

NCCF FOREST MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SUMMARY AUDIT

REPORT

Uttar Pradesh Forest Corporation (UPFC) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	
Certificate Code	GIPL-FM-0001
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Website	http://www.upforestcorporation.in/
Certified forest Area	450408.31
Audit Type	1 st Surveillance Audit
Date of Evaluation (Audit dates)	2 nd September to 9 th September 2021
Date of certificate Issuance	13-February-2020
Date of certificate expiration	12-February-2025

Certificate Issued by:	GICIA India Pvt. Ltd.
Address:	2nd Rear Office, 3rd Floor, Images Tower, B-27, Noida, Sector-132, Gautam Budh Nagar - 201304 (U.P.), India
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1. FME General Information

1.1 Scope of Certification

Area Under the Scope of Certification: 450408.31 ha			
Geographic Location			
Latitude: Please refer below			
Longitude: Please refer below			
Type of Forest under the Scope of the certificate:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Forest			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plantations			
Certificate type:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Single Certificate			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Certificate			
<input type="checkbox"/> Group Certificate			
Enlist Name of FMUs (applicable for the Group/Multiple Certificate)			
S. No.	Name of the FMU	Area (ha)	Geographical location
1	Amroha	6208.39	29°12'11" N 78° 31'55" E
2	Rampur	1361.54	28°50'33" N 79° 01'04" E
3	Moradabad	282.65	28°50'44" N 78° 46'13" E
4	Sambhal	185.20	28°35'31" N 78° 34'14" E
5	Meerut	1542.17	28°59'24" N 77° 42'22" E
6	Hapur	1320.63	28°56'37" N 77° 39'33" E
7	Gautam Budh Nagar	2231.36	28°45'59" N 77° 46'20" E
8	Bulandshahr	8551.22	28°24'29" N 77° 51'00" E
9	Bagpat	1755.00	28°56'34" N 77° 13'30" E
10	Ghaziabad	852.77	28°46'49.1" N 77° 31'03.9" E
11	Bareilly	2909.67	28°22'15" N 79° 25'47" E
12	Badayun	7777.94	28°02'01" N 79° 07'37" E
13	Saharanpur	547.43	29°58'13" N 77° 33'16" E
14	Muzaffarnagar	1762.26	29°28'25" N 77° 42'30" E

15	Shamli	5128.44	29°26'58" N 77° 18'58" E
16	Ayodhya	4425.82	26°47'32" N 88° 11'55" E
17	Ambedkar Nagar	384.73	26°30'26" N 82° 41'21" E
18	Azamgarh	2388.18	26°04'52" N 83° 11'05" E
19	Mau	1286.18	25°56'45" N 83° 33'50" E
20	Baliya	1811.74	25°46'01" N 84° 09'01" E
21	Kushinagar	1280.10	26°30'10" N 83° 46'46" E
22	Devariya	494.51	26°44'24" N 83° 53'10" E
23	Siddharth Nagar	3697.02	27°17'58" N 83° 05'30" E
24	Sant Kabir Nagar	2356.69	26°47'38" N 83° 02'09" E
25	Basti	6231.98	26°48'21" N 82° 44'40" E
26	Sohagibarwa	1386.39	29°17'21" N 83° 53'39" E
27	Hardoi	13200.37	27°23'17" N 80° 06'36" E
28	Sitapur	7632.88	27°33'41" N 80° 40'30" E
29	South Kheri	43258.23	27°45'N to 28°30'N 80°00'E to 80°45'E
30	North Kheri	44095.61	27°42'N to 28°46'N 80°12'E to 81°16'E
31	Najibabad	34846.00	29°-4' to 29°-48' N 78°-7' to 78°-41'E
32	Pilhibit	73452.71	28°46'N to 28°52'N 79°55'E to 82°15'E
33	Katarniyaghat	13496.00	27° 41' To 27° 56' 81° 48' To 81° 56'
34	Sohelwa	23198.70	27°30'01" To 27° 55'43" 82° 13' 00" To 82° 48' 33"
35	Shiwalik	33326.00	30°-0' to 30°-25'N 77°-32' to 78°-1' E
36	Gonda	20318.25	26°47'00" To 27°32'30" N

			81°37'50" To 82°37'35" E
37	Bahraich	12437.25	27020' To 280 10' 81 0 25" To 820 05'
38	Shahjahanpur	12753.07	27°26'N to 28°15'N 79°21'E to 80°15'E
39	Gorakhpur	16686.25	26° 35' To 27° 17'N 83° 13' To 83° 35' E
40	Bijnor	16321.56	29° 2' to 29° 58' N 77° 58' to 78° 56' E
41	Srawasti	17225.44	27°20' to 28° 10' N 81° 25' To 82°

1.2 Composition of Certified Forest Area

A. Production Forest Details		Area (ha)
Forest from which timber is harvested (as prescribed in working plan): 13 Territorial Divisions (including RF areas and block and strip plantations - roadside, railway, and canal side) - 3,61,415.07 ha and Social Forestry Division (strip plantations -roadside, railway and canal side) – 88,993.24 ha		450408.31
Forest classified as 'Plantation': Plantations area on strips (Road/Canal/Rail lines) in both Territorial (3099.37) and Social Forestry division (23356.18 ha)		26455.55
Forest regenerated primarily by replanting or by a combination of replanting, natural regeneration and coppicing of the previous plantations and/or naturally regenerated stems (RF area in 13 divisions (358315.70 ha) and block plantations in RF in Social Forestry divisions (65637.06 ha)		423952.76
Silvicultural system(s) (Even-aged, Uneven aged and Others)		
S. No.	System of felling	Area (ha)
1.	Even-aged management	NA
	Clear felling	
	Other	
2	Uneven-aged management	NA
	Individual tree selection	
	Selection system	4,50,408.31
	Other:	
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (e.g. JFMC, Forest nurseries, bund plantations, bamboo, silvipastoral system, agro-forestry system, etc.)	NA

B. Conservation

Area of forest and non-forest land protected from commercial harvesting of timber and

managed primarily for conservation objectives as prescribed in Working Plan:			
All 13 territorial forest divisions are managed primarily for conservation purposes, only dead, dying and moribund trees are extracted. However, few forest divisions are more important from conservation point of view considering linkages to Protected area (Wildlife Sanctuary and Tiger reserves). These divisions are Pilibhit Forest Divisions (73452.71 ha), Sohelwa Forest Division (23198.70) and Katarniyaghat Forest Division (13,496 ha)			
Area of Forest classified as High Conservation Forest Value 73459.21 ha			
Area of forest classified as 'high conservation value forest'			73459.21 ha
Not Applicable (Skip below table and move to next section)			<input type="checkbox"/>
Applicable (Fill below table)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HCV Code	Description of HCV	Location	Area
HCV1	Forest land containing Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species, that are significant at global, regional or national levels.	Pilhibit Tiger Reserve	73452.71
HCV2	Intact forest landscapes and large landscape-level ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.		
HCV3	Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.		
HCV4	Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.		
HCV5	Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for example for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.		
HCV6	Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or Indigenous Peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or Indigenous Peoples.	Sacred Groves: Samay Mai ka Sthan – Kuana Range Van Sati Devi – Kuana Range Vansati Devi – Tikari Comp. 4	6.5
Total HCVF Area			73459.21

1.3 Product Categories

These are the categories to be included in scope of FM certificate (available for sale as PEFC/NCCF-certified products) and list of main commercial timber and non-timber species:

