

Gheegbarn 2 Community Forest

Gheegbarn, District #2 Grand Bassa
County, Liberia

November 20, 2018

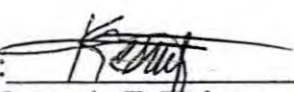
Mr. Philip Joekolo
National Authorizing Officer
Commercial Department,
Forestry Development Authority FDA
Wein's Town Mt. Barclay, Montserrado County
Liberia.

Dear Mr. Joekolo, with compliment, we write to clarify to your office that predicated upon the letter sent to us by your office early this month, quiring our document regarding the absent of some inclusive information from our community Forest management plan, our community acknowledge your letter in good faith.

However, we have managed to attach all of your requested information that are attachable to the plan with the exception of the document sheet which provides signing space for managing director and others.

In my opinion, and base on research , it ~~not~~ necessary to attach said information based on the fact that it does not apply to community forestry. That document sheet is applicable to FNC TFC and others.

Thanks for your understanding and the new acknowledge you provide for us regarding the management plan.

Signed: 

Kennedy F. Kaiuway
Chief Officer Gheegbarn 2 Community Forestry

GHEGBARN #2 COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
LOCATED IN GHEGBARN DISTRICT GRAND BASSA COUNTY,
LIBERIA



SUBMITTE TO: THE FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,
WHEIN TOWN, PAYNESVILLE
LIBERIA

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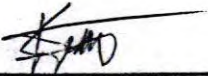
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CFMA	Community Forestry Management Assembly
CFMB	Community Forestry Management Body
CMFP	Community Forest Management Plan
CRL	Community Rights Law with Respect to Forest Lands
DBH	Diameter at breast height
FDA	Forestry Development Authority
GPS	Global Positioning System
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NFRL	National Forestry Reform Law of 2006
<hr/>	
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
GCFMB	Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest Management Body

Prepared by Gheegbarn # 2 Community Forest Management Body
(GCFMB)

Signed by: _____


Kennedy F. Kaiuway
Chief Officer Gheegbarn # 2 Community Forest

Approved: _____


Managing Director
Forestry Development Authority

1.1.2 Effective Date of the CFMA

The implementation of this Plan takes effect immediately after the date of approval by the CFMB of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest and the Forestry Development Authority (FDA).

1.1.3 Name & Contact Address of the CFMB

Table one (1) below highlights the name and position of members of the Community Forestry Management Body (CFMB) of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest:

S/N	NAME	POSITION	Address
1.	Kennedy Kaluwa	Chief Officer	Gheegbarn District, Grand Bassa County
2.	Jefferson Z. Zoegbeh	Secretary	Gheegbarn District, Grand Bassa County
3.	Julia Walker	Treasurer	Gheegbarn District, Grand Bassa County
4.	Morris Bortu	Treasurer	Gheegbarn District, Grand Bassa County
5.	Manijay Garblah	Member	Gheegbarn District, Grand Bassa County

1.1.4 Partners to the Preparation of the Plan

This document is the culmination of the work as well as the efforts of numbers of Community Forestry Management Bodies (CFMBs); the Forestry Development Authority (FDA); and representatives of natural resource management groups within and around the Gheegbarn #2 community Forest area. The Plan will serve as a road map to improve the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest management efforts with the goal of enhancing the quality of living of the residents of the surrounding communities.

1.2 Objectives and Duration of the Plan

1.2.1 Objectives of the CFMP

1. The objectives of this Community Forestry Management Plan are stated below:
2. To provide long-term opportunities for achieving a range of community objectives, values and priorities;
3. To diversify the use of and benefits derived from the management of the Community Forest;

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Management Information

Communities within and around the landscape of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest have long recognized the importance of managing and protecting their Forest and its associated resources. Hence, this 15-year Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) is prepared by the CFMB in order to guide the Borough in its efforts to protect, sustain and manage the robust ecosystem of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest for the social, economic and environmental benefits of these communities and the general citizenry.

This Plan provides a framework for the management of the Community Forest, clarifies the general goals and objectives, and recommends implementation strategies. The Plan outlines various elements that will increase the community's understanding of sustainable forest management, and the diverse benefits that management activities would provide. It also seeks to preserve, maintain, restore, and enhance vibrant healthy and diverse forest resources within Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest in order to take full advantage of benefits and services that the Forest provides to the communities.

Implementation of this Community Forest Management Plan, by the CFMB will provide a framework for the development and oversight of the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest. The Plan is a living document; hence, it will be updated as information becomes available or as community values change.

1.1.1 Mission Statement

The CFMB will manage and operate Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest in a safe, profitable, and innovative manner that enhances the Forest resources while respecting the principles of integrated use, environmental protection, and public consultation. The CFMB's harvesting and forest management activities will provide benefits for the government of Liberia and the surrounding towns/ villages within the landscape of the Community Forest.

