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རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ལྷན་ཁོངས་འཕུལ་གཞི་སྤྲོད་ལྷན་ཁུངས་ཀྱི་འཕུལ་གཞི་སྤྲོད་ལྷན་ཁུངས་
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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
MINISTRY OF ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & PARK SERVICES
FOREST RESOURCES PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION



No. DoFPS/FRPMD/FRPIS/CF_1(b)/2023-2024/

509

December 15, 2023

Notification

Subject: Suspension of Community Forest Activities upon Expiry of its Management Plan.

As you are aware, the success and sustainability of Community Forests rely heavily on adherence to approved management plans. It has come to the Department's attention that some Community Forest Member Groups (CFMGs) and field offices have not yet reviewed their existing management plans or obtained approval from the Head of Department (HoD) within the last quarter of the 9th year of the plan period. However, activities, including resource allocation, are being carried out as normal to the present.

In light of this, the Department emphasizes the critical importance of ensuring that management plans are reviewed and updated upon completion of their 10-year management plan period. It has been observed that certain plans have long expired, rendering them legally invalid for the management of the corresponding forest areas.

To address this issue and maintain the integrity of Community Forests, the Department of Forests and Park Services requests all its field offices to temporarily suspend all Community Forest activities in cases where the plan review and approval process is not completed within the stipulated timeframe. The suspension will be in effect until the revised plan is approved, and the Community Forest User Certificate is officially handed over to the CFMG. During this suspension period, all activities within the Community Forests must cease, with the exception of regular monitoring and patrolling activities aimed at protecting the area from illegal activities.

All field offices must communicate this information to the relevant CFMGs promptly, ensuring they are aware of the need for immediate action to review and update their management plans. The cooperation of all stakeholders is crucial to ensuring the sustainable management of Community Forests.

(Lobzang Dorji)

DIRECTOR

Copy to;

1. PA to Hon'ble Secretary, MoENR for Dasho's information.
2. All CFOs, field Divisions and Park Offices, for immediate implementation.
3. All CFMG(s) for strict adherence.