



**PUBLIC SUMMARY  
RECERTIFICATION AUDIT (1<sup>st</sup> CYCLE) ON  
ULU TRUSAN FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT  
FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION**

**Certificate Number: FMC-NF 00120  
Date of First Certification: 19 December 2018  
Audit Date: 7 – 11 August 2023  
Date of Public Summary: 12 January 2024**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Recertification audit on the Ulu Trusan Forest Management Unit (hereafter referred as the Ulu Trusan FMU) was conducted on 7 to 11 August 2023 to assess the compliance of the overall forest management system of FMU against the requirements MTCS ST 1002:2021 Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (MC&I SFM) using the verifiers stipulated for Sarawak. The scope of this Recertification audit was limited to the forest management system and practices within the Ulu Trusan FMU.

This Ulu Trusan audit was conducted by a 3-member team comprising Mohd Razman bin Salim (Lead Auditor), Dr. Mohd Nazre Saleh (Auditor) and Puteri Arlydia by Abdul (Auditor).

Based on the findings of this Recertification audit, it was found that Ulu Trusan FMU had complied with the requirements of the MC&I SFM. This Recertification audit had resulted in the issuance of three (3) Major and seven (7) Minor Non-Conformance Report (NCRs) against the requirements of the MC&I SFM.

This public summary contains the general information on the Ulu Trusan FMU, the findings of the Recertification audit, NCRs raised as well as the decision on the certification of the FMU.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Name of FMU**

Ulu Trusan Forest Management Unit

### **1.2 Contact Person and Address**

Ling Kiang Cheng  
FMC Manager  
Wisma Samling, Lot 296,  
Jalan Temenggong Datuk Oyong Lawai Jau,  
98000 Miri, Sarawak

### **1.3 General Background on the Ulu Trusan FMU**

The Ulu Trusan Forest Management Unit (FMU) is the combination of Forest Timber Licence (FTL) No. T/9115 (Majulaba Sdn. Bhd.) and Forest Timber Licence (FTL) No. T/0280 (KTN Timor Sdn. Bhd.) and was issued to Syarikat Samling Sdn. Bhd. by the Sarawak Forestry Department to manage a total 92,279 ha of the forest, which is located within the Lawas District of Limbang Division, Sarawak.

The Ulu Trusan FMU initially covers an area of 92,751 ha. Forest Timber License of the Ulu Trusan was reduced 472 ha by the Forest Department Sarawak as verified a letter title "Revised Locality Map Type A and Forest Map Type B for Forest Timber Licence No. T/0280 and T/9115 Merged Under Ulu Trusan FMU" Ref. No. WPO.628.64 (VIII)-28 dated 18 September 2019 during the Surveillance 3 audit in year 2022. The new hectarage of Ulu Trusan FMU is 92,279 ha. The revised hectarage of Ulu Trusan FMU covers a proposed Ulu Trusan Protected Forest (62,294 ha), Limbang PF (15,118 ha), proposed Trusan-Kelalan Protected Forest (4,671 ha), and 666 ha of stateland forest. The remaining area of the FMU is occupied by the respective local communities (9,530 ha).

The forest types in the FMU are Hill Mixed Dipterocarp Forest (MDF) (63%), Mixed Dipterocarp Forest (4%), Sub-Montane Forest (4.4%), Kerangas Forest scattered on sandy terraces (4.4%), and Secondary/Degraded Forest (10.1%). The rest of the forest is within the Ulu Sebuang Nature Reserve, Paya Maga Conservation Area, and border zone (14.2%). The general landform of the FMU ranges from hilly to mountainous terrain with elevation between 300m to 1600m a.s.l. The FMU also within the Heart of Borneo Corridor (HoB).

The forest area is situated approximately between Latitudes 40 35' 41" N to 40 11' 8" N and Longitudes 1150 29' 2" E to 1150 40' 7" E in the Lawas District of Limbang Division, Sarawak, about 70 km South from Lawas town and accessible by the logging roads constructed by the Samling Group.

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

### **1.4 Date First Certified**

19 December 2018

### **1.5 Location of the FMU**

The FMU is located between Latitudes 40 35' 41" N to 40 11' 8" N and Longitudes 1150 29' 2" E to 1150 40' 7" E.

### **1.6 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 Forest Management Plan (FMP) (2017) to (2026) was presented during this audit.

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

AAC is calculated on average 2,003 ha/year or 50,395 m<sup>3</sup> per year for 25 years within 25 coupes. As the

size of the coupe varies, the AAC is restricted to 25.16 m<sup>3</sup>/ha with the mean annual operable area (annual coupe) for harvesting being 2,003 ha.

## 1.8 Environmental and Socioeconomic Context

The forest types in Ulu Trusan FMU are Hill Mixed Dipterocarp Forest (MDF) (63%), Low density Mixed Dipterocarp Forest (4%), Sub-Montane Forest (4.4%), Kerangas Forest scattered on sandy terraces (4.4%), and Secondary/Degraded Forest (10%). The rest of the forest is within the Ulu Sebuang Nature Reserve, Paya Maga Conservation Area and border zone (14.2%). The general landform of the FMU ranges from hilly to mountainous terrain with elevation between 300m to 1,600m a.s.l. Part of the FMU also within the Heart of Borneo (HoB) Corridor.

A total of 11 villages located within the FMU and another 12 villages are adjacent to the FMU. These communities belong to the Lun Bawang ethnic group, one of the indigenous ethnic groups in Sarawak. The household size varies from 1 to 85 households. These communities also used the FMU area as access road, water catchment areas, memorial ground, burial ground, and historical-cultural sites.

## 2 AUDIT PROCESS

### 2.1 Audit Dates

7 – 11 August 2023 (15 man-days)

### 2.2 Audit Team

Mohd Razman Salim	(Lead Auditor)
Dr Mohd Nazre Saleh	(Auditor)
Puteri Arlydia Abdul	(Auditor)

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

### 2.3 Standard Used

MTCS ST 1002:2021 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 in July 2023 to solicit feedback from stakeholders on the compliance of the Ulu Trusan FMU against the requirements of the MTCS ST 1002:2021 Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (MC&I SFM). The comments by the stakeholders and responses by the audit team are shown in **Attachment 3**.

### 2.5 Audit Process

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

For each indicator, the auditors conducted either a documentation review, consultation with the relevant personnel of the FMU, local community, or stakeholders, or a field audit or a combination of these methods. Depending on the compliance with the verifiers for a particular indicator, the auditors then decided on the degree of the FMU's overall compliance with the indicator and decided whether to issue a major or minor NCR or an OFI, which is defined as follows:

- (i) a major NCR is 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.

The audit involved verification of documentation and field visits and inspections. There were also consultations being held with the Forest Department Sarawak, and relevant indigenous settlements within FMU.

The coverage of this Recertification audit is shown in the Recertification Audit Plan in **Attachment 4**.

### 3 SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS

A total of three (3) Major and seven (7) Minor Non-Conformance Reports (NCRs) were raised on Ulu Trusan FMU against the requirements of the MC&I SFM. The audit team had examined all the proposed corrective action plans to address the NCRs raised during the recertification audit by email on 12 October 2023 which has been accepted by the audit team leader. The last evidence of corrective action taken for Major NCR was received on 31 October 2023 and has been accepted and closed on 4 November 2023 respectively.

