



Forest Management and Chain of Custody Certification Assessment of State Enterprise «Bilokorovychi forestry» Zhytomir regional forestry and hunting administration, Ukraine

26-30, September 2022

Introduction – Preferred by Nature is conducting forest management and chain of custody certification reassessment of State Enterprise «Bilokorovychi forestry» Zhytomir regional forestry and hunting administration, located in Ukraine. The assessment will be implemented September 19-23, 2022.

Scope of the Certification Assessment – The forest management certification assessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of Assessment of State Enterprise «Bilokorovychi forestry» Zhytomir regional forestry and hunting administration, located in Ukraine, using *the “FSC-STD-UKR-01-2019 V 1-0”*. To obtain a copy of the applicable Standard please contact Preferred by Nature by telephone, email or on website listed below; standard may also be found at the link in the internet www.preferredbynature.org. The forest under evaluation contains areas either identified as High Conservation Value Forests or where high conservation values, as defined by the FSC, are likely found. Preferred by Nature evaluates the identification, management and protection of these High Conservation Values and solicits related comments from stakeholders.

Assessment Team Composition: the assessment team will be led by LEAD AUDITOR Georgiy Bondaruk (Ukraine). The team members will be: auditors Olesya Kaspruk (Ukraine), Ruslan Vytseha (Ukraine).

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

- ◆ **Assessment organization** – Preferred by Nature team will gather together in v.Novi-Bilokorovychi on 26 September 2022.
- ◆ **Field assessments** – The team will visit sites, managed by State Enterprise «Bilokorovychi forestry» **September 26-30, 2022**.
- ◆ **Stakeholder consultation** – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding of State Enterprise « Bilokorovychi forestry ». This will include private interviews and discussions, and public stakeholder meetings.
- ◆ **Public stakeholder meetings** – A public stakeholder meeting will be held in SE « Bilokorovychi forestry ». Date, time, and location will be announced soon.
- ◆ **Final assessment briefing** – Prior to departure the team will meet with the SE Enterprise « Bilokorovychi forestry » Zhytomir regional forestry and hunting administration 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 SE Enterprise « Bilokorovychi forestry» Zhytomir regional forestry

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and hunting administration and a minimum of 2 independent peer reviewers. This should occur 30 days after completion of the assessment.

- ◆ **Certification decision** – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from the representatives of SE « Bilokorovychi forestry » and independent peer reviewers, and other general stakeholder comments, Preferred by Nature will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur by November 15, 2022.

Your Input Sought. As a part of the forest certification assessment process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on State Enterprise « Bilokorovychi forestry » Zhytomir regional forestry and hunting administration 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 assessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the assessment, during the assessment, or prior to September 26, 2022, so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision November 15, 2022. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows.

1. Meet with a Preferred by Nature assessment team member during or shortly after the assessment.
2. Call and give comments to Olesya Kaspruk, Preferred by Nature staff person responsible for coordinating this certification assessment as representative of Preferred by Nature in Ukraine. If Olesya Kaspruk is not in the office, please give your comments to Georgiy Bondaruk.
3. Submit written comments by telephone, FAX or email to Olesya Kaspruk. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing the State Enterprise « Bilokorovychi forestry » .

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only to 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 Dispute Resolution Policy at www.preferredbynature.org

Contacting NEPCon

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