Product Category, Botanical Name & Common Trade Name		
Product Category		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	01000 Roundwood	<input type="checkbox"/> 01010 Sawn logs and veneer logs <input type="checkbox"/> 01020 Pulpwood <input type="checkbox"/> 01030 Chips and particles <input type="checkbox"/> 01040 Wood residues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 01050 Other industrial roundwood
<input type="checkbox"/>	02000 Fuelwood and charcoal	<input type="checkbox"/> 02010 Fuelwood (incl chips, residues, pellets, brickets, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 02020 Charcoal
<input type="checkbox"/>	03000 Sawn wood and sleepers	<input type="checkbox"/> 03010 Railway sleepers <input type="checkbox"/> 03020 Sawn wood
<input type="checkbox"/>	13000 Non-wood products	E.g. Latex
<input type="checkbox"/>	11000 Cork and cork products	<input type="checkbox"/> 11010 Natural cork and cork waste <input type="checkbox"/> 11020 Cork manufactures
<input type="checkbox"/>	14000 Other	
Species Categorization under PEFC system		
Coniferous	All woods derived from trees classified botanically as Gymnospermae - e.g. fir (<i>Abies</i>), <i>parana pine (Araucaria)</i> , <i>deodar (Cedrus)</i> , <i>ginkgo (Ginkgo)</i> , <i>larch (Larix)</i> , <i>spruce (Picea)</i> , <i>pine, chir, kail (Pinus)</i> , etc. These are generally referred to as softwoods.	
Non-coniferous tropical	All woods derived from trees classified botanically as Angiospermae - e.g., <i>maple (Acer)</i> , <i>alder (Alnus)</i> , <i>ebony (Diospyros)</i> , <i>beech (Fagus)</i> , <i>lignum vitae (Guaiacum)</i> , <i>poplar (Populus)</i> , <i>oak (Quercus)</i> , <i>sal (Shorea)</i> , <i>teak (Tectona)</i> , <i>casuarina (Casuarina)</i> , etc.	Non-coniferous woods originating from tropical countries.
Non-coniferous other	These are generally referred to as broadleaved or hardwoods.	Non-coniferous woods originating from countries other than tropical.
Not specified		
List of commercial timber and non-timber species under certification scope		
<i>Acacia catechu (Khair)</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos (Bael)</i> , <i>Albizia lebbeck (black siris)</i> , <i>Albizia procera</i>		

(safedsiris), *Alstonia scholaris* (Chitvan), *Barringtonia acutangula* (Samundarphal), *Bauhinia purpurea* (Kaniyar), *Bombax ceiba* (semal), *Bridelia retusa* (Khasa/Kaji), *Buchania cochinchinensis* (Chironji), *Cassia fistula* (Amaltas), *Cordia dichotoma* (Lasora), *Dalbergia sissoo* (shisham), *Dillenia pentagyna* (Karmal), *Diospyros exculpta* (Tendu), *Ehretia laevis* (Chamror), *Phyllanthus emblica* (Amla), *Eucalyptus* spp. (Eucalyptus), *Ficus bengalensis* (Bargad), *Ficus hispida* (gobla/katgularia), *Ficus palmate* (anjeer), *Ficus racemose* (Goolar), *Ficus rumphii* (kabaipipal/pakad), *Grewia tiliifolia* (Dhaman), *Haldina cordifolia* (Haldu/karam), *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Kanju/chilbil), *Hymenodictyon orixense* (bhurkur/kala-bachnag), *Kydia calycina* (pulaa), *Lagerstroemia parviflora* (Dhaura/asidi), *Lannea coromandelica* (Mohin), *Leucaena leucocephala* (Subabool), *Litsea glutinosa* (medhalakari/chandna), *Litsea monopetala* (Meda/jangli-rai-am/gava), *Madhuca longifolia* var. *latifolia* (Mahua), *Mallotus nudiflorus* (Pindalu/kumkum), *Mallotus philippensis* (rohini/sinduri), *Miliu savelutina* (Choparchilla/domsaal), *Mitragyna parvifolia* (Kaim/faldu), *Bergera koenigii* (kadi patta), *Desmodium oojeinense* (Sandan), *Putranjiva roxburghii* (Putrajeeva), *Schleichera oleosa* (Kusum), *Semecarpus anacardium* (Bhilawan/agnimukh), *Shorea robusta* (sal/shakhu), *Sterculia villosa* (Katira/udal), *Stereospermum chelonoides* (Padeli), *Streblus asper* (Dahia), *Syzygium cumini* (Jamun), *Syzygium heyneanum* (Kathjamun), *Tectona grandis* (Teak/shagaun/saagvan), *Haplophragma adenophyllum* (Kath Sagon), *Terminalia elliptica* (asna), *Toona ciliata* (Toon), *Ziziphus mauritiana* (Ber), *Mangifera Indica* (mango), *Acacia Nilotica* (babool/kekar). *Acacia auriculiformis* (auuri), *terminalia arjuna* (arjun), *ceiba pentandra* (safeedsemal), *Neolamarckia Anthocephalus* (cadamba) (Krishna kadamba), *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (kathal), *Tetrameles nudiflora* (jungli dungy), *Azadirachta indica* (neem), *Melia azedarach* (bakain), *Haplophragma adenophyllum* (Kathsagaon), *Bombax ceiba* (harisemal), *Millettia pinnata* (kanji), *Santalum album* (Chandan), *Pithecellobium dulce* (Jungli Jalebi), *Kigelia* spp. (Balamkheera), *Cassia siamea* (kassod tree).

1.3 Standards Used for Audit

Name of the Standard	Version	Date of Finalization
NCCF Forest Management Standard (NCCF STD-FM-01/2017)	V1.0	2017
NCCF Logo Usage Standard	V1.0	15th March 2018

2. Audit Plan and Sites Visited

Day 1: 02.09.2021	
FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range	Activities done
Office of DFO Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.	Opening meeting through video conferencing with FME and FMUs Heads connecting through Lucknow Head Office and at various locations of U.P. along with members of three Audit Teams.
	General introduction of participants, Introduction to NCCF Scheme and FM Standards and protocols, review of audit scope and audit plan, finalization of sites and audit plans. Discussions were held on

	<p>pending CARs of the previous audit. Vote of thanks was extended by GIPL.</p> <p>The Audit Team was split into three teams-Teams A, B and C Team A covered Meerut Circle Team B covered Lakhimpur Circle Team C covered Gorakhpur Circle</p>
<p>Team A (Dr. Jagdish Kishwan and Mr. Sheo Sharan Srivastava): Meerut Circle</p>	<p>After opening meeting DFO, Gautam Budh Nagar briefed the Team A about the Division and its activities. DFO appraised that this Division is a Social Forestry Division and jurisdiction extends over 1442 sq. km. of Gautam Budh Nagar which is full of biodiversity. The Division manages Okhla Bird Sanctuary and Surajpur Wetland with a large number of Phoenix trees. The wetland attracts a large number of migratory birds. In Surajpur Wetland, a few migratory birds like black-necked stork have naturalised themselves. The Division gets most of its funds from various Development Authorities and a few companies also for taking up specific works, specially plantation works. The Division has no role to play within the jurisdiction of authorities like NOIDA, Greater NOIDA, Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority and NIAL. Division's jurisdiction is within 86 villages of Gautam Budh Nagar district. However, for specific purposes Division executes a few activities like undertaking plantation works, etc., in Authorities' land and utilize their fund as per their request.</p> <p>From time to time, Division imparts training to its staff and workers on different aspects like nursery and plantation techniques, protection of birds and other wildlife. Division has a management plan with period of validity from 2014-15 to 2023-24. Harvesting of trees is not a regular feature of the Division but due to some developmental activities like widening of roads, etc., a few trees are required to be felled. During 2020-21, along the Agra Canal bank, out of 13 lots allotted to the Forest Corporation, work is in progress in two lots only whereas in the remaining 11 lots, work is yet to start. Removal of dead and dying trees along the sides of the roads, canals, etc., is a regular practice. Division also prepares micro-plan for the villages by conducting meetings with the Panchayat Members, villages and concerned Deptt. which take up the plantation works. They decide in the meetings at which all places what all species and their numbers are to be planted. There are vacancies of about 14 FGs in the Division.</p>
<p>Field Visit under DFO Gautam Budh Nagar</p>	<p>Field visit and visited Surajpur Nursery under the Dadri Range. The nursery spreads over an area of 1.5 ha and is well- fenced. During</p>

