



Samling Reforestation (Bintulu) Sdn Bhd
A member of Samling Group of Companies

PUBLIC SUMMARY

Forest Plantation Management Plan

for the

MTCS Area within LANA LPF/0006

For the period

1st December 2016 to 30th November 2026

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Approved by:

Yap Fui Fook
Chief Operating Officer

1. Related Documents and Systems

There are numerous related documents. These are listed in the Document Register held in the LANA office.

2. The Company

Lana Licensed Planted Forest (LANA) is an industrial tree plantation (ITP) operating under a Sarawak government licence (LPF/0006) issued to Samling Reforestation (Bintulu) Sdn Bhd (SRB) – a subsidiary of Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd (SST). The licence was subsequently transferred to Timor Enterprises Sdn Bhd which is also a member of the Samling Group. By agreement dated 30th September 2007 the area designated for ITP was sub-licensed to SRB. Samling is head-quartered in Miri, the largest city in the north of the State of Sarawak, East Malaysia.

The use of Samling here and throughout this FPMP refers to the timber and wood products division of the Samling Group.

Samling aims to produce an economically sustainable supply of logs from the LANA ITP which when combined with logs from their other ITP areas will support its downstream wood processing activities – plywood, sawn timber, fibre board and furniture components

Samling is an equal opportunity employer that operates an active safety and health management system. Additionally, Samling also recognises the value of and the importance of its environmental and social responsibilities.

3. Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS)

3.1 Our Commitment

Samling is committed to develop and conform to the principle of sustainability on all forested land and potentially forested land held under LPF/0006 and, in so doing, to comply with the Malaysian Criteria & Indicators of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) - the MC&I ST 1002:2021 (SFM) – operated by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC). It is intended that the ethos of MTCS compliance should be embedded in LANA's management culture for the whole LPF and not just the area proposed for certification under the MTCS.

NB Use of 'MTCS area' throughout this FPMP serves only to identify the area which at the time of preparing the plan was *proposed* for certification under the MTCS. Its use should not be taken as implying that the area was certified at the time of preparation.

Certification of forest plantation management - and therefore of the plantation logs produced for in-house processing – is very important to the future of Samling. It creates potential marketing and economic advantages for its wood-based products and, more importantly, it will help ensure that management of its resources is carried out under MTCS principles thereby helping to ensure sustainability.

3.2 Certification Requirements

The MTCS requires:

- 1] Practicing the guidelines and requirements set out by the nine principles of the MTCS that are the framework of the MC&I SFM.
- 2] Developing a sound policy base derived from the nine principles and ensuring they are communicated and followed in the workplace.
- 3] Developing open lines of communication involving employees and stakeholders in the development of economically sustainable forest plantation management practices.
- 4] Using best practice guidelines in its management regimes. This includes the implementation and continued use of sound, proven and economically viable forest plantation management and environmental, financial and social practices that protect the sustainability of the resources.

3.3 Certification Status

3.3.1 MTCS

That part of LANA LPF that was eligible in terms of the 31 December 2010 cut-off was certified under the MC&I Forest Plantation v2 of the MTCC's MTCS by SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd (SIRIM) on 12 May 2017. The certificate number is: FMC – FP 00116

SIRIM conducted the MTCS Stage 1 audit 2-3 August 2016 following which SIRIM gave approval to go through to the Stage 2 audit which was conducted 16-20 January 2017. SIRIM's certificate number FMP-FP 00116 was issued on 12 May 2017 with a validity of 3 years. Following the re-certification audit conducted 14-16 January 2020 the certificate was re-issued on 6 May 2020 with a validity of 5 years.

Recertification Audit has been conducted on 25th – 27th November 2024 and certificate has been issued, dated 14 April 2025, No: FMC-FP 00116.

3.3.2 Controlled Source

The whole of Lana LPF is managed in accordance with the requirements of the MTCS. It is also managed in full compliance with the MC&I SFM apart from the cut-off date. This means that log production from the ITP area outside of the MTCS area is considered to be from a Controlled Source for the purpose of CoC certification.

3.4 Area Eligible for Certification under MTCS

Under MTCS only those areas of degraded and residual forest cleared on or before 31 December 2010 are eligible for certification.

Section 5.2 and Table 5.1 refer to the determination of the area eligible.

4. Forest Plantation Management

4.1 Statutory Framework

In the main the most recent legislation that effects ITP and environmental management is contained within the Forest (Planted Forests) Rules, 1997 and the Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance, 1993 (Cap. 84).

The outcomes should always adhere to the principle of sustainable ITP management and are controlled in companies such as Samling by the use of these documents as resource consents. These two pieces of legislation therefore act as a method of controlling adverse management effects.

Other are numerous other Acts and Regulations that form the basis of forest plantation management practices at LANA. These are all listed in the document register held in the LANA office.

SST's legal department will advise LANA of relevant changes in existing legislation and of new legislation as appropriate.

LANA keeps "hard" copies of legislation key to its business and management practices on site in the LANA office and at the Miri HQ. In some cases the legislation is held in PDF format where hard copies are not available. However, amendments to legislation are relatively frequent and there is access to up-to-date acts of parliament through the internet. (Full copies of these acts of parliament may be found at www.agc.gov.my and www.federalgazette.agc.gov.my.)

4.2 Forest Plantation Management Objectives

The forest management objective is the economic production of logs for supply to Samling downstream. This supply is primarily for solid use, i.e., peeler logs and saw logs. However, in achieving this primary objective there are several important supplementary objectives. These are listed below, not in any order of priority:

- maintain the ecological productivity of the ITP – thereby assist to maintain the value of the forest services.
- ensure a sustainable level of log production at the group level.
- conduct forestry operations in a manner that does not impact negatively on the wellbeing of those people living within and nearby the LPF
- safeguard the environment of the LPF - thereby assist to maintain the value of the forest services.
- ensure that natural forest areas are protected from human interference in the Conservation Area SMZs; and
- maximise harvesting recovery.

4.3 Forest Plantation Management Strategy

SRB uses the MTCS principles and criteria to formulate the management strategy in order for LANA to achieve the objectives set out above.

As the history of the LPF described in Chapter 5 indicates and as is noted in the EIA, the area has a long history of repeated harvesting. The ITP is established in clearly defined areas of this degraded residual forest.

Special Management Zones (SMZ) have been, and continue to be, identified (see Section 4.4). The SMZs invariably contain residual forest which, as it is protected within the SMZ, has a protective function and contributes to conservation values and the enhancement of bio-diversity. The area under SMZs represents 45% of the total protected forested area of the MTCS area (Table 5.2).

SRB also recognises the importance and significance of international agreements in its management. It will give governing authorities as much cooperation as possible to enforce the regulations of such agreements.

4.4 Special Management Zones (SMZs) Lana MTCS Area

4.4.1 Zone types occurring in LANA MTCS Area

SMZs are generally, but not necessarily, those areas of harvested and now degraded residual forest which do not form a part of the ITP planted area for reasons other than being designated as SA (shifting agriculture) or under land claim. R&D areas, although under special management, are within the ITP management area. Within Sarawak there are a number of possible zone types but only those listed in Table 4.1 below have been identified as occurring within LANA to date. The burial sites mentioned in the EIA are outside the MTCS area as is the only known salt lick.

Table 4.1: Special Management Zones (SMZs) occurring within LANA MTCS Area

Zone Types
Riparian buffer - mandatory; to EIA prescribed widths determined by the water course width
Swampy (mineral soil)
Rocky (skeletal soils)
Steep areas $\geq 35^\circ$ – mandatory; upper slopes (i.e., outside riparian buffers)
Gulley - steep riverside areas outside the mandatory buffer zone
Conservation – including areas which might be voluntarily designated as such, or which would otherwise have been planted

A zone type may be mandatory, e.g., a riparian buffer zone must be established along permanent water courses – see Table 4.2 – and steep areas in excess of 35° must not be cleared for planting. Elective zone types are those where, for example, at the manager's discretion a wildlife corridor has been demarcated on otherwise plantable land. This would be classed as a conservation area. In reality all the above SMZs are effectively conservation areas and are totally protected from encroachment. And there are 'Hobson's

choice' zone types where the physical characteristics of the site preclude the option of planting, e.g., marshland and skeletal soils.

Table 4.2: Recommended Widths for Riparian Buffer Zone

Width of Water Course (m)	Width of Buffer Zone (m)
>40	50
20 - 40	40
10 - 20	20
5 - 10	10
<5	5

Source: Table 4. LANA EIA Jan 2003, Ecosol Consultancy Sdn Bhd

The types are not mutually exclusive: e.g., a riparian buffer may contain marshland and steep areas. By virtue of being demarcated on the ground, GPSd and mapped and then protected from most human activity, SMZs, of whatever type, play a significant role in the conservation of LANA's bio-diversity.

4.4.2 Management of SMZs

The guiding management principles are common to all SMZs that are currently identified in LANA regardless of whether or not they fall within the MTCS area.

The zones are first identified and then demarcated on the ground. Although they must still be demarcated, the boundaries of steep areas, skeletal soils and marshland are more or less self-defining whilst the boundaries of riparian buffers must be carefully located to ensure compliance. Once clearly demarcated on the ground all SMZs are protected and, apart from the removal of any planted merchantable exotic trees and access by local people for traditional purposes (and such use is negligible). There should be no invasive human activity within them. However, incursion can and does take place but most in cases management does not have the authority to take any action other than to make an official report to the relevant government agency.

Following demarcation and the removal of any merchantable exotic trees, no further invasive action in these SMZs is allowed. This protection will allow the SMZs to develop in structure and bio-diversity.

Table 5.1 in the following chapter shows the distribution of SMZ types. The major SMZ type is that of the conservation areas - in the MTCS area these were formerly called green belts (and in the balance of the LPF still are) which cover 2,099ha, 22% of the gross MTCS area.

4.4.3 Natural Forest Areas

Reference to Table 5.2 shows about 4,188ha (45%) of the MTCS comprises SMZs in protected forest areas.

Most of these natural forest areas will have been disturbed at varying intensities and without doubt the forest structure of the forest will have been changed, in varying degrees, as result. Whilst it is known that many of the larger, merchantable trees have been removed (harvested) the change in frequency and abundance of particular species will never be known as base lines were never established. However, from empirical evidence, both casual and documented, it is known with certainty that the forest structure will recover - given time; a *Shorea bracteolata* sapling requires an unknown number of, but it is certainly very many, decades to reach a not unusual size of, say, 130cm DBH. For these residual areas to recover to a state resembling primary forest in terms of structure requires only time. Time is assured by protection and not by intervention. Designation as an SMZ will ensure protection for the validity of the LPF licence. Areas within SMZs that might be considered to be degraded will also be left to recover without human intervention – such areas add pools of bio-diversity for the LPF's flora and fauna as their structure and

species composition (of both flora and fauna) change over the time of the undoubtedly lengthy recovery process.

5. Resource Description

5.1 History

This history more or less refers only to the area now known as Lana LPF. Map 5.1 ([Right click here to access Map 5.1](#)) shows the present boundaries of the LPF.

5.1.1 Forest Timber Licences

An area that included what is now LPF/0006 was licenced as Forest Timber Licence T/0570. This was issued on 11 July 1977 to Unitek Forest Products Sdn Bhd for 25 years expiring on 10 July 2002. T/0570 was replaced by T/3077 issued to Bena Lumber Sdn Bhd on 26 May 1981 with the same expiry date. T/3077 was then replaced by T/3173 issued to Sertama Sdn Bhd [a member of the Samling Group] on 16 April 1987. Under T/3173 the cutting cycle was reduced to 20 years and the licence therefore expired 10 years after issue on 15 April 1997. The licence was then renewed to 15 April 2012 and again until 15 April 2017 but at this last renewal with the area of LPF/0006 specifically excluded.

5.1.2 Past Harvesting

Sometime between the 1920s and the 1940's the Borneo Company undertook limited harvesting in parts of what was to become LPF/0006 when they used elephants, and probably tractors, for extraction. In the mid-1970s an extensive system of hand prepared contour skid trails for use by the elephants was still in evidence, although the elephants had long ago moved on (and died).

In the late 1960s an area known as Industrial Unit 1 was demarcated, mapped and inventoried as part of a Sarawak wide FAO project. From Table 2 of the Rajang –Kakus Management Plan it can be seen that less than 10% of the forest area was classed as remnant MDF. Under the FTL conditions the minimum tree size was 18 inches [45cm] OB RD. It was mandatory to fell any tree of minimum size or larger of a species listed as obligatory that would yield one or more merchantable logs. Any tree that was not a protected species and was not listed as an obligatory species could be harvested irrespective of its diameter. T/0570 was replaced by T/3077 issued to Bena Lumber Sdn Bhd on 26 May 1981 with the same expiry date. By this time the Pelagus HEP scheme had been proposed with an expected completion date of sometime in 1990. No diameter limit was to apply for the areas planned for inundation (which were not defined).

Elsewhere the conditions applying to T/0570 were to apply, i.e., protected species were not to be felled, minimum 45cm RD for obligatory species and no limit for all other species.

When T/3173 (replacing T/3077) was issued to Sertama Sdn Bhd in April 1987 Harbour-View Realty continued to harvest Coupes 4B, 5B, 6B, 7B and 8B and further, some 10,000ha of "... mainly logged over forest in the southwest..." were included in the area of the new licence.

Under the general timber licence (FTL) conditions trees of non-dipterocarp species of 45+cm RD OB and dipterocarps of 60+cm RD OB that will yield one or more merchantable logs must be harvested or a penalty will be imposed. (In T/3173 the minimum RD for all obligatory species was 45cm OB.) Anything from 25 to 100 m³/ha of merchantable logs might be removed in the harvest operation. There is inevitably some degree of damage to the remaining trees and saplings. The actual degree of damage is more or less proportional to the volume removed. Thus, the structure of post-harvesting forest will rarely if ever approximate that of the undisturbed 'natural forest' or the 'native ecosystem' or to use the more common term, the 'primary forest'. If the area has been subject to more than one cycle of harvesting in past few decades, then its structure and diversity will be further compromised.

5.1.3 Conversion of primary forest

As has been noted in the preceding section the natural forest within the LPF has been subjected to repeated heavy logging for almost forty years to the extent that no primary forest was known to remain

at the time the LPF licence was issued – 1998. This means that no primary forest has been converted to ITP within the LPF area. Furthermore, no primary forest remains for conversion.

5.2 Determination of the Area Eligible for Certification under MTCS

5.2.1 LANA LPF not eligible in its entirety

Consequent of the changes required by PEFC's endorsement of the recent revision of the MC&I Forest Plantation under which the MTCS operates LANA LPF is no longer eligible for certification in its entirety. This has led to a very unsatisfactory situation whereby Samling must ensure that it secures the largest possible area for certification but in doing so this inevitably meant that the MTCS area is geographically fragmented. NB The MC&I SFM is not a stand-alone document but must be interpreted with the MTCC's guidelines to hand. These guidelines are known as GD-FP 2/2016.