4. To provide social and economic benefits to the affected communities;
5. To undertake management practices (economic, social, & ecological) that are consistent with sound principles of environmental management that reflects a broad spectrum of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest values;
6. To provide community inhabitants with opportunities for input into how the Community Forest will be managed;
7. To advocate workers safety;
8. To provide employment opportunities for local residents of the surrounding towns and villages;

1.2.2 Effective date of the CFMP and Duration of the Plan

This Forest Management Plan describes a 15-year vision for the management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest, based on the goals and objectives of the local communities. The Plan takes effect immediately the date of approval by the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) and Gheegbarn #2 CFMB.

2.0 LEGAL FRAMEWORK (Existing Laws, Policies and Standards)

Implementation of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest Management Plan will be governed by the 1986 Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, relevant provisions of the National Forestry Reform Law of 2006 (NFRL), the Community Rights Law of 2009 (CRL) With Respect to Forestlands and its implementing Regulation of 2011, the Regulation on the Commercial and Sustainable Extraction of Non-Timber Forest Products and the Revised Code of Forest Harvesting Practices. Other provisions of the Environmental Protection and Management Act of 2002 (EPMA) may be applied. Details of these legal frameworks are discussed below:

The 1986 Constitution of Liberia - The Constitution provides the basis for community forestry as highlighted in Article seven (7), which provides for public participation in the protection and management of the environment and natural resources of the Republic.

The National Forestry Reform Law of 2006 (NFRL, 2006) - Chapter 3 and 3.1 state that the FDA must assure sustainable management of the Republic's forestland. Conservation of the Republic's forest resources, protection of the environment, and sustainable development of the Republic's economy with the participation of, and the benefit of all Liberians should be prioritized.

The Community Rights Law with Respect to Forestlands (CRL) - The goal of the CRL is to support communities' full engagement in the sustainable management of the forests of Liberia by creating an enabling legal framework. This framework which includes implementing regulations promulgated in 2011, requires a management plan (3.2b) to be prepared by the CFMB (4.2 9c)) consistent with FDA guidelines and specifications.

The NTFP Regulation - The CFMB is responsible for ensuring that the management plan is in compliant with the requirements of this regulation.

The Revised Code of Forest Harvesting Practices - The objectives of the Code of Forest Harvesting Practices are to:

Provide forest operators with a set of guidelines and standards for improved forest harvesting practices that improve standards of logging/utilization and reduce environmental impacts, and so contributing to the conservation of forests through their wise use; Promote the health and safety of forest workers; and Provide a framework for effective control of timber harvesting operations with predetermined guidelines and benchmark.

3.0 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

This section of the Management Plan highlights the roles and responsibilities of the relevant national and local institutions that are parties to the sustainable management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest.

3.1 Forest Development Authority (FDA)

The FDA is the Government body that has legal jurisdiction over all forest-related activities within the Republic of Liberia. The FDA gives official recognition to the demarcation of community forest boundaries; however, the Entity may recognize/ or terminates an Authorized Forest Community, and coordinates with other government institutions and relevant parties on the implementation of community forestry programs.

Consistent with Chapter 5 of the Community Rights Law with respect to Forest Land, the FDA has the following roles and responsibilities:

- Monitor and evaluate Community Forestry Management Programs;
- Facilitate the resolution of conflicts upon request by an Authorized Forest Community;
- Assist in building the capacities of Authorized Forest Communities management bodies in sustainable community forest management and other aspect of community forestry;
- Assist in securing financial and technical assistance for forest communities in support of their community forest management programs.

Apart from these, the FDA has the legal authority to revoke the authorized status of any community engaged in community forestry activities if:

- Forest resources are being seriously damaged,
- The CFMB is not complying with provisions of the Community Rights Law, its Regulations, or if the community forestry program is being implemented in serious breach of the Agreement, Policy, or the Management plan between the Community and the Authority.

3.2 Community Forestry Management Body (CFMB)

The Community Forest Management Body (CFMB) represents the interests of the affected communities of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest area. The CFMB entered into a Forest Management Agreement with the FDA following an inventory of the entire forest resources. Information regarding the Communities Forest, its management intent and the demarcation of the Forest were provided. The Management Agreement was signed, and the rights and obligations were granted to the Community for 15 years. Among these include the obligation to:

- Operate the Forest in accordance with the terms and conditions in this Community Forest Management Agreement, community forestry rules and other relevant legislations and regulations;
- Develop and implement community forest management plans in reference to the guidelines and specifications issued by the FDA for the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest;

- Prepare and implement community forestry rules/guidelines for Gheegbarn #2 Forest;
- Conduct awareness raising activities in the Community Forest area; and
- Represent the community in all matters and negotiations related to the management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest

4.0 THE AUTHORIZED FOREST COMMUNITY

4.1. Demographic Description

Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest is located in Chan and Gogowein Clans, Gheegbarn District, Grand Bassa County, Liberia. The Community Forest landscape encompasses 57 towns/ villages and has a population of approximately 8064 people. The major livelihood activities of these forest dependent communities include traditional farming (shifting cultivation), hunting, fishing and the harvesting of Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs) including Bush pepper, Gana-gana, Xylopia, Bitter cola, Walnut, Rattan, Bitter root, Piassava, Wild palm among others. The collection and gathering of these non-timber forest products has long been a pastime enjoyed by many of the residents of Gheegbarn.

