

CIRCULAR

**ON THE MANAGEMENT OF FOREST PRODUCTS; DISPOSITION OF FOREST PRODUCTS
AND AQUATIC PRODUCTS BEING PROPERTY UNDER PUBLIC OWNERSHIP
ESTABLISHMENT**

Pursuant to the Law on Forestry dated November 15, 2017, amended in 2024;

Pursuant to Decree No. 35/2025/ND-CP dated February 25, 2025 of the Government providing for the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment;

Pursuant to Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP dated September 01, 2020 of the Government providing for the Vietnam Timber Legality Assurance System, amended in 2024;

Pursuant to Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP dated April 01, 2025 of the Government providing for procedures for the establishment of public ownership over assets and the disposition of assets under public ownership;

At the proposal of the Director of Department of Forestry and Forest Protection, the Director of Department of Fisheries and Fisheries Surveillance;

The Minister of Agriculture and Environment promulgates this Circular providing for the management of forest products; disposition of forest products and aquatic products being assets under public ownership establishment.

Chapter I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Scope

This Circular provides for:

1. Legal dossiers of forest products, management, traceability of forest products; procedures for harvesting common forest plants and common forest animals.
2. Marking of specimens of animals and plants included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species; animals and plants listed in the Appendices of the convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (hereinafter referred to as CITES), excluding aquatic species.
3. Classification of enterprises engaged in forest planting; harvesting and supplying plantation timber; wood processing; timber import; and timber export.

4. Receipt of forest products, animals, plants included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species, CITES Appendices voluntarily transferred by owners to the State.
5. Preservation of forest products, animals, plants included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species, CITES Appendices as exhibits or evidence during temporary seizure or voluntarily transferred by owners to the State.
6. Disposition of forest products, animals, plants included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species; CITES Appendices under people's ownership establishment.

Article 2. Regulated entities

This Circular applies to organizations, individuals, business households, families, and residential communities engaged in activities related to the contents provided in Article 1 of this Circular.

Article 3. Interpretation of terms

For the purposes of this Circular, the following terms shall be construed as follows:

1. The local Forest Ranger Authority means the District Forest Ranger Unit or the Provincial Forest Ranger Department in localities without a District Forest Ranger Unit.
2. Round timber means unprocessed timber, retaining its shape after harvesting, not yet sawn or sawn into sections, debarked timber, or cored timber (only the heartwood remaining) with dimensions falling under one of the following cases:
 - a) Timber with a small-end diameter from 10 centimeters (cm) to under 20 cm and a length of 01 meter (m) or more;
 - b) Timber with a small-end diameter of 20 cm or more and a length of 30 cm or more;
 - c) Plantation timber, melaleuca forest, mangrove forest with a small-end diameter of 6 cm or more and a length of 1 m or more.
3. Sawn timber, hewn timber means timber that has been processed into beams, boards, blocks, round shapes, polygonal cylinders or other forms, except for debarked timber.
4. Non-timber forest plants include: species of rattan, palm, bamboo, neohouzeaua, areca, coconut, cycad, rhodomyrtus, melastoma; herbaceous forest plants; fungi; firewood, derivatives, seeds, tubers, fruits, flowers, and other parts of trees.
5. Timber products mean products processed from timber fully assembled with all parts according to their use, or disassembled parts of products, which when assembled can be used immediately according to the purpose of the products.
6. Timber materials mean round timber, sawn timber, hewn timber, all types of planks, wood chips, wood powder, wood fiber and types of timber processed or unprocessed used as raw materials for manufacturing timber products.
7. Common forest plants mean plant species originating from forests not included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species and not listed in CITES Appendices.

8. Forest product owners mean organizations, business households, families, residential communities, and individuals that have legal ownership of forest products, timber materials, common timber products and forest animals and their products, forest plants; animals, plants included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species; endangered wild animals, plants included in CITES Appendices.

9. Forest product record means a record prepared by the forest product owner to declare and describe detailed information about: timber materials, timber products; forest animals and their products, non-timber forest plants; animals, animal products, non-timber plants, products of non-timber plants included in the List of endangered, precious and rare species, CITES Appendices, excluding aquatic species.

10. Harvesting of common forest animals from nature means the activity of taking individuals, eggs, and larvae of common forest animals out of their natural habitats.

11. Harvesting plot means a specific forest area defined by geographic coordinates and boundaries for timber harvesting.

12. Products of animals mean meat, eggs, embryos, viscera, skin, fur, bones, horns, tusks, nails, scales, derivatives and other products derived from animals.

13. Animal rescue facility means an organization or unit having the function and task of rescuing forest animals, established and operating in accordance with law.

14. Preservation means the act whereby the asset management authority applies the method of breeding, planting or other appropriate forms depending on each type of forest product, animals, plants to maintain the assets in a safe, intact state, ensuring quality, utility, and value in use, and the living condition of animals and plants.

Article 4. Regulation on measurement, volume calculation, and numbering of forest products

1. The determination of methods of measurement and volume calculation of timber must be appropriate to the shape of timber or woody trees and carried out in accordance with Appendix I issued together with this Circular.

2. Hollow weight and decayed weight must be recorded when preparing the Forest product record.

3. For timber of dimensions not falling under Clauses 2 and 3, Article 3 of this Circular; woody trees without diameter measurable at the position of 1.3 m; tree stumps, roots; timber of irregular, non-homogeneous shapes; veneer, peeled timber, wood chips, and timber whose dimensions cannot be measured, weighing shall be carried out, with the unit being kilograms (kg) or ster; conversion of 1000 kg equals 1 m³ of round timber or 1 ster equals 0.7 m³ of round timber.

4. The unit is the number of individuals for animals; the number of items for animal eggs; where the number cannot be determined, weighing shall be carried out, with the unit being kg.

5. The unit for non-timber forest products is kg or ster; forest products of rattan, bamboo, reed, areca, coconut, cycad, rhodomyrtus, melastoma species shall be determined by the number of plants or by weighing in kg; the weight of parts of wild animals shall be determined in kg; firewood shall be determined in ster.

6. Derivatives of animals and plants shall be determined in kg, m³, liters, or milliliters (ml).

7. After measuring and determining the volume, the forest product owner or competent authorities must number segments, boxes, beams, and planks for round timber and round-hewn timber with dimensions prescribed at Points a and b, Clause 2, Article 3 of this Circular;

sawn timber and hewn timber of length from 1 m or more, width from 20 cm or more, thickness from 5 cm or more; and all timber under the List of endangered, precious, rare species or under the CITES Appendices regardless of size. Numbers shall be written in Arabic numerals, marked on both cross-sections of logs or boxes, and painted in a color different from that of the timber. The timber number must correspond with the number in the detailed list attached to the Forest product record.

Article 5. Forest product record

1. Entities preparing the Forest product record:

- a) Forest product owner or organizations, individuals authorized by the forest product owner after harvesting;
- b) Forest product owner when selling, transferring ownership, or transporting forest products in one batch; when preparing an application for export or re-export license of forest products;
- c) Competent persons in charge of addressing violations of law related to forest products;
- d) The agency assigned to take the lead in managing assets established under public ownership shall carry out the management and disposition of such assets in accordance with the plan approved by the competent authority.

2. Preparation of the Forest product record: organizations and individuals specified in Clause 1 of this Article shall prepare the Forest product record using Form No. 01 or Form No. 02 in Appendix II issued together with this Circular, except for products already marked under Article 14 of this Circular. The forest product owner shall take legal responsibility for the legality of the information declared in the Forest product record. Where forest products are transported without any change of ownership or quantity, the same Forest product record may continue to be used.

3. Cases requiring certification of the Forest product record include:

- a) Timber of common species harvested from natural forests;
- b) Non-timber forest products after confiscation where organizations or individuals have acquired ownership from asset disposing agencies, when subsequently selling, transporting, or transferring ownership;
- c) Timber raw materials and non-timber plants under the List of endangered, precious, rare species; CITES Appendices;
- d) Animals and their products under the List of endangered, precious, rare species; list of common wild animals; CITES Appendices;
- dd) Forest products not under Points a, b, c, and d of this Clause where the forest product owner requests certification.

4. Forest products not requiring certification of the Forest product record: timber raw materials of Group I enterprises under the Vietnam Timber Legality Assurance System; timber products, except those specified at Point dd, Clause 3 of this Article.