5.2.2 The Eligible Area

An area of just over 9,322 ha was endorsed for clearing. The location of the MTCS area within Lana LPF is shown on Map 5.2. ([Right click here to access Map 5.2](#))

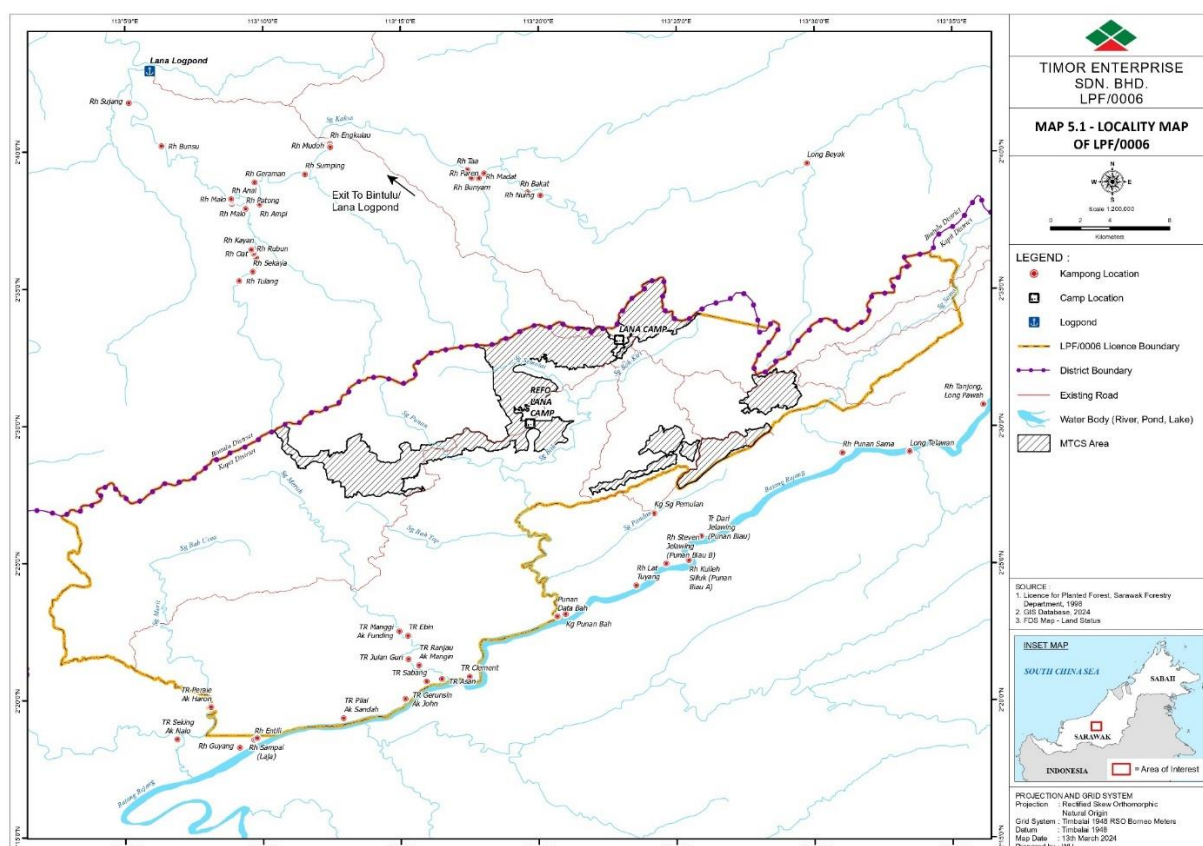
5.3 Geology and Soils

Reference should be made to the EIA which gives a very concise overview of the geology of the LPF. It also gives a quite detailed, useful summary of the soils although these have only been documented at reconnaissance level.

5.4 Land Use

LPF/0006 was issued on 8th December 1998 for a period of 60 years. LPF/0006 is located in the Belaga District of the Kapit Division. (See Map 5.1) The area designated for MTCS lies entirely within LPF/0006 (See Map 5.2). A statement of land types and land use for the MTCS area is given in Table 5.1. The whole MTCS area represents less than 12% of the gross LPF area, however the conservation area of the MTCS area represents almost 16% of all the greenbelt/conservation area in LPF/0006.

Map 5.1: Locality Map of Lana FPMU



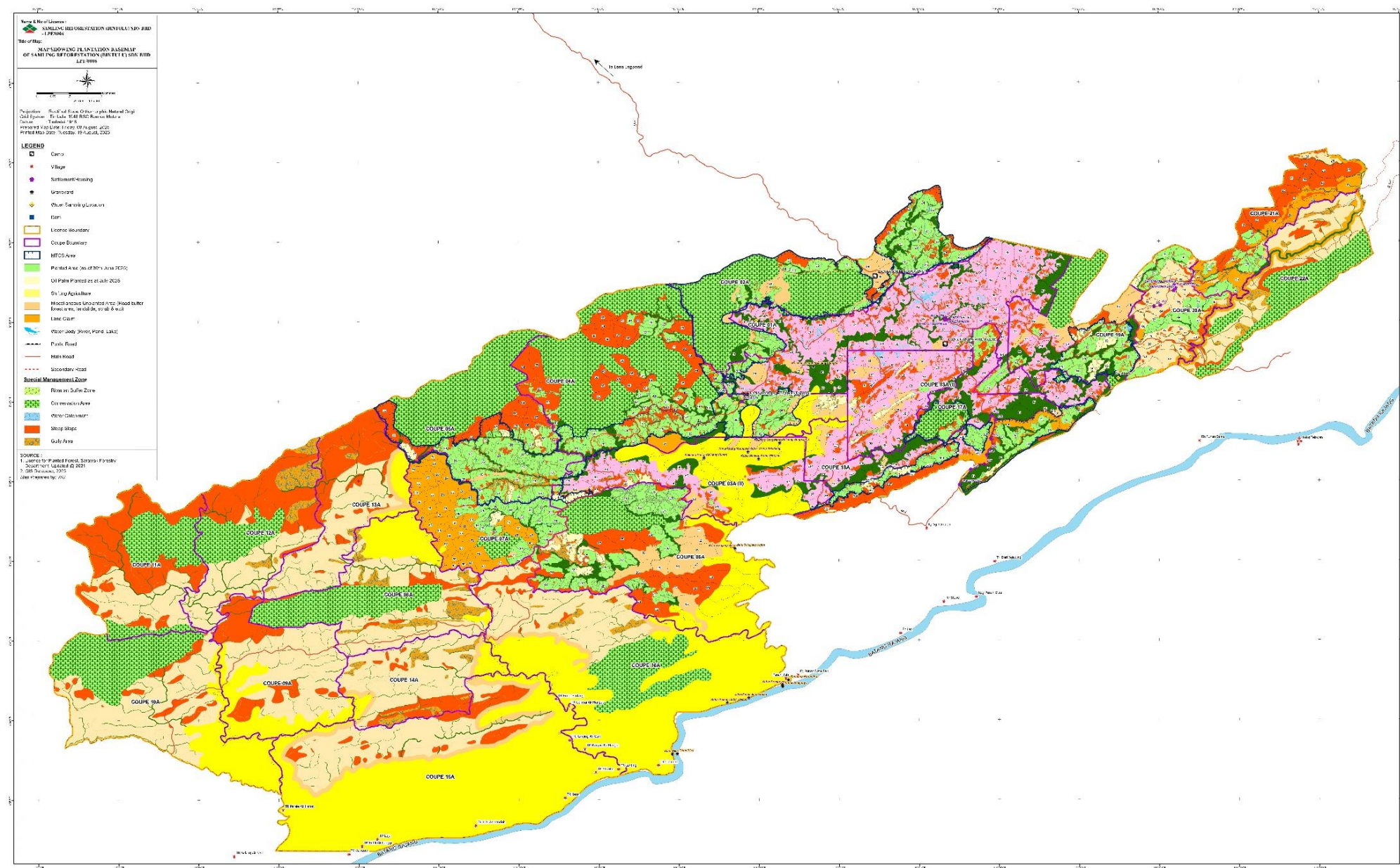


Table 5.2: Area Statement for MTCS Area within Lana (LPF/0006) at 30th June 2025.

Land Type	Gross Area ha %	Non-Productive ⁵ Area										ITP Productive Area				
		Non-Forested Areas				Protected Forested Area					Total	1) Planted ₂	2) Plantable ₃	3) TUP	4) Potential ₄	Total
		SA	Water Road line	Others ¹	Total Non- Forested Area	Conservation ₆	Buffer Zone	Gully	Steep	Total Protected Area						
Mineral	9,393	0	2,158	584	765	2,083	1,006	209	889	4,188	4,953	4,194	0	246	0	4,439
Total	9,393	0	2,158	584	765	2,083	1,006	209	889	4,188	4,953	4,194	0	246	0	4,439
% Distribution - Certification Area		0%	0.2%	6%	8%	22%	11%	2%	9%	45%	53%	45%	0%	3%	0%	47%
% Distribution - Non-productive ⁵ & Productive Area		0%	0.3%	12%	15%	42%	20%	4%	18%	85%	100%	94%	0%	6%	0%	100%

Sources: LPF Licence, Block Master
Block Update As of: 08/07/2025

5.5 Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) Resource in the MTCS

Table 5.3 shows the major species and year of planting (YOP) for the MTCS ITP resource at 26th February 2024 as extracted from the Block Master at that date.

A point to note regarding Table 5.3 is that the discrepancy that existed in the first edition of the FMP between the area shown as planted in Table 5.3 and that stated in Table 5.1 has now disappeared - as predicted.

Two species, mangium and pellita, comprise almost 78.4% of the planted area with *Acacia* hybrid contributing a further 3.7%. Falcata and Gmelina are shown as they currently occupy a significant hectareage but their poor performances mean that they are no longer planted.

Table 5.3: Species and Year of Planting for Lana MTCS Area as of 30th June 2025.

	Year of Planting (YOP)																	Grand Total	%
Species	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025		
A. crassicaarpa								12.8			32.4					109.2	420.6	575.0	7.8
A. hybrid			24.1															24.1	0.3
A.mangium	2.5		13.7					86.1	165.3	240.8	390.6	578.1	648.8	426.3	344.9	128.4	20.2	3,045.8	41.4
E. pellita	6.6			0.2		2.5	10.3	176.3	89.3	141.1	184.2	152.4	178.6	78.3	414.5	779.4	578.3	2,792.1	37.9
F. moluccana				3.0	7.3		15.9	97.5	53.4				0.3					177.5	2.4
Gmelina arborea					12.0	13.7	31.8	140.3	14.6									212.5	2.9
Other spp.	7.1	5.0	15.8	3.5	0.5	69.7	313.2	71.2	0.0	0.0	12.4	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.7	0.0	536.3	7.3
Grand Total	16.3	5.0	53.6	6.7	19.9	85.8	371.2	584.2	322.6	381.9	619.6	744.9	827.7	504.6	759.5	1,040.7	1,019.1	7,363.3	100

Figure 5.1: Age Class Distribution for the Major Species - LANA (LPF/0006) as of 30th June 2025.

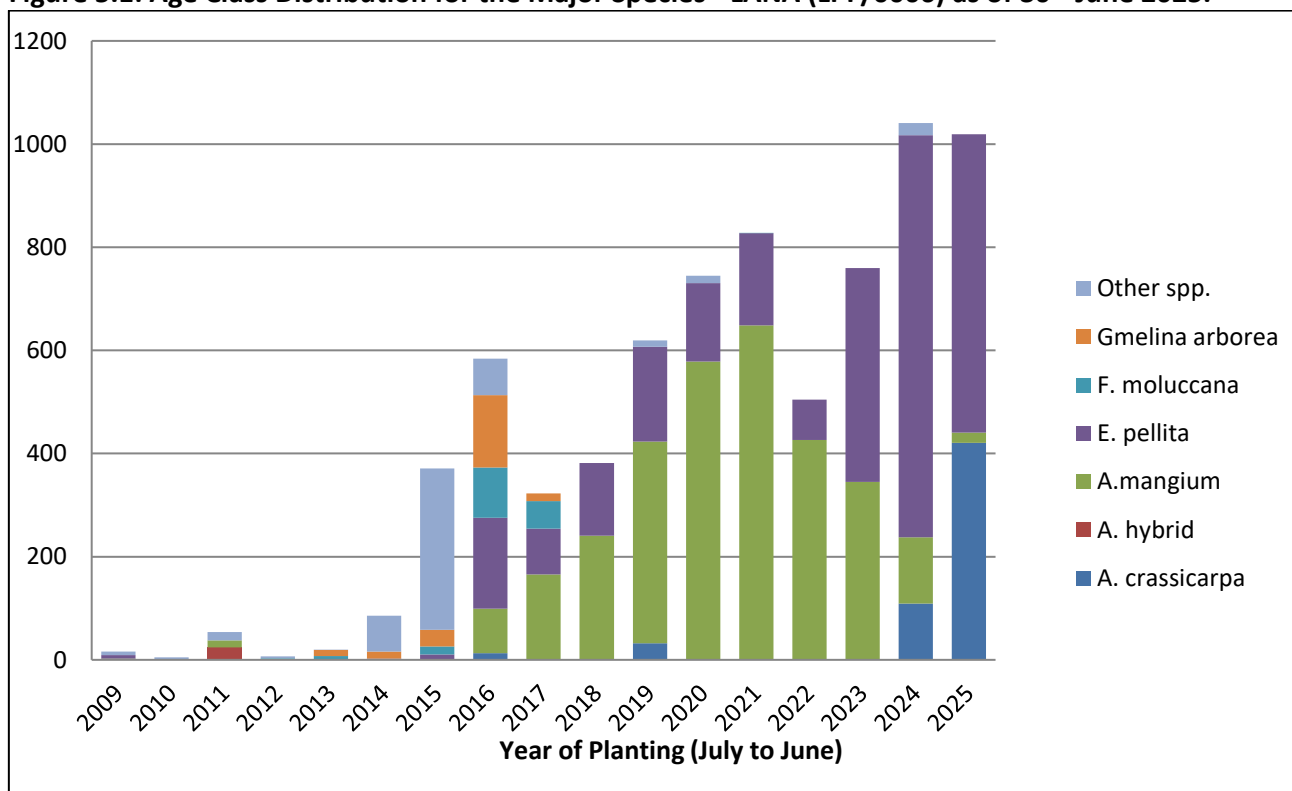


Figure 5.1 clearly shows the highly skewed distribution of the age classes. With a weighted average rotation age of 9 years the annual area that would be harvested on a normalised forest would be about 447ha. The harvesting plan will take this into account, together with Segar's experience that mangium goes into decline at about twelve years old, when determining the annual cut. The annual cut from the MTCS area alone might not be sustainable but that of the whole LPF certainly will be. When considering sustainability, it should be kept in mind that Samling's downstream will eventually be supported by several of their own ITPs. It is therefore the total log flow that must be sustainable and not necessarily that of an individual LPF.

6. Environmental Considerations

6.1 Environmental Limitations

There are few environmental limitations for ITP in the LPF area. Similarly, so for the MTCS area where the main limitation is the broken terrain with short, steep slopes on relatively fragile soils leading to a potential for increased erosion. A further limitation is that the combination of high rainfall and broken terrain gives rise to intricate networks of small streams. There are thus numerous water courses that must be buffered with protective strips of residual natural forest or unplanted land of widths determined by the prescription set out in the EIA and shown in Table 4.2.

The average annual rainfall recorded over 16 years at LANA nursery is 4,426mm. It has ranged from 3,966mm (2012) to 4,986 (2011) and has averaged 19 rain days a month and 233 days a year. Any given month in the year might be either the driest or the wettest in that year. The driest (84mm - March) and wettest (795 mm - January) were both recorded in 2014. This relatively high annual rainfall with frequent rain days and no truly distinct season impacts heavily on the efficient use of both labour and equipment and thus on operational costs.

Figure 6.1 Lana LPF: Annual Rainfall – 2008 to 2024 (mm)

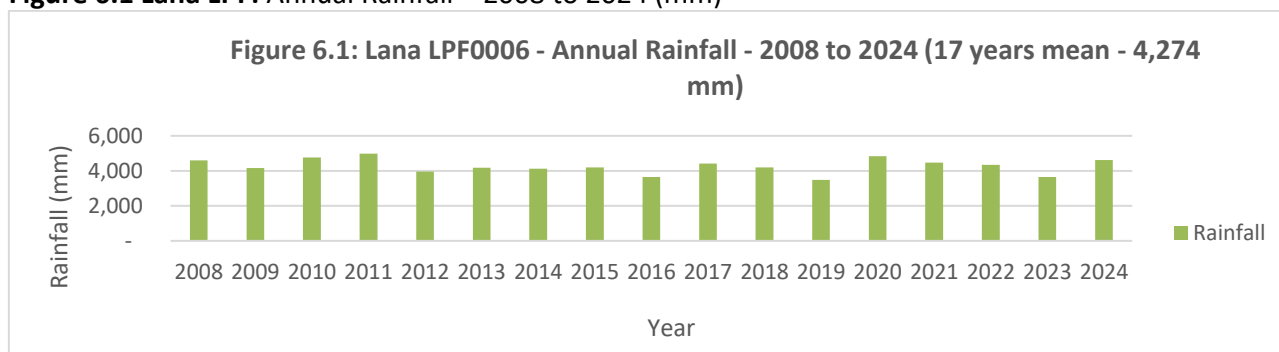


Table 6.1 Lana: Average monthly rainfall and rain days 2008 to 2024 (Inclusive)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave.	Total
mm	448	335	383	346	358	288	297	251	324	372	451	423	356	4,274
days	23	19	18	19	18	16	16	17	19	20	22	24	19	231

The high level and frequency of the rainfall and steep terrain makes access to some areas difficult, and even impossible at times, especially during the wetter season (November to March inclusive) when ungravelled roads can quickly become slippery and temporarily unusable. Because of this it is not realistic to plan for reliable harvesting and transporting on a year-round basis. To ensure a regular log supply log stocks will have to be built up at an all-weather depot, or at the mills, before the onset of the wetter season.

