

FSC FOREST MANAGEMENT PUBLIC SUMMARY STATEMENT

New Ambadi Estates Private Limited

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Public Summary Statement documents the forest management practices of New Ambadi Estates Private Limited (NAE), an FSC-certified rubber plantation operation in Tamil Nadu, India. NAE is committed to sustainable forest management, environmental stewardship, worker welfare, and community engagement in accordance with FSC Forest Management standards.

As part of the Murugappa Group, NAE operates industrial plantations of *Hevea brasiliensis* (rubber) in Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu. The company maintains certification through regular independent audits by an FSC-accredited certification body, demonstrating ongoing compliance with internationally recognized sustainability standards.

This document provides a comprehensive overview of NAE's forest management operations, policies, and performance for the reporting period FY 2024-25, while protecting confidential information such as precise geographic coordinates, personal identifiers, and proprietary operational data.

1. ORGANIZATION PROFILE AND LEGAL STATUS

1.1 Company Information

Company Name: New Ambadi Estates Private Limited (NAE)

Legal Structure: Private Limited Company incorporated in India

Parent Organization: Parry Agro Industries Limited, Murugappa Group

Registered Office: Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

Operational Location: Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, India

1.2 Primary Business Activities

NAE is engaged in the cultivation, management, and processing of natural rubber latex from industrial plantations of *Hevea brasiliensis*. The company's primary activities include:

- Plantation establishment and management of rubber trees
- Sustainable tapping and latex collection operations
- Processing of field latex into various rubber products
- Implementation of best practices in agronomy and plantation management
- Sustainable management of plantation resources

1.3 Ownership and Management

New Ambadi Estates operates under the ownership of the Murugappa Group, a diversified business conglomerate with a long history of operations in India. The estate is managed by a professional management team with expertise in plantation forestry, agronomy, and sustainable resource management. Day-to-day operations are overseen by qualified estate managers and supervisors who implement the company's policies and procedures in accordance with FSC requirements.

2. SCOPE, SCALE, AND INTENSITY OF FOREST MANAGEMENT

2.1 Certificate Type and Scope

Certificate Type: FSC Forest Management (FM) Certification Certificate no: C 863125 CU

Forest Type: Industrial plantation (monoculture)

Primary Species: *Hevea brasiliensis* (Para rubber tree)

Reporting Period: Financial Year 2024-25

2.2 Certified Area

Based on publicly available information, NAE manages 687 hectares of FSC-certified rubber plantation in Tamil Nadu. The estate is organized into management blocks for operational efficiency and monitoring purposes. Detailed maps showing precise boundaries, divisions, and sensitive locations are maintained internally and are not disclosed in public documents to protect against unauthorized access, encroachment, or poaching risks.

The plantation landscape includes productive rubber stands at various stages of maturity, newly replanted areas, infrastructure (roads, buildings, processing facilities), and set-aside conservation areas where applicable.

2.3 Products Covered by Certification

The FSC certification covers:

- **Primary Product:** Field latex and processed natural rubber products derived from tapping operations
- **Secondary Product:** Rubberwood timber arising from end-of-rotation replanting activities (when applicable), managed in accordance with FSC requirements and legal frameworks

All products originating from the certified estate are subject to strict traceability controls to ensure chain-of-custody integrity and compliance with FSC labelling requirements.

2.4 Management Intensity

As an industrial rubber plantation, NAE practices intensive forest management characterized by controlled planting, systematic tapping operations, regular maintenance activities, and targeted interventions for pest and disease control. This intensity is balanced with environmental protection measures, biodiversity conservation efforts, and adherence to best management practices to minimize negative impacts on the broader ecosystem.

3. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AND MAPPING

3.1 Location Context

NAE's operations are located in Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, a region favourable for rubber cultivation. The district lies in a biodiverse area with significant conservation

value, requiring careful management to balance productive forestry with environmental protection.

