NEWS RELEASE

STOP-WORK ORDER IN KML

Jakarta, 20 February 2019 - Bumitama would like to inform all interested stakeholders on the recent development in PT Karya Makmur Langgeng (KML) in West Kalimantan. KML finalised a High Conservation Value (HCV) assessment in March 2013 and completed the RSPO New Planting Procedure (NPP) in December 2013. Bumitama then subjected five of its concessions, including KML, to the new High Carbon Stock (HCS) methodology and the results of this assessment were announced in September 2014.

In January 2019, Bumitama made the decision to issue a “Stop-work” order on all land clearing in KML. The reasons for this decision are as follows:

On-site operations had been using a slightly different map from the approved Go-area map, which incorporated the HCS areas. The mismatch resulted in accidental clearing of approximately 18 ha of areas set-aside for conservation in our final Go-area map. This area will be rehabilitated and conserved.

We have previously turned to RSPO seeking clarification on the requirements of the RSPO P&C 2018 and its Annex 5 for non-certified plantation development in circumstances when HCV, HCS and NPP were conducted at the time when review from HCV Network’s Assessor Licensing Scheme was not prescribed. However, we have since made the decision to proceed and conduct a joint HCV – HCS assessment in line with the new indicator 7.12.2 b, and only continue with land clearing and planting once the Go-area has been reconfirmed in accordance with the new procedure.

In the coming weeks, Bumitama will commission a team to conduct a groundtruthing on the areas mistakenly cleared and develop a rehabilitation plan that will build on the support of the local communities. We will publish regular updates through our website and Sustainability dashboard.
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