Lana used mix of fully mobile double winch yarders and shovel yarders. This is the system that enable partial or full suspension of felled trees when yarded to a landing for partial processing. Site damage will be limited by the use of shovel mounted grapples.

Other benefits of a yarding system include:

- Reduced disturbance to soils on steep erodible based system;
- Reduced compaction when compared to a ground-based system;
- It can be used from high vantage points minimising construction of new road infrastructure (this help maintains water quality and minimises site disturbances); and
- It allows access to otherwise economically inaccessible areas.

6.2 The EIA and Environmental Management Plan (EMP)

The EIA and EMP (DOC(PLAN)03) is a stand-alone document to which reference should be made for details. Elements of the EMP are referred to in various sections of this FPMP. Some of the essential points regarding environmental impact mitigation measures are restated in Section 6.3.

6.3 Environmental Impact Mitigation

6.3.1 Soil erosion

Mechanised operations in areas of steep slopes and high rainfall inevitably give rise to increased soil erosion. This is kept to a minimum firstly by using the most appropriate harvesting systems. Secondly, where new roads must be constructed, by ensuring good road alignment and by construction that conforms to the FDS standards – which is necessary in order to obtain a PHC (Permit to Harvest Coupe). Thirdly, by ensuring that any extensions of spur roads and clearing of new landings to facilitate extraction and loading are kept to the minimum necessary for efficient operation.

Section 10.2 describes the double winch system that is the main extraction method. The use of this system minimises soil erosion and compaction by reducing the need to enter the harvest block with ground-based machinery.

6.3.2 Water quality

The target set by the State Government is for river water quality to be maintained at least to Class IIB1¹ of the National Water Quality Standards of Malaysia (NWQSM). Maintenance of water quality is normally achieved in part by minimising soil erosion (see **6.3.1 Soil erosion**) and by keeping fertiliser leaching and herbicide run off to the minimum.

Fertiliser use is exceptionally low – less than 70kg/ha. Herbicide is normally only used in site preparation and in the first year of establishment. The herbicide load is also low with 4 to 5 litres/ha applied each round. The active ingredient of the main herbicide used is glyphosate which is generally considered to be toxicologically and environmentally more benign than most of the other herbicides currently available.

To date KUALA BARAM has not used pesticides other than herbicides in the field. However, experience in other ITPs indicates that there might be the occasional need for very restricted use of a termiticide but given this is peat swamp this seems to be unlikely. It would only be used in response to an attack and not pre-emptively.

Sewage disposal in the camp is by means of prefabricated cess pits.

Previously, water quality is monitored by means of water sampling whereby samples are taken quarterly from sampling points identified by the EIA and EMP. These samples are analysed by an external laboratory with the results submitted to NREB and presented within the external consultant's quarterly Environmental Monitoring Report (EMR). Reference to these reports will confirm that, to date, the results have almost always been within NREB acceptable parameters or in other ways compliant with the standards set in the EIA bearing in mind the highly acidic nature of peat soil. (The most recent monitoring results appear in the Samling website).

In Environmental Compliance Audit, the water sample result (environmental status) will be incorporated in Chapter 5 of audit report. The water sampling will be undertaken, and the water sample (for ex-situ parameter) shall be forwarded to an accredited laboratory registered with NREB for analysis.

6.3.3 Riparian buffer zones (also known as river buffer zones) – RBZ

Riparian buffer zones are established in accordance with the EIA recommendation (See the EMP and Table 4.2). The objective is to establish a well-defined strip of land - a buffer - that will help to protect the

¹ Meaning that the river water is safe for recreational use with body contact.

riverbank and the riverbank eco-system at least for the currency of the LPF. This will reduce soil erosion and thereby reduce the amount of sediment moving into the water courses. Establishing and then protecting riparian buffer zones also maintains, and over the longer term enhances, the biodiversity of the area. There is currently 64 ha of RBZ within the MTCS area. It is expected that this area will increase following re-demarcation prior to the first harvest: this has been the experience in Segan.

6.3.4 Zero burning

There will be a 'zero burn policy' for the preparation of second rotation sites for re-planting after harvesting. This practice has the benefit of reducing air pollution, conserving the organic carbon content of the top soil and improving the overall nutrient status and condition of the soil. (Where the first crop was Acacia, burning for second rotation site preparation usually results in very dense natural regeneration of acacia seedlings. This gives rise to very heavy competition for the planted seedlings.)

6.3.5 Use of chemicals

Apart from the insecticides and fungicides used, unavoidably, in the nursery only herbicides and fertiliser are used in the plantation. As stated in 6.3.2, both are used at low, or very low, rates of application. To review and rationalise the use of chemicals in ITP, and to aid in further reducing usage, the Samling Integrated Pest Management Framework was commissioned in 2022 and is now in place.

6.4 Environmental Safeguards

6.4.1 Environmental Quality Monitoring (EQM)

Previously, Environmental Monitoring Report (EMR), which was submitted quarterly to NREB reports on the environmental status of a project. With the full implementation of the NRE (Audit) Rules 2008, EMR will be migrated to Environmental Compliance Audit, Chapter 5: Environmental Status. Table below showing the result of water quality sampling on 19th March 2025.

Table 6.3: Result of water quality sampling on 19th March 2025

Parameter	Unit	Class IIB NWQS	SLA 1	SLA 2	SLA 3
pH Value*		6.0 - 9.0	6.6	6.6	6.5
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	5-Jul	5.6	5.5	5.5
Temperature*	°C	-	22.1	20.9	21.8
Turbidity*	NTU	50	33.60	34.30	35.00
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	3	2	2	2
Chemical Oxygen Demand	mg/l	25	9	11	8
Total Suspended Solid	mg/l	50	4	3	3
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	-	13.4	11.9	
Ammoniacal - Nitrogen	mg/l	3	N.D(<0.2)	N.D(<0.2)	N.D(<0.2)
Oil & Grease	mg/l	0.4	N.D(<0.1)	N.D(<0.1)	N.D(<0.1)
Total Coliform Count	MPN/100 ml	5000	33	79	13
Faecal Coliform Count	MPN/100 ml	400	8	22	5

*ND=Not Detected

6.4.2 Use of chemicals

As stated in 6.3.5 chemicals are used in both in the nursery and in the blocks (only herbicides) but at very low rates of application.

LANA acknowledges that under current best practice, applications of herbicides are necessary to ensure an acceptable survival rate as well as prevent increment loss through the competitive effects of weeds. The ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system records the type and quantity of chemicals used in forest

operations and the rate of application is recorded on a block-by-block basis with the results reported monthly in the Block Consumption Report.

However, LANA will always actively seek management practices that reduce the amount of chemical entering the environment of its LPF. This is of benefit not only to the environment but also to SRB as chemicals are expensive to procure and apply. Reducing these activities would have a substantial financial as well as environmental benefit to LANA.

Training also provides best practice guidelines and protocols for the proper use of chemicals in terms of human and environmental safety and economic application and for the safe disposal of the containers in which chemicals were supplied.

6.4.3 Water course quality

As mentioned in 6.3.2 under the LPF licence conditions LANA is required to monitor water quality of the LPF's water courses. The analysis are undertaken by an independent laboratory and the results reported in the Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA).

6.4.4 Monitoring exotic plant introductions

LANA's management is aware of the potential problems that might arise from the introduction of exotic species. However, no exotic species grown by SRB has been identified as an invasive plant pest by any Sarawak government agency. Furthermore, only three exotic species, of two genera (*Acacia* and *Eucalyptus*), are currently planted commercially (as opposed to trialled) in LANA LPF. All three species are known to regenerate naturally, to a greater or lesser degree, within the LPF, but this is not necessarily an adverse environmental impact.

To date neither an *Acacia* nor a *Eucalyptus* species originating in the LPF is known to have invaded areas outside the LPF. Mangium is a pioneering, short lived light demander and generally only regenerates in open, and relatively open, areas, e.g. burnt over SA. In areas of SA under a hill padi cropping cycle, the regeneration of mangium might be considered as beneficial because it both protects the soil and, as a nitrogen fixer, improves the soil.

In the event that *E. pellita* seeds do germinate as wildings outside of designated planting areas, the seedlings will find it very difficult to compete with strong weed competition. (Of the two other species planted operationally by Samling in other LPFs it might be noted that *Gmelina*, whilst it does regenerate naturally in Sarawak, is not known anywhere to be invasive. *Falcata* (batai), although a pioneer light demander, has not been known to be invasive under Sarawak's conditions.)

Unfortunately, other than those of the four genera listed above, not one of the almost 90 exotic and indigenous species that have undergone trials by Samling to date has, as yet, proven successful enough to regenerate naturally and thus none poses any degree of environmental risk.

As yet no exotic plant species is known to present a significant risk of invasion of Lana's MTCS area.

Monitoring of exotic plant invasion (inward and outward) is by observation during the course of regular security patrols and by *ad hoc* comment from management staff made in the course of their duties.

6.5 Fire Prevention and Control

Effective fire prevention and control strategies are essential for safeguarding the area. The following are the key measures are implemented to mitigate fire risks:

- a) Signage of No Open Burning: Clear and visible signage is crucial in preventing accidental fires caused by open burning. The signage is strategically placed along the roadside (LPF Boundary) and road junctions where forest plantation workers and local communities often enter or pass through.

- b) Patrolling activities: Scheduled patrolling team will conduct twice a month patrolling within Lana FPMU area and adjust the patrolling frequency based on FDRS indicator.
- c) Awareness and Training: the NREB Poster on *Hentikan Pembakaran Terbuka* and is displayed at Camp notice board and Forest Fire Training is conducted by Forest Fire personnel of Lana FPMU.

6.5.1 Forest Fire Plan

The LANA FPMU has a detailed fire plan covering the details on fire prevention and control. Sections 3 & 4 cover the description of the FPMU, rainfall records and trends and vegetation and boundaries and neighbours. Sections 5 and 6 cover the prescription for firebreaks and the potential fire risk areas and the fire danger rating system. Sections 8 and 9 cover vehicles and equipment. Sections 12, 13 and 14 cover the management of the situation should a fire occur with 11 and 15 covering post fire activities.

6.6 Conservation of Bio-diversity

This has been briefly referred to in Section 4.4. Conservation of the bio-diversity as represented by the gene pools of LANA's flora and fauna and of the ecosystems in which they are found is very much dependent on the residual natural forest in the riparian buffer zones and the conservation areas which together represent more than 41% of the gross area of the MTCS area. There will be, as yet unidentified, contributions to bio-diversity from the *planted* forest areas. Indeed, even the areas of SA in their various stages have a part to play in contributing to the overall bio-diversity of an area.

As stated in the EIA report and mentioned in Chapter 5 harvesting in the residual natural forest has been very wide spread and at varying degrees of intensity for several decades. No natural forest type has been identified within LANA LPF that is not also widely represented elsewhere within Sarawak. As already mentioned, the residual or remnant forest falls into several mapping units which together are termed Special Management Zones (SMZ) – see Table 4.1 - all of which are protected to the extent that the LPF management's authority.

When harvesting starts sometime in 2017 the process of re-demarcating SMZ areas on the ground and their subsequent GPS tracking will be carried out with far greater diligence than was the case in the early years of clearing and establishing the planted areas of the LPF. This in part due to the wide spread availability of GPS devices – some of the original blocks were established using chain and compass. As is the case in SEGAN LPF, as harvesting proceeds through the MTCS area the re-survey of the coupes and blocks will result in a small increase in the area of RBZs & possibly of other SMZ types.

As stated in Section 4.2.2 the SMZs are protected areas. This protection should ensure that the current level of bio-diversity does not diminish; indeed over time the diversity of the flora should increase with the arboreal component developing in terms of DBH and height (i.e. structure) with the species composition becoming, albeit very slowly, more diverse (see 6.6 Residual Forest). The LANA plantation maps show that the SMZs are widely distributed throughout both the LPF and the MTCS area. Currently they represent more than 25% of the MTCS area - (Table 5.1). It is expected that this percentage will increase a little over time as the pre- and post-harvest GPS surveys better define the land categories.

6.6 Residual Natural Forest

6.6.1 Background

The history of the LPF referred to in Section 5.1 clearly shows that the original MDF was subjected to very heavy harvesting in the past. This means that the residual, or remnant, MDF forest is very much secondary in physical structure and in terms of genetic diversity its flora is probably somewhat changed. However, as no study was undertaken prior to harvesting the natural forest to establish baselines, the original diversity levels of both the flora and of the fauna of the no longer extant primary forest type(s) remain unknown. It is now a question of protecting those areas of residual forest that have been designated as SMZs. Continued protection should, over many decades, allow the forest to recover in terms of structure: i.e., only time will allow the full expression of those species that are genetically pre-disposed to grow to

a large size. Similarly, over time genetic diversity might increase – slowly – as species that might have disappeared are recruited back into the SMZs by various means of seed dispersal.

7. Socio-Economic Context

7.1 Contribution by Current and Future Forest Operations

The net plantable and potentially plantable area of the MTCS area is less than 6,500ha. This is almost negligible when viewed against the state's previous planting target of one million hectares or even against the area currently planted state wide. However, small as this area might appear the LANA resource is important to Samling and to the District's economy. All the log production will go to Samling's own downstream operations: peeler logs for Samling's plywood mills and saw logs and chip logs for Samling's Grand Paragon Sdn. Bhd in Bintulu. The sawn timber will be further processed by Samling Housing Products Sdn Bhd (located at Kuala Baram). Grand Paragon now has a dedicated small-log sawmill adjacent to the fibre board mill. Chip logs and residues from processing plantation logs by both the sawmill and the plymill are used by Grand Paragon for the manufacture of fibre board. Chip logs also go direct to Samling's TreeOne MegaPellet in Bintulu for wood pellet manufacture. The fibre board is further processed in-house into door skins - primarily for export. Thus the entire log production from LANA ITP will be utilised locally, i.e. primarily within the Bintulu District.

Harvesting of mangium is planned to start in 2017. Given the very skewed age class distribution (Figure 5.1) and the fact that mangium can start to show negative increment at around 12 years old it will not be possible to generate a sustainable yield from the MTCS area alone. However, when combined with the LPF it should be possible to aim for a more normal forest plantation structure thus ensuring greater stability of production and thus of employment opportunities.

Maintaining a sustainable flow of logs suitable for Samling's solid wood downstream requirements is a key management objective of SST. The MTCS area and the balance of the LPF must both play their parts in achieving this.

The determination of the annual cut is based on:

- areas of mangium in the MTCS area that will be over age and have a low or negative increment; and
- the need to start the normalisation process for the LPF.

Whilst Samling has a mangium yield table for Segan that incorporates the PSP data from plots approaching 14 years old this is not applicable to Lana where the growth rates are lower. The yield model for Lana includes PSP data up to and including Age Class 10 but for Age Classes 8 and 9 the data inputs are still weak. There are no PSPs in Age Class 11 and above; and in any case harvesting the target is to harvest at or around 8 years old.

Based on a long term, sustainable cut objective, the AAC must be reviewed on an annual basis. The objective is to ensure a sustainable harvest volume from the whole LPF whilst trying to limit the losses that arise from the increased mortality associated with over-age mangium in the MTCS.

7.2 Employment and Services

In 2025, LANA employed 15 full time staff whom 6 are local and a further 8 are Sarawakian-other. There are 70 workers of whom 50 are Indonesians and 14 are locals. The competition for local workers from offshore oil and gas employment and the oil palm industry (both own planting and estates) is strong. However, of LANA's Sarawakian work force almost 100% can be considered as 'local', e.g. from Punan Bah and other long houses not too far away. LANA is an equal opportunity employer. The work force are 69 male and 16 are female (2025).

The establishment and maintenance work in LANA is done using in-house workers. The greater part of the logistical support is supplied locally from Bintulu, e.g., engineering, spares, and supplies.