3.2 Maps and Spatial Data

NAE maintains comprehensive mapping systems including:

- Cadastral boundary maps showing legal property boundaries
- Management maps delineating operational blocks
- Land use maps identifying productive areas, infrastructure, conservation zones, and buffer areas
- High Conservation Value (HCV) maps showing sensitive ecological and social features
- Infrastructure maps documenting roads, drainage systems, buildings, and processing facilities

Confidentiality: Detailed maps with precise GPS coordinates, sensitive HCV locations, and proprietary operational information are maintained as internal documents. Generalized boundary information is available to stakeholders upon request, with specific details provided on a need-to-know basis to authorized parties while protecting against risks such as unauthorized access, encroachment, wildlife poaching, or misuse of sensitive information.

4. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

4.1 Stakeholder Identification

NAE recognizes a diverse range of stakeholders with interests in or impacts from its operations, including:

- Estate workers (permanent, temporary, and seasonal employees)
- worker representatives
- Neighbouring communities and landowners
- Local government authorities and regulatory bodies
- Customers and supply chain partners
- FSC certification body and auditors

NAE maintains ongoing dialogue with stakeholders through multiple channels.

4.3 Stakeholder Input on FSC Certification

During certification audits, stakeholders are invited to provide input to the certification body regarding NAE's compliance with FSC standards. Confidential interviews are conducted to gather feedback on social, environmental, and economic aspects of the operation. Summary findings from stakeholder consultations are incorporated into audit reports while protecting the identity of individuals who request anonymity.

5. SOCIAL POLICIES AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

5.1 Employment Practices

NAE employs a workforce consisting of:

- **Permanent Staff:** Full-time employees engaged in estate management, tapping operations, maintenance, and administrative functions
- **Service Providers:** Third-party service providers for specialized tasks, subject to the same social and safety requirements as direct employees

All workers are provided with written employment terms, transparent wage structures aligned with or exceeding legal minimums, and benefits as required by Indian labour law and FSC social standards.

5.2 Core Labor Rights

NAE is committed to upholding fundamental labour rights based on ILO core conventions and FSC requirements:

- **No Child Labor:** Zero tolerance for employment of persons below 18 years of age; verification procedures for all new hires
- **No Forced Labor:** Prohibition of forced, bonded, or involuntary labour; workers are free to terminate employment with reasonable notice
- **Freedom of Association:** Recognition of workers' rights to form associations and engage in collective bargaining without intimidation or retaliation
- **Non-Discrimination:** Equal opportunity employment practices regardless of gender, caste, religion, ethnicity, or other protected characteristics
- **Fair Compensation:** Wages and benefits meet or exceed legal requirements and industry standards; timely payment of salaries

5.3 Occupational Health and Safety

Worker safety is a top priority at NAE. A comprehensive occupational health and safety (OHS) program includes:

- **Risk Assessment:** Regular identification and evaluation of workplace hazards associated with tapping, chemical handling, machinery operation, and other activities
- **Personal Protective Equipment:** Provision of appropriate PPE including gloves, boots, protective clothing, and masks for agrochemical application
- **Training:** Mandatory safety training for all workers covering safe work practices, emergency procedures, and hazard recognition
- **Incident Reporting:** System for reporting accidents, injuries, and near-miss events with investigation and corrective action procedures
- **First Aid:** Trained first-aid providers and equipped first-aid stations accessible throughout the estate

- **Medical Facilities:** NAE uses Valliammal Achi Hospital run by AMM Foundation for treatment of medical care for work-related injuries and periodic health monitoring for workers.

OHS performance metrics including injury rates, incident types, and corrective actions are tracked internally and reviewed regularly to identify trends and improvement opportunities.

5.4 Worker Facilities and Welfare

NAE provides appropriate facilities for workers including:

- Adequate drinking water and sanitation facilities in work areas
- Housing for resident workers meeting minimum standards for safety, ventilation, and amenities
- Access to basic amenities and services as required by law and good practice

6. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

6.1 Community Interaction

NAE recognizes the importance of maintaining positive relationships with neighbouring communities. The estate manages community access arrangements for shared infrastructure such as roads and utilities while ensuring that safety, security, and environmental values are protected. Communication channels are maintained with local leaders and residents to address concerns and coordinate on matters of mutual interest.

