

# स्.र्था.रं स्थाया.क्षा.क्षेत्रायव ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN Ministry of Agriculture and Forests Thimphu: Bhutan



Date: 25/08/2021

MoAF/LS/1/2021-22/ 2/2

The Director

Department of Forests and Park Services

Ministry of Agriculture and Forests

Subject: Submission of endorsed Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations, 2020 & 2021 for circulation and distribution

Sir,

The Hon'ble Minister has issued amendment notification for the Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations, 2021. The Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations, 2020 was approved last year. However, the Ministry couldn't distribute and circulate the document since the Annexure was not finalized and approved. Now the Annexure is being finalized and approved by the Ministry together with 2021 amendment.

Therefore, we would like to submit the copies of both amendment to your Department for distribution of copies and circulation to the field offices for implementation. The copies of the amended Rules are attached herewith for your kind information.

Yours sincerely,

(Nima Om)

Dy. Chief Legal Officer

Copy:

The Hon'ble Minister, MoAF for H.E's kind information The Offtg. Secretary, MoAF for kind information The Director, DoS for kind information.

PHONE No. MOA Sectt: 322120, 322168, 322230,323841 Fax No.: 975-2-323153, DoFPS: 322395, 322487, Fax No.: 97

orest and Park

322395, DoL: 322418, 322795, Fax No: 975-2-322094, DoA: 322228, 322805, Fax No.:





# FOREST AND NATURE CONSERVATION (AMENDMENT) RULES AND REGULATIONS OF BHUTAN, 2021



Royal Government of Bhutan
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
Department of Forests and Park Services







# र्शे वया ५ ८ व वा या क्रिया खुदावा ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN Ministry of Agriculture and Forests

Thimphu: Bhutan

August 20, 2021

DoFPS/KA-3/2021/

#### AMENDMENT NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the authority conferred to the Ministry under Sections 11(a), 12(b), 13(a), 14(b), 19(a), 21(c), 22(b)(v) and 26 of the Forest and Nature Conservation Act of Bhutan, 1995; the Ministry hereby issues the Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulation, 2021to facilitate smooth and effective implementation of the provisions of the Forest and Nature Conservation Act of Bhutan, 1995.

The amendment process was initiated based on the instruction of Hon'ble Minister, MoAF conveyed to the Hon'ble Secretary, MoAF and Director, DoFPS; and subsequently approved by the Ministry vide Notesheet No. MoAF/LS/1/2020-21/130 dated 8th June, 2021 to amend certain provisions of the Rules which poses challenges for the implementers in the field. The Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulation, 2021 has amended provisions of Rule 78(1), 376, 405, 406, 425(1), 425(2) and Annexure I, inserted new provision under Rule 89A and 107A; and deleted Rule 75(1), 85 and 420.

The amendment has been endorsed and adopted by the Renewable Natural Resources (RNR) Gross National Happiness (GNH) Committee meeting chaired by Hon'ble Minister, MoAF in its 122<sup>nd</sup> session.

Therefore, the Ministry would like to notify the general public on the Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations, 2017 and the Rules shall come into force with effect from 1st September, 2021.

(Yeshey/Penjor)

MINISTER



# ર્લે ત્રાપ્ત્રન્ત્રવાય ર્જાયા સુત્રાવવ ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

# Ministry of Agriculture and Forests Thimphu: Bhutan



#### Copy:

- 1. The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Royal Government of Bhutan, Gyalyong Tshogkhang for kind information.
- 2. The Hon'ble Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Bhutan, Thimphu
- 3. The Hon'ble Speaker, National Assembly of Bhutan, Thimphu
- 4. The Hon'ble Chairperson, National Council of Bhutan, Thimphu
- 5. The Staff Officer to Chief Operation Officer, Royal Bhutan Army, Thimphu
- 6. The Hon'ble Opposition Leader, National Assembly of Bhutan, Thimphu
- 7. The Chairperson, Anti-Corruption Commission, Thimphu,
- 8. The Hon'ble Attorney General, Office of Attorney General, Thimphu
- 9. The Commandant, Royal Body Guard, Thimphu
- 10. The Chief of Police, Royal Bhutan Police, Thimphu
- 11. The Chief Executive Officer, Green Bhutan Corporation Limited, Thimphu
- 12. Dasho Dzongdags, 20 Dzongkhags
- 13. The Secretary General, Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Thimphu
- 14. The President, Association of Wood-Based Industries.



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# Chapter II STATE RESERVED FOREST LAND

## Annexure I: Inspection Report for Forestry Clearance



## ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTS Department of Forests & Park Services



# INSPECTION REPORT FOR FORESTRY CLEARANCE

Kidu land Satshab (Substitute land) Land acquisition by Government Institutions Land Lease Land Exchange Transmission Line Bridge Construction Archery Range Road Irrigation Channel Tower Water Pipeline Surface Collection from SRF Land River Dredging Sand Quarry Stone quarry Soil Extraction Cable Crane Biking Trail Foot Trail Others (Specify)			
This inspection report shall include the follow			
Range office:			
1. Details of applicant:			
Individual	Institutions		
(a) Name:	(a) Name		
(b) CID:	(b) Address:		
(c) House No:			
(d) Thram No.:			
(e) Chiwog:	(c) Contact Number/E-mail		
(f) Gewog:			
(g) Dungkhag:			
(h) Dzongkhag:			
(i) Contact Number/Email:			



