

# Stakeholder Consultation Form

## Midway Limited



### Introduction

Midway Limited is a wood processing and export business located in Geelong.

We are committed to protecting high conservation values through responsible forest management. Midway 's resource and wood supply chain is certified to AFS standards (AS4707 and AS4708) and FSC® standards: [FSC-STD-40-004](#) (FSC® C109259) and [FSC-STD-40-005](#).

We only source plantation timber for our FSC program that originates from tree plantations in Victoria and South Australia.

We invite stakeholders to provide any comments about our wood supply in relation to High Conservation Value (HCV) protection and other values such as social and economic aspects. Section 3 contains information about HCVs and control measures employed by Midway to mitigate risk to HCV relevant to plantation wood supply.

You may use this form to provide us with written comments or concerns you may have with our activities and wood procurement.

Once complete, please send this form to us via email [ForestManagementEnquiries@midwaylimited.com.au](mailto:ForestManagementEnquiries@midwaylimited.com.au) or fax (03) 5277 0667. Alternatively you may wish to contact us by telephone on (03) 5277 9255 to discuss any relevant issues.

### Section 1 – Consultation Details

Date			
Feedback from Stakeholder	<input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax	Company Rep:	

### Section 2 – Stakeholder Details

Name	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	

Do you consent to the publication of any comments you provide?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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**Section 3 – Stakeholder Comments – High Conservation Values**

FSC Australia’s HCV framework classifies high conservation values into 6 categories (see Table 1 below).

FSC Australia - High Conservation Values (HCVs) Evaluation Framework <a href="https://au.fsc.org/en-au/standards/controlled-wood/controlled-wood-system-australia">https://au.fsc.org/en-au/standards/controlled-wood/controlled-wood-system-australia</a>	
HCV 1	Species Diversity <i>Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species, that are significant at global, regional or national levels.</i>
HCV 2	Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics <i>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.</i>
HCV 3	Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia <i>Ecosystems that are rare and/or threatened at a global, national or regional level. Distinctiveness in terms of size, quality (particularly lack of human disturbance), or location within the ecosystems geographic range may be considered in assessing ecosystem rarity.</i>
HCV 4	Critical ecosystem services <i>Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.</i>
HCV 5	Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).
HCV 6	Cultural values <i>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.</i>

**Table 1 – FSC Australia HCV Framework**

The [National Risk Assessment for Australia, FSC-NRA-AU V1-1](#) (NRA) has “Specified” risk for HCV 4 and 6 for plantation wood supply. Both the NRA and [FSC Australia - High](#)

[Conservation Values \(HCVs\) Evaluation Framework](#) define mandatory and/or recommended controls to mitigate risks with these HCVs.

Midway has implemented a set of controls in reference to the NRA and HCV Framework to mitigate risk to HCVs 4 and 6. The controls are outlined below. Please add any comments or concerns in relation to HCV in the Stakeholder Comments section 3.

Midway's control measures to mitigate HCV risk

**1. Site assessment**

This control checks if any HCVs are present or likely to be present at the origin of the wood supply prior to the forest operation. The site assessment checks for the presence of listed species, critical habitats and ecosystems, water catchments, water supply sources, slope, soil erosion risks and landscape issues, cultural and heritage values.

The process includes a desktop search of national and state databases, review of any relevant plantation permit requirements, and review of information developed by experts for known and potential HCVs. Examples of database tools used include Australian Government's [EPBC Protected Matters Search Tool](#), and the [Species Profile and Threats Database](#), and state government systems including Vic NatureKit, Vic MapShare. State government cultural and heritage databases are checked for registered cultural and heritage sites.

A pre-harvest field inspection is typically done to confirm the presence of known HCV and to check for any further HCV. Where HCVs are identified, control measures for risk mitigation and recovery plans are considered and determined in consultation with experts as necessary.

Midway employs its site assessment process for all plantation wood it harvests and for all forest-direct wood it receives at its mill gate, unless the supplier has an equivalent site assessment process approved by Midway and is able to provide required evidence of HCV assessment when periodically audited by Midway.

Midway does not source plantation wood from any areas located in declared intact forest landscapes (IFLs - <http://intactforests.org>).

**2. Stakeholder consultation**

Landowners and neighbours are notified prior to harvest operations and consulted to gather local information regarding the presence of known HCVs. Feedback from other interested and affected stakeholders is also sought regularly. Valued feedback that assists in the protection of HCV is considered and incorporated into work plans.

