from Stage 1</li> <li>Check on complaints, stakeholder comments and follow-up actions (if any)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Communities</li> <li>Government agencies</li> <li>NGOs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Evaluate on internal audit and management review</li> <li>Documentation and records review</li> </ul>		
		Razman	Najwan & Azrul	Puteri Arlydia
	9.00 am – 5.00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principle 1 – Compliance with Laws and</li> <li>Principle 6 – Environmental Impact</li> <li>Principle 7 – Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principle 4 – Community Relations and Worker's Right</li> <li>Principle 5 – Benefits from the forest</li> <li>Principle 8 – Monitoring and Assessment</li> <li>Principle 9 – Maintenance of High Conservation Value (HCV)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principle 2 – Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities</li> <li>Principle 3 – Indigenous Peoples' Right</li> <li>Principle 4 – Community Relations and Worker's Right</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of Day 1 Findings by Audit Team Leader</li> <li>Overnight at Pullman Hotel</li> </ul>		
<b>Audit Day 2</b>  <b>20 April 2022</b>  <b>Wednesday</b>	8.00 am – 5.00 pm	Razman	Najwan & Azrul	Puteri Arlydia
		Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspection of harvesting area</li> <li>Inspection of replanting</li> <li>Silviculture treatment (circle weeding, slashing, spraying, etc.)</li> <li>Research plot (R&amp;D)</li> <li>PSP plot</li> </ul>	Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspection of FPMU license boundary – Woodman Oil Palm Estate</li> <li>Riparian buffer (RBZ)</li> <li>Inspection of PSP plots</li> <li>Wildlife monitoring / HCV area</li> <li>Inspection of</li> </ul>	Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local community</li> </ul> <u>Adjacent FPMU</u> Rh. Asam  Rh. Asam Paya Hulu  Rh. Asam Paya Hilir

			staff quarters • Check on nursery, workshop, genset room, SW store, skid tank, etc.	Rh. Nanang (abandoned)  Rh. Sg. Kejaman Lasah (land claim at Coupes 6B, 7B & 8B)
		• Review of Day 2 Findings by Audit Team Leader • Overnight at Pullman Hotel		
<b>Audit Day 3</b>  <b>21 April 2022</b>  <b>Thursday</b>	8.00 am – 1.00 pm	<b>Razman</b> • Documentation and records review • Preparation of audit report and finding	<b>Najwan &amp; Azrul</b> • Consultation with contractors and workers - Worker Committee Representative	<b>Puteri Arlydia</b> • Documentation and records review • Preparation of audit report and finding
	2.00 – 5.00 pm	• Briefing to representatives of FPMU on the findings of audit • Closing Meeting and presentation of findings of audit and discussion on follow-up activities  • Overnight at Pullman Hotel		
<b>Travel Day</b>  <b>22 April 2022</b>  <b>Friday</b>		• All Auditors travelling from Miri to KLIA. <b>Miri – Kuching (MH2805: 08:55 - 10:00)</b> <b>Kuching – KLIA (MH2529: 10:45 - 12:35)</b>		