<p>Surajpur Nursery</p>	<p>2020-21, the nursery had a stock of about 1.90 lakh seedlings from the previous year, raised another 65,000 seedlings and the total available stock is about 2,55,615 seedlings. Out of this, during 2021-22, number of seedlings distributed to different departments was 1,76,218, seedlings used by the Division were 24,420 and 10,000 seedlings were sold to the public.</p> <p>Also visited the Vermicompost Production Yard</p> <p>Sufficient stock of vermicompost has been produced. Interacted with two lady workers working in the nursery for the last 10-12 years and they are happy with the working conditions. Payment is made directly to worker's bank account. They want wages to be further enhanced. Staff are using 'Jeevamrut' a non-chemical pesticide in the nursery. Made of cow dung, urine, gur, besan, soil and water. Also interacted with the field staff.</p>
<p>Surajpur Wetland</p>	<p>Then visited Surajpur Wetland which is spread over 60 ha.</p> <p>During the season, it attracts a large number of migratory birds. It is surrounded by 308 ha of RF blocks namely Gulistanpur and Khodna khurd.</p> <p>Seen the 2020-21 plantation in Gulistanpur (West) RF Block raised over 05 ha where 10,000 plants of Kanjee, Jamun and Arjun have been raised. Good growth. Also seen plantation of 2021-22 raised over 07 ha where 14,000 plants have been raised. Then seen 2020-21 plantation raised in Khodna khurd RF block raised over 05 ha with 10,000 plants of <i>Prosopis spp.</i>, Pipal, Kanjee, etc. There are large number of old Phoenix trees surviving in this land scape. The forested area also nurtures wild animals like nilgai and fox, etc.</p>
<p>Gamma Nursery- Dadri Range</p>	<p>Then visited Gamma Nursery of Dadri Range spreading over 1 ha ,well fenced. In part of area park has been developed for eco tourism purposes. Nursery is having a balance stock of 35182 seedlings of Jamun, Neem, Prosopis, Chilbila, Kaner, Guavava, Arjun and Baheda, etc. Out of 1,27,307 seedlings available during 2021-22, 55238 seedlings have been distributed among various deptt, 33120 used by Forest Department. 12 labourers were engaged in different works in the nursery. Houses have been provided to many labourers within the nursery. No use of chemical pesticides. Vermicompost is being produced in the Nursery.</p>
<p>Sikandra Range - Gautam Budh Division</p>	<p>Then the team visited to Sikandra Range of Division and seen the 2020 plantation raised in Sector 29/30 within the area of YEIDA over 16 ha.32000 plants of Kanjee, Sissoo, Bottle brush and Kaner, etc.,</p>

<p>Dan kaur Nursery</p>	<p>have been planted. Very good growth. Well fenced. No chemical pesticide or fertiliser used.</p> <p>Then visited plantation raised during 2020 over 6 ha with 12000 plants of Acacia, Sissoo and Arjun etc. Watcher Chandra Bhan is working for the last 9 years and wants regular job. No chemical pesticide used. They are using neem cake for removing termites from field. The plantation area is being visited by Nilgai, Blackbuck and snakes.</p> <p>Then visited Dan kaur Nursery, established over 1.5 ha under Sikandara Range. Adjacent to Nursery they have raised mixed plantation over 7 ha where 14000 plants have been planted. Due to heavy rains, there was water logging. On approaching the plantation, herd of blackbucks started running within the this and old plantation. Field staff appraised that due to development of Jewar Airport and new area being developed by YEIDA, the habitat of these blackbuck have been disturbed. The open patches where they used to roam have been acquired by Jewar Airport and YEIDA. They feel secured in this small patch of Nursery and newly raised few plantations. It was also seen that no dedicated underpass has been provided in Yamuna Expressway passing on high formation level. dividing the habitat of Blackbuck. Staff were not having any information about any specific Plan to mitigate the hardships of these Blackbuck.</p> <p>Team A Travel Back to Delhi.</p>
<p>Day 2: 03.09.2021</p>	
<p>FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range</p>	<p>Activities done</p>
<p>Team A: Meerut Circle Ghaziabad SF Division Office</p>	<p>Visited office of the DFO Ghaziabad Division. Interacted with the DFO. The Working Plan of Division is for the period from 2014-15 to 2023-24. Each year as per the Working Plan Division prepares Annual Plan of Operation. Last one was for the year 2020-21. Seen the training details pertaining to Wildlife. There are 161 Panchayat in the jurisdiction of Division. They also work in the green belt of Nagar Nigam. Division prepares Micro Plan for each village where plantation have to be raised by consulting the Panchayat Members, villagers different departments etc. Verified. Verified the Micro Plan for Faridanagar Panchayat under Modi Nagar Range prepared during 2020-21. As per plan 400 plants of Guava, 400 of Jamun, 400 of Kaner, 400 of Tamarind, 450 of Tikama species and 1950 of other species, total 4000 plants.</p>

<p>Murad Nagar Nursery-Upper Ganga Bank</p> <p>Ghaziabad Sales Division/Rithani sales Depot.</p> <p>Logging Division Meerut</p>	<p>During 2020-21 Division has raised plantation of Sissoo, Guava, Jamun, Mango, Kathal, etc. Special care has been taken to raise shot height plants below the electrical line. No pesticide used, and only neem cake.</p> <p>Visited Murad Nagar Nursery along upper ganga canal bank. The nursery extends over 2 ha area. Part of area is being diverted in expansion of canal road. Nursery is having stock of 38545 seedlings after planting 291223 seedlings. Arjun Plants are affected by pests forming galls on the leaves.</p> <p>Visited 2013 plantation along Ganga canal from miles 97 part to 98 part covering an area of 5 ha where 3125 plants have been raised as green belt. Very good plantation. Now looks like forest.</p> <p>Visited Rithani Sales Depot under Ghaziabad Sales Division with HQ at Meerut. Divisional Sales Manager was present. Each month on 15th auction is conducted for sale of logs and firewood. Verified COC/FM of Depot. lot no. 263/21-22 with Stack no. 415/21-22 of 8 logs of Shisham of grade III, volume 1.7358 cum sold for 48000/- Checked approval of sale by RM vide letter no. 533/16/8/21 dated 17.08.21. Also checked Invoice no. 00199 dated 28.08.21. Checked exit Ravanna and other documents.</p> <p>Also checked log no. 11679 of Ravanna no. UN01281_133 which is not yet sold. Checked its arrival, grading, putting into lot etc. Lots were stacked at low spacing.</p> <p>Stock position of Depot. till 25.08.2021 Timber 3080 cum with 6 species. Firewood 775 cum. Divisional Logging Manager Meerut was also present. No logging operation in his jurisdiction in Ghaziabad. Came to Bijnor Division Najibabad and halted at Jafrabad Forest Rest House in the Division.</p>
<p>Team B Lakhimpur Circle</p> <p>Kamipur Nursery-Hardoi SFD</p>	<p>Team B visited Lucknow Head Office and checked documents, records etc.</p> <p>Team B travel to Sitapur FD from Lucknow and visit to Kachauna Range; Lonhara Forest Block 2019 plantation - 8 ha (5 ha +3 ha divided by a road), Species planted were Shisham, Kanji and Arjuna and survival rate was 97%. They are following practice of cleaning grass before fire season i.e., in mid-February.</p> <p>Interview with the watcher; payment done on time in bank accounts of employees. Other workers are hired as and when required. In Wildlife only Nilgai seen sometimes.</p> <p>Visited Kamipur Nursery of area 3.5 ha. 50 workers are working in the nursery. During bag-filling, more than 50% workers are women. Some of the species seen in the nursery planted are neem, jamun,</p>

	<p>Arjuna, jungle jalebi</p> <p>A worker was interviewed in the nursery and he was working in the Nursery since 2 years; receiving payment on time directly in bank account</p> <p>Compost, neem khal and jeevamrut used as biofertilizers and bio-pesticides. No pesticides used.</p>
<p>Kachauna Depot-Hardoi SFD</p>	<p>Visited Kachauna Depot; Interview with Depot Incharge. Currently there was a staff of 7 people in the depot. No workers were present in the depot. Training records checked (on fire safety), workers are provided safety gear which is kept at the depot. Labourers hired from nearby villages as and when required. Most of the heavy work is handled by machine, which has resulted in lesser requirement of manpower.</p> <p>Fire extinguishers are currently kept in godown and are annually refilled and re-installed in the depot before the fire season starts.</p>
<p>DFO Office, Hardoi</p>	<p>Visited DFO Office, Hardoi, Status of Working Plans were checked and confirmed that they are valid till 30th September 2021. Extension till 2023-24 under approval process.</p> <p>Staff shortage seen for mostly forest guard, which are hired through commission. Recruitment request letter checked.</p>
<p>DFO Office, Sitapur</p>	<p>Visited DFO office Sitapur, Working Plans valid till Sept 30, 2021. They were expecting Extension approval soon. Monitoring procedures were verified; Girth was measured in the plantation journals. Staff shortage list checked. Complaint mechanism was there: portals of CM, DM and Jan Sujhav used</p>
<p>11th Vahini PAC Nursery</p>	<p>Visited 11th Vahini PAC Nursery</p> <p>Remaining plants (after distribution during CM Plantation drive) being collected systematically. vermicompost, bio-insecticides, neem oil used. No prohibited pesticides used</p>
<p>Sitapur Depot</p>	<p>Visited Sitapur Depot, area is 7.5 ha. Logs received in the depot are only from Sitapur Forest Division. Some received from Shahjahanpur and Lakhimpur border, which are all certified. Verification of documents like inward and outward, register, stack info, invoice logo was checked.</p> <p>PEFC awareness workshop conducted. Also, training to forest workers is provided. Fire extinguishers refilling delayed due to Covid, was due in August, refill expected in September. For the time being fire watchers have been increased.</p>

