



Forest Stewardship Council®



# High Conservation Value Frameworks Template

FSC-GUI-60 009a V1-0 D1-2 EN


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## High Conservation Value Frameworks Template

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The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC's vision is where the world's forests meet the social, ecological, and economic rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations.

# High Conservation Value Frameworks Template

## Section 1. Cover Page

[Add fillable form for basic information: name, dates, authors, etc.]

DRAFT

## Section 2. Introduction

The objective of this High Conservation Value (HCV) Framework is to provide nationally specific interpretations of HCVs and *Best Available Information*\* for identifying, assessing, managing and monitoring HCVs.

This National HCV Framework is to be used by Standards Development Groups to produce National HCV Frameworks.

The HCV interpretations and *Best Available Information*\* provided in this Framework are not exhaustive; additional examples of HCV occurrences may exist at the regional and forest management unit scale.

Specific sections of this Framework are also applicable to National and Centralized National Risk Assessments for Controlled Wood, and to Certificate Holders seeking certification under FSC-STD-30-010 and FSC-STD-40-005. The applicable sections are: The Interpretations and *Best Available Information* for each HCV category and the *Best Available Information* for Assessments for each HCV category.

### **Instructions for Standard Development Groups:**

1. When preparing HCV Frameworks, Standard Development Groups (SDGs) shall consult the Guidance for Standards Development Groups: Developing National High Conservation Value Frameworks.
2. SDGs shall provide Best Information Sources for small, medium and large organizations, according to thresholds established at the national or regional scale.
3. Once the Framework has been completed, this Instruction Box shall be deleted.

**Section 3. HCV 1 – Species diversity. Concentrations of *biological diversity*\* including endemic species, and *rare*\*, *threatened*\* or endangered species, that are *significant*\* at global, regional or national levels**

**A. Interpretations and *Best Available Information*\* for HCV 1**

**Concentrations of *biological diversity*\* that are *significant*\* at global, regional, or national levels:**

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:   | <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |   | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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**Concentrations of endemic species that are *significant*\* at global, regional, or national levels:**

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |  |
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**Concentrations of rare,\* threatened,\* or endangered species that are significant\* at global, regional, or national levels:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b>                                 | <b>Best Available Information* for identifying occurrences of this interpretation:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |  | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**B. Assessments for HCV 1**

**National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information\* for assessments for HCV 1:**

| <b>National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of specific HCV 1 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**C. Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 1**

**Management strategies for HCV 1:**

| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing specific HCV 1 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for these interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for</b>  | <b>BAI</b>       | <b>BAI</b>        | <b>BAI</b>       |

| <b>and/or enhancing multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>management strategies for multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>Small</b> | <b>Medium</b> | <b>Large</b> |
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**D. Monitoring for HCV 1**

**Methodologies and *Best Available Information*\* for monitoring programs for HCV 1:**

| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of specific HCV 1 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information</i>* for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information</i>* for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Section 4. HCV 2 – *Landscape*\*-level *ecosystems*\* and mosaics. Intact forest landscapes and large *landscape*\*-level *ecosystems*\* and *ecosystem*\* mosaics that are *significant*\* at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.**

**A. Interpretations and *Best Available Information*\* for HCV 2**

**Intact forest landscapes\*:**

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:   | <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |   | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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***Large landscape*\*-level *ecosystems*\* that are *significant*\* at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance:**

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:  | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |  | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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***Ecosystem\** mosaics that are *significant\** at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance:**

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:  | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |  | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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**B. Assessments for HCV 2**

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for assessments for HCV 2:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of specific HCV 2 interpretations: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of these interpretations:    | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:       | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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**C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 2**

Management strategies for HCV 2:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing specific HCV 2 interpretations: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for these | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing multiple interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**D. Monitoring for HCV 2**

**Methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for monitoring programs for HCV 2:**

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| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of specific HCV 2 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Section 5. HCV 3 – Ecosystems\* and habitats\*. Rare\*, threatened\*, or endangered ecosystems\*, habitats\* or refugia\*.**

**A. Interpretations and *Best Available Information\** for HCV 3**

**Rare\*, threatened\*, or endangered ecosystems\*:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element:</b> |   | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Rare\*, threatened\*, or endangered habitats\*:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element:</b> |   | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Refugia\*:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element:</b> |   | <b>BAI</b>       | <b>BAI</b>        | <b>BAI</b>       |

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**B. Assessments for HCV 3**

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for assessments for HCV 3:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of specific HCV 3 interpretations: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of these interpretations:    | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:       | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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**C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 3**

Management strategies for HCV 3:

| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing specific HCV 3 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**D. Monitoring for HCV 3**

**Methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for monitoring programs for HCV 3:**

| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of specific HCV 3 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <i>(Add rows as needed)</i>   |  |                  |                   |                  |
| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for</b>  | <b>BAI</b>       | <b>BAI</b>        | <b>BAI</b>       |



| occurrences of multiple interpretations: | monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations: | Small | Medium | Large |
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**Section 6. HCV 4 – *Critical\* ecosystem services\**. Basic *ecosystem services\** in *critical\** situations, including *protection\** of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.**

**A. Interpretations and *Best Available Information\** for HCV 4**

Water catchments in *critical\** situations:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes in *critical\** situations:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b>                                 | <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |  | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Other ecosystem services\* in critical\* situations:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b> | <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |  |
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**B. Assessments for HCV 4**