5. Competent agency to certify the Forest product record: local Forest Ranger Authority.

6. Dossier:

a) Original application for certification of the Forest product record, using Form No. 03 in Appendix II issued together with this Circular;

b) Original Forest product record;

c) Copy of harvesting plan in case of certification after harvesting;

d) Copy of import forest product dossier as prescribed in Article 9 of this Circular for cases where forest product owners import for sale or ownership transfer;

dd) A copy of the forest product dossier after confiscation as prescribed in Article 10 of this Circular, applicable in cases where the forest product owner purchases directly from the competent authority assigned to handle the asset, or in subsequent transfers of ownership;

e) Copy of previous Forest product record of purchase or ownership transfer;

g) Copy of forest product origin dossier for cases certified at the request of organizations or individuals under Point dd, Clause 3 of this Article;

h) Original logbook for forest product import and export for forest product owners who are organizations or business households selling forest products, using Form No. 04 in Appendix II issued together with this Circular for cases where forest products are forest plants. The original logbook of breeding or planting for facilities breeding animals or planting plants under the List of endangered, precious, rare species or wild species under the CITES Appendices; logbook of operation, business, production, processing of endangered, precious, rare species, wild animals and plants under the CITES Appendices for processing facilities under regulations of the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, rare species; breeding of common wild animals and implementation of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora.

Where the forest product owner uses the forest product management and traceability system to update import/export or breeding/planting logbooks, no dossier submission under this Point is required.

7. Procedures:

a) Forest product owner or organizations, individuals authorized by the forest product owner shall submit in person, by post, or via electronic means 1 dossier set corresponding to each type of forest product requested for certification under Clause 6 of this Article to the local Forest Ranger Authority. Where the forest product owner generates a QR code containing the forest product dossier in the Forest product record, dossier submission under Points c, d, dd, e, and g, Clause 6 of this Article is not required. Where dossiers are submitted via electronic means, implementation shall comply with legal regulations on administrative procedures in the electronic environment.

b) Within 1 working day from the date of receipt of the dossier, the local Forest Ranger Authority shall review the validity of the dossier components; in case the dossier is not valid as prescribed, it shall notify in writing and clearly state the reason;

c) Within 2 working days from the date of receipt of a valid dossier, the local Forest Ranger Authority shall certify the remaining forest products in the logbook as prescribed at point h clause 6 of this article, in the case of paper dossiers;

In case it is necessary to verify the origin of forest products, within 1 working day from the date of receipt of a valid dossier, the local Forest Ranger Authority shall notify the forest product owner of the verification; within 2 working days from the date of notification, the local Forest Ranger Authority shall conduct the verification, make a verification record according to form no. 05 appendix II issued together with this Circular, and complete the certification of the Forest product record while certifying the remaining forest products in the logbook as prescribed at point h clause 6 of this Article; in case of multiple complicated issues, the verification and certification shall be carried out within no more than 3 working days. In case certification is not granted, a written reply with reasons shall be provided;

d) After certification, the local Forest Ranger Authority shall return the original Forest product record, the types of logbooks prescribed at point h clause 6 of this Article to the forest product owner or the authorized organization/individual; except where such logbooks are updated electronically via the forest product management and traceability system.

8. The local Forest Ranger Authority shall be legally responsible when certifying the Forest product record; make and update certifications into the logbook for certification of the Forest product record according to form No. 06 Appendix II issued together with this Circular; retain copies of the certified Forest product record and forest product dossiers as prescribed in clause 6 of this Article.

9. In case imported animals or plants have the same names as those listed in the List of endangered, precious and rare species, the purchase, transportation, and transfer of ownership shall be implemented in the same manner as for species in the List of endangered, precious and rare species.

Chapter II

PROVISIONS ON MANAGEMENT AND TRACEABILITY OF FOREST PRODUCTS

Section 1. Harvesting of common forest plants and animals

Article 6. Harvesting of timber and non-timber forest plants

1. Preparation of a harvesting plan:

a) The forest owner or forest product owner shall prepare, or hire a consultant to prepare, a harvesting plan, except as provided at Point b of this Clause;

b) Project owners whose projects have been approved with temporary forest use plans shall take the lead and coordinate with forest owners to prepare, or hire a consultant to prepare, a harvesting plan for salvage harvesting on areas of temporary forest use or areas converted to other purposes under their projects;

c) Commune-level People's Committees shall assign specialized agencies to prepare, or hire a consultant to prepare, a harvesting plan for forests owned by the State as representative owner but

not yet allocated or leased, which are currently under the management of the commune-level People's Committees, except as provided at Point b of this Clause;

d) The content of the harvesting plan shall comply with Form No. 07 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular for organizations, or Form No. 08 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular for households, individuals, or community groups.

2. Cases requiring approval of a harvesting plan:

a) Salvage and full recovery harvesting of timber of common forest plant species from natural forests;

b) Regular harvesting, salvage harvesting, and full recovery harvesting of planted forests owned by the State as representative owner;

c) Final harvesting, salvage harvesting, and full recovery harvesting of protection forests that are planted by organizations, households, individuals, or communities, whether self-invested or supported by the State;

d) Salvage and residual harvesting of non-timber forest plants from natural special-use forests;

dd) Harvesting and collection of specimens for scientific and technological research tasks from special-use forests.

3. Competence to approve harvesting plans:

a) Ministers, Heads of ministerial-level agencies, or authorized agencies shall approve final harvesting, salvage harvesting, residual harvesting, and specimen collection for the cases specified in Clause 2 of this Article concerning their subordinate units;

b) Agencies competent to approve plantation funding sources shall approve final harvesting, salvage harvesting, and residual harvesting plans for production forests that are planted forests as specified at Point b, Clause 2 of this Article, where the forest owner is an organization. In cases where the competent approving agency for plantation funding cannot be determined, the Department of Agriculture and Environment where the forest area is located shall approve;

c) Chairpersons of commune-level People's Committees shall approve final harvesting, salvage harvesting, and residual harvesting plans of households, individuals, and communities in the locality for the cases specified in Clause 2 of this Article;

d) The Department of Agriculture and Environment shall approve harvesting plans for cases not specified at Points a, b, and c of this Clause.

4. Application for approval of final harvesting plans for planted forests owned by the State as representative owner, or protection forests that are planted by forest owners with self-investment or State support:

a) For organizations: the original application for approval of a harvesting plan using Form No. 09, and the harvesting plan using Form No. 07 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular;

b) For households, individuals, or communities: the original application for approval of a harvesting plan using Form No. 09, and the harvesting plan using Form No. 08 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular;

5. Application for approval of salvage or residual harvesting of timber from natural forests, production forests that are planted forests owned by the State as representative owner, protection forests that are planted forests, or harvesting of non-timber forest plants from natural special-use forests by organizations, households, individuals, or communities shall comply with Point a or Point b, Clause 4 of this Article, together with a copy of one of the following documents:

a) For salvage harvesting on areas of forest land cleared due to the conversion of forest use purposes: the decision approving the conversion of forest use purposes issued by the competent authority is required;

b) For salvage harvesting on forest areas used for construction of infrastructure serving forest protection and development: the decision approving and project dossier of the forest protection and development infrastructure works, approved by a competent authority;

c) For salvage harvesting on temporarily used forest areas for construction of temporary works serving project execution: the approval decision and temporary forest use plan for project construction, approved by a competent authority;

d) For salvage harvesting during the implementation of silvicultural measures: the approval decision of the silvicultural project or documents evidencing implementation of silvicultural measures approved by a competent authority;

dd) For salvage harvesting of plantations subject to liquidation: the liquidation decision together with the plantation liquidation plan approved by a competent authority;

e) For salvage harvesting within safety corridors of high-voltage overhead power transmission lines as prescribed by the electricity law: the field inspection record of felling, thinning, or height reduction of forest trees within the safety corridor of power transmission lines, using Form No. 10 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular;

g) For harvesting serving training, scientific research, and technological tasks in special-use forests, protection forests, or production forests owned by the State as representative owner; and for specimen collection in special-use forests: the approval decision together with project, task, or training/research program documents approved by a competent authority.

6. Procedures for approval of harvesting plans:

a) Forest owners, forest product owners, project owners, assigned organizations/individuals, or specialized agencies under commune-level People's Committees (hereinafter referred to as "applicants") shall submit 1 set of dossiers, either directly, by postal service, or electronically, corresponding to each harvesting case specified in Clauses 4 and 5 of this Article, to the competent authority specified in Clause 3 of this Article. Electronic submission shall comply with the law on administrative procedures in the electronic environment;

b) The competent authority shall check the dossier and immediately notify the validity of dossier components for dossiers submitted directly, or within 1 working day from receipt for dossiers submitted by post or electronically. In case the dossier is incomplete, the competent authority shall notify in writing and state the reasons;

c) Within 07 working days from the date of receipt of a valid dossier, the competent authority specified in Clause 3 of this Article shall issue a Decision approving the harvesting plan using Form No. 11 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular, and return the result to the applicant. Where verification of dossier accuracy is required, within 3 working days from receipt of a valid dossier, the competent authority shall notify the applicant of the verification. If not approving, a written notification shall be issued with reasons stated

7. For cases of harvesting production plantations, planted forest trees on non-forestry land, home gardens, scattered planted trees invested by forest owners or supported by the State; and harvesting of non-timber forest plants in protection forests and production forests: forest owners or forest product owners shall prepare a harvesting plan under Point d, Clause 1 of this Article, which does not require approval by a competent authority. Harvesting shall be carried out according to Clause 9 of this Article.