Table 7.1: Lana LPF - Social and economic monitoring - employment

Category	Sex	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Staff																			
Sarawakian-local	M	4	18.2	5	19.2	14	25.9	7.0	33.3	3	5.7	3	5.6	3	17.6	2	2.2	4	4.7
	F	4	18.2	4	15.4	11	20.4	4.0	19.0	3	5.7	3	5.6	2	11.8	1	1.1	2	2.4
	M+F	8	36.4	9	34.6	25	46.3	11.0	52.4	6	54.5	6	54.5	5	29.4	3	17.6	6	40.0
Sarawakian-other	M	11	50.0	12	46.2	22	40.7	7.0	33.3	4	7.5	4	7.4	11	64.7	12	13.3	6	7.1
	F	1	4.5	2	7.7	4	7.4	1.0	4.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1	2	2.4
	M+F	12	54.5	14	53.8	26	48.1	8.0	38.1	4	36.4	4	36.4	11	64.7	13	76.5	8	53.3
Other Malaysian	M	1	4.5	2	7.7	1	1.9	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	F	0	0.0	1	3.8	1	1.9	1.0	4.8	1	1.9	1	1.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	M+F	1	4.5	3	11.5	2	3.7	1.0	4.8	1	9.1	1	9.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Foreigners	M	1	4.5	0	0.0	1	1.9	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.9	1	1.1	1	1.2
	F	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1.0	4.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	M+F	1	4.5	0	0.0	1	1.9	1.0	4.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.9	1	5.9	1	6.7
Staff - total Malaysian & Foreigners		22	100.0	26	100.0	54	100.0	21.0	100.0	11	100.0	11	100.0	17	100.0	17	100.0	15	100.0
Worker																			
Sarawakian-Local	M	7	9.7	9	8.6	6	6.7	14.0	11.1	11	20.8	9	16.7	12	21.4	11	12.2	9	10.6
	F	4	5.6	4	3.8	4	4.5	8.0	6.3	6	11.3	5	9.3	6	10.7	8	8.9	5	5.9
	M+F	11	15.3	13	12.4	10	11.2	22.0	17.5	17	40.5	14	32.6	18	38.3	19	26.0	14	20.0
Sarawakian-other	M	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.2	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	2	3.7	3	5.4	3	3.3	4	4.7
	F	2	2.8	2	1.9	3	3.3708	0	0	0	0.0	2	3.7	3	5.4	3	3.3	2	2.4
	M+F	2	2.8	2	1.9	5	5.6	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	4	9.3	6	12.8	6	8.2	6	8.6
Malaysian-other	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	F	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
	M+F	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Foreign	M	52	72.2	78	74.3	69	77.5	96.0	76.2	21	39.6	21	38.9	20	35.7	42	46.7	45	52.9
	F	7	9.7	12	11.4	5	5.6	8.0	6.3	4	7.5	4	7.4	3	5.4	6	6.7	5	5.9
	M+F	59	81.9	90	85.7	74	83.1	104.0	82.5	25	59.5	25	58.1	23	48.9	48	65.8	50	71.4
Worker - total Malaysian & Foreigners		72	100.0	105	100.0	89	100.0	126.0	100.0	42	100.0	43	100.0	47	100.0	73	100.0	70	100.0
All employee- Summary																			
	M	76	80.9	106	80.9	115	80.4	124.0	84.4	39	73.6	39	72.2	50	89.3	71	78.9	69	81.2
	F	18	19.1	25	19.1	28	19.6	23.0	15.6	14	26.4	15	27.8	14	25.0	19	21.1	16	18.8
	M+F	94	100.0	131	100.0	143	100.0	147.0	100.0	53	100.0	54	100.0	64	114.3	90	100.0	85	100.0
*local		19	20.2	22	16.8	35	24.5	33.0	22.4	23	43.4	20	37.0	23	41.1	22	24.4	20	23.5
Sarawakian Other		15	16.0	19	14.5	33	23.1	9.0	6.1	5	9.4	9	16.7	9	16.1	19	21.1	14	16.5
foreigners		60	63.8	90	68.7	75	52.4	105.0	71.4	25	47.2	25	46.3	24	42.9	49	54.4	51	60.0
All		94	100.0	131	100.0	143	100.0	147.0	100.0	53	100.0	54	100.0	56	100.0	90	100.0	85	100.0

Source: Employment record 2025

7.3 The Value of Forest Services

The following extract from Section 3.5 of the HCV Assessment gives a clear picture of the lack of demand for forest services “...The practise of hunting and fishing activities are done during free time and seasonal.

This is due to the adaption to a modern lifestyle as most of them are working, both in private and government agencies...The two most visited areas for collection of jungle produces are the shifting agriculture area and Bah-Sam Forest area, which are very far from Lana FMC [LPF]... for own use only...Reliance on timber products for building materials is very minimal as most of the locals shift to build up modern, concrete houses.....those .. using planks ...usually get them from...Bah-Sama Forest Reserve...The locals usually go to the nearest shifting agriculture area, oil palm plantation and Bah-Sama FR to hunt...they usually fish in Sg Bah and Btg Rajang..." The Assessment concludes: "...As far as the Lana FMC [LPF] is concerned none of the area is fundamental in meeting basic needs of the locals..."

Clearly there is little need, and hence little current demand, for forest services in the form of products such as fish, wild meat, honey, boat and house building materials, rattan etc. in the whole LPF in general and in the generally more remote MTCS area in particular.

In the EIA assessment undertaken 13 years ago it was noted that "... a significant number of residents, especially the younger and more able-bodied people, have left the settlements and are now working elsewhere.

As an ever-increasing percentage of the population becomes wage earners and entrepreneurs either locally - especially in Samling's ITP and oil palm plantations - or more probably, after migrating to urban centres, demand for these services will continue to fall.

7.4 Stakeholder Consultation (Engagement)

7.4.1 Introduction

Stakeholder consultation, perhaps better termed 'engagement', should:

- assist in the development of constructive, productive and more trusting relationships over the long term;
- result in a relationship with mutual benefits;
- help to identify trends and emerging challenges which are currently, or which may in the future, impact the management of the LPF in some way;
- establish transparent and accountable forest management operations; and
- provide a platform for proper conflict resolution.

7.4.2 Communities

Consultation, or engagement, is usually in the form meetings to ensure the FPMU's compliance with the various requirements of the MC&I SFM. E.g., awareness of the FPMU's operations that might affect the community and dissemination of the relevant results of social and wildlife monitoring.

Community engagement also takes place when:

- (a) a grievance arises and a *Borang Aduan* is completed and submitted to the FMU manager for further action - which should include community consultation and discussion as an aid to resolution; or
- (b) a community wants to request some form of assistance that would trigger a CSR response. For this a *Borang Memohon Bantuan* should be completed and submitted to the FPMU manager or put in the box provided outside the office.

The conflict resolution mechanism is available on Samling's website with QR code for ease of the public access to the complaint / request form using mobile phone.

The formation of Community Representative Committee (CRC) is voluntary decision made by the community to act as a platform for engagement on social issues related to the development and operation activities by the LPF.

7.5.3 Government departments and agencies

Engagement and consultations with FDS, SFC and other government departments and agencies take place on an *ad hoc* basis - as and when required by either party.

7.5.4 Non-government organisations

Samling, through the AGM Refor, engages regularly with the STA's Plantation Committee.

Samling Refor, as a member, also engages fully with the Borneo Forestry Cooperative (BFC).

Other NGOs are engaged from time to time as they or Samling might require; e.g. WWF, Mighty Earth, Aidenvironment.

7.6 Social Impact Monitoring (SIM)

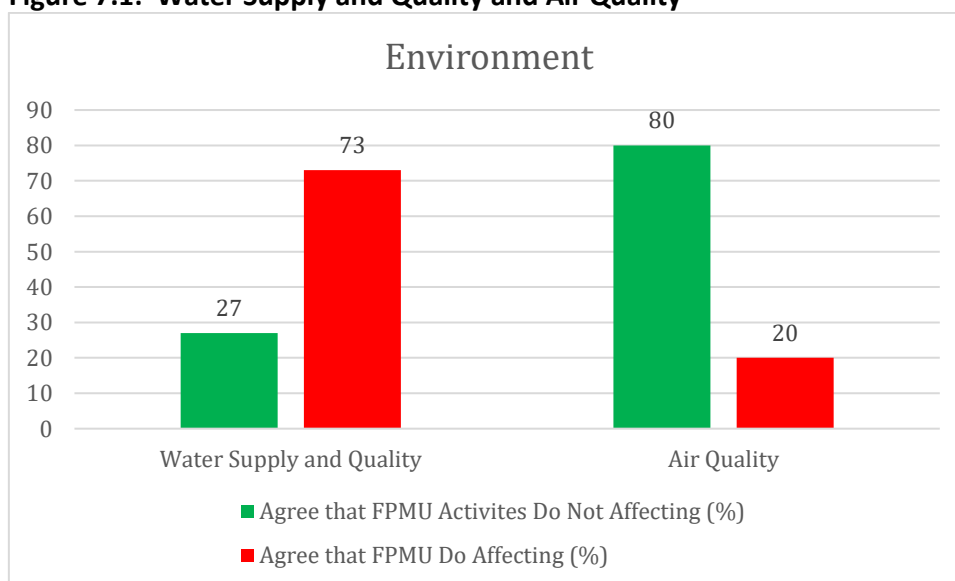
7.6.1 Introduction

It is not really feasible to separate the findings of the social impact monitoring (SIM) and use them solely in reference to the ITP operations within the MTCS area. This means that the SIM results must be taken as also referring to greater part of the LPF that is near, or surrounds parts of, the MTCS area - hence the references to FPMU rather than the MTCS area. Furthermore, it should be kept in mind that there are no communities within either the MTCS area or the area of the LPF that might be generally associated with the MTCS area. The main findings of SIM 2023 are set out below.

7.6.2 Water Supply and Quality and Air Quality

As can be seen in Figure 7.1, based on the annual social monitoring conducted in year 2024, 73% of the assessed local communities agree that their water supply and quality has been affected due to FPMU activities. As for air quality, 80% of the assessed local communities agree that the air quality is not affected by the FPMU activities.

Figure 7.1: Water Supply and Quality and Air Quality

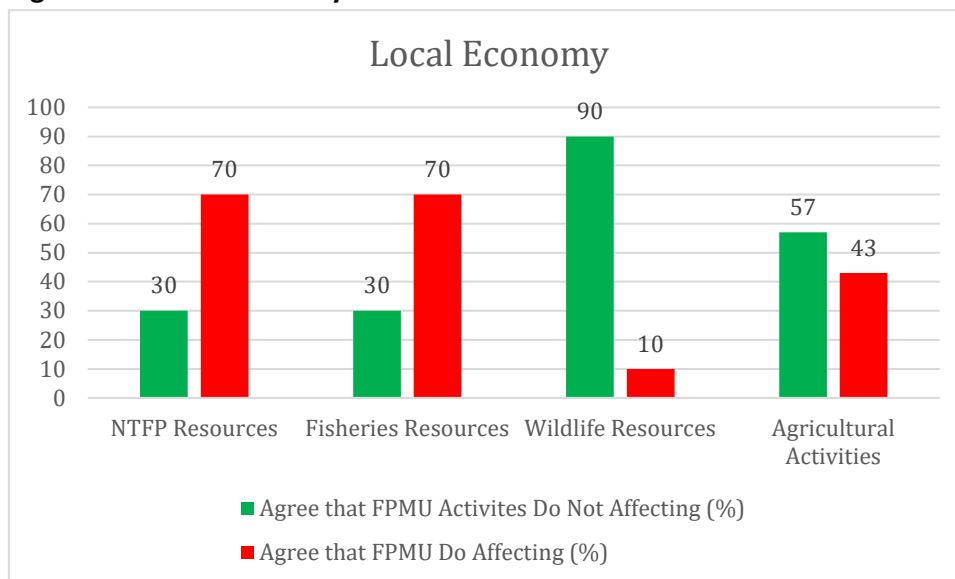


7.6.3 Local Economy

The SIM 2024 results revealed that the assessed local communities who agree that the FPMU activities do affect the NTFP resources and fisheries resources are 30% and 30% respectively.

The SIM 2024 results also showed that the assessed local communities who agree that the FPMU activities do not affecting the wildlife resources and agricultural activities are 90% and 57% respectively as shown in Figure 7.2.

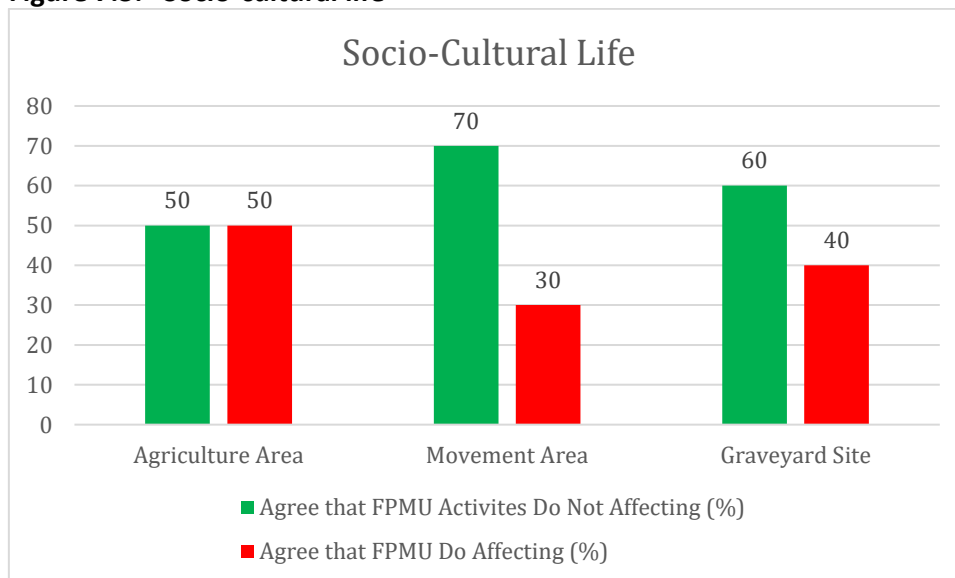
Figure 7.2: Local Economy



7.6.4 Socio-Cultural Life

From socio-cultural life aspect of the local communities, results of the social monitoring conducted shows the higher percentage on the respondents agree that FPMU activities do not affecting them on agricultural area, movement area, and graveyard site which give percentage of 50%, 70%, and 60% respectively as shown in Figure 7.3.

Figure 7.3: Socio-cultural life



8. Establishment and Silvicultural Systems

8.1 General

Planting started in LANA LPF in 2006/2007, mainly with mangium. The establishment regime for mangium is well known but the most appropriate silvicultural regime required for solid wood products, as opposed

to chip logs, has yet to be proven. There is little information available in terms of the methodologies and economics of such practice from either the private sector or government agencies².

Samling's Segan is a leader in developing the management practices required to satisfy the objective of producing logs for solid wood use. (The SPF objective is to produce chip wood - for a pulp mill that has yet to be built near Samarakan, Bintulu.)

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) has a Plantation Committee on which SST is represented. This committee is charged primarily with representing the industry in meetings with government to discuss, improve and resolve technical and common management issues. It also provides a valuable forum for discussion and exchange of ideas and practices. STA also organises overseas study tours that present a useful opportunity to learn from longer established ITP based industries. Late in 2012 a tour was made in Sabah and in 2013 a study tour visited New Zealand. A study tour of the growing and utilisation of eucalyptus in Guangxi, China, was undertaken in 2015. In the past, apart from the STA plantation committee meetings, there was only limited interaction between ITP companies in Sarawak although SST was proactive in trying to widen the interaction in order to observe, discuss and exchange ideas on forest plantation management practices. This situation changed somewhat in 20015/16 with SFC taking a leading role in R&D with members of the industry as active participants in joint R&D trials. The results of these trials will be shared between participating members. Unfortunately, the driving force left in 2019 and there is now little progress.

Samling is now a member of the Borneo Forestry Cooperative together with several Sabah ITP companies; it shares knowledge, experience and R&D trials and results.

8.1.2 Implementation of Silvicultural Regimes

The regimes set out here are primarily guidelines. From time to time a particular operation might be omitted, introduced or modified. A departure from the regime as given in the FPMP will normally be by way of a Bulletin. Take note that the regimes currently under review and to be updated.

8.2 Choice of Species

8.2.1 Background

When Samling started planting in Segan in 2000 the management objective was to produce only chip wood. This objective was revised 3-4 years later to the current Samling objective. At that time mangium was the species of choice throughout Malaysia. The perceived wisdom at the time was that mangium would '*grow well - anywhere*'. Time has clearly shown that this is not correct. Mangium has also not performed very well in LANA to date and is well below the forecasts made prior to start-up of the LPF.