Reasons for applying for State Reserved Fore     (i)	est Land:
Dzongkhag	vog
<ol> <li>Reference to:         <ul> <li>(a) Kasho (attach copy)</li> <li>(b) Letter from relevant organization (attach co</li> <li>(c) Any other relevant document (attach co</li> </ul> </li> <li>Suitability of the land for the proposed activity</li> <li>Canopy cover (%)</li></ol>	ty (Yes or No):
(A) SRF land leasing, Satshab, land exchange, land acquisition by Government institution, Kidu land, Surface collection from SRF land, River dredging, Sand quarry, Stone quarry and Soil extraction, Others (specify)	
Inside Recreation Park	Inside Recreation Park
4. Inside Forest Plantation	<ul> <li>4. water source of Childar watershed</li> <li>5. Falls within two or more Dzongkhags</li> <li>a) Forward to the Department, if it falls within more than two Dzongkhags</li> </ul>



7. Water Source	6. Inside Protected Area
8. Declared Critical Watershed	If yes (provide tick mark)
<ul> <li>9. Within 500 meters from Monastery and Dzong except for monastic related structures and existing settlements in the vicinity</li></ul>	<ul> <li>a) Biological corridor</li> <li>b) Core zone</li> <li>c) Transition zone</li> <li>d) Multiple use zone</li> <li>e) Buffer zone</li> </ul>
11. Within 600 feet uphill or 300 feet downhill or 300 feet on either side on plain areas of the motorable road except for forest road, farm road and access road	7. Inside FMU or Working Scheme or Local Forest Management Area  If yes (provide tick mark)  a) Production Management circle
12. Within 100 feet from the edge of the	b) Non-Production Management circle control of the
river bank or stream (except surface collection and dredging)	<ul><li>8. Inside Community Forest (if yes, need clearance from the CFMG)</li><li>9. Inside Forest Plantation:</li></ul>
If yes (provide tick mark)	i) If the survival rate of seedling is below 25%.
<ul> <li>a) Biological corridor</li> <li>b) Core zone</li> <li>c) Transition zone</li> <li>d) Multiple use zone</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>j) If the survival rate of seedling is above 25%, take the undertaking for compensatory plantation and its maintenance at least for five years</li> </ul>
e) Buffer zone	10. Critical habitat for endangered speciesIf yes specify
14. Inside FMU or Working Scheme or	
Local Forest Management Area	
*********	***************************************
If yes (provide tick mark)	



f) Production Management circle g) Non-Production Management circle h) Protection Management circle	
15. Within 200 meters of settlement for mining, quarry and setting of stone crusher plant	
16. Inside Community Forest	
(if yes, seek CFMG Clearance)	
17. Critical habitat for endangered	
species if yes specify	
***************************************	
8. Extent of forest area in the proposed area:	
(1) (Ac)	Dronggad Area V 100)
(1) (Ac) (2) (%) (Forest Area/	
(1)	a
(1)	a
(1)	a
(1)	a f forest area within the proposed area is
(1)	a f forest area within the proposed area is
<ol> <li>(1)</li></ol>	a  f forest area within the proposed area is  within the proposed area is less than or
<ol> <li>(1)</li></ol>	f forest area within the proposed area is within the proposed area is less than or area within the proposed area is less than
<ol> <li>(1)</li></ol>	f forest area within the proposed area is within the proposed area is less than or area within the proposed area is less than
<ol> <li>(1)</li></ol>	f forest area within the proposed area is within the proposed area is less than or area within the proposed area is less than

equal to 40%.

- 5) 4 acres to 5 acres: If the extent of forest area within the proposed area is less than or equal to 30%.
- 6) 5 acres to 10 acres: If the extent of forest area within the proposed area is less than or equal to 20%.
- 7) 10 acres to 20 acres: If the extent of forest area within the proposed area is less than or equal to 15%.
- 8) 20 acres to 40 acres: If the extent of forest area within the proposed area is less than or equal to 10%.
- 9) More than 40 acres: If the extent of forest area within the proposed area is less than or equal to 5%.
- 8.2 Extent of forest area within the proposed length

Forestry clearance shall be issued if the extent of forest area within the proposed length is less than or equal to the prescribed %:

- 1) National Highways: If the extent of forest area within the proposed road is less than or equal to 70%.
- 2) Dzongkhag Roads: If the extent of forest area within the proposed road is less than or equal to 60%.
- 3) Farm Roads: If the extent of forest area within the proposed road is less than or equal to 50%
- 4) Access Roads: If the extent of forest area within the proposed road is less than or equal to 10%.
- 5) Biking trail: If the extent of forest area within the proposed biking trail is less than or equal to 40%.
- 6) Foot trail: If the extent of forest area within the proposed foot trail is less than or equal to 40%.
- 7) Transmission line: If the extent of forest area within the proposed transmission line is less than or equal to 60%.
- 8) Irrigation channel: If the extent of forest area within the proposed irrigation channel is less than or equal to 70%.



- 9) Water pipeline: If the extent of forest area within the proposed water pipeline is less than or equal to 90%.
- 10) Cable crane line for timber extraction outside FMU: If the extent of forest area within the proposed cable crane line is less than or equal to 10%.
- 11) Cable crane line for transportation of materials: If the extent of forest area within the proposed cable crane line is less than or equal to 40%, forestry clearance shall be issued.