4.2. Description of Surrounding Landscape & its Management

Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest measures approximately 12, 576 hectares (31, 045 acres) of forestland and is a patchwork of natural landscapes, including hills, mountains, ravines, wetlands, trees and creeks. The dominant features of the landscape are mixed mature timber tree species and the Diale and Wiaya Creeks, which run through the Forest. Typical vegetation includes an upland complex of old growth (primary) forests, secondary forests, Secondary re-growth forests and swamp (wetland) forests. Hydro geological conditions include variety of creeks and groundwater discharge.

The Community Forest is home to a wide array of wildlife, including several species of birds, significant species of butterflies, frogs, toads and snakes. Wildlife species include some that are state-listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern in Liberia.

5.0 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY FOREST

5.1. Area and Location (Technical Description)

Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest lies within Latitude (401462 - 731932) North of the equator and Longitude (401515 - 710871) West of the Greenwich Meridian and is located in District # 2, Grand Bassa County.

Commencing at a point (412480 - 721436) on the Wiaya Creek; a line runs S 18° W for 2,897 meters to a point (411582 - 718662); thence a line runs S 34° W for 5,159 meters to a point (408669-714354); thence a line runs N 87° W for 161 meters to a point (408471- 714359) on the Diale Creek; thence a line runs Southward along said Creek for 7,760 meters to a point (402626- 711030); thence a line runs N 3° W for 15,289 meters to a point (401767-726179); thence a line runs N 49° E for 161 meters to a point (401905 -726291); thence a line runs N 69° E for 87 meters to a point (401979 -726319); thence a line runs N 9° W for 78 meters to a point (401968-726389); thence a line runs N 35° E for 483 meters to a point (402217- 726745); thence a line runs N 79° E for 98 meters to a point (402315-726763); thence a line runs N 35° E for 322 meters to a point (402542-727078); thence a line runs N 31° E for 322 meters to a point (402740- 727405); thence a line runs N 24° E for 483 meters to a point (40293- 727814); thence a line runs N 5° E for 322 meters to a point (402963-728119); thence a line runs N 2° W for 2,414 meters to a point (402875-730491); thence a line runs N 26° E for 1,127 meters to a point (403342-731432); thence a line runs N 72° E for 483 meters to a point (403817- 731561) on the Wiaya Creek; thence a line runs Southward along said Creek for 16,783 meters to the point of Commencement, embracing a total of 12,576 hectares / 31,045 acres and NO MORE.

Below is the location map of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest, including the surrounding towns and villages of the landscape.

