



# Shangarh Concise Micro Plan

Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Services  
(HP-FES) Project



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Indo-German Biodiversity Programme  
Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in India - Himachal Pradesh  
Forest Ecosystem Services Project (HP-FES)  
The project aims to enable the Forest Department of Himachal Pradesh to introduce the Forest Ecosystem Services (FES) approach in the state's forest management system.  
HP-FES

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# Micro plan for Shangarh

## Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Services (HP-FES) Project

## PAGE NUMBER

# Content

1.

### **Introduction**

- The Forest Ecosystem Services Approach
- HP-FES Background
- This Micro plan

3.

### **Vision and Objective**

- Shangarh Forest Ecosystem Services Vision
- Micro plan objective

9.

### **Data Collection Results**

- Environmental Data
- Demographic Data
- Major Stakeholders
- Important Tourism Products at Shangarh

14.

### **Rankwise Priority Forest Ecosystem Services**

- List of Forest Ecosystem Services in order of their preference
- Intervention map for Shangarh
- Shangarh Activity Budget Line

19.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Visitors Feedback

# Contents





# CHAPTER- 1

## Introduction

### Forest Ecosystem Services Approach

Forests provide people with numerous services and goods like fuelwood, timber, fodder, fruits etc. They also regulate abundant aspects of the environment like water, air purity and micro climate which benefit people in many ways. These goods and services are together termed as “Ecosystem Services”. The ecosystem services derived from forests are referred to as “Forest Ecosystem Services” (FES). The FES approach states that forests are managed to produce services required for human well-being.

As demands and importance for these services differ much within society, a key element of the FES approach is to manage forests that enable a supply of FES prioritised by stakeholders, giving due importance to the remaining goods and services.

### HP-FES Project Background

The Indian and German Governments are working together in many areas that are important for our society. GIZ, in collaboration with the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department (HPFD), is implementing the Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Services (HP-FES) Project on behalf of BMZ (GIZ’s commissioning party). The HP-FES project aims at integrating the Forest Ecosystem Services (FES) approach into the state’s forest management.

Important stakeholders are consulted to identify the set of ecosystem services for which the forest is managed. Together with them, the FES that are derived from the forest are listed and prioritised. Based on this, a management plan like this one is developed.



## CHAPTER- 2

### Shangarh Forest Ecosystem Services Vision

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Forests are ecosystems that need a long time for their development. The project can guide the plan for only two years or so. This is hardly anything, considering that the forests can be hundreds of years old. Therefore, it is important that a forest management has a long term vision and that the plan of today is in line with the long term vision.

#### Long Term Vision (30 years)

1. Conservation
- a. Forest of Sainj-Shangarh valley has shown positive forest regeneration trend (at least 15%)

b. Community restore all degraded areas by plantations for ecotourism benefits.

c. Reported activities of illegal poaching, illicit felling reduced by 50%.
2. Social Entrepreneurship
- a. Sainj valley is established as gateway to the Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) and known as twin ecotourism destination like Teerthan valley.

b. Nature based ecotourism has spread to nearby valleys and community sees cultural ecosystem services as an economic option.
3. Community Development
- a. Participatory approach of forest conservation is established through ecologically sensitive tourism model which is replicated in other adjacent areas.

- Measures:
- a. Community awareness

b. Participatory forest management which aims at regeneration of forest and protection

c. Capacity building on entrepreneurship

#### Mid Term Vision (15 years)

1. Conservation
- a. Forest regeneration in the Sainj -Shangarh valley shows positive regeneration trend by 10%.

b. Community is aware about economic benefits of the diversity of the flora and fauna and the need to protect it against degradation.

c. Community monitoring system is in place and reported cases of illicit felling of trees, unregulated grazing, poaching of wild animals, illicit harvest of medicinal plants and illicit fire has reduced by 20%, resultantly the flora and fauna conservation status has improved.
2. Social Entrepreneurship
- a. Ecotourism based livelihood opportunities for local youth, community organizations like VFDS and PRI increases by 15%.
3. Community Development
- a. VFDS plays a major role in participatory forest management planning, as well as regulating tourism activities barring detrimental activities.

b. Forest department consider CBET as participatory forest management model in adjacent ecozone in GHNP.

