FMU Management Plan Public Summary for Lukosi

February 2022

Introduction

This is a public summary of The New Forests Company's Lukosi FMU Management Plan. A copy of the full plan is available upon request from forest management.

Management Objectives

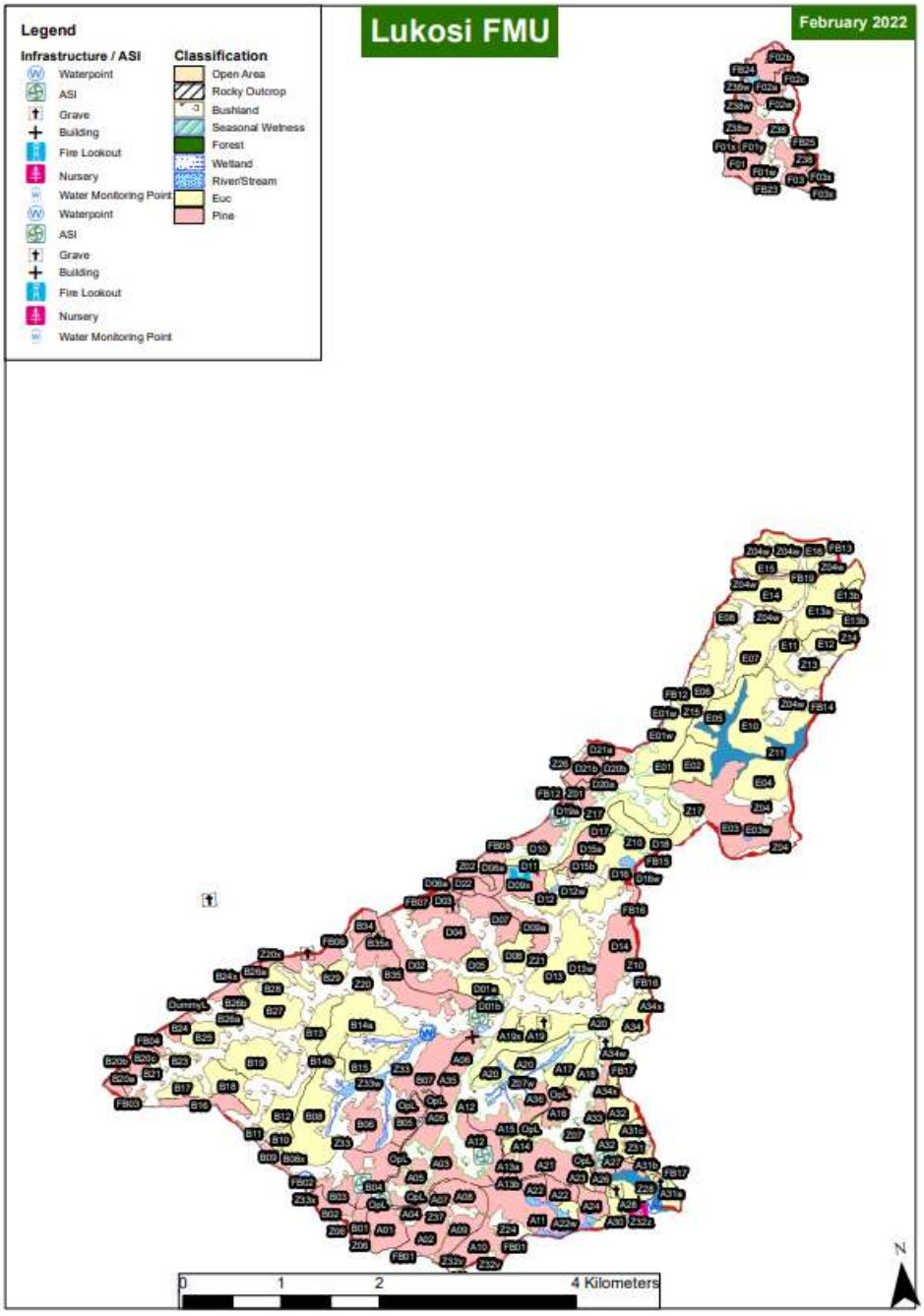
The objectives of The New Forests Company Tanzania are to:

- Establish profitable commercial timber plantations of fast growing tree species which have adapted well to the Tanzanian environment and have successfully been grown in this country
- Protect the remaining natural forests that occur along streams and rehabilitate those forests that have been destroyed and degraded by illegal activities
- Provide employment to rural communities where unemployment levels are very high
- Identify community oriented upliftment projects in which the company can assist in facilitation and execution
- Investigate and where appropriate initiate an outgrower scheme whereby the Tanzania plantations would be a nucleus resource and centre of excellence providing extension assistance to the local community
- To create a multi-facetted timber company and to develop the Tanzania-based forest lands into a centre of forestry excellence and best practises, with investment in pole plants, saw milling and other value added processing, providing a role model for both Tanzania and East Africa
- To help meet government goals of alleviating rural poverty and to stimulate the development of the local private sector through contracting and spin-off private enterprise

Description

Description of the Forest Resources to be Managed

The New Forests Company (Tanzania), (NFC), Lukosi FMU area is located in Kilolo District in Iringa Region. The plantation area covers three wards of Dabaga, Idete and Ukwega. The FMU has a total area of 2 328 ha. The FMU is of fast growing exotic species (mainly Eucalyptus and Pinus), grown for poles and sawlogs.



Map 1: Lukosi Plantation

Natural Environment

The area is within the eastern Afromontane biodiversity hotspot which makes it a good repository of different biodiversity (flora and fauna) and endemic species. Though three potential high conservation value points were noted in the biological diversity study, none of them meet the required criteria for high conservation values. The area has some rare, threatened and endangered species, Polemaetus bellicosus (Martial Eagle) listed as vulnerable, Syncerus caffer (Buffalo) least concern, Colobus guereza (Black

and White Colobus) least concern, and Dissotis arborescens listed as threatened. The area has a wide altitudinal range and high rainfall.

Land Use and Ownership Status
The FMU is on land that is on a long term lease from the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Socio-Economic Conditions
The surrounding rural communities are subsistence farmers, and farm tea and coffee on plantations. NFC has also contributed positively through community projects towards infrastructure development. Firewood and charcoal are the main sources of fuel in the area.

Rationale for Rate of Annual Harvest and Species Selection

Rationale for Rate of Annual Harvest
Sustainability is the main driver for determining the rate of annual harvest, coupled with forest normalisation.

Rationale for Species Selection
NFC only plants exotic tree species. Provenance trials and species selection are not applicable.

Provisions for Monitoring of Forest Growth and Dynamics
The FMU has permanent sample plots that are measured annually. This data is used for monitoring and planning purposes.

Environmental Safeguards

HCV Attributes
The FMU does not have any high conservation values, despite it being in a biodiversity hotspot.

Harvesting
Due to Tanzania having a vibrant plantation-based forestry industry, there are quite a few commercial suppliers of forestry machinery. But due to the slow delivery process to sites inland from Dar es Salaam, NFC have been harvesting with a relatively low-tech system that can be supplied and maintained locally. In general, the tree-length system of harvesting is applied. This system ensures that most of the branches remain in-field which is better for both nutrient cycling and fire prevention. Merchandising (cutting of the stem into product) can be done on roadside rather than in-field, which allows better control and efficiencies. Steep terrain cable system (highlead and skyline systems) will be employed.

END OF SUMMARY