8. For harvesting protection forests or production plantations of households, individuals, and community groups self-invested or State-supported on contracted areas of forest owners such as Forest Management Boards or State-owned single-member forestry companies:

a) For protection forests: the forest owner shall take the lead and coordinate with households, individuals, and communities to prepare a harvesting plan, compile a dossier, and submit it to the competent authority for approval under Clauses 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this Article; after approval, harvesting shall follow Clause 9 of this Article;

b) For production forests: the forest owner shall take the lead and coordinate with households, individuals, and communities to prepare a harvesting plan using Form No. 07 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular, which does not require approval by a competent authority, and harvesting shall follow Clause 9 of this Article.

9. Implementation of timber harvesting and harvesting of non-timber forest plants:

a) Before harvesting: the forest owner, forest product owner, project owner, or assigned organization/individual shall send 1 dossier comprising a copy of the decision and approved harvesting plan (for cases requiring approval under Clause 2 and Point a, Clause 8 of this Article), or 1 original harvesting plan (for cases not requiring approval under Clause 7 and Point b, Clause 8 of this Article), to the local Forest Ranger Authority for supervision of implementation;

b) After harvesting: within 05 working days from completion of harvesting, the forest owner, forest product owner, project owner, or assigned organization/individual shall submit the original Forest Product List to the local Forest Ranger Authority for monitoring, or for certification of the Forest Product List in cases specified in Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular.

Article 7. Harvesting of common forest animals from the wild

1. Competent authority to approve harvesting plans: local Forest Ranger Authority.

2. Application:

a) Original Application for approval of harvesting plan of common forest animals from the wild, using Form No. 09 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular;

b) Original Harvesting Plan of common forest animals from the wild, using Form No. 12 in Appendix II enclosed with this Circular.

3. Procedures:

a) Organizations, individuals, households, and community groups harvesting common forest animals from the wild shall submit 1 set of dossiers as prescribed in Clause 2 of this Article, directly, by postal service, or electronically, to the competent authority. Where dossiers are submitted via electronic means, implementation shall comply with legal regulations on administrative procedures in the electronic environment.

b) In case of direct submission: The competent authority shall examine the application and notify the organization, individual, household or community of its validity.

In case of submission by post or electronically: within 1 working day from receipt of dossier, the competent authority shall review validity. If the application is invalid, a written notice shall be given with reasons;

c) Within 6 working days from receipt of a valid application, the competent authority shall approve the harvesting plan and return the result to the applicant; if not approved, a written notice shall be issued with reasons.

4. Implementation of harvesting:

a) The forest owner or the organization/individual authorized by the forest owner shall decide on the timing of the harvesting; the harvesting of common wild animals from nature must be consistent with the harvesting plan approved by the competent authority;

b) Within 2 working days from the date of completion of harvesting, the forest product owner or the organization/individual authorized by the forest product owner shall submit one (1) application as prescribed in Clause 1 of this Article, together with the original Forest Product List, to the local Forest Ranger Authority for certification in accordance with Article 5 of this Circular.

5. The forest owner or the organization/individual authorized by the forest owner shall bear legal responsibility if harvesting exceeds the approved quantity of species or individuals specified in the harvesting plan approved by the competent authority.

Section 2. DOSSIERS OF ORIGIN OF FOREST PRODUCTS

Article 8. Dossiers of forest products harvested domestically

1. Timber harvested from natural forests: original Forest Product List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority.

2. Common species timber harvested from plantations owned by the State as representative owner; protection plantations invested by organizations, individuals, households, or communities:

a) Original Forest product list prepared by the forest product owner; copy of the harvesting plan approved by the competent authority;

b) Original Forest product list certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority, where requested by the forest product owner under Point d, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular.

3. Common species timber harvested from production plantations, timber species identical with natural forest tree names, scattered trees, or home garden trees invested by organizations,

individuals, households, or communities: original Forest product list prepared by the forest product owner, or original List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority if requested under Point đ, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular.

4. Timber of species in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species or timber listed in CITES, harvested domestically: original Forest Product List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority.

5. Non-timber plants:

a) For non-timber plants in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species; non-timber plants listed in CITES, harvested domestically: original Forest product list certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority;

b) For other non-timber forest plants not specified at Point a: original Forest product list prepared by the forest product owner, or original List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority if requested under Point đđ, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular.

6. Original Forest product list certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority for animals and their products listed in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species; CITES Appendices; and common forest animals.

Article 9. Dossiers of imported forest products

1. Imported timber: implemented under Article 7 of Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP dated September 01, 2020 of the Government on the Vietnam Timber Legality Assurance System, as amended and supplemented in 2024.

2. For non-timber plants, animals, and their products listed in CITES Appendices:

a) Copy or electronic customs declaration under the customs law;

b) Copy or electronic CITES import permit issued by the Vietnam CITES Management Authority, except for imports not requiring CITES permits under regulations of the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, and rare species; breeding of common forest animals; and implementation of CITES;

c) The original or electronic copy of the CITES export or re-export permit in case of importation from CITES member countries, except for cases where importation does not require a CITES permit as provided by the Minister of Agriculture and Environment regarding the management of endangered, precious and rare species; breeding of common wild animals; and the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);

d) The original or electronic copy of the export or re-export permit issued by the competent authority of the exporting country in case of importation from a non-CITES member country, except for cases where importation does not require a permit as provided by the Minister of Agriculture and Environment regarding the management of endangered, precious and rare species; breeding of common wild animals; and the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

3. For non-timber forest products not listed in the CITES Appendices:

a) Copy or electronic customs declaration under the customs law;

b) The original Forest Product Dossier prepared by the forest product owner, or the packing list/log list prepared by the organization or individual in accordance with the regulations of the exporting country.

4. The forest product owner shall keep the import dossier specified in Clauses 1, 2, and 3 of this Article for inspection and traceability purposes by the competent authorities.

Article 10. Dossiers of forest products originating from post-confiscation

1. A copy of the disposition plan for assets established as public ownership approved by the competent authority, and the Decision approving the disposition plan for assets established as public ownership.

2. Original Forest product list prepared by the agency assigned to dispose the assets.

Section 3. DOSSIERS OF FOREST PRODUCTS FOR DOMESTIC PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP TRANSFER, TRANSPORT, AND EXPORT

Article 11. Dossiers of forest products in case of purchase, ownership transfer, and domestic transport

1. For forest products subject to certification of the Forest product list as prescribed at Points a, b, c, and d, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular: original Forest Product List certified by the local Forest Ranger Agency. In case of transporting forest products to ports for export: copy or electronic CITES permit and copy of the Forest product list when preparing the application for issuance of the CITES permit.

2. For forest products not falling into the cases specified at Points a, b, c, and d, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular:

a) Original Forest product list prepared by the seller/transferor of ownership or the original List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority, if requested under Point dd, Clause 3, Article 5;

b) Copy of the previous purchase/ownership transfer dossier, or a quick response (QR) code containing such dossier on the Forest product list. Except where the List has been certified at the request of the forest product owner under Point dd, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular.

3. For forest products after harvesting, transported by the forest product owner to warehouses/yards in a single trip and by a single vehicle: follow Article 8 of this Circular.

4. For imported forest products transported from border gate to the importer's warehouse: follow Article 9 of this Circular.

5. For forest products purchased directly from the Auction Council and then transported to the buyer's warehouse: follow Article 10 of this Circular.

6. For wood products: original Forest product list prepared by the forest product owner, or original List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority if requested under Point dd, Clause 3, Article 5 of this Circular.

7. For specimens marked under Article 14 of this Circular: must bear a marking code containing information as prescribed in Clause 3, Article 14.

Article 12. Dossiers of forest products for export

1. For timber materials and wood products:

- a) Copy or electronic customs declaration under the customs law;
- b) For timber materials and wood products in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species, or in CITES Appendices: copy or electronic CITES export/re-export permit issued by the Vietnam CITES Management Authority;
- c) For timber materials and wood products not specified at Point b: original Forest product list, or the original List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority if requested under Point dd, Clause 3, Article 5.

