

Registered Office: 2446 N. San Gabriel Blvd., Suite #C, Rosemead, CA 91770, USA. Contact Address: C/O Whitespace Bangsar, No.3.02D (East Wing), Level 3, Menara BRDB, 285, Jalan Maarof, 59000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: +6012 310 6007 Fax: NA

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LEGAL VERIFICATION SERVICES

Sarawak Audit Checklist / Report **STLVS Principles 1 - 4**

Licensee	Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. 199001017068 (208737-T)	Reference #	GFSS 019-028
Contact Person	Mr. Ling Tiing Tchin (General Manager)	Report Date Date of close out	20/12/2024 -
Office	No. 6, Jalan Rawang, 96000 Sibu,	Telephone	+6084 331 125
Address	Sarawak, Malaysia.	Fax	+6084 333 125
Site Address	TAP Pasin & Rejang Camp:Mile 32, Katibas Logging Access Road, Song, Kapit Division, Sarawak, Malaysia.TAP Woodley Camp:Mile 24, Lajan Logging Access Road, Song, Kapit Division, Sarawak, Malaysia.	Telephone Fax	-
Email	tiingtchin.ling@taann.com.my	Approved By	Dr. Kevin Grace

Statements			
GFS Statement of Compliance #	GFS 020 LVS		
Issuance Date	23 December 2024	Expiration Date	22 December 2025

Assessment Details	
Assessment dates	16 – 20 December 2024
Scope of Assessment	Licence for Planted Forest #: LPF/0010 (Rejang, Woodley & Pasin Divisions)
Species	Salvage logging: Mangifera spp. (Asam), Octomeles sumatrana (Binuang), Eugenia spp. (Ubah), Parartocarpus spp. or Artocarpus spp. (Terap), Shorea spp. / Lithocarpus spp. (Empenit), Shorea spp. (Meranti), Dipterocarpus spp. (Keruing), Shorea spp. (Selangan batu), Dryobalanops spp. (Kapur), Sapotaceae spp. (Nyatoh), Lauraceae (Medang), Mezzettia spp. (Kepayang Babi), Gymnacranthera spp. / Horsfieldia spp. / Knema spp. / Myristica spp. (Kumpang), Tristaniopsis spp. (Selunsur), Xanthophyllum spp. (Nyalin), Cratoxylum spp. (Geronggang), Dialium spp. (Keranji), Garcinia nigrolineata (Kandis), Vatica spp. / Cotylelobium spp (Resak), Parastemon spp. (Ngilas), Buchanania spp. (Terentang), Durio spp. (Durian), Gluta spp. (Rengas hutan), Anisoptera spp. (Mersawa) Planted trees: Acacia mangium (Acacia), Neolamarckia cadamba (Kelampayan)
GFS Lead Assessor	Brandon James
GFS Assessor(s)	Sheanna Kehong
Others	Mr. Ling Tiing Tchin (General Manager – Forest Resource & Plantation [LPF/0010]), Mr. Loy Lay King (Junior General Manager – Hariwood Sdn. Bhd.), Mr. Liong Kah Hock (Certification Compliance Manager – Hariwood Sdn. Bhd.), Mr. Dari Gudang (QC & QS Head – TAP Pasin & Rejang), Mr. Johnny Woon (Admin Manager – TAP Reforestation), Ms. Ngu Sie Hong (TAP Reforestation)

Document Control GFS-FORM-006-STLVS-3.1 Title: STLVS P1-4 Checklist & Report Date: 01 Apr 2021 Issue: v03 Intellectual property of Global Forestry Services (USA) Inc. - GFS Tan Ann Plywood / LPF No. LPF/0010 Page 1



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OBJECTIVES:

- The objective of this checklist is to verify compliance with the Criteria listed in the Sarawak Timber Legality • Verification System as defined by STLVS Principles 1-4 (v03) dated 01 April 2021, which reflects the change in the authority of SFC to conservation and wildlife management as of January 2020.
- Compliance is defined when all applicable criteria are observed to be compliant. A Minor Gap to any • indicator does not constitute non-compliance to a criterion. A Major Gap to any applicable indicator does reflect non-compliance to a criterion. Compliance for a criterion where multiple minor gaps are identified in indicators under the criterion may reflect non-compliance to the criterion.
- All issues identified under this standard shall be considered appropriate to the scale and degree of forestry . operations undertaken by the company in accordance with the standard.