## Details on NCRs Raised During this Stage 2 Audit and Corrective Actions Taken

Indicator	Detail Non-conformances	Corrective Action Taken	Verification by Assessor
<b>Indicator 4.4.1</b>  <b>Major</b>  <b>NCR: LYD02/2022</b>	<p><b>Requirement:</b> Indicator 4.4.1 Forest managers shall evaluate, through consultations, social impact of forest operations directly affecting communities, and the people and groups directly affected by the forest operations shall have access to information on the results of the social impact evaluations.</p> <p><b>Finding:</b> The local community directly affected by the forest operations has yet to have access to information on the results of the social impact evaluations.</p> <p><b>Objective evidence:</b> Briefing on the "MTCS awareness (MC&amp;I Principles), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) &amp; High Conservation Value (HCV) findings" was not conducted to 2 villages - Rh. Budin Kg. Asam Paya Hilir and Rh. Nawah (Rh. Nawang).</p>	<p><b>Result of investigation and determination of root cause:</b> <b>Result of investigation:</b> The Objective Evidence is correct.</p> <p><b>Determination of root cause:</b> Villagers of Rh. Nawah (Rh. Nawang) and Rh. Budin (Kg. Asam Paya Hilir) have yet to agree on suitable dates. The road from Kuala Baram to these kampongs through the Oil Palm estates on the true right bank of the Btg Baram is in a bad state of repair and is difficult for them to use during the wetter season.</p> <p><b>Correction and corrective action plan including completion date:</b> <b>Corrective action plan:</b> To conduct the "MTCS awareness (MC&amp;I Principles), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and High Conservation Value (HCV) findings" for the two remaining villages.</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> Before the end of May 2022</p>	<p>The corrective action plan was received by email on 6 May 2022 which has been accepted by the audit team leader on 19 May 2022. The last evidences of corrective action taken for Major NCRs were received on 19 May 2022 has been accepted and closed on 31 May 2022 respectively.</p> <p>Stakeholder consultation report titled 'MTCS Awareness (MC&amp;I Principles), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and High Conservation Value (HCV) findings briefing with the local community of Kuala Baram Reforestation Project (LPF0004)' dated 15 May 2022 at Rh. Budin Ak Sandai (Kg. Asam Paya Hilir) and Rh. Nawah Ak Lopeng (Rh. Nawang) was verified.</p> <p>The slide presentations presented to Kg. Asam Paya Hilir (Rh. Budin) and Rh. Nawah were verified titled:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Pengenalan Kepada Prinsip-prinsip di dalam Kriteria dan petunjuk Malaysia untuk Pengurusan Hutan Mampan (MC&amp;I SFM 1/2020)</i></li> <li>2. Social Impact Assessment conducted by UPM, 2020</li> <li>3. <i>Sesi Perkongsian High Conservation Value (HCV)</i></li> </ol>

Indicator	Detail Non-conformances	Corrective Action Taken	Verification by Assessor
			<p>Verified attendance list and photos titled 'MTCS Awareness and SIA result presentation' dated 15 May 2022 for Rh. Budin Ak Sandai (Kg. Asam Paya Hilir) and Rh. Nawah Ak Lopeng (Rh. Nawang).</p> <p><b>Status: Closed</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.3</b></p> <p><b>Minor</b></p> <p><b>NCR: LYD 01/2022</b></p>	<p><b>Requirement:</b> Indicator 3.1.3 Availability and use of appropriate mechanisms to resolve any conflicts and grievances between parties involved.</p> <p><b>Finding:</b> The mplementation of mechanisms to resolve any conflicts and grievances between parties involved was not conducted according to FPMU's procedures.</p> <p><b>Objective evidence:</b> Implementation of mechanisms to resolve any conflicts and grievances between parties involved between Rh. George (Kg Sungai Kejaman) and Kuala Baram FPMU were not conducted according to SFM/PR 01 Procedures on Land Claim Rev 0 dated 15/03/2017 &amp; FMC/PRO-0002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution Rev 1 eff date 12/01/2022.</p> <p>The legal status of land (cross-check with maps from L&amp;S and / or RD for Communal Forest– Kejaman) and document proof of ownership as per respective procedure were not found in the file.</p>	<p><b>Result of investigation and determination of root cause:</b></p> <p><b>Result of investigation:</b> To the best of our knowledge, and as advised by FDS, the legal status of the land is currently forest reserve (see FMP Map 5.2 - Land Status) and there is thus no proof of ownership by individuals or communities.</p> <p><b>Determination of root cause:</b> A land claim has been made Kpg Kejaman over a part of the forest reserve and this is being handled by the appropriate authorities. Samling is not privy to all the details relating to this claim as it is a matter for the authorities but it is said that a perimeter survey would be undertaken by L&amp;S. Presumably the area will then be excised from the forest reserve with a notification published in the gazette that documents the excision.</p> <p><b>Correction and corrective action plan including completion date:</b></p> <p><b>Corrective action plan:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To await the outcome of the authorities' actions and then proceed accordingly</li> <li>2. Request a copy of the gazette notification for the Communal Forest from FDS</li> <li>3.To confirm the land status and file all the</li> </ol>	<p>The corrective action plan was received by email on 6 May 2022 and was accepted by the audit team leader on 19 May 2022.</p> <p><b>Status: Implementation of the corrective action plan will be verified during the next audit.</b></p>

