

IMPLEMENTING MOTION 23: PROTECTION OF INTACT FOREST LANDSCAPES

FSC CANADA PRELIMINARY NORMATIVE INDICATORS



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FOREVER**

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DOCUMENT COLOUR KEY

Green Text New text related to Intact Forest Landscapes

9.x.x Where the Indicator number is highlighted bold and green, the entire indicator is new.

[] Content in square brackets represents a term or value still to be defined.

PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES*

The Organization* shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values* in the Management Unit* through applying the precautionary approach*. (P9 P&C V4)

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Refer to Annex D: HCV* Framework for direction on appropriate interpretation and implementation of HCV* categories.

Common Guidance

HCV* assessors, resource managers* and auditors should refer to the Common Guidance for the Management and Monitoring of High Conservation Values (Brown and Senior 2014) or relevant reference material provided by FSC for advice regarding implementation of the *Indicators** addressed in this *Principle**.

HCVs* and HCV Areas*

Many *Indicators** in this *Principle** refer to both HCVs* and HCV areas*. There is overlap in the terms, but the distinction between them is important. HCVs* are the values themselves as they are identified below; HCV areas* are the physical areas that are needed for the existence of identified HCVs*. For example, an endangered bog-dwelling orchid may be a HCV*, but the bog in which the orchid exists is a HCV area*.

Best Available Information* and Principle 3

As with other *Principles** in this Standard, several *Indicators** in Principle 9 require that *best available information** be used to provide a baseline for *management activities** or as a basis for analyses in subsequent *Indicators**. The *Organization** is expected to implement these requirements in consideration of a FPIC* process, as described in Principle 3 that is inclusive of information sharing related to *legal** and *customary rights** as well as site, *stand**, and *landscape values** of economic, social, and cultural significance to *Indigenous Peoples**. The definition of *best available information** provides general direction on the type of information to be gathered and the extent of effort required to gather the information. To place appropriate limits on what should be involved in gathering *best available information**, the definition notes that it should be constrained by *reasonable** effort and cost. The intent of the term *reasonable** is to emphasize that limits, such as cost and practicality, exist on the expectations of the effort required to gather information.

Engagement* with Indigenous Peoples*

As with other *Principles** in the Standard, several *Indicators** in Principle 9 require *engagement** with *Indigenous Peoples**. The *Organization** is expected to implement these obligations in a manner consistent with the specific requirements of Indicator 3.1.2.

Maps

Where maps or mapped information is required by this *Principle**, evidence of digital files, instead of hard-copy maps, is sufficient.

9.1 The Organization*, through engagement* with affected stakeholders*, interested stakeholders* and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence, status and likelihood of occurrence of the following High Conservation Values* in the Management Unit*, proportionate to the scale, intensity, and risk* of impacts of management activities*:

9.1.1 A HCV assessment* is completed using *best available information** of the status of HCV* Categories 1-6 as defined in Criterion 9.1, the HCV areas* they rely on, and their condition.

The assessment is completed using the National Framework (Annex D) or another framework that meets the same intent and addresses all HCV* categories and values identified in the National Framework.

- 9.1.2 The *HCV assessment** uses results associated with the identification of *HCVs** and *HCV areas** from *culturally appropriate** *engagement** with *Indigenous Peoples**, and *affected** and *interested stakeholders** with an interest in the *conservation** and management of *HCVs** and *HCV areas**. The assessment also uses input from qualified (technical and/or scientific) *specialists**.

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The expectation of this *Indicator** is that *engagement** with *affected** and *interested stakeholders** and *Indigenous Peoples** addresses all *HCV**-related topics, for which there is an interest in contributing.
For this *Indicator**, qualified technical and scientific *specialists** include individuals with expertise in the topics being addressed, regardless of who they are employed by.

- 9.1.3 All *HCVs** and *HCV areas**, except those considered sensitive for ecological or cultural reasons, which are definable based on location are delineated on maps consistent with the scale* of the designation (e.g., global, national, regional, large home range, isolated occurrence, etc.).

- 9.1.x1 The *HCV assessment* includes the identification of *Intact Forest Landscapes** and calculation of *core areas** using January 1st, 2017 as the reference date.

