



Environmental Protection Agency

Notice to the Public

Pursuant to Section 11(2) of the Environmental Protection Act, Cap. 20:05, Laws of Guyana, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has screened the Application for the grant of an Environmental Permit for the following proposed project:

Mr. Looknauth Maraj – Looknauth Maraj & Sons Sawmill (Logging Concession) at ESS 01/13, located at Right Bank Bonasika River, Right Bank Tukurukuru Creek, Right Bank Kurubuka Creek.

The EPA has determined that this project will not significantly affect the environment, and is therefore exempt from the requirement to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The reasons for the EPA's decision are:

1. To minimize impacts on the environment including biodiversity, these projects will implement harvesting practices in accordance with the Code of Practice for Forest Operations and the guidelines set by the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), such as:
 - a. ***Selective Logging***: careful selection of individual trees to harvest and leaving the majority of the forest intact; and
 - b. ***Reduced Impact Logging (RIL)***: directional felling of trees for least disturbance to forest, minimal damage to surrounding trees and soil.
2. Noise and vibration in forest concessions, stemming primarily from logging activities, machinery, and transportation will have environmental impacts, particularly on wildlife. These impacts will be mitigated by:
 - a. Limiting operations to non-critical periods;
 - b. Scheduling noisy activities when they are least likely to disturb wildlife e.g. outside of breeding or nesting seasons;
 - c. Limiting or avoiding operating at night;
 - d. Regular maintenance of machinery; and
 - e. Enforcing speed limits for vehicles in forest concessions.
3. **Waste produced in the operations will be managed by**
 - a. Separation into organic, inorganic, hazardous, and recyclable wastes;



- b. Composting organic waste (e.g., food scraps, plant material) to produce natural fertilizer in a designated area away from water sources;
- c. Repurposing wood waste (sawdust , wood chips, offcuts) for compost, land filling or as fuel.
- d. Safely store hazardous materials, such as waste oil in labelled containers and reuse waste oil for chainsaws.

The EPA advises that this decision is in no way an indication that this project is approved.

The reasons for our decision are available at the following links on our website:

Project Summary Tab

<https://epaguyana.org/download/looknauth-maraj-project-summary/>

Any person who may be affected by the proposed project may lodge an appeal against the Agency's decision (EIA not required) within thirty (30) days of the publication of this Notice. *Appeals against the EPA's decision should be addressed to:*

The Chairman
The Environmental Assessment Board
E-mail: eabguyana21@gmail.com
Website: www.epaguyana.org