Mangium suffers from high early mortality. This is in great part due to a high susceptibility to root rots (*Ganoderma* spp.) which experience elsewhere indicates increases in severity with each succeeding rotation. Whilst *Ceratocystis* is undoubtedly potentially a very serious problem it cannot yet be considered to be serious in LANA.

The early promise of *Acacia* hybrid has not yet been realised. Whilst the form and branching habit is quite good the growth and survival (susceptibility to pink disease) are generally not. The MAI of both Year Class 4 and 5 was below 10m³/ha. The PAI was a little higher but not sufficiently high to lift the MAI to an acceptable level. Clones 1 to 14 of the 28 *Acacia* hybrid clones brought in as tissue culture material from Sabah in 2012 were planted in LANA. Not one of the fourteen clones planted is performing well and the form is generally very poor. (Not one of clones 15 to 28 planted in Segan has performed well.)

² "The Establishment & Management of *Acacia mangium* for solid wood products." by Boden, D. and Molony, K. (August 2015) was commissioned by SFC. It contains little factual information that is applicable to Sarawak regarding growing mangium for solid wood use. The authors conclude that growing mangium for this use cannot be recommended at present!

The initial dependence on a single species is recognised by Samling - and by much of the ITP industry in Sarawak - as a flawed policy and R & D's search for alternative species continues with a recently increased momentum. R&D's aim is to achieve a degree of species diversity that will help mitigate the risk from pest and disease attack whilst still meeting the objective of economically producing peeler logs of acceptable size and quality.

However, other than *Acacia mangium*, *Eucalyptus pellita*, *Falcataria moluccana*, *Gmelina arborea* and perhaps *A. crassicaarpa*, not one of the more than 90 or so species trialled (both native and exotic, see Appendix 1) by Samling to date has shown any promise for use in solid wood ITP.

8.2.2 Site species matching

There will no doubt be subtleties provided by differing chemical characteristics of the various series and compound associations of the mineral soils but Samling's recognition of any such subtleties and the ability to make use of them is some way off. There are two main soil mapping units in the MTCS area - and six within the LPF. The Merit and Kapit series dominate the LPF and the MTCS area but the compound association (i.e., a mix of two or more soil series) that form the soil mapping units are all capable of supporting ITP species.

Over time the planted species diversity might better reflect the diversity of planting sites available. But any successful increase in species diversity will require: a) a wider range of economic species than has currently been identified; and, b) a much greater knowledge of both the soils and of the requirements of the economic species that might be best suited to them. Soil maps are available from reconnaissance level surveys at a scale of 1:250,000. The EIA makes reference to soil maps at 1:50,000.

8.2.3 Planting of native species

The Sarawak Forest Department has long extolled kelampayan (*Neolamarckia cadamba*) as an ITP species. Without doubt the form, growth rate and peeling qualities of this are all very positive attributes of this species. However, in Sarawak to date there is insufficient knowledge of seed sources and related genetics, nursery practice through to ITP silviculture for this species. There has been at least one relatively large-scale failure; success in Sarawak at an operational ITP level seems to be unknown - to Samling at least. It was unsuccessfully trialled on selected sites in LANA, along with the red kelampayan (*N. macrophylla*).

Pterygota alata was introduced in 2011 and from the outset suffered badly in SEGAN from an insect defoliator. In LANA a few individuals performed well but the good early day performance shown generally failed to follow through. Similarly, with *Alstonia macrophylla* where the good early day performance was not sustained. In 2013 *Endospermum malaccense* and *Dyera costulata* were brought in as tissue culture ramets but did not progress beyond the Segan nursery.

Durian has been planted but not in a formal trial. It scores well for form and for peeling and sawing timber properties. It is said by some fruit growers to grow 'quite quickly' and it could be reasonably P&D resistant.

In Chapter 9, Plantations, in 'A Review of Dipterocarps'³, Weinland restates a conclusion drawn by Kollert *et al* (1994) "...The establishment and management of [dipterocarp] plantations are uneconomical on financial terms alone." This conclusion was drawn more than 20 years go. With the changes that have occurred since, particularly in wood processing technology, the possibility that one or more of the dipterocarps, e.g., *S. parvifolia*, might prove to be an economic plantation species is recognised by Samling. There is however more than 100 years of literature on the subject of dipterocarps as plantation species and a review is required before addressing the problem of sourcing seed and then moving to trials can be considered.

Samling has spent much time and money on trials of native species. However, at the present time neither Samling nor - so it would appear - any other company in Sarawak has accessed sufficient and reliable

³ Eds. Appanah, S & Turnbull, J. M. 1998 CIFOR

information on the use of Sarawak native species in ITP to implement any other choice of species scenario than that described here.

8.2.4 Utilisation of species selected – end uses

Table 8.1 shows the end uses for the species that will be harvested during the currency of this FPMP. Also shown are the possible end uses for the two species which have recently become operational species. Gmelina has already been subject to downstream peeling trials and was satisfactory. It is known to be a versatile species for processing and is a medium quality sawn timber. Falcata is well known in Java as a peeler species but downstream will need to run tests to confirm acceptability for sawing and use in high density fibreboard.

Table 8.1: End uses of operationally planted species

	Plywood	Sawn timber	HDF/door skins	Chipping/ Pellets
Long Established				
Mangium	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Acacia hybrid	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pellita	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recently Established				
Gmelina	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Falcata	Yes	Yes?	BD (kg/m3) - 270 cf mangium 460 Possibly too light?	
<i>Acacia crassicarpa</i>				Yes

8.2.5 BORNEOTEAK®

Acacia mangium is listed as 'Mangium' in Table 8.1. Samling has successfully registered it with the Registry of Malaysian Trademarks under Classes 19 and 31 as BORNEOTEAK®. It is sold under this name to Samling's downstream.

8.3 Current Establishment and Silvicultural Regimes

8.3.1 *Acacia mangium* & *A. crassicarpa*

The intention is to produce a percentage of logs that will be suitable for peeling and for sawing. The determinant of suitability is primarily small-end diameter with grading for roundness, straightness and internal defect (centre rot and hollow) undertaken after felling. Logs that are unsuitable for solid wood use will be sent to Samling's HDF mill and wood pellet plant.

Good Quality Stock

As a matter of course LANA will only plant selected stock with good genetic characteristics with preference given to seedlings from in-house collections of Superbulk seed from elite trees or from the clonal seed orchard which comprises only clones of elite Superbulk trees. (Superbulk is the name given to some of the mangium seed produced by Borneo Tree Seeds Sdn Bhd in which Samling has a holding.)

Site Preparation and Establishment

Before planting takes place, some site preparation is necessary. This usually involves a herbicide application to kill any emergent weeds, particularly natural regeneration of mangium, thereby reducing competition to newly planted seedlings. Labour shortage often results in the time elapsed between completion of harvest and the commencement of site preparation being overly long. This means that prior to spraying the site must be slashed and time allowed for new growth to flush so that spraying can be more effective.

LANA plants 1,667 stems per hectare (2m x 3m) and considers a block to be established when a survival rate of 90% or more is achieved 30 days after passing planting QC.

Maintenance

Conditions are very conducive to vigorous weed growth. Circle weeding, slashing and herbicide spray are all used at a frequency that is determined by the rate of weed growth relative to that of the trees.

Silviculture

The intensive silviculture regime with four pruning lifts is intended to produce trees with a significant volume of “clear wood” in the pruned length. Live knots would be restricted to a small DOS core along the pruned length. This should reduce the amount of veneer repair required, allow a proportion of face and back veneer to be produced and also improve sawn timber recovery.

8.3.2 Eucalyptus species

As originally planned the value of the unthinned eucalyptus resource would be maximised by:

aiming to produce a crop that has a stocking of 600 to 700⁴ SPH of good form and which have at least 80% of these stems pruned to 6.0m.

The regime designed to achieve this is summarised in Table 8.3. It is essentially the same as that for mangium except that the rotation length might be 10-12 years. Where performance has been particularly poor the rotation would be shortened. Only when a sufficiently large number of PSPs have been established in blocks of 10 or more years old and when there is grade recovery information from downstream will it be possible to determine the economic rotation age.

Good Quality Stock

As a matter of course LANA will only plant improved genetic material. Seed is currently from Samling’s own elite tree section. The extensive pellita breeding programme is now well in hand on three sites. The first recommendations for improved seed have been made and it is expected that SPA seed will be available for the future.

Site Preparation and Establishment

Before planting takes place, some site preparation is necessary. This usually involves a herbicide application to kill any emergent weeds, particularly natural regeneration, therefore reducing competition to newly planted seedlings. Labour shortage often results in the time elapsed between completion of harvest and the commencement of site preparation being overly long. This means that prior to spraying the site must be slashed and weed growth allowed to time to flush with new growth before spraying.

LANA plants 1,110 stems per hectare at 3m x 3m and considers a block established with a survival rate of 90% assessed 30 days after passing planting QC.

Maintenance

Conditions for weed growth are excellent. Circle weeding, slashing and herbicide spray are all used at a frequency that is determined by the rate of weed growth relative to that of the trees.

Silviculture

The objective is to produce primarily peeler logs. Samling downstream has undertaken peeling trials of SEGAN pellita logs at 5.6yrs old. The results were satisfactory. There was negative comment only on the small diameter and the existence of dead knots; both of which can be influenced by silviculture. The results of both the sawing and KD trials were also strongly positive.

The intensive silvicultural regime with four pruning lifts was designed to produce trees with a significant volume of “clear wood” in the lower stem. Logs from the lower stem would have primarily green knots restricted to a small DOS core along the pruned length and should yield a significant proportion of face and back veneer.

⁴ This is considerably higher than the conventional stocking for solid wood ITP – a direct result of the ‘no thin’ policy.

The rationale behind producing stands with 80% of stems pruned to 6.0m is to allow pruned butt-logs with a minimum small end diameter (sed) of >15cm to yield two peeler logs each of 8 ft (2.5m) with an allowance for end splitting.

With a 'no-thin' regime a residual stocking of around 600 to 700 stems per hectare is expected to remain after natural mortality has taken its toll through to Year 12. Whilst this high stocking will restrict branch size in the logs above the pruning limit it will also restrict "clear wood" production over DOS (diameter over stub) in the pruned stem length.

Pruning above 4.5m might prove to be uneconomic but until PSP data on older trees is available and more information is produced by downstream both as to their intentions regarding re-equipping and the likely recovery rates at various log diameters it is difficult to evaluate the economics of pruning.

In early 2013 a stem canker (*Botryosphaeria?* sp.) was confirmed as widespread in *E. pellita* in Samling LPFs including LANA (see Dr Lee, S.S. internal report, 12 August 2010). Pruning of eucalypts stopped in mid-2013. Subsequent R&D trials have shown that green pruning (that is the removal of branches before they die) reduces the incidence of stem canker arising from what is termed *branch associated stem fungal irritation*. Green pruning has now restarted. It also reduces the incidence of dead knots and should more or less totally eliminate them if correctly practiced. Green pruning had a marginal negative effect on DBH increment in the first two years of the trials. Continuation of the trials will show if this impact is maintained or not.

8.3.3 Other species

Acacia hybrid was planted operationally but planting stopped when it's generally poor growth and susceptibility to pink disease (*Erythricium salmonicolor* syn. *Corticium salmonicolor*) became obvious. Batai (*Falcataria moluccana* syn. *Paraserianthes falcataria*) and to a lesser extent *Gmelina arborea* were both planted operationally but widespread poor performance led to no further planting.

8.4 Scheduling of Silvicultural Operations

Apart from the need to ensure that early competition from weeds is kept to minimum the key driver behind the silvicultural schedules of those species to be pruned is the timing (but see below). As LANA is aiming to produce clear wood material in order to maximize veneer recovery and quality, the minimisation of the knotty core (determined by diameter over stub, or DOS, at time of pruning) is essential.

Schedules are produced by the LANA LPF manager and checked by the visiting HQ manager.

The recognition of *Ceratocystis* sp. in mangium and a stem canker in pellita – both in 2012 - means that the progress in the relationship between pruning and the incidence of these two diseases must be closely monitored.

8.5 Alternative Plantation Regimes

It is acknowledged that ITP silviculture for the production of mangium logs, as well as logs of other species, for solid wood, as opposed to chip, use is a new subject both to SRB and within Sarawak, and indeed within Malaysia, and that there is much that is not known. A flexible approach is therefore taken towards the use of a particular establishment or silvicultural regime. Although there are core regimes (set out above) there is very much a "horses for courses" dynamic in place at LANA. If a block or species warrants a different, seemingly more appropriate, regime to be used then it might well be used.

A good example of this is on some of the older mangium blocks where the final pruning lifts had not been done by Year 4 and it was decided that no further pruning would be done. It was considered that the investment of time and money into these blocks in an attempt to produce some additional high quality clear wood product was not justified.

LANA is committed to employing the best practice for all its resource. It is open to employing new or innovative ideas if they are proven to be appropriate and they exceed the performance boundaries of currently accepted best practice.

8.6 Planting Material Production

8.6.1 The Nursery

The proposed nursery includes germination house, utility building, adjustable shade growing area and fertilizer dosing system.

9. Monitoring Plantation Forest Growth and Dynamics

9.1 Permanent Sample Plots

LANA is active in the use of permanent sample plots (PSPs) to monitor the growth and to develop growth models. The LPF licence conditions require that one plot be established for every 20 hectares planted. From the start of PSP measurement this was reduced to one plot per 5 hectares, and this has been maintained in order to build up a strong data base in reasonable time. PSPs are established when trees are 24 months old. The PSP data are used to construct yield tables, to model the growth in order to update estimates of the allowable annual cut (AAC), to determine which blocks should be harvested in any one year to achieve the AAC and for long term production forecasts. P&D information is also collected at the time of PSP assessment.

LANA has established, maintains and regularly measures an intensive allocation of PSPs to monitor forest growth and dynamics. There are currently some 900 plots distributed over the LPF. A high proportion of these are in the MTCS area.

Following initial establishment of the PSP subsequent re-measurement should be done on the anniversary of the first measurement over the length of the whole rotation. As the data base strengthens the need to continue the current, very high, level of sampling intensity will be reviewed for each species. Each plot is randomly (with some restriction) located within the area of the block that the GIS shows as planted before field work commences. In the field, regardless of where it falls, the plot centre is established at the predetermined GPS point. The only exception allowed being to ensure that a plot does not encroach on to a road-line or any non-productive area that has been GPSd and excluded from the productive planted area statement.

PSP measurements are recorded on a paper-based system and then entered in to Excel for processing. Migration of the process to ATLAS is in progress.

9.2 Taper Functions and Volume Equations

A taper function has been developed for *Acacia mangium* (mangium) based on SEGAN volume sample trees (on mineral soil); this taper function is also used for *Acacia crassiparpa* and for *Acacia* hybrid.

A taper and volume function has been developed for Samling's Pellita, in collaboration with Borneo Forestry Cooperative (BFC). Taper functions for other species will be developed when there is a sufficient number of representative trees old enough to provide the required full DBH range of sample trees.