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The reference date of January 1, 2017 aligns with Motion 65 Advice Note ADVICE-20-007-018. Use of this date ensures consistency with the requirements previously in effect.

- 9.1.4 Information regarding the location and identity of sensitive sites is held in confidence.

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Sensitive sites referred to in this *Indicator** are *HCVs** that are especially vulnerable to human presence. These sites may include cultural values of spiritual or historic importance and ecological values that are sensitive to damage or disruption.

- 9.1.5 A review by one or more *qualified specialists** is completed. Input from the review is addressed in the *HCV assessment**.

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For this *Indicator**, *qualified specialists** includes individuals who were not involved in the development of the *HCV assessment** report. The area of expertise of the *qualified specialist(s)** should be appropriate for the content of the *HCV assessment**. For example, it may be necessary for the document to be reviewed by an ecologist and a social scientist, depending on the extent to which these topics feature prominently in the *HCV assessment**. On the other hand, a single reviewer may be sufficient if the person has broad experience in FSC's approach to *HCVs**.

- 9.1.6 The *HCV assessment** report is updated every five years. Portions of the assessment are updated more frequently in response to changes in the status of *species at risk** or when there are significant changes in the state of other *HCVs** or *HCV areas**.

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When significant changes to the *HCV assessment** report are implemented or when the report is updated after five years, the expectation is that the update process includes *engagement** with *stakeholders** and *culturally appropriate** *engagement** with *Indigenous Peoples**. Examples of significant changes include: the *implementation of new requirements for Intact Forest Landscapes* (HCV 2), recognition of *ecosystems** that have declined markedly in abundance (HCV 3), change in the recognition that the *forest** plays in meeting the needs of *local communities** (HCV 5), or when the boundaries of the certified *forest** are expanded to

encompass additional area. Incorporating revisions in the status of *species at risk** is not considered a significant change.

- 9.1.7 If significant changes have been made to the *HCV assessment** as a result of implementation of Indicator 9.1.6, a review of the updated assessment report is completed by one or more *qualified specialists**.

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The implementation of the new requirements for Intact Forest Landscapes is considered a significant change and would require review of the updated assessment by one or more qualified specialists.

- 9.1.8 The *HCV assessment** report and review are made *publicly available**, including in electronic format.

- 9.1.x2** Where Intact Forest Landscapes exist, the *publicly available** *HCV assessment** report includes the following elements in its HCV 2 description:

1. Relevant contextual information and map delineating the extent of the [wider landscape*] including *best available information** of the following, where applicable:
 - i. The abundance, security, and connectivity of *Intact Forest Landscapes**;
 - ii. Landforms, watersheds, rivers, geological and soil characteristics;
 - iii. Populations of ecologically or culturally significant wildlife species, migration pathways, species at risk that require large contiguous habitats, and the sustainability and persistence of these species;
 - iv. Location, size, type, and condition of rare ecosystems;
 - v. Indigenous rights and values, including Indigenous Cultural Landscapes;
 - vi. Locations of human settlements, infrastructure, development plans, and agricultural zones;
 - vii. Existing and planned forestry operations, and FSC certified and non-certified Management Units in the area;
 - viii. Regulatory land use planning; and
 - ix. Presence or planned extraction of natural resources other than forests;
2. Maps delineating the Intact Forest Landscapes and core areas identified through Indicator 9.2.x1;
3. The processes, justifications, and rationales documented in Indicator 9.2.x1b;
4. The land use and management activities permissible in *Intact Forest Landscape** and *Intact Forest Landscape core areas**;
5. Measures to prevent and mitigate negative impacts of management activities in *Intact Forest Landscapes** and their effectiveness in ensuring a *precautionary approach** is used;
6. The methodology used to assess and monitor changes to *Intact Forest Landscapes**; and
7. The results from monitoring the *Intact Forest Landscapes** including any changes over time, and the recent and expected future trends impacting each *Intact Forest Landscape**.

