PUBLIC NOTICE – GUYANA FORESTRY COMMISSION

ATTENTION: FOREST SECTOR OPERATORS (FSOs)

RENEWAL OF 2024 LICENCES; ISSUANCE OF NEW LICENCES

The Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC) advises all Forest Sector Operators (FSOs) that it has commenced receiving applications for renewals of, and issuance of the 2024 licenses.

These licences include:

- 1. Timber Dealers' Licence
- 2. Sawmill Licence
- 3. Firewood Dealers' Licence
- 4. Charcoal Dealers' Licence
- 5. Sawpit Licence
- 6. Timber Path Licence
- 7. Timber Depot Licence
- 8. Timber Grading Licence
- 9. Consolidated Log Export Licence
- 10. Import Licence
- 11. Export Licence

Application forms and additional information on the requirements needed are available at the GFC Head Office and Forest Stations countrywide, or on the GFC website: forestry.gov.gy

Renewal applications must be submitted by the 31st January, 2024 to any GFC Forest Office countrywide, or Head Office- 1Water Street, Kingston, Georgetown, Tel: +592-22671/4

Website: forestry.gov.gy

For renewal of 2024 licences, the following supporting information is required:

- 1. Name of Stakeholder/person (s) authorized to make application, contact details, company or business registration, or Identification Card if an individual and proof of address.
- 2. Copy of Tax Identification Number (TIN) Certificate
- 3. Police clearance for first time applicants
- 4. NIS Compliance
- 5. GRA Compliance or Lodgment Receipt of Return
- 6. Applications must be accompanied by the relevant proof of ownership or legal occupation of the property on which the business/operations would be conducted.
- 7. Applications for timber dealers (Lumber Yard) & sawmill licences must be accompanied by:
 - a. Permission letter (Permit) from the Neighbourhood Democratic Council (NDC)/ Regional Democratic Council (RDC) or Town Council if applicable
 - b. Environmental Permit from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for operating such a business on the prescribed location(s).
 - c. Central Housing & Planning Authority (CH&PA) for operating such a business on the prescribed location(s)
 - d. Public Health and Safety Certificate
- 8. Sawmill and Lumber Yard operators must ensure all their returns have been submitted to the GFC.
- 9. The storage of lumber on parapets or roadways or encumbering of access is not allowed.
- 10.Please note that submitting an application and payment of application fees **does not give permission** for commencing any business/operations.
- 11.All licence fees must be fully paid and licence uplifted before the commencement of any business/operations.
- 12.Persons/Companies that have been leased Small Concessions (State Forest Permission (SFP)) and owners of private property intending to produce chain saw lumber must have a valid sawpit licence before they can commence production or collect removal permits. Please

- note that your sawpit applications must include the type/model and serial numbers of the chainsaws intended to be use for the operation.
- 13. The GFC advises that it will not process applications for for applicants who seek to operate on locations previously deemed unauthorized.
- 14. In addition, the GFC wishes to advice that the Code of Practice for Processing continues to be implemented in a phase manner and particular attention must be paid to improving of the quality of lumber being produced and sold locally. In this regard sawmill and lumber yard operators must ensure the proper display of produce, stacking by species and dimension and general improvement in the quality of lumber for sale.

The Guyana Forestry Commission will not be responsible for any loss or damages suffered by any person/company for failing to abide by the above conditions.

Commissioner of Forests Guyana Forestry Commission 2023-11-03