		documents that related to any negotiation with Kampung Sg. Kejaman.  <b>Completion:</b> before the first SA.	
<b>Indicator 7.1.1</b>  <b>Minor</b>  <b>NCR: MRS 01/ 2022</b>	<p><b>Requirement: Indicator 7.1.1</b> - Availability and implementation of forest management plan including consideration of risks and opportunities concerning compliance with the requirements of the standard.</p> <p><b>Finding:</b> Latest identification of longhouses located inside and outside of the MTCS area from the Social Impact Assessment is yet to be updated in the Forest Plantation Management Plan.</p> <p><b>Objective evidence:</b> The Forest Plantation Management Plan (1 February 2020 – 31 January 2030) has mentioned longhouses (Rh. Imbi &amp; Rh. Asi) that are located inside and outside of the MTCS area. However, the latest identification of longhouses from the Social Impact Assessment (dated 29 December 2020) is yet to be updated in the Forest Plantation Management Plan. The identified longhouses as per SIA as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rh. Asam (inside Coupe 04B certified)</li> <li>Rh. Budin Kg. Asam Paya Hilir (adjacent to Coupe 04B certified)</li> <li>Rh. Frederick Belaja Kg. Asam Paya Hulu (adjacent to Coupe 05B certified)</li> <li>Rh. Nawah currently Rh. Nawang (adjacent to Coupe 06B certified)</li> <li>Rh. George Kg Sungai Kejaman (inside Coupe 08B non-certified area)</li> <li>Rh. Ngelingkong Sg Teraja (inside Coupe 10B non-certified)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Result of investigation and determination of root cause:</b> <b>Result of investigation and root cause:</b> Information used in the FPMP was using the outdated longhouses record.</p> <p><b>Correction and corrective action plan including completion date:</b> <b>Corrective action plan:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Tuai Rumahs</i> will be visited to clarify something of the history of previous names and locations of the stated longhouses.</li> <li>The information from Item 1 above that is relevant to the MTCS area will be updated in the Forest Plantation Management Plan.</li> </ol> <p><b>Completion:</b> before the first SA.</p>	<p>The corrective action plan was received by email on 6 May 2022 and was accepted by the audit team leader on 19 May 2022.</p> <p><b>Status: Implementation of the corrective action plan will be verified during the next audit.</b></p>

<p><b>Indicator 9.2.1</b></p> <p><b>Minor</b></p> <p><b>NCR: LYD 03/ 2022</b></p>	<p><b>Requirement: Indicator 9.2.1</b> – Forest managers shall consult with relevant stakeholders on the options to maintain or enhance the identified HCV areas.</p> <p><b>Finding:</b> Relevant stakeholders on the options to maintain or enhance the identified HCV areas were not consulted.</p> <p><b>Objective evidence:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kuala Baram FPMU has established a List of Stakeholders for HCV consultation. Hence, researchers/experts from universities were not listed.</li> <li>2. The FPMU has yet to consult with relevant stakeholders on the findings of High Conservation Value (HCV) as listed below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Forest Department Miri</li> <li>b. Sarawak Forestry Corporation Regional office Miri</li> <li>c. WWF Sarawak office</li> <li>d. Researcher/universities</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Result of investigation and determination of root cause:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Management is not aware on any “established List of Stakeholders for HCV consultation”.</li> <li>2. Management was not aware that stakeholder consultation regarding the HCV 1.4 [bat feeding site] was required.</li> <li>3. There was no feedback from SFC Kuching after the pictures of trees suspected as being used by the large flying fox for feeding were sent there for identification.</li> </ol> <p><b>Correction and corrective action plan including completion date:</b></p> <p><b>Corrective action plan:</b> Advice will be sought from the stakeholders regarding the likelihood that this is a feeding site of the large flying fox.</p> <p><b>Completion:</b> before the first SA.</p>	<p>The corrective action plan was received by email on 6 May 2022 and was accepted by the audit team leader on 19 May 2022.</p> <p><b>Status: Implementation of the corrective action plan will be verified during the next audit.</b></p>
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