

Fact Sheet

Protecting High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)

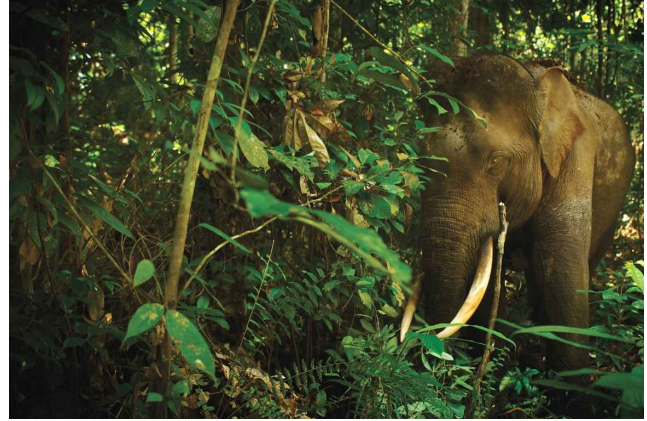
Supports Principles 7, 8 and 9 of the UN Global Compact

Given the continuing threat of deforestation and forest degradation caused by illegal logging and slash-and-burn farming in Riau, APRIL offers the alternative for the sustainable development and conservation of forest resources through active management intervention.

The company manages its plantation forest landscape in such a manner that balances commercial objectives with its social commitments and environmental responsibilities.

From 2005, APRIL has publicly adopted a High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) commitment through its Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) Policy and Code of Best Practice (CoBP). This requires the Company to “conduct third party auditable High Conservation Value (HCV) assessment before development in all new concessions, in order to manage High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF).”

APRIL conducts HCV assessment using the Indonesian HCVF Toolkit, developed by Rainforest Alliance and ProForest in 2003, and based on the 1999 Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) concept. The HCV assessments are then peer-reviewed by internationally recognized institutions such as ProForest UK and WWF Indonesia which also conduct their separate HCV assessment within the concessions of APRIL or its partners. These HCV assessments have identified HCVFs of between 20% and 77% of the gross area of licensed concessions.



Key Facts

- A biodiversity survey conducted by the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) found the Tesso Nilo forest as having the highest biodiversity index in Sumatra (9.11), more than twice the index of the Leuser National Park in North Sumatra.
- APRIL and WWF Indonesia are jointly proposing the expansion of the Tesso Nilo National Park (from the existing 38,576 ha) to at least 100,000 ha, with the involvement of other stakeholders including 22 villages around the Park. The proposal is now being reviewed by the Ministry of Forestry.
- Since 2002, APRIL has been collaborating with WWF Indonesia and local government agencies in various forest protection initiatives. These included a moratorium on access road construction and plantation development in APRIL’s concession in Tesso Nilo, boycott of any wood harvested in the area, and implementation of a transport pass system at APRIL’s ferry service, and a multi-stakeholder Tesso Nilo Team involving government, NGO, community, and private companies like APRIL to Tesso Nilo.

Conservation Areas	Cumulative area in hectares			
	2004	2005	2006	June 2007
HTI	62,093	63,352	65,310	65,943
JV/JO	n.a	112,378	130,771	131,221
HTR	n.a	6,093	6,996	5,944
Total	62,093	181,823	203,077	203,108

Following the conduct of a HCV assessment, we delineate conservation areas and design our plantation areas to protect these.

Non-HCV areas are reforested into fast-growing Acacia Plantations which form healthy mosaic plantation landscapes that provide conservation and ecosystem services.