#### Assessment for Issue of Forestry Clearance:

- If the answer for serial No. 7(A)(1) to (17) is NO;
- If it fulfils the criteria under serial No. 8.

#### Ground for rejection of Forestry Clearance

- If the answer for serial No. 7(A) (1) to (17) is YES; and
- Do not fulfil the criteria under Serial No.
   8.

### Assessment for Issue of Forestry Clearance:

- If the answer for serial No. 7(B)(1) to (10) is NO;
- If the answer to serial no 7(B)(9)(i) is YES or agrees to undertake compensatory plantation under serial No. 7(B)(9)(j);
- If it fulfils the criteria under serial No. 8.

## Ground for rejection of Forestry Clearance:

- If the answer for serial No. 7(B)(1) to (7) is YES;
- if there is no clearance from CFMG under serial No. 7(B)(8);
- The answer for serial No 7(B)(9)(i) is NO; and
- Do not fulfil the criteria under Serial No.
  8

#### Authority to issue forestry clearance:

Refer Rule 14, 14(9), 14(9A) & 14(9B) of Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules & Regulations of Bhutan, 2020.

9. Details of Forest Produce in the proposed State Reserved Forest Land:

Sl. No.	Species	Trees (3' girth and above)	Poles (Above 6' height and less than	Other Forest Produce including wildlife	Remarks
------------	---------	----------------------------	--------------------------------------	---	---------

:				3	' girth)	(Cover %) (presence of important wildlife)	
		No.	Vol. (m <sup>3</sup> )	No.	Vol. (m <sup>3</sup> )		
1.							
2.							
Total	:						

10. Map attached
11. Remarks of the Inspection Team:
Signature of the Team Leader
NameDate
Name and signature of Team Members 1. 2.
12. Remarks of the Range Officer
Signature of the Range Officer (Seal)
Name
13. Remarks of Chief Forestry Officer



***************************************	**********	 
•••••		
Name and Signature of Chief For	estry Officer (Seal)	
NameI	Oate	

The CFO is required to provide the remarks and submit to the Head of the Department if the proposed activity is beyond the authority granted to CFO.



## Chapter III

# FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

# Procedure for Selection of Community Forest Area

75(1). Deleted

78(1). Any community of at least five household with *Thram* and *Gung*; and residing in that locality willing to establish and manage a Community Forest in accordance with this Rules shall form a CFMG. A household shall not be eligible to become a member to more than one community forest management group in the country.

#### 85. Deleted

## Management and Use of Forest Resource

- 89A. The forest produce allotted to CFMG member for personal use shall not be allowed to be sold. The excess forest produce shall be declared to the CFMG for further disposal.
- 107A. In the event, the CFMG is dissolved or terminated, 50% of the proceed accrued from sale of forest produce from CF shall be forfeited to the government revenue.



# Chapter X

## SURFACE COLLECTION OF SAND AND STONE

## **Collection from Community Forests**

376. The CFMG shall be allowed to use sand and stone for their domestic personal use as specified in the Management Plan.



## Chapter XIII

## OFFENCE AND PENALTY

### Payment of reward

- 405. Any person excluding employee of the Department, who provides first-hand information on the commission of offence shall be eligible for reward as follows:
  - (1) 25% of fine amount for timber and other forest produce;
  - (2) 25% of fine amount for cordyceps; and
  - (3) 50% of fine amount for waste.
- 406. Any person including the employee of the Department who provides first-hand information or apprehends an offender committing offence related to fish, wild animal or insects shall be eligible for reward of 100% fine amount.

#### Unlisted offence

420. Deleted

## Offence related to other Species

425 (1) Animal

SI No	Species	Fine per animal (Nu)	Compensation (Nu)
14	Pangolin spp.	10,000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
17	Asiatic Golden Cat	3000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.



18	Badger spp.	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
19	Barking Deer	2500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
20	Binturong	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
21	Common Jackal	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
22	Crocodile	10,000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
23	Fishing Cat	3000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
24	Tokay Gecko	25,000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
25	Grey or Capped Langur	1500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
26	Gharial spp	10,000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
27	Hare spp.	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine



			amount and confiscation of part.
28	Himalayan Goral	2500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
29	Himalayan Marmot	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
30	Hog Deer	5000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
31	Jungle Cat	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
32	Civet spp.	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
33	King Cobra	5000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
34	Leopard Cat	2000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
35	Macaque spp.	1500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
36	Marbled Cat	2000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.



37	Mongoose spp.	3000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
38	Otter spp.	3000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
39	Paa frog	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
40	Pallas's Cat	5000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
41	Porcupine spp.	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
42	Python spp.	5000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
43	Red Fox	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
44	Squirrel spp.	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
45	Tibetan Wolf	3000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
46	Tortoise spp.	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine



			amount and confiscation of part.
			amount and comiscation of part.
47	Turtle spp.	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
48	Weasel spp.	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
49	Wild bee spp.	1000.00 per incidence	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
50	Wasp spp.	1000.00 per incidence	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
51	Wild dog	5000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
52	Wild Pig	1000.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
53	Yellow-throated Marten	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.
54	Other animal species or parts or derivatives	500.00	Compensation equal to prescribed fine amount and confiscation of part.