Day 3: 04.09.2021	
FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range	Activities done
<p>Team A: Meerut Circle DFO Bijnor Division Najibabad /Jafrabad FRH Record Review.</p>	<p>DFO Bijnor and DFO Najibabad Forest Division briefed about Division. After bifurcation of State of U.P into U.P and Uttarakhand, the H.Q of division has been shifted from Kotdwar in Uttarakhand to Najibabad in U.P. Forest Division is having 5 Ranges. The Working Plan of the Division has expired during 2019-20. Plan period was from 2010-11 to 2019-20. DFO has submitted extension proposal for extension of Plan and is expecting its approval. There are 25 JFMC Committees in the Division. There is vacancy at different levels like ACF 02, R.O. 03, Forester 19 F.G. 26 out of 48. Large scale vacancies affect the routine Division work specially Protection. Logging is a regular feature. During 2018-19, 215.16 ha and 2019-20, 350 ha. Division also conducts auction of NTFP like parts of medicinal plants and grasses.</p> <p>Verified documents of training imparted to staff for skill development under Bamboo Mission, on use of Computer, and refresher course on forests and wildlife etc. Verified the records for payment of compassionate grant paid to victims of man-animal conflict, Mostly, it related to death due to attack by Elephants and leopards as well as crop damage by elephants. For dearth Rs.5 lakh is being paid. Seen the monitoring records of plantation by DFO and Range Officer.</p>
<p>DLM Najibabad /Jafrabad FRH Record Review</p>	<p>DLM Najibabad showed below mentioned records for verification. All relevant records have been maintained very meticulously.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Register of safety gear and devices. It shows stock and issue details. ii. Register of training: which shows details of training imparted to staff and labourers. iii. Dispute Register relating to working of lots. iv. Register of Accidents from 2014-15. v. Register of Accidents and compensation. vi. Register of complaints. vii. SOP for logging. viii. 'Van Nigam Samhita (Manual)
<p>DSM Najibabad/Jafrabad FRH Field Visit</p>	<p>Divisional Sales Manager was also present and informed that records will be provided in Depots. Visited Kodiya Sales Depot under DSM Najibabad. The Depot is located within RF and extends over an area of 7.26 ha.</p>

<p>Jafrabad depot</p>	<p>Verified the COC/FM of unsold Lot no.70/2019-20 corresponding to Stack no. 76/19-20 and also of sold lot no. 70/21-22. The Upset price of lot is Rs.99441/= but sold for 68000/= on 25.08.21 which is about 32% less than the Upset price so proposal sent to MD for approval as per the Policy of Corporation. Verified its origin from forest to stacking.</p>
<p>Kiratpur-Muazzampur Road-Logging site</p>	<p>Visit to Jafrabad Depot which spreads over an area of 2.3 ha. of RF. Verified the COC/FM of unsold lot no. 327/18-19 corresponding to Stack no. 27/18-19 with 332 pcs of Sahjan trees received in Depot on 15.01.2019. Also verified sold lot no. 108/21-22 corresponding to stack no. 501/21-22 of Shisham logs received in Depot. on 23.07.21 Entire sequence from forest to stack was traced in both of these lots. Also interacted with cleaning workers Shri Sanjay Kumar and Upendra Kumar. They are getting wages of Rs.400/- per day much higher than the minimum wages. They were wearing proper dress with Jacket and helmet. Also verified the non-certified wood vide Lot no. 188/18-19 stacked in two parts one 59/18-19 and other 60/18-19. It remains unsold. It is stacked on one side of the Depot, separated from Certified wood.</p>
<p>Raigarh Nursey Bijnor Division</p>	<p>Visit to Kiratpur-Muazzampur Road in Bijnor District where logging operation was going on both sides of the road for widening of the road. The work was being executed by DLM Najibabad. Verified the lot no. 196/20-21.402 trees have been marked.379 already felled balance in progress. Interacted with logging workers. All except one was in full safety gear with Jacket and Helmet. Only one was wearing shoes also. First aid box was available, and labourers were also aware of it. They were satisfied with the working conditions and payment of wages. Tractor driver is working with Corporation since 2007. Then visited lot no. 200 on other side but away from lot no. 196. Workers were working with risk without using any safety gear. Here 447 no. of trees have been marked but only 45 felled. Work under progress. Interacted with Chowkidar and seasonal staff.</p>
<p>Raigarh Nursey Bijnor Division</p>	<p>Visited Raigarh Nursery under Bijnor Division. Established over an area of 1 ha. DFO was present with his staff. During 2021-22 out of 173229 seedlings 81623 have been used in plantation and balance at present is 91606. Today 1500 plants have been sold to public @ 7/- per seedling which is one year old and 9/- for 2 years old.</p>

<p>Saharanpur Reserve Forest</p>	<p>Interacted with 5 number of labourers. They were satisfied with the working conditions. Basic facilities were available to them. Payment was being made in their account. First-Aid and drinking water was available. Also interacted with male labourers. They were also happy with the work. Training has been imparted to them before the work started in Nursery.</p> <p>Then came to Saharanpur Rf where during 2020 plantation has been raised over 10 ha with 11000 plants of Teak, Jamun, Eucalyptus etc. 2nd weeding will be done. Also interacted with Watchers. They were able to check grazing etc. in plantation area.</p> <p>Back to Jafrabad and Halted.</p>
<p>Team B: Lakhimpur Circle Chhauch Depot- South Kheri FD</p>	<p>Visited Chhauch Depot; area is 2.8 ha. Depot is using e-auction system since pandemic (6th, 15th and 24th of every month). Total of 9 people. Interview with Depot Manager. Training on fire safety, certification, labour PPE was conducted.</p> <p>Interview with Scalar, he is aware about fire training and certification concept. Documents like inward/outward register, stack info, accident register, and first aid kit verified. Nearest hospital is 3 to 4 km away. Working plan is expired in Sept 2020 and extension requested till 2024-25, under approval process. DFO to send request letter copy. Firefighting system was checked, refilling due date expired 2 months ago. 2-3 tenders issued but refilling delayed due to pandemic. Last tender issued in Aug 2021, to be refilled in 15-20 days.</p> <p>Interacted with labour, labour works only on logs less than 90 gbh, higher gbh log worked on by machine. Workers were wearing safety gear and were aware about safety precautions, payment made in time in bank a/c, avg total payment ₹400/ghan meter.</p> <p>- Oldest 2 stacks from 2017-2018 non-certified, their documentation is different from those of certified. Since buyers are only asking for certified timber, these 2 stacks remain unsold.</p>
<p>Aonla Nursery, South Kheri</p>	<p>Visited Aonla Nursery, 2 ha; Interview with Forest Ranger Species planted are anar, kaitha, chilbil, and guava. Interview with Section Officer, Nursery and Forester. 10 lakhs species were planted. Shisham clonal 97% tillering; Bag filling and weeding being done by women workers from Mohammadabad and Aonla village.</p> <p>22 workers seen, 4 were men, payment on time in account. Worker facilities checked: toilet, water, first aid etc. Visited Tiger affected area, awareness program done, medical camps,</p>

<p>Gola Purvi Compartment 6</p>	<p>program calendar made, Bagh Mitra meeting, and training done by WWF and forest dept vermicompost, organic fertilizer, jeevamrut being used; orchids on tendu patta trees in some areas in the FMU.</p>
<p>North Kheri SFD</p>	<p>Visited Gola Purvi Compartment 6; It is 2016 Plantation; area is 10 ha and it is low land plantation. Interview with watcher. Deer, Leopard, Nilgai, Wild Boar Sightings, no man-animal conflict reported. grass auctioned (chhappar ghaas) due for cutting in October. Also visited Gola Purvi Compartment 5(i) and 5(ii), July 2020 plantations, 10 ha each. Plantations is of 100% jamun, low land, Total number of plants planted are 22,000. (11k each plantation)</p>
<p>Bharigava Nursery</p>	<p>Visited Mailani Range, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve Buffer Zone</p> <p>Visited Bharigava Nursery in North Kheri FD. Interview with Incharge. No usage of chemicals, only vermicompost, neem khalli used. -Solar panel installed - powers irrigation and lamp posts - 35,840 balance plants -adjacent to forest, tiger and other wildlife are seen, a naala divides the nursery from forest preventing wild animals from entering nursery as they drink water and go back A wildlife awareness training for villagers was conducted. Nurseries established to cater to demand of villagers and to UP CM's yearly massive plantation drive (30 crore this year) Interview with DFO North Kheri Working Plans are valid till 2022-23.</p>
<p>Chairrasi Nursery- Bihra Range</p>	<p>Visited Chhairasi Nursery in Bihra Range. Total area of nurser is 1 ha. Interview with Incharge and worker -Fruit bearing species from wildlife point of view - jamun, jungle jalebi are planted in the nursery. Seeds procured from jungle and market (Lucknow), and also from silviculture research center. Visited 2 years old nursery created to prevent illicit felling.</p>
<p>Day 4:</p>	<p>05.09.2021</p>
<p>FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range</p>	<p>Activities done</p>
<p>Team A Meerut Circle Logging Division</p>	<p>Verified the logging work of Lot no.227 on Kotwali Road of Bijnor District.221 number of tree were marked. 42 have been</p>

