



**Forest Stewardship Council®**



# **The FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden**



Photo Credit.

From Left to Right:

1. Siberian jay (*Perisoreus infaustus*), a stationary bird in old coniferous forests of Northern Sweden. Credit: Mostphotos AB.
2. Domestic reindeer grazing lichens in the forest. Credit: Mostphotos AB.
3. Harvester thinning a pine forest. Credit: FSC Sweden.



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The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization with the mission to promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC's vision: the true value of forests is recognized and fully incorporated into society worldwide. FSC is the leading catalyst and defining force for improved forest management and market transformation, shifting the global forest trend toward sustainable use, conservation, restoration, and respect for all.



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## PREAMBLE

This standard applies for FSC certified forest management in Sweden. The requirements have been developed by FSC Sweden and are based on the FSC *Principles and Criteria*.

This is the third version of the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden. The first version was published in 1998 and the second in 2010. The standard has been developed by FSC Sweden's members. The members represent economic, social and environmental interests in forests and forest management. The draft standard has undergone two public consultations, during the fall of 2016 and summer of 2018, where all stakeholders were given the opportunity to comment on the standard. All received comments were considered. The FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden was approved by FSC International on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2019, and by the Board of FSC Sweden on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2020.

### DESCRIPTIVE STATEMENT OF THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (FSC)

The Forest Stewardship Council A.C. (FSC) is an international member organization that works for the responsible management of the world's forests.

The Forest Stewardship Council was established in 1993, as a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro, 1992) with the mission to promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

Environmentally appropriate forest management ensures that the production of timber, non-timber products and *ecosystem services* maintains the forest's *biodiversity*, productivity, and ecological processes.

Socially beneficial forest management helps both local people and society at large to enjoy long term benefits. *Gender equality* is promoted and discrimination is counteracted, and *workers* have acceptable working conditions and a good work environment. The rights of *Indigenous Peoples* are respected.

Economically viable forest management means that forest operations are structured and managed so as to be sufficiently profitable, without generating financial profit at the expense of the forest resource, the *ecosystem*, or affected communities. The tension between the need to generate adequate financial returns and the principles of responsible forest operations can be reduced through efforts to market the full range of forest products and services for their best value.

FSC is an international organization that provides a system for voluntary accreditation and independent third-party certification. This system allows certificate holders to market their products and services as the result of environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable forest management. FSC also sets standards for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies (also known as *Certification Bodies*) that certify compliance with FSC's standards. Based on these standards, FSC provides a system for certification for organizations seeking to market their products as FSC certified.

FSC International is also a not-for-profit member organization. The international members are placed in three different chambers: the economic chamber, social chamber and environmental chamber. All members are placed in the chamber that best represents their



interests. Consensus-based decisions are strived for. When voting, all chambers have an equal vote, regardless of the number of members.

FSC Sweden is an independent, not-for-profit member organization within the FSC network. The national members are, just like in FSC International, divided into three chambers with equal decision-making power. The economic chamber, social chamber and environmental chamber are represented by an equal number of representatives in the Board and in working committees.

#### THE FSC NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK

FSC *Principles* and *Criteria* set the framework for responsible forest management within FSC. All FSC Forest Stewardship Standards must comply with the FSC *Principles* and *Criteria*. In the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden, the indicators are adapted to Swedish conditions. Certificate holders are audited against the indicators in the standard. By complying with the indicators, the FSC *Principles* and *Criteria* are also met. FSC first published the FSC *Principles* and *Criteria* in 1994, and the most recent revision occurred in 2012 (*FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2*).

FSC International has developed the *International Generic Indicators – IGI (FSC-STD-60-004)*. The International Generic Indicators are suggestions for indicators and instructions for standard developers that detail the requirements to fulfill each *Criterion*. In the revision of the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden, all International Generic Indicators need to be considered (*FSC-PRO-60-006*).

This standard has been developed in accordance with the FSC requirements for standard development regarding process and structure of the standard (*FSC-STD-60-002* and *FSC-STD-60-006*).

## STRUCTURE OF THE STANDARD

The FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden consist of several parts:

**PREAMBLE:** Here, the framework for the standard and certification are detailed. Relevant parts shall be followed when applying the standard.

**PRINCIPLES:** The ten FSC *Principles* are the essential elements of environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable forest management, and are the same for FSC Standards all over the world.

**CRITERIA:** The FSC *Criteria* specify the requirements within each *Principle*. The FSC *Criteria* are international.

**INDICATORS:** The indicators are developed for Swedish conditions. *The Organization* shall comply with the indicators to fulfill FSC's requirements. Compliance with the indicators leads to the fulfillment of the FSC *Criteria*, which, in turn, leads to the FSC *Principles* being met.

**DIRECTIVES:** Directives are specifications of the requirements in the indicators and shall be fulfilled by *The Organization*. Any exemptions from indicators are written in the directives.

**GUIDANCE:** Guidance is a recommendation and a help to understand what may be required to meet the requirements in the standard. They are written in italics and in grey text.

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS:** Here, the terms used in this standard are defined. Defined terms are marked in italics in this standard.



Any use of “for example”, “may” or “should” in the standard text is always a form of guidance or recommendation, not a requirement.