# 425(2) Plant

SI No	Species	gSo-rig Name	Fine (Nu)	Compensation (Nu)
7	Aconitum spp	Bongkar	852/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to prescribed fine.
8	Arobidopsis himalaica	Ke-tse	90/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
9	Acorus calamus	Chu-da-ra	100/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
10	Adiantum spp.	Tsa ma ja	349/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
11	Asphaltum punjabinum	Dra-shu	1500/kg ·	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
12	Androsace stigillosa Franchet	Ga-teg Mikpo	427/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
13	Aster spp.	Ngo dhewa	366/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
14	Arenaria kansuensis	Tsa Aa Trong	1255/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.



		<u></u>	T	
15	Aletris pauciflora	Dambu-kara	276/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
16	Aquotic moss	Ngo-Jatshoi Bulwa	510/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
17	Borinda grossa	Bha	10/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
18	Berberis aristata DC	Kerma- Karpo	720/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
19	Bistorta macrophylla	Pang-Ram	429/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
20	Cane shoot	Patsha	100/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
21	Cavea tanguensis	Mingchen- Nagpo	137/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
22	Caragana jubats	Jomoshi	115/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
23	Calamus acanthospathus		50/metre	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
24	Calamus latifolius		40/metre	Confiscation or compensation



				equal to fine amount.
25	Chrysosplenium forrestii	Yakema	1623/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
26	Choenomeles langenaria	Sac yap	175/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
27	Cinnamomum tamala (Bark)	Shingtsa	1500/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
28	Clematis acutangula	Aee mong	107/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
29	Codonopsis bhutanica	Luduth Dorji	134/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
30	Corydalis callintha Long	Tong Ri Zilwa	752/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
31	Corallodiscus kingianus	Drak cha Ha bo	480/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
32	Corydalis crispa	Bas ha ka	239/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
33	Corydalis dubia	Ray kon	1148/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.



34	Curcuma caesia	Yong-ka Nap	50/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
35	Dactylorhiza hatagirea (Rhizome)	Wanglak	2288/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
36	Delphinum brunonianum	Bja goth Poe	1235/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
37	Dendrocalamus hamiltoni (shoot)	Pakshing- Chiku	10/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
38	Dorsera peltata Thunberg	Tak Ngu	1151/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
39	Euphorbia griffithii	Dur jith	669/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
40	Ephedra gerardiana	Drak tse	111/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
41	Fritillaria spp.	Karpo tsethup	4356/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
42	Gentiana robusta Hook.f.	Keche- karpo	480/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.



43	Gentiana urnula Harry Smith	Gang ga Chum	1973/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
44	Gentiana algida	Pang gyen Nyonpo	1060/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
45	Geranium refractum Edgeworth Hook.f.	La-gang	1759/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
46	Hippophae salicifolia	Tarbu	61/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
47	Halenia elliptica D.Don	-	186/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
48	Illicium griffithii		500/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
49	Innula recemosus	Manu	420/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
50	Innula grandiflora	Mingchen serpo	177/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
51	Juniperus squamata (Leaves and berry)	Shuk-tser	86/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
52	Cymbopogon flexuosus	Lemon grass	10/kg	Confiscation or compensation



		·	<del></del>	
				equal to fine amount.
53	Lepisorus contortus	Drak-poi-pa	433/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
54	Litsea citrata (fruit)		100/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
55	Hypecoum leptocarpum	Par-pa-ta	453/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
56	Luculia gratissima	Khandum- metog	300/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount
57	Lancea tibetica	Pa-yak	266/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
58	Leontopodium himalayanum	Tra-wa	507/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
59	Myricarea rosea W.W.Smith	Chishing Wongbu	120/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
60	Meconopsis horridula	Tser-Nyon	574/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
61	Meconopsis simplicifolia	Upel-metog	954/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.



62	Meconopsis bella		900/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
63	Meconopsis bhutanica		1000/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
64	Meconopsis paniculata	Upel-serpo	954/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
65	Malva sylvestris I.	Nye-ga	158/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
66	Musa balbisiana (flower)	Dray Ngala	5/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
67	Nardostachys grandiflora	Pang poe	217/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
68	Neopicrorhiza scropunlariiflora/kurrooa	Honglen	600/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
69	Neomicrocalamus andropogonofolius	Yu-la	700/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
70	Nepeta spp.	Bjuru serpo	119/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
71	Onosma hookeri	Dri muk	1660/kg	Confiscation or compensation



				equal to fine amount.
72	Oxyria digyna	Chu-ma-tse	528/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
73	Oxytropis lapponica	Sey Kar	320/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
74	Canarium strictum (Resin)	Poikar	1500/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
75	Paris polyphylla	Do-chu	3000/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
76	Paphiopedilum spp. (flower)		100/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
77	Piper spp.		200/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
78	Pedicularis longiflora	Luk-ro- serpo	2021/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
79	Pedicularis siphonantha	Luk-ro- muk-po	1479/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
80	Plectocomia himalayana	Moo	15/metre	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.



