

HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FOREST DELINEATION

Prior to the development of concessions and as a voluntary commitment since 2005, APRIL has conducted High Conservation Value (HCV) assessments for each new concession area based on the Toolkit for Identification of High Conservation Values in Indonesia (2008). These assessments identify and delineate exceptionally important biodiversity values, ecosystem elements and social or cultural values and recommend management and monitoring activities to maintain and enhance these values.

APRIL reaffirms its commitment to the integration of High Conservation Value (HCV) assessments into its land-use planning processes and to the application of the HCV Indonesia Toolkit to delineate and protect conservation zones and indigenous tree species areas within its concessions.

APRIL incorporates the findings of HCV assessments into its land-use planning processes and undertakes fibre plantation development in ways that will maintain the HCV.

Generally, the HCV process confirms the micro-delineation and water management planning that has been conducted.

APRIL has found the HCV processes and concepts to be valuable planning tools. We identify and delineate additional values that may result in the conservation of additional areas of natural forest.

The guidance and recommendations from HCV experts enable our planners and managers to implement best practices and achieve sustainable wood production through a rational balance between environmental conservation, social concerns and economic development.

It is important to recognize that the HCV approach in Indonesia acknowledges that one or more forms of active management can be undertaken to ensure the maintenance or enhancement of one or more high conservation values in an area.

APRIL Indonesia works closely with leading HCV experts in Indonesia and through the Global HCV Resource Network to develop consistent approaches for application of HCV processes to the context of developing fibre plantations in Indonesia. Many detailed questions and issues of interpretation can arise on the appropriate manner for applying the HCV Toolkit in the Indonesian context.

Our managers and internal specialists participate in regional and global HCV forums and work with partners who are experts in the application of the HCV Toolkit.

OVERALL PROTECTION OF CONSERVATION AREAS BY APRIL

Of APRIL's total concessions, the areas set aside and conserved following incorporation of HCV assessments in land-use plans account for approximately 26% of our total concession areas or 88,610 hectares. As referenced in section 4.2 of this Report, when the conservation and indigenous tree species areas set aside by both APRIL and long-term supply partners are combined, they account for more than 220,000 hectares.

APRIL audits its own concessions to ensure actual conservation areas correspond with areas identified as conservation in land management plans and where any discrepancies are found, an investigation takes place and rectification actions are undertaken.

Figure 45: HCV INDICATORS

HCV 1: Areas with Important Levels of Biodiversity (Habitats for Critically Endangered Species)
HCV 2: Important Landscapes and Dynamics (Ecosystems and Populations)
HCV 3: Rare or Endangered Ecosystems
HCV 4: Environmental Services (Watersheds, Erosion Prevention, Fire Control)
HCV 5: Natural Areas Critical to Meeting the Basic Needs of Local People
HCV 6: Areas Critical for Maintaining the Cultural Identity of Local Communities

