

Soil moisture Conservation Plan of Reliance JIO

Kalimpong Forest Division for construction of JIO OFC Cable

General Information:

The Kalimpong Forest Division comprises of the entire reserved forest areas of Kalimpong District and excluding the area under Neora Valley National Park which had been handed over to Wild Life Wings of Forest Directorate. The forest area of this division situated between 26°52' to 27°11' North latitude and 88°26' to 88°53' East longitude. The Division is bounded on the north by Sikkim and Bhutan, on the east by the Jaldhaka River, on the south by the Jalpaiguri District and on the west by the Teesta River. The head quarter of the Division is at Kalimpong Town which is having an average altitude of 1219 meters ASL.

An area of 36,435.793 Ha. of reserved forests is under the jurisdiction of this Division. There are nine territorial Rivers viz, Kalimpong Range head quarter, Pankhasari Range with headquarters at Algarah, Chel Range with headquarters at Chunabhati, Neora Range with headquarters at Gorubathan, Noam Range with headquarters at Manabari, Samsing with headquarters at Samsing, Jaldhaka Range with headquarters at Jhalong, Lava Range with headquarters at Lava and Loleygoan Range with headquarters at Loleygoan.

The terrain is mostly mountainous, the elevation varying from 91 mts to 2300 mts. Only few square miles of area which form a narrow belt on the southern portion of Chel, Neora and Jaldhaka Range area having flat terrain. The general terrain consists of numerous valleys, the slopes of which vary considerably from moderate to precipitous. The general trend of the main river is from north to south but there are many subsidiary streams with large valleys. The direction of the hills is therefore, vary variable affording every possible aspect.

Forest Composition in RELIANCE JIO selected area:

The area selected by Reliance JIO under Kalimpong Forest Division consisting of a combination of Tropical Evergreen and Dry Deciduous Forest which shows immense species richness spread over distinct ecological habitats which can be manifested by the diversity of the plant species spread across the region. The lower hill forests covering a greater part of the area are mainly deciduous but change to evergreen species where rainfall exceeds 160 inches annually. The

aspect also introduces modification of the forest composition.

Need for SMC Plan:

The proposal of reliance Jio is for underground tunnels which may cause runoff of loose soil to nearby streams. To compensate the damage caused due to that, a soil conservation plan is hereby proposed.

SL No	Activity	Rate	Area/ MDs/qty	Amount
1	Bamboo Palliside	800/rmt	30/rmt	24000.00
2	Causal Labour for removing debris	300	30 mds	9000.00


Divisional Forest Officer,
Kalimpong Forest Division.