2. For non-timber plants:

- a) Copy or electronic customs declaration under the customs law;
- b) For non-timber plants in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species, or in CITES Appendices: copy or electronic CITES export/re-export permit issued by the Vietnam CITES Management Authority;
- c) For common forest animals: original Forest product list certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority;
- d) For non-timber plants of common forest species: original Forest product list, or the List certified by the local Forest Ranger Authority if requested under Point dd, Clause 3, Article 5.

3. The forest product owner shall retain export dossiers under Clauses 1 and 2 of this Article to serve inspection and traceability by competent authorities. Where customs law requires submission of the Forest product list to prove legal origin, after inspection, the Customs Authority shall return the List to the owner for retention under this Circular.

Section 4. DOSSIERS OF FOREST PRODUCTS AT PROCESSING, TRADING, STORAGE, BREEDING, PLANTING FACILITIES, AND SPECIMEN MARKING

Article 13. Dossiers of forest products at facilities for processing, trading, storing wood, forest plants, common forest animals, species in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species, and CITES-listed species; breeding and planting facilities

1. Dossiers of forest products at facilities for processing, trading, and storing wood, forest plants, common forest animals, endangered/precious/rare species, and CITES-listed wild species:

- a) Original dossier of forest product origin after harvesting, import, breeding, or post-confiscation, in cases where the facility owner directly harvests, imports, or purchases post-confiscation forest products;
- b) Original Forest product list and copy of the dossier of forest products transferred in ownership from the immediate previous organization or individual;
- c) Copy of forest product dossiers upon sale or ownership transfer to organizations or individuals;

d) Forest product in–out record book for organizations and business households, in the form prescribed in Form No. 04, Appendix II of this Circular. The forest product owner is responsible for fully and promptly updating all information into the record book when importing or exporting forest products;

dd) For animals and plants listed in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species; CITES Appendices: record books as prescribed by the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, and rare species; breeding of common forest animals; and implementation of CITES;

e) The forest product owner is responsible for keeping forest product dossiers corresponding to each stage of the supply chain, including: dossiers of forest product origin after harvesting, transport, processing, production, purchase, ownership transfer, import, or post-confiscation as prescribed in this Circular.

2. Dossiers of forest products at breeding facilities:

a) For breeding facilities of animals listed in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species; CITES Appendices: breeding facility code or Certificate of biodiversity conservation facility issued by a competent State authority;

b) Original dossier of origin of animals harvested domestically or imported, for facilities that directly harvest or import, or original forest product dossier upon ownership transfer from the immediate previous organization or individual;

c) Copy of forest product dossiers upon sale or ownership transfer;

d) Breeding/planting record book as prescribed by the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, and rare species; breeding of common forest animals; and implementation of CITES.

3. Dossiers of forest products at planting facilities of plants listed in the List of endangered, precious, and rare species; CITES-listed plants:

a) Planting facility code or Certificate of biodiversity conservation facility issued by a competent State authority;

b) Original dossier of origin of forest products harvested domestically or imported, for facilities that directly harvest or import;

c) Original dossier of forest products upon ownership transfer from other organizations or individuals;

d) Copy of forest product dossiers upon sale or ownership transfer to other organizations or individuals;

dd) Breeding/planting record book as prescribed by the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, and rare species; breeding of common forest animals; and implementation of CITES.

Article 14. Specimen marking

1. Subjects of marking:

- a) Animals and their products listed in CITES Appendix I, originating from captive-breeding facilities already assigned codes by the CITES Secretariat;
- b) Live forest animal individuals of the class Mammalia, including: species listed as endangered, precious, and rare (Group IB) under Vietnamese law; species listed in CITES Appendix I, except those specified at Point a, Clause 1 of this Article.

2. Form, method, and responsibility for specimen marking:

- a) Specimen marking may be carried out by chips, rings, tags, or transmitters. In case of marking with labels, serial numbers, barcodes, QR codes, or other materials (hereinafter collectively referred to as marking labels), the labels must contain the information specified in Clause 3 of this Article;
- b) The specimen owner shall decide the material, size, and form of the marking label, suitable to the nature and type of specimen;
- c) One specimen shall be marked with one chip, ring, tag, transmitter, or marking label, affixed directly on the specimen or its container/package, ensuring easy identification by eye or device and preventing forgery. The marking label must be destroyed and unusable when removed from the specimen;
- d) Within 1 working day after completing specimen marking, the specimen owner must fully record information into the Specimen Marking Record Book, either in paper or electronic form, using Form No. 13, Appendix II of this Circular.

The specimen owner must also send a Notification of Specimen Marking using Form No. 14, Appendix II of this Circular to the local Forest Ranger Authority for monitoring and management.

The specimen owner is legally responsible for the accuracy of information recorded on the marking label and in the monitoring dossier.

3. Information and registration of marking labels:

- a) Species name: common name and scientific name. In case the product is made from multiple animal species, the common and scientific names of each species must be listed;
- b) Serial number of the label, including: number of the marking label, code of the commune-level administrative unit, abbreviation of the specimen owner, and the last two digits of the marking year. Where:

Number of the marking label: recorded in Arabic numerals, in sequential order from No. 1 onwards until the end of the year.

Abbreviation of the specimen owner: decided by the owner and notified to the provincial Forest Ranger Authority. In case the owner changes name, the owner may choose a new abbreviation and notify the provincial Forest Ranger Authority for acknowledgement and management.

Section 5. INSPECTION AND TRACEABILITY OF FOREST PRODUCT ORIGIN

Article 15. Subjects, forms, and contents of inspection

1. Subjects of inspection: organizations, individuals, business households, households, and community groups engaged in activities of harvesting, transporting, processing, producing, trading, transferring ownership of forest products, exporting, importing, storing forest products, breeding forest animals, planting forest plants, and marking specimens as prescribed in Article 14 of this Circular.

2. Forms of inspection:

a) Scheduled inspection;

b) Thematic inspection;

c) Ad-hoc inspection.

3. Matters to be inspected:

a) For forest product harvesting: inspection of compliance with the law on forest product harvesting under the Regulation on Forest Management and the provisions of Articles 6 and 7 of this Circular, and actual forest products harvested in the field;

b) For imported/exported forest products: inspection of forest product dossiers under Articles 9 and 12 of this Circular and actual forest products at border gates;

c) For transport of forest products: inspection of compliance with regulations on forest product dossiers during transportation as prescribed in Article 11 of this Circular and forest products on transport vehicles;

d) For processing, trading, and storage facilities of wood and forest products: inspection of compliance with forest product dossier regulations under Article 13 of this Circular and actual forest products at the facility;

d) For breeding facilities of common forest animals, CITES-listed animals, or animals listed as endangered, precious, and rare; planting facilities of plants listed as endangered, precious, and rare or CITES-listed plants: inspection of compliance with forest product dossier regulations under Article 13 of this Circular and actual animals/plants being bred or planted at the facility;

e) For forest product storage locations: inspection of forest product dossiers as prescribed in this Circular and actual forest products in storage.

Article 16. Inspection regulations

1. Principles:

a) Inspection activities of the Forest Ranger Authority shall be carried out by an Inspection Team or Delegation (hereinafter referred to as the "Inspection Team") upon an inspection decision issued by a competent authority as prescribed in Clause 7 of this Article, except in the case of ad-hoc inspections under Clause 4 of this Article;

b) Inspection activities of the Forest Ranger Authority must ensure timeliness, objectivity, accuracy, compliance with duties and powers, and adherence to the law;

c) Inspection activities must follow the order prescribed in Clause 8 of this Article and must result in an Inspection Record using Form No. 15 or Form No. 16, Appendix II of this Circular.

2. Scheduled inspection:

a) By November 30 each year, the head of the Forest Ranger Authority prescribed at Point a, Clause 7 of this Article shall prepare and approve the inspection plan for the following year;

b) Where there are directives from superior authorities or new management requirements arise beyond the annual inspection plan, the inspection plan shall be adjusted accordingly;

c) Based on the approved inspection plan, the Forest Ranger Authority shall notify relevant agencies, organizations, and individuals by December 31 each year or immediately after approval of the adjusted inspection plan.

3. Thematic inspection: based on the local forest product management situation requiring prevention and enforcement actions, the head of the Forest Ranger Authority shall proactively develop a thematic inspection plan.