<p>Najibabad/ Kotwali road/ Bijnor Social Forestry Division</p>	<p>felled. Tree number 81 of Jamun was being logged after felling. Interacted with labour. They were using safety gear. Happy with working condition. Payment is being made by Corporation in their Account. Two SDOs of Social Forestry Division with their staff were also present on the logging site.</p> <p>Visit to DFO Social Forestry Division Bijnor. SDO Najibabad and SDO Bijnor were present. They briefed about working of the Division. Division is having 6 Ranges. Two Protected areas namely Amangarh RF of 8060 ha declared as part of Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve and part of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary of an area of 2073 sq km belong to this Division from this part of Hastinapur Sanctuary 185 villages have been relocated and balance 115 are there.</p> <p>In Amangarh area, monitoring of wild animals is a regular feature. As per the last survey there are 24 tigers and 82 elephants in this Tiger Reserve area.</p> <p>Awareness among staff and public about cleanliness under Amrit Mahotsav has been organised in collaboration with the Nagar Palika Bijnor and Panchayats. For conservation of river Ganges also awareness campaign has been organized.</p> <p>Offence cases are being booked to check wildlife crime. In 1128 Panchayats, Micro plans have been prepared for plantation in consultation with Panchayats, Villagers, and different Departments.</p> <p>Around Protected areas EDCs have not been formed. Depredation by Leopards is a big problem.</p>
<p>Ghaziabad Sales Division/Kailapur Depot Muzzafar Nagar/</p>	<p>Then visited Ganga barrage where plantation has been raised over 1 ha with 1076 plants of Jamun, pilkhan, Pipal, Arjun, Pakad etc. Well fenced. Very good growth.</p> <p>Visit to Kailapur Sales Depot in Muzzafar Nagar District and Division. Depot is located in Kailapur RF over an area of 3 ha. Conducted the COC/FM verification of lot no. 525/21-22 (Stack No. 598/21-22) received in Depot. on 08.08.21 from Bijnor Kotwali of forest lot no. 194/20-21 consisting of Jangal-Jalebi spp. Volume of lot 1.0740 cum. Sold on 28.08.21. Waiting for approval from RM. Also verified unsold lot no. 268/21-22 with eucalyptus species.</p> <p>Verified Safety measures in Depot. 7 fire extinguisher cylinders were available. 5 valid till March 2022, one used and one leaked, defective.</p> <p>20 buckets for sand and water. Now empty due to rainy season.</p>

	<p>One water tank is available in the Depot. with one submersible pump. Interacted with field staff.</p> <p>Due to Kisan Mahapanchayat today in Muzzafarpur District DFO advised not to visit Division HQ at Muzzafar Nagar. Visited Anup Sahar Jolly Canal bank from miles 13 and 14 RB. In this Section of Canal Bank during 2021, plantation over 8 ha with 8800 plants have been raised. The area is a PF. Plantation has been raised under non compensatory afforestation component of CAMPA. Area was full of weeds and needed weeding.</p> <p>Then visited the tree felling due to road widening under DLM Meerut. 223 trees have been marked. 5 trees felled. Tree number 108 of Neem which was felled today but could not be logged due to rush of Kisan Mahapanchayat.</p> <p>Then came to Mohand in Saharanpur under Shiwalik Forest Division and halted.</p>
<p>Team B: Lakhimpur Circle North Kheri Baudhiya Van Block</p>	<p>Visited Baudhiya Van Block 2 Plot 1 and 2; 2020-21 Plantation 10 ha</p> <p>The Land was previously encroached (sugarcane by villagers). Total Plants planted are 11,000. Threat of encroachment still looms from Villagers. Forest Department has appointed Forest Guard for protection. Species planted were - Jamun, Shisham, Khair, Arjuna, Teak. 700-800 plants replaced out of 11,000 plants. Neem khali used, no other fertilizer or pesticides Interview with Deputy Ranger, Section Officer and Forest Guard. Tiger, Deer, elephants in the area. Last year one villager was killed by a crocodile nearby. No other man-animal conflict reported.</p>
<p>Nighasan-Dakherva Marg</p>	<p>Logging Activity seen on Nighasan-Dakherva Marg, right side (0-5 km)</p> <p>40-45-years old Sirus trees were being felled. Workers were wearing safety gear. GPS machine being used by forest staff. First aid box checked</p>
<p>Bahraich Forest Division</p>	<p>Visited Rupaidiha Range of Bahraich FD; Babaganj Malhipur 2020 Plantation. Total area 10 ha; 11,000 plants planted Plantations was done on Railway Land. 25 years Agreement between Railway and Dept to develop and maintain plantation and handover after 3 years. 10% of the sale revenue to UPFC. Species planted are : Arjuna, kalam, kachnar. Interview with</p>

<p>Pandit Purva Nursery</p>	<p>Range Officer, Forest Guard, Section Officer; Live hedging to prevent animal intrusion; awareness workshop with villagers on wild animals; Survival rate is 100%; saplings procured from own nursery</p> <p>Visited Pandit Purva Nursery, 1.5 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity >5 lacs - working to start in October - Species: Shisham, sagon, Arjuna, euca, imli, jamun, guava - Anant Ram (Nursery incharge), 2 maalis and daroga - Demand from villagers, Seema Suraksha Bal, education department, agriculture department, and some farmers - Bamboo natural fencing on international border and also to prevent tiger intrusion from Katerniya Ghat - No man-animal conflict reported
<p>Shrawasti FD</p>	<p>Staff shortage in division. Working Plan valid till 2028-29. Annual Plan of Operations checked.</p>
<p>Karkardari Range; Bhinga Compartment 13</p>	<p>Staff shortage: 17 out of 34 forest guards, clerks, steno Working Plan valid till 2028-29</p>
<p>Bharta Nursery</p>	<p>Visit to Karkardari Range; Bhinga Compartment 13 2017-18 Plantation, 10 ha. Survival percentage is 90%. Species planted are Sagon, jamun, acacia -Plantation journal checked</p>
<p>Bhinga Depot</p>	<p>Visit to Bharta Nursery, 1.5 ha. Species planted are Mahua, Neem, Alstonia, sagon, guthel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - capacity 6 lacs, balance: 2,07,815 - Interviewed Forester, SDO and Forest Guard) - Vermicompost, Gobar, leaf litter used as fertilizer. No other fertilizer or pesticides needed.
<p>Bhinga Depot</p>	<p>Bhinga Depot Bhinga A: 9.8 ha , Bhinga B: 10.66 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timber received from Shrawasti and Bahraich, both certified - Old material uncertified from 2016-17, 93.4217 m3 - DSM has formed a committee to sell old material as it is decaying, and value is decreasing - Separate docs and invoices for certified and uncertified checked - e-auction (3rd, 12th and 21st of every month) - buyer going for certified timber gets a premium challan online itself

