



Principle 9: High Conservation Values

The Organization* shall maintain and/or enhance the **High Conservation Values*** in the **Management Unit*** through applying the **precautionary approach***.

9.1 The **Organization***, through **engagement*** with **affected stakeholders***, **interested stakeholders*** and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence and status of the following **High Conservation Values*** in the **Management Unit***, proportionate to the **scale, intensity and risk*** of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values:

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.

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.

HCV 3 - Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, **habitats*** or **refugia***.

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.

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.

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.

9.2 The **Organization*** shall develop effective strategies that maintain and/or enhance the identified **High Conservation Values***, through **engagement*** with **affected stakeholders***, **interested stakeholders*** and experts.

9.3 The **Organization*** shall implement strategies and actions that maintain and/or enhance the identified **High Conservation Values***. These strategies and actions shall implement the **precautionary approach*** and be proportionate to the **scale, intensity and risk*** of management activities.

9.4 The **Organization*** shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of **High Conservation Values***, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the **scale, intensity and risk*** of management activities, and shall include **engagement*** with **affected stakeholders***, **interested stakeholders*** and experts.