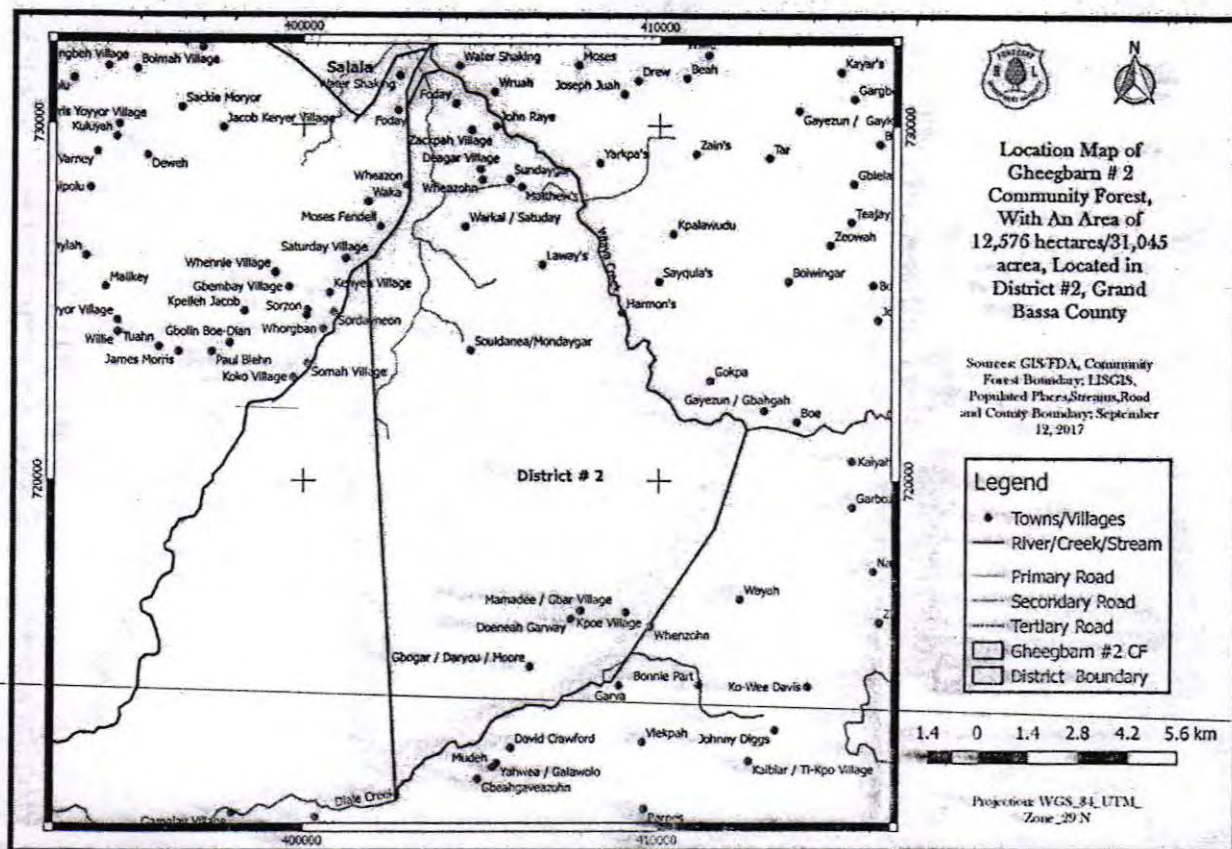


Figure 1: Forest Cover Map of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest

5.2. History of Past & Current Management

The Socio-economic Report suggests that from early settlement to present, the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest has unsustainably been used by the locals for uses that include subsistence farming, chainsaw logging, unregulated hunting and collection of a host of non-timber forest products (NTFP). These uses have primarily been at household and community levels. No known histories of commercial logging exist.

5.3. Vegetation Types

5.3.1 Primary Forests

The primary forests of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest are forest ecosystems with the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems such as complexity, structure, and diversity and an abundance of mature timber tree species, relatively undisturbed by human activity. Human impacts in these forest areas have normally been limited to low levels of hunting, fishing and harvesting of non-timber forest products (NTFPs). These areas are rich, bio-diverse communities harboring wide varieties of plants and animals species.

The primary forests are characterized by dense canopies in the upper level that allows little sunlight to penetrate to the lower levels. These forest types significantly influence commercial logging activities, and are therefore one of the first features to identify when planning forest management operations.

Selective harvesting of merchantable commercial timber tree species will be our main focus in the primary forest areas. These activities will be carried out in ways that will enhance the long term sustainability and profitability of the Forest ecosystems, while at the same time promoting the growth and development of the affected communities and the forestry sector of Liberia. The FDA's Revised Code of Forest Harvesting Practices and other existing forest related laws/ guidelines will strictly be adhered to when carrying out harvesting operations.

5.3.2 Secondary Forests

Here, we refer to forest areas that have undergone some minor form of disturbance over the past decades through activities like chain saw milling, and the harvesting of varieties of non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Like primary forests, a host of merchantable commercial timber tree species are also found in the secondary forest areas of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest. Also found in these areas are scores of valuable Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs) that have the potential to enhance economic development and financial return to the local inhabitants.

Management activities for secondary forest will follow the same pattern as primary forests. However, harvesting of NTFPs will also be permitted within these areas using a permit system to enable proper monitoring of these products by the CFMB.

5.3.3 Secondary Re-growth Forests

These are forest areas of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest that have re-grown after undergoing immense pressure from agricultural expansion and other human disturbances, leading to forest fragmentation and accelerated biodiversity loss. The primary human disturbance includes slashes and burn (traditional farming system) and hunting of wildlife. These continuous traditional farming practices have resulted to the establishment of fallow-growth forests in some areas of the Community Forest.

Secondary re-growth forests of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest are mostly found along the boundaries of the Community Forest, and are dominated by trees that are younger than what are typically found in other parts of the Forest.

Management activities will include agro-forestry practices to provide livelihood alternatives for community inhabitants. The Committee on livelihood will identified suitable and appropriate areas establishing nurseries and the agro-forestry systems.

5.3.4 Wetlands/ Swamp Forests

Wetlands/ Swamp Forests are referred to as edaphic forest; that is, forest types caused by a particular soil condition (waterlog soil). These forest types contain rich plants and animals communities. Wetlands provide essential services to both water and land species, as well as to the people living nearby. They protect nearby areas from flood, help clean the water, protect land from erosion, store carbon, provide habitat, and increase biodiversity.

Ecologically valuable wetlands/ swamps with potentially high species diversity are present in Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest landscape. These forest types are often associated with river, creek and stream systems that run through the Community Forest. These aquatic systems serve as important travel corridors and feeding areas for many wildlife species. They provide critical habitat for many plant and animal species within the Community Forest area. Hence, the use of permanently vegetated buffer strips will be enforced, and the total exclusion of timber harvesting in particularly sensitive areas will be avoided in these areas.