81	Pleurospermum hookeri	Tangkun	423/kg	Confiscation or compensation
		Karpo		equal to fine amount.
82	Pleurospermum amabile	Tscth	353/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
				oquu to imo unio
83	Polygonatum	Ra-nye	142/kg	Confiscation or compensation
	verticillatum	,		equal to fine amount.
84	Phyllanthus emblica	Amla	200/kg	Confiscation or compensation
				equal to fine amount.
85	Primula spp.	Shangdril	143/kg	Confiscation or compensation
		marpo		equal to fine amount.
86	Rosa sericea (flower)	Sewai	1981/kg	Confiscation or compensation
		metog		equal to fine amount.
87	Rhododendron	Ba-lu	1317/kg(fl	Confiscation or compensation
	anthopogon (flower)		ower)	equal to fine amount.
			141/kg	
		,	(leaves)	
88	Rhododendron setosum	Su-lu	100/kg	Confiscation or compensation
				equal to fine amount.
89	Rhodiola crenulata	So lo marpo	356/kg	Confiscation or compensation
				equal to fine amount.



90	Rheum spp.	Chukar meto	156/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
91	Rubia cordifolia	Tshoe	60/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
92	Runncula tricuspis Maxim	Churuk Bel- lak	308/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
93	Rubus biflora	Kan da kari	257/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
94	Saxifraga moorcroftiana	Zang tig	669/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
95	Sapindus mukorossi	Na-ka-pani	75/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
96	Swertia chirata	Chirata	200/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
97	Saussurea spp.	Ngoche zhur	153/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
98	Salvia castanet Dieb	Jep-tse chenpo	98/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
99	Sinolimprichtia alpine	Tangkun	406/kg	Confiscation or compensation



		Nakpo		equal to fine amount.
100	Symplocos paniculata	Pang-tse	100/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
101	Tanacetum nubigenum	Khenkar	303/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
102	Thalictrum reniforme	Ngotrin	84/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
103	Thlaspi arvense	Dre ga	339/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
104	Triglochin maritime	Naram	136/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
105	Terminalia chebula	Aru	120/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
106	Terminalia bellirica	Baru	120/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
107	Tinospora cordifolia	Rub-bji	50/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
108	Trichosanthes tricuspidate (fruit)	Aum-sipa- gyem	5/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.



109	Tupistra spp	Wang-pem	5/piece	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
110	Valerin spp.	Bja Poe	252/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
111	Viscum spp.		500/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
112	Veronica cephaloides	Dum nag	1831/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
113	Verbascum thapsus	Ser-Bjeth	286/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
114	Zanthoxylum spp.	Thiengye	500/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
115	Other NWFP species, herbs and medicinal plants		100/kg	Confiscation or compensation equal to fine amount.
116	Tree species		100/cft	At fair market value



# Chapter XIV

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Definition**

436(76) "High Forest" shall mean trees grown by means of natural seedling in an area spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and canopy cover of more than 10 %.





# FOREST AND NATURE CONSERVATION (AMENDMENT) RULES AND REGULATIONS OF BHUTAN, 2020



Royal Government of Bhutan Ministry of Agriculture and Forests Department of Forests and Park Services







## श्रुवित्राद्याच्याक्याक्याः क्षेत्राच्या

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN Ministry of Agriculture & Forests Tashichhodzong, Thimphu: Bhutan



Doffs/KA-3/2020/1390

February 26, 2020

#### AMENDMENT NOTIFICATION

Subject: The Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2020

In exercise of the authority conferred by the Forest and Nature Conservation Act, 1995, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests hereby issues the Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2020 to facilitate the effective implementation of the provisions of the Forest and Nature Conservation Act, 1995.

The provisions of the Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2017 has been partially amended and the provisions which have not been amended shall still be valid for implementation. The amendment has been adopted by the Renewable Natural Resources (RNR) Gross National Happiness (GNH) Committee, which is the highest policy making body in the Ministry in its 108th Meeting held on 25 December 2019 and chaired by the Minister. The Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2020 shall come into force with effect from 1st March 2020.

All concerned agencies with assigned roles and functions as per the Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations, 2020 shall be responsible for implementation of this Rules and Regulations.

(Yeshey Penjor) MINISTER

#### Copy:

- 1. The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Royal Government of Bhutan, Gyalyong Tshogkhang, Thimphu for kind information.
- 2. The Hon'ble Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Bhutan, Thimphu
- 3. The Hon'ble Speaker of the National Assembly of Bhutan, Gyalyong Tshogkhang



## श्रुवित्रन्द्रविवाक्षक्तः स्वापना

#### ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

Ministry of Agriculture & Forests Tashichhodzong, Thimphu: Bhutan



- 4. The Hon'ble Chairperson, National Council of Bhutan, Thimphu
- 5. The Hon'ble Opposition Leader of the National Assembly of Bhutan, Gyalyong Tshogkhang
- 6. The Hon'ble Ministers, 10 Ministries
- 7. Dasho Gyalpoi Zimpon, Office of the Gyalpoi Zimpon, Thimphu
- 8. The Chief Operations Officer, Royal Bhutan Army, Thimphu
- 9. The Hon'ble Secretaries, 10 Ministries
- 10. All Heads of the Constitutional Offices
- 11. The Hon'ble Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, Thimphu
- 12. Heads of the Autonomous Agencies
- 13. Dasho Dzongdags, 20 Dzongkhags
- 14. Dasho Thrompons of Four Thromdes
- 15. The Commandant, Royal Body Guards, Thimphu
- 16. The Chief of Royal Bhutan Police, Thimphu
- 17. The Chief Executive Officer, Government Corporations
- 18. The Secretary General, Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Thimphu
- 19. The President, Association of Wood-Based Industries
- 20. Head of Department(s), Ministry of Agriculture and Forests