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - first aid box checked - stack spacing of minimum 1 meter - fire extinguisher refilling due in September, will get refilled in Nov-December - Safety gear checked - Inventory: 8,889 m3 (Bhingra A), 2,717 m3 (Bhingra B) <p>Interviewed Forest Staff.</p>
Day 5:	06.09.2021
FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range	Activities done
<p>Team A: Meerut Circle Shivalik Division/ Mohand/ Shivalik Div./ Mohand Range</p> <p>Field Budhavan Comptt. No. 1 B</p>	<p>At Mohand, had meeting with DFO Shivalik Division, ACF (Probationer) Range Officer and other Staff. Reviewed various records of the Division.</p> <p>The RF area of division is 332.294 sq Km. The validity of working Plan of the division of period from 2009-10 to 2018-19 is already over in March 2018. Validity was extended by Govt. of India for 2 years till 2020-21. Now applied for extension for another 3 years till 2023-24. Decision yet to be communicated. Part of the Division is also Eco-Sensitive zone of Raja ji National Park (Uttarakhand), Simbalbada NP(HP), and Kalesar Sanctuary (Haryana). At the time of our meeting She was also undergoing online training on wildlife being organized from CASFOS Burnihat (Assam). In addition, DFO and Staff have been imparted training on Biodiversity Conservation for sustainable livelihood, skill development of Staff for Geo tagging, plantation and Tree outside Forest, Tiger Conservation, Tiger Census, SMC etc. Records have been maintained and computerized.</p> <p>Division is having complaint Register since 1997-98 in a systematic way.</p> <p>Division is maintaining wild animal depredation record. Death of wild animals due to accident.</p> <p>During 2020-21 UPFC has been allotted 43 lots, out of which work completed in 29 lots and in remaining lots work in progress.</p> <p>DFO certifies that no chemical pesticide has been used in the Division. Auction of NTFP is also conducted by Division each year.</p> <p>Vacancy at different frontline level is comparatively better as compared to other Divisions. 9 vacancies out of total 48 sanctioned posts of FG, 10 vacancy at the level of Forester against the Sanctioned posts of 21.</p> <p>Visited 2020 plantation in Budhavan Comptt. No. 1 B in Palio Beat raised over 7 ha with 7700 plants of different species like Teak, Jamun, Chakrasia, Bamboo, Sissoo Kanji and Amla etc.</p>

<p>Budhavan Comptt. No. 1B</p>	<p>Plantation is having trench fencing. Good growth of plantation. Interacted with the Watcher. He is getting proper wages through his Bank account.</p> <p>Visited 2021 plantation in Budhavan Comptt. No. 1B under Palio beat raised over 10 ha with 11000 plants of Teak, Jamun, Chakrasia, Bamboo, Sissoo Kanji and Amla etc. Plantation is having trench fencing. The trench bund has been sowed with seeds of different species. Good germination was noticed. Good growth of plantation also.</p> <p>In the Division, 47.70 ha of forest land has been diverted under highway projects. Visited logging site on Ganeshpur -Dehradun highway. Verified two marked trees no. 1 of Karanj with 80 cm girth and tree no. 2 of Neem with 90 cm girth. Total length of road 16.16 km where both side. 8588 trees have been marked, 4901 trees to be felled 155 trees translocated in NH 's own land.</p>
<p>Budhavan Nursery</p>	<p>Visited Budhavan Nursery established on 2 ha area. About 726 beds have been prepared in the Nursery. No chemical Pesticides being used. 'Jeevamrut ' and vermicompost are being used. Well maintained Nursery with proper fencing. Labourers are being Minimum wages under State Govt. @201/ while under MGNREGS they are being paid 204/- per day.</p>
<p>DSM Nazibabad/Khajnawar Depot./Shiwalik Division/Mohand Range</p>	<p>Visited Khajnawar depot. under DSM Najibabad Divisional Sales Manager was present. Verified COC/FM of sold lot 48/C/21-22 corresponding to Stack no. 83/21-22. Received in Depot. 14.05.21 from Forest. Verified form 3.4 and 3.7 and Ravanna. Also verified unsold lot no. 73/C/21-22 received in Depot. on 14.05.21. Only two logs in the lot. Verified all concerned forms. Also verified safety steps taken in the Depot. Entire boundary of Depot. is cleaned. Out of 9 fire extinguishers 6 have been refilled whose validity is till 09.03. 2022. Staff were aware to handle the extinguisher in time of need. For water availability, there are two tanks and one well, there are 20 buckets for storing water and sand. Being rainy season, all were kept empty. The Depot provides timber for use of public without participating in auction. General public can purchase up to 3 cum @120% of upset price for construction purposes. Interacted with staff. Back to FRH Mohand and halted.</p>
<p>Team C-Gorakhpur Circle Gonda Forest Division</p>	<p>Field Visit to Gonda Forest Division Working Plan: 2 years extension expiring in Sept 2021, 3 years</p>

	<p>extension under approval process. New Working Plan preparation was taking time in 2019, which led to requesting extension of expiring WP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yield: as such yield varies as dead, dying and diseased trees are felled. In one of the clear felling in 5 ha land, yield came out to be 140 m³/ha - NWFP list from Tikri range checked - Training records checked - Soil testing report checked
<p>Ramgarh Compartment 4 Part 1</p>	<p>Ramgarh Compartment 4 Part 1 2021-22 Plantation 10 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11,000 plants, 100% survival - Species: Sagon, Jamun - Wildlife: Nilgai, deer. No man-animal conflict - biofertilizers, Neem khali, jeevamrut used, no chemicals - Pillars installed at boundaries (Seema Satambh) for demarcation, and protection trenches dug to prevent animal intrusion - Plantation Journal records measurement of girth and height in annual monitoring <p>Interview with Staff</p>
<p>Ramgarh Nursery</p>	<p>Ramgarh Nursery, 0.5 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Species: Jamun, Kanji, Guthel, Sagon are planted - Demand from other departments, not usually from villagers and farmers as nursery is not in their vicinity - Capacity: 1,00,000 ; balance stock is 26,760 - Most of the stock sold/distributed for CM's plantation drive in July 2021. New working to start in October. - Ram Temal (permanent daily wager): maintenance of plants, payment received on time in bank account
<p>Ramgarh Depot</p>	<p>Ramgarh Depot, 7.3 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trainings on PEFC, stacking and firefighting. Training for worker safety gear was reported to be given verbally - No fire or other accidents reported - First aid kit checked - Timber received only from Gonda, so all timber received is certified - Oldest stack from 2017-18 of 8.3591 m³ is the only non-certified stack and is kept separately at the end of the depot. Not yet sold as it's quality as degraded significantly. - Average wastage was reported to be 50% - e-auction held on 2nd, 12th and 20th of every month - Spacing of stacks: 3m spacing between stacks near forest

	<p>boundary. Rest of the stacks in depot are spaced 1m apart.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certified and non-certified invoices checked - no certified sale in 2021-22. - Certified timber is demanded less from this depot as only Sal and Sagwon species are present here, which are not much in demand from certification point of view. Other species like mango, etc whose certified demand is more are present in Faizabad depot, where demand for certified timber is much more. - 15 staff - Labourers come from nearby villages of Shambhunagar and Hardwa - Most labor-intensive work is now done by hydra machine, so requirement of manual labour is less - inward outward system of timber checked
Day 6:	07.09.2021.
FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range	Activities done
Team A -Meerut Circle Saharanpur Social Forestry Division/Division Office	<p>Visited office of the DFO SF Saharanpur. DFO was present. Verified various records like Working Plan with period from 2014-15 to 2023-24. Verified record of training. Complaint Register has been maintained since 2015. DFO appraised that in the district there is scarcity of land for taking up plantation. Verified vacancy position. Out of 30 sanctioned posts of FG only 13 are in position and 17 posts are vacant. Similarly, 11 vacancies in Foresters posts against the sanctioned strength of 20. Five vacancies in the rank of Range Officer against sanctioned strength of 7. Both the posts of ACF are lying vacant. Micro Plans are being prepared before taking up any plantation in any village. Plan is prepared with due consultation with Panchayat, local villagers and different Department</p> <p>Visited Industrial Plantation raised during 2020 along river Hindon at Paragpur Ahatmal over 1 ha with 10000 mixed plants at a spacing of 1mx1m. Very good growth. Adjacent to it another plantation raised during 2021 over 10 ha with 16000 plants of Sissoo, Pilkhan, Kadamb, Saguan, Malsree, Bargad, Behada and Arjun etc. Very good growth.</p> <p>Visited plantation raised on Miyawaki model with close spacing of 60cmx60cm.It was raised during 2020 over 0.50 ha with 15000 plants where 53 species have been planted. Good growth and it has become very dense. It is located in Dudhali Bukhara along bank of river Hindon.</p>

