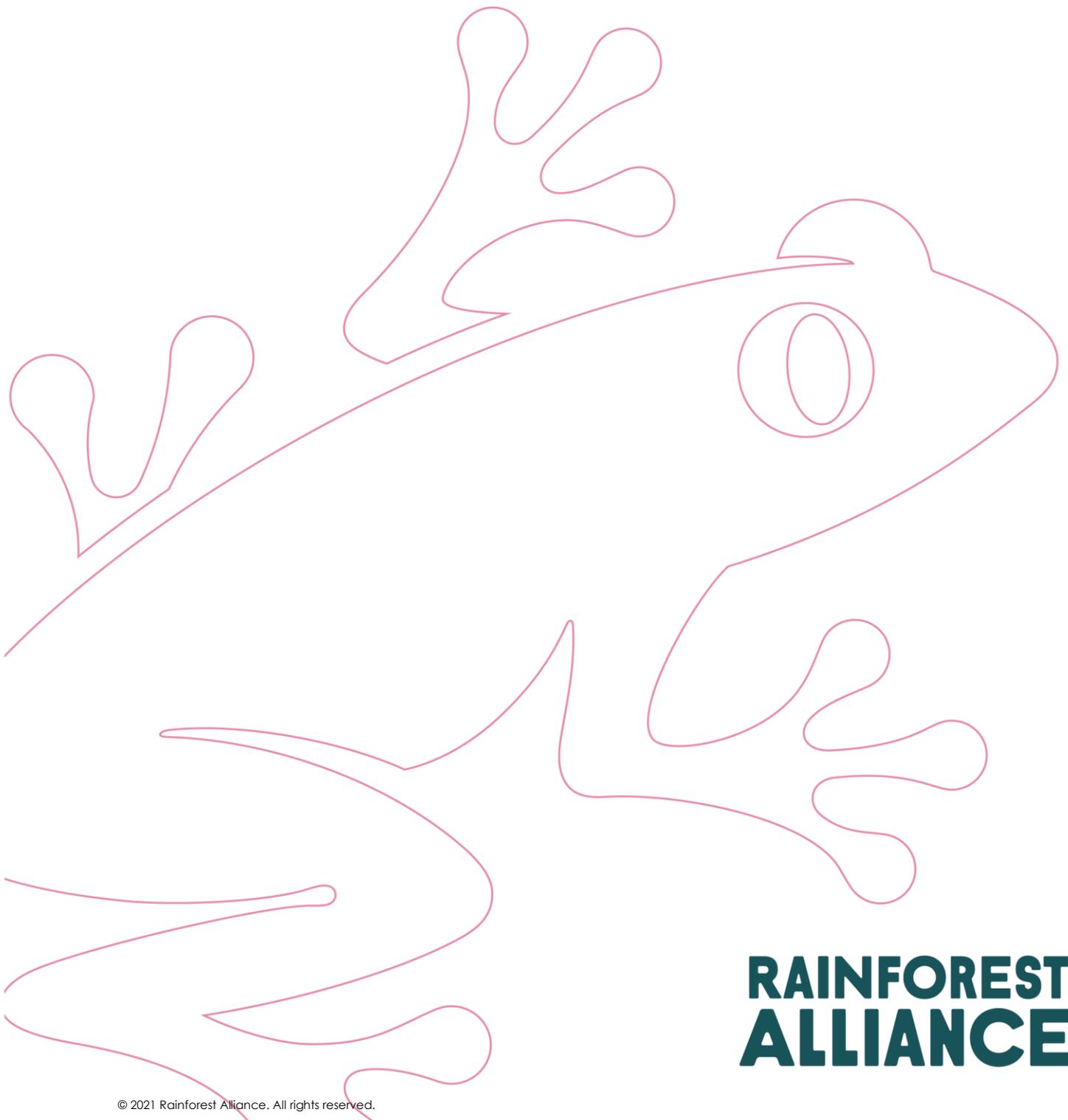


# RAINFOREST ALLIANCE

## POLICY WATER PERMIT REQUIREMENTS COSTA RICA

*Version 1*



**RAINFOREST  
ALLIANCE**



The Rainforest Alliance is creating a more sustainable world by using social and market forces to protect nature and improve the lives of farmers and forest communities.

### Translation Disclaimer

For any question related to the precise meaning of the information contained in the translation, please refer to the official English version for clarification. Any discrepancies or differences in meaning due to translation are not binding and have no effect for auditing or certification purposes.

### More information?

For more information about the Rainforest Alliance, visit [www.rainforest-alliance.org](http://www.rainforest-alliance.org), contact [info@ra.org](mailto:info@ra.org) or contact the Rainforest Alliance Amsterdam Office, De Ruijterkade 6, 1013AA Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

<b>Document Name:</b>		<b>Document Code:</b>	<b>Version:</b>
Policy Water Permit Requirements Costa Rica		SA-P-LA-13-V1	1
<b>Date of first publication:</b>	<b>Date of revision:</b>	<b>Valid From:</b>	<b>Expires by:</b>
October 15, 2021	N/A	October 15, 2021	Until further notice
<b>Developed by:</b>		<b>Approved by:</b>	
Standards and Assurance		Director, Standards and Assurance	
<b>Linked to:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SA-S-SD-1-V1.1 Rainforest Alliance 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Standard, Farm Requirements</li><li>SA-R-GA-1-V1.1 2020 Rainforest Alliance Certification and Auditing Rules</li><li>SA-R-GA-I-V1.1 2020 Rainforest Alliance Rules for Certification Bodies</li></ul>			
<b>Replaces:</b>			
<b>Applicable to:</b>			
Large Farms			
<b>Country/Region:</b>			
Costa Rica			
<b>Crop:</b>		<b>Type of Certification:</b>	
Melon and Water Melon		Farm certification	

Policies are binding. Policies complement and/or supersede related rules or requirements for the parties they are applicable to.

*Any use of this content including reproduction, modification, distribution or republication, without the prior written consent of Rainforest Alliance is strictly prohibited.*



## INTRODUCTION

To avoid unsustainable use of water, the Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard mandates that producers comply with all applicable laws on the withdrawal of water and, if required, have a permit or at least have submitted a request for the required permit.

Producers in Costa Rica are required by law to obtain a permit for extraction of water (groundwater or surface water). However, some producers are unable to begin the process of applying for the required permit due to procedural issues with permit applications and are therefore not able to comply with this requirement.

## PURPOSE

This policy is to provide interpretation of the requirements in the context of Costa Rica law and regulatory processes on the respective requirements for water extractions until the conditions are favorable to obtain the necessary documentation required for water extraction and use.

## RELEVANT STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

This policy refers to the Standard Requirements under water management and conservation 6.5.1 and 6.5.2. For the definitions of "producer(s)" and "applicable law", kindly refer to the Glossary: Annex S1.

## CONDITIONS

Producers in Costa Rica who wish to be certified under the Rainforest Alliance Certification Program must meet the following conditions on Requirements 6.5.1 and 6.5.2:

1. Have knowledge of all applicable laws on water withdrawal and use relevant to their situation.
2. Keep records on water use and provide these upon request by the CB or by Rainforest Alliance.
3. Complete all required steps in the application processes to obtain the permit for the extraction and use of water as soon as practically possible.

Certification Bodies auditing the requirements on Water Management and Conservation as part of a farm audit must meet the following conditions:

1. Check and confirm the knowledge of producers on the applicable laws on water extraction and use.
2. Check that records on water use are kept by the producers.
3. Confirm that the producer has made a reasonable attempt to begin the process to obtain the required permit for the extraction and use of water (ie have informed themselves of the process and any obstacles to completing it).