# FOREST AND NATURE CONSERVATION (AMENDMENT) RULES AND REGULATIONS OF BHUTAN, 2020

#### Preamble

In exercise of authority conferred by Forest and Nature Conservation Act, 1995, the Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests hereby formulate and adopt Forest and Nature Conservation (Amendment) Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2020 to facilitate the effective implementation of the provisions contained therein. The provisions of the Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2017 has been amended as follows:

#### CHAPTER I INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

#### Revocation

The Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2020 shall supersede
the Forest Fire Rules 2013, guidelines, notifications and circulars and specific provisions of
the Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2017 amended herein.

#### CHAPTER II STATE RESERVED FOREST LAND

#### General Procedure for allotment of State Reserved Forest Land

#### Criteria for Forestry Clearance

- 14. The following criteria shall apply for issuance of forestry clearance for allotment of State Reserved Forest Land for the purpose of *Kidu* land, Rehabilitation land, Substitute land, Exchange, Government institutions, *Gerab Dratshang* and Lease.
  - (2) No allotment of land within declared critical watershed area and wetland; or areas containing high forests. Notwithstanding anything contained in Rule 14(2), the Department may issue forestry clearance for construction of transmission line/tower, water pipeline alignment, irrigation channel or road construction in areas containing high forests based on impact assessment;
  - (4) No land shall be considered for allotment if the slope is greater than 45 degrees unless authorized by the Department;
  - (5) Land allotment within 100 feet of the bank or edge of any river, stream, water course, or water source shall not be considered unless authorized by the Department;





- (6) Land allotment within 600 feet uphill or 300 feet downhill of a motorable road shall not be considered except forests roads unless authorized by the Department;
- (7) Deleted
- (9) If proposed area is other than PA, the concerned Forest Offices shall be empowered to issue forestry clearance for allotment of land, construction of road; or construction or maintenance of transmission line as follows:
  - (i) Range Office: Up to 1 acre of land or up to 1 Km of road.
  - (ii) Division: More than 1 acre up to 5 acre of land or More than 1 Km up to 5 Km of road.
  - (iii) Department: More than 5 acre of land or more than 5 Km of road.
- (9)(A) The conditions prescribed in Rule 9 of this Rules shall be applicable for issuance of forestry clearance for allotment of land or construction of road in the Community Forest subject to clearance of the concerned CFMG based on simple majority.
- (9)(B) The Department shall issue forestry clearance for any developmental activity if proposed area falls under protected area.
- (10) Deleted
- (12) Deleted
- (13) Forestry clearance for creation of Recreation Park within Dzongkhag shall be issued by the Division;
- (14) The Department shall issue forestry clearance required for any developmental activity such as township and industrial area falling within the vicinity or near monastery, monument and Dzong.

#### General Procedure for Forestry Clearance

- 15. The applicant shall apply for forestry clearance of SRFL for any activity to the Range Office who shall issue clearance as per Rule 22A of this Rules based on field inspection report as prescribed in *Annexure I*.
- 16. In the event the Range Office is not empowered to issue such clearances, the Range Office shall then forward the application to the Division or Park along with the field inspection report as per Rule 22A of this Rules.

## Issuance or Rejection and Validity or Renewal of Forestry Clearance

17. The Department or Division or Park or Range Office shall issue or reject forestry clearance as per the conditions prescribed in Rule 14 of FNCRR, 2017 and FNCRR (Amendment), 2020.



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- 18. Deleted
- 19. The forestry clearance shall remain valid for a period of project or activity.
- 20. Deleted
- 21. Deleted
- 22A. The service delivery standard for the issuance of forestry clearance shall be as follows:

Sl. No	Services	Office	Time Frame
1	Upon receipt of application, time required for field inspection, surveying, enumeration, verification, report writing, issuance and rejection of forestry clearance.		10 working days
2	Issuance or rejection of forestry clearance upon receipt of inspection report forwarded by the Range Office.	Division	5 working days
3	Issuance or rejection of forestry clearance upon receipt of inspection report forwarded by the Division.	Department	5 working days

#### **Demarcation of State Reserved Forest Land**

23. Upon the issuance of forestry clearance and SRF Land approved by National Land Commission Secretariat (NLCS) for allotment, the Range Office and Dzongkhag Surveyor shall jointly and physically demarcate the approved area with the Government approved peg in presence of the applicant. The map of the demarcated area with GPS coordinates of the periphery shall be submitted to the Division.