6.2 Grievance and Dispute Resolution Mechanism

NAE operates a structured grievance mechanism accessible to all workers, community members, and other stakeholders:

- **Level 1 - Field Resolution:** Initial concerns can be raised directly with field officers or supervisors for immediate resolution
- **Level 2 - Estate Management:** Unresolved issues or more serious complaints are escalated to estate management for investigation and formal response
- **Level 3 - Senior Management:** Complex or high-level disputes are referred to senior management for final internal resolution
- **External Escalation:** If internal resolution is unsatisfactory, complainants may escalate to the FSC certification body, regulatory authorities, or legal channels

Submission Channels:

- Written complaints submitted to estate office
- Telephone hotline (contact details available on request)
- Direct verbal communication with supervisors or management
- Anonymous whistleblowing for suspected corruption, fraud, or serious violations

All grievances are documented with unique reference numbers, investigated promptly, and responded to within defined timeframes. Records include the nature of the

complaint, investigation findings, actions taken, and outcomes. Complainant confidentiality is maintained where requested. Statistics on grievance types, resolution times, and outcomes are maintained for management review, with non-confidential summaries available to stakeholders.

6.3 Contact Information

Stakeholders wishing to raise concerns, provide feedback, or request information about NAE's FSC certification may contact the estate management through official channels. Specific contact details including names, telephone numbers, and email addresses are available upon request and can be obtained through NAE's website or by contacting the FSC certification body.

7. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

7.1 Indigenous Peoples

Based on available public information and internal assessments, no Indigenous Peoples with customary or legal rights have been identified within NAE's operational areas. If future assessments or stakeholder engagement reveal the presence of Indigenous Peoples with relevant rights, NAE commits to implementing Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes in accordance with FSC requirements and international best practices (ILO Convention 169, UNDRIP). Any impacts on Indigenous rights would be mitigated through consultation, negotiation, and documented agreements.

7.2 Cultural Sites and Archaeological Features

NAE has identified for sites of cultural, historical, or archaeological significance that exist within the estate. Those identified sites are protected through appropriate measures including physical demarcation, access restrictions, and incorporation into operational planning to prevent disturbance. Workers are trained to recognize potential cultural features and to report any discoveries during routine activities. Precise locations of sensitive cultural sites are not disclosed publicly to prevent vandalism or unauthorized access.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES

8.1 Environmental Context

NAE's estate is located in a biologically diverse region of Tamil Nadu characterized by rich flora and fauna, important watershed functions, and valuable ecosystem services. The surrounding landscape includes natural forests, agricultural lands, water bodies, and settlements, creating a mosaic of land uses with interconnected ecological and social values. NAE recognizes its responsibility to minimize negative environmental impacts and contribute to landscape-level conservation through responsible plantation management.

8.2 Results from transect based monitoring

New Ambadi Estates (Pvt) Ltd conducted flora monitoring in October 2025 using 20 m × 10 m transect/quadrat surveys across representative estate sites (e.g.,

Pamburippara sectors, Maniyanparambu Top, View Point, Manjappotta, Thakara-shed/Tin-sheet area, Irattakkalunku/Double-culvert area, Chittar-1 reservoir side, and Oothupara). The raw per-quadrat tables (trees and understory) confirm a mixed deciduous assemblage with recurring canopy species such as *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Terminalia paniculata*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Terminalia elliptica* and *Lanea coromandelica*, alongside a diverse understory including grasses/sedges and native shrubs with natural tree regeneration observed at several sites. Field notes from the same survey recorded 16 additions to the estate's flora checklist, including two endemics—*Mitrephora grandiflora* (noted as Vulnerable in the field memo) and *Psychotria nudiflora*—underscoring NAE's ongoing baseline improvement and focus on conservation-relevant taxa. Coordinates and sensitive details remain redacted for public disclosure; full species lists are preserved in the raw annex tables to enable repeatable, like-for-like monitoring in subsequent years.