- Measures:
- a. VFDS ensure protection to regeneration in degraded areas.

b. VFDS and FD establishes working participatory monitoring system to check illicit felling, poaching, illicit grazing and fire incidents.

c. VFDS monitor tourism activities effectively and their impact on conservation and regulate it.

d. VFDS replicate training capacity generated in the project, engaging more youth to take up ecotourism as livelihood options.

#### Short Term Vision (5 years)

- 1.Conservation
- a. Community has a working monitoring system to check illicit felling of trees, unregulated grazing, poaching of wild animals, illicit harvest of medicinal plants and fire

b. Areas of heavy ecotourism are regulated to reduce pressure on resources.

c. Community is strongly aware about the carrying capacity of the site and negative impacts of excessive tourism in ecotourism model.
2. Social Entrepreneurship
- a. Ecotourism is established as viable economic and income generating activities among 15% community youth.

b. Finance institutions are ready to invest in local entrepreneurs involved in homestays and nature-based tourism operations.

c. Local cooperatives of ecotourism service providers are established.
3. Community Development
- a. At least one functional community-based tourism product is in place in each destination e.g. birdwatching or homestays

b. Regulation in place for fostering community-based tourism products including home stay arrangements and traditional culture and crafts.

c. Scoping work done for centres for solid waste management, firefighting, emergency response and first aid training and established.

d. Trainings given in case of forest fires as a priority issue in the management plan of GHNP.

- Measures:
- a. Capacity building measures continues, and participatory monitoring system is working.

b. VFDS is enabled to get funds from other donors /development agencies for financing trainings and entrepreneurs initiatives.

c. VFDS takes additional sources for training for youth on ecotourism.

d. Conflicts in usufruct sharing are resolved by VFDS.

e. Additional resources are explored for establishing centres for solid waste management, firefighting, emergency responses etc.

#### HP-FES Project Period (1.5 years)

1. Conservation
- a. Community has identified areas of illicit felling and high grazing pressure, and fire spots and made awareness negotiations with sections of community involved, motivated them to be part of conservation.

b. Community has submitted additional proposal for regeneration in degraded areas to the forest department under their annual plan of operations.

c. Community has set rules for tourism movements, the do's and don'ts for tour operators and key elements of CBET and have installed regulatory systems to reduce negative tourism pressure.
2. Social Entrepreneurship
- a. Capacity building of community user groups is achieved, and they are providing ecotourism services and realizing economic benefits out of ecotourism.

b. They have started to realise that ecotourism products such as birdwatching, nature trekking, camping, etc., as non-consumptive source of livelihood and entrepreneurship.

c. Guide groups for nature trails and birdwatching tours are identified, listed and registered.
3. Community Development
- a. VFDS has taken a participatory role with forest department to spread nature-based ecotourism as non-consumptive livelihood option among forest ecosystem services and thus conserving forest for their livelihood.

b. VFDS has done a participatory planning on conservation and regulatory mechanism for reducing negative tourism pressure on natural and cultural resources.

- Measures:
- a. Community identified user groups for homestays, established the do's and don'ts for homestays to promote rural, cultural and nature-based tourisms.





### Micro plan Objective

To incorporate ecotourism as the main focus of planning and management. This will concentrate on the Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) area around ecozone in the Shangarh Panchayat forest of Sainj Valley, giving priority to community's economic benefit thereby ensuring conservation of the park's biodiversity.