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Relevant Indicators* in the Standard where supportive information has likely been gathered, collated, or analyzed include:

- Landscape connectivity, ecosystem integrity, wildlife habitat: Criteria 6.1, 6.4 to 6.8, 9.1
- Indigenous rights, aspirations, and cultural values: Criteria 3.1, 3.2, 3.5., 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.7, 6.5, 9.1 and through engagement in *FPIC** and *Indigenous Cultural Landscape** processes.
- Threats: Criteria 6.1, 9.2

This indicator supports clarity, transparency, and accountability on decision-making. The description of the *Intact Forest Landscapes** and [wider landscape*] in the *HCV assessment**

report is to communicate the context, processes, rationales, and outcomes for communities, stakeholders, and auditors to understand *The Organization's** management approach to *Intact Forest Landscapes**.

[Wider Landscape*]

The [wider landscape]* is the extent of the landscape-level area that serves to function as the scope of information gathering and decision-making when evaluating the appropriate protection threshold for *Intact Forest Landscapes**. The [wider landscape]* should have uniform cultural, social, political, socio-economic, and ecological characteristics.

9.2 *The Organization shall develop effective strategies that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values*, through engagement* with affected stakeholders*, interested stakeholders* and experts*. (C9.2 P&C V4)**

- 9.2.1 *Threats** to HCVs* are identified using *best available information**.
- 9.2.2 Management strategies and actions that use a *precautionary approach** are developed and are effective to maintain and/or enhance HCVs* and to maintain associated HCV areas* prior to implementing *management activities**.
- 9.2.3 *Indigenous Peoples**, *affected** and *interested stakeholders**, and *qualified specialists** and/or *experts** are *engaged** in the development of management strategies and actions to maintain and/or enhance the identified HCVs* and HCV areas*.

9.2.x1 Where an *Intact Forest Landscape** exists entirely within or overlaps the Management Unit by [5,000 ha] or more, a *core area** is determined following approach 9.2.x.1a or 9.2.x.1b below.

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To ensure the persistence of *Intact Forest Landscapes**, *The Organization** is expected to identify a *core area** for each *Intact Forest Landscape* that overlaps the *Management Unit** by [5,000 ha] or more. The Standard requires stronger protection measures for *core areas** as indicated by 9.2.x2. *The Organization** shall not reduce the size of any IFL below 50,000 ha regardless of the number of hectares overlapping the management unit, as indicated by 9.2.x3.

9.2.x.1a At least 80% of the *Intact Forest Landscape** area within the *Management Unit** is designated as *core area*.

9.2.x.1b A protection threshold is determined through an *efficient collaborative process** with affected *Indigenous Peoples** and self-identified *interested and affected stakeholders**, where 30 – 100 % of the *Intact Forest Landscape** area within the *Management Unit** is designated as *core area**.

The protection threshold considers the conditions listed in Section 1 of Table 9.1.x.b (where applicable). The protection threshold may also consider other *mutually agreed** upon and *binding** measures or actions within *The Organization's** *Sphere of Control** or *Sphere of Influence** to support a balance of the conditions.

The process and justification for the protection threshold is documented.

Informed by *best available information**, the location of the *core area** considers the elements listed in Section 2 of Table 9.1.x.b.

The rationale used to evaluate and locate *core areas** is documented.

Table 9.2.x.b. List of required considerations when determining the protection threshold and location of *Intact Forest Landscape* core areas** in approach 9.1.x.b