8.2 High Conservation Values Assessment

NAE has conducted assessments to identify High Conservation Values (HCVs) within and around the estate using recognized methodologies. HCVs are defined as biological, ecological, social, or cultural values of outstanding significance or critical importance. Categories of HCVs identified during assessment are:

- **HCV 1:** Concentrations of biological diversity (rare, threatened, or endangered species and habitats)
- **HCV 3:** Rare or threatened ecosystems
- **HCV 4:** Critical ecosystem services (water supply, flood control, erosion prevention)
- **HCV 5:** Community needs and livelihoods (subsistence resources, traditional use areas)
- **HCV 6:** Cultural values (sacred sites, culturally important features)

Where HCVs are present, NAE has implemented management strategies to maintain or enhance these values. Detailed information about HCV locations, species presence, and specific management measures is maintained in internal documents and is not disclosed publicly to prevent potential harm to sensitive species or features (e.g., poaching, collection, disturbance). Summary information is provided to the certification body during audits and is available to authorized stakeholders under confidentiality agreements.

8.3 Conservation Areas and Biodiversity Protection

NAE implements several measures to protect and enhance biodiversity:

- **Conservation Set-Asides:** Designated areas excluded from production where natural vegetation is protected or restored
- **Wildlife Protection:** Strict prohibition of hunting, poisoning, or harassment of wildlife; awareness training for workers

- **Invasive Species Control:** Programs to monitor and control invasive plant species that threaten native biodiversity
- **Habitat Features:** Retention of dead wood, cavity trees, and other features that provide habitat for native species
- **Monitoring:** Regular monitoring to detect and deter illegal activities such as encroachment, logging, or wildlife exploitation

8.4 Representative Sample Areas

NAE carries out a transect based representative sampling of natural ecosystems within the management unit to serve as reference sites for ecosystem dynamics, biodiversity monitoring, and conservation purposes. These areas are managed to maintain their ecological integrity and contribute to landscape-level conservation networks.

9. SOIL CONSERVATION, WATER MANAGEMENT, AND EROSION CONTROL

9.1 Soil Management

Healthy soils are fundamental to sustainable rubber production. NAE implements comprehensive soil conservation practices:

- **Organic Matter Management:** Retention of litter and organic residues to maintain soil structure, fertility, and biological activity
- **Cover Crops:** Establishment and maintenance of ground cover vegetation to protect soil from erosion and enhance soil health
- **Nutrient Management:** Balanced fertilization based on soil testing and crop requirements to maintain productivity without excess application
- **Minimize Compaction:** Controlled vehicle access and designated routes to reduce soil compaction in plantation areas

Soil analysis results

Based on RRIL soil test reports from 2012, 2015, 2018, 2022, and 2024, New Ambadi's soils show a reassuringly steady profile: overall acidity remains within a manageable range for rubber, organic carbon is consistently maintained in the working band with pockets of improvement, and key nutrients (P, K, Ca, Mg) are present with the expected, site-specific variation that helps target good agronomy. Taken together, these multi-year results reflect consistent monitoring and responsible soil stewardship, with a clear foundation for continued, block-wise fine-tuning to support healthy trees and sustainable yields.

9.2 Erosion Control

The estate's location in areas with significant rainfall and variable topography requires careful erosion management:

- **Contour Management:** Roads, drains, and planting patterns follow contour lines to minimize runoff velocity and soil loss

- **Drainage Systems:** Properly designed and maintained drainage infrastructure with culverts, catch drains, and sediment traps
- **Stabilization:** Vegetative stabilization of road batters, drain sides, and other vulnerable areas
- **Silt Traps:** Installation and regular maintenance of silt traps to capture sediment before it enters watercourses
- **Monitoring:** Regular inspection of erosion-prone areas with corrective actions implemented as needed

9.3 Water Resource Management

Water is a critical resource for plantation operations and surrounding communities. NAE's water management approach includes:

- **Riparian Protection:** Mandatory buffer zones along all watercourses where agrochemical application is restricted and natural vegetation is maintained for filtration and shading
- **Water Quality:** Periodic monitoring of water quality at key locations to detect potential contamination from operations
- **Efficient Use:** Conservation measures for water used in processing and domestic purposes

10. AGRONOMY AND LATEX HARVESTING PRACTICES

10.1 Planting and Establishment

NAE uses improved rubber clones selected for:

- High latex yield potential
- Disease and pest resistance
- Adaptation to local climate and soil conditions
- Wind firmness and growth characteristics

Planting follows recommended spacing standards to optimize growing conditions, facilitate management operations, and allow for adequate light and air circulation. Young rubber plants receive regular maintenance including weed control, fertilization, and protection from pests and diseases until canopy closure.

10.2 Tapping Operations

Latex tapping is the primary harvest activity. NAE implements best practices to maximize production while maintaining tree health:

- **Tapping Systems:** NAE uses D6 frequency for new bark and D4 frequency in re-generated bark. Recommendations from RRH are followed.
- **Tapper Training:** Comprehensive training for tappers on proper knife angles, bark consumption, tapping depth, and panel hygiene

- **Stimulation:** Judicious use of yield stimulants (ethylene-based compounds) following established protocols to enhance production without causing tree stress
- **Panel Hygiene:** Regular cleaning and maintenance of tapping panels to prevent fungal infections
- **Tapping Rest:** Seasonal rest periods and reduced tapping intensity during wintering.

10.3 Replanting and Timber Utilization

Rubber trees have an economic lifespan typically ranging from 30 to 35 years, after which declining yields necessitate replanting. When old stands are felled for replanting, the rubberwood may be salvaged for timber products. Any timber harvesting from the estate is conducted in accordance with FSC requirements and applicable legal frameworks. Chain-of-custody documentation ensures that wood products can be traced to their origin. NAE does not engage in commercial logging of natural forests or sensitive species; all timber products originate from end-of-rotation plantation rubber trees.

11. CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT AND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

11.1 Integrated Pest Management Approach

NAE follows Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles to minimize chemical inputs:

- **Monitoring:** Regular scouting and monitoring to detect pest and disease incidence before reaching economic threshold levels
- **Cultural Controls:** Use of resistant varieties, proper spacing, sanitation practices, and habitat management to reduce pest pressure
- **Mechanical Controls:** Physical removal of infected plant material, manual weeding, and barriers where practical
- **Chemical Controls:** Targeted application of pesticides only when necessary, using least-toxic effective options and following all label instructions

11.2 Chemical Use and Controls

When agrochemical use is necessary, strict controls are implemented:

- **Approved Chemicals Only:** Use limited to products registered and approved by Indian regulatory authorities; no use of FSC-prohibited highly hazardous pesticides
- **Handler Training:** Mandatory training for all personnel involved in mixing, loading, and applying agrochemicals
- **Personal Protective Equipment:** Required PPE including gloves, protective clothing, respirators, and eye protection during all handling activities as mandated by the MSDS.

- **Secure Storage:** Dedicated, locked storage facilities with appropriate ventilation, spill containment, and restricted access
- **Application Records:** Documentation of all agrochemical applications including product, quantity, location, date, applicator, and purpose
- **Spill Response:** Spill kits and trained personnel available to respond to accidental releases
- **Container Disposal:** Safe disposal of empty agrochemical containers through approved collection systems or triple-rinsing and puncturing
- **Buffer Zones:** No agrochemical application within designated buffer distances from watercourses, sensitive areas, and community locations

Detailed chemical inventories, application records, and safety data sheets are maintained as internal documents. Aggregate information on chemical use (types, quantities, trends) is available to auditors and may be summarized in non-confidential formats upon request, but proprietary formulations and specific application details are not publicly disclosed.