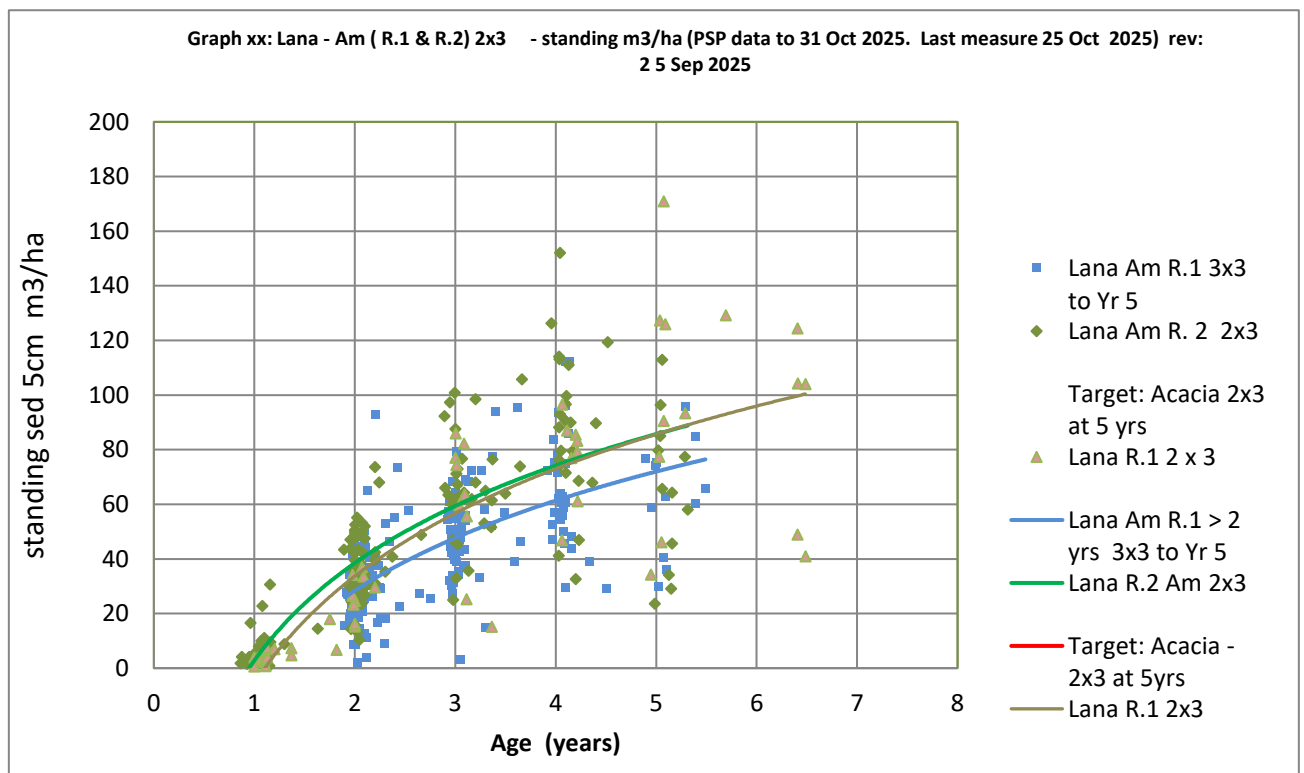
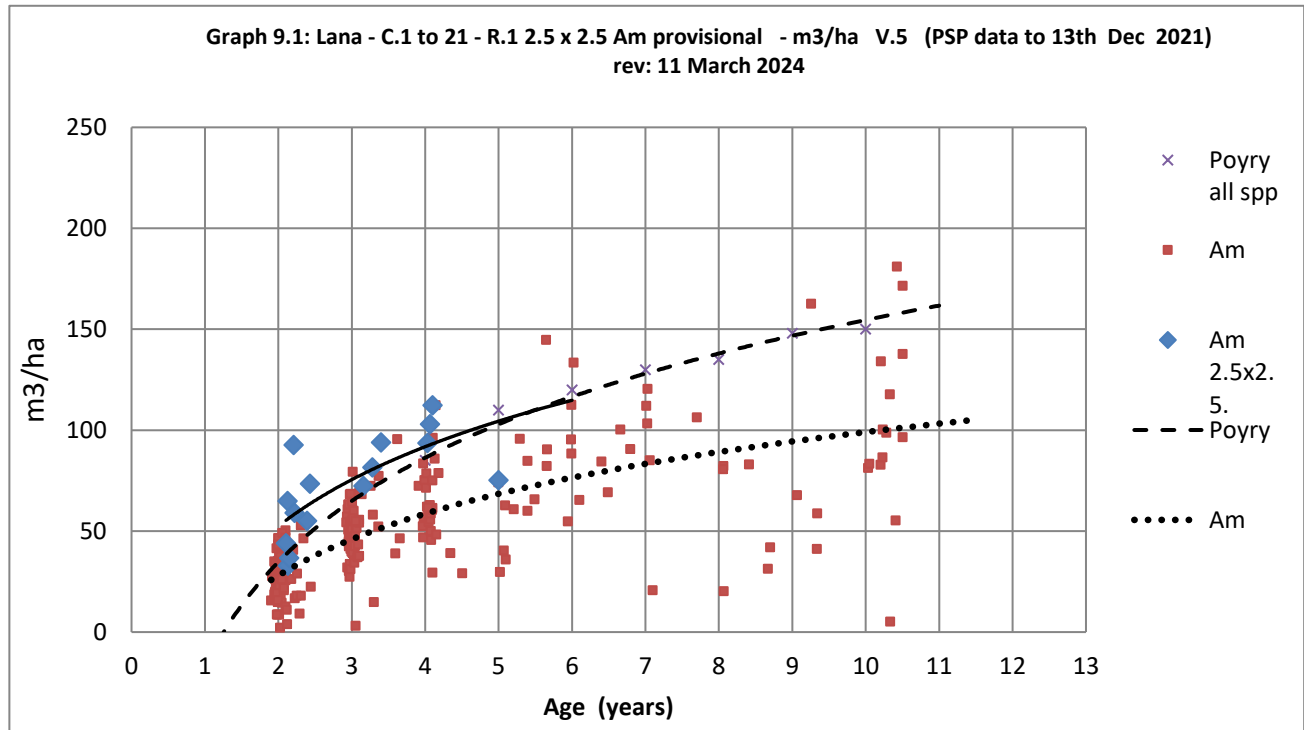
9.3 Monitoring Plantation Tree Growth, Site Productivity and Yield

9.3.1 Introduction

As mentioned in Section 9.1, a strong system of PSPs is in place to monitor the tree growth of the whole of LANA LPF using. Consequently, as the MTCS area forms a part of the monitored area, the yield tables developed are applicable to the whole LPF and therefore the MTCS area. Tree growth, expressed either as m³/ha or dominant height at a given age is an effective indicator of site productivity. The yield is what the area produces. It can be expressed as standing volume or delivered to mill.

9.3.2 Mangium

The results of more than 1,000 plot measurements have been used to develop a yield table. The table is quite strong up to about half rotation age. New measurements will allow the development of the yield table to rotation age. The yield table is under continuous revision as PSP data continue to be captured. Growth - as expressed by m3/ha - is highly variable as can be seen in Graph 9.1 below.

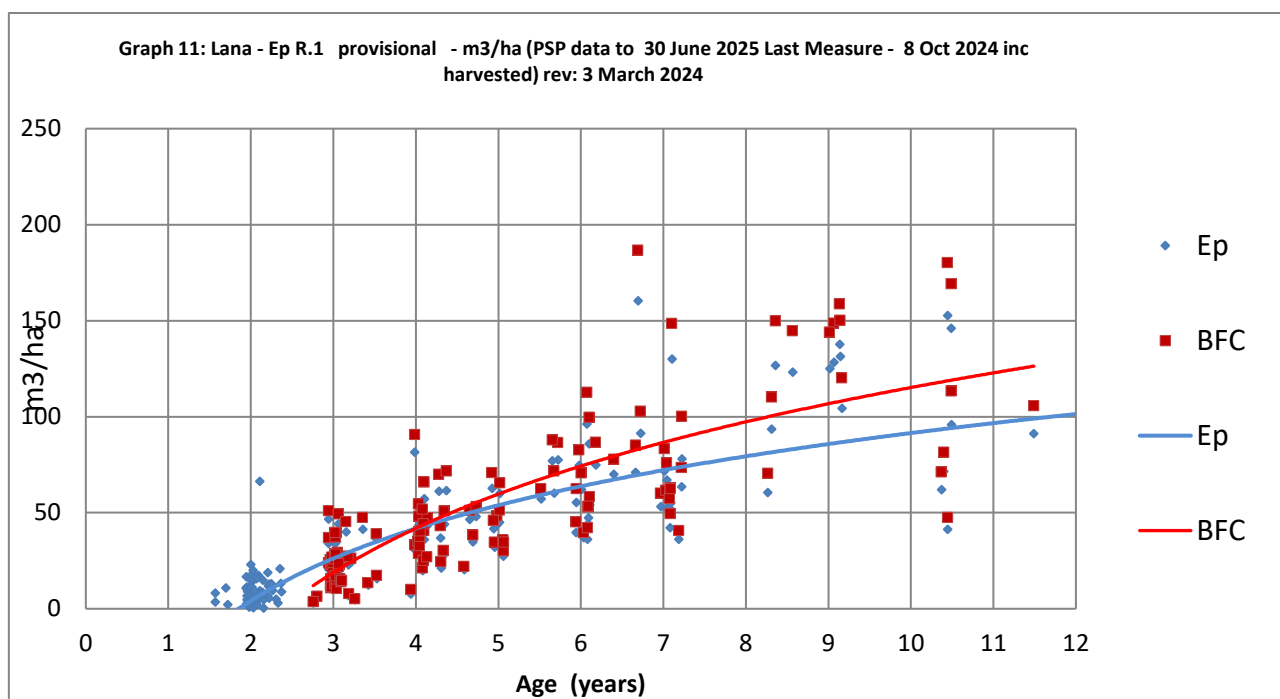


Graph XX above, shows the yield model for mangium planted at 2mx3m for Rotations 1 and 2. Both rotations are, at Yr. 3, well below the 5-year target yield.

9.3.3 Pellita

There are more than 800 plot measurements. The growth of pellita is variable with large differences between the PSP results for plots of the same age - as can be seen in Graph 11 below. The increment (CAI) between sequential measurements of the same plot can also vary widely from one year to the next. The optimum harvest age has yet to be determined. It will probably be 12+ 2 years. Currently the average age at harvest is 11.6 years but this is not necessarily the optimum age. More data from older blocks are required to determine this.

The determination of rotation length is dependent on a robust PSP data base. Despite the more than 800 plot measurements data are currently lacking in the older age classes. However, growth to date has been disappointing and although there does appear to be an improvement in the CAI of the older stands until further measurements can confirm that this improved growth is being maintained it is currently planned to harvest at 10 years. This assumption does not conflict with the earlier mention of 12 years, it merely reflects the current uncertainty. The rotation length will be continually reviewed as more PSP data from older trees become available, both from LANA and Samling's other LPFs, and more detailed log recovery analysis is undertaken by downstream.



10. Allowable Annual Cut, Harvesting Plan & System, Financial Sustainability

Sustainability: an enduring value. *Sustainable [forest] management is a beguiling term and open to many interpretations. It contains many uncertainties and ambiguities.* ♦ Duncan Poore, 2003

10.1 Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)

The AAC for LANA had not been determined at the time the FPMP was originally prepared. Prior to the start of harvesting the AAC was set at 62,600 m3; as can be seen in Table 10.1 below this was achieved on FY 2021-22.

At the mid-term review the AAC was revised (Ver. 02/2022). This revision considered the 4-year (2017 to 2021) total undercut of 108,556 tonnes and that harvesting would start in the Controlled Source area in 2023-24. The undercut had increased to 118,559 by end of June 2023 at which date the average annual under-cut was 19,760 tonnes.

The MTCS area is a very significant contributor to the LPF's AAC but the volumes produced from this area will fluctuate very widely from year to year. This is a result of the skewed distribution of the annual planting which can be seen in Table 5.3 and in Figure 5.1.

Table 10.1: Financial Year Summary of Lana MTCS area log production (tonnes).

Harvest	Financial Year										Totals (to date)
	2017-18*	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	
Actual	14,590	28,242	39,047	51,441	64,793	58,929	46,804	64,773	22,873		391,491
Planned	62,600	62,600	62,600	62,600	62,600	62,600	60,300	59,005	79,500	79,500	653,905
Act-Plan	-48,010	-34,358	-23,553	-11,159	2,192	-3,671	-13,496	5,768	-56,627		-182,914

*Financial Year 2025-26 Production vs. planned as of 31st October 2025

10.2 Annual Harvest Plan

The harvest plan follows the established Samling harvest plan style and is dynamic and held in soft copy format only. This allows for easy and, more important, for continual revision as new and revised PSP information is generated. It consists of a register of blocks planned for harvest in each of the next ten budget years; the blocks listed against each budget year will be the source of that year's AAC.

A management objective for LANA is to eventually achieve a normal forest age class structure as the basis for a sustainable yield whilst targeting an AAC that should continue to increase until LANA is fully planted. This might mean that some blocks would be harvested when considerably older than their ideal rotation age. In mangium this would result in negative increment. Therefore, despite the long-term objective of creating a normal plantation age class structure the mangium harvesting rate might at times have to be increased to avoid any significant financial losses that would result from allowing the mangium to become overage thereby resulting in negative increment.

10.3 Harvest System

Because of the steep and broken terrain, double winch excavator is the modified excavator to be used at LANA. The use of this low impact harvesting system also helps to protect the fragile soils and reduce erosion and compaction, as well as being economically more efficient. Avoidance of the latter effect is of particular importance when replanting with eucalypts.

LANA uses in-house crews for harvesting and a mix of fully mobile double winch yarders (Double Winch Excavator) and shovel yarders. This is a system that enable partial or full suspension of felled trees when yarded to a landing for partial processing. Economics demands that extraction of trees harvested near the roadsides must be ground based. Site damage will be limited by the use of shovel mounted grapples.

Other benefits of a yarding system include:

- reduced disturbance to soils on steep erodible sites;
- reduced compaction when compared to a ground-based system;
- it can be used from high vantage points minimising construction of new road infrastructure (this helps maintains water quality and minimises site disturbance); and
- it allows access to otherwise economically inaccessible areas.

10.4 Financial Sustainability

The LANA MTCS area is a small part of the LANA LPF and an even smaller fraction of the total ITP area operated by the Samling Group. The Group has clearly been financially supportive of LANA for the 11 years from start-up to starting harvest, and of its other ITPs since their start-ups. It is reasonable to assume that this will continue to be the case for the foreseeable future. However, following the start of harvesting in 2017, net revenue from internal log sales has covered replanting and overhead costs and it is expected that this will continue to be the case for the remainder of the 60-year licence period.

10.5 Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP)

There is no commercial harvesting of non-timber forest products.

11. Spatial Information and Management System

11.1 Spatial Information

With the ArcGIS Samling has a GIS that contains detailed spatial information for the LANA LPF. Data are captured by the QS team using Garmin 76CSx. LiDAR commissioned by Samling covers part of the area. GPS tracks are downloaded using OziExplorer. Tracks are then cleaned and processed using Quantum GIS. GIS data is then held by ArcGIS for further processing and mapping. The GIS allows Samling to produce a variety of maps displaying an array of information including legal, coupe and block boundaries, protected areas, land-use and related spatial information, such as contours and transportation features. Harvest planning will be done manually on maps generated from the GIS and where available - with LiDAR providing contours at 5m intervals. Currently, purchase of IFSAR data for those areas not covered by LiDAR is under consideration.

GPS tracks are backed up at LANA. After arrival at Miri HQ tracks are checked and cleaned and then saved on both Refor hard drives and Samling's local server.

Paper based copies are held as further "backup" should the electronic systems fail.

11.2 Management Systems

Samling uses the ERP system for financial control and the ATLAS GeoMaster suite to manage block records.

12. Conservation, Conservation Areas and High Conservation Values

12.1 Conservation and Conservation Areas

Given the past history of wide spread, heavy harvesting with multiple re-entry it is not surprising that undisturbed primary forest has yet to be identified within the LANA LPF.

This history, its small size and occupations of its neighbours all mitigate against, but do not necessarily preclude, LANA MTCS having much relevance to conservation in general and as a haven for endangered, rare and threatened species (ERT) in particular. This is of course especially true for larger animals. But, however limited the potential might be LANA recognises it has an obligation and commitment to incorporate into its management practices a system that takes into account the need for conservation awareness and for the identification and protection of ERT species. It also recognises the importance of indigenous biodiversity and the need to protect some areas of indigenous vegetation which might have the potential to recover, albeit over a long time, in both structure and biodiversity, to something approximating that which existed prior to the start of natural forest harvesting.

Attempts to obtain information for the adjoining ITP LPF (KTS-Pusaka) in order to identify actual or potential cross border conservation areas and areas in which ERT species have been identified have not yet been successful. Once obtained this information on possible cross-border wildlife corridors will be incorporated into the LANA GIS

As mentioned earlier no areas of undisturbed primary forest have been identified in LANA. Those areas of remnant forest that have been designated as conservation areas, as opposed to riparian buffer zones (the establishment of which is a mandatory), will be protected as SMZs. Full protection of the conservation areas and other SMZs will allow them to continue to recover and develop their biological diversity. These areas will also provide refuges and ecological corridors for the wildlife in other parts (non-MTCS) of the LPF and adjoining areas.