## SCOPE OF THE STANDARD

The FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden applies for all types of forests in Sweden. Certified forest owners either have their own certificate or are certified through a *group entity*. The whole area of the *Management Unit* is included in the certified area, even though many requirements in this standard only apply for *productive forest land* (i.e. *forest land* that produces an annual volume increment of at least one cubic meter per hectare). The whole forest landscape is counted, including wetlands and small water bodies. Other types of land that are not considered as forest can also be included in the certificate, such as wooded grazing areas.

This standard contains requirements that can differ depending on the size of *The Organization's landholding*. Most requirements in this standard apply for all certified forest owners, regardless of size. Some requirements apply only for large forest owners (with more than 5 000 hectares of *productive forest land*), for forest owners with less than 5 000 hectares of *productive forest land*, or for smallholders (with less than 1 000 hectares of *productive forest land*). This is clearly stated in the applicable requirements.

## SCALE, INTENSITY AND RISK

The FSC *Principles* and *Criteria* are generally independent of spatial *scale* and *intensity* of management activities. Also, the FSC *Principles* and *Criteria* recognize that ways of achieving compliance with the *Principles* and *Criteria* may differ depending on the *scale* and *intensity* of management activities, and on the *risk* of negative impacts related to *The Organization*, the *Management Unit* or management activities.

Depending on *scale*, *intensity* and *risk*, the actions required to comply with the *Principles* and *Criteria* may vary from one *Management Unit* to another. The concept of *scale*, *intensity* and *risk* applies to almost all *Criteria*. For some *Criteria*, explicit reference to *scale*, *intensity* and *risk* is included in specific indicators where it is known from experience that a level of flexibility arising from *scale*, *intensity* and *risk* is required. However, there are also requirements, such as those requiring compliance with laws, that are not liable to adjustments to *scale*, *intensity* and *risk*.

*Scale*, *intensity* and *risk* is applied in different ways in this standard. *Scale* and *risk* are partly handled through the requirements for *landholdings* of different sizes. The whole standard is based on the management of *intensity* and *risk* in that forest owners that choose to carry out certain activities have to make certain adaptations, for instance during forest management activities, planting *exotic tree species*, or establishing wind turbines. Some indicators also refer to *scale*, *intensity* and *risk*; in these cases, *The Organization* shall assess what measures are required.

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLIANCE

Responsibility for ensuring compliance with the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden lies with the person(s) or entities that is/are the certificate holder. For the purpose of FSC certification these person(s) or entities are referred to as '*The Organization*'. *The*



*Organization* is responsible for decisions, policies and management activities related to the *Management Unit*. *The Organization* is also responsible for demonstrating that other persons or entities that are permitted or contracted by *The Organization* to operate in, or for the benefit of the *Management Unit*, comply with the requirements of the FSC *Principles* and *Criteria*. Accordingly, *The Organization* is required to take corrective actions in the event of such persons or entities not being in compliance with this standard.

Forest owners that hold their own FSC certification are responsible for fulfilling the requirements in the standard. For forest owners that are certified through a *group entity*, the division of responsibilities between the group management and the forest owner is regulated in the international FSC standard for group entities (*FSC-STD-30-005*).

## **BASIS FOR CERTIFICATION**

FSC certification is based on internationally recognized principles of third-party certification. All *Certification Bodies* that perform FSC certification services are accredited by Assurance Services International (ASI). ASI is a full member of the ISEAL Alliance and maintains a management system in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011.

FSC does not insist on perfection in satisfying the FSC *Principles* and *Criteria*. Unforeseen changes in cultural, ecological, economic and social environments may cause occasional failures in performance. As the *Principles* and *Criteria* are main components of National Forest Stewardship Standards, certification decisions are guided by the following:

- the extent to which management activities satisfy each FSC *Criterion*.
- the importance and/or consequences of failing to satisfy each FSC *Criterion*.

Failures to meet indicators or *Criteria*, as assessed by *Certification Bodies* in evaluations, may result in minor or major nonconformities and corresponding Corrective Action Requests. Nonconformities that are considered by the *Certification Body* to be significant or repeated may lead to suspension or withdrawal of a certificate (*FSC-STD-20-001* and *FSC-STD-20-007*).

Decisions made by *Certification Bodies* can be appealed by *The Organization* or other parties.

## **INTERPRETATIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS**

Questions of interpretation of the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden can be sent to FSC Sweden. All questions of interpretation are addressed through procedures devised by FSC Sweden. If FSC Sweden assesses that there is a need for interpretation, FSC Sweden will make an interpretation that will be published after approval by FSC International.

Any conflicts and issues of interpretation between Swedish legislation and the requirements of this standard are documented and the *Certification Body* is informed. FSC Sweden is informed in the event of significant conflicts and issues of interpretation.

## **LANGUAGE**

The English version of this standard is the effective version, as this is the version that has been approved by FSC International. In the case of differences between the Swedish and English versions of the standard, the English version applies.