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	Tan Ann Plywood /	LPF No. LPF/0010	Page 2	



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Summary Information

Overview of Licensee

Organization Information:

The license holder, Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. 199001017068 (208737-T) (Ta Ann Plywood) is a 100% subsidiary of Ta Ann Holdings Berhad, a public company listed on the Main Board of the Bursa Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange) on 23rd November 2009.

Ta Ann Holdings Berhad is a timber resource-based company based in Sibu, Sarawak, Malaysia. It was founded in the mid-1980's as a trading company by Datuk Abdul Hamed Bin Haji Sepawi, Datuk Wahab Bin Haji Dolah and Dato Wong Kuo Hea, starting as a forest concession licensee, including timber harvesting, and downstream industries (veneer, plywood, coated plywood, eco-plywood, laminated veneer lumber and pachinko plywood, sawn timber and laminated moulding). Ta Ann Holdings Berhad was incorporated as a public limited company in February 1997 and listed on the Bursa Malaysia in November 1999.

Ta Ann Holdings Berhad has embarked on research and development (R&D) to produce improved tree planting material of *Acacia mangium*, *Superbulk and Acacia hybrid*, for higher quality and yield for veneer production. Ta Ann Holdings Berhad plans to gradually shift to plantation-based timber using local species such as Kelampayan (*Neolamarckia cadamba*) planted in terraces (and alongside of skid trails).

Ta Ann Plywood engaged Hariwood Sdn. Bhd. as their contractor to conduct forest plantation activities, including planting, felling, extracting, and transporting of logs.

Key regulations:

The legal framework is provided in the following laws (ordinances), rules and regulations:

- Statement of Forest Policy (1954)
- Forest Ordinance (2015)
- Forest Rules (1954)
- National Parks Ordinance (1956)
- National Parks and Nature Reserves Ordinance (1998)
- Wildlife Protection Ordinance (1958)
- Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation Ordinance (1973)
- Sarawak Timber Industry (Registration) Regulations (2008)
- Sarawak Forestry Cooperation Ordinance (1995)
- State of Sarawak Forest Timber License (FTL) / License for Planted Forests (LPF)
- Inter-agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Performance of Forestry Functions in Sarawak (Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment, 2012)
- Minimum Wages (Amendment) (No.3) Order 2013
- Sarawak Labour Ordinance (Cap.76)
- Employment Act 1955

Document Control



Description & License:

The Licence for Planted Forest No. LPF/0010 area is located south of Song town, in the Song District of the Kapit Division in the state of Sarawak, Malaysia. The total concession area is 69.316 hectares (ha) and divided into four management divisions, Rejang, Woodley, Pasin and Naman. The license was issued on 8th December 1998 for 60 years, expiring on 7th December 2058. Rejang, Woodley, and Pasin Divisions are planned for tree plantations, while Naman Division is planted in oil palm. Naman Division is fully planted in oil palm and evaluated under the MSPO. The scope of this assessment includes Rejang, Woodley, and Pasin Divisions.

Management / Land Tenure:

The State of Sarawak issued the License of Planted Forests (LPF/0010) license to Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. for a period of 60 years commencing from 08 December 1998 and ending on 07 December 2058. Ta Ann Plywood shall have the right to establish, develop and maintain on the said land/planted forest in accordance with a tree planting plan approved by the Director of Forests.

Management Planning (FMP / GP):

License for Planted Forest No. LPF/0010 is under a Tree Planting Plan with the license issued by the Director of the Forest Department Sarawak (30 August 2017) valid until 07 December 2058. Based on the last review of the license, the Tree Planting Plan was revised and approved by FDS on 30 August 2017 (Ref. #: WPO/P/106 (XII)-79).