The effectiveness of the corrective actions taken by the FMU to address the Minor NCRs shall be verified by the audit team during the next surveillance audit.

On indigenous peoples' rights, there were mechanisms in place to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights through establishment of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), as well through the formation of Forest Management Community Liaison Committee (FMCLC) and Committee Relation Committee (CRC). It was observed that there was no recorded civil court case pertaining to legal or customary tenure or use rights filed against the FMU.

Regarding Criterion 6.10, the audit team has found two forest conversion activities namely, Sabah-Sarawak Link Road (SSLR) (approx. 8.4 KM) and a quarry (50 ha). A Major NCR was raised on Indicator 6.10.3 relating to these findings. The evidence for the corrective action was received on 31 October 2023 and has been verified and accepted and lastly closed on 4 November 2023.

On Criterion 6.11 and 6.12, there was no conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations or afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems in the FMU.

As the major NCR raised during this Recertification audit had been closed out, the audit team had therefore, recommended that the Certificate for Forest Management be continued for Ulu Trusan FMU for 5 years from 19 December 2023 to 18 December 2028.

The summary on the findings of the Recertification audit on Ulu Trusan FMU against the requirements of the MC&I SFM are as follows:

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
<p><b>Principle 1 Compliance with Laws and Principles</b></p>	<p>All relevant federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies regarding forest management have been confirmed as available and meticulously organised at the Merarap Base Camp office, as evidenced by the "Legality Register of Ulu Trusan FMU". During interviews, FMU executives demonstrated sufficient knowledge of these legal frameworks, affirming their capability to oversee sustainable forest management. Record verification, along with interviews and feedback received during stakeholder consultations, confirmed the absence of any forest violations caused by the FMU.</p> <p>The latest list of all relevant legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes, and charges has been confirmed as available, with records of all payments meticulously</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>kept and maintained at the Merarap Base Camp Office.</p> <p>All binding international agreements relevant to forest management have been confirmed as available at the Merarap Base Camp office. Interviews with forest managers and officers confirmed their awareness of these agreements.</p> <p>Records of evaluations regarding conflicts between laws, regulations, and Principles and Criteria have been confirmed to be adequately maintained, with no conflicts reported since the last audit. Forest managers expressed willingness to engage in conflict resolution processes if necessary when interviewed.</p> <p>The legal framework for the establishment and protection of the Ulu Trusan Forest Management Unit (FMU) has been confirmed as available and valid until 19 March 2053. Illegal harvesting, settlement, and other unauthorised activities are being adequately controlled through regular boundary and licence patrolling. Site visits confirmed that the licence boundaries are adequately demarcated, and stakeholder consultations confirmed that local communities are aware of the boundaries.</p> <p>The Ulu Trusan FMU has adopted two main policies, PL09 - Policy on Forest Management Certification in Sarawak and PL10 – Sarawak Forest Policy 2019, which have been confirmed to be aligned with a long-term commitment to compliance with certification system requirements and standards. Copies of these policies have been adequately displayed at the Merarap Base Camp office. These policies have also been effectively communicated across the organization and to contractors, as verified through interviews with employees and training records.</p>	
<p><b>Principle 2 Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities</b></p>	<p>The Ulu Trusan FMU spans a total of 92,279 hectares, encompassing proposed Ulu Trusan Protected Forest (62,294 ha), Limbang PF (15,118 ha), proposed Trusan-Kelalan PF (4,671 ha), and 666 ha of state land, with the remaining 9,530 ha occupied by local communities as shifting agriculture (SA) areas. Legal documentation and forest use rights within federal, state, and local laws are confirmed to be available and meticulously maintained at the Merarap Base Camp office, including forest timber</p>	<p>Documentation review indicates that the licence renewal for FTL T/0280 in Ulu Trusan FMU is still in progress. Additionally, Ulu Trusan FMU has not been included in the Forest Management Certification Steering Committee (FMCSC), which discusses matters related to tenureship and rights of the FMU at the ministry level. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 2.1.1 was issued.</b></p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>license renewals for FTL No. T/9115 and pending renewal for FTL No. T/0280. Procedures for conflict resolution and land claims have been adequately established. Documentation review and stakeholder consultation with the local communities confirm the absence of a legal land claim identified against the FMU for year 2021/2022.</p> <p>Legal and customary tenure documents concerning local communities' rights within the relevant federal and state legal frameworks and customary laws for Ulu Trusan FMU are confirmed to be available and adequately recorded at the Merarap Camp office. While the Lun Bawang communities lack legal ownership rights over the land, those within the Limbang Protected Forest have traditional rights to access and utilize resources in the FMU for personal use. This is confirmed by the "Sarawak Government Gazette dated 18 July 2002 on Limbang Protected Forest (First Schedule)" and through stakeholder consultations with various villages. No forest operations have occurred within the local communities' areas since Ulu Trusan FMU first certified. The FMU acknowledges and collaborates with holders of recognized tenure or use rights, respecting their rights to access resources and cultural sites. Stakeholder consultations and social impact monitoring visits confirm community awareness of FMU activities, with records indicating free access for subsistence, social, cultural, and religious needs.</p> <p>Several dispute mechanisms are employed by Ulu Trusan to resolve disputes relating to land claims. These mechanisms include the use of complaint forms, formation of Community Relation Committee (CRC), and the formation of the Forest Management Certification Liaison Committee (FMCLC). Document verification and stakeholder consultations confirm that no new disputes have been raised. Concerns about CRC functionality have been adequately addressed through revised CRC setups tailored to the local socio-geographic dynamics, leading to the satisfactory closure of a Minor NCR raised on Indicator 2.3.1 during the previous audit.</p>	
<p><b>Principle 3 Indigenous People's Rights</b></p>	<p>Documentation of customary rights of indigenous peoples' lands in Ulu Trusan FMU has been confirmed available at the</p>	<p>Consultation with some local communities has revealed that several complaints were not</p>



Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>Merarap Base Camp office. The areas belonging to the Indigenous people have been confirmed not used by the FMU. The Corrective Action Plan for the raised Major NCR on Indicator 3.1.3 was received on 12 October 2023. The evidence submitted shows that complaints from various villages concerning infrastructure and community needs have been adequately responded to by the senior manager, who redirected the requests to appropriate authorities. A Community Awareness Engagement Programme (CAEP) was also conducted, covering topics such as forest management certification and grievance mechanisms, with significant participation from villagers. The attendance lists and photos were verified, showing an increased response compared to the previous year. Additionally, training for the Community Liaison Officer (CLO) and assistants on conflict resolution mechanisms was confirmed as completed. The auditors have verified and accepted all the evidence presented and closed the Major NCR on 4 November 2023.</p> <p>Forest management practices within Ulu Trusan FMU have been confirmed not to threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the indigenous peoples' resources or tenure rights. This was confirmed through verification of the FMP and other documents where the forest management clearly indicated the protection of these areas. Consultations with local communities confirmed the protection of their sites and cultural heritage within shifting agriculture areas.</p> <p>The procedures for identifying and safeguarding sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, or religious importance to indigenous communities have been confirmed available, as evidenced in Chapter 11 of the FMP. Maps detailing the locations of such sites were confirmed, and no issues regarding encroachment of these areas were reported or raised, as evidenced through minutes of the CRC and FMCLC meetings in June 2023. Stakeholder consultation with the local communities further affirmed that Ulu Trusan FMU has not encroached on these sites. Conflict resolution mechanisms for the identification, protection, and access to these sites have been confirmed available and are facilitated under the "FMC/PRO-002 Procedure for Conflict Resolution".</p>	<p>adequately processed, briefings on complaint mechanisms were conducted with relatively few participants, and some local communities were not fully aware of the overall dispute resolution processes. <b>Therefore, the Minor NCR raised on Indicator 3.1.3 was upgraded to a Major NCR.</b></p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>No evidence was found of local communities' traditional forest-related knowledge and practices being utilized in forest operations within the Ulu Trusan FMU, nor was there any record of commercial exploitation of such knowledge by external parties. Records examined and interviews with FMU managers and local communities confirmed the absence of utilization of indigenous traditional forest-related knowledge and practices in current forest operations within the FMU.</p>	
<p><b>Principle 4 Community Relations and Workers' Rights</b></p>	<p>Ulu Trusan FMU has established appropriate training programs, local infrastructure, facilities, and socio-economic initiatives in line with the scale and intensity of forest management operations. An annual training program for staff was implemented in 2023, covering various topics such as timber certification, community liaison, occupational safety, health, climate change, forest management certification, wildlife regulations, and policies. Additionally, the FMU provides housing, medical benefits, and family day events for employees, while logging contractors offer similar benefits to their workers. Samling Policy No. 11 on Human Rights and Ethics, addressing employee rights, is upheld and displayed at the Merarap Base Camp office, with workers confirming their awareness of its provisions. Employment and contract opportunities prioritise local communities, with no instances of illegal migrant workers, child labour, or forced labour reported within the FMU, as affirmed by both staff records and during community interviews.</p> <p>Ulu Trusan FMU has ensured that forest workers are well-informed and equipped to maintain occupational safety and health standards. Current laws and regulations pertaining to safety have been disseminated in both Bahasa Malaysia and English to the FMU's employees. The Health, Safety, and Environment Policy from 1 April 2016, is prominently displayed, with staff demonstrating awareness of work-related risks. A Safety and Health Committee, chaired by the Forest Manager, oversees safety matters, with all relevant records meticulously maintained and submitted to the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH). Workers are provided with proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and trained on its use, as evidenced by records of PPE replacement and interviews</p>	<p>Verification of the social impact evaluations revealed inadequate conduct, with a relatively small number of respondents, and the results were not consulted back to the affected communities. <b>Therefore, the previous Minor NCR raised on Indicator 4.4.1 in the last audit was upgraded to a Major NCR.</b></p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>with workers. Equipment and vehicle maintenance records are diligently kept, ensuring operational safety, and emergency response procedures are clearly outlined and accessible in case of unforeseen events, with hazardous materials appropriately stored and labelled.</p> <p>Workers' rights are being upheld in accordance with relevant international conventions and national laws. The ILO conventions on freedom of association and collective bargaining are prominently displayed at the Merarap Base Camp office, with workers interviewed confirming they are not restricted from joining any union. Additionally, a memo on trade unions within the Samling Group ensures workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively. Employment benefits and social protection laws, including those covering housing, medical benefits, and retirement contributions, are diligently followed, with employees protected by laws such as the Employment Act, EPF Act, and Trade Unions Act. Grievance procedures are also in place, as evidenced by the Procedure for Employees' Grievances, ensuring workers' concerns are addressed and resolved through dialogue with management.</p> <p>Results from the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) conducted on affected communities have been incorporated into Chapter 2, 7, 11, and 12 of the FMP. The corrective action plan to address the raised Major NCR on Indicator 4.4.1 was received on 12 October 2023. The evidence shows that the FMU has conducted Community Awareness Engagement Programme (CAEP) sessions which cover various topics including Social Impact Assessment Monitoring (SIAM), local laws, conflict resolution, and conservation measures, with significant participation from villagers. Attendance lists and photos were verified, showing increased engagement compared to the previous year. The results of social impact monitoring from SIAM 2023 were incorporated into the latest revision of the FMP. The auditors have verified and accepted all the evidence presented and closed the Major NCR on 4 November 2023.</p> <p>Provisions and measures within relevant laws, including the Federal Constitution of Malaysia and the Aboriginal Peoples Act, to prevent loss or damage to the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local communities were</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>confirmed to be available. Mechanisms such as the Procedure for Conflict Resolution and the Samling Grievances Process Flow Chart are employed to swiftly address grievances and provide fair compensation. Stakeholder consultations held with the local communities affirmed the effectiveness of these mechanisms, as evidenced by successful resolution of grievances regarding issues like sedimentation and road maintenance. There have been no Civil Courts cases related to such losses or damages since the last audit, as confirmed in meeting minutes and consultations with local communities.</p>	
<p><b>Principle 5 Benefits From the Forest</b></p>	<p>Investments and budget allocations outlined in the FMP for Ulu Trusan FMU have been confirmed to be aligned with its tenure and operational needs, as evidenced by consistent adherence to budgetary allocations for various aspects such as forest administration, protection, research, and community activities. The actual expenditure for sustainable forest management has remained within the allocated budget, with funds utilised for operating expenses, infrastructure, community activities, and environmental conservation programmes. The FMU's management prescriptions, detailed in the FMP, emphasise sustainable forest management practices such as the Selective Management System and reduced impact logging methods. Despite the cessation of logging activities since 2019, measures such as forest landscape restoration and enrichment planting have been undertaken to maintain ecological integrity, albeit on a limited scale, as evidenced through site verification in Coupe 02A.</p> <p>Optimal utilisation of forest resources, as outlined in the FMP, has been confirmed utilising data from Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) and Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs) to monitor and control resource use. However, logging operations have been halted since 2019 to allow optimal natural recovery and growth of the forest in the FMU.</p> <p>Commitment to minimise waste and environmental damage in harvesting and processing operations by adhering to guidelines for reduced/low impact logging (RIL) has been confirmed as available and established. These guidelines, such as the</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>'Guideline for RIL Systems in Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) Area' and 'RIL Guidelines for Ground-Based Harvesting System,' outline detailed procedures from pre-felling inventory to post-harvesting rehabilitation. Although no logging has occurred since 2019, the FMU continues to uphold RIL principles as part of its FMP, integrating them to protect and demarcate critical forest zones such as Kerangas forest, terrain Class IV, water catchment areas, and river buffer zones. Refresher training on RIL principles has been incorporated into other relevant training sessions conducted by the FMU in 2023, ensuring readiness for future operations.</p> <p>There are no documented records regarding the production or utilisation of non-timber forest products (NTFP) within the Ulu Trusan FMU, particularly concerning local community enterprises. While local communities may gather NTFPs for personal use and subsistence, they do not maintain records of the quantity or types of NTFPs collected. Consultations with various local communities confirmed the utilisation of NTFPs such as medicinal herbs, as observed during the audit. However, the predominant NTFP service utilised by local communities is access to water from underground and water catchment areas, primarily situated in villages and agricultural areas.</p> <p>Recognition, maintenance, and enhancement of forest services and resources, including climate regulation and carbon sequestration, have been outlined in Chapter 8, 9, and 13 of the FMP. The implementation of management guidelines to identify and demarcate sensitive areas was confirmed through site inspection in Coupe 3A and 7A, where the riparian buffer zone was adequately marked and demarcated. Management guidelines to maintain and/or enhance the value of forest services include practising RIL techniques and restoring degraded forest through enrichment planting.</p> <p>The annual allowable cut (AAC) for Ulu Trusan is calculated using FORMIND growth simulations utilising available FRA data in the FMU. The rate of harvest is calculated at 50,395m<sup>3</sup> per year within a 25-year cycle. However, no logging was carried out in the FMU since 2019 to promote the natural regrowth of the trees.</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
<p><b>Principle 6 Environmental Impact</b></p>	<p>Environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been prepared by Ulu Trusan FMU, as evidenced through the EIA Report approved by the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) on 26 May 2010. The EIA report has appropriately assessed potential environmental impacts in the FMU, which are included and mentioned in Chapter 7, 9, and 13 of the FMP. Mitigation strategies focusing on reducing GHG emissions and enhancing carbon sinks through forest conservation, sustainable management, and restoration efforts, as well as participation in REDD+ initiatives, are explained in Chapter 13 of the FMP. Additionally, Chapters 10 and 11 address protection measures for endangered species and the establishment of biological corridors.</p> <p>Guidelines to identify and protect endangered, rare, and threatened (ERT) species of flora and fauna have been confirmed and implemented, with a list of the ERT species available in Chapter 10 of the FMP. Guidelines for ecosystem conservation and protection have been implemented, as evidenced in the HCV 1.2 map. Cooperation with conservation organizations and regulatory authorities such as WWF-Malaysia and MNS has facilitated conservation efforts and research projects. Illegal and other inappropriate activities have been prevented and controlled through regular patrolling by the appointed Honorary Wildlife Rangers. Communication, Education and Public Awareness Programmes (CEPA) to increase awareness of ERT species in the FMU have been conducted with the FMU's employees and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Guidelines to access post-harvest natural regeneration have been available and implemented, as evidenced in the management guidelines "Guideline and Procedures for Enrichment Planting" and in the "Enrichment Planting Report", as well as site verification in Coupe 1A. Guidelines for the conservation of genetics, species, and ecosystem diversity and plans for implementation are available in Chapter 11 of the FMP and will be implemented during harvesting operation. Even though no harvesting operation is currently commencing, conservation of biological corridors and buffer zones has been</p>	<p>The number of participants consulted for awareness on Endangered, Rare, and Threatened (ERT) species in the FMU was relatively small compared to the overall population. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 6.2.5 was issued.</b></p> <p>Site inspection at Merarap Camp revealed that several firefighting equipment for fire emergencies, as stated in the forest fire management plan, were not available. Additionally, records of fire prevention and control training for the year 2022/2023 were not available. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 6.5.5 was issued.</b></p> <p>An exotic species was revealed to have been planted for enrichment activities, with no documentation, control, or monitoring plans to avoid adverse ecological impacts. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 6.9.1 was issued.</b></p> <p>Documentation review indicates that the necessary approvals for the conversion of natural forest to forest plantation, totalling 58.4 hectares, were not available. <b>Therefore, a Major NCR on Indicator 6.10.3 was issued.</b></p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>implemented, as evidenced during site inspection in Coupe 3A &amp; 7A.</p> <p>Representative areas of existing forest ecosystems, identified and selected as per Indicator 6.2.2, have been preserved in their natural state and marked on the Locality Map – Forest Type and the Map of HCV. These areas, depicted under various categories including HCV 1.1 for Protected Areas, HCV 1.4 for Critical Temporal Use, HCV 3.0 for Ecosystem, HCV 4.1 for Watershed, HCV 4.2 for Erosion Control, HCV 4.3 for Barrier to Destruction, HCV 5.0 for Basic Needs of the Local Community, and HCV 6.0 for Cultural Identity of Local Communities, have been safeguarded in line with the scale and intensity of forest management operations.</p> <p>Harvesting procedures to protect soil from compaction and erosion, as well as to minimise damage to the environment, have been available and established. Verification of the implementation of these guidelines was not possible due to no harvesting operation in the FMU. Road layout and drainage have been constructed as per the “Guideline for RIL Systems in Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) Area” and “RIL Guidelines for Ground-Based Harvesting System, Part 1 and Part 2”. Site inspection in Sg. Tepalang shows clearly marked buffer zones, following SOP “Procedures for Identifying and Demarcating Sensitive Areas for the Protection of Soil and Water”. A forest prevention and control plan has also been established and implemented. No fertilisers have been utilised by the FMU, as confirmed during site inspection at the nursery, enrichment planting, and rehabilitation planting area.</p> <p>Ulu Trusan FMU's policy statement on pesticide use has emphasised environmentally friendly, non-chemical pest management methods. Guidelines for the storage and handling of hazardous materials in accordance with regulatory standards have also been available. Verification at the nursery and storeroom has confirmed no usage or storage of chemical pesticides for forest operations, with grass cutters used for grass maintenance instead. Therefore, there was no need for specific guidelines, reduction plans, or training on the use of chemical pesticides.</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>Procedures for managing scheduled waste have been available, as evidenced by the documents “Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Waste Management Plan (Scheduled Wastes and Non-Scheduled Wastes)” and “Guidelines on Disposal and Storage of Scheduled Wastes”. These SOPs have covered various aspects such as storage, handling, labelling, spillage, removal, and disposal of scheduled wastes. Liquid and solid non-organic scheduled wastes have been stored adequately, with spillage containment measures confirmed to be in place. The FMU has ensured disposal within specified timeframes and notified the Department of Environment (DOE) of all generated scheduled waste online, as evidenced through records of scheduled waste disposal.</p> <p>There has been no application of biological control agents in the FMU.</p> <p>Approximately, only 92 hectares of FMU land were converted for the Sabah Sarawak Gas Pipeline (SSGP) project before MC&amp;I certification, spanning from 2009 to 2011. This pipeline runs from the Sabah Oil and Gas Terminal to the MLNG Complex in Bintulu, Sarawak. The corrective action plan to address the raised Major NCR on Indicator 6.10.3 was received on 12 October 2023. Verified reports including a Geological Assessment Report and a Pre-Feasibility Study Report for an aggregate quarry at Long Merarap were obtained. Furthermore, the Terms of Reference for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) were verified. A letter from the Forest Department Sarawak confirmed the rejection of an application to establish a quarry site within Ulu Trusan FMU, with the proposed location to be shifted outside the FMU. The auditors have verified and accepted all the evidence presented and closed the Major NCR on 4 November 2023.</p> <p>There has been no conversion of severely degraded natural forest into forest plantation, nor the afforestation of important non-forest ecosystem in the FMU.</p>	
<p><b>Principle 7 Management Plan</b></p>	<p>The Forest Management Plan (FMP) for Ulu Trusan FMU (2017-2026) has been confirmed as available and verified. It covers various aspects, including management objectives, resource description, environmental limitations, land</p>	<p>The latest revision of the FMP lacked essential updates and information, including statements on no harvesting since October 2019, failure to analyse data from 18 Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs),</p>



