



SmartWood

Practical conservation through certified forestry

**Public Briefing Paper for
Forest Management Certification Assessment of
Longquan Nengfu in Zhejiang in China
09 December 2008**

Introduction - The SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance is conducting forest management and chain of custody certification assessments of the Longquan Nengfu Forest Cooperation located in Zhejiang in China. The assessment will be implemented from 17 January 2009 to 20 January 2009.

Scope of the Certification Assessment – The forest management certification assessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of the forest plantations managed by Longquan Nengfu Forest Cooperation, (LNFC) using the *SmartWood Interim Standards for China*. To obtain a copy of the applicable guidelines or to make comments about these standards, please contact SmartWood by telephone, FAX, email or website listed below. SmartWood is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and this assessment process must follow procedures which have been approved by the FSC.

Assessment Team Composition – The assessment team will be led by Yanru Zeng. The team members will be: Prof Fengri Li, Mr. Hugh Blacket, Mr. Xiao Jianmin and Ms. Wan Jian.

Assessment Steps and Schedule – Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Assessment organization – The SmartWood team will assemble in Longquan on 17 January 2009.
- ◆ Field assessments – The team will visit sites managed by LNFC from 17-20 January.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding forest management in villages surrounding the forest area. This will include private interviews and discussions, and public stakeholder meetings.
- ◆ Public stakeholder meetings – A public stakeholder meeting will be held in Longquan Nengfu a centrally located public meeting place for LNFC. Date, time, and location will be announced soon.
- ◆ Final assessment briefing – Prior to departure the team will meet with LNFC managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Draft report production – The assessment team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to LNFC and a minimum of two



SmartWood

Practical conservation through certified forestry

independent peer reviewers. This should occur 30 days after completion of the assessment. Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from LNFC forest managers and independent peer reviewers, and other general stakeholder comments through mid-November, SmartWood will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur by 20 March 2009.

Your Input Sought – As a part of the forest certification assessment process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on LNFC forest management in relation to the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the assessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the assessment, during the assessment, or prior to 10 January 2009 so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows.

1. Meet with a SmartWood assessment team member during or shortly after the fieldwork.
2. Call and give comments to Christian Sloth, the SmartWood staff person responsible for coordinating this certification assessment from APRO.
3. Submit written comments by mail, FAX or email SW. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing the LNFC.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and SmartWood staff.

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access SmartWood's dispute resolution procedures at www.rainforest-alliance.org.

Contacting SmartWood

SmartWood Asia Pacific Regional Office
Rainforest Alliance
Jl. Ciung Wanara No. 1X
Renon, Denpasar, Bali 80225
Indonesia
Tel: 62-361-224-356
Fax: 62-361-235-875
csloth@ra.org
www.rainforest-alliance.org