



**FPC-001 PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF THE  
FOREST PROTECTION STANDARD**





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**Title:** Forest Protection Council (FPC)

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## ABOUT US

One of the main objectives of the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) is to work to maintain the continuity of natural life by protecting forests. In this context, the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) aims to protect and reproduce forests by developing various standards regarding forest protection and forest management, encouraging producers and consumers to sustainable forestry.

The Forest Protection Council (FPC) is an independent, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

## Forest Protection Council (FPC)

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### 1- REFERENCES

FPC-002 Glossary of Terms

### 2. PREAMBLE

Introduction

This document contains the FPC Principles and Criteria for Forest Protection, and is a key document in the FPC certification system. The Principles and Criteria consist of the Preamble, ten Principles and their associated Criteria, and a Glossary of Terms. All of these (the Preamble, Principles, Criteria and Glossary of Terms) are considered normative. The Preamble contains essential information for everyone interested in FPC certification, in that it is normative and answers the following questions:

What is eligible for FPC certification?

Who is responsible for compliance with the Principles and Criteria?

Who is responsible for interpreting the Principles and Criteria?

What is the basis for certification decisions?

How can the Principles and Criteria be applied in the field?

**The Preamble contains the following sections:**

2.1 The Forest Protection Council (FPC)

## 2.1 THE FOREST PROTECTION COUNCIL (FPC)

One of the main objectives of the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) is to work to maintain the continuity of natural life by protecting forests. In this context, the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) aims to protect and reproduce forests by developing various standards related to forest protection and forest management, encouraging producers and consumers to sustainable forestry.

Although the standards developed by the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) are mainly directed towards forests, the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) is aware that protecting forests also creates a butterfly effect that positively affects access to clean water, the ecosystem, wildlife, local peoples and the global economy. strives to disseminate the vision as much as possible.

Although forest certificates are programs on a voluntary basis by nature, the development of such certification programs can turn into an all-out environmental struggle by creating awareness and triggering states and official institutions that have not yet taken action.

The forest protection certification program is a system for monitoring and labeling timber, wood and pulp products, and non-timber forest products, in which the quality of forest management is assessed against a set of accepted standards.

Forest Conservation Council (FPC) forest protection certification programs, as voluntary market-based instruments, depend on the ability to cover the costs incurred and the often elusive green consumer sentiment. Despite many challenges, forest certification has been very successful in spreading awareness and raising awareness of a holistic concept of sustainable forest management that covers economic, environmental and social issues around the world.

Believing that all people have the right to live in a healthy environment, the Forest Conservation Council (FPC) continues its activities with the awareness that forests and nature can only be protected and protected if people are at the forefront and center of this process.

### Forest Protection Council (FPC)



The Forest Conservation Council (FPC) provides opportunities for forest owners and organizations in the forest supply chain to help protect the world's forests by encouraging them to obtain certification and implement standards.

### 3.THE FPC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA

#### 3.1

The Organization shall be a legally defined entity with clear, documented and unchallenged legal registration, with written authorization from the legally competent authority for specific activities.

The Organization shall demonstrate that the legal status of the Management Unit, including tenure and use rights\*, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.

#### 3.2

The Organization shall develop and implement measures, and/or shall engage with regulatory agencies, to systematically protect the Management Unit from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities.

#### 3.3

The Organization shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FPC Principles and Criteria\* in the Management Unit and to related FPC Policies and Standards. A statement of this commitment shall be contained in a publicly available document made freely available.

#### 3.4

The Organization will support the principles and rights at work as defined in the regulations on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, based on the regulations of the country in which it is located.

#### 3.5

The Organization shall promote gender equality in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities.

### 3.6

The Organization shall demonstrate that workers have job-specific training and supervision to safely and effectively implement the management plan and all management activities.

### 3.7

The Organization through engagement with workers shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation to workers for loss or damage to property, occupational diseases, or occupational injuries sustained while working for The Organization.

### 3.8

The Organization shall identify the local communities that exist within the Management Unit and those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these local communities, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit.

### 3.9

The Organization shall provide reasonable opportunities for employment, training and other services to local communities, contractors and suppliers proportionate to scale and intensity of its management activities.

### 3.10

The Organization shall identify, produce, or enable the production of, diversified benefits and/or products, based on the range of resources and ecosystem services existing in the Management Unit in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy proportionate to the scale and intensity\* of management activities.

### 3.11

The Organization shall normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit at or below a level which can be permanently sustained.

#### **Forest Protection Council (FPC)**



**3.12**

The Organization shall demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to scale, intensity and risk, its commitment to long-term economic viability\*.

**3.13**

The Organization shall assess environmental values in the Management Unit and those values outside the Management Unit potentially affected by management activities. This assessment shall be undertaken with a level of detail, scale and frequency that is proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary conservation measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities.

**3.14**

Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, The Organization shall identify and assess the scale, intensity and risk of potential impacts of management activities on the identified environmental values.

**3.15**

The Organization shall identify and implement effective actions to prevent negative impacts of management activities on the environmental values and to mitigate and repair those that occur, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of these impacts.

**3.16**

The Organization shall protect or restore natural water courses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity. The Organization shall avoid negative impacts on water quality and quantity and mitigate and remedy those that occur.