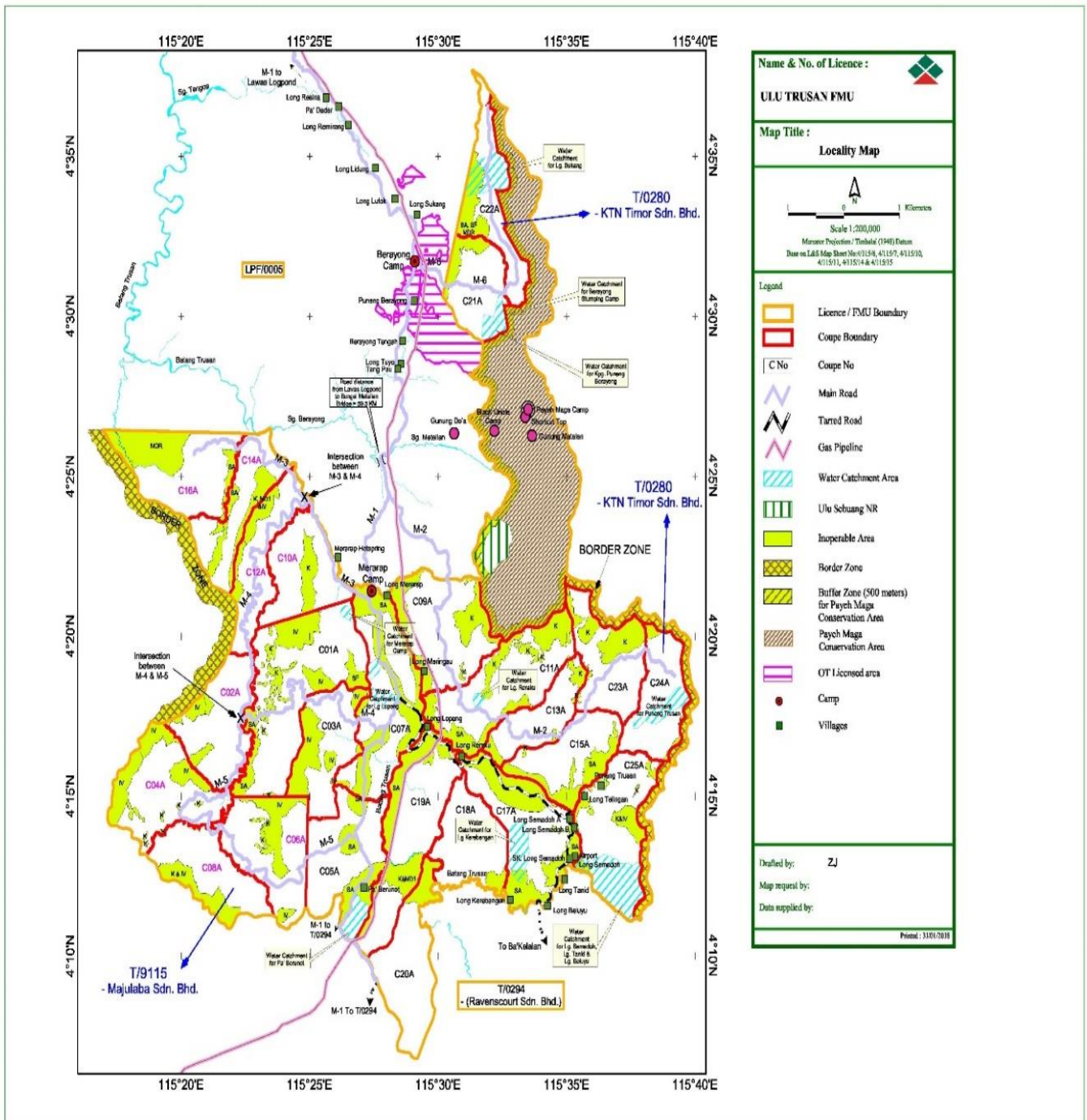
Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>use, socio-economic conditions, adjacent lands profile, silvicultural management, annual harvest rates, monitoring provisions, environmental safeguards, protection of endangered species, and stakeholder consultation, among others.</p> <p>The FMP recently underwent a mid-term review in July 2023. The revised FMP incorporates updated data on various aspects such as land use, stakeholder consultation, harvest rates, monitoring results, and socio-economic conditions, leading to a satisfactory closure of a Minor NCR on Indicator 7.2.1 raised during the previous audit. Forest managers have maintained records of new scientific and technical information relevant to the area's management, including collaborations with conservation organizations and regulatory authorities. Moreover, forest managers have participated in a number of seminars and training sessions in 2023 to stay abreast of new developments in forest management and climate change awareness.</p> <p>Clear roles and responsibilities for forest workers have been adequately addressed through the 'Ulu Trusan FMU Operations Organisation Chart (2022-2023)'. Training sessions have been provided for the workers in 2023, verified through the "Annual Operational and Fields Training Activities Plan". These sessions covered a range of topics including Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), Safety and Health, Climate Change, Wildlife Protection, and Policy Awareness. Interviews with the workers revealed their awareness of MC&amp;I requirements, policies, procedures, as well as their specific roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>A summary of FMP's key components, encompassing elements outlined in Criterion 7.1, is confirmed to be publicly accessible through:  <a href="https://www.samling.com/sites/default/files/Edited_Ulu%20Trusan%20Public%20Summary%20Ed3%20v0%2008082023.pdf">https://www.samling.com/sites/default/files/Edited_Ulu%20Trusan%20Public%20Summary%20Ed3%20v0%2008082023.pdf</a></p>	<p>absence of plans for re-measurement, no details on harvested yields, inadequate analysis on PSP results' impact, incomplete information on land conversion for infrastructure, insufficient details on social impact mitigation, missing maps of conservation areas, and lacking approval from the FDS. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 7.1.1 was issued.</b></p> <p>Several primary elements in the latest revision of the FMP were not included in the public summary. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 7.4.1 was issued.</b></p>
<p><b>Principle 8 Monitoring and Assessment</b></p>	<p>Ulu Trusan FMU has followed guidelines issued by the Forest Department Sarawak for assessing the social, ecological, environmental, and economic impacts of forest management operations. These guidelines encompass procedures for zoning, monitoring conservation values, assessing social impacts, identifying</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>endangered species, conserving fauna, and managing conflicts. Since there have been no harvesting activities since 2019, no monitoring assessment was implemented for harvesting operation. The internal audit and management review were both conducted adequately following the requirements stipulated in Appendix A of Indicator 8.1.3, leading to satisfactory closure of a previous OFI raised on Indicator 8.1.3 in the previous audit.</p> <p>Monitoring activities have been conducted adequately by the FMU. Record verification shows Ulu Trusan FMU reported a yield of forest products harvested from October 2017 to October 2019, producing 34,294 m<sup>3</sup> or 12.34 m<sup>3</sup>/ha. While no active harvesting occurred during the audit, the FMU monitored yield through various means such as the SOP Log Tracking System. Flora and fauna composition changes were assessed through procedures like the Post-Harvest Inventory, revealing the need for an enrichment planting program in some areas. Wildlife monitoring exercises were conducted using various methods, and environmental impacts were assessed through Environmental Impact Assessments. Social impacts were addressed through consultation meetings with local communities, and a Social Impact Monitoring Report documented these interactions. The FMU managed costs efficiently despite minimal harvesting activities, and growth rates and regeneration of the forest were monitored through the existing networks of PSPs.</p> <p>The SOP for the Chain of Custody (COC) system, which outlines the processes of log tracking in the FMU, was confirmed available. The SOP details various information necessary for tracking logs such as log production number, species, diameter, and date of transportation. Site inspection at Merarap stumping site confirmed that no harvesting was conducted during the audit. The last information for log tracking was in 2019, which was verified to have followed the SOP adequately.</p> <p>The latest revision of the FMP in July 2023 has incorporated the outcomes and information of the monitoring activities in the FMU. The revised plan updated various aspects including the number of nearby villages, land use and ownership status, stakeholder consultations, area summaries</p>	