#### Procedure for release of State Reserved Forest Land

25. The Range Office shall release the land to the applicant after the land is registered in the applicant's name.

## Procedure for disposal of Forest Produce from allotted State Reserved Forest Land

26. The Range Office shall dispose the forest produce from the allotted land within 60 days in one of the following ways:





# CHAPTER III FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

#### Roles and Responsibilities of CFMG

88 Deleted

#### Procedures for Establishment of NWFP Management Group

142. The Range Office shall create awareness on the framework for the management and marketing of potential NWFP. For the establishment of the NWFMG, following procedures shall be followed:

#### Formation of a NWFP Management Group

- (1) Any village/Chiwog consisting of one or more household willing to establish and manage NWFPs, may form a NWFP Management Group and submit application through the Gup to Range Office for formation of NWFMG;
- (?) The Range Office shall verify and facilitate the formation of NWFP Management Group;
- (3) In the event, the local community is not interested to form group, the local community shall make affirmation waiving off their right on NWFP. The Range Office may give opportunity to nearby community for management of NWFP;
- (4) In the event, no nearby community is interested, then the Division or Park may entertain individual applicant for the collection of NWFP, involving local residents for the work;
- (5) The application to harvest NWFP by an individual shall be submitted to the Range Office;
- (6) The Range Office shall direct the applicant to the relevant NWFP Management Group for supply if necessary or consider harvesting of desired NWFP based on the availability of resources, if NWFMG is not formed, as per Rule 142(4).

#### Preparation of NWFP Management Plan

- (9) The Division or Park shall submit such plan to the Ministry through the Department for approval.
- (10) The Range Office shall issue collection permit to the individual or NWFMG.



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#### **NWFP Management Certificate**

143. The Division or Park in compliance to the procedure set forth under this Chapter, shall issue "NWFP Management Certificate" to the NWFMG as per *Annexure X*. The certificate shall be valid for a period of five years.

#### Management and Use of NWFP

148. The NWFPs from the private registered land shall be allowed for collection and marketing after field verification by the Range Office.

#### Trade and Transit of NWFP

149. The NWFMG or any member of the NWFMG shall obtain transit permit for movement of NWFP for commercial purposes from the Range Office as per *Annexure XII*, *XIII* and any other requirement specified by the Department.

#### Validity of NWFP Management Plan

154. The NWFP Plan shall be valid for a period of 5 years and based on the findings of monitoring and evaluation report, the plan shall be reviewed to check the feasibility for renewal.

#### Authority of the Division or Park

155. The Division or Park shall:

#### Cancellation of NWFP Management Certificate

- 157. In the event the members of the NWFMG decide to cancel NWFP Management certificate in accordance with this Rules, the NWFP Management Certificate shall be deemed cancelled on the date of such decision being notified to Range Office in writing and the NWFMG shall surrender the Certificate to the Division or Park.
- 158. The Range Office shall have the right to enquire about the reason for such cancellation to ensure that no offence has been committed and shall notify the NWFMG on the cancellation of the certificate.

#### Import of NWFP

159(3) The importer shall apply to the Range Office for issuance of in-lieu permit to import NWFP;



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- 159(4) The Range Office after scrutiny of relevant documents shall permit the import as per *Annexure XI*; and
- 159(5) The Division or Park shall realize import permit fee and any other applicable charge at rates notified by the Ministry.

#### **Export of NWFP**

160. The Department may approve the export of any NWFP and its product from SRF Land, for those species listed in the schedule approved by the Ministry.

#### Traditional Uses of Wild Plants

163. The collection and use of wild plants for traditional purpose shall be as per the guidelines issued by the Department. Such collection shall be allowed only upon issuance of permit from the Division or Park.

#### Commercial Use of Wild Plants

164. The Range Office may issues permit for harvesting of wild plants for commercial use upon approval of the Division or Park. The royalty shall be levied on commercial rate prescribed by the Ministry from time to time.

#### CHAPTER V FOREST BASED INDUSTRY

#### Licensing Clearance Procedure

- 175. The Department shall grant clearance to avail license for primary processing plant for any forest produce only if there is adequate and sustainable supply of forest produce and in accordance with management plans, wherever applicable. No clearance from the Department is required for establishing secondary wood processing plant.
- 176. Any juristic person interested to establish any primary wood-based industry shall submit project report to the Department.
- 177. Deleted





#### Types of Wood Based Industry

178. The Wood Based Industry shall be classified as primary and secondary wood-based industry as follows but not limited to:

#### Primary Wood-Based Industry:

- (1) Stationary Sawmill (2) Veneer Factory (3) Ply Wood Factory (4) Mobile Sawmill
- (5) Particle Board Factory (6) Paper Factory (7) Green Charcoal Manufacturing Unit
- (8) Incense Manufacturing Unit (9) Handicraft Units (10) Forest bio-refinery (11) Chipping Unit

#### Secondary Wood-Based Industry:

- (1) Chopstick Unit (2) Wood Pellet (3) Furniture Unit (4) Tooth Pick (5) Wood Briquette
- (6) Ear Bud Unit (7) Block Board (8) Fibre Mill (9) Wood Lamination (10) Wood Joinery
- (11) Packing Cases & Crates (12) Cable Drum Flange & Bobbin (13) Wooden Photo Frames

## Operation of Stationary Sawmill, Mobile Sawmill, Cable Crane and Power Chain Saw

- 179. Only licensed stationary and mobile sawmill shall be permitted to saw timber.
- 179A. Mobile sawmill shall be permitted to saw rural subsidized timber under strict monitoring of the Range Office.
- 182. The power chain owner shall register with the Division or Park for operating power chain saw and obtain certificate of registration. The Division or Park shall ensure that the equipment or saw is environment friendly with regard to the equipment standard.
- 187. The Range Office shall strictly monitor the operation of stationary sawmill, mobile sawmill, cable crane and power chain saw.

