**About Your Organisation**

1.1 Name of your organization

National Wildlife Federation (USA)

1.2 What is/are the primary activity(ies) or product(s) of your organization?

- [ ] Oil Palm Growers
- [ ] Palm Oil Processors and/or Traders
- [ ] Consumer Goods Manufacturers
- [ ] Retailers
- [ ] Banks and Investors
- [ ] Social or Development Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)
- [x] Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)
- [ ] Affiliate Members
- [ ] Supply Chain Associate

1.3 Membership number

6-0019-11-000-00

1.4 Membership category

Ordinary

1.5 Membership sector

Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)
Environmental and Conservation NGOs

Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organization?

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) is the largest membership supported conservation group in the U.S. with nearly six million members and supporters. NWF has been active in a variety of international conservation and development assistance programs since the inception of its international program in the 1980s. NWF has worked extensively on sector based reforms, certification systems, and sustainable development approaches for forest and agricultural based commodities. As proponents of certification, we currently have leadership roles in the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials, the Forest Stewardship Council, the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef, and the Brazilian Roundtable on Sustainable Livestock. We are also a member of the High Carbon Stock Approach Steering Group and the Accountability Framework initiative.

1.2 Does your organization use and/or sell any palm oil?

No

1.3 Activities undertaken to publicise programmes to support RSPO, RSPO certification, uptake of RSPO certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products and/or good standing RSPO members during the year.

Over the past four years we have engaged with the Secretariat on quantifying impacts of RSPO certification on forest cover dynamics and fire rates. We expect peer-reviewed results of our analyses to be published in 2017.

1.4 What percentage of your organization’s overall activities focus on palm oil?

1%

1.5 Did members of your staff participate in RSPO working groups/taskforces in the reporting period?

Yes

1.6 Do you have any collaborations with the industry players/private sector to support them in the market transformation towards RSPO certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products?

Yes

1.7 How is your work on palm oil funded?

Grant awards

Time-Bound Plan

2.1 Date started or expected to start participating in RSPO working groups/taskforces

2014

Comment:
Over the past several years we have engaged with the Secretariat on quantifying impacts of RSPO. Specifically, we are interested in understanding the impact that RSPO certification has had on forests and fire rates.

2.2 Date expected to undertake and publicise programmes to support RSPO, RSPO certification, uptake of RSPO certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products and good standing RSPO members.

2014

Comment:
The National Wildlife Federation remains a strong proponent of certification, and includes it as a tool for addressing risk in our publically available materials. Over the past several years we have engaged with the Secretariat on quantifying impacts of RSPO. Specifically, we have several studies in peer-review, which aim to quantifying the impacts of certification on forest cover dynamics and fire rates. These analyses will be published in peer reviewed journals.

Actions for Next Reporting Period
3.1 Outline actions that you will take in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil along the supply chain

NWF leads a consortium whose goal is to reduce tropical deforestation through the promotion and monitoring of deforestation-free commodity supply chains, including, inter alia, palm oil in Southeast Asia and South America. We will continue to analyze the impacts of certification on forest and fire dynamics and promote RSPO certification alongside implementation of zero-deforestation supply chains.

GHG Emissions

4.1 Are you currently assessing the GHG emissions from your operations?

No

Please explain why

Application of Principles & Criteria for all members sectors

5.1 Do you have organizational policies that are in line with the RSPO P&C, such as:

- [x] Energy and carbon footprints
- [ ] Land Use Rights
- [x] Ethical Conduct
- [x] Labour rights
- [x] Stakeholder engagement
- [ ] None of the above

5.2 What best practice guidelines or information has your organization provided in the past year to facilitate production and consumption of RSPO certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products? What languages are these guidelines available in?

Over the past several years we have undertaken analysis to quantify the impacts of RSPO certification on forest cover dynamics and fire rates. Highlights have been shared at the last RT, and these analyses will be published in peer reviewed journals and made available to RSPO members.

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Challenges

1 What significant economic, social or environmental obstacles have you encountered in the production, procurement, use and/or promotion of CSPO and what efforts did you make to mitigate or resolve them?

While the P&C were strengthened by the 2013 revisions, the lack of strong performance standards related to deforestation means that it is still not possible for producers, traders, manufacturers, retailers, or consumers to ensure that they are acting responsibly simply by producing or using CSPO. Specifically, the lack of an outright ban on new plantings on peat and in secondary forest, and the lack of strong due diligence requirements in FFB sourcing limit the RSPO from being “one stop shopping” for organizations with a policy of zero deforestation. While RSPO Next has made strides to address these problems, the lack of a clear definition around High Carbon Stock (HCS) forest risks allowing the standard to be “watered down” through less stringent definitions. The High Carbon Stock Approach (especially post-Convergence) is currently the only implementable methodology for identifying HCS forest, and should be referenced specifically.

2 How has your organization supported the vision of RSPO to transform markets? (e.g. Funding; Engagement with key stakeholders; Business to business education/outreach)

The National Wildlife Federation, along with researchers from prominent Universities and NASA have undertaken an analysis to quantify and better understand the impact of RSPO certification on forest cover and fire dynamics. This quantitative analysis is the first of its kind for RSPO, and will aid in addressing deficiencies in the standard and highlighting areas for improvement over time. Recently, NWF has increased its engagement with the Oil Palm sector in South America. NWF also sits on the Steering Groups of the High Carbon Stock Approach and the Accountability Framework initiative, respectively.

3 Other information on palm oil (sustainability reports, policies, other public information)

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Link: international.nwf.org