## Methodology for data collection

1. The **environmental data** has been collected based on field measurement and other secondary data. The environment data of the planning site has been taken from the management plan of the GHNP.
2. The **demographic data** is collected from various sources such as participatory rural appraisal (PRA), baseline survey report, and other secondary sources namely documents from the Gram Panchayats, Department of Animal Husbandry, Anganwaris (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment) and local Revenue Office. The data on forest user rights was gathered from the registered forest rights users list available with the forest department.

3. Facilitation and stakeholder mapping were the tools used to collect data on various **stakeholders**. The participants were asked to write names of institutions falling in the three broader categories namely, civil society, private players and state actors, whom they considered potential in influencing the project.



CHAPTER- 3

Data Collection Results

Environmental Data: Shangarh

ELEVATION RANGE : 1600 m - 2100 m

Precipitation



Annual Average  
Precipitation: 2125.6 mm

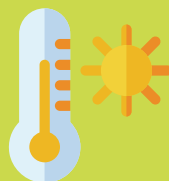
Rain %  : 100%

Maximum Rainfall  
Recorded: 3341.7 mm  
in 1988



Minimum Rainfall  
Recorded: 1376.2 mm  
in 1991

Temperature



Mean maximum  
temperature: 15.3 - 30°C

Mean minimum  
temperature: 5.3 - 20.1°C

Dry months:  
(with average  
monthly precipitation  
< 50 mm) April, October,  
November

Forest types and area



Area	Forest Type
9C1b: 16 ha	Upper or Himalayan Chir Pine Forest
20 ha	Ban Oak Forest
Total planning area: 36 ha	

Demographic Data: Shangarh

POPULATION



31.5%  
369 Males

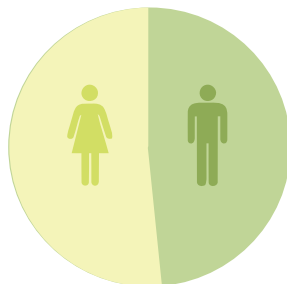


33.5%  
394 Females



35%  
407 Children

GENDER RATIO



2:1

LIVESTOCK



Sheep + Goat: 2280



Cows: 800



Bullocks: 370



Horses + Mules: 40



Buffaloes: 0

OCCUPATION

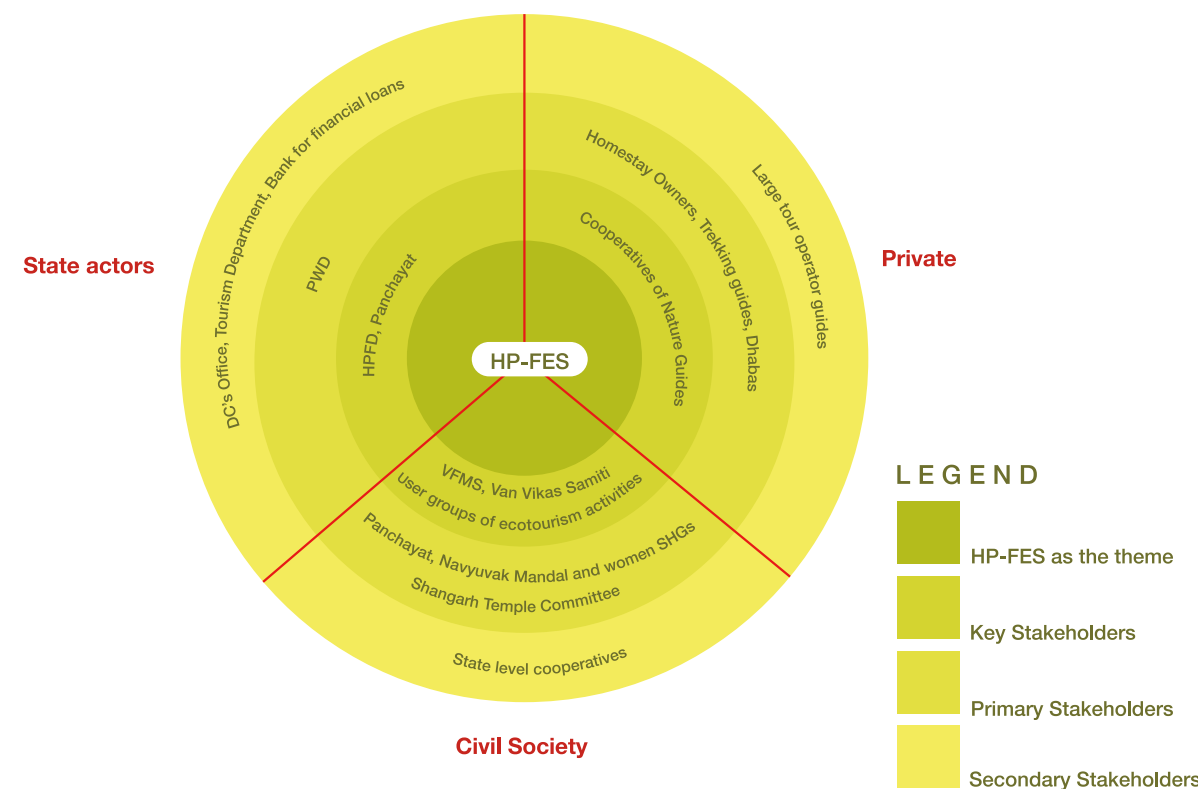
S.No.	Job Type	Number
1.	Government	13
2.	Private	5
3.	Self Employed	15
4.	Agriculture/ Horticulture	272
5.	Wage Labour	268