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>for individual coupes, rationale for annual harvest rates and species selection, and decisions based on monitoring data regarding social, environmental, and economic impacts.</p> <p>A summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2, has been confirmed to be publicly available through:  <a href="https://www.samling.com/sites/default/files/Edited_Ulu%20Trusan%20Public%20Summary%20Ed3%20v0%2008082023.pdf">https://www.samling.com/sites/default/files/Edited_Ulu%20Trusan%20Public%20Summary%20Ed3%20v0%2008082023.pdf</a>.  The verified summary has led to satisfactory closure of a Minor NCR raised in Indicator 8.5.1 during the previous audit.</p>	
<p><b>Principle 9 Maintenance of High Conservation Values</b></p>	<p>Assessment of High Conservation Value (HCV) areas in Ulu Trusan FMU has been adequately conducted, as reported in the “High Conservation Value Forest Assessment Report Ulu Trusan FMU”. From a total of 11 HCVs attributes, nine areas of HCVs were found present and one potentially present, while another was not present. However, the management of the FMU recognized that all 11 attributes are presented in the FMU. All the HCVs sites have been adequately marked and demarcated, both in maps and on the ground. Consultation with other relevant stakeholders has been conducted in the identification of these HCV sites, with only one comment received from WWF Malaysia. The FMU ensures community awareness and involvement in monitoring HCV areas, particularly those within SA zones, as confirmed during consultations and meetings with local communities and Forest Managers.</p> <p>Stakeholder consultation on the option to maintain or enhance the identified HCV areas has been conducted in the FMU. The initial consultation was conducted in February 2018 involving key stakeholders such as Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), FDS, and local communities’ representatives. Further consultations occurred during CRC meetings and during village visitation programs, with the latest documented meeting held during the “FMCLC Ravenscourt and Ulu Trusan FMU” in June 2023. The FMU has taken measures to protect the identified HCV areas by conducting annual monitoring. No signs of encroachment were observed, and all sites were properly demarcated and protected.</p>	<p>Decisions on the option to put all HCV sites in the SA areas under CRC responsibility were conducted in consultation with only local communities’ stakeholders, and not with other relevant stakeholders such as FDS, SFC, and NGOs. <b>Therefore, a Minor NCR on Indicator 9.2.1 was issued.</b></p>