It is Samling's policy that anyone working in LANA should have a positive approach to conservation and be involved with the process of protecting ERT species. Contractors are asked to note, either verbally or

in writing, the location and type of any rare or threatened species they come across in their day-to-day activities.

For example all new contracts and those renewed for establishment, silviculture and harvesting work contain the following clause:

“Sites which are known to be culturally sensitive or are known to contain rare or endangered species are surveyed and placed on LANA maps. If these areas are identified on any map(s) issued with the Work Order, it is the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure his workers have been informed of them before work commences. Any new sites or species encountered will be reported to LANA management immediately.”

Where a current contract does not contain this clause then the contractor is required to acknowledge and to agree in writing that he will comply with this clause.

As a forestry company, and with its Sarawak ITPs increasing in significance in terms of log production, Samling also views its forest plantations as a contributor to reducing pressures on the harvesting of MTH in Sarawak and Malaysia (and therefore globally).

The EIA identified some of the protected and totally protected flora and fauna that occur within the LPF and the HCV assessment (Section 12.2 below) contains further information. These reports should be referred to for detail.

12.2 High Conservation Values

12.2.1 Assessment

SFC undertook an HCV assessment in mid-2016 and produced a report entitled *‘High Conservation Value Assessment (HCV) [of] FMC area within Lana Reforestation LPF/0006, Sarawak’*[DOC(ASSMNT)03]. The assessment followed the WWF Toolkit for Malaysia⁵ and gives a detailed summary of the HCV status of LANA.

The main headings are given below to reinforce management’s awareness of the breadth of the HCV assessment. (For details the above report should be consulted.)

HCV 1 Biodiversity Values *Forest area contains globally, regionally or nationally significant biodiversity values (e.g., endemism, endangered species, sites of critical temporal use)*

HCV 1.1 Protected Areas

HCV 1.2 Threatened and Endangered Species

HCV 1.3 Endemism

HCV 1.4 Critical Temporal Use

HCV 2 Landscape-level Forest *Forest area contains globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forest where significant populations of most if not all naturally occurring wildlife species exist in natural patterns and abundance.*

HCV 3 Ecosystems *Forest area contains or is part of a threatened or endangered ecosystem.*

HCV 4 Services of Nature *Forest area provides basic services of nature in critical situations.*

HCV 4.1 Watershed Protection

HCV 4.2 Erosion Control

HCV 4.3 Barriers to Destructive Fire

HCV 5 Basic Needs of Local Communities *Forest area is fundamental to meeting basic need of local communities.*

⁵ First Edition 2009 WWF-Malaysia

HCV 6 Cultural Identity of Local Communities *Forest area is critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity.*

12.2.2 Assessment Analysis

It might be noted that:

1. the area had generally been very heavily disturbed by logging prior to the issue of the LPF licence;
2. further salvage logging took place prior to the release of coupes for the LPF under Op.5 (clearing & site preparation);
3. the LPF has been in continuous operation for 16 years;
4. a relatively large oil palm estate has been established within the LPF;
5. 41% of the forested MTCS area is designated as SMZ. This means there is already a very large forested area under protection; and
6. hunting by Samling employees and contractors is prohibited and there is little interest shown at present by locals in hunting and fishing for their own consumption within the MTCS area.

The first four points above are, without doubt, 'conservational negatives' but it is quite clear from the EIA and the HCV report that, despite these negatives, an interesting degree of biological diversity has been maintained.

The fifth point - that such a high proportion (41%) of the area has SMZ status and is therefore already protected from invasive human activity – together with the sixth point will surely lead to the existing diversity, already quite considerable, being quantitatively and qualitatively further enhanced over time.

The SFC report shows that:

For **HCV 1 and 2**: the LANA MTCS area does have some HCV attributes, e.g., the existence of ERT species and of some species endemic to Borneo. However, when the qualitative and quantitative aspects of these attributes are viewed in the context of relevance either to national and Sarawak state needs or to those of the LANA LPF itself, there is no justification for elevating any of LANA MTCS conservation areas from their current protected status and according to them HCV status under either HCV 1 or HCV2. This point is reinforced by the SMZs providing an equal level of protection for both mammals and birds that are free ranging, i.e. not confined to limited areas of habitat, as would be accorded to an area declared as an HCV area.

For **HCV3**: reference is only made to riparian buffers the designation and protection of which are mandatory under the conditions attached to the EIA Report Approval certificate.

For **HCV4**: reference is made only to Terrain Class IV which is present to only a very limited extent in the MTCS area but is all within the designated Conservation Areas and is thus fully protected.

For **HCV 5**: the SFC report shows that there is now no dependence on the forest products provided by the MTCS area or indeed on those provided by the whole LPF. What activity there is – primarily hunting and fishing - now verges on the purely recreational. Timber and timber products are bought rather than self-collected. It is abundantly clear that there has been little socio-economic impact of the LANA MTCS area on the communities. However, identifiable positive economic impacts have been (a) the employment provided for 33 Sarawakians, most of whom are local, directly employed in LANA ITP and (b) provision of road access to Bintulu Town and (c) road access to the Samling's Lana Oil Palm mill.

For **HCV 6**: the MTCS area has no sites of cultural significance. The one salt lick identified lies well outside the MTCS area but is in any case fully protected by a buffer zone, albeit the locals are allowed to hunt there for their own consumption.

12.3 Social Impacts

12.3.1 Assessment

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) was undertaken in November 2017. The assessment was guided by the *'Guidelines and Procedures for Social Impact Assessment and Monitoring of Forest management Operations (Peninsular Malaysia)*. UPM 2012.

12.3.2 SIA Report and Analysis

The SIA states the objectives of the assessment as:

- To identify and enumerate the baseline data of local communities' conditions within the planted forest management operations area;
- To identify the key social impacts of the FPMU's operations;
- To recommend management action needed to mitigate and monitor the social impacts of forest management operations in Lana FPMU; and
- To establish friendly relationship between Licensee and the affected communities.

The assessment identified and addressed three main points of impact arising from the forest plantation activities within the LPF:

1. Water supply and quality

- a) Community water supply and quality
- b) River water and transportation

Ensuring adequate supplies of clean water throughout the year is a major concern for most villagers. This is addressed in part by designating water catchment areas which must then be protected from encroachment and destructive human extractive activity.

It is often forgotten that a very significant rate of erosion can and does occur naturally in areas of high and heavy rainfall. This is especially true in the steep and broken terrain which comprises much of the land available to ITP in Sarawak. However, this rate of erosion is exacerbated by the removal of vegetation that establishment of ITP requires and the use of heavy equipment for road construction and timber extraction. This, removal of vegetation and use of heavy equipment, inevitably leads to some increased siltation of the rivers; but just how much can be attributed to which cause is the subject of generally qualitative, unscientific argument.

2. Local economy and livelihood

- a) Forest resources
- b) Traditional land tenure
- c) Income and job opportunities
- d) Traditional economic activities

In Lana LPF some of the residual forest areas are now protected as SMZs. This means that extractive activity is restricted to more or less non-damaging events, e.g. collecting honey, fruit, rattan etc. The felling of any tree within an SMZ is prohibited (unless it is an exotic). This means that the availability of trees from which to produce timber for construction is perceived to be restricted – which it is. But what is not known is the true demand side for such trees. Given the assumed to be diminishing and aging nature of the populations together with the trend for using cement in house repair and construction, then both the demand for timber and the number of men available and capable of harvesting trees, must be trending down.

The HCVA noted a concern regarding loss of land ownership and loss of land for farming. However, with regard to the former the report's authors should have clarified to the local communities there and then that, unless the land is titled, then it is owned by the State and so the question of 'ownership' should not

arise unless it has been verified as NCR. In the latter case the NCR land would have been excluded from the plantable area. The concern regarding loss of land for farming is a matter for clarification through the community but again the earlier comments regarding the diminishing and ageing populations are relevant.

3. Socio-cultural life

- a) Health and safety
- b) Traditional knowledge and skills of local communities
- c) New knowledge and skills

The SIA has little of substance to say about health and safety apart from noting a concern that the dust from the plantation roads gives rise to reduced air quality.

Linked in part to the reduced area of the forest resource is the dwindling traditional knowledge and shrinking traditional skill base of the communities. But the reduced availability of traditional material is not the only cause of diminishing handicraft practices. As the population ages so the number of skilled and practicing artisans decreases; infirmity renders the collection of the raw material from the forest a less attractive activity; and then death takes its toll and further reduces the number of participating artisans. For many, perhaps most, of the younger villagers the time taken to collect raw material from the forest and then process it prior to starting handicraft production – even if the material is available in the forest in adequate quantity – is not a very attractive proposition. When viewed against a wage earning occupation and the lure of the ‘digital world’ it becomes even less so.

However, it should also be acknowledged that even handicrafts move on and that the traditional skill of basket weaving has to some extent flourished with the realisation that PVC strapping can be used as a readymade substitute for rattan for certain handicraft products. With some adaptation of technique and design, this allows the traditional skills of basket weaving to be gainfully practiced without the need for (a) a rattan resource and (b) the very time consuming process of collecting and then processing the rattan to a state in which it can be used for handicraft products.

The report acknowledges a positive impact in that the improved access by way of the, albeit dusty, plantation roads which allow villagers to drive to Bintulu. The Lana FPMU also has a positive impact on the affected communities in terms of opportunity for employment in the plantation industry.

12.4 Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

12.4.1 Introduction

The components needing mitigation and enhancement measures identified in the three key social impacts are listed as the following:

- 1) Local community water supply and quality
- 2) River water and transportation
- 3) Forest resources
- 4) Land tenure
- 5) Income and job opportunities
- 6) Traditional and new economic activities
- 7) Health and safety
- 8) Traditional knowledge and skills of local communities
- 9) New knowledge and skills

Measures for mitigation and enhancement relating to the components identified in the three key social impacts are specified and discussed.

12.4.2 Measures to Mitigate Adverse Social Impact and Enhancement on Water Supply and Quality (as guided by the HCVA and SIA)

1. Local Community Water Supply and Quality

There are no water catchment area and water intake points within the MTCS area.

The LPF management should where possible follow the mitigation measures recommended in the EIA/EMP report for soil erosion, slope stability and other potential environmental effect and that could affect the community water supply.

The LPF should follow the standard operating procedures for harvesting operations with requirements of the MC&I SFM to minimize soil erosion and other adverse environmental impacts

2. River Water and Transportation

To mitigate the adverse impact of siltation and murky water that affects the water source and shallow water, the LPF is recommended to establish and demarcate river buffers as per Rivers and River Reserves Guidelines produced by the Department of Irrigation and Drainage. Maintenance of appropriate size of river buffers will filter and trap sediments. The guideline specifies the following:

Table 12.1 : Guidelines for Rivers and River Reserves

River width (m)	River reserve width/buffer (m)
>40	50
20-40	40
10-20	20
5-10	10
<5	5

The LPF management should where possible follow the mitigation measures recommended in the EIA report for soil erosion, water pollution, sediment loads and other potential environmental effects that could affect the river system.

12.4.3 Measures to Mitigate Adverse Social Impact and Enhancement on Local Economy and Livelihood (as guided by the HCVA and SIA)

1. Forest Resources

Any natural forest areas regularly used by local communities for forest produce are to be noted and recorded to avoid damage during operations.

The LPF is to ensure that the demarcated protection areas or alienated land used by the communities are left undisturbed (this will give time for the forest to regenerate and recover).

The LPF also need to identify and demarcate the boundary of SMZs (buffer zones, water catchments, protected areas etc) by marking standing trees or permanent natural features with blue paint along the boundary. These SMZs are to be clearly depicted in Tree Harvesting Plan.

2. Land Tenure

The LPF's management is advised to consider the need of local communities to utilize the areas that are traditionally used and sites of significance importance to the communities for their livelihood.

The formation of Community Representative Committee (CRC) is voluntary decision made by the community to act as a platform for engagement on social issues related to the development and operation activities by the LPF.

This will become a platform to discuss the community-forestry issues, community participation and socio-economic development. Regular dialogues with the local communities are recommended, especially on the latest development in the LPF.

3. Income and Job Opportunities

As part of Samling's corporate social responsibility and in line with Principle 4 of the MC&I SFM on Community Relations and Workers' Rights, the LPF management should prioritize employment among the local communities to enhance their long-term social and economic well-being. Job priority for locals would ensure that they benefit directly from the development of the LPF. The interventional approach should target the segment of the communities who is on the lowest rung of the economic status. Incentives may be provided in the form of better accommodation, amenities and benefits available to the workers staying at the operation camp.

4. Traditional and New Economic Activities

As some of the local communities living within and adjacent to the LPF use areas for traditional activities, the LPF is to ensure that the demarcated protection areas or alienated land used by the communities are left undisturbed and that will give time for the forest to regenerate and recover.

12.4.4 Measures to Mitigate Adverse Social Impact and Enhancement on Socio-Cultural Life (as guided by the HCVA and SIA)

1. Health and Safety

It is recommended that the management of the LPF to work closely with Department of Health and community in handling health issues.

It is a requirement that all foreign workers undergo a medical check-up prior to employment with emphasis on communicable or infectious diseases i.e. Malaria, Dengue Fever and Tuberculosis (TB). Installation of signboards and speed humps to reduce speed as might be appropriate is also recommended.

2. Traditional Knowledge and Skills of Local Communities

The LPF should safeguard the protection areas used by the local communities in obtaining their jungle produce for handicraft and soft-furniture making.

It is suggested that LPF management to work together with relevant government agencies as well as NGOs to enable them to conduct programmes to preserve traditional knowledge and skills of local communities.

3. New Knowledge and Skills

Management of the LPF could provide and support training related to plantation operations and organize education programmes in order to maintain and enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of local communities.

12.5 Monitoring – Wildlife

12.5.1 Fauna

Table 12.1 shows the summary of the annual sightings based on the patrol reports, *ad hoc* sightings and visits by Samling's Conservation Team. Other than incidental sightings, camera trapping method being applied to monitor the presence of wildlife within Lana FPMU the result were incorporated into Table 12.1.

12.5.2 Flora

Apart from the permanent sample plots (PSPs) the present monitoring of the flora in the MTCS area is restricted to observations of the movement of exotics species as described in Section 6.4.

PSPs are established and then used to monitor the subsequent growth and survival of the planted species. PSPs and the results of the monitoring are discussed in some detail in Ch. 9.

Table 12.2: Wildlife Species captured (Camera Trapping) and Observed (Wildlife Sighting) 2024.

No	Wildlife species	Scientific name	IS	CT	Conservation Status		
					WLPO 1998	CITES	IUCN
Mammalia							
1	All mice/rat (Tikus)	Family Muridae	1	0	-	-	-
2	All otters (Memerang)	Family Viverridae	6	0	P	-	-
3	Civet (Musang)	Family Viverridae	1	0	P	-	-
4	Long-tailed Macaque (Kera)	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	6	0	P	App. II	EN
5	Pig Tailed Macaque (Beruk/Nyumboh)	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	15	0	P	App. II	EN
6	Plantain Squirrel (Tupai Pinang)	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	15	0	-	-	LC
7	Sambar Deer (Rusa/Payau)	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	7	1	-	-	VU
8	Pangolin (Tenggiling)	<i>Manis javanica</i>	1	0	P	App. I	CR
9	Short-tailed Mongoose	<i>Urva brachyurus</i>	0	2	P	Apps III	NT
10	Bornean Sunbear	<i>Helarctus malayanus</i>	0	1	P	Apps I	VU
Reptilia							
9	Chameleons (Sesumpah)	Family Chamaeleonide	1	0	-	-	-
10	Monitor Lizard (Biawak)	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	10	0	P	App. II	LC
11	Cobra (Ular Tedung)	<i>Naja naja</i>	2	0	P	App. II	LC
12	All Python (Ular Sawa)	<i>Python</i> sp.	2	0	P	-	-
Aves							
13	All eagle (Helang/menaul)	Family Accipitridae	6	0	-	-	-
14	All egret (Burung bangau)	Family Ardeidae	2	0	P	-	-
15	All owl (Burung hantu)	Family Strigidae	1	0	P	-	-
16	Forest Raven (Gagak)	<i>Corvus tasmanicus</i>	3	0	-	-	LC
17	Asian black hornbill (Rengak)	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	3	0	TP	App. II	VU
18	Pigeon (burung Pergam)	Family Columbidae	3	0	-	-	-
19	Hill Myna (Burung Tiong)	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	12	0	P	App. II	LC
20	Munia (Pipit)	<i>Lonchura spp.</i>	3	0	-	-	-
21	Oriental magpie-robin (Murai)	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	6	0	-	-	-
22	Rhinoceros hornbill (Kenyalang)	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>	22	0	TP	App. II	LC
23	White Rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	1	0	P	App. II	LC
24	Woodpecker (Burung Belatuk)	Family Picidae	1	0	P	-	-
26	Greater Coucal (But But)	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	2	0	-	-	LC

Table 12.3: Fauna Monitoring Record as of 31st December 2024.