LAND HOLDING

S.No.	Land Holding Type	No. of Households
1.	Marginal	100
2.	Small	50
3.	Medium	10
4.	Large	5



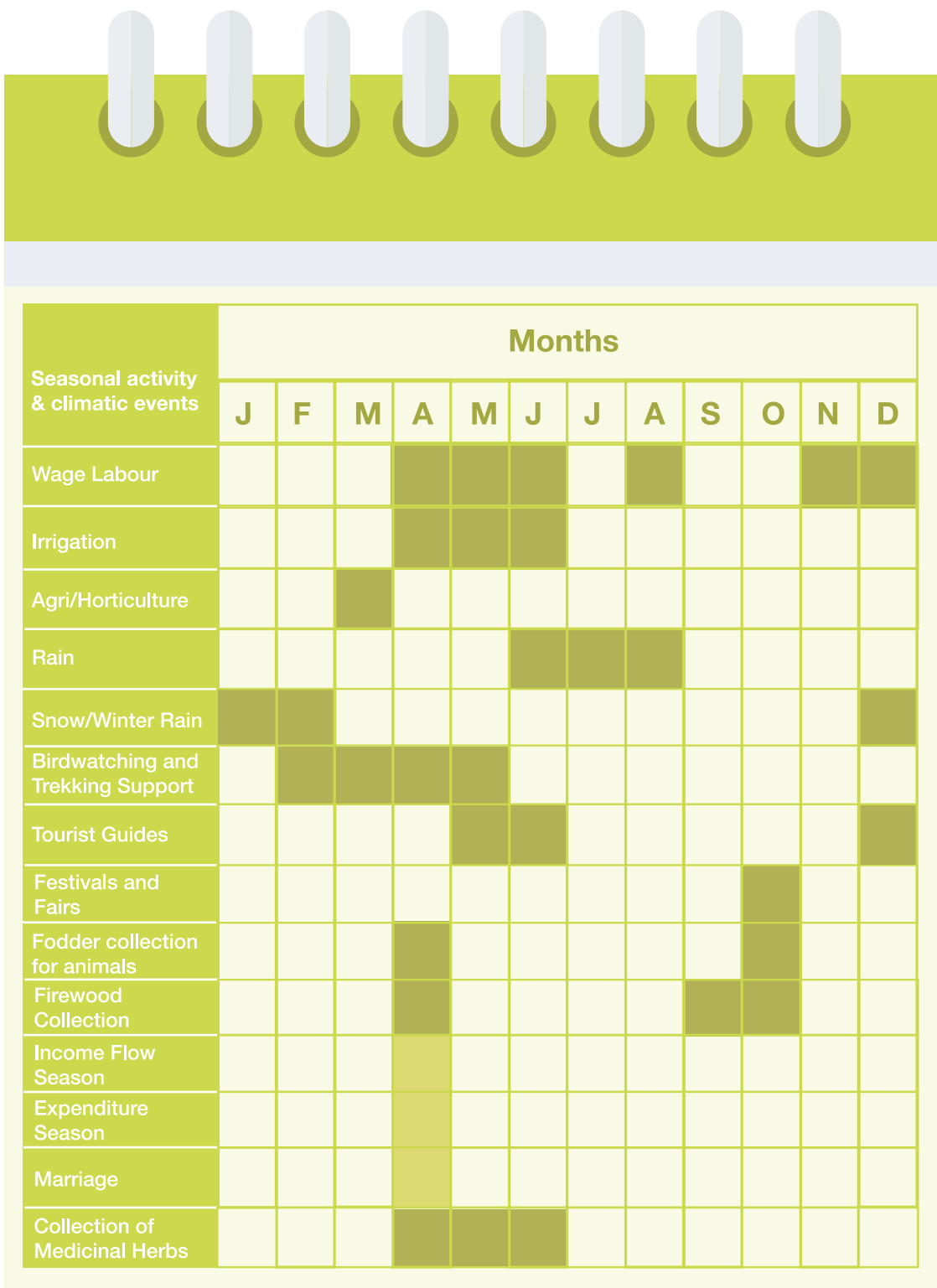
Major Stakeholders



The inner most circle consists of the key stakeholders, followed by primary and secondary stakeholders with HP-FES as the theme.  
The 3 categories represent as to which class does each stakeholder belong.

Category/ Class	Key Stakeholders	Primary Stakeholders	Secondary Stakeholders
Civil Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Village Forest Management Society(VFMS)</li><li>User groups of ecotourism activities</li><li>Van Vikas Samiti</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Panchayat</li><li>Navyuvak Mandal and women SHGs</li><li>Shangarh Temple Committee</li></ul>	State Level Cooperatives
Private	Cooperatives of Nature Guides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Homestay Owners</li><li>Trekking guides</li><li>Dhabas</li></ul>	Large tour operator guides
State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HPFD</li><li>Panchayat</li></ul>	Public Works Department (PWD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Deputy Commissioner's (DC) Office</li><li>Tourism Department</li><li>Bank for financial loans</li></ul>

