Introduction - The Rainforest Alliance is conducting a chain of custody (CoC) with controlled wood (CW) surveillance audit of Softwood Plantation Exporters (SW-COC/CW-001385) located in Victoria, Australia. The audit will be conducted during the week of 1 July 2013. Stakeholder consultation will be made before, during and after the field work, but prior to completion of a draft report.

Scope of the Certification – The CoC-CW surveillance audit will evaluate the organization’s CoC and CW system including High Conservation Value aspects of the forest management units managed by Softwood Plantation Exporters suppliers using FSC standards FSC-STD-40-004 and FSC-STD-40-005.

The forest/woodlots area under the scope of Softwood Plantation Exporter’s FSC CoC-CW certificate is located across Victoria. To obtain a copy of the applicable standards or to make comments about the standards, please contact Rainforest Alliance by telephone, FAX, email or website listed below.

Audit Team Composition – The audit team will be led by Malory Weston (Rainforest Alliance CoC-CW & FM Lead Auditor).

Audit Steps and Schedule – Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

♦ 4 June 2013 – 3 July 2013: Stakeholder consultation
♦ 4 July: Opening meeting with Softwood Plantation Exporters
♦ 4 July – 5 July: Field audit of CoC manufacturing facilities and CW suppliers.
♦ 5 July: Closing meeting with Softwood Plantation Exporters staff and presentation of preliminary findings. Final data collection.
♦ 6 to 15 July: Production of draft report

Your Input Sought – As a part of the FSC chain of custody with controlled wood surveillance audit process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Softwood Plantation Exporters controlled wood source in relation to the requirements of the chain of custody standards referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the audit process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the audit, during the audit, or prior to July 3, 2013 so that we can take them into consideration. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows:

1. Meet with a Rainforest Alliance audit team member during the fieldwork.
2. Call and give comments to Malory Weston (Rainforest Alliance CoC-CW & FM Lead Auditor).
3. Submit written comments by mail, FAX or email to Rocky Iskandar the Rainforest Alliance staff person responsible for coordinating this surveillance audit from Asia Pacific Regional Office. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of evaluating Softwood Plantation Exporters.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and Rainforest Alliance staff. Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the chain of custody certification process or decision can access Rainforest Alliance's dispute resolution procedures at www.rainforest-alliance.org

Contacting Rainforest Alliance

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