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<p>Measures to demarcate, maintain and/or enhance the HCV sites are outlined in Chapter 11 of the FMP. The FMU has documented the demarcation of various HCV attributes, including protected areas, endemic fauna, saltlicks, adjacent zones, riparian areas, and cultural sites, as indicated in the FMP. These areas were mapped in the "Summary of High Conservation Value Assessment (HCVA) at Ulu Trusan FMU" dated 8 April 2022. Monitoring reports for 2023, such as the "Ulu Trusan FMU T/0280 and T/9115 HCV Monitoring for 2023," confirm no encroachment issues and effective implementation of HCV protection measures. An updated public summary of HCVs from the FMP is publicly available and can be accessed through: <a href="https://www.samling.com/sites/default/files/Edited_Ulu%20Trusan%20Public%20Summary.pdf">https://www.samling.com/sites/default/files/Edited_Ulu%20Trusan%20Public%20Summary.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Ulu Trusan FMU has implemented a monitoring procedure outlined in the 'Procedures on Hunting Control and Wildlife Monitoring' to evaluate the efficacy of HCV management measures, covering all HCV categories. Site inspection on HCV salt lick at Coupe 2A confirmed that the site is adequately protected and conserved, with a buffer zone painted blue, and maps distinguishing HCV and conservation areas. Stakeholder consultation with the local communities affirmed their willingness to monitor HCV sites within their SA areas. These findings have led to a satisfactory closure of a Minor NCR raised on Indicator 9.4.1 in the previous audit. The results of HCV monitoring activities have also been integrated into the revised FMP.</p>	

Map of Ulu Trusan Forest Management Unit



## Experiences and Qualifications of Audit Team Members

Names of Audit Team	Role	Qualification and Experience
Mohd Razman Salim	Assessment Team Leader / Forester	<p><b>Academic Qualification:</b> B.Sc of Forestry (Forest Production), University Putra Malaysia.</p> <p><b>Work Experience:</b> 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 OHSAS 18001</p> <p><b>Training / Research Areas:</b></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 [MC&amp;I SFM] organized by MTCC, 18 August 2020.</li> </ul>
Puteri Arlydia Abdul	Auditor / Forester	<p><b>Academic Qualification:</b> B.Sc of Forestry (Forest Production), University Putra Malaysia.</p> <p><b>Work Experience:</b> 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><b>Training / Research Areas:</b>  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>
Puteri Arlydia Abdul	Auditor / Forester	<p><b>Academic Qualification:</b>  B.Sc of Forestry (Forest Production), University Putra Malaysia.</p> <p><b>Work Experience:</b>  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><b>Training / Research Areas:</b>  Was attending and pass in the following training programmes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Auditor Training Course on MC&amp;I Sustainable Forest Management (MC&amp;I SFM) organized by MTCC, 18 August 2020</li> <li>11. ISO 9001: 2008 Lead Auditor Course dated 19-23/03/2012</li> <li>12. MC&amp;I (Natural and Plantation) Lead Auditor Course 9-10/07/2015</li> <li>13. Training on ISO 9001:2015 (final version) dated 21/09/2015</li> <li>14. ISO 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course dated 18-22/05/2015</li> <li>15. Aspect and Impact Mitigation and Environmental Laws dated 27/05/2016</li> <li>16. Schedule Waste Handling dated 1/06/2016</li> <li>17. ISO 14001:2015 dated 18/09/2017</li> <li>18. PEFC CoC by MTCC dated 6 &amp; 14/12/2017</li> </ol>

Dr Mohd Nazre Saleh	Auditor / Forester	<p><b>Academic Qualification:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Diploma in Forestry, UPM</i></li> <li>• <i>Sc. Conservation Biology &amp; Ecology (UKM)</i></li> <li>• <i>MSc. Botany (UKM)</i></li> <li>• <i>PhD. Botany (Edinburgh)</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Work Experience:</b></p> <p>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><b>Attended and pass in the following training programmes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditor Training Course on MC&amp;I Sustainable Forest Management [MC&amp;I SFM] organized by MTCC, 18 August 2020.</li> <li>• Auditor Training Course on MC&amp; I (Natural Forest) and MC&amp;I (Forest Plantation V2) (SIRIM QAS Sdn. Bhd), 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> July 2015.</li> <li>• EMS 14001: 2004 Lead Auditor Course organized by SIRIM Training Services Sdn Bhd, 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016.</li> <li>• Forest Management Certification (FMC) Workshop, SIRIM Bhd, 6<sup>th</sup> –7<sup>th</sup> December 2016</li> <li>• Training on Auditing Techniques (SIRIM QAS Int. Sdn. Bhd), 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016.</li> </ul>
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## Comments Received from Stakeholders and Responses by Audit Team Leader