## DESCRIPTIONS OF SPECIFIC PARTS OF THE STANDARD

### External regulatory documents

In this standard, a number of external regulatory documents are referred to that relate to forest management. These are laws, regulations, provisions, guidelines, recommendations and the *forest sector goals* (Sw: lagar, förordningar, föreskrifter, allmänna råd, rekommendationer, skogssektorns målbilder). Laws, regulations, and provisions include requirements that all forest owners must follow regardless of FSC certification. Other documents such as guidelines, recommendations, and the *forest sector goals* have been implemented in indicators and directives in this standard, and thus gained a normative status and shall be followed in FSC-certified forest management.

FSC Sweden will monitor these documents on a continual basis and identify changes or establishment of new laws, regulations, provisions, guidelines, recommendations and goals that are relevant for this standard. References to external regulatory documents in this standard will be updated when necessary.

The list of applicable legislation (Annex 1) in this standard reflects the laws, regulations, and provisions that apply in December 2018. *The Organization* has a responsibility to stay updated on any changes in legislation. Other external regulatory documents referred to in this standard are those that applied when the standard was approved by the Board of FSC Sweden, i.e. on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2020, unless otherwise communicated. A list of applicable regulatory documents, in addition to the list of applicable legislation, is available on FSC Sweden's website.

### FPIC, Sami reindeer herding and concession reindeer herding

The term *Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)* has been integrated into the FSC *Principles and Criteria*. The right to *FPIC* is a key principle of international human rights law. It is intended to protect the *legal and customary rights* of *Indigenous Peoples* and prevent further destruction of their lives, cultures, and livelihoods (*FSC-GUI-30-003*).

*FPIC* relates to the right to participate in decision-making, and to grant, modify, withhold or withdraw consent to operations that affect the rights holder. In this standard, *FPIC* applies to the Sami reindeer herding and is implemented through the *participatory planning process*. Within the *participatory planning process*, the rights and obligations of the reindeer herders and the forest managers are handled. Active participation *in good faith* is required from both parties for the process to be carried out. The *participatory planning process* was developed through *engagement*, and decided in consensus, with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding, following the FSC requirements for National Forest Stewardship Standard Development.

Certain steps in the *participatory planning process* involve dispute resolution. These steps do not replace the FSC procedure for processing complaints (*FSC-PRO-01-008*). This means that if a *stakeholder* thinks that the requirements in this standard have not been met, they can submit a complaint to the *Certification Body*.

The requirements in *Principle 3*, and specifically under *Criterion 3.1*, are based on an agreement that applies within FSC. The agreement does not imply any position regarding rights for reindeer herding in a civil rights context.

In this standard, *concession reindeer herding* is regarded as being equal to other business operations that are covered by the term "local economy". As such, concession Sami villages are defined as *affected stakeholders* under *Principle 4*, with the opportunity for *engagement* in



conjunction with management activities, and *consultation* in conjunction with management activities in areas of special importance.

### **Conservation of environmental values**

Statistics regarding Swedish forests distinguish between *productive forest land*, low-productive forest land and other *low-productive land* (Sw: impediment). The long-term planning and reporting of nature considerations is based on *productive forest land*. According to the Forest Act, management activities may not be carried out on areas of low-productive forest land that are larger than 0.1 hectares. As such, neither low-productive forest land nor other *low-productive land* is included in statistics regarding protected forests.

The statistics also distinguish between formal and voluntary protection of *forest land*. Formally protected forest land normally consists of forests with formal management plan, where the forest owner has received financial compensation. Formally protected forest land is often owned by the state. Voluntary protection includes areas that forest owners choose to set aside without requiring financial compensation.

The *protection of environmental values on forest land*, in addition to areas that are formally protected, is covered by indicators in *Principles 6 and 9* in the National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden. Areas that are exempt from management for timber production, and areas that are managed with *protection* and enhancement of *conservation values* and/or social values as the primary objective, together form a *Conservation Areas Network*.

In this standard, *set aside areas* in indicators 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a are based on the current set of rights, obligations and financial resources in the society. It is assumed that *The Organization* is not discriminated against, when compared to forest owners that are not certified, regarding their right to different types compensation for intrusion by authorities, regardless of the type of forest owner they represent.

Indicator 6.4.1 has been transferred from the previous National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden (*FSC-STD-SWE-02-04-2010*, indicator 6.2.1). *Woodland Key Habitats* have been subject to discussion both within FSC Sweden and in the general debate within the Swedish forest sector. FSC Sweden has initiated a process to discuss *High Conservation Values* and *Woodland Key Habitats* together with relevant stakeholders. Any consensus-based results of these discussions that will require a change in the National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden will follow the FSC requirements for updating National Forest Stewardship Standards.



## THE FSC NATIONAL FOREST STEWARDSHIP STANDARD OF SWEDEN

### PRINCIPLE 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

*The Organization shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements.*

**1.1** The *Organization* shall be a legally defined entity with clear, documented and unchallenged *legal* registration, with written authorization from the *legally competent authority* for specific activities.

This *Criterion* is met through the indicators in *Criterion* 1.2.

**1.2** The *Organization* shall demonstrate that the *legal* status of the *Management Unit*, including tenure and *use rights*, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.

1.2.1 Land titles, legally binding contracts, authorization or other documentation that confirm the right to manage the forest are in place.