4. Ad-hoc inspection shall be applied when there is one of the following grounds:

a) Information from mass media;

b) Information from complaints, denunciations, or reports from organizations or individuals;

c) Information from requests for enforcement actions against violations submitted by organizations or individuals;

d) Information detected or cases of violations caught in the act by Forest Rangers managing the area or Forest Rangers assigned to monitor and detect violations;

dd) Written directives from competent state management authorities;

dd) Written directives from competent state management authorities;

e) When signs of legal violations are detected.

5. Forest Rangers who collect or receive information on violations of law or signs of violations as prescribed in Clause 4 of this Article must immediately report to the head of the direct Forest Ranger Authority for information processing.

6. Based on the information specified in Clause 4 of this Article, the head of the Forest Ranger Authority is responsible for processing the information, directing inspections, taking responsibility for their decisions, and directing the recording of information in monitoring books and managing them under regulations on classified documents.

7. Authority to issue inspection decisions of the Forest Ranger Authority:

a) The Director of Forestry and Forest Rangers, the Head of the Regional Forest Ranger Sub-Department, the Head of the Provincial Forest Ranger Sub-Department, the Head of the Mobile Forest Ranger and Forest Fire Prevention and Fighting Team, and the Head of the District Forest Ranger Unit shall issue inspection decisions according to their assigned functions and duties;

b) The persons authorized under Point a of this Clause may delegate to their deputies the authority to issue inspection decisions in accordance with the law.

8. Implementation of inspection:

a) Announce and deliver the inspection decision to the inspected subject or their representative; notify the composition of the Inspection Team and witnesses (if any). In case of ad-hoc inspection without an inspection decision, the representative of the Inspection Team must introduce the participants and state the reasons for the inspection;

b) Require the inspected subject or their representative to comply with the inspection decision of the competent authority and work with the Inspection Team. If these persons are absent at the inspection site, the Inspection Team shall invite a representative of the Commune-level People's Committee or the local police authority and witnesses to announce the inspection decision and proceed with the inspection in accordance with regulations;

c) Conduct inspection strictly within the scope of the inspection decision already announced. In case of matters arising beyond its authority during inspection, the Inspection Team must immediately report to the person who issued the inspection decision for timely enforcement actions;

d) For inspection of forest product transportation: the Inspection Team may only stop traffic vehicles in circulation for forest product inspection when there are grounds as prescribed in Clause 4, Article 16 of this Circular. Signals to stop vehicles may include one or a combination of whistle, Forest Ranger flag, or flashlight;

dd) For inspection of imported, exported, or transited forest products at border gates: the Forest Ranger Authority shall coordinate with the Customs authority at the border gate to organize the inspection of forest products in accordance with this Circular;

e) The inspected subjects must comply with the requirements of the Inspection Team; immediately present forest product dossiers as prescribed in this Circular and other related documents as required by law.

Chapter III

CLASSIFICATION OF ENTERPRISES

Article 17. Registration for enterprise classification

1. Enterprises required to register for classification under this Article include enterprises engaged in one or more of the following activities: afforestation; harvesting and supplying plantation timber; wood processing; timber import; timber export (hereinafter referred to as "enterprises").

2. Enterprises shall register with the Provincial Forest Ranger Sub-Department or the Department of Agriculture and Environment in localities without a Provincial Forest Ranger Sub-Department (hereinafter referred to as the "receiving agency"), either online or directly, as provided in Clauses 3 and 4 of this Article.

3. Online registration: enterprises shall access the Enterprise classification information system to register and follow the instructions.

4. Direct registration:

a) Enterprises shall submit in person or via public postal service or post office 1 set of dossiers to the receiving agency.

The dossier shall include: an application for enterprise classification according to Form No. 17, Appendix II issued together with this Circular; the Enterprise Classification Declaration according to Form No. 08, Appendix I issued together with Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP; documents proving compliance with enterprise classification criteria as prescribed in Form No. 01, Appendix III issued together with this Circular; and a summary table of documents proving compliance with legal timber origin requirements according to Form No. 02, Appendix III issued together with this Circular;

b) The receiving agency shall enter the enterprise's dossier into the Enterprise classification information system; notify the result of dossier receipt for enterprise classification registration according to Form No. 18, Appendix II issued together with this Circular to the enterprise; and archive registration documents in accordance with the law.

5. During the period when the Enterprise classification information system has not yet been developed and applied, the receiving agency shall carry out direct classification as follows:

a) Enterprises shall submit dossiers to the receiving agency as prescribed in Point a, Clause 4 of this Article;

b) The receiving agency shall receive the dossiers, notify the result of receipt of the enterprise classification registration dossier according to Form No. 18, Appendix II issued together with this Circular to the enterprise; carry out enterprise classification in accordance with Article 13 of Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP and Article 19 of this Circular; immediately send the result of enterprise classification via email to the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers, and archive registration documents in accordance with the law;

c) The Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers shall publish the list of Group I enterprises as prescribed in Point b, Clause 3, Article 19 of this Circular.

Article 18. Verification of declared information

1. Cases subject to verification of information:

a) Enterprise declaration documents show signs of correction, erasure, falsification; the contents of the declaration documents are inconsistent or contradictory;

b) There is information that the enterprise has dishonestly declared one of the enterprise classification criteria.

2. Sources of information for verification:

a) For the criterion of complying fully with the law in establishment and operation for at least 1 year from the date of enterprise registration: based on information from the National Business Registration Portal www.dangkykinhdoanh.gov.vn; or information from other relevant authorities, organizations, or individuals;

b) For the criterion of compliance with environmental regulations: based on information from environmental authorities; local Forest Ranger Agencies or the Department of Agriculture and

Environment in localities without a Forest Ranger Authority; and other relevant organizations or individuals;

c) For the criterion of compliance with fire prevention and fighting regulations: based on information from fire prevention and fighting authorities; local Forest Ranger Agencies or the Department of Agriculture and Environment in localities without a Forest Ranger Authority; and other relevant organizations or individuals;

d) For the criterion of compliance with tax and labor laws: based on information from tax and labor authorities; local Forest Ranger Agencies or the Department of Agriculture and Environment in localities without a Forest Ranger Authority; and other relevant organizations or individuals;

dd) For the criterion of compliance with regulations on assurance of legal timber: based on information from local Forest Ranger Agencies or the Department of Agriculture and Environment in localities without a Forest Ranger Authority; the Database of violations in the forestry sector (hereinafter referred to as the “Violation Database”); and other relevant organizations or individuals.

3. Implementation of verification:

a) The receiving agency shall notify the enterprise via the Enterprise classification information system of the time and content to be verified. In case the Enterprise classification information system is not applicable, the receiving agency shall send the Verification Notice of enterprise classification registration information according to Form No. 19, Appendix II issued together with this Circular to the enterprise;

b) The receiving agency shall directly conduct or coordinate with relevant authorities (if necessary) to carry out verification and prepare a Verification Record of enterprise classification registration information according to Form No. 20, Appendix II issued together with this Circular;

c) In case verification is required outside the provincial locality where the enterprise registers for classification: the receiving agency shall send the contents to be verified to the receiving agency in the locality where verification is needed, for implementation in accordance with Points a and b of this Clause. The receiving agency conducting verification shall notify the verification results to the receiving agency where the enterprise has registered for classification.

Article 19. Publication of results, reclassification, and re-categorization of enterprises

1. The receiving agency shall classify and notify the results of enterprise classification on the Enterprise classification information system. In case the Enterprise classification information system cannot be applied, the receiving agency shall send the Classification Result Notice to the enterprise and to the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers, using Form No. 21, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

2. Within 1 working day from the date of receiving the classification result as a Group I enterprise under Clause 1 of this Article, the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers shall publish the enterprise classification results on the official electronic portal as prescribed.

3. Re-categorization of enterprises:

a) The receiving agency shall re-categorize enterprises in accordance with Clauses 4 and 4a, Article 13 of Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP;

b) The receiving agency shall notify the classification result to the enterprise using Form No. 21, Appendix II issued together with this Circular and immediately send the re-categorization result via the public email of the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers.

Within 1 working day from the date of receiving information from the receiving agency through the Enterprise classification information system or through a written notice from the receiving agency in cases where direct classification is applied, the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers shall publish the re-categorization results of enterprises on the official electronic portal as prescribed;

4. Re-classification of enterprises:

a) Enterprises are responsible for self-declaring re-classification in the second and subsequent registrations in accordance with Article 17 of this Circular;

b) The receiving agency is responsible for conducting the second and subsequent classifications of enterprises in the same manner as the initial classification. The Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers shall publish the results of re-classification in accordance with Point b, Clause 3 of this Article;

c) In case an enterprise changes its type or name, the enterprise shall re-declare classification in accordance with Article 17 of this Circular.