Date of issue / revision	Hectarage	Reference #	Remarks
8 th December 1998	102,881	WPO/P/106-24	-
3 rd March 2008	108,125	WPO/P/106 (VII)-10	Rejang (22,164 ha), Woodley (18,423 ha), Pasin (54,393 ha) and Naman (13,145 ha)
1 st September 2015	107,485	WPO/P/106 (XI)-30	Excision of NCR land
29 th May 2017	69,316	WPO/P/106 (XII)-15	Exclusion of defined overlapping areas with FTL and LPF licenses

Operational activities:

Ta Ann Plywood contracted Hariwood Sdn. Bhd. as a registered logging contractor to conduct forest plantation activities, which includes salvage logging, harvesting of planted forest and transporting of logs.

During the December 2024 assessment, the operational activities were summarized as follows:

Activity	Woodley Division	Rejang Division	Pasin Division
Planted Forest Harvesting	No operation for 2024.	Active <i>Acacia mangium</i> harvesting at Coupe 15E, commenced in October 2024.	No operation for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024. No plans for 2025.
Salvage Logging	No operation. Completed in August 2023.	<u>Coupe 14E</u> – Completed in October 2024. <u>Coupe 15E</u> – Commenced in mid-December 2024.	No plans for 2024.

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As of the assessment, under the Rejang Division, active harvesting operations are ongoing in Coupe 15E, where Acacia mangium logs have been harvested since October 2024. Additionally, salvage logging of natural logs recently commenced in mid-December 2024.

Salvage logging activities in Coupe 14E have already been completed, with the operation concluding in October 2024.

Land use classification:

Current land use classification based on 69,316 ha.

		Division				Total Area
Area	Land use	Woodley (ha)	Pasin (ha)	Rejang (ha)	Naman (ha)	(ha)
	ITP (Planted)	6,031	10,952	5,958	0	22,941
Plantable	ITP (Unplanted)	662	525	3,288	539	5,014
	Oil palm	0	0	2,093	10,984	13,077
	NCR	0	0	0	0	0
	Settlement Area	0	22	722	84	828
Lin plantable	Terrain Class IV	57	3,211	0	0	3,268
Un-plantable	Buffer Zone	2,765	9,870	8,835	1,109	22,579
	Conservation Area	0	69	1,111	275	1,455
	Dam	59	95	0	0	154
Total		9,574	24,744	22,007	12,991	69,316

Environmental context:

Forest type and history of management

Principal commercial species •

The current vegetation in Rejang, Woodley, and Pasin divisions are predominantly logged-over remnant hill Mixed Dipterocarp Forest (MDF), with small margins of virgin forest in Pasin Division along the Sarawak / Indonesia border. The remnant vegetation varies in structure and species composition depending on terrain conditions and the intensity of previous timber harvesting. Also, in the Pasin Division, there are large areas of shifting agriculture in the northern part and isolated kerangas in the south.

Specific biological values (e.g. rare or endangered species)

The EIA identified several protected mammals, including the orang utan, generally located adjacent to the Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary and the Indonesian border. Other protected mammals are the Bornean gibbon. Hose's langur, maroon langur, clouded leopard, western tarsier, slow loris and giant squirrel. Protected avian species are six species of hornbills, Argus pheasant and Bulwer's pheasant.

Environmental services (e.g. critical watersheds, wildlife corridor, etc.) provided by the forest

The Woodley Division is drained by Sg. Lajan Besat to the north, Sg. Sebatu to the west and Sg. Lanang to the south. The east of Woodley Division drains into Sg. Mukoh and Sg. Tekalit and eventually to Sg. Katibas. Streams in the east of Rejang Division drain into Sg. Matalau. In the western region, streams flowing northwards drain into Sg. Matalau while those flowing southwards drain into Sg. Laup and Sg. Naina.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

EIA titled "Environmental Impact Assessment for Tree Planting under Licence for Planted Forests No. LPF/0010 in the Sibu and Kapit Divisions, Sarawak" was conducted by registered environmental

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	Tan Ann Plywood	/ LPF No. LPF/001	0 Page 5		



consultant firm, Plantacia Sdn. Bhd. and approved by the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) on 10 December 1999 (Ref. #: (8) NREB/6-11/64).