Seasonality of labour distribution







### Important Tourism Products at Shangarh



**Birdwatching**  
Example: The area lies under GHNP and as per ebird.org (a people science initiative) boast around 146 bird species which could attract many birdwatchers in the area and could promote nature sensitive tourism

### SUPER PRIME ATTRACTIONS



Nature based soft adventure tourism products, Homestays, Camping, Rock Climbing  
Example: Single day treks to:  
• Shangarh-Sara Lake  
• Shangarh-Lapah-Dhela-Shakti-Neuli

### SYMBIOTIC ATTRACTIONS



**Camping, Yoga, Meditation at thatches**  
Example: Thatches:  
• Thini Sara Thatch  
• Jagnau Thatch  
• Shakti Khamaba Thatch top

### OTHER ATTRACTIONS










Kullu Handlooms, fairs, spiritual pilgrimage, temples, cuisines  
Example: Shangchul Mahadev Devta Ground, Shangchul Mahadev Bhootnath Temple

### ETHNIC CULTURE PRODUCTS

## CHAPTER- 4

### Rankwise Priority Forest Ecosystem Services

RANK	FOREST ECOSYSTEM SERVICE
1.	 Water  Dev Van-Holy Forest  Ecotourism
2.	 Grass Fodder
3.	 Leaves Fodder
4.	 Fuelwood
5.	 Medicinal Herbs





