Public Notification Letter

To: Interested Parties
From: SCS Global Services
Date: 08/11/14
Re: Notification of Field Test for draft FSC-STD-40-005 V3-0 (Controlled Wood) standard

Summary: As part of the revision process for the FSC Controlled Wood standard, SCS is currently participating in a pilot test of the draft FSC-STD-40-005 V3-0 standard. Specifically we are conducting a field test of WAPRES plantation forest management units (FMUs) in the vicinity of Bunbury and are seeking stakeholder input regarding their Controlled Wood sourcing verification program and the regionally-specific indicators of High Conservation Value1 which will be assessed during the field test. Please comment via email, or call our offices or representatives to discuss (contact info below).

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world’s forests. FSC sets standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way. The 5 FMUs under assessment are Blue Gum Eucalyptus plantations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Approx. Location</th>
<th>Bio-Region</th>
<th>Hectares</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yandee (Australian Forestry Services)</td>
<td>73km S Balingup</td>
<td>Jarrah Forest</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutcherson (Private)</td>
<td>102km SW Gracetown</td>
<td>Jarrah Forest</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandsma (Private)</td>
<td>79km S Balingup</td>
<td>Jarrah Forest</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 High Conservation Value Forests possess one or more of the following attributes: a) forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant: concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia); and/or large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance b) forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems c) forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control) d) forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health) and/or critical to local communities’ traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities). Also see Principle 9, in the FSC Principles and Criteria.
### Scope and Certification Evaluation Process

SCS Global Services (SCS), a FSC-accredited certification body based in Emeryville, California, USA will conduct this FSC evaluation.

Performance will be evaluated against the FSC-STD-40-005 V3-0. A copy of the standard is available from [https://ic.fsc.org/consultation-on-the-standard-fsc-std-40-005.663.htm](https://ic.fsc.org/consultation-on-the-standard-fsc-std-40-005.663.htm) or SCS upon request.

Additionally the draft Controlled Wood standard requires the Certification Body to develop regionally-specific indicators for all risk categories not determined by the National Risk Assessment to be low risk. WAPRES will be evaluated against the SCS-developed indicators for High Conservation Value forests in Southwest Australia as per the draft version of [FSC-STD-30-010 Forest management](#) requirements for Controlled Wood certification.

The Evaluation Process Includes the Following Phases:

- **Public notification:** distribution of the standard and solicitation of comments on the certification applicant; Audit planning and document review;
- **Field assessment:** A representative sample of field sites and operations within the defined forest area are inspected by a team of auditors;
- **Stakeholder consultation on verification program**;
- **Synthesis of findings:** Conformance with the standards is ascertained and the certification decision is formulated;
- **Reporting:** A draft report is produced describing the evaluation process and findings, the report is reviewed by qualified staff, and certification decision is rendered;
- **Stakeholder consultation on pilot test of draft standards**;
- **Delivery of final certification report to the client and FSC including recommendations for improvements on the final versions of revised Controlled Wood Standards**;
Call for Public Participation

SCS welcomes comments on the draft Controlled Wood Standards, WAPRES Controlled Wood Verification Program and the draft HCV indicators for Southwest Australia. Comments can also be made on other topics such as whether WAPRES conforms to the legal, social, technical, and environmental requirements of the standard or identification of high conservation value forests within the Controlled Wood Source Area.

If you would like to comment on the draft indicators, please notify us of your intent so that we can provide them to you.

All comments can be submitted via email, standard mail, or facsimile to Graeme Lea (the Lead Auditor for the project) or SCS (contact details below). The auditor can make arrangements to allow stakeholders to meet with them during the evaluation upon request. All comments and sources will be kept in strict confidence at the request of the commenter.

Dates

The field evaluation is scheduled for September 16 and 17. SCS will make arrangements to meet with interested parties during the evaluation if appropriate, but it is preferred that comments are submitted before the evaluation commences.

Dispute Resolution Procedure

As provided by the FSC Interim Dispute Resolution Protocol and the SCS Forest Conservation Program Quality Manual, dispute resolution procedures are in place and available to interested parties at http://www.scsglobalservices.com/your-feedback.

Additional Information


Please contact us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graeme Lea</th>
<th>Vanessa Ellis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FSC Lead Auditor</td>
<td>SCS FM and COC Technical Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0061 401 299 608</td>
<td>2000 Powell St, Suite 600; Emeryville CA 94608, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel +1 (510) 452-6381, Fax +1 (510) 452-6882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:graeme.lea@ftcg.com.au">graeme.lea@ftcg.com.au</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:VEllis@scsglobalservices.com">VEllis@scsglobalservices.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>