



**Public Briefing Paper for  
FSC® Forest Management Certification Re-Assessment of  
Coquille Indian Tribe  
in  
North Bend, Oregon USA  
June 3, 2021**

**Introduction** – Preferred by Nature is conducting Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification re-assessments of Coquille Indian Tribe with an office located in North Bend Oregon USA. Coquille Indian Tribe has been certified by Preferred by Nature (formerly NEPCo) since 10/20/2016 (NC-FM/COC-007676). The re-assessment includes forest in Oregon totaling approximately 3,471 hectares. The re-assessment will be begin on July 26<sup>th</sup> 2021.

**Scope of the Certification Re-Assessment** – The forest management certification re-assessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural, and socioeconomic aspects of the certified forests managed by Coquille Indian Tribe, using the *FSC-US Forest Management Standard (v1.1)*. To obtain a copy of these guidelines, please visit the FSC-US website (at <https://us.fsc.org/en-us/certification/forest-management-certification>) or contact Preferred by Nature directly by telephone, fax, or e-mail as listed below. Preferred by Nature is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®)<sup>1</sup> and this re-assessment process must follow procedures which have been approved by the FSC.

**Re-Assessment Team Composition** – The re-assessment will be conducted by:

- Karen Brenner, Lead Auditor, Forestry.
- Kara Wires, Forestry.

**Re-assessment Steps and Schedule** – Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Re-assessment organization – The Preferred by Nature auditors and Coquille Indian Tribe staff will meet at Coquille Indian Tribe’s office in North Bend Oregon on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- ◆ Field assessments – The auditors will visit properties managed by Coquille Indian Tribe that are included in the scope of the certificate from July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, to July 28<sup>th</sup> 2021.
- ◆ Re-assessment briefing – Prior to departure, the auditors will meet with Coquille Indian Tribe managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – The auditors will conduct interviews with stakeholders prior to, during, and after the re-assessment.
- ◆ Draft report production – The auditors will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to Coquille Indian Tribe. This should occur 45 days after completion of the re-assessment field work.

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<sup>1</sup> FSC® A000535

- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from Coquille Indian Tribe and other general stakeholder comments, Preferred by Nature will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur no more than 90 days after field work is completed.

**Your Input Sought** – As a part of the forest certification re-assessment process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Coquille Indian Tribe’s Forest management in relation to conformance with 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 re-assessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the re-assessment, during the re-assessment, or prior to Wednesday August 4<sup>th</sup> 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 the Preferred by Nature audit team during or shortly after the fieldwork.
2. Call and give comments to Geoff Morris, the Preferred by Nature staff person responsible for coordinating this certification re-assessment.
3. Submit written comments by mail or email to Geoff Morris. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of auditing Coquille Indian Tribe as described in this briefing.

### **Contacting Preferred by Nature**

*Geoff Morris, Technical Manager, United States & Canada*

- ◆ Email: gmorris@preferredbynature.org
- ◆ Website: [www.preferredbynature.org](http://www.preferredbynature.org)
- ◆ Telephone: 1-715-790-8795
- ◆ Mailing address: P.O. Box 99, Richmond, VT 05477, USA

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

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access Preferred by Nature’s Complaints, Appeals and Dispute resolution procedures at <https://preferredbynature.org/certification/fsc/complaints-and-resolutions>.