Social context

Social Assessment:

In June 2012, Ta Ann Plywood engaged Ecosol Consultancy Sdn. Bhd. to conduct a separate Social Impact Assessment (SIA), covering the Tree Plantation Areas in Woodley, Pasin and Rejang Divisions, including an evaluation of settlements. As the result, there were 63 villages located within a 3 km radius, and 14 villages outside of the 3 km radius claiming their shifting cultivation areas within LPF No. LPF/0010. However, only 27 villages were visited and surveyed.

Key findings of social assessment:

Identified communities dependent on the FTL / LPF.

Since the LPF No. LPF/0010 was revised on 29th May 2017 to cover an area of 69,316 ha, all the longhouses are no longer located within the licensed area.

All longhouses listed in this report were based on Rejang & Woodley divisions as there were no operations within the Pasin Division. The information recorded in this report is based on documentation and information provided by the Ta Ann Plywood for Rejang & Woodley divisions. Community areas claimed in Rejang Division are identified in Map A and for Woodley Division in Map B.

#	Race	Village Name	Claimed Coupe (Referring to Maps A & B)	Area Claimed (Ha)	Agreement GW / Log commission Harvest date	Remark(s)
		Rejang	Division (Map A -	– Updated as	s of 01/12/2024)	
1	lban	Rh. Demang (Including Rh. Dari a sub-group of Rh. Demang	Parts of Coupe 02E – 06E	2 721	Salvage logging (01/05/2018) Acacia harvesting (02/03/2017)	Rh. Dari visited in October 2019
2	Iban	Rh. Junan	Parts of Coupe 02E – 06E	3,731	(Shared agreement under Syarikat	Interviewed in November 2022
3	Iban	Rh. Tugang	Parts of Coupe 02E – 06E		Matalau Musah)	Interviewed in December 2020
4	lban	Rh. Dominic Rungum	Part of Coupe 01E	418	No agreement - Ta A	
5	lban	Rh. Bangau	Part of Coupe 01E	410	not entered or operate claimed a	
6	lban	Rh. Kawin	Parts of Coupe 03E – 04E	223	Salvage logging in 2014	Visited in October 2018
7	lban	Rh. Selikau	Parts of Coupe 03E – 04E	223	Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
8	lban	Rh. Peter	Parts of Coupe 05E – 11E	3,226	Salvage logging (08/2021) Acacia harvesting (08/2019)	Visited in October 2019

Longhouses aligned to Rejang and Woodley Divisions of LPF/0010 are listed as follows:

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18E started yet.	27						-
						Agreement:	

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					01/12/2024	
28	Iban	Tr. Mengkau	Coupe 16E; Parts of Coupe 15E, 17E & 18E		Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
29	lban	Tr. Kulleh	Coupe 16E; Parts of Coupe 15E, 17E & 18E		Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
30	lban	Tr. Seberi	Coupe 16E; Parts of Coupe 15E, 17E & 18E		Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
31	lban	Tr. Langgong	Coupe 16E: Parts of Coupe 15E, 17E & 18E		Acacia mangium harvesting Agreement: 01/12/2024	Interviewed in December 2024
32	Iban	Rh. Bagan	Parts of Coupe 14E – 15E	1,555	Salvage logging Agreement: 01/09/2023	Interviewed in December 2023
33	Iban	Tr. Selia Bunsu	Part of Coupe 18E	58	Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
		Woodley	Division (Map B	– Updated a		
32	lban	Rh. Bilon (Rantai)	Part of Coupe 01B	144	Salvage logging (2018) Acacia harvesting (2019) Agreement: 05/09/2017	-
33	Iban	Rh. Gibert	Coupes 05B & 07B; Parts of Coupe 01B, 06B & 08B	2,974	Salvage logging (2018) Acacia harvesting (2019) Agreement: 22/08/2017	-
34	lban	Rh. Ijau	Coupes 03B & 09B; Part of Coupe 02B	956	Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
35	lban	Rh. Leo	Coupe 03B; Part of Coupe 02B	1,834 (including	Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
36	lban	Rh. Kutak	Coupe 03B; Part of Coupe 02B	Rh. Ijau)	Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
37	lban	Rh. Melayu	Parts of Coupe 01B – 02B	1,765	Salvage logging (02/04/2018) Acacia harvesting	Visited in October 2018

