

Forest Management and Chain of Custody Certification Reassessment of State Enterprise "Oster Forestry", Ukraine

April 06-10, 2020

Introduction - NEPCon is conducting forest management and chain of custody certification reassessment of State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" located in Ukraine. The reassessment will be implemented from **April 06-10, 2020**.

Scope of the Certification Assessment – The forest management certification reassessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of Reassessment of State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" located in Ukraine, using *the FSC-STD-UKR-01-2019 FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Ukraine National Standard (NS) V(01-00)*. To obtain a copy of the applicable Standard please contact NEPCon by telephone, e-mail or on website listed below; standard may also be found at the link in the internet www.nepcon.net.

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 found. NEPCon evaluates the identification, management and protection of these High Conservation Values and solicits related comments from stakeholders.

Assessment Team Composition: the reassessment team will be led by LEAD AUDITOR Georgiy Bondaruk (Ukraine). The team members will be auditors: Leonid Lunachevskiy (Ukraine), Alexander Tselishchev (Ukraine).

Assessment Steps and Schedule – Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Reassessment organization – NEPCon team will gather together in city Oster on April 06, 2020.
- ◆ Field reassessments – The team will visit sites, managed by State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" from April 06, 2020 to April 10, 2020.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding State Enterprise "Oster Forestry". This will include private interviews and discussions, and public stakeholder meetings.
- ◆ Public stakeholder meetings – A public stakeholder meeting will be held in State Enterprise "Oster Forestry". Date, time, and location will be announced soon.
- ◆ Final reassessment briefing – Prior to departure the team will meet with the State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Draft report production – The reassessment team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" and a minimum of 2 independent peer reviewers. This should occur 30 days after completion of the reassessment.

- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from the representatives of State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" and independent peer reviewers, and other general stakeholder comments, NEPCon will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur by May 15, 2020.

Your Input Sought. As a part of the forest certification reassessment process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on State Enterprise "Oster Forestry" in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. 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 reassessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the reassessment, during the reassessment, or prior to 06 of April, 2020 so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision May 15, 2020. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows.

1. Meet with a NEPCon reassessment team member during or shortly after the reassessment.
2. Call and give comments to Olesya Kaspruk, NEPCon staff person responsible for coordinating this certification reassessment as representative of NEPCon in Ukraine. If Olesya Kaspruk is not in the office, please give your comments to Georgiy Bondaruk.
3. Submit written comments by mail, FAX or e-mail to Olesya Kaspruk. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing the State Enterprise "Oster Forestry"

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only to FSC and NEPCon staff.

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access NEPCon's Dispute Resolution Policy at www.nepcon.net

Contacting NEPCon

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