1.2.2 The boundaries of all *properties* within the scope of the certificate are registered with Lantmäteriet.

**1.3** The *Organization* shall have *legal* rights to operate in the *Management Unit*, which fit the *legal* status of *The Organization* and of the *Management Unit*, and shall comply with the associated *legal* obligations in *applicable* national and local laws and regulations and administrative requirements. The *legal* rights shall provide for harvest of products and/or supply of *ecosystem services* from within the *Management Unit*. The *Organization* shall pay the legally prescribed charges associated with such rights and obligations.

1.3.1 Management activities are carried out in compliance with *applicable laws* and regulations (Annex 1).

1.3.2 The *management plan* is designed in accordance with all *applicable laws* related to forest management.

1.3.3 Contracts and agreements relating to management activities are complied with and accounted for.

**1.4** The *Organization* shall develop and implement measures, and/or shall engage with regulatory agencies, to *systematically* protect the *Management Unit* from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities.

1.4.1 Relevant authorities are notified of illegal activities.



<p>1.4.2 Engagement is conducted with relevant authorities to avoid, prevent and control illegal activities, when necessary based on <i>scale</i>, <i>intensity</i> and <i>risk</i>.</p>
<p><b>1.5 The Organization shall comply with the applicable national laws, local laws, ratified international conventions and obligatory codes of practice, relating to the transportation and trade of forest products within and from the Management Unit, and/or up to the point of first sale.</b></p>
<p>1.5.1 Compliance with applicable laws and regulations relating to the transportation and trade of forest products up to the point of first sale is demonstrated (Annex 1).</p>
<p><b>1.6 The Organization shall identify, prevent and resolve disputes over issues of statutory or customary law, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner, through engagement with affected stakeholders.</b></p>
<p>1.6.1 Up to date records of <i>legal</i> disputes that relate to management activities, including <i>customary law</i>, are held. The records include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) the steps and approaches taken to reach an agreement out of court,</li><li>b) the outcomes of the process,</li><li>c) unresolved disputes, with the reasons why they are not resolved.</li></ul>
<p>1.6.2 Where there are <i>ongoing legal disputes</i> between the forest owner and rights holder relating to management activities, and where continued operations can compromise the rights that the dispute concerns, the disputed operations cease until the dispute is resolved.</p>
<p><b>1.7 The Organization shall publicize a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption, and shall comply with anti-corruption legislation where this exists. In the absence of anti-corruption legislation, The Organization shall implement other anti-corruption measures proportionate to the scale and intensity of management activities and the risk of corruption.</b></p>
<p>1.7.1 A documented, <i>publicly available</i> policy against corruption is in place and is complied with.</p>
<p>1.7.2 Any indications of corruption are dealt with and corrective measures are implemented accordingly.</p>
<p><b>1.8 The Organization shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria in the Management Unit, and to related FSC Policies and Standards. A statement of this commitment shall be contained in a publicly available document made freely available.</b></p>
<p>1.8.1 A policy is in place that includes a long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with this standard and related FSC Policies and Standards.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 1.8.1: The policy is documented, is <i>publicly available</i>, and is endorsed by an individual with authority to implement the policy.</p>



1.8.2 When jointly owned *properties* become certified, all owners commit to complying with this standard and related FSC Policies and Standards within the certified *property*.

1.8.3 All *landholdings* for which FSC certified forest owners have full ownership and that occur within the same ownership constellation are FSC certified.

DIRECTIVES 1.8.3: Exceptions can be made for forest owners that, for formal reasons, cannot make decisions regarding certification for all parts of the *landholding*. The requirement only applies for *landholdings* in Sweden.

*GUIDANCE 1.8.3: The intention with the exception in the directives for 1.8.3 is to enable certification when parts of the landholding cannot be certified for reasons that relate to decision-making rights. This applies, for example, for The Church of Sweden, where the management of the clergymen's salary assets (Sw: Prästlönetillgångarna) is regulated in the church order and is delegated to dioceses that decide on issues such as certification. This also applies for forest owners that have donation properties with terms that do not enable certification of these properties, but that have other forest holdings that are suitable for certification.*



**PRINCIPLE 2: WORKERS' RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS**

***The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers.***

*GUIDANCE PRINCIPLE 2: Many of the indicators under Principle 2 are intentionally formulated in terms of what benefits workers shall receive, rather than regulating what The Organization shall fulfill. This has been done to ensure that all workers have acceptable working conditions, regardless of how or in which circumstances the person has been engaged in the work.*

*The term "workers" encompasses all workers, regardless of the form of employment or employment relationship, and includes both employed workers and contract workers. The terms "employees" and "staff" are considered to be equivalent. "Contract workers" are workers that do not have an employment relationship with The Organization, such as consultants or contractors. For additional guidance, see the glossary of terms in this standard.*

*Some indicators only set requirements for employers. In cases where The Organization itself is not the employer, The Organization shall have systems in place to check that workers have good working conditions in accordance with the indicator requirements. As such, it is always the responsibility of The Organization to ensure that workers have acceptable working conditions, regardless of whether the work is done by its own staff or by assignment, and regardless of the size of The Organization's landholding.*

*If a contract is written where the responsibility to comply with this standard is transferred to the contract worker, it is important to ensure that the responsibility for the workers is not ignored. In the end, the responsibility to comply with this standard always lies on The Organization.*