5.4. Wildlife

Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest is replete with a wealth of wildlife – a community of birds, insects, reptiles, and mammals that live in the Forest landscape and often depending on the forest for their very survival. Considering that some of these wildlife are under protective regulation, the CFMB will ensure that an in-depth research be done to determine the actual population of these species to compliment the Forestry Development Authority in their protection.

5.5 Water Resources

Water resources are sources of water that are potentially useful for agricultural productivity, domestic and other household uses. Several freshwater sources are found within the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest, to include creeks, streams and wetlands that serve as habitats for varying fish species and other aquatic species.

5.6. Threats to the Community Forest

Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest provides essential resources critical to the survival of the surrounding communities and animal populations within and around the landscape. The Forest is particularly important to the local inhabitants in that their livelihoods are often directly dependent upon the use of natural resources in the Forest habitats.

Despite these, the Community forest faces a number of direct and indirect threats to its integrity as a whole and to its biodiversity resources in particular. The major threats to Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest include human encroachment, cross-border encroachment, unregulated bushmeat trade, shifting cultivation and agriculture plantation (rubber).

These human activities have caused or contributed to the premature extinction of hundreds of species. They have, in addition, degraded several hectares of forestlands in these communities. In order to curtail these threats and sustainably manage the Forest resources, the CFMB will take appropriate management actions.

6.0 SOCIAL MANAGEMENT

6.1. Consultation process between the CFMB and FDA

The CFMB will report all financial matters to the FDA as required by the implementing Regulations of the CRL. Apart from this, the CFMB will openly consult with and provide other information to the FDA through formal schedule meetings with the purpose of informing the Authority of the activities undertaken on the Community Forest.

During these meetings, the CFMB performance with respect to the objectives outlined in this Management Plan will also be reported on; and information produced from the meetings will be available to community members to be used to promote ongoing awareness on the management activities.

6.2. Benefit Sharing

Accordingly, Chapter 10 of the CRL Regulation mandates that funds derived from community forest management must be managed by the CFMB under the supervision of the Community Assembly. Predicated upon this mandate, the CFMB will pursue opportunities to realize the best return from timber harvesting, provide revenue to the government of Liberia and provide financial return to the affected communities through its Community Assembly. Taxes, royalties and other benefits that will be generated from the management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest will be paid to the government and the affected communities as provided for by the laws.

7.0 FOREST ZONING AND RESOURCES

7.1. Zoning

The preliminary inventory categorized the 12, 576 hectares (31, 045 acres) of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest into harvestable zones and non-harvestable/exclusion zones. The management activities of these zones are briefly discussed in the table two below:

Table 2: Summary of Management Activities on Forest Zones

S/N	FOREST ZONE	VEGETATION TYPE	MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES
1.	Harvestable zones	Primary and secondary forest areas	Selective harvesting and extraction of merchantable commercial timber tree species
2.	Non-harvestable/exclusion zones	Secondary re-growth forests, swamps/ wetlands, sacred areas, villages, towns, etc.	Secondary re-growth forests - livelihood activities (farming, hunting, collection of NTFPs, others); swamps/ wetlands and sacred areas (permanently vegetated buffer strips, avoidance of harvesting activities)

8.0 Management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest

The primary purpose of this Community Forest Management Plan is to provide a basic framework of goals, strategies, and actions to guide all management activities toward achieving these goals over the next 15 years, and beyond. Hence, the long-term goal of the CFMB for the management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest is sustainability (maintaining ecological, social, and economic functions and benefits) over time.

The CFMB's focused strategies that guide the management activities are quality management in accordance with standards and best management practices that conforms to the applicable laws of Liberia. The CFMB will strive to continually enhance all forest resources, including timber, wildlife, cultural, recreational, aquatic, and aesthetic within the Community Forest landscape. While conducting its activities, the CFMB will strive to consider and incorporate other forest uses within the Community Forest area. Likewise, the CFMB will consult all concerned stakeholders regarding proposed activities within the Community Forest area.

Safety will be the highest priority for the management, employees and contractors while conducting work for and on behalf of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest. The CFMB will pursue opportunities to realize the best return from timber harvesting, provide revenue to the government of Liberia and provide a financial return to the affected communities.

8.1. Demarcation & Boundary Maintenance

8.1.1. Current Situation

Forest management activities, particularly timber harvesting operations must be conducted within the confines of the forest under management. Clearly defined boundary lines will help to protect the forestland, minimize unwanted trespass and poaching activities.

One of the pre-felling requirements of sustainable forest management in Liberia is the demarcation and marking of the boundaries of the contract area. As such, the physical delineation and marking of the boundaries of Gheegbarn #2 community Forest has been carried out based on the existing forest cover map and the metes and bound provided by the GIS Division of FDA.