	<p>Adjacent to above plantation another plantation has been raised during 2020 in Dudhali Bukhara along Hindon river over 10 ha with 11000 plants. Due to growth of tall grasses in the plantation area, few villagers were cutting the grasses. Interacted with these stakeholders.</p> <p>Entire plantation has been raised on irrigation department land which was under encroachment. Govt. after getting it evicted and handed over the land to Forest Department. These villagers told that when it was under encroachment only encroacher was getting benefit but now all villagers are getting benefit. Then visited Nursery in same location. Preparation was going on for preparation of beds and seed sowing of local species has been done. Interacted with labourers. They were happy working in the Nursery. Getting proper wages in Bank A/C. Before starting any work, labourers get training from the field staff. The entire plantation along the bank of river Hindon has been taken up on eviction of encroachment by irrigation deptt. and allotted to SF Division for raising plantation. Entire landscape has become forest improving the local climate and environment.</p>
Behat Depot- Najibabad	<p>Visited Behat Depot. of UPFC under DSM Najibabad. Depot. is located on 1.29 ha land. Verified COC/FM of lot no. 386/C/20-21. Received in depot. on 02.03.2021 from Badkala Range of Haldu and Sal species with total volume 4.9880 cum. Sold on 25.08.2021 for Rs.55000/- Verified Ravanna, form 3.4 and 3.7. Also verified the unsold lot no. 03/C/21-22 of 7 logs of Sal species. Received in Depot. on 24.04.21. Depot. stock as on today is 376.9004 cum. Verified fire safety measures 5 Extinguishers valid till 09.03.2022. 22 buckets kept empty due to rainy season. One water tank. Depot. well fenced.</p> <p>No logging operation was going on in the Division although 55 lots of 2020-21 (includes 39 unworked lots of 2019-20) were lying pending for felling and logging. DFO informed that he has to sort out this issue with the DLM Meerut to complete the logging operations early.</p>
Behat Nursery	<p>Then came to Behat Nursery of SF Division having Common Facility Centre constructed under National Bamboo Mission of Govt. of India. In this Centre, a 15 days Skill Development programme of about 30 self-help group lady members of nearby villages for Bamboo Handicrafts, Jewelry and furniture was going on. The programme period is from 02.09.2021 to 16.09.2021. Two resource persons have come from Bahraich. Interacted with participants and resource persons. The</p>

	<p>participants were quite happy and eager to learn. Only constraint is that bamboo is not available locally. Forest Department has brought from Dehradun for the training purposes. Resource persons were also satisfied with the interest shown by the members.</p>
<p>Team C- Gorakhpur Circle AYODHYA/FAIZABAD</p> <p>Takpura Depot</p>	<p>AYODHYA/FAIZABAD Working Plan valid till 2028-29</p> <p>Takpura Depot, 1.51 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pvt land taken on rent for ₹3,000/month - Serves both Ayodhya and Ambedkar Nagar divisions - Oldest stack 2017-18 (uncertified) of 0.8173 m3 (Khair), in bad condition - Total uncertified stock of 31.6 m3 - Training: stacking, fire safety - certified and uncertified invoices checked - logo checked - Lots not marked as certified or non-certified. C and NC classification in documents - spacing constraint between stacks due to less space in depot - water fire extinguishers purchased last year - first aid kit checked - Staff aware about firefighting procedure - 7 staff - No toilet facility in the depot
<p>Darshan Nagar Nursery</p>	<p>Darshan Nagar Nursery, 1.5 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity: 2 lakh, balance: 68,356 - Species: Chilbil, Shisham, guava, jamun - Demand from 26 govt departments and villagers - no chemicals - workers: Ram Raj, Gayatri Devi, from nearby villages, payment (₹200-250/day) on time in bank account - no toilet facility in the nursery
<p>Gaddaupura Gram Samaj</p>	<p>Gaddaupura Gram Samaj Maya Range 2020 Plantation, 5 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3125 plants - species: Guthel, Shisham, jamun - waterlogging from nearby river - species not affected by water logging - Monitoring records not found in plantation journal
<p>AMBEDKAR NAGAR</p>	<p>AMBEDKAR NAGAR</p>

	<p>Roadside logging operation in Gopalpur of mango tree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - P.C. Pandey (Section Officer) - Labour from Rampur and Pratapgarh - Tilak Ram (Unit Head), Raj Kumar Vishwakarma (labour)
Day 7:	08.09.2021.
FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range	Activities done
Team C- Gorakhpur Circle	<p>Team C Visited to Ambedkar Nagar FD; Ambedkar Nagar WP valid till 2028-29. Staff shortage list checked. Shortage of forest guard prominent. Forest guard also do not get Travel Allowance (issue across divisions)</p>
Mahuari Nursery	<p>Visit to Mahuari Nursery (Ambedkar Nagar), 1.5 ha; species planted were guava, Shisham, Sagon and jamun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cleaning work done, other work to start in October - vermicompost, gohar khad and biofertilizers used - capacity: 4.5 lakh, balance: 52,893 -Private land (nursery operational since 2015)
Rudauli Nursery	<p>Visit to Rudauli Nursery (Ayodhya), 1 ha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - species: mango, Shisham, guava, mahua, etc - workers come from nearby villages. - Neem khali, gohar khad used. No chemicals used. - capacity 2 lakh - most of the demand from other departments - fencing done - records checked - drinking water and toilet facility available for worker <p>Team C travelled from Ambedkar Nagar to Lucknow and then back to Delhi</p>
Day 8	09.09.2021.
FMU / Location / Forest Divisions/ Forest Range	Activities done
Closing Meeting DFO Office Gautam Budh Nagar	<p>Closing meeting at DFO Gautam Budh Nagar Office. UPFC officials from Lucknow connected over Microsoft teams call.</p> <p>Review of Findings: Convene with all relevant staff to summarize audit findings, potential non-conformities and next step.</p>

3. Audit Team

Name of the Auditor	Role	Qualifications	Brief Experience
Dr. Jagdish Kishwan	Lead Auditor	M.Sc. Forestry: Indian Forest Services (Retired), Chief Advisor to Ed & CEO and Former Head, Policy and programme implementation at Wildlife Trust of India and Former Additional Director General (Wildlife), MoEF. Qualified IRCA, NCCF FM lead Auditor	38 years' experience of working in Government in forestry, natural resources, water-conservation and wildlife management sectors in India. He has participated in FM audits of New Ambadi Estate, International Papers, SARA, TFDPC and UPFC.
Mr. Arun Kumar Bansal	Auditor	M.Sc Forestry; Indian Forest Services (Retd); Former Additional Director General (Forest)	Has experience of more than 35 years in government in forestry, trade of NWFPs, wildlife management in sectors in India. He is a qualified IRCA lead Auditor. He has participated in FM audits and Surveillance Audit in U.P Forest Corporation, International papers, JK Papers and New Ambadi.
Mr. Avani Kumar Varma	Auditor	M.Sc. Professional Forester with 45 years of experience and Member of Indian Forest Service (Retd.),	45 years of experience in Forestry sector; ISO 9001:2008 Qualified IRCA LA. Has done Peer review of Horana Plantations of Sri Lanka; Participated in more than 20 FSC evaluation and surveillance assessments in India including UPFDC. JK Paper Mills, SARA Dandeli, TFDPC, K B National Park Hyderabad, APM Rajmundary, Bhamragarh Forest Division among others
Mr. Sheo Sharan Srivastava	Trainee Auditor	M.Sc. in Forestry; Indian Forest Service (Retired)	More than 30 years of experience in Forest management, policy advocacy, tribal Development, biodiversity management and Community Empowerment; Ex Principal Chief Conservator of

			Forest; Qualified ISO 19011 certified Lead Auditor, FSC FM trainee auditor and NCCF FM Lead Auditor Training Exam.
Mr. Abhijit Sharan	Trainee Auditor and Technical Expert	M.Sc. in Environmental Economics; ISO 19011 certified Lead Auditor; Qualified FSC FM and NCCF FM Lead Auditor)	Seven Years of experience in Forestry Field. Participated in Surveillance audits of UPFC, ITC, SARA and pre-assessment audit of Telangana State Forest development Corporation (TSFDC)
Ms. Nidhi Choudhary	Trainee Auditor and Technical Expert	M.Sc. in Wood Sciences and Technology, B.Sc. In Forestry; Qualified NCCF FM and FSC FM Lead Auditor exam; ISO 9001:2015 QMS Certified LA	Three Years of experience in Forestry sector. Participated in Forest Management audits of JK Paper mills and UPFC, Did Coordination of around dozen FM audits.

4. Audit Results

The Table below shows the strengths and weaknesses of the subject forest management operation relative to the applicable standard. Weaknesses are noted as Corrective Action Requests (CARs) related to each principle in section 4.1.2 below.