Article 20. Enterprise classification information system and violation database

1. Enterprise classification information system:

a) Built in accordance with the law; applied to receive, store, and classify enterprise information in accordance with Decree No. 102/2020/ND-CP and this Circular;

b) Adjusted and modified when required and in line with new regulations; serving accurate, timely, and convenient enterprise classification; operating on modern information technology platforms, ensuring access control and high security;

c) Built and operated online, with a user-friendly interface, practical, easy to use for declaration, receipt, and processing of dossiers; ensuring continuous operation without interruption;

d) Capable of sharing information with related databases: FLEGT licensing system, the electronic customs system, and other related information systems;

dd) Complying with regulations on cybersecurity, information technology, information safety and security, and other relevant laws.

2. Violation database:

a) Built to collect and store information data enforcement measures against administrative and criminal violations in the forestry sector in accordance with the law; updated, maintained, operated, and used in the electronic environment;

b) The violation database is connected and shares information with the Enterprise classification information system for enterprise classification;

c) The violation database is exploited to implement state management activities in the forestry sector and in other relevant areas of state management.

3. Management of the Enterprise classification information system and violation database:

a) The Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers shall manage and operate the Enterprise classification information system and the violation database. It shall be responsible for investing in synchronous equipment and arranging adequate human resources to ensure the continuous operation of the Enterprise classification information system and violation database;

b) Receiving agencies shall be responsible for investing in synchronous equipment and arranging adequate human resources to ensure the continuous operation of the Enterprise classification information system and violation database.

Chapter IV

RECEPTION, STORAGE, AND DISPOSITION OF FOREST PRODUCTS, ANIMALS, AND PLANTS UNDER THE LIST OF ENDANGERED, PRECIOUS, AND RARE SPECIES, AND CITES APPENDICES AS EXHIBITS OR VOLUNTARILY TRANSFERRED TO STATE OWNERSHIP

Section 1. RECEPTION AND STORAGE OF FOREST PRODUCTS, ANIMALS, AND PLANTS UNDER THE LIST OF ENDANGERED, PRECIOUS, AND RARE SPECIES, AND CITES APPENDICES

Article 21. Reception of forest products, animals, and plants under the List of Endangered, Precious, and Rare Species, and CITES Appendices voluntarily transferred to State ownership

1. Receiving authorities include:

a) Local Forest Ranger authorities shall receive forest plants, forest animals, and wild animals and plants under the CITES Appendices;

b) Provincial fisheries management authorities shall receive aquatic species under Group I of the List of Endangered, Precious, and Rare Species and CITES Appendix I;

c) Specialized management authorities under provincial People's Committees or the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, as provided in Clause 3, Article 7 of Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP dated April 1, 2025 of the Government on the order and procedures for establishing public ownership of assets and disposing such assets (hereinafter referred to as "Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP").

2. Reception procedures:

a) The owner shall notify one of the authorities specified in Clause 1 of this Article of the voluntary transfer of forest plants, forest animals, or aquatic species to the State; accompanied by documents proving lawful ownership of the species voluntarily transferred to State ownership;

b) The receiving authority shall prepare a Handover and Reception Record using Form No. 22, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

3. Responsibilities of receiving authorities:

a) For authorities under Points a and b, Clause 1 of this Article, and specialized management agencies announced by provincial People's Committees: after receiving animals and plants, the receiving authority shall submit to the competent authority a decision on the establishment of public ownership and approval of the plan for disposition of such assets, in accordance with Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP;

b) For specialized management authorities under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment: after receiving forest products, animals, and plants under the List of Endangered, Precious, and Rare Species and CITES Appendices, the receiving authority shall prepare a dossier and submit to the competent authority to issue the decision on establishing public ownership of assets and approving the plan for disposing assets established as public ownership, as follows:

For assets being forest plants and animals: the receiving authority shall submit to the Director of the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers for a decision on establishing public ownership of assets and approving the plan for disposing assets established as public ownership;

For aquatic species under Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendix I: the receiving authority shall submit to the Director of the Department of Fisheries and Fisheries Surveillance for a decision on establishing public ownership of assets and approving the plan for disposing assets established as public ownership.

4. The receiving authority shall be responsible for storing and safeguarding the assets from the time of reception until they are handled under the plan approved by the competent authority.

Article 22. Storage of forest products, animals, and plants under the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendices as exhibits during temporary custody

1. Authorities temporarily holding forest products, animals, and plants under the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendices, pending disposition, shall be responsible for feeding and caring for live specimens, including endangered, precious, and rare species or CITES-listed species, and aquatic species under CITES Appendix I; and for storing dead specimens and their products. Storage measures shall be appropriate to each species, ensuring hygiene and safety for both humans and the species.

2. Where the authority holding such assets is unable to provide conditions for feeding and storage, the assets shall be temporarily transferred to a specialized management authority or an eligible facility for care and storage, pending a disposition decision by the competent authority. The temporary transfer of forest products, animals, and plants under the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendices, as well as aquatic species under CITES Appendix I, must be recorded using the Handover and Reception Record in Form No. 22, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

Section 2. DISPOSITION OF TIMBER AND NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS AS CONFISCATED EXHIBITS

Article 23. Forms of disposition and order of implementation

1. Forms of disposition: Confiscated timber and non-timber forest products shall be handled in one of the following forms, in priority order from Point a to Point dd of this Clause. Where a prior form cannot be applied, the next form shall be applied:

- a) Return to the country of harvest or the exporting country, in the case of timber and non-timber forest products of foreign origin;
 - b) Transfer assets being timber and non-timber forest products to specialized management authorities;
 - c) Assign or transfer assets being timber and non-timber forest products to state agencies, organizations, or units for management and use;
 - d) Sell non-timber forest products to organizations or individuals;
- dd) Destroy, in cases where none of the forms specified in Points a, b, c, and d of this Clause can be applied.

2. Returning to the country of harvest or the exporting country for confiscated timber and non-timber forest products of foreign origin:

- a) For timber and non-timber forest products under the CITES Appendices: implementation shall comply with regulations of the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, and rare species; breeding of common forest animals; and implementation of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES);
- b) For confiscated timber not listed under the CITES Appendices: the asset management authority specified in Article 5 of Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP (hereinafter referred to as “asset management authority”) shall report to its superior agency, which shall send a written request to the competent Ministry or Branch to propose that the country of harvest receive the confiscated timber. Within 30 working days from the date of such proposal, if the country of harvest refuses to accept or does not respond, the confiscated timber shall be handled under one of the forms provided in Clauses 3, 4, 5, or 6 of this Article.

Where the country of harvest cannot be identified, disposition shall be applied under one of the forms provided in Clauses 3, 4, 5, or 6 of this Article.

3. Transferring assets being timber and non-timber forest products to specialized management authorities:

- a) For timber and non-timber forest products under Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendix I: the asset management authority shall send a written request to the specialized management authority to receive the assets. The specialized management authority shall send a written response using Form No. 23, Appendix II issued together with this Circular, confirming the reception of the assets for purposes such as conservation, species identification, scientific research, training, environmental education, or specialized museums, ensuring appropriateness to the type of forest products and the conditions of the receiving facility;
- b) For timber and non-timber forest products not under Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendix I: the specialized management authority shall send a written request using Form No. 23, Appendix II issued together with this Circular to the asset management authority for reception of the assets;
- c) Within 10 working days from the date of receiving the request specified at Point a or Point b of this Clause, the asset management authority shall prepare a Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership and submit it to the competent authority for approval;

d) Within 15 working days from the date of approval of the Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership, the asset management authority shall organize the handover and reception and prepare a Handover and Reception Record using Form No. 07 issued together with Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP.

4. Assigning or transferring to agencies or units for management and use for timber and non-timber forest products not under Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species and CITES Appendix I.

a) Agencies and units in need of using confiscated timber for the construction of headquarters, formation of machinery and equipment for state agencies, construction of public works serving public needs such as public healthcare facilities, public educational institutions, public cultural and sports centers, and religious or belief establishments shall send a written request to receive timber or non-timber forest products, using Form No. 23, Appendix II issued together with this Circular, to the asset management authority;

b) Within 5 working days from the date of receipt of the written request specified at Point a of this Clause, the asset management authority shall prepare a Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership and submit it to the competent authority/person for approval;

c) Within 15 working days from the date the Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership is approved, the asset management authority shall organize the handover and receipt, and prepare a Record of handover and receipt using Form No. 07 issued together with Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP.

5. Sale of assets being non-timber forest products not falling under Clauses 3 and 4 of this Article:

a) The asset management authority shall submit to the competent authority for approval of Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership;

b) The asset management authority shall prepare the origin dossier in accordance with Article 10 of this Circular and transfer the assets and dossiers to organizations or individuals receiving ownership.