**2.1 The Organization shall uphold the principles and rights at work as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) based on the eight ILO Core Labor Conventions.**

The eight ILO Core Labor Conventions:

No. 29: Forced Labor Convention

No. 87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Conventions

No. 98: Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention

No. 100: Equal Remuneration Convention

No. 105: Abolition of Forced Labor Convention

No. 111: Discrimination (Occupation and Employment) Convention

No. 138: Minimum Age Convention

No. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention

**2.1.1** *Workers have the right to organize and negotiate as per Swedish law and the applicable collective agreement.*



<p>2.1.2 <i>Collective agreements</i> that apply to the work are implemented for all <i>employees</i>, regardless of their form of employment. Wages and terms of employment are complied with.</p>
<p>2.1.3 <i>Workers</i> have lasting and secure conditions of employment. Permanent tenure is prioritized as a form of employment for <i>employees</i>.</p>
<p>2.1.4 In the case of shortage of work, the affected employer consults with the relevant labor organizations to mitigate the negative impacts on redundant <i>staff</i>.</p>
<p>2.1.5 Written employment contracts or business agreements with applicable terms are established between <i>workers</i> and employers/contract employers.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.1.5: The contents of the employment contract comply with the Employment Protection Act and the applicable Swedish <i>collective agreement</i>. The contents of business agreements are agreed upon between the parties and follow current practice in the sector (for example Standard Conditions for Forestry-related Contracting (Sw: Allmänna bestämmelser för skogsentreprenad, ABSE)).</p>
<p>2.1.6 When <i>workers</i> are underage (under 18 years old), the specific rules for working hours and work duties stated in the Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions on the working environment of minors are complied with.</p>
<p><b>2.2 The Organization shall promote gender equality in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities.</b></p>
<p>2.2.1 Systems are implemented that promote <i>gender equality</i>.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.2.1: The systems promote <i>gender equality</i> in employment practices, forms of employment, allocation of wages, professional development, and representation at meetings and in decision-making forums. The systems also include a <i>gender equality</i> plan. Employers with 25 or more <i>employees</i> formulate a written <i>gender equality</i> plan in accordance with the Discrimination Act.</p> <p>Mechanisms for reporting gender discrimination are documented and well known. Cases of gender discrimination that arise are investigated, resolved and monitored to ensure that they are not repeated.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 2.2.1: Mechanisms for reporting cases of gender discrimination should be described in the staff policy.</i></p>
<p>2.2.2 Employers work <i>systematically</i> to counteract discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, religion or ethnicity.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.2.2: Employers work <i>systematically</i> with active measures to counteract discrimination in employment practices, form of employment, allocation of wages, professional development, and representation at meetings and in decision-making forums. The extent of the work is adapted according to <i>scale, intensity</i> and <i>risk</i>. Mechanisms for reporting discrimination are documented and well known. Cases of discrimination that arise are investigated, resolved and monitored to ensure that they are not repeated.</p>



*GUIDANCE 2.2.2: Active measures constitute preventative and promotive measures to counteract discrimination, as well as other ways to work for equal rights and opportunities regardless of gender, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other beliefs, disability, sexual orientation or age. Mechanisms for reporting cases of discrimination should be described in the staff policy.*

2.2.3 *Workers' right to leave and compensation as parents/guardians, as regulated by the applicable collective agreement and the Parental Leave Act, is respected.*

2.2.4 Parental leave does not constitute an obstacle for employment/assignments or a justification for compromised working conditions for *workers*.

**2.3 The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.**

2.3.1 The Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions on *Systematic Work Environment Management* (Sw: Systematisk arbetsmiljöarbete, SAM) are applied.

DIRECTIVES 2.3.1: The *Systematic Work Environment Management* is carried out jointly by *employees* and employers. Risk assessments and action plans are documented in written form and *workers* are aware of them. Local agreements about the forms of *engagement* regarding *Systematic Work Environment Management* are reached between the employer and the labor organization.

2.3.2 Consultations are conducted regarding work environment issues in workplaces where more than one company operates.

DIRECTIVES 2.3.2: When necessary, an agreement is reached regarding who is responsible for coordinating safety measures against illnesses and accidents in the shared workplace.

*GUIDANCE 2.3.2: See the Work Environment Act – shared workplace.*

2.3.3 Employers provide safety and healthcare equipment appropriate to assigned tasks as per the law and the applicable *collective agreement*.

2.3.4 Use of appropriate safety and healthcare equipment is enforced.

2.3.5 Accidents and incidents at work are handled and prevented.

DIRECTIVES 2.3.5: Accidents and incidents at work are handled and prevented through the presence and documentation of:

- a) incident reporting,
- b) *occupational injury* reporting,
- c) registration of sick leave as a result of accidents,
- d) safety inspections and risk assessments,





- e) records of overtime where working hours are regulated.

*The Organization* is responsible for documentation of the above for their own *staff*, and that *contract workers* with employed *staff* can present such documentation.

2.3.6 The causes of incidents and/or accidents that have occurred are investigated and documented, and procedures for the *Systematic Work Environment Management* are revised as required.