Intervention map for Shangarh





## Shangarh Activity Budget Line

S. No.	Activity	No.	₹
1	Institutional Training (management, marketing, accountancy, computerization, conflict resolution, team building etc., for panchayat level society	2	40,000
2	Mass awareness about tourism and its benefits among various stakeholders living in surrounding sites	1	80,000
3	Exposure visits to see community-based ecotourism for chosen members	2	1,00,000
4	Training on homestays for selected homestays at the cluster level	2	66,000
5	Three-day residential training on Trekking and Camping at cluster level x 2 Trainings (basic and advanced Levels for 20 persons)	2	85,000
6	Two-day non-residential training on solid waste management for 20 persons	1	20,000
7	Two-day non-residential Culinary Training for 20 persons X 2 Trainings (basic and advanced)	2	66,000
8	Five-day residential Static Campsite Management Training for 20 persons from identified SHG's on cluster level) X 2 trainings (basic and advanced)	2	1,00,000
9	Five-day residential cluster-level training on birdwatching for 20 Persons X2 Trainings (basic and advanced)	2	1,00,000
10	Three-day non-residential training on first aid and rescue for identified trekking guides	2	20,000
11	Training on fire fighting with equipments	1	1,00,000
12	Training for guides on communication and marketing, homestays and local tour operators	1	66,000
13	Other trainings suggested by forest department (SHG training for handicrafts, etc.,)	5	2,38,000
<b>Capacity Building Total</b>			<b>10,81,000</b>
14	FAM Tours of Tour Operators	1	
<b>Events Total</b>			
15	Digitalization of Tourism Resource Mapping of Shangarh Panchayat to identify and verify tourism resources and plan for participatory tourism interventions	1	-
16	Online Promotion through blog, YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and all things mentioned in the marketing strategy	1	-
17	Production of Brochures and other innovative print media with maps & contact information	1	-
18	Pictorial and Text Documentation of all tourism products in the area	1	-
19	Creation of Master Website as marketing hub with linkages	1	-
20	Maintenance of blogs, Web 2 Tools and Websites	2	-

S. No.	Activity	No.	₹
<b>Marketing Communication Media</b>			
21	Binoculars and Books each set x 20 Sets	10	-
22	Basic Mobile Camping Equipment - each 10 Sets of tents, rucksacks, kitchen equipment and sleeping bag	10	-
<b>Eco guide Equipment Total</b>			
24	Office equipment and stationery		3,15,000
<b>Office Total</b>			<b>3,15,000</b>
<b>Hub coordinator/community mobiliser</b>			
<b>Grand total</b>			<b>13,96,000</b>



CHAPTER- 5

Monitoring and Evaluation

Framework for monitoring and evaluation segregated in two sections:

- 1. **M&E undertaken by the HPFD:** Inhouse monitoring of activities against physical and financial indicators as per a pre-defined timeline will be undertaken by the HPFD frontline staff. The work done will be subjected to monitoring framework used by the HPFD. This system will evaluate vegetation and other related ecosystem service flow over a period. Use of GIS based map of JFM areas, with clearly delineated village boundaries will be undertaken by HPFD.
- 2. **Participatory Monitoring by VFDS:** This will comprise group of individuals including a local forest guard of the beat, one member of VFDS nominated by the Executive Committee of VFDS and president of the local Mahila Mandal. This group will provide report against indicators after ground truthing for various activities undertaken in the field. Every two years improvement in livelihood is assessed through socio-economic survey.







VISITOR’S FEEDBACK

S. No.	Name	Address/ E-mail	Feedback

S. No.	Name	Address/ E-mail	Feedback







S. No.	Name	Address/ E-mail	Feedback

S. No.	Name	Address/ E-mail	Feedback





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