6. Destruction of timber and non-timber forest products:

a) The asset management authority shall prepare a Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership and submit it to the competent authority for approval in accordance with the law on management and use of public assets, for timber and non-timber forest products that are no longer usable, pose risks to human health, or cannot be handled through any of the methods specified in Clauses 3, 4, or 5 of this Article;

b) Where the asset management authority is not the agency or unit assigned to carry out destruction, it shall prepare a Record of handover and reception using Form No. 22, Appendix II issued together with this Circular, to hand over the assets to the assigned destruction authority;

c) The destruction authority shall issue a decision to establish a Destruction Council, consisting of representatives of: the local Forest Ranger authority, the Commune-level People's Committee, the competent procedural authority in case the timber or non-timber forest products are exhibits, and other relevant organizations or individuals as decided by the destruction authority;

d) Immediately after completion of the destruction, the destruction authority shall prepare a Destruction Record using Form No. 24, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

Article 24. Responsibilities of the asset management authority and units receiving assets after establishment of public ownership

1. The asset management authority shall:

a) Be responsible for preparing a Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership, submitting it to the competent authority within the prescribed time limit, and implementing the disposition in accordance with the approved Plan;

b) Manage and preserve dossiers during the disposition process; handover, reception, and destruction in accordance with regulations.

2. Specialized management authorities, agencies, and units receiving assets under Clause 4, Article 23 of this Circular shall:

a) Use the assets transferred in accordance with the approved Plan and purposes;

b) Manage the assets in accordance with the law on management and use of public assets;

c) Submit an annual report before December 31 on the use of timber assets, using Section A of Form No. 25, Appendix II issued together with this Circular, to the local Forest Ranger authority for inspection and supervision. The reporting period is from December 15 of the previous year to December 14 of the reporting year.

3. The destruction authority shall: store the dossiers of asset reception for destruction (in cases where the destruction authority is not the asset management authority) and the destruction record, in accordance with the law on archives.

Section 3. DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS

Article 25. Principles and forms of disposition of animals

1. Principles:

a) For confiscated animals under the CITES Appendices, the disposition shall comply with the regulations of the Minister of Agriculture and Environment on management of endangered, precious, and rare species; breeding of common forest animals; and implementation of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES);

b) Where specialized management authorities receive animals under Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species pursuant to a Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership, they shall continue disposition in accordance with one of the forms specified in Clause 2 of this Article;

c) Forms of disposition of animals shall be applied in priority order from Point a to Point dd of Clause 2 of this Article; if a preceding form cannot be applied, the subsequent form shall be used.

2. Forms of disposition:

- a) Release animals into the natural environment;
- b) Rescue animals;
- c) Transfer forest animals to specialized management authorities;
- d) Sell forest animals, except for species under Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species, CITES Appendix I, or invasive alien species;
- dd) Destroy animals.

Article 26. Release of animals into the natural environment

1. Subjects: live and healthy individual animals or aquatic species, or those that have recovered after rescue.

2. Conditions:

a) A Certificate of health status from a veterinary authority for animals, or from an animal rescue center for aquatic species, using Form No. 26, Appendix II issued together with this Circular;

b) Natural distribution in Vietnam;

c) An approved Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership;

dd) Where the releasing authority or unit is not the forest owner or the marine protected area where release is intended: written consent from the forest owner or the marine protected area, using Form No. 27, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

3. Procedures:

a) Prior to release, the asset management authority shall contact and coordinate with the forest owner or marine protected area where release is intended;

b) Within 5 working days from the date of receiving written consent for release from the forest owner or marine protected area, the head of the competent authority or unit in charge of disposition of animals shall issue a decision on release into the natural environment;

c) Participants in the release into the natural environment shall include: the releasing authority, representatives of the local Forest Ranger authority, local government, the forest owner or the management board of the marine protected area, the competent procedural authority if the animals are exhibits, and other relevant organizations or individuals as decided by the releasing authority;

d) Immediately after completing the release into the natural environment, the releasing authority or unit shall prepare a Release record using Form No. 28, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

Article 27. Rescue of animals

1. Subjects: forest animals, aquatic species listed in CITES Appendix I that are alive and seized as exhibits or evidence; forest animals, aquatic species listed in CITES Appendix I that are alive and voluntarily transferred to State ownership by their owners.

2. Conditions:

- a) For live forest animals and aquatic species listed in CITES Appendix I voluntarily transferred to State ownership by their owners, there must be dossiers proving their legal origin;
- b) Animal rescue facilities and aquatic species rescue facilities must have conditions ensuring appropriate rescue work, suitable to the species concerned.

3. Procedures:

- a) The head of the competent authority or unit prescribed in Clause 1 of this Article shall issue a decision on rescue;
- b) Where forest animals or aquatic species listed in CITES Appendix I must be transferred to a rescue facility for rescue, the competent authority or person issuing the rescue decision shall prepare a Record of handover and reception using Form No. 22, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

4. Disposition of animals after rescue:

- a) Where animals after rescue meet the conditions for release into the natural environment, the rescue facility shall organize release in accordance with Article 26 of this Circular;
- b) Where animals after rescue do not meet the conditions for release into the natural environment, the rescue facility may transfer forest animals to a specialized management authority in accordance with Article 28 of this Circular;
- c) Where individuals die during rescue, they may be transferred in accordance with Point b of this Clause; where animals are determined to be diseased and may cause dangerous epidemics, they shall be destroyed in accordance with Article 30 of this Circular.

Article 28. Transfer to specialized management authorities

1. Subjects:

- a) Animals and aquatic species listed in Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species, and in CITES Appendix I;
- b) For animals and aquatic species not falling under Point a of this Clause, specialized management authorities may submit written requests for asset transfer using Form No. 23, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

2. Receiving entities: specialized management authorities announced by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment or by provincial People's Committees.

3. Procedures:

- a) The asset management authority shall send a written request to the specialized management authority to receive the assets, except for the case prescribed at Point b, Clause 1 of this Article. The specialized management authority shall send a written reply to the asset management authority confirming receipt of assets, using Form No. 23, Appendix II issued together with this Circular, for purposes such as conservation, species identification, scientific research, training, environmental

education, or specialized museums, appropriate to each species and the receiving facility's conditions;

b) Within 5 working days from the date of receiving the reply from the specialized management authority, the asset management authority shall prepare a Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership and submit it to the competent authority for approval in accordance with the law on management and use of public property;

c) Within 15 working days from the date the Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership is approved, the asset management authority shall organize the handover and reception, and prepare the Record of handover and reception using Form No. 07 issued together with Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP.

Article 29. Sale of animals to organizations and individuals

1. Subjects: animals placed under public ownership, except for animals listed in Group I of the List of endangered, precious, and rare species, animals in CITES Appendix I, and those that cannot be handled through the methods specified in Articles 26, 27, or 28 of this Circular.

2. Conditions: approval of the Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership.

3. The asset management authority shall prepare the origin dossier in accordance with Article 10 of this Circular, and transfer the assets and dossiers to the organizations or individuals receiving ownership.

Article 30. Destruction of animals

1. Subjects: animals and animal parts or products carrying diseases that cannot be preserved, or those that cannot be handled through the methods specified in Articles 26, 27, 28, or 29 of this Circular.

2. Conditions: approval of the Plan for disposition of assets established as public ownership.

3. Forms of destruction: depending on the nature and characteristics of the animals to be destroyed, the competent authority may decide one of the following methods: maintaining high humidity or using environmentally friendly biological products to enhance decomposition efficiency; mechanical methods, incineration, burial, chemical use, or other lawful methods ensuring that the animals no longer exist, have no value of use, and do not harm the environment.

4. Procedures:

a) The head of the competent authority or unit shall issue a decision on destruction of animals;

b) Participants in the destruction shall include representatives of: the destruction authority; the local Forest Ranger authority. The destruction authority may invite witnesses, the competent procedural authority in case the animals are exhibits, local government, media agencies, and other relevant organizations or individuals;

c) Immediately after completion of the destruction, the destruction authority shall prepare a Record of animal destruction using Form No. 24, Appendix II issued together with this Circular.