8.1.2. Management Activities

The CFMB will put in place appropriate measures for maintenance of the boundaries of Gheegbarn #2 community Forest on a regular basis. Boundary line maintenance will involve the regular brushing out and remarking of existing lines to enhance visibility from distance and helps to prevent accidental and intentional trespassing. Highly build and highly visible marking paint will be used to mark the corners of the forest boundaries that will largely remain stable for few years. Signs indicating where boundaries are located will also be erected in strategic locations for ease of identification. Apart from these, regular monitoring, enforcement of use and management prescriptions for forest boundaries will be conducted by the CFMB and other groups (to be identify).

8.2. Inventory of resources

8.2.1. Current Situation

The CFMB was unable to carryout full inventory of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest ecosystem due to the amount of time it would require to prepare the inventory, collect field measurements, analyze input data, and produce an assessment report. However, preliminary inventory exercises were carried out that enabled the information provided in this Management Plan.

8.2.2. Management Activities

A detailed inventory of the Community Forest resources of Gheegbarn #2 will be conducted to provide the necessary data that will be used to determine values and services of the Forest ecosystem. It will also set priorities for management goals and policies, as well as, aiding in effective management decision-making.

8.3. Fire management

8.3.1. Current Situation

Accordingly, logs, branches and other dead standing or lying trees are categorized as fuel hazards for forest fire. They burn slowly with high intensity and cause a serious damage on forest ecosystems. Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest has experienced a relatively low frequency of wildfires, most of which have resulted from lightning strikes. However, no account of human ignited fire has been reported/ or recorded due to the fact that our forest is wet most of the time. Notwithstanding, CFMB will develop the best fire control method which will be apply in the event of fire outbreak.

8.3.2. Management Activities

Fire suppression and prevention measures will be done in accordance with existing laws. A high standard of firefighting strategies will be maintained during the dry season. Necessary operations will be continued to protect the Community Forest from fire damage. The goal is to minimize damage from fire to the Forest ecosystems.

Fire protection awareness and preparedness will be reflected in all forest related activities carried out during the dry season. Strategies will be implemented that will minimize the buildup of harvest debris.

8.4. Water and Fish management

8.4.1. Current Situation

As stated earlier, water resources are sources of water that are potentially useful for agricultural productivity, domestic and other household uses. Several freshwater sources are found within the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest, to include creeks, streams and wetlands that serve as habitats for varying fish species and other aquatic species. The importance of these aquatic habitats to sustaining healthy, abundant fish populations has long been recognized by the CFMB.

We are aware that natural events, including floods can alter and degrade habitats, but the duration of their effects on aquatic communities is generally short term. In contrast, human-induced, changes to the landscape affect aquatic and riparian environments and all too often have long term and even permanent negative consequences for fish and other aquatic species. In the same way, increased sedimentation from logging operations can degrade habitat and water quality at the expense of fish populations and fishing opportunities. See Table three (page 22) for a list of species of economic and biodiversity importance.

8.4.2. Management Activities

The primary focus of the CFMB is to protect the water quality of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest. Prior to harvesting operations, all riparian areas will be assessed to determine degree of sensitivity to disturbance. Special management strategies will be applied to areas in and around water protection and ecologically sensitive areas. Log landings and skid trails will be located in selected areas in order to minimum any disturbance to water quality. Similarly, the use of permanently vegetated buffer strips will be enforced, and the total exclusion of timber harvesting in particularly sensitive areas will be avoided in these areas.

8.5. Wildlife Management

8.5.1. Current Situation

Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest is a forest wilderness that is inhabited by a wealth of wildlife – a community of birds, insects, reptiles, and mammals that live in the Forest landscape and often depend on the forest for their very survival. Like other forests, the Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest is an ideal area for wildlife due to the fact that the area has good vegetation with multi-strata and different plant species. Hence, the protection of this Forest ecosystem is paramount. Table three (page 22) also presents a list of species of economic and biodiversity importance.

8.5.2. Management Activities

The CFMB has several objectives for the management of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest. One of the objectives is to maintain the biodiversity (birds, animals, etc.) that are found in the Forest. Hence, the following basic management strategies will be applied in order to enhance wildlife resources; exclusion of illegal hunting; reduction of wildfires; introduce forest guards system to carry out anti-poaching patrols.

8.6. Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) Management

8.6.1. Current Situation

Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs) have been defined as "all plant and fungal and associated services of the forest other than conventional wood products" and these include griffonia (*Griffonia simplicifolia*), black pepper (*Piper nigrum*), xylopia (*Xylopia quintasii*), wolor (*Beilschmiedia manii*), rattans, wild oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*), walnut, mat straw, and raffia. In addition, other species valued for their medicinal uses were listed under this category to include spices, animal food and other use groups such as *Ricidodendron heudelotii*, *Ongokea gore*, *Afrosia cidacia*, *Mamea africana*, *Parkia bicolor*, *Fagara macrophylla* (Gayelee for drum), *Bussea occidentalis*, wild yam, mushrooms, bamboo, bitter cola, raffia palm and palm thatches.