12. WASTE MANAGEMENT, POLLUTION PREVENTION, AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

12.1 Waste Management

NAE has implemented a comprehensive waste management system:

- **Source Segregation:** NAE practices separation of waste into categories (recyclables, organic, non-hazardous, hazardous) at point of generation
- **Recycling:** Collection and recycling of paper, cardboard, plastics, metals, and other recyclable materials where feasible
- **Organic Waste:** Composting of organic waste for use as soil amendment
- **Hazardous Waste:** Segregation, secure storage, and disposal of hazardous waste through licensed disposal facilities in compliance with environmental regulations
- **Waste Minimization:** Ongoing efforts to reduce waste generation through process improvements and material substitution

12.2 Pollution Prevention

Pollution prevention measures include:

- **Wastewater Management:** NAE used a two-stage effluent treatment plant for treating trade effluent before using it for irrigation. Treated trade effluent meets regulatory discharge standards.
- **Spill Prevention:** Secondary containment for fuel and chemical storage; maintenance programs to prevent leaks from equipment

12.3 Energy Efficiency and Climate Change

NAE is committed to reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions through:

- **Efficient Equipment:** Use of energy-efficient motors, lighting, and processing equipment
- **Fuel Management:** Optimization of vehicle and equipment use; regular maintenance for fuel efficiency
- **Renewable Energy:** Evaluation of opportunities for solar, renewable energy source is carried out.
- **Carbon Sequestration:** NAE is part of Project C Cube which aims to sequester carbon and generate credits.

13. PRODUCT TRACEABILITY AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

13.1 Chain of Custody and Traceability

NAE maintains rigorous traceability systems to ensure product integrity:

- **Batch Tracking:** Each batch of latex is tracked from tapping block through collection, weighing, and processing with unique identifiers
- **Documentation:** Transport records, weighment slips, processing records, and stock reconciliations maintained to document product flow
- **Segregation:** Physical and documentary separation of certified and non-certified materials (if applicable)
- **Chain of Custody:** FSC Chain of Custody certification held for transfer of certified products with appropriate FSC claims and documentation

13.2 Legal Compliance

NAE is committed to full compliance with all applicable Indian laws and regulations including labour law, environmental law, forest law, land tenure law, tax law, and health and safety regulations. The company maintains all required permits, licenses, and approvals for its operations. Compliance monitoring is conducted internally and through external audits. Any instances of non-compliance identified are addressed through corrective action procedures with root cause analysis to prevent recurrence.

13.3 EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) Compliance

NAE has complied with European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), which requires operators placing rubber products on the EU market to demonstrate:

NAE has integrated EUDR due diligence requirements into its documentation systems and customer communications. Geolocation data for production areas are being compiled and maintained in formats suitable for EUDR reporting. The company monitors evolving EUDR guidance. Customers requiring EUDR-compliant documentation should contact NAE to coordinate information provision in accordance with data protection and confidentiality protocols.

14. MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

14.1 Monitoring Framework

NAE implements a monitoring program covering environmental, social, and operational parameters. Monitoring data inform adaptive management decisions and provide evidence of compliance with FSC standards and legal requirements. Key monitoring categories include environmental indicators, social and operational performance indicators.

14.2 Environmental Monitoring

- **Erosion and Sedimentation:** Monitoring of erosion-prone areas and watercourse sedimentation
- **Wildlife Observations:** Opportunistic recording of fauna sightings and signs.
- **Invasive Species:** Tracking of invasive plant populations and control effectiveness
- **Water Quality:** Periodic sampling and analysis at key monitoring points
- **Waste and Effluent:** Monitoring of waste generation, segregation effectiveness, and effluent quality

14.3 Social and OHS Monitoring

- **Safety Training Coverage:** Tracking of training participation rates and refresher schedules
- **Incident Rates:** Calculation of accident frequency rates, lost-time injury rates, and near-miss statistics
- **PPE Compliance:** Observation of PPE use during field inspections
- **Worker Facilities:** Periodic inspection of sanitation facilities, drinking water supplies, housing, and rest areas
- **Grievance Tracking:** Documentation of grievances received, resolution times, and outcomes