2.3.7 *Workers*, as *employees*, have access to occupational health services as required for the working conditions.

DIRECTIVES 2.3.7: The occupational health services as required for the working conditions include competence in preventative work environment management as well as job adaptation and rehabilitation services.

2.3.8 A safety and health representative and a safety and health committee are in place as per the Work Environment Act.

DIRECTIVES 2.3.8: Where a local safety and health representative is missing, contact with a regional safety and health representative has been established.

2.3.9 Work and safety instructions, together with emergency procedures, are:

- a) available at the workplace,
- b) understandable to those affected by the work,
- c) known by those affected by the work.

2.3.10 *Staff facilities* are available. For silvicultural and regeneration felling work, the *staff facilities* consist of a staff cabin that is adjacent to the workplace and approved for the work.

DIRECTIVES 2.3.10: At fixed workplaces, furnished facilities shall be available adjacent to the work premises. Access to *staff facilities* shall also be made available at non-sedentary workplaces, although in such cases staff cabins positioned at the workplace can be sufficient.

“Adjacent to the workplace” means next to the workplace or in its immediate vicinity, within walking distance. In exceptional cases – if work is conducted on sporadic occasions or during a very short time (one workday or less) – the distance to the *staff facilities* may be longer and require transportation by car.

“A staff cabin that is approved for the work” relates to the requirements in the Swedish Work Environment Authority’s provisions on workplace design.

To fulfill the requirements for *staff facilities* for forestry work, a staff cabin shall include:

- personal hygiene care/possibility to wash hands with warm water,
- facilities for heating up and eating food,
- comfortable seating, in the case of cold weather in a heated space,

- possibility to change clothing,
- possibility to dry off,
- possibility to store personal clothing separately from work clothing,
- for work near urban areas, access to a toilet shall also be available.

Exceptions from the requirement for a staff cabin adjacent to the workplace can occur in the following cases:

- a) repair work conducted by ambulatory service mechanics,
- b) temporary forestry work conducted during one workday or less,
- c) temporary machine work conducted during one workday or less,
- d) for sites to which it is not practically possible to transport a staff cabin,
- e) when the workday begins and ends where *staff facilities* are available,
- f) where *staff facilities* are available at fixed workplaces (for example, for planning/survey/assessment work and for service mechanics),
- g) where the erection of a staff cabin occurs at a central site within a geographical area, in which several shorter work assignments are intended to be conducted over several days,
- h) forestry work that is conducted as secondary work by reindeer husbandry businesses, where the businessperson conducts the work alone.

The requirements for *staff facilities* are regulated in the Work Environment Act, the Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions on workplace design, related rules of application, the *collective agreement* that applies to the work, and the ILO Code of Practice; Safety and health in forestry work.

2.3.11 *Workers* that are provided with temporary accommodation have good living conditions during the work period.

*GUIDANCE 2.3.11: Sometimes, workers are provided with temporary accommodation, either because the work is not carried out near their home or because the contract employer employs foreign workers that only stay in Sweden during the assignment. It is important that the living conditions are reasonable even in temporary accommodation or temporary stays in Sweden.*

*When the worker is resident in Sweden, the requirements in 2.3.11 apply to living conditions in the temporary accommodation, which are presumed to be of modern comfort and to comply with the standard that is required for personal hygiene, cooking, storage and drying of clothing. In this respect, the accommodation shall be equivalent to permanent accommodation. The requirements in 2.3.11 are not intended to regulate the terms for when the worker independently chooses their temporary accommodation.*

*If the worker stays temporarily in Sweden during the assignment, the requirements in 2.3.11 apply to both the accommodation and living conditions. Such cases in forest work rarely relate to single individuals; rather, it is more common that both the assignment and the accommodation is provided for entire work teams. Joint accommodation for several people should thereby include facilities that are well-suited to the number of people staying there, with regards to sleeping areas that allow for privacy, a dining area and kitchen with*



*the possibility to cook, toilets, washing and shower facilities, facilities to wash and dry clothing, as well as lockable lockers for personal effects.*

*The employer or contract employer is normally responsible for providing accommodation, and thus also for ensuring that the standard of the accommodation fulfills the requirements.*

**2.4 The Organization shall pay wages that meet or exceed minimum forest industry standards or other recognized forest industry wage agreements or living wages, where these are higher than the legal minimum wages. When none of these exist, The Organization shall through engagement with workers develop mechanisms for determining living wages.**

2.4.1 Wages and terms and conditions meet or exceed the local and central *collective agreements* that apply to the work.

DIRECTIVES 2.4.1: Wages and other compensation for *employees* are stated, together with any deductions, on payslips in conjunction with the ordinary salary payment.

2.4.2 Where *contract workers* are hired, the compensation corresponds to the level as per the applicable *collective agreement*.

2.4.3 Conditions for temporary accommodation regarding arrival at work, journeys home, and travel during leave are stated in written form or apparent in the employment contract.

DIRECTIVES 2.4.3: Any payment deductions made in conjunction with temporary accommodation are apparent on the payslip.

2.4.4 *Workers* are familiar with the wages, compensation and conditions that apply for the work. Information about rights and the implications of the *collective agreement* is provided in relevant languages.