The collection and gathering of non-timber forest products has long been a pastime enjoyed by many of the residents of the Robson Valley. Where the potential for economic development and financial return has existed, it has been impeded by challenges in marketing, transporting and maintaining adequate production.

The CFMB also has concerns over the impacts of commercial harvesting of NTFPs on their traditional harvesting rights and practices. Different species of NTFPs found in the

Community Forest are also used by local residents in a way that involve small scale commercial operations for livelihood attainment. The harvesting of NTFPs for commercial, household or personal use is currently unregulated in the landscape of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest.

8.6.2. Management Activities

The CFMB will identify NTFPs of potential commercial value and incorporate them into a management system. This will help to achieve their full potential, through utilization of a broader array of plant and animal resources.

Better utilization of NTFPs as well as their conservation is possible with proper trainings given to community forest users. Hence, trainings will be carried out for harvesters of these products in order to ensure best management practices. The CFMB will identify undesirable impacts caused by the unregulated harvesting of non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Specific areas of cultural values which may require some degree of protection or adjustment to forest operations will also be identified.

8.7. Mineral Extraction

There are numerous mining claims that exist on Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest; however, there are currently no active mining operations or proposed operations.

8.7.2. Management Activities

Preventative measures and best management practices will be put in place to prevent/ or restrict mining activities of any kind within the borders of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest area and its associated buffer zone.

9. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES, MONITORING AND REPORTING

9.1. Enforcement and Monitoring

9.1.1. Current Situation

Enforcement of rules and laws is key component of their effectiveness. Adoption will be meaningless unless our employees and contractors are trained in the interpretation and proper implementation of the governing rules/ laws, and compliance is consistently monitored and enforced.

Regular education and monitoring will reduce the number of violations that occur, the incidence of citations and stop work orders, and the amount of penalties and fines assessed for non-compliance with standards.

It is important that the activities in the community forest are monitored, and trends are tracked. Monitoring provides information that helps to determine if Gheegbarn #2 forest management operations are meeting the management objectives and are adhering to the Plan's standards as well as responding to concerns from FDA and the affected communities. Through the monitoring process, determination will be made as to whether the Management Plan needs to be updated or management activities need to be redesigned.

9.1.2. Management Activities

The CFMB will set up a Monitoring Committee that will carry out monitoring of the implementation of this Plan. Monitoring will be carried out on any changes in the forest (illegal harvesting, damages by fires, wildlife, etc.). This will be done by patrolling the Community Forest landscape. Finally, the CFMB endorses the principle of "adaptive management" and as such, changes will be made in management practices as lessons are learned.

9.2. Reporting

Reporting provides information on the status and trends of forest resources, and on the progress of management activities, as well as illegal activities in the contract area. The CFMB will report to FDA and the Executive Committee of Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest on the following:

- Progress of activities – whether the forest management operations are meeting the management objectives and are adhering to the Plan's standards as well as responding to concerns from FDA and the affected communities;

- Compliance – whether management activities are in compliance with the applicable laws of the sector;

- Illegal activities – whether there are illegal activities occurring within the Community Forest landscape; and

- Any other activities regarding the management of the Community Forest

These reports are meant to identify gaps and overlaps in the management regime, and to propose practical approaches and means of harmonizing these gaps and shall be made on a quarterly and a semi-annual basis.

Table 3: Species of Economic & Biodiversity Importance Gheegbarn #2 Community Forest Inhabitants

Primates	Duikers	Rodents & Small Mammals	Large Mammals	Reptiles	Moths & Butterflies	Birds	Fish
Bamboo/ chimp	Red deer	Ground hog	Bush cow	Turtle	Zeekpa (grasshopper)	Eagle	Cat fish
Lion monkey	Black deer	Porcupine	Leopard	Cassava snake	Buggle bug	Pigeon	Red belleh fish
Color monkey	Gazer	Squirrel	Hippo	Cobra		Rice bird	Electric fish
Red monkey	Black back	Hedge hog	Bongo	Crocodile		Water bird	Dog fish
Jacko	Mountain deer	Opposium		Short nose crocodilers		Hawk	Plank fish
	Weter deer			Monitor laser		Hung bill	Snake fish
						Blue wing	Tilapias
						Blue jay	
						Owl	

Table 4A: Demographic Description

S/N	Name of Towns/ Villages	Major Ethnic Groups	Minor Ethnic Groups	Major Religion (s)	Total Population
1.	Waka	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	152
2.	Hogba	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	102
3.	Sawdanceo	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	66
4.	Laway	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	130
5.	Wurmea	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	232
6.	Kplawulu	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	165
7.	Zahn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	58
8.	Nyarkpa	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	139
9.	Tarr	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	98
10.	Garyerzohn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	106
11.	Nakellh	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	39
12.	Joe Saypaylay	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	210
13.	Bonweingar	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	92
14.	Seezohn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	33
15.	Yeanih	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	23
16.	Teejay	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	18
17.	Sawzohn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	28
18.	Bohn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	100
19.	Newpro	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	19
20.	Keyah	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	32