14.4 Operational Monitoring

- **Yield Performance:** Tracking of latex yield per tree per day (TPD) by block and clone
- **Tapping Compliance:** Monitoring of tapping panel quality, bark consumption, and adherence to protocols
- **Fertilizer and Stimulation:** Records of fertilizer application and yield stimulation treatments
- **Replanting Progress:** Tracking of replanting schedules, survival rates, and area brought into production

14.5 Data Management and Reporting

Monitoring data are compiled into regular reports for management review. Aggregate trends, significant findings, and corrective actions are documented and used to inform adaptive management decisions. Detailed monitoring data remain internal to the

organization to protect proprietary information and personal data. Non-confidential summaries may be provided to stakeholders upon request, and monitoring results are made available to the FSC certification body during audits.

15. Risk readiness

NAE has conducted a detailed HIRA (Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment) for its field and factory operations. The risk readiness framework is designed based on the finding of HIRA assessment.

15.1 Fire Prevention and Management

While rubber plantations are less fire-prone than some forest types, NAE maintains fire risk awareness:

- **Ignition Source Control:** Prohibition of open fires in the estate; controlled disposal of combustible materials
- **Dry Season Patrols:** Increased vigilance during dry periods when fire risk is elevated
- **Training and Drills:** Staff training on fire prevention and initial suppression techniques; periodic fire drills
- **Coordination:** Communication protocols with local fire services for rapid response if needed

15.2 Chemical Spill and Emergency Response

NAE maintains emergency response plans for chemical spills and other incidents:

- **Spill Kits:** Spill containment and cleanup materials available at chemical storage and mixing locations with adequate training for handlers.
- **Emergency Contacts:** List of emergency contacts including medical facilities, fire services, environmental authorities, and management personnel are displayed at notice boards.

15.3 Climate Change Adaptation

Climate change presents evolving risks to plantation operations. NAE considers climate adaptation through:

- **Storm Damage Risk:** NAE,'s rubber clone selection process includes wind-firm clones in prone areas; maintenance of good growing conditions to promote tree stability
- **Drought Stress Management:** Adaptive tapping and stimulation to reduce tree stress during dry periods
- **Erosion Management:** NAE has built Contour revetments and drains in its replanted fields to channelise water and hold its soil.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Ongoing efforts to reduce fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from operations.

15.4 Extreme Weather Preparedness

NAE monitors weather forecasts and implements precautionary measures for extreme weather events including high winds, heavy rainfall, and flooding. Protocols include securing equipment, warning workers to avoid hazardous areas, and conducting post-event inspections to identify and address damage or safety hazards.

16. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

16.1 Training Program Overview

NAE invests in comprehensive training and capacity building for its workforce to ensure competence in sustainable forest management practices, occupational health and safety, environmental stewardship, and quality production. Training is provided through a combination of formal classroom sessions, practical field demonstrations, toolbox talks, and on-the-job coaching.

16.2 Key Training Topics

- **Occupational Health and Safety:** Safe work practices, hazard recognition, PPE use, emergency procedures, first aid, and incident reporting
- **Agrochemical safety:** Safe handling, mixing, application, storage, spill response, and disposal of pesticides and fertilizers
- **Tapping Quality:** Proper tapping techniques, panel management, stimulation protocols, tool sterilization, and hygiene
- **Environmental Protection:** Buffer zone requirements, waste segregation, water protection, wildlife awareness, and HCV management
- **Social Policies:** Labor rights, anti-discrimination, grievance procedures, and ethical conduct expectations
- **FSC Requirements:** Overview of FSC principles and criteria relevant to worker and supervisor roles

16.3 Contractor Training

Contractors and their employees working on NAE property are required to undergo induction training covering applicable safety, environmental, and operational requirements. Contractors are expected to comply with the same ethical standards as direct NAE employees during their work on the estate.