**3. Timber Harvest Plan (THP)**

HCVs identified from the site assessment and consultation processes are included in the THP. HCVs are clearly marked on operational maps. Risk control measures to protect identified HCVs are specified in the THP.

Waterways, riparian buffer zones, heritage and cultural sites, for example, are clearly marked on operational maps and excluded from the harvest area, and the THP specifies prescriptions to manage these and other HCV values in accordance with timber code requirements (e.g. required buffer and machine approach distances). The THP refers to relevant sections of the timber code for protection of HCVs. Remnant native vegetation is excluded from harvest operations. Specific guidelines are specified in the THP and associated procedures for koala monitoring and protection.

The legal and other requirements applicable to Midway's wood supply include Code of Practice for Timber Production 2014 (Vic) and Guidelines for Plantation Forestry in South Australia 2009.

Exclusion zones are marked in the field as appropriate to ensure HCV protection during operations.

#### **4. Harvest Supervision and Monitoring**

Forest workers are inducted on-site. Site specific HCV values and control measures defined in the THP are communicated to workers. Routine harvest inspections are conducted to confirm that identified HCVs are protected from operations and in compliance with the relevant timber code. Inspections for soil and water values, for example, include checks of erosion controls, drainage feature set-backs, stream crossings and soil disturbance at log landings.

Forest workers assist in the identification of any new HCVs on-site. Should a potential new HCV be identified or a HCV is (or likely to be) impacted by operations, standard protocols in the THP are to cease work in the immediate area and notify the harvest supervisor. Midway has response procedures for investigating, assessing and addressing HCV issues or concerns.

#### **5. Plantation Wood Specification**

Suppliers are provided with a wood supply specification that specifies the plantation species to be supplied. Wood supply is visually inspected at log landings in-field and on receipt at the mill to ensure compliance.

#### **6. Verification Audits**

Verification audits are conducted periodically on a select number of random supply units. Independent verification audits of Midway's wood supply are periodically

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conducted by Midway and also by Midway's certification body at supplier and sub-supplier sites. Wood supply documentation is reviewed and field site visits are conducted as part of the verification audits in order to verify HCVs have been suitably protected for the supply of FSC controlled material to Midway.

Further information about Midway's Due Diligence System is outlined in Doc 968 Due Diligence System.

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**Section 3 (cont'd) – Stakeholder Comments – High Conservation Values**

Do you have any comments about the wood Midway is sourcing in relation to its control measures for HCV protection?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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The Midway website <https://www.midwaylimited.com.au/sustainability/> provides a Stakeholder consultation map showing current and planned harvesting operations. If you wish to comment on a particular harvesting operation, or request information about HCV assessment for that plantation number you can use the online response form or request that information here.

Plantation number: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested

information: \_\_\_\_\_

Please record any comments or concerns about HCV aspects associated with of our activities or wood procurement below.

Stakeholder comments

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A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for stakeholder consultation input.

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Document is only controlled if accessed from the Midway Intranet.  
Amendment: update PMP

**Section 4 – Stakeholder Comments – Other values (e.g. Social, Economic)**

Do you have any other comments you would like to make about Midway’s plantation wood procurement activities e.g. economic or social benefits?

Yes

No

Please record any other comments or concerns about non-HCV aspects in the section below

Stakeholder comments

Thank you for your comments.

Please submit this form to [ForestManagementEnquiries@midwaylimited.com.au](mailto:ForestManagementEnquiries@midwaylimited.com.au) or fax (03) 5277 0667.

We will respond to you within sixty (60) days after the end of the consultation period to advise you of how your comments were taken into account.

See contact details following for further information or if you would like to submit a complaint.



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## Midway Limited



### **MAKING A COMPLAINT**

We aim to address any complaints as soon as possible.

Please submit complaints to the **Manager Midway**.

Lodge your complaint by:

- **Letter**  
Midway Limited, PO Box 678, North Geelong MDC, VIC 3215
- **Telephone** – (03) 5277 9255
- **In person during business hours**  
Midway Limited, 10 The Esplanade, North Shore VIC 3214
- **Email**  
ForestManagementEnquiries@midwaylimited.com.au
- **Fax** – or fax (03) 5277 0667
- **Website** - <https://www.midwaylimited.com.au/>

### **Supporting Information**

To assist us with responding to your complaint in a timely manner, please provide us with the following information where possible:

- Your name and contact details.
- The nature and details of the complaint including dates, times, location, any known Midway or contractor personnel associated with the issue.
- Copies of any supporting statements or documents.