Table 4B: Demographic Description

S/N	Name of Towns/ Villages	Major Ethnic Groups	Minor Ethnic Groups	Major Religion (s)	Total Population
21.	Gayzuhn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	111
22.	Garneo	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	316
23.	Gbewudu	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	89
24.	Kono	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	56
25.	Beh	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	73
26.	Joseph Watta	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	17
27.	Kpawee	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	91
28.	Sungar	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	16
29.	Matthew	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	30
30.	Wheazon	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	110
31.	Wruah	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	95
32.	Zahn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	116
33.	Moses	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	95
34.	Monwolo	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	116
35.	Juah	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	150
36.	Kaniatoe	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	315
37.	Qewen	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	215
38.	Belleh	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	175
39.	Deh-kalah	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	100
40.	Gaye	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	76

Table 4C: Demographic Description

S/N	Name of Towns/ Villages	Major Ethnic Groups	Minor Ethnic Groups	Major Religion (s)	Total Population
41.	Garguah	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	71
42.	Junkpon	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	46
43.	Kargban	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	375
44.	Sawzou	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	65
45.	Willie	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	86
46.	Dulaymu	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	516
47.	Bellefanai	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	10
48.	Kwejay Ben	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	4
49.	Gbeah	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	8
50.	Kpanna	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	10
51.	Vahn	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	8
52.	Gbankonkai	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	5
53.	Garwar	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	3
54.	Samuel	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	5
55.	Yamnoh	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	3
56.	Sharlaie	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	2
57.	Peon	Bassa	Kpelleh	Christian	5
					8064

Appendix1: Commercial timber Species Prospected In GCF

Code	Botanical Name	Trade Name
BRA	<i>Brachystegia leonensis</i>	Naga
CEI	<i>Ceiba pentandra</i>	Ceiba, Fromager
CHL	<i>Chlorophora regia</i>	Iroko, Odoum, Baku
DIS	<i>Distemonanthus benthamianus</i>	Movingui
ENTA	<i>Entandrophragma angolense</i>	Tlama, Edinam
ENTC	<i>Entandrophragma candolei</i>	Kosipo Abourdikro
ENTCY	<i>Entandrophragma cylindricum</i>	Sapele,
ENTU	<i>Entandrophragma utile</i>	Sipo, Utile
GIL	<i>Gilbertiodendron preussii</i>	Limballi
KHA	<i>Khaya anthotheca</i>	Khaya, Acajou blanc
KHI	<i>Khaya ivorensis</i>	Khaya, Acajou d'Afrique
LOP	<i>Lophira alata</i>	Ekki, Azobe, Iron wood
LOV	<i>Lovoa trichilioides</i>	Lovoa, Dibetou
NAU	<i>Nauclea diderrichii</i>	Kusia, Nauclea, Bilinga, Opepe
PIP	<i>Piptadeniastrum africanum</i>	Dahoma
TAI	<i>Heritiera utilis</i>	Niangon, Whismore
TEI	<i>Terminalia ivorensis</i>	Framire, Baji, Emien
TES	<i>Terminalia superba</i>	Frake, Limba, Afara
TET	<i>Tetraberlinia tubmaniana</i>	Tetra, Sikon
TIE	<i>Tieghemella heckelii</i>	Makore, Baku, Douka
CYN	<i>Cynometra ananta</i>	Apome
TUR	<i>Turraeanthus africanus</i>	Avodire
HAP	<i>Haplormosia macrophylla</i>	Idewa, Black-gum
BOM	<i>Bombax buonopozense</i>	Bombax
DID	<i>Didelotia idea</i>	Bondu, Didelotia
NES	<i>Mesogordonia papaverifera</i>	Kotibe, Danta
DAN	<i>Daniellia thurifera</i>	Faro
PYC	<i>Pycnanthus africanus</i>	Ilomba
ANO	<i>Anopyxis klaineana</i>	Kokoti
PTE	<i>Pterygota macrocarpa</i>	Koto, Ake
ONG	<i>Ongokea gore</i>	Anguenk
ANH	<i>Anthonotha fragrans</i>	Anthonotha, Kibokoko
ARA	<i>Araliopsis tabouensis</i>	Araliopsis
CAL	<i>Calpocalyz aubrevillei</i>	Badio, Calpocalyz
CEL	<i>Celtis spp. (aldolfi-friederie)</i>	Celtis, Lokeni
DIA	<i>Dialium spp.</i>	Dialium, Eyoun
ALS	<i>Alstonia boonei</i>	Emien
COP	<i>Copaifera salikounda</i>	Etimoe

Please note: The CFMB, is only enable to provide a list of commercial trees species in our forest.

Appendix 2: References

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