*GUIDANCE 2.4.4: Workers shall be aware of their rights and obligations that apply for the work; for example regarding wages and other compensation, applicable working hours for ordinary work times, what they may and may not do at work, and when they have a right to vacation or other leave. Alternatively, workers shall know where such information can be found.*

2.4.5 Labor organizations have the right to visit workplaces of contractual employers provided that the visit has been reported in advance.

**2.5 The Organization shall demonstrate that workers have job-specific training and supervision to safely and effectively implement the management plan and all management activities.**

2.5.1 *Workers* have relevant and up-to-date competence required for the work assignment.

DIRECTIVES 2.5.1: That *workers* have sufficient competence for the work is crucial in applying this standard. To fulfill this, *workers* shall have competence that is equivalent to a completed agricultural high school education with orientation towards forestry, as well as completed courses from the Swedish Vocational Board of Forestry (SYN; Sw: Skogsbrukets yrkesnämnd) for the relevant work assignment. *Workers*:

- a) are familiar with the content, intent and application of the eight ILO Core Labor Conventions.
- b) are aware of the applicable terms of work in the *collective agreement* that applies to the work.
- c) have relevant competence in cultural and environmental resource management, in accordance with SYN or equivalent; have relevant competence for forest ditching, equivalent to the SYN course in protective ditching/ditch cleaning; have relevant competence for soil scarification, equivalent to the SYN course in soil scarification/management.
- d) for work assignments relating to forest inventories and forest management planning, have relevant competence in forest *conservation value assessment*, in accordance with SYN or the equivalent.
- e) for work assignments relating to forest management planning, have relevant competence corresponding to a university college education in forest management planning.

Any insufficiencies in level of education are remedied as soon as possible through specific training and suitable guidance and supervision. Planned and completed trainings are documented.

If temporary *workers* lack relevant competence for forest work, there shall be a supervisor responsible for the work assignment in question, with the necessary competence. This applies primarily for students or for those who, for reasons related to employment policy, are granted an internship or work experience.

2.5.2 Regular performance appraisals and workplace meetings are carried out with both permanent and returning fixed-term *staff*.

DIRECTIVES 2.5.2: A dialogue is held with fixed-term seasonal forest management *staff* at the end of the season. Performance appraisals, workplace meetings and dialogues are documented.

2.5.3 *Workers* are familiar with the up-to-date instructions for management activities.

**2.6 The Organization through engagement with workers shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation to workers for loss or damage to property, occupational diseases, or occupational injuries sustained while working for The Organization.**

2.6.1 Work-related incidents that cause loss and/or damage to property belonging to *workers* are dealt with immediately.

2.6.2 Cases regarding *occupational diseases* or *occupational injuries* are dealt with immediately.

DIRECTIVES 2.6.1 AND 2.6.2: The management of cases according to 2.6.1 and 2.6.2, as well as compensation is developed through *engagement* with the affected parties.



Compensation that is provided shall be fair. Work-related incidents and *occupational diseases* or *injuries* are documented. The documentation includes:

- a) measures carried out to resolve the cases,
- b) outcomes of all cases, including fair compensation,
- c) unresolved cases, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.

*GUIDANCE 2.6.1 AND 2.6.2: Work-related loss or damage of property is normally compensated through supplementary insurance. Occupational diseases and injuries are compensated through insurances according to the collective agreement.*

2.6.3 *Workers* are covered by the social security system and/or by additional insurance from their home country.

**DIRECTIVES 2.6.3:** *The Organization* is responsible for ensuring that *workers* are covered at least by work-related social benefits, together with protection against high healthcare costs in case of accidents or illness during the work assignment period.

The principal rule is that payroll taxes are paid in to the social security system in conjunction with compensation for work conducted within the country, and that *workers* are registered with the National Insurance Office. When exceptions are made from the principal rule, there shall be documentation that shows which benefits and compensations the *workers* are covered by as well as decisions made by Swedish authorities.

*GUIDANCE 2.6.3: Information regarding employee benefits and social security for a foreign workforce is available on the following websites:*

*The Swedish Tax Agency's information: "Rules for working as an employed person in Sweden" is available as a PDF on the Swedish Tax Agency's website.*

*The National Insurance Office's information: "Working in Sweden" is available on the National Insurance Office's website.*

*The Swedish Federation of Green Employers has information on foreign workforce as a PDF in Swedish (Sw: "Utländsk arbetskraft en handledning för medlemsföretag i Gröna arbetsgivare"), available on their website.*



**PRINCIPLE 3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

***The Organization shall identify and uphold Indigenous Peoples' legal and customary rights of ownership, use and management of land, territories and resources affected by management activities.***

**3.1** *The Organization shall identify the Indigenous Peoples that exist within the Management Unit or those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these Indigenous Peoples, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit. The Organization shall also identify areas where these rights are contested.*

3.1.1 *The Organization accepts and respects the customary Sami reindeer herding, and the activities essential to support reindeer herding, that are conducted within the landholding.*

DIRECTIVES 3.1.1: *The Organization identifies the areas within the landholding where customary Sami reindeer herding is conducted. This is done through engagement with affected Sami villages.*

3.1.2 *The legal and customary rights of the Sami reindeer herding are identified and documented for areas within the landholding where customary Sami reindeer herding is conducted.*

