Forest Surveys

The procedure to be followed in connection with forest surveys and forest maps is described in the Forest Settlement Rules reproduced in Volume I of the Manual.

Boundary Surveys

In cases where discrepancies arise between maps of the Settlement Department and those of the Forest Department, the boundaries as surveyed by the former department should usually be accepted as correct; if the land has not been surveyed by the Settlement Department, the boundary on the ground should be assumed to be correct. The forest map will be amended if necessary after formal disforestation. In cases when the Divisional Forest Officer has good reasons to believe that the interests of Government have been materially prejudiced by an error in the alignment of the boundary as accepted by the Settlement Department or as marked on the ground, he should report the circumstances, sending a plan of the present line and of the one he considers the correct one to the Collector of the district, who will submit a report on the case through the Conservator of Forests to the Commissioner of the Division. The Commissioner and the Conservator will form a committee to examine the question whether the boundary should be realigned, and in the event of there disagreement the matter will be referred to the Government. In districts under survey of settlement, the Settlement Commissioner will take the place of Commissioner of the Division in this Committee.

(2) When the Committee agrees that part of the forest has been encroached upon, but that it is inadvisable to reinclude the encroachment within the forest boundary, the matter shall be reported to Government by he Commissioner of the Division or Commissioner of Settlements, as the case may be for orders with a recommendations to the mode of settlement of the excluded area.
(3) Until the disposal of a disputed area is properly determined the Forest Department shall refrain from any action in regard to it.

Forest maps can be obtained from the Forest Map Office, Dehra Dun, on indents countersigned by a Divisional Forest Officer or officer of superior rank. Indents for other printed maps from the Map Record and Issue Office, Calcutta, require the counter signature of the Conservator or Chief Conservator.