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					(in 2019) Agreement: 05/08/2017	
38	Iban	Rh. Munting	Part of Coupe 01B	460	Salvage logging (2018) Acacia harvesting (2019) Agreement: 22/08/2017	-
39	lban	Rh. Ibi & other	Coupe 04B; Parts of Coupe 06B & 08B	1,441	Yet to negotiate (No Operation)	-
40	Iban	Syarikat Gerempung Menua Tekalit (Named under 20 longhouses)*	Part of coupe 05B	649	Acacia & salvage logging Agreement: 20/02/2022	Remote interview Rh. Gilbert Dec 2022

*Syarikat Gerempung Menua Tekalit includes: (Rh. Gilbert, Rh. Johnny, Rh. Ebin, Rh. Philip, Rh. Lucy, Rh. Achau, Rh. Sibat, Rh. Melayu, Rh. Kana, Rh. Jaya, Rh. Munting, Rh. Rantai, Rh. Landun, Rh. Kaya, Rh. Changgai, Rh. Endah, Rh. Ensam, Rh. Barain, Rh. Lumpong, Rh. Dunggo)

Maps of longhouse communities. •

Areas claimed by local communities for Woodley and Rejang divisions are mapped and updated as of October 2022 (for Woodley) and December 2024 (for Rejang). Areas claimed for Pasin division are not available, as Ta Ann Plywood does not have operations in this area since 2019.

Native Customary Rights – Agreements

Ta Ann Plywood has a system to establish formal agreements with each longhouse community for compensation for resource use within areas claimed. Agreements are reached through negotiations and discussions as operations progress, i.e., on a coupe-by-coupe basis. Once an agreement has been reached, provisions are laid out in a documented agreement that is read and interpreted to all parties to declare that they have fully understood and agreed to the terms prior to signing. Current payments are based on the volume of extracted timber within the claimed areas after local communities have finalized and resolved any conflicting land claims.

Social Monitoring:

Regular communication and consultation between Ta Ann Plywood and local communities have been demonstrated since the commencement of logging operations. Community claims or issues are recorded, monitored and dealt following the company's Standard Operation Procedures (SOP). Ta Ann Plywood compensates the local communities for damages or losses to areas claimed through signed agreements. Audit interviews with local community identified that, in general, the communities are happy with their relationship with Ta Ann Plywood.

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Scope of Assessment

- The scope of the evaluation is to verify compliance with LPF No. LPF/0010, Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. with the Principles 1-4 of the STLVS Standard (v03) 01 April 2021.
- Site evaluation to verify and report the level of compliance by **Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. and Hariwood Sdn. Bhd.** to the standard in respect to each of the criteria within this report.
- Compliance is defined when the auditee demonstrates that the indicators consist of only minor gaps or no gaps against any applicable criteria of the standard. Non-compliance to the Sarawak Legality Standard occurs when a Major Gap is issued against an indicator and associated criterion.

Itinerary of Assessment							
Date	Activities	GFS Staff	Mandays				
15 December 2024 Sunday	Travel from Kota Kinabalu and overnight in Sibu.	Brandon James Sheanna Kehong	2				
16 December 2024 Monday	Opening meeting & document review, Ta Ann HQ. Travel to TAP Pasin Camp of LPF/0010 and overnight.	Brandon James Sheanna Kehong	2				
17 December 2024 Tuesday	Site visit to TAP Pasin Camp and nursery. Coupe 15E (Rejang Division) – License boundary, coupe boundary, <i>Acacia mangium</i> area, Sg. Manari log pond at Song. Community interview with representative of Tr. Langgong Anak Lanyo. Site visit to TAP Woodley Division - Basecamp and nursery. Travel to Sibu and overnight.	Brandon James Sheanna Kehong	2				
18 December 2024 Wednesday	Document review at Ta Ann HQ.	Brandon James Sheanna Kehong	2				
19 December 2024 Thursday	Document review at Ta Ann HQ.	Brandon James Sheanna Kehong	2				
20 December 2024 Friday	Document review and closing meeting at Ta Ann HQ. Travel back to home base.	Brandon James Sheanna Kehong	2				
21-22 December 2024	Reporting: GFSS 019-028	Dr. Kevin Grace Brandon James	2				
Total			14				

Highlights of Assessment

Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. has complied with the Sarawak Legality Standard (Principles 1-4) as *no* non-compliance was identified during the assessment on 16 – 20 December 2024.