**3.17**

The Organization shall manage the landscape in the Management Unit to maintain and/or restore a varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales and regeneration cycles appropriate for the landscape values in that region, and for enhancing environmental and economic resilience.

**3.18**

The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and objectives for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and objectives shall be incorporated into the management plan and publicized.

**3.19**

The management plan shall include verifiable targets by which progress towards each of the prescribed management objectives can be assessed.

**3.20**

The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the management plan free of charge. Excluding confidential information, other relevant components of the management plan shall be made available to affected stakeholders on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling.

**3.21**

The Organization shall monitor the implementation of its management plan, including its policies and objectives, its progress with the activities planned, and the achievement of its verifiable targets.

**3.22**

The Organization shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit, and changes in its environmental condition.

**3.23**

The Organization shall analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process.



### 3.24

Implementation of Management After harvest or in accordance with the management plan, The Organization shall, by natural or artificial regeneration methods, regenerate vegetation cover in a timely fashion to pre-harvesting or more natural conditions.

### 3.25

The Organization shall not use genetically modified organisms in the Management Unit.

### 3.26

The Organization shall use silvicultural practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives.

### 3.27

The Organization shall dispose of waste materials in an environmentally appropriate manner

## 4. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**4.1 Adaptive management:** A systematic process of continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of existing measures.

**4.2 Affected stakeholder:** Any person, group of persons or entity that is or is likely to be subject to the effects of the activities of a Management Unit.

**4.3 Biological diversity:** The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

**4.4 Biological control agents:** Organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other organisms.

**4.5 Conflicts between the Principles and Criteria and laws:** Situations where it is not possible to comply with the Principles and Criteria and a law at the same time.

**4.6 Protection:** These words are used interchangeably when referring to management activities designed to maintain the identified environmental or cultural values in existence long-term. Management activities may range from zero or minimal interventions to a specified range of appropriate interventions and activities designed to maintain, or compatible with maintaining, these identified values

**4.7 Customary Laws:** Interrelated sets of customary rights maybe recognized as customary law. In some jurisdictions, customary law is equivalent to statutory law, within its defined area of competence and may replace the statutory law for defined ethnic or other social groups. In some jurisdictions customary law complements statutory law and is applied in specified circumstances.

**4.8 Customary rights:** Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit.

**4.9 Economic viability:** The capability of developing and surviving as a relatively independent social, economic or political unit. Economic viability may require but is not synonymous with profitability.

**4.10 Ecosystem:** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

**4.11 Gender equality:** Gender equality or gender equity means that women and men have equal conditions for realizing their full human rights and for contributing to, and benefiting from, economic, social, cultural and political development.



**4.12 Habitat:** The place or type of site where an organism or population occurs.

**4.13 Intellectual property:** Practices as well as knowledge, innovations and other creations of the mind.

**4.14 Intensity:** A measure of the force, severity or strength of a management activity or other occurrence affecting the nature of the activity's impacts.

**4.15 Legal:** In accordance with primary legislation (national or local laws) or secondary legislation (subsidiary regulations, decrees, orders, etc.). 'Legal' also includes rule-based decisions made by legally competent agencies where such decisions flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations. Decisions made by legally competent agencies may not be legal if they do not flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations and if they are not rule-based but use administrative discretion

**4.16 Legally competent:** Mandated by law to perform a certain function.

**4.17 Legal status:** The way in which the Management Unit is classified according to law. In terms of tenure, it means the category of tenure, such as communal land or leasehold or freehold or State land or government land, etc. If the Management Unit is being converted from one category to another (for example, from State land to communal indigenous land) the status includes the current position in the transition process. In terms of administration, legal status could mean that the land is owned by the nation as a whole, is administered on behalf of the nation by a government department, and is leased by a government Ministry to a private sector operator through a concession.

**4.18 Management plan:** The collection of documents, reports, records and maps that describe, justify and regulate the activities carried out by any manager, staff or organization within or in relation to the Management Unit, including statements of objectives and policies

**4.19 Managerial control:** Responsibility of the kind defined for corporate directors of commercial enterprises in national commercial law, and treated by FPC as applicable also to public sector organizations

**4.20 Natural forest:** A forest area with many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems, such as complexity, structure and biological diversity, including soil characteristics, flora and fauna, in which all or almost all the trees are native species, not classified as plantations.

**4.21 Objective:** The basic purpose laid down by The Organization for the forest enterprise, including the decision of policy and the choice of means for attaining the purpose.

**4.22 The Organization:** The person or entity holding or applying for certification and therefore responsible for demonstrating compliance with the requirements upon which FPC certification is based.

**4.23 Risk:** The probability of an unacceptable negative impact arising from any activity in the Management Unit combined with its seriousness in terms of consequences.

**4.24 Scale, intensity and risk:** See individual definitions of the terms 'scale', 'intensity', and 'risk'.

**4.25 Workers:** All employed persons including public employees as well as 'self-employed' persons. This includes part-time and seasonal employees, of all ranks and categories, including laborers, administrators, supervisors, executives, contractor employees as well as self-employed contractors and sub-contractors.