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for assessments for HCV 4:

|  |   |                  |                   |                  |
|--|---|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of specific HCV 4 interpretations:</b> | <b>Best Available Information*</b> for assessing occurrences of these interpretations:    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b>Best Available Information*</b> for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations: | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 4**

**Management strategies for HCV 4:**

| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing specific HCV 4 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**D. Monitoring for HCV 4**

**Methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for monitoring programs for HCV 4:**

| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of specific HCV 4 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Section 7. HCV 5 – Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of *local communities\** or *Indigenous Peoples\** (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through *engagement\** with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.**

**A. Interpretations and *Best Available Information\** for HCV 5**

**Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of *local communities\** (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.):**

|  |   |                  |                   |                  |
|--|---|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for identifying occurrences of this</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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|  | interpretation: |                  |                   |                  |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |                 | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
| <b>Primary BAI:</b> Engagement with local communities.   |                 |                  |                   |                  |
| <b>Secondary BAI:</b>  |                 |                  |                   |                  |
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Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of *Indigenous Peoples\** (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.):

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:  | <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small        | BAI Medium        | BAI Large        |
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| <b>Best Available Information*</b> for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |  | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
| <b>Primary BAI:</b> Engagement with Indigenous Peoples.  |  |                  |                   |                  |
| <b>Secondary BAI:</b>  |  |                  |                   |                  |
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**B. Assessments for HCV 5**

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for assessments for HCV 5:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of specific HCV 5 interpretations: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of these interpretations:    | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
|---|---|-----------|------------|-----------|
|   |   |           |            |           |
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| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:       | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
|   | <b>Primary BAI:</b> Engagement with local communities and Indigenous Peoples.             |           |            |           |
|   | <b>Secondary BAI:</b>   |           |            |           |
|   |   |           |            |           |
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**C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 5**

Management strategies for HCV 5:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing specific HCV 5 interpretations: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing multiple interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**D. Monitoring for HCV 5**

**Methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for monitoring programs for HCV 5:**

|   |   |                  |                   |                  |
|---|---|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of specific HCV 5 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <i>(Add rows as needed)</i>   |   |                  |                   |                  |
| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**Section 8. HCV 6 – Cultural values. Sites, resources, *habitats*\* and *landscapes*\* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of *critical*\* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of *local communities*\* or Indigenous Peoples, identified through *engagement*\* with these *local communities*\* or Indigenous Peoples.**

**A. Interpretations and *Best Available Information*\* for HCV 6**

**Sites, resources, *habitats*\* and *landscapes*\* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance:**

| <b>National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information</i>* for identifying occurrences of this interpretation:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b><i>Best Available Information</i>* for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element:</b> |   | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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Sites, resources, *habitats*\* and *landscapes*\* of *critical*\* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of *local communities*\*:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:   | <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
|---|---|-----------|------------|-----------|
|   |   |           |            |           |
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| (Add rows as needed)  |   |           |            |           |
| <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |   | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
| Primary BAI: Engagement with local communities.   |   |           |            |           |
| Secondary BAI:  |   |           |            |           |
|   |   |           |            |           |
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Sites, resources, *habitats*\* and *landscapes*\* of *critical*\* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of Indigenous Peoples:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element:   | <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI Small | BAI Medium | BAI Large |
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| <i>Best Available Information</i> * for identifying multiple interpretations of this HCV element: |   | BAI       | BAI        | BAI       |

|   | Small | Medium | Large |
|---|-------|--------|-------|
| <b>Primary BAI:</b> Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. |       |        |       |
| <b>Secondary BAI:</b>                                   |       |        |       |
|   |       |        |       |
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| <i>(Add rows as needed)</i>                             |       |        |       |

**B. Assessments for HCV 6**

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for assessments for HCV 6:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of specific HCV 6 interpretations: | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of these interpretations:    | BAI SLIMF | BAI Standard |
|---|---|-----------|--------------|
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| <i>(Add rows as needed)</i>   |   |           |              |
| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations:       | <i>Best Available Information*</i> for assessing occurrences of multiple interpretations: | BAI SLIMF | BAI Standard |
|   | <b>Primary BAI:</b> Engagement with local communities and Indigenous Peoples.             |           |              |
|   | <b>Secondary BAI:</b>   |           |              |
|   |   |           |              |
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| <i>(Add rows as needed)</i>   |   |           |              |

**C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 6**

Management strategies for HCV 6:

| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing specific HCV 6 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for these interpretations:</b>    | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing multiple interpretations:</b>       | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for management strategies for multiple interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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**D. Monitoring for HCV 6**

**Methodologies and *Best Available Information\** for monitoring programs for HCV 6:**

| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of specific HCV 6 interpretations:</b> | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations:</b> | <b>BAI Small</b> | <b>BAI Medium</b> | <b>BAI Large</b> |
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| <b>National or regional methodologies for monitoring</b>  | <b><i>Best Available Information*</i> for</b>  | <b>BAI</b>       | <b>BAI</b>        | <b>BAI</b>       |

| occurrences of multiple interpretations: | monitoring occurrences of multiple interpretations: | Small | Medium | Large |
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**Section 9. References**



Forest Stewardship Council®

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