Summary of current status of operations against each principle.

Principle 1:

Ta Ann Plywood has demonstrated compliance with license requirements and management planning guidelines. Salvage logging has been completed for Coupe 14E, and the harvesting of *Acacia mangium* is currently underway at Coupe 15E. Recently, salvage logging has also commenced at Coupe 15E in the Rejang Division.

Principle 2:

Ta Ann Plywood has demonstrated compliance with forestry operation standards.

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Highlights of Assessment

Boundaries and areas designated for protection, such as buffer zones, were marked with signs and paint as depicted on the maps.

Ta Ann Plywood has a formal schedule for monitoring and patrolling inside the licensed area. Based on the patrolling records, no illegal activities were identified within LPF/0010 from November 2023 to November 2024.

LPI tags and DPR are only required for the extraction of logs from the salvage logging but not for planted timber. Ta Ann Plywood adequately maintained both salvage logging and plantation harvesting related documents on production, royalties and transportation.

Field workers had valid documents and were covered by SOCSO and were equipped with PPE. Ta Ann Plywood provided adequate training to workers. Training records were documented and maintained.

December 2023: Observation 001-2023 – Checklist 2.1.4

The GPS readings for encroachment area were not consistently recorded in the patrolling report. December 2024: Observation 001-2023 (Addressed)

No illegal activities or encroachments were detected within LPF/0010 from November 2023 to November 2024.

Principle 3:

Ta Ann Plywood demonstrated compliance with the statutory charges, such as royalty & fees and maintained records.

Principle 4:

In June 2012, Ta Ann Plywood engaged Ecosol Consultancy Sdn. Bhd. to conduct a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) covering the Tree Plantation Areas in Woodley, Pasin and Rejang Divisions, which included an evaluation of settlements. There were 63 villages located within a 3 km radius, as well as 14 villages outside of the 3 km radius claiming shifting cultivation areas within LPF No. LPF/0010.

Since the LPF No. LPF/0010 was revised on 29th May 2017 to cover an area of 69,316 ha; all the longhouses were no longer located within the licensed area. However, some longhouses still have claims over lands within the recently revised LPF No. LPF/0010 concession. Ta Ann Plywood maintained the mutual agreement between the longhouses before conducting any harvesting operations within areas claimed by community.

There is no evidence that Ta Ann Plywood has breached the agreement and discriminated against the local community's needs.

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Summary results:

(Major Gap = 0 / Minor Gap = 0 / Observations = 0)

GAPs:				
GAP #	Туре	Checklist	Status	Description
-	-	-	-	-

*Note: Major Gap = Non-Compliance / Minor Gap still compliant to criterion. Minor Gap may be upgraded to a Major Gap if not adequately addressed by the date of the next surveillance visit.

Observations							
Obs #	Checklist	Description					
001-2023	2.1.4	December 2023:					
Addressed		The GPS readings for encroachment area were not consistently recorded in the patrolling report. December 2024:					
		No illegal activities or encroachments were detected within LPF/0010 from November 2023 to November 2024.					

*Note: Observations can be upgraded to a Minor Gap if not adequately addressed by the date of the next surveillance visit.

Highlights of Close out visit (if applicable) Dates -

Not applicable

Recommendations

Ta Ann Plywood Sdn. Bhd. has demonstrated compliance with the Sarawak Legality Standard (Principles 1-4) for License for Planted Forests No. LPF/0010 and is recommended to receive a GFS Statement of Compliance and STLVS Certificate of Compliance from FDS.

The next annual monitoring visit will be scheduled for December 2025.

End of Summary Report

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