No.	Stakeholder	Comments/Issues Raised	Response by Audit Team
1	Stakeholder 1	<p>Susulan emel tuan/puan tempoh hari dimaklumkan bahawa Pejabat Tenaga Kerja Lawas kali terakhir membuat lawatan Pemeriksaan Berkanun di Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd (Ravenscourt Camp) adalah pada 6hb Ogos 2021 yang disertai Encik Rodizan Bin Salleh dan Encik Shamsul Khairee. Hasil Pemeriksaan Berkanun tersebut mendapati Syarikat berkenaan tidak lagi menjalankan kerja-kerja Pembalakan dan lebih kepada menyelenggara dan membaikpulih jalan balak untuk kegunaan Pekerja-Pekerja Sabah-Sarawak Pipeline Gas (SSGP). Seramai 63 orang pekerja bekerja di Syarikat tersebut di mana pecahan pekerja tersebut adalah 54 pekerja lelaki dan 9 pekerja perempuan. Pegawai Pemeriksa berpuas hati di dalam pemeriksaan tersebut dan tiada sebarang pelanggaran dikesan.</p>	Noted.
2	Stakeholder 2	<p>WWF-Malaysia's comments on Stakeholder Consultation in the Recertification Audit of Ulu Trusan Forest Management Unit (FMU) for PEFC MTCS Forest Management Certification. Date: 3 August 2023</p> <p>WWF-Malaysia would like to bring to the attention of the audit team, of a hydrological study conducted by WWF Malaysia in 2021, to assess the effects of land cover change on runoff and subsequently potential floodings downstream at the villages of Lg. Semadoh, Lg. Telingan and Puneng Trusan. The Ulu Trusan FMU falls within catchments which are also headwater areas of the Trusan river. The study indicated sub-catchments that are more sensitive to change and should be managed to minimize disturbance that result in bare open areas, caused by logging roads, and open log landing areas. In those sensitive sub-catchments, bare areas will result in significant changes in runoff flows that may cause floodings downstream. An extract from study which indicates the sensitive catchments (those that yield higher change). Based on the 1988-2021 map i.e. the simulation of changes from 1988 compared to current land cover (between January 2021 – December 2021), there are areas marked with darker tones that indicate significant changes to water yield (WYLD).</p>	<p>Currently, there is no active harvesting area in the FMU since the last harvesting in Coupe 1A in October 2019 until this Recertification audit as verified by auditor.</p> <p>Water catchment of Lg. Telingan and Lg. Semadoh (in Coupe 24A), and also Puneng Trusan (in Coupe 23A) has been marked by the FMU in the map 'General Harvesting Plan for Forest Timber Licences FTL No. T/9115 and FTL No. T/0280 (2017-2026), revised in November 2022. Although these coupes in the planning of harvesting in year 2040 and 2041, the FMU had identified these water catchment as sensitive areas and need to be protected. The FMU will consult these local communities, demarcate buffer zone and protect these water catchments from any</p>

		<p>Therefore, these upper catchments should be managed with care and minimal disturbance, and warrant some ground inspections and interventions. The study has only been completed in 2023 and a copy of the report will be shared with the FMU.</p> <p><u>Comments dated 9 November 2021 received during Surveillance 3 audit (year 2022)</u></p> <p>WWF-Malaysia is present within the Ulu Trusan FMU (FMU) whereby we are actively implementing community-based projects with the Long Semadoh village cluster i.e. Long Semadoh, Long Tanid, Puneng Trusan. We understand that under the forest management certification exercise by the FMU, the Community Representative Committee (CRC) have been formed, which include members of communities from these villages. WWF-Malaysia had in the past been invited by FORMADAT to share on the CRC concept and carried out capacity building for the relevant communities.</p> <p>We would like to highlight some points for the consideration of the forest certification audit team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The set-up of the CRC should be transparent and properly articulated to the relevant stakeholders. The CRC members should be empowered with relevant knowledge of SFM and be given the opportunity to take part in decision-making process, which can be tracked via records of such activities kept by the FMU (to include full list of participants). The adequacy of such meetings or consultations e.g. xx times/year, can be raised to the CRC members as well. Where possible, the knowledge of CRC members on their roles should be ascertained by the audit team to ensure that the CRC can function effectively. The welfare and security aspects of the communities could also be assessed.</li> <li>• The representatives of the Forest Management Unit Representative Committee, and in the case of this FMU is called the "FMU Conservation and Community Development (CCD) Committee", should ideally be stationed within the FMU so that the local stakeholders can have better reach to the committee.</li> </ul>	<p>forest harvesting activities if harvesting operation commence in the future (17-18 years from now).</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>The Community Relation Committee (CRC) in Long Semadoh region (established in 2017) and in Long-Sukang/Puneng Berayong region (established in 2018) as a platform to cater any issue raised by local communities.</p> <p>The organisation chart for Long Semadoh Central CRC has been updated on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 whilst no change for Long Sukang CRC organization chart for year 2023. The CRC Semadoh has conducted a meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023. While Long Sukang has yet to conduct any CRC meeting in year 2023 (due to no issue). No further issues raised by local communities as verified during the audit.</p> <p>Social Liaison officer of Ulu Trusan FMU Mr. Anderson Daboil Lasong as Executive (Community Service) to deal with local communities.</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make enquiries on actions or mitigation measures that are in place to prevent encroachment or enhance protection of the proposed Payeh Maga Conservation Area (11,073 ha) and the proposed Ulu Sebuang Nature Reserve (646 ha).</li> <li>• Information about wildlife protection and management is lacking in the Public Summary document. The FMU contain landscape level HCVs due to its proximity to and location within the HoB Corridor Project.</li> <li>• The link to the master HCV map in the Public Summary is not working. Thus, the completeness of the HCV maps cannot be ascertained eg demarcations and enhancement - what plans does the company have to develop the maps, to demarcate HCVs, HCVMA, and where needed, enhance degraded HCVs.</li> <li>• The Public Summary states that "hunting is no longer important for the villagers as there is a death of larger wildlife in the nearby forest". Feedback on actions by the FMU to help address this is much welcomed.</li> </ul> <p>Other stakeholder to consult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Audit team should take note of SAVE Rivers (NGO), which highlighted issues pertaining to FPIC process in engaging local communities for decision-making related to FMU operations; and sharing of the EIA and SIA reports with the local communities</li> </ul>	<p>The Payeh Maga Conservation Area and Ulu Sebuang Nature Reserve located in Coupe 23A and 24A which are protected by the FMU and listed as HCV 1.1 in the Forest Management Plan. The FMU had identified these water catchment as sensitive areas and need to be protected. The FMU will demarcate buffer zone and protect these water catchments from any forest harvesting activities if harvesting operation commence in the future (17-18 years from now).</p> <p>A Minor NCR MRS 05/2023 against Indicator 7.4.1 was raised due to primary element of the latest revision of FMP was not updated in the public summary including its HCV attributes.</p> <p>A Minor NCR MRS 05/2023 against Indicator 7.4.1 was raised due to primary element of the latest revision of FMP was not updated in the public summary including its HCV attributes and maps.</p> <p>The statement has been reviewed by the FMU and has incorporated additional fact. "The enforcement at the Wildlife Protection Ordinance coupled with the control of the fire arms has further curtailed hunting activity in the FMU. Game meat, if any, is for the hunters own consumption and prohibited for sale".</p> <p>Community Awareness Engagement Programme (CAEP) covered the topic of forest management certification (MC&amp;I SFM), Social Impact Assessment Monitoring (SIAM), High Conservation Value Monitoring (HCVM), wildlife, local laws and grievance mechanism (grievance form) were briefed to all communities at their villages. The programme was conducted on the weekend (Saturday and Sunday) dated 2, 3, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, &amp; 30 in September 2023 and 1, 5, 6, 7 &amp; 8 in October 2023.</p>
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## Recertification Audit Plan