16.4 Training Records and Refresher Courses

Training attendance records are maintained documenting participants, topics covered, dates, and trainers. Refresher training is scheduled annually or as needed when procedures change, new equipment is introduced, or performance issues are identified. Supervisory and management staff receive additional training in leadership, monitoring, audit preparation, and adaptive management techniques.

17. CERTIFICATION STATUS AND PUBLIC AUDIT INFORMATION

17.1 Current Certification Status

New Ambadi Estates Private Limited holds FSC Forest Management certification as well as FSC Chain of Custody Certification for its rubber plantation and processing operations in Tamil Nadu, India. Certification is maintained through regular surveillance audits conducted by an FSC-accredited certification body. Apart

17.2 Audit Schedule and Frequency

FSC certification requires annual surveillance audits and comprehensive re-certification audits every five years. During audits, the certification body verifies compliance with FSC Principles and Criteria, assesses the effectiveness of management systems, reviews monitoring data, and consults with stakeholders. Audit findings may include conformances, non-conformities (minor or major), observations, and opportunities for improvement.

17.3 Access to Public Audit Information

Public summaries of audit reports, including any non-conformities identified and corrective action plans, are typically made available through the FSC certification body's website or the FSC public certificate database (info.fsc.org). Stakeholders interested in detailed audit findings should consult these public resources or contact the certification body directly. NAE cooperates fully with the certification body to ensure transparency in the certification process while protecting confidential business information and personal data.

17.4 Non-Conformities and Corrective Actions

When non-conformities are identified during audits, NAE implements corrective action plans within specified timeframes. Corrective actions address both the immediate issue and underlying root causes to prevent recurrence. Progress on corrective actions is monitored internally and verified by the certification body during subsequent audits. Serious non-conformities must be resolved before certification can be granted or maintained.

Apart from FSC FM & COC certifications, Nae Ambadi Estate (Pvt) Ltd is also certified under FRA (Fair Rubber Association) and QMS (ISO 9001: 2015) certifications.

18. POLICY COMMITMENTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

18.1 Management Commitments

NAE's management is committed to:

- **Legal Compliance:** Full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and international agreements
- **Environmental Protection:** Responsible stewardship of natural resources, protection of biodiversity, and maintenance of ecosystem services

- **Worker Welfare and Safety:** Provision of safe working conditions, fair compensation, respect for labour rights, and opportunities for professional development
- **Community Engagement:** Constructive relationships with neighbouring communities based on respect, transparency, and mutual benefit
- **Zero Tolerance for Corruption:** Adherence to ethical business practices and prohibition of bribery, fraud, or other corrupt activities
- **Sustainable Production:** Long-term maintenance of productive capacity through sound silvicultural practices and adaptive management
- **Continuous Improvement:** Ongoing refinement of management systems based on monitoring results, stakeholder feedback, and best available knowledge

18.2 Contact Information and Public Access

For additional information about New Ambadi Estates, its FSC certification, or to provide feedback:

- **Company Website:** General information about NAE can be found at <https://newambadi.com/>
- **Contact Channels:** Specific contact details for management or certification inquiries are available through the company website or upon request
- **Certification Body:** Information about NAE's certification status and public audit summaries can be obtained from M/s Control Union, the FSC-accredited certification body responsible for NAE's FSC FM & COC certification.
- **FSC Public Database:** Certificate information may be verified at info.fsc.org

Note on Confidentiality: This Public Summary Statement provides comprehensive information about NAE's forest management practices while protecting confidential information including personally identifiable information (names, contact details), precise GPS coordinates of sensitive locations, proprietary operational data, and other information whose disclosure could pose security, privacy, or competitive risks. Detailed internal documentation is maintained and is available to the certification body and authorized regulatory authorities as required.

REFERENCES AND SOURCES

This Public Summary Statement is based on the following sources of information:

- Internal management plans, policies, and procedures maintained by New Ambadi Estates
- Monitoring data and operational records from FY 2025-26
- FSC audit reports and certification documentation
- Stakeholder consultation records and feedback

This Public Summary Statement is intended for public distribution and does not contain confidential information.