Section 1: Conditions Determining the Protection Threshold (non-hierarchical)	
1.	<i>Threats*</i> , including logging, road construction and other anthropogenic factors that pose a risk for fragmentation of the <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i>
2.	Security and abundance of the <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i> within the [wider <i>landscape*</i>]
3.	The aspirations and goals of Indigenous Peoples* related to the <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i> and <i>Indigenous Cultural Landscapes*</i>
4.	Maintenance or enhancement of the ecological values (Elements 1, 2, 3, & 4) listed in Section 2 below
5.	Opportunities for restoration or enhancement of the ecological values listed in Section 2 in other <i>Intact Forest Landscapes*</i> or large <i>landscape* level forests*</i> within the <i>Management Unit*</i> *(ie. forests <50,000 ha. Refer to Question 10 in Annex D: HCV Framework)
6.	The <i>scale*</i> and <i>intensity*</i> of proposed forest operations in the <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i>
7.	Objective evidence demonstrating <i>The Organization's*</i> management plan does not allow for alternative options to continue their operations other than to proceed with harvesting in areas of the <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i>
Section 2: Elements to the Location of the Core Area* (non-hierarchical)	
1.	The contribution of the area to <i>landscape*</i> values including <i>connectivity*</i> , <i>ecosystem integrity*</i> , ecosystem representation, and cultural importance
2.	The habitat requirements of keystone species, species at risk, and broad-ranging wildlife species that depend on large contiguous areas of unaltered forest
3.	Concentrations of ecological and cultural values within the <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i>
4.	High carbon storage areas such as peatlands, wetlands, or soils with high biomass
5.	Proximity to legislated protected areas within or adjacent to the <i>Management Unit*</i>
6.	Mitigating <i>threats*</i> to the <i>Intact Forest Landscapes*</i> in the <i>Management Unit*</i>
7.	Feedback of affected <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> and self-identified, interested and affected <i>stakeholders*</i> during the <i>collaborative process*</i>

INTENT BOX

Relevant Indicators* in the Standard where supportive information has likely been gathered, collated, or analyzed include:

- Landscape connectivity, ecosystem integrity, wildlife habitat: Criteria 6.1, 6.4 to 6.8, 9.1
- Indigenous aspirations and cultural values: Criteria 3.1, 3.2, 3.5., 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.7, 6.5, 9.1 and through engagement in *FPIC** and *Indigenous Cultural Landscape** processes.
- Threats: Criteria 6.1, 9.2.

Efficient Collaborative Process*

The intent of the process is to emphasize co-creation and mutual agreement to achieve a balanced outcome for improving protection of *Intact Forest Landscapes** given the local environmental, cultural, and socio-economic conditions. The inclusion of Indigenous Peoples* and *local communities** in management planning ensures concerns, desires, needs, rights, and opportunities are addressed when drafting and implementing strategies and actions.

Based on the aspirations of Indigenous Peoples identified in Indicator 3.1.2, The Organization is encouraged to provide *Indigenous Peoples** the opportunity to lead decision-making on the design of protection and management strategies for *Intact Forest Landscapes** consistent with the Indicators in this Standard.

It is *reasonable** that *The Organization**, in collaboration with *Indigenous Peoples** and *stakeholders**, develop a process for efficient cooperation through a variety of formats and include delegation of representation across groups that share common expertise or interests.

*The Organization** should take care to ensure the process is *culturally appropriate**. *The Organization ** should refer to *Annex F: Culturally Appropriate Engagement*, the *Landscapes Guidance: ICLs & IFLs*, and the *Free, Prior, and Informed Consent Guidance* for recommendations and best practices.

Section 1 of Table 9.2.x.b - Conditions Determining the Protection Threshold

The guiding concept when determining the appropriate protection threshold is that smaller, more isolated, and high-risk *Intact Forest Landscapes**, or those with areas of high ecological or cultural value, require a higher protection threshold. In contrast, where the conditions indicate that *management activities** would result in a low or positive impact to the *Intact Forest Landscapes** in the *wider landscape** or other large unfragmented *landscape** level *forests**, a lower protection threshold—mutually agreed upon in a *collaborative process**—may be appropriate with clear justification. *The Organization** is expected to carry out an assessment of the listed conditions using a *precautionary approach** to inform the *collaborative process**. Refer to the *Landscapes Guidance: ICLs and IFLs* for guidance on a risk-assessment and appropriate protection thresholds.

*The Organization** must not be responsible for reducing any *Intact Forest Landscape** below 50,000 ha. If an *Intact Forest Landscape** is 50,000 ha in size, the protection threshold would then be 100%.

Multiple Intact Forest Landscapes* within or overlapping the Management Unit*

Protection thresholds may vary between individual *Intact Forest Landscapes** based on the risk-assessment of the conditions and the value and impact of protection relative to one another. The intent is to allow decision-making in the *collaborative process** to reflect the collective context of all the *Intact Forest Landscapes** and achieve the best possible outcome for protection within the *wider landscape**.