DAY	TIME	PROGRAM		
		AUDITOR 1 (Razman)	AUDITOR 2 (Dr Nazre)	AUDITOR 3 (Puteri Arlydia)
(Sun) 6 Aug 2023		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel from KLIA to Kota Kinabalu <b>KUL - BKI: 8.05 -10.45 (MH2612)</b></li> <li>Travel from Kota Kinabalu to Lawas and Merarap Base Camp</li> <li>Briefing by Audit Team Leader on the audit plan</li> </ul>		
Audit Day 1  (Mon) 7 Aug 2023	8.30 am – 12.00 pm	AUDITOR 1 (Razman)	AUDITOR 2 (Dr Nazre)	AUDITOR 3 (Puteri Arlydia)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening Meeting with representatives of FMU</li> <li>Briefing session by Forest Manager of the FMU</li> <li>Briefing to representatives of FMU on the progress of audit</li> <li>Evaluation of changes to the management of the FMU</li> <li>Check on progress of planned activities aimed at enhancing the operation system to achieve improvement in overall performance</li> <li>Check on complaints and follow-up actions</li> <li>Verification of NCRs raised during the previous audit</li> <li>Q&amp;A Session</li> </ul>		
	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Document and records review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principle 6 – Environmental Impact</li> <li>Principle 7 – Management Plan</li> <li>Principle 8 – Monitoring and Assessment</li> </ul>	Document and records review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principle 1 – Compliance with Laws and Principles</li> <li>Principle 5 – Benefits from the forest</li> <li>Principle 9 – Maintenance of High Conservation Value (HCV)</li> </ul>	Document and records review: <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> </ul>		

<b>Audit Day 2</b>  <b>(Tue)</b>  <b>8 Aug 2023</b>	8.30 am – 5.00 pm	<b>AUDITOR 1 (Razman)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 2 (Dr Nazre)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 3 (Puteri Arlydia)</b>
		Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-harvesting area - Non</li> <li>• Active harvesting area - Non</li> <li>• Closed harvesting area - Non</li> <li>• Post-harvesting area - Non</li> <li>• CoC Inspection</li> <li>• HCV area – Saltlick Coupe 2A</li> <li>• Forest Landscape Restoration – Coupe 2A</li> <li>• Conservation area: Stream Buffer Reserve (Coupe 1A / Coupe 2A)</li> <li>• Post-Harvest Inventory (PHI) – Coupe 1A Block 21</li> <li>• Permanent sample plot - PSP#18 (new), Coupe 1A</li> </ul>	Consultation with Local Community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRC Semadoh</li> <li>1.Long Kerabangan (within)</li> <li>2.Long Beluyu (adjacent)</li> <li>3.Long Semadoh Rayeh (within)</li> <li>4.Long Semadoh Naseb (within)</li> <li>5.Long Tanid (adjacent)</li> </ul>	Consultation with Local Community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRC Sukang</li> <li>1. Pa' Dadar (adjacent)</li> <li>2. Long Remirang (adjacent)</li> <li>3.Long Lidong (adjacent)</li> <li>4.Long Lutok (adjacent)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Day 2 Findings by Audit Team Leader</li> </ul>				
<b>Audit Day 3</b>  <b>(Wed)</b>  <b>9 Aug 2023</b>	8.00 am – 5.00 pm	<b>AUDITOR 1 (Razman)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 2 (Dr Nazre)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 3 (Puteri Arlydia)</b>
		Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FMU license boundary</li> <li>i) LPF/0005 Samling Refor Bintulu (Kenaya Reforestation)</li> <li>ii) KTN Timor T/0280</li> <li>• Permanent sample plot - PSP#8 (remeasure), Coupe 17A</li> <li>• Water catchment – Long Lupeng, Coupe 7A</li> <li>• Site visit – Coupe 3A (any forest activity)</li> <li>• Wildlife monitoring (camera trap) – Coupe 1A</li> <li>• Management of forest fire</li> </ul>	Consultation with Local Community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRC Semadoh</li> <li>1.Long Telingan (within)</li> <li>2.Puneng Trusan (within)</li> </ul>	Consultation with Local Community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRC Sukang</li> <li>1.Long Sukang (adjacent)</li> <li>2. Puneng Berayong (adjacent)</li> <li>3.Tang Pau (adjacent)</li> <li>4.Long Tuyoo (adjacent)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Day 3 Findings by Audit Team Leader</li> </ul>				

<b>Day 4</b> <b>(Thu)</b> <b>10 Aug 2023</b>	8.00 am – 5.00 pm	<b>AUDITOR 1</b> <b>(Razman)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 2</b> <b>(Dr Nazre)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 3</b> <b>(Puteri Arlydia)</b>
		Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursery</li> <li>• Workshop</li> <li>• Workers' quarters</li> <li>• Clinic (not in use)</li> <li>• Genset room</li> </ul>	Consultation with Local Community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CRC Semadoh</li> <li>1.Long Luping (within)</li> <li>2.Long Merarap (within)</li> <li>3.Long Rereku (within)</li> </ul>	Site visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with workers representatives</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Day 4 Findings by Audit Team Leader</li> </ul>				
<b>Day 5</b> <b>(Fri)</b> <b>11 Aug 2023</b>	8.00 am – 12.00 pm	<b>AUDITOR 1</b> <b>(Razman)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 2</b> <b>(Dr Nazre)</b>	<b>AUDITOR 3</b> <b>(Puteri Arlydia)</b>
		Document and records review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principle 6 – Environmental Impact</li> <li>• Principle 7 – Management Plan</li> <li>• Principle 8 – Monitoring and Assessment</li> </ul>	Document and records review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principle 1 – Compliance with Laws and Principles</li> <li>• Principle 5 – Benefits from the forest</li> <li>• Principle 9 – Maintenance of High Conservation Value (HCV)</li> </ul>	Document and records review: <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>
2.00 – 5.00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of audit report and findings (if any)</li> <li>• Closing Meeting</li> <li>• Travel to Kota Kinabalu</li> <li>• Overnight at Promenade Hotel</li> </ul>				
<b>(Sat)</b> <b>12 Aug 2023</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel from Kota Kinabalu to KLIA <b>BKI - KUL: 10.00 - 12.30 (MH2613)</b></li> </ul>		

- End of Report -