## Certification and Registration of Mobile Sawmill and Power Chain Saw

- 190. Deleted
- 191. Upon transfer of mobile sawmill or power chain saw, the license or letter of registration shall be produced on demand by any forest officials.

#### Registration and Renewal Fee

195. The registration of mobile sawmill and power chain saw shall be renewed annually and the renewal fee shall be levied as per the schedule of fee.



#### Procedure for sawing Rural House Building Timber

198. Registered stationary sawmill, mobile sawmill or power chain saw shall be allowed to saw rural house building timber.

## Supply of Raw Material to Wood Based Industry

203. Any timber requirement from SRF Land shall be met through the allotment system approved by the Department. Any firewood and woodchips requirement shall be met directly through the government authorized agency.

## Supply of Raw Material to Non-Wood Based Industry

208. Any request from the Non-Wood Based Industry for NWFP from the area, where there is no NWFMG, the Department may allot raw material from SRFL upon payment of commercial royalty.

## CHAPTER IX ALLOTMENT OF TIMBER AND OTHER FOREST PRODUCE

#### Schedule for Allotment

310. The timeline for allotment and extraction of rural subsidized timber shall be as per the schedule in Table below:

Sl. No.	Activity	Time Frame	Responsible Agency
1	Submission of application and verification of construction sites.	June to September	Gewog administration
2	Issuance of permit, marking and felling of trees.	October to December	CC or Division and Park or applicant
3	Extraction and transportation to construction site or sawmill	January to June	Applicant (Obtain COSDTMO & ITMO)
4	Monitoring and reporting	July to December	Division or Park
5	Submission of construction or renovation completion report to CFO	Within two years after construction approval.	Gewog administration and applicant



## Form, Quantity and Periodicity of Timber Allotment

- 311. Subsidized rural timber shall be allotted in log form from NRDCL depot or on standing tree form.
- 312. The maximum quantity of subsidized rural timber for new construction of rural house shall be in either of the following forms:

Option	Type of House	Timber Type & Quantity	Frequency
A	2 storied	4000 cft (log form) from NRDCL Depot or 18 Drashing (standing tree)	Once in 25 years
В	1 storied	2000 cft (log form) from NRDCL Depot or 09 Drashing (standing tree)	Once in 25years

313. Subsidized rural timber shall be supplied up to the maximum limits specified below for repair, renovation or extension of rural houses:

- X	Timber Type & Quantity	Remarks
A	700 cft (log form) from NRDCL Depot or 03 Drashing (standing tree)	Once in 12 years

- 314. For other rural constructions, such as construction of sheds for livestock, storehouse, farm guard or watch tower, toilet and machinery, the following provisions shall apply:
  - (1) An applicant shall be entitled for timber allotment for the above construction once in 5 (Five) years;
  - (3) The actual quantity of timber required, subject to the ceiling prescribed, shall be approved by the Range Office after verification;
  - (5) Application for allotment of subsidized rural timber for other construction in rural areas shall be submitted in the prescribed form in *Annexure XXIV* Part A.

#### 319. Deleted

#### Validity of the Permit

321. The time extension of permit may be considered by Division or Park after necessary field verification.

#### Use of Rural Timber

322. Use of subsidized rural timber shall comply to the following Rule:





- (2) Deleted
- (3) Deleted
- (4) Deleted
- (5) Deleted
- (6) The trees allotted but could not be converted into specified form due to defects, shall be disposed by the Range Office upon approval by the CFO and shall then allot replacement of the trees to applicant.
- (7) The Range Office shall allow loaning of subsidised rural timber for rural house construction only from rural to rural within the same Chiwog upon signing undertaking by the proponent.

#### Royalty on Rural Timber

323. The royalty shall be levied as per the schedule of royalty rates prescribed for forest produce notified by the Ministry from time to time.

#### Commercial Construction in Urban Area

- 343. Deleted
- 344 Deleted
- 345. Deleted

## Construction of Dzong, Monastery and Other Religious Construction

346A. Timber for new construction, repair, re-construction, renovation or restoration of Dzong, Monastery or other religious structure in remote location not connected by motorable road shall be supplied on realization of commercial royalty.

#### Other religious Purpose

- 346B. The Division or Park shall allot one standing tree or 100 cft of timber for Sokshing, Zhungshing or Lepshing at commercial royalty.
- 346C. The Division or Park shall allot 3 truckloads of firewood for national *Kureem*; 4 cubic meter (1cubic meter special class and 3 cubic meter other class) for cremation purpose, where there is no authorized government agency.

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## Forest Produce for Emergency (Local Level as well as National Level)

- 350. The CFO may sanction 200 cft of timber in sawn or equivalent form for repair or construction of public bridge per occasion during the emergency on the payment of rural royalty in rural areas.
- 350(1). Deleted
- 350(2). Deleted
- 350(3). Deleted
- 350(4). Deleted

#### CHAPTER XIV MISCELLANEOUS

#### **Definitions**

- 436(76) "High Forests" shall mean trees raised by means of natural seedling and when the crown cover of the forest is 40% and more.
- 436(77). "Simple majority" shall mean decision made by more than 50% of the members present, who cast a vote to agree in order for the entire body to make decision on the measure being voted on.



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