Alternative Measures or Actions

Other *binding** measures or actions can be incorporated to mitigate risks or balance trade-offs in the decision-making of protection thresholds. They may also help to achieve *agreement** in the *collaborative process**.

Criterion 9.3 requires that *The Organization** implements actions that maintain and/or enhance the *Intact Forest Landscape** and employ a *precautionary approach**. Non-core areas* should be managed to support maintaining the HCV 2 status and values of the *Intact Forest Landscape**.

Examples of measures or actions that are within *The Organization's* Sphere of Control**:

In non-core areas* of *Intact Forest Landscapes**;

- Reducing the duration of *activities** and promptly removing infrastructure
- Avoiding road building and harvesting in configurations that cause spatial bottlenecks or accelerate fragmentation
- Increasing monitoring and regeneration efforts
- Reducing the harvesting level or planning larger retention patch sizes
- Mitigating windthrow, degradation, and other edge effect impacts adjacent to the core area*
- Restricting harvesting to specific weather conditions

In other areas of the *Management Unit**;

- Supporting the aspirations and goals of Indigenous Peoples* related to the *Intact Forest Landscape** and *Indigenous Cultural Landscapes**
- Restoring or enhancing ecological values in *Intact Forest Landscapes** or in large landscape* level forests* (ie. large forest that are <50,000 ha) within the *Management Unit**

Indicator 9.3.4 requires that forest managers work within their *sphere of influence** to coordinate activities with managers and users of adjacent lands to maintain and/or enhance the *HCVs** or *HCV areas**.

Examples of measures or actions that are within *The Organization's* Sphere of Influence**:

- Adding core areas* to the Conservation Areas Network in Indicator 6.5.7.
- Seeking to secure full *legal** regulated protection status for core areas*.
- Supporting conservation initiatives such as the establishment of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) or Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) to strengthen long-term landscape*-level protection outcomes.
- Advocating against infrastructure projects within the *Management Unit** that would provide access to previously inaccessible *Intact Forest Landscape* areas.

Location of Core Areas*

The intent is for core areas* to contain the most ecologically valuable, contiguous, and intact portions that maximize connectivity and wildlife habitat. *The core areas** should encompass an optimal configuration of the values within the *Intact Forest Landscape**. Determining the location of core areas* should be discussed in the *collaborative process**. Conducting a multi-value spatial assessment using decision-support tools created for conservation planning can help to identify priority areas.

- 9.2.x2** Where *Intact Forest Landscapes** exist, any forest operations undertaken in *core areas** are confirmed by an independent expert* [*alt: a balanced working group of independent experts**] as appropriate for achieving only objectives associated with restoration*, maintenance, or conservation of *ecological integrity**; community safety related to wildfire; or to support the aspirations of affected *Indigenous Peoples**.

The Organization* uses a *precautionary approach** to minimize degradation of intactness. The Organization also ensures the following (when possible):

- Activities occur over the least amount of time;
- Prompt removal of infrastructure once activities are complete;
- Activities avoid causing bottlenecks or fragmentation; and
- They include prompt regeneration to restore a natural condition*

INTENT BOX

Circumstances may arise where it is necessary for *The Organization** to carry out forest operations in the *core area** of an *Intact Forest Landscape**. Only activities to achieve objectives associated with restoration*, maintenance, or conservation of *ecological integrity**; community safety related to wildfire; or to support the aspirations of affected *Indigenous Peoples** are permissible. Prior to any activity occurring in the *core area**, activities must be confirmed as appropriate by an *independent expert** [*alt: a balanced working group of independent experts**]. The expert cannot be employed by *The Organization** or the government and must not have an apparent *conflict of interest**.

- 9.2.x3** *The Organization's* management activities** do not reduce any *Intact Forest Landscape** below 50,000 ha.

INTENT BOX

The Organization must not be responsible for reducing any *Intact Forest Landscape** below 50,000 ha. This includes *Intact Forest Landscapes** located entirely within the *Management Unit** and *Intact Forest Landscapes** that abut or straddle the boundaries of the *Management Unit*.

