

# Project Summary

## Logging Activities within SFA ESS 15/21

- **Name of Developer:** Sanjay Persaud
- **Company Name:** Prince Ajay Sawmill
- **Address:** Lot 11, Section 'F', Huist Dieren, Essequibo Coast.
- **Contact Details:** 660 5180
- **Type of Project:** Sustainable Logging and Chainsaw Milling
- **Location:**
  - Right Bank Blackwater River, Left Bank Takutu River,  
Kartabu-Puruni Road , SFA ESS 15/21
- **Sector:** Forestry
- **Annual Turnover:** \$5 Million
- **Working Hours:** Monday to Saturday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- **Submission Details:**
  - **Submitted By:** Sanjay Persaud
  - **Date:** January 2, 2024

## Description and Scope of the Project

The project involves sustainable logging and chainsaw milling activities in the SFA ESS 15/21 concession.

- **Concession Area:** 6,331 hectares (15,643 acres), Pomeroon River Region.
- **Workforce:** Five (5) personnel (chainsaw operators, choker-men, skidder drivers).
- **Timeline:**
  - Operations started in 2021.
  - The SFA agreement expired on December 31, 2023, with renewal pending.
- **Harvesting Quota:** 4,415.87 m<sup>3</sup> annually over 31 months, targeting commercial species like Purpleheart, Greenheart, Kabukalli, and Washiba.

## Site Description

- **Nearby Activities:**
  - Neighboring small-scale logging operations (e.g., RL Sukhram ESS 23/17).
  - Mining activities within the region.
- **Access Routes:**
  - Via the Itaballi-Puruni Road.
  - Turnoff leads to the Oko Mountains.

## Operational Details

### 1. Workforce and Roles

- **Chainsaw Operators (2):** Tree spotting and cutting.
- **Choker-man (1):** Log preparation for extraction.
- **Skidder Drivers (2):** Log transportation.

## **2. Camp Facilities**

- Shelter: Temporary tarpaulin (25 ft x 20 ft x 10 ft).
- Amenities: Solar-powered lighting, pit latrine, and water sourced from creeks/rainwater.

## **3. Equipment**

- 2 chainsaws
- 2 skidders
- 1 tractor
- 1 log truck
- 1 3,000-watt generator

## **Environmental Impacts**

### **Potential Impacts:**

- **Noise Pollution:** Chainsaws and skidders.
- **Dust/Particulate Emissions:** Vehicle movement and sawdust.
- **Hazardous Waste:** Fuel spills, waste oil leakage.
- **Fire Risk:** Mishandling of flammable materials.
- **Water Quality:** Sedimentation and soil disturbance.
- **Habitat Loss:** Biodiversity disruption.
- **Soil Erosion:** Loss of stability and fertility.
- **Carbon Emissions:** Reduced carbon sequestration.
- **Solid Waste:** Domestic and wood-related waste.
- **Cumulative Impacts:** Pressures from neighboring operations.

## **Mitigation Strategies**

### **1. Noise and Dust Control**

- Regular equipment maintenance to minimize noise.
- Speed limits of 30 km/h enforced on access trails.
- Selective logging to preserve forest cover.

## **2. Hazardous Material Management**

- Fuel Storage: 6 drums of diesel and 3 drums of gasoline stored in sealed containers.
- Waste Oil: Reused for chainsaw lubrication and stored in covered containers (10-20 gallons).

## **3. Fire Prevention**

- Weekly fire safety briefings.
- Placement of extinguishers, sand buckets, and “No Smoking” signs.

## **4. Water and Habitat Protection**

- Maintain buffer zones along rivers/streams.
- Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) techniques.
- Compliance with GFC size and proximity restrictions.

## **5. Erosion and Soil Stability**

- Vegetative buffers along trails.
- Avoid harvesting in sensitive areas.

## **6. Climate Mitigation**

- Retain canopy cover and younger trees for carbon absorption.

## **7. Waste Management**

- Domestic waste disposed of in pits 300 meters from water sources.

- Organic wood waste left for natural decomposition.

## **8. Cumulative Impact Management**

- Adherence to GFC's Code of Practices.
- Collaboration with neighboring concessionaires to address shared ecosystem impacts.

