



## FSC® Forest Management Certification Two-phased Assessment of Forest Management (NZ) Limited in Masterton, New Zealand 13 August 2025

**Introduction** – Preferred by Nature is conducting an FSC Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification two-phases assessment of the Forest Management (NZ) Limited located in Masterton, New Zealand. The two-phased assessment will be implemented from 20 October to 22 October 2025.

**Scope of the Certification Two-phased Assessment** – The Forest Management certification two-phased assessment will evaluate the environmental, silvicultural, and socioeconomic aspects of the forests managed by Forest Management (NZ) Limited in Masterton, New Zealand, against the requirements of the FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for New Zealand, FSC-STD-NZL-02-2023 Plantations EN; FSC-STD-30-005 V2-1 EN Forest management groups and Requirements for use of the FSC® Trademarks by Certificate Holders (FSC-STD-50-001 V2-1). To obtain a copy of the applicable guidelines or to make comments about these standards, please contact Preferred by Nature by telephone, email or website; see contact details below. Preferred by Nature is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®) and this two-phased assessment process must follow approved procedures. The FSC FM Standard may be obtained from the FSC Document Centre here: <https://connect.fsc.org/document-centre/documents/resource/1407>.

The forest under evaluation contains areas either identified as High Conservation Value Forests or where high conservation values, as defined by the FSC, are likely to be found. Preferred by Nature evaluates the identification, management and protection of these High Conservation Values and solicits related comments from stakeholders.

**Two-phased Assessment Team Composition** – The two-phased assessment team will be led by Hau Nguyen Van from Vietnam and Shane Perrett as local expert.

**Two-phased Assessment Steps and Schedule** – Following is a short description of the recertification process and a proposed agenda:

- ◆ Two-phased assessment organization – Preferred by Nature team will assemble in Masterton, New Zealand on Friday, 17 October 2025.
- ◆ Field assessments – The team will visit sites managed by Forest Management (NZ) Limited from Monday 20 October to Wednesday 22 October 2025.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding Forest Management (NZ) Limited's Forest management in locations surrounding the forest area. This will include private interviews and discussions, and field visits as appropriate.
- ◆ Final assessment briefing – Prior to departure, the team will meet with the managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Draft report production – The two-phased assessment team will produce a confidential draft report that will be provided for comment to Forest Management (NZ) Limited; with a planned timeframe of two (2) weeks from the Closing Meeting.



- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from Forest Management (NZ) Limited's forest managers – as well as input of other general stakeholder comments – Preferred by Nature will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur before mid-December 2025.

**Your Input Sought** – As a part of the forest certification two-phased assessment process, we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Forest Management (NZ) Limited's forest management in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above; as well as comments on the company's management and protection – as applicable – of High Conservation Values within the forests under evaluation. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the two-phased assessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the two-phased assessment, or during the two-phased assessment, so that we can take your feedback into consideration in reaching a recertification decision. Your options for communicating your feedback to us are as follows:

1. Meet with a Preferred by Nature two-phased assessment team member during or shortly after the fieldwork. See contact details below.
2. Call and give comments to Mr. Pratama Bagus Kurniaji ([pkurniaji@preferredbynature.org](mailto:pkurniaji@preferredbynature.org)), Preferred by Nature staff person responsible for coordinating this certification two-phased assessment from our Regional Office. If Mr. Pratama Bagus Kurniaji is not in the office, please give your comments to either Mr. Sebastian Pandu Dewa Artha [spartha@preferredbynature.org](mailto:spartha@preferredbynature.org)
3. Submit written comments by mail (details below) or email to [pkurniaji@preferredbynature.org](mailto:pkurniaji@preferredbynature.org). Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purpose of assessing Forest Management (NZ) Limited.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential, available only to FSC and Preferred by Nature staff.

Stakeholders who wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access Preferred by Nature's Dispute Resolution Policy at <https://preferredbynature.org/>.

#### **Contacting Preferred by Nature**

- ◆ Email: [pkurniaji@preferredbynature.org](mailto:pkurniaji@preferredbynature.org) or [spartha@preferredbynature.org](mailto:spartha@preferredbynature.org) or Audit Team Leader; Hau Nguten Van [hnguyen@preferredbynature.org](mailto:hnguyen@preferredbynature.org) or Local Expert; Shane Perrett [primefm@xtra.co.nz](mailto:primefm@xtra.co.nz)
- ◆ Website: <https://preferredbynature.org/contact-us>
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