- 9.2.4 Management strategies are reviewed and updated in conjunction with updates to the *HCV assessment** report, as described in Indicators 9.1.6 and 9.1.7.

9.3 *The Organization* shall implement strategies and actions that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values*. These strategies and actions shall implement the precautionary approach* and be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities*. (C9.3 P&C V4)*

- 9.3.1 The *HCVs** and *HCV areas** on which they depend are maintained and/or enhanced, including by implementing the strategies developed through the *Indicators** in Criterion 9.2.
- 9.3.2 Implementation of the strategies developed in Criterion 9.2 prevent damage and avoid risks to *HCVs**, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of *HCVs** are uncertain.
- 9.3.3 Activities that are inconsistent with strategies developed in Criterion 9.2 cease immediately and actions are taken to *restore** and *protect** the *HCVs** and *HCV areas**.

- 9.3.4 The *Organization** works within its *sphere of influence** to facilitate implementation of activities required to maintain and/or enhance *HCVs** and *HCV areas**.

Where a specific *HCV** or *HCV area** abuts or straddles a *Management Unit** boundary, or is potentially affected by activities outside of the *Management Unit**, *The Organization** works within its *sphere of influence** to coordinate activities with managers and users of adjacent lands to maintain and/or enhance the *HCVs** or *HCV areas**.

- 9.4 *The Organization** shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of *High Conservation Values**, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection*. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities*, and shall include engagement* with affected stakeholders*, interested stakeholders* and experts*. (C9.4 P&C V4)**

- 9.4.1 A program of periodic monitoring assesses:
1. Implementation of management strategies;
 2. The status of *HCVs** including the *HCV areas** on which they depend;
 3. The effectiveness of management strategies and actions for the protection of *HCVs**, to fully maintain and/or enhance the *HCVs**;

- 9.4.2 The monitoring program includes engagement* with affected* and interested stakeholders*, *Indigenous Peoples**, and experts* and/or qualified specialists*.

INTENT BOX

Affected and interested stakeholders*, Indigenous Peoples**, and experts* and/or qualified specialists* should be involved or consulted in the design of the monitoring program. The extent to which they play a role in implementation of monitoring will depend on the technical expertise needed, their interest, abilities, and capacity required to participate, and the confidentiality of the information being collected. The role of the potential participants in monitoring should be determined based on discussions between the parties and *The Organization**.

- 9.4.3 The monitoring program has sufficient scope, detail and frequency to detect changes in *HCVs**, relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each *HCV**.

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Monitoring can have significant costs. It is *reasonable** that *The Organizations** look for efficiencies in its efforts to design practical monitoring programs.

Monitoring periodicity should be based on:

1. The period over which there may be a *reasonable** expectation of change in the status of *HCVs**.
2. The period over which it is possible to detect the effects of management strategies and actions; and
3. The *risk** and *intensity** of the forestry operations.

- 9.4.4 Management strategies and actions are adapted when monitoring or other new information shows that these strategies and actions are ineffective at addressing the maintenance and/or enhancement of *HCVs**.

- 9.4.5 Monitoring needs are reviewed in conjunction with updates to the *HCV assessment** report as described in Indicators 9.1.6 and 9.1.7 and the updates to the management strategies as described in Indicator 9.2.4.

GLOSSARY

Affected Rights Holders

Persons and groups, including Indigenous Peoples, traditional peoples and local communities with legal or customary rights whose free, prior and informed consent is required to determine management decisions.

Area of Ecological Influence

The entire area encompassed by ecological units (for example *ecodistricts**, biogeoclimatic zones) that occur at least partly within the *Management Unit**. Identification of the area of ecological influence should consider the *scale** of the *Management Unit** and the ecological qualities of the *landscape** within which the *Management Unit** is located. The area of ecological influence should be based on an existing ecological classification system in use in the *Management Unit's** province or region.