4.1 Findings

4.1.1. Strength and Weaknesses

S.No.	Principle	
1	Compliance to National, State and Local laws and International treaties and regulations	
	Strength	-FME has a strong legal base and was established under UPFC Act 1974, by the state legislature of Uttar Pradesh. Forest managers regularly and timely pay taxes, dues, royalties and other charges. FME follows the ILO, CITES, ITTA guidelines as India is a signatory country. -All the applicable taxes and royalties are paid by client on time.
	Weaknesses	However, the team found a few areas of weakness. Refer finding No. 1.
2	Land Tenure, Rights and Responsibilities	
	Strength	-Land and Tenure rights of the forest areas are clear and legally secure and documented. All the forest area belongs to the government and is managed by respective divisional working plan approved by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

		-Customary tenure and use rights of the local people have been settled at the time of creation of reserve forests and the remaining which are disputed are under arbitration with the courts.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
3	Development and implementation of a Management Plan/Working Plan	
	Strength	-FME has very well documented written management plan which complies with the NCCF P & C at most of the places. Management plans are revised after every 10 years by the Working Plan Officer. Revisions of the management plan is adaptive in nature. The management/working plans are very well implemented at the field level through the annual prescriptions transcribed from them. The state forest department has various monitoring mechanism to assess the implementation of the working plan and other guidelines issued by PCCF and HoFF office.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
4	Monitoring, Assessment and Review of management plan and its implementation	
	Strength	-The management plan is periodically monitored after review and required changes or any update if required are made in the management plan. -Monitoring is carried out by PCCF (Monitoring and Evaluation) and UPFC officials separately. Monitoring plan is documented by the forest managers are put in place. Monitoring done by under Monitoring and Evaluation is very stringent and punitive actions are taken if forest managers are not found to be implementing said guidelines. - Forest managers practice adaptive management by incorporating the monitoring result.
	Weaknesses	However, the team found a few areas of weakness. Refer finding No. 2
5	Forest Management activities – Social, Economic and Environmental Impacts	
	Strength	-The social and environmental impact reports are provided for the area under certification. Forest managers have safeguards to protect RTE species in the area -Conservation and protection zones have been established by the forest managers throughout the length and breadth of the area wherever required. -Forest managers have put in place to identify and understand various ecological values in FMU -In addition to this, the team interacted with the locals and were satisfied with forest management operations and livelihood opportunities produced for local communities.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found.
6	Forests and Climate Change – contribution of forest management activities to climate change mitigation and adaptation, change in forest carbon inventories etc.	
	Strength	-The FMU showed interest in the carbon sequestration of the

		plantations, though they have not initiated the process. During interaction with the -Forest Officials it was found that Uttar Pradesh Forest Department will be shortly engaging Forest Survey of India (FSI) for forest inventory and carbon sequestration assessment shortly.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
7	Inventory and sustainable harvest regimes for forest resources	
	Strength	-The FME has well defined records of all the harvest produced from the certified area. - The harvesting rate is done based on the sustainability parameters and only dead, dying and moribund trees are marked for felling.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
8	Benefits from Forests	
	Strength	-Forest managers operate on financially viable principles and is profit making entity. Forest managers have diversified the forest products and have incorporated NTFPs in their inventory. Forest managers have put in place policies for minimal wastage of the forest products. Forest managers are very well aware of the forest services within the FME and have documented the same. Annual Allowable Cut has been fixed through scientific analysis in the forests. -Client was also found to be venturing into Ecotourism activities to realize optimum benefits from the forests.
	Weaknesses	However, the team found an area of weakness. Refer finding No. 3
9	Community rights and relations – Forest management operations recognize the rights of local communities, forest dwellers and indigenous people/tribals and maintain and enhance their long term social and economic well-being	
	Strength	-Forest department and corporation work in close association with the community and locals. All the customary and legal rights given to locals, communities and tribal are respected and recognized. All such rights are given communities. Forest department also ensure to provide opportunities to locals for forestry related field operations. -The rights of local communities and tribal communities are secured. -The right of passage, right to collect firewood, sal leaves, NTFPs etc were found to be secured - It was also found that client was engaging local communities for forest management operations like harvesting, afforestation, managing EDC, Ecotourism shops etc.,
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
10	Workers’ rights – including permanent, temporary and contract workers at all levels	
	Strength	-FME has ensured that all the safety equipment has been provided to the workers like helmets, boots, safety gloves etc.

		-Fire Extinguishers have been placed in the depot. Records of any injury to the workers during the work is maintained and compensation is also provided -FME is following all Labour related regulations like – group insurance, sanitation and workers’ health and safety, workers’ shed etc.
	Weaknesses	However, the team found an area of weakness. Refer finding No. 4, 5 & 6.
11	Ecology, biodiversity and Natural Resource Management – Conservation, Enhancement and Rehabilitation	
	Strength	Protected Areas are being maintained and protected by excluding all interfering activities interfering activities like logging, removals etc. and by concentrating only on eco habitat developmental and protection works.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
12	Identification, Protection and Management of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs)/Special Sites for conservation	
	Strength	HCV identified in the form of wildlife sanctuaries and tiger protection areas. The management plans and its executive summary of management plans of protected areas are revised every 10 years.
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
13	Forest ecosystem services – identifying, quantifying and valuation of both tangible and non-tangible ecosystem services	
	Strength	The Ecosystem Services have been identified
	Weaknesses	No weaknesses found
14	Biodiversity conservation -- including measures for conservation and maintenance and rehabilitation of losses to biodiversity values arising out of management activities or occurring within the FME	
	Strength	Forest data is collected as per the forest resource assessment methodology. Such an assessment covers - Forest composition and distribution, plant species diversity, status of biodiversity conservation of forests, status of species prone to over exploitation, conservation of genetic resources, fauna and their habitats, threats and challenges to wildlife, protection, and management of fauna
	Weaknesses	However, the team found an area of weakness. Refer finding No. 7

4.1.2 Corrective Action Requests and Observations

Finding No.	NCCF-FM Indicator	CAR Type	Corrective Action Request
1	1.5.2	Observation	The FME should exhibit this commitment of adherence to the principles of PEFC-NCCF-FM Standard through display boards in offices and other establishments of the FMUs (Forest Divisions).

2	4.5.1	Major CAR	The FME (UPFC) shall initiate immediate action to revise all the expired/expiring working/management plans of the concerned FMUs (Forest Divisions). It shall also not routinely take the recourse to extension instead of revision of the working/management plans. Option of extension of existing plan shall be used only in exceptional circumstances, when revision of the plan cannot be completed due to reasons beyond the control of the FME (UPFC) and the Forest Department.
3	8.1.2	Minor CAR	FME (UPFC) and the State Forest Department shall review the vacancy position of forest guards and foresters in all Divisions and initiate urgent action to fill these vacancies.
4	10.1.1 (a)	Minor CAR	The FME fosters a safe working environment for complying with all relevant workplace health and safety laws.
5	10.1.1 (b)	Observation	FME (UPFC) should provide basic amenities, like toilet facilities, etc., for workers in all the nurseries.
6	10.1.5	Minor CAR	FME (UPFC) shall ensure that all workers carrying out hazardous operations like, harvesting, sawing, loading, etc., wear proper safety gears to avoid any accident or untoward incident.
7	14.1.2	Minor CAR	FME (UPFC) and State Forest Department shall prepare a conservation plan for protection of blackbucks in the area and restoring its habitat. The plan shall be implemented by the State Forest Department (Wildlife) in a planned manner.

5. Stakeholder Comments

Aspect	Economic	Social	Environmental
Comments from Stakeholders (if any)	No comments	No Comments	No comments

6. Pesticide and Other Chemical Use

Name of Pesticides or other Chemicals used.	FME does not use any pesticides. All chemical pesticides have been replaced by biopesticides, like Neem cake and Neem oil.
Name active ingredients of the pesticide used	Not Applicable
What is the reason to use pesticides and chemicals	Not Applicable

Average consumption of Pesticides and other Chemicals used	Not Applicable
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7. Certificate Recommendation and Decision

Certification Recommendation	
<p>Auditor's Recommendation</p> <p>FME be awarded NCCF certification as a "NCCF FM Standard Certified well Managed Forests" subject to acceptance of non-conformances and fulfills corrective action requests stated in Section 4.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Any other Remarks:</p>
<p>Technical Review's comments and Certification Decision</p> <p>FME can be awarded NCCF FM certification subject to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - closure of all Major and Minor Non-conformities within stipulated time 	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Any other Remarks:</p>