Annual summary of wildlife monitoring										
Common/Local Name	Scientific Name	Year								Total
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Mammalia										
Bearded Pig (Babi Berjanggut)	<i>Sus barbatus</i>	1	15	10	0	50	4	11	0	91
Borneon gibbon (Empeliau)	<i>Hylobates muelleri</i>	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	0	8
Civet (Musang)	Family Viverridae	0	0	10	0	0	6	6	1	23
All Otter (Memerang)	Family Viverridae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6
Binturong	<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Flat-headed Cat (Kucing Hutan)	<i>Felis planiceps</i>	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	91
Long-tailed Macaque (Kera)	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	0	0	1	0	0	42	26	6	75
Malayan Porcupine/Common Porcupine (Landak)	<i>Hystrix brachyura</i>	0	0	8	5	10	1	0	0	24
Mousedeer/(Pelanduk)	<i>Tragulus napu</i>	0	0	5	0	3	1	0	0	9
Muntjac/Barking Deer (Kijang)	<i>Muntiacus</i> sp.	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	6
Pig Tailed Macaque (Beruk/Nyumboh)	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	15	36
Plantain Squirrel (Tupai Pinang)	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	0	0	2	0	15	14	15	0	46
Prevost's Squirrel (Tupai Gading)	<i>Callosciurus prevostii</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Oriental Giant Squirrel (Tupai Kerawak)	<i>Ratufa</i> sp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sambar Deer (Rusa/Payau)	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	0	2	1	0	7	27	7	8	52
Slow Loris (Kongkang)	<i>Nycticebus coucang</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bornean Sun Bear (Beruang Madu)	<i>Helarctos malayanus</i>	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
The silvery lutung (Jelu Puan)	<i>Trachypithecus cristatus</i>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sunda Pangolin (Tenggiling)	<i>Manis javanica</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Short-tailed Mongoose	<i>Herpestes brachyurus</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Reptilia										
Monitor Lizard (Biawak)	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	0	1	2	0	1	5	5	10	24
Common Cobra	<i>Naja naja</i>	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	2	14
Python (Ular Sawa)	<i>Python</i> sp.	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	2	7
Chameleons (Sesumpah)	Family Chamaeleonide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Aves										
Ashy tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus</i> sp.	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Asian Black Hornbill (Kekalau / Rengak)	<i>Anthraceroceros malayanus</i>	0	2	15	0	0	2	3	3	25
Black-and-yellow broadbill (Burung Takau Hitam Kuning)	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Bornean peacock-pheasant (Burung Merak Borneo)	<i>Polyplectron schleiermacheri</i>	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Bulwer's Pheasant (Sempidan)	<i>Lophura bulweri</i>	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bushy-crested Hornbill (Enggang Buluh)	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Common hill myna (Burung Tiong)	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	0	1	3	0	1	12	15	12	44
Slender-Billed Crow (Gagak)	<i>Corvus enca</i>	0	0	5	0	0	0	22	3	30
Dusky munia	<i>Lonchura</i> sp.	0	0	4	0	34	1	0	3	42
All Eagle	Family Acciptridae	0	0	17	0	0	15	14	6	52
Egret (Burung Bangau)	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	0	1	6	0	12	2	0	2	23
Emerald dove (Burung Punai)	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	6
Greater coucal (Bubut)	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	6
Helmeted Hornbill (Tajai)	<i>Buceros vigil</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Munia (Burung pipit)	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Oriental magpie-robin	<i>Copsychus</i> sp.	3	5	7	3	8	9	7	6	48
Plaintive cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	6

Source: Wildlife monitoring records

13. Social Multiple-Use

13.1 Local Population

Hunting is prohibited other than by members of the local communities and then only for personal consumption. The opportunities for fishing within the MTCS area are extremely limited.

Whilst not multi-use of the *forested* area, the use of the long-established SA areas within the LPF (but which are excluded from the plantable area statement in LPF licence) still continues. There is however no SA within the MTCS area.

13.2 Others

Samling has entered into a long-term R&D co-operative agreement with SFC. LANA LPF is an active participant in this R&D and is host to one of three Samling sites for the *Eucalyptus pellita* breeding program. Whilst the R&D site is adjacent to and not within the MTCS area as a part of the LANA LPF the results should benefit the MTCS area in the way of improved genetic material in time to come.

14. Cultural and Historic Values

No sites of cultural or historic value were identified within the MTCS area by the EIA. None has been subsequently identified on the ground and local knowledge indicates that there are none. However, there are graveyards located within the LPF, but they are lie outside of the MTCS area. They have all been GPSd and mapped.

15. Occupational Health and Safety and Environment

15.1 Introduction

In the conduct of forestry operations, a safe and healthy work place, as far as practicable, is assured by compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 and the relevant legislative regulations and guidelines that are applicable to the respective work places.

15.2 Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Policy Statement

The management is committed to the following principles:

- To conduct risk assessment and implement risk control at the place of work, and in line with such risk controls (HIRARC), the provision of systems of work, work environment, plant, equipment and the maintenance of the same, in so far as practicable, that are safe and without risk to health and adverse impact to the environment;
- Provision of adequate welfare, religious and recreational facilities for all employees without adverse impact to the environment;
- Provision of a safe means of access, egress to and from work places, emergency response (ERT) for rescue, control of environmental spill and natural disaster in so far as practicable;
- Provision of information, work instruction, training and supervision for all staff to enhance work competencies, skills and awareness in HSE, and the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the industry;
- Review the HSE standards and practices periodically to ensure continued relevance and appropriate to the organisation.

15.3 Safety Practice Guidelines for Forestry Activities

Safety practice is the responsibility of both the management and employees regardless of level or job designation. All employees must be mindful at all times of the Safety Practice Guidelines (Appendix VII).

However, the camp management is required to play an active role in carrying out measures to ensure the safety and health of all employees in the work areas.

Within the framework of the Safety Practice Guidelines, camp management must take due consideration of all employees' health and safety during tree felling, skidding, log handling and scaling, land and river

transportation, road construction and maintenance, and of those working in the camp office and workshop or in any of Samling's working areas located within the FMU. Where practicable relevant salient points reflecting those set out above, will be incorporated into work instructions.

15.4 Training of Forest Workers

As required under The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015, workers who are engaged in any one of the following: tree felling, log extraction or log loading, must be trained by STA Training Sdn Bhd trainers or by other STA or SFC approved trainers.

15.5 In-house Training for Occupational Health and Safety and Environment

15.5.1 Health, Safety and Environment Committee

A Health, Safety Environment and Committee (HSEC) comprises: (a) Chairman; (b) Secretary; (c) representatives of employer; and (d) representatives of employees. The functions of the HSEC are as follows:

15.5.2 DOSH Guidelines

DOSH's *Guidelines for Occupational Safety and Health in the Logging Industry* are used as the basis to develop the Safety Practice Guidelines for the better prevention of injury and health problems in harvesting operations.

16. Monitoring

16.1 Introduction

The MTCS area of the LANA LPF was certified in May 2017.

16.2 Elements to be Monitored

The following elements are monitored:

- a) **Yield of forest products** (logs) harvested is monitored through the daily trucking reports.
- b) **Growth rates** are monitored through a strong network of PSPs. The actual growth rates of mangium based on the real production and that for pellita based on PSP data are discussed in Chapter 9.
- c) By means of planting records and maps the composition and changes of the **flora are monitored** and recorded over time.
- d) The annual summaries for the **monitoring of fauna** are shown in Table 12.3.
- e) As the EIA (2003) and SIA (2017) attest, LANA LPF is not in any way fundamental to meeting the basic needs of the communities within or nearby, and so there is little to actually monitor in this respect. What absolutely minimal current use is made of the LPF in terms of NTFPs will surely lessen as the population of the nearby communities ages, continues to decline and to change its consumption patterns to a more modern way of life.
- f) The extracts from the annual **Social Impact Monitoring** report show that the **impact of harvesting and operating** in ITP area has no, or negligible, social impact other than in providing employment for those with the relevant skills or for those who wish to obtain such skills. Employment levels are monitored by recording the actual numbers of locals employed each year – see Table 7.1.
- g) Monitoring of the **environmental impacts of harvesting** and other operations and of compliance with the EIA/EMP requirements is monitored by implementation of Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA).

- h) Productivity (for harvest productivity this has already been covered in volumetric terms in Chapter 10) and the efficiency of forest management are **monitored by budgetary controls** under the HQ accounts section.
- i) The risk of **invasion⁶ by exotic species** planted by LANA or of invasion of the LPF by exotic species planted by external third parties is **monitored** during the regular patrol reports. To date no invasion of significance has been noted as attested by the patrol reports.
- j) **Regular monitoring of pests and diseases** is through information captured at the time of PSP measurement together with *ad hoc* monitoring.

17. Climate Change - Adaption, Mitigation and Monitoring

17.1 Introduction

Forests have a significant function in climate change mitigation by acting as “sinks”, i.e. absorbing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it in biomass and soils.

Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) can help reduce the negative effects of climate change on forests and forest-dependent people.

In 2010, the **Conference of the Parties (COP)** to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (**UNFCCC**) adopted a decision on reducing emissions from deforestation and on the conversion of forests, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, usually known as **REDD+**. The accessibility of benefits from **REDD+** activities to individual forest managers would depend on the arrangements in place in the country for **REDD+** benefit-sharing.

17.2 Policies on Climate Change

Forest management is affected by climate change policies made at the national and global levels. Under the **Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MC&I SFM 1/2020)**, forest management shall comply with the **National Policy on Climate Change, 2002** and the **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992**.

17.3 Adaptation and Mitigation in Forestry

Adaption and mitigation are the two main responses to climate change. The mitigation addresses the causes of climate change whereas the adaptation on its impacts.

In the forest sector, adaptation encompasses changes in management practices design to decrease the vulnerability of forests to climate change and interventions intended to reduce the vulnerability to climate change.

17.4 Adaption Actions

The actions for adaptation to climate change shall address risks or impacts. These actions are drawn mostly from existing forest management practices.

17.5 Mitigation Actions

Mitigation actions on climate change shall focus reducing **Green House Gases (GHG)** emissions by source and increasing GHG removals by sinks. These actions can be grouped into four general categories.

17.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of the climate change adaption and mitigation actions shall be additional and significant burden. Nevertheless, the existing databases, criteria and indicator processes and forest certification schemes shall form the framework for monitoring.

⁶ 'Invasion' here means an exotic species is growing where it was not intended that it should.

Regardless of the scale of monitoring required, forest management shall use precautionary approach and involve participation by local people on the social and environmental impacts.

Monitoring will require the collection of data on indicators of climate-induced impacts (e.g., forest productivity, forest health and forest pests). Many of these data will normally be collected in standard forest inventory.

17.7 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Accounting

The initiative to reduce GHG emissions in Samling's timber operations started in 2023 with baseline accounting of GHG emissions for Scope 1 and Scope 2 for the year 2022. This in-house accounting reporting exercise was conducted by a third-party consultant engaged to ensure that the scope coverage, methodologies and verifications used in the accounting exercise were in accordance with the:

- GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting Reporting Standard, covering Scope 1 and Scope 2,
- 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories ("2006 IPCC Guidelines"); and
- the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

17.8 Conclusion

Forests provide a wide range of goods and ecosystem services to the stakeholders and climate change, combined with deforestation, forest degradation and population pressure, threaten the continuity of such provision.

Measures to ensure forest adaption are compatible and identical with established SFM practices to meet the economic, social, and environmental needs of stakeholders. SFM practices can help reduce the economic, social, and environmental vulnerability of forests and forest-dependent people to climate change.

Climate change mitigation programs (e.g., REDD+) are emerging that can increase the stock of carbon in forests; and that can help the costs of actions (from Carbon Credits) to reduce GHG emissions due to deforestation and forest degradation.

18. Cost Benefit Analysis

18.1 Costs Relating to LPF Development

18.1.1 Financial Costs

- Temuda compensation
- Land rent and license fee
- Plantation establishment and infrastructure costs

18.1.2 Non-Financial Costs

- Change in environment and landscape – from residual natural forest to ITP monoculture
- Change in social dynamics

18.2 Benefits Relating to LPF Development

18.2.1 Financial Benefits

- Residual logging income from preparing the sites for planting
- Planted forest logs income

18.2.2 Non-Financial Benefits

- Log material sustainability through planted forest
- Alleviates the pressure of natural forest by producing higher volumes of tree plantation
- Working opportunities for locals around the concession area and establish economy in the area

18.3 Social Aspects

Samling's Lana ITP will contribute to the livelihood of local communities living in the area. Local communities welcome the employment and the income-generation opportunities presented. However, some impacts related to water quality and the decline of the forests have been detected. Cooperation between the company, relevant government agencies and the community will help to minimise these impacts and increase the benefits brought about by the forest management operations

18.4 Financial Sustainability

The LANA MTCS area is a small part of the LANA LPF and an even smaller fraction of the total ITP area operated by the Samling Group. The Group has clearly been financially supportive of LANA for the 11 years from start-up to starting harvest, and of its other ITPs since their start-ups. It is reasonable to assume that this will continue to be the case for the foreseeable future. However, following the start of harvesting in 2017, net revenue from internal log sales has covered replanting and overhead costs and it is expected that this will continue to be the case for the remainder of the 60-year licence period.

18.5 Conclusion

Plans has been placed to develop Samling's Lana ITP area into an Acacia / Eucalyptus tree planting site. Infrastructure like road and bridges will be maintained as per the site requirement. There will be housing available for workers to stay and transports to be ready at site to commute and transport materials. Access road around and within the plantation will be maintained and all these related costs has been incorporated in arriving at a return in NPV at the end of a rotation planting as shown above. This project is viable after taking into consideration the costs to be spent including those social aspects which is quantifiable at the stage when this report being established, offset against the possible benefits which this project can gain mainly from harvesting and replanting of planted trees.

19. Forest Plantation Management Plan – Review and Revision

To take into account new knowledge, Samling R&D findings, developments within the ITP sector and to ensure that as far as is possible LANA meets downstream's evolving requirements it might be necessary to interpret parts of this FPMP with a degree of flexibility. Any such changes will be incorporated at the mid-term review or the end-term revision of this FPMP.

Mid-term Review: A mid-term review of the LANA Forest Plantation Management Plan will take place and a revision may follow if deemed necessary.

Revision: In the last year of the ten-year term the FPMP will be revised as necessary.

20. Internal Audit and Management Review

20.1 Introduction

Forest management activities are subject to internal audit and management review at planned intervals as required under Malaysian Criteria & Indicator (MC&I) 8.1.3 of Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS ST 1002:2021 SFM) for sustainable forest management. Both internal audit and management review will ensure that there is continual improvement in the management system.

20.2 Internal Audit

The internal audit shall be planned and conducted once a year. The objectives of the audit plan shall ensure that the FMU:

- (a). meets the requirements of its management system; and
- (b). its management system conforms to the requirements of MC&I ST 1002:2021 (SFM).

20.3 Management Review

The Management Review shall be conducted annually and shall include at least the following:

- (a). The status of actions from previous management reviews.
- (b). Changes in external and internal issues that are relevant to the management system.
- (c). Information on the FMU's performance, including trends.
- (d). Opportunities for continual improvement.

20.4 *Non-conformity and Corrective Action*

When any non-conformity is encountered, applicable action shall be taken to control and correct it.

20.5 *Continual Improvement*

By undertaking the annual internal audit and management review, the sustainable management of the forest shall be continuously improved by addressing the suitability, adequacy and the effectiveness of the sustainable management system.

20.6 *Internal Audit and Management Review Procedure*

The Internal Audit and Management Review Procedure is used as the basis to the annual internal audit. It outlines the frequency, methods, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting of the internal audit process.