(Source: FSC Canada Technical Expert Panel)

Core Area

The portion of each Intact Forest Landscape* designated to contain the most important cultural and ecological values. Core areas* are managed to exclude industrial activity*. ~~Core Areas* meet or exceed the definition of Intact Forest Landscape*~~. Core area is the outcome of a process of defining the threshold for 'vast majority'. It is the portion of the total IFL area within a MU that needs to be "maintained" as IFL – the part outside of the core area (but within the MU) shall be managed as HCV 2 and thereby could lose the "intactness".

Ecoregional

Large unit of land or water containing a geographically distinct assemblage of species, natural communities, and environmental conditions (Source: WWF Global 2002).

Fragmentation

The process of dividing habitats into smaller patches, which results in the loss of original habitat, loss in connectivity, reduction in patch size, and increasing isolation of patches. Fragmentation is considered to be one of the single most important factors leading to loss of native species, especially in forested landscapes, and one of the primary causes of the present extinction crisis. In reference to Intact Forest Landscapes, the fragmentation of concern is understood to be that caused by human industrial activities. (SOURCE: Adapted from: Gerald E. Heilman, Jr. James R. Strittholt Nicholas C. Slosser Dominick A. Dellasala, BioScience (2002) 52 (5): 411-422.)

Indigenous Cultural Landscape

Indigenous cultural landscapes* are living landscapes to which Indigenous Peoples* attribute environmental, social, cultural and economic value because of their enduring relationship with the land, water, fauna, flora and spirits and their present and future importance to their cultural identity. An Indigenous cultural landscape* is characterized by features that have been maintained through long-term interactions based on land-care knowledge, and adaptive livelihood practices. They are landscapes over which Indigenous Peoples* exercise responsibility for stewardship.

Intact Forest Landscape

A territory within today's global extent of forest cover which contains forest and non-forest ecosystems minimally influenced by human economic activity, with an area of at least 500 km² (50,000 ha) and a minimal width of 10 km (measured as the diameter of a circle that is entirely inscribed within the boundaries of the territory) (Source: Intact Forests / Global Forest Watch. Glossary definition as provided on Intact Forest website. 2006-2014)

Industrial Activity

Industrial forest and resource management activities such as road building, mining, dams, urban development and timber harvesting.

Risk

The probability of an unacceptable negative impact arising from any activity in the Management Unit combined with its seriousness in terms of consequences (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Significant

For the purposes of Principle 9, HCVs 1, 2 and 6 there are three main forms of recognizing significance.

- A designation, classification or recognized conservation status, assigned by an international agency such as IUCN or Birdlife International;
- A designation by national or regional authorities, or by a responsible national conservation organization, on the basis of its concentration of biodiversity;
- A voluntary recognition by the manager, owner or Organization, on the basis of available information, or of the known or suspected presence of a significant biodiversity concentration, even when not officially designated by other agencies.

Any one of these forms will justify designation as HCVs 1, 2 and 6. Many regions of the world have received recognition for their biodiversity importance, measured in many different ways. Existing maps and classifications of priority areas for biodiversity conservation play an essential role in identifying the potential presence of HCVs 1, 2 and 6 (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Sphere of influence

Professional associations with colleagues or businesses, agencies and *Indigenous Peoples** with whom individuals or businesses or agencies interact. When required by *Indicators** to work within one's sphere of influence, *The Organizations** and forest managers shall interact with their colleagues, other professionals, *Indigenous Peoples**, businesses and agencies, including government Ministries, Departments and other agencies, to achieve the *Indicators' objectives**. (Source: FSC Canada Species at Risk Technical Expert Panel)

Threat

An indication or warning of impending or likely damage or negative impacts (Source: Based on Oxford English Dictionary).

Vast Majority

80% of the total area of Intact Forest Landscapes within the Management Unit as of January 1, 2017. The vast majority also meets or exceeds the minimum definition of Intact Forest Landscapes.

Very Limited Portion of Core Area

The area affected shall not exceed 0.5% of the area of the core area in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the core area.

[Wider Landscape]

The *wider landscape** is the extent of the landscape-level area that serves to function as the scope of information gathering and decision-making when evaluating the appropriate protection threshold for *Intact Forest Landscapes**. The *wider landscape** should have uniform cultural, social, political, socio-economic, and ecological characteristics. The *wider landscape** is agreed upon by participants in the collaborative process.



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