Article 31. Dossier retention and reporting on the receipt and disposition of animals

1. Authorities and units in charge of receipt and disposition of animals shall be responsible for retaining dossiers of the receipt and disposition of animals in accordance with this Circular.
2. Specialized management authorities shall, annually before January 30, report on the results of animal receipt and disposition by species groups to the local Forest Ranger authority and specialized fisheries authority (for specialized management authorities announced by provincial People's Committees), or to the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers and the Department of Fisheries and Fisheries Surveillance (for specialized management authorities announced by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment). The annual reporting period is from December 15 of the preceding year to December 14 of the reporting year.
3. Forest Ranger Districts shall consolidate and, annually before January 30, report on the receipt and disposition of animals within their areas (if any) to the provincial Forest Ranger authority. The annual reporting period is from December 15 of the preceding year to December 14 of the reporting year.
4. Provincial Departments of Agriculture and Environment shall, annually before January 30, report on the receipt and disposition of animals within their provinces (if any) to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment. The annual reporting period is from December 15 of the preceding year to December 14 of the reporting year.

Chapter V

IMPLEMENTATION

Article 32. Implementation responsibilities

1. Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers:
 - a) Organize dissemination, communication, and nationwide implementation of this Circular;
 - b) Guide and inspect compliance with procedures for harvesting forest products; compliance with the law on management and traceability of forest products; enterprise classification; and disposition of wild fauna and forest flora nationwide under this Circular;
 - c) Develop and operate information systems for the management and traceability of forest products; a system for assigning and managing codes of forest-plantation areas supplying raw material for traceability in conjunction with sustainable forest management and forest certification; and build databases to enable digital transformation in the management and traceability of forest products;
 - d) Develop, manage, and operate the Enterprise classification information system and the Forestry Violations Database; inspect the enterprise-classification process and legal compliance in timber production and processing, and the sanctioning of violations; consolidate and report nationwide results of enterprise classification;
 - dd) Consolidate and report nationwide compliance with the provisions on management and traceability of forest products under this Circular;
 - e) Assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with the Department of Fisheries and Fisheries Surveillance in, advising the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment to issue a decision and publicly announce the list of specialized management authorities under the Ministry that are

eligible to receive assets as prescribed at Points d and đ, Clause 2, Article 7 of Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP, on the Ministry's e-portal.

2. Department of Fisheries and Fisheries Surveillance:

- a) Coordinate with the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers to advise the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment to decide and publicly announce the list of specialized management authorities under the Ministry that are eligible to receive assets as prescribed at Points d and dd, Clause 2, Article 7 of Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP, on the Ministry's e-portal;
- b) Guide and inspect the disposition of aquatic species listed as endangered, precious, and rare or in CITES Appendix I that are exhibits or evidence, or that are voluntarily transferred to State ownership by owners, nationwide in accordance with this Circular.

3. Department of Nature Conservation and Biodiversity: Coordinate with the Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers to advise the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment to decide and publicly announce the list of specialized management authorities under the Ministry that are eligible to receive assets as prescribed at Points d and dd, Clause 2, Article 7 of Decree No. 77/2025/ND-CP, on the Ministry's e-portal.

4. Provincial People's Committees:

- a) Direct the Department of Agriculture and Environment to organize and guide the implementation of this Circular in the province;
- b) Direct the Department of Agriculture and Environment to assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with relevant agencies/units in, developing coordination regulations and organizing enterprise classification and verification of enterprise declarations as prescribed in this Circular;
- c) Direct the Department of Finance to assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with relevant agencies in, advising the Provincial People's Committee on the devolution of authority to organizations and individuals to determine assets to be placed under public ownership and to approve disposition plans for assets under public ownership.

5. Provincial Forest Ranger Authorities:

- a) Consolidate and retain information on the situation of harvesting; import and export; disposition of forest products; fauna and flora listed as endangered, precious, and rare or under CITES; and aquatic species under CITES Appendix I within the province; organize inspection, supervision, and traceability of forest products in accordance with this Circular;
- b) Carry out enterprise classification; inspect and supervise enterprise compliance within their competence, handle violations detected; archive dossiers and ensure data security on the Enterprise classification information system; consolidate and report enterprise-classification results in the province as prescribed;
- c) Manage forest-product dossiers under this Circular;
- d) Report on management, inspection, and traceability of forest products; and facilities for rearing animals and cultivating plants in the province as prescribed;

dd) Compile and report, on an annual basis or upon request by competent authorities, timber seized by Forest Rangers and other competent agencies within their jurisdiction, using Section B of Form No. 25, Appendix II issued with this Circular.

6. Forest Ranger Districts:

a) Consolidate and retain information on the situation of harvesting; import and export; disposition of forest products; fauna and flora listed as endangered, precious, and rare or under CITES, and exhibits/evidence or assets voluntarily transferred to State ownership within their jurisdiction; organize inspection, verification, supervision, and traceability of forest products in accordance with this Circular;

b) Manage dossiers as prescribed herein;

c) Retain dossiers submitted by forest owners and forest-product owners as prescribed in Chapters II and III of this Circular; manage the Logbook of confirmation of forest-product lists using Form No. 06, Appendix II;

d) Consolidate reports on the import and export of forest products within their jurisdiction using Form No. 29, Appendix II, and submit them to the provincial Forest Ranger authority no later than 10 working days after receiving reports from organizations and household businesses as prescribed at Point c, Clause 7 of this Article.

7. Organizations, individuals, household businesses, households, and community groups:

a) Retain complete forest-product dossiers as prescribed in this Circular;

b) Be responsible for the accuracy of information and comply with inspection and traceability requirements of competent authorities;

c) For organizations and household businesses: maintain a Logbook of Forest-Product Receipts and Issues using Form No. 04, Appendix II; promptly and fully update receipts and issues and present the logbook upon request by competent authorities; submit an annual report on receipts and issues of forest products to the local Forest Ranger authority using Form No. 29, Appendix II by 15 January each year. The reporting cut-off period runs from 15 December of the preceding year to 14 December of the reporting year, except where organizations/household businesses already update receipts and issues on the forest-product management and traceability system.

Article 33. Entry into force

1. This Circular comes into force as of July 1, 2025, except as provided in Clause 2 of this Article.

2. The provisions on Enterprise Classification in Chapter III of this Circular take effect from 16 May 2026. Circular No. 21/2021/TT-BNNPTNT dated 29 December 2021 on classification of timber-processing and exporting enterprises, and Article 13 of Circular No. 22/2023/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15 December 2023 amending several circulars in the forestry sector, cease to be effective from the effective date of Chapter III of this Circular.

3. The following provisions cease to be effective from the effective date of this Circular:

a) Circular No. 26/2022/TT-BNNPTNT dated 30 November 2022 on management and traceability of forest products;

- b) Circular No. 29/2019/TT-BNN dated 31 December 2019 on disposition of wild animals that are exhibits/evidence or voluntarily surrendered to the State;
- c) Article 2 and Article 12 of Circular No. 22/2023/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15 December 2023 on amendments to several circulars in the forestry sector;
- d) Clause 2a, Article 6 of Circular No. 12/2019/TT-BNNPTNT dated 25 October 2019 on forestry statistics as amended in 2023;
- dd) Clause 2, Article 31 of Circular No. 22/2024/TT-BNNPTNT dated 11 December 2024 on certain forestry contents implemented under the Sustainable Forestry Development Program and the National Target Program for socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas for 2021-2030, Phase I: 2021-2025.

4. Transitional provisions:

- a) Where forest-product owners store timber of lawful origin harvested from natural forests, timber after confiscation, timber of endangered, precious, and rare species, or timber under CITES prior to the effective date of this Circular, the sale, transfer of ownership, and transportation shall follow the confirmation of the Forest-Product List under Article 5 of this Circular;
- b) Where harvesting dossiers were approved before the effective date of this Circular but harvesting has not commenced or is ongoing, implementation shall continue under Circular No. 26/2022/TT-BNNPTNT (30 December 2022) and Article 2 of Circular No. 22/2023/TT-BNNPTNT (15 December 2023). Post-harvest forest-product dossiers shall comply with this Circular;
- c) Where timber-processing and exporting enterprises filed enterprise-classification dossiers before the effective date provided in Clause 3 of this Article but classification has not been completed or is under assessment, implementation shall continue under Circular No. 21/2021/TT-BNNPTNT;
- d) Where agencies/units referred to in this Circular are merged, consolidated, dissolved, or terminated leading to a change of name, the new names shall be used; where tasks relating to establishing public ownership of assets under this Circular are transferred to new agencies/units, the new agencies/units shall perform the transferred tasks;
- dd) Replace the phrase “Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development” with “Ministry of Agriculture and Environment”, and the phrases “Department of Forestry”, “Forest Protection Department” with “Department of Forestry and Forest Rangers” in forestry-sector circulars.

5. Where legal normative documents cited in this Circular are amended, supplemented, or replaced, the amended, supplemented, or replacement documents shall apply.

During implementation, any difficulties should be promptly reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment for consideration of amendments./.

**PP. MINISTER
DEPUTY MINISTER**

Nguyen Quoc Tri

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