DIRECTIVES 3.1.2: *The identification and documentation of the legal and customary rights of the Sami reindeer herding occurs through engagement with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding, and includes:*

- a) *legal and customary rights to use land, water, forests, natural resources and ecosystem services,*
- b) *other applicable legal and customary rights and obligations,*
- c) *evidence of these rights and obligations,*
- d) *areas where the rights are contested,*
- e) *how The Organization handles rights and contested rights,*
- f) *the Sami villages' goals in relation to the forest management.*

**3.2** *The Organization shall recognize and uphold the legal and customary rights of Indigenous Peoples to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Management Unit to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources and lands and territories. Delegation by Indigenous Peoples of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent.*

3.2.1 *The legal and customary rights of the Sami reindeer herding are not violated.*

DIRECTIVES 3.2.1: *If such violation occurs, it is corrected through engagement with the rights holder.*

3.2.2 Large forest owners: A *participatory planning process* is offered to the *Sami villages* whose *legal* or *customary rights* are affected by management activities planned within the *landholding*.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.2: The *participatory planning process* is offered to *Sami villages* that are affected by planned management activities within the coming 5-7 years, provided that the *Sami villages* have described to *The Organization* how they use the land within the area defined according to 3.1.1. The description can be given digitally, verbally or through physical copies of maps.

The *participatory planning process* covers the following management activities within the *Sami village*:

- regeneration felling,
- *continuous cover forestry* in areas above the *nature conservation boundary*,
- the method for soil scarification,
- the choice of tree species,
- prescribed burning,
- the use of *exotic tree species*,
- fertilization,
- road construction.

The *participatory planning process* is normally conducted annually by the initiative of *The Organization*, provided that management activities are planned to be carried out. *Sami villages* that utilize the same area are invited to a joint *participatory planning process*. The results of the process are documented and the *Sami villages* that do not participate in the joint process are informed of the outcome within the overlapping area.

A prerequisite for the *participatory planning process* to be conducted in an efficient and appropriate manner is that both parties show respect and understanding for each other's rights. *The Organization* shall respect the *Sami village's* land use description and coordinate management activities that are included in the *participatory planning process* with this description. The *Sami village* is responsible for ensuring that *The Organization* is provided with an updated description of their land use.

Management activities are not carried out before the *participatory planning process* has been conducted.

*GUIDANCE 3.2.2: The participatory planning process has been developed jointly with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding and is based on the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). The parties seek common solutions within this framework so that the proposed management activities can be carried out. The premise is that the land can be used by both parties.*

*It is important for both The Organization and the Sami village to have access to maps and information in a GIS system in order to review the proposed activities and their impacts.*

3.2.3 Large forest owners: The *participatory planning process* is conducted *in good faith* with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding in order to secure the rights that are affected by the forest management.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.3: The purpose of the *participatory planning process* is to allow for both reindeer herding and forest management activities to occur. The *participatory planning process* is conducted through a landscape perspective, so that both parties get a better overview of the cumulative effect of the proposed activities. As such, both parties are expected to consider all aspects that affect their ability to utilize the land.

The *participatory planning process* is initiated when *The Organization*, in a timely manner, sends an invitation for participatory planning to the affected *Sami village*. Documents regarding the proposed management activities are sent with the invitation, including information about the point in time, choice of method, tree species, planned considerations for reindeer herding, and other factors that affect the areas in which the activities are proposed. *The Organization* checks with each *Sami village* to determine when in the year the *participatory planning process* can be conducted.

The first participatory planning meeting is conducted within six weeks after *The Organization* sends the invitation and documents to the *Sami village*, unless otherwise agreed. During the meeting, the proposed management activities, the *Sami village's* opinions, and the need for considerations for each activity are methodically reviewed. If a proposed management activity has a negative impact on the grazing conditions in the area, the parties shall jointly develop measures that can reduce the negative impact and allow for the management activity to be carried out.

If the parties cannot agree on a solution, a second participatory planning meeting is conducted. An alternative is to conduct a field visit to the area affected by the management activity, instead of or in addition to the second meeting. Such a field visit is intended to increase the understanding of the area's importance to each party, and is an opportunity to discuss adaptations based on the actual conditions in the area.

During the participatory planning meetings, the representatives for the *Sami village* are expected to have the mandate to discuss and make decisions regarding management activities within the whole *Sami village*. The *Sami village* needs review the documents with the proposed management activities and gain an understanding of how these affect reindeer herding in the area as a whole. The *Sami village* shall ask for additional information if there are any unclarities. Both parties shall have the mandate to adapt the proposed activities, in time and in spatial extent, to avoid or limit the negative impacts for the other party. It is important for each party to clearly state when the discussions go beyond their mandate.

Minutes are taken for the participatory planning meetings and potential field visits that include the opinions of the *Sami village*. The minutes are approved by both parties.

*GUIDANCE 3.2.3: A landscape perspective allows the management activities to be analyzed in a larger context. With the help of the Sami village's description of how they use the land, The Organization and the representatives of the Sami village can agree on adaptations. Adaptations can also be made in adjacent parts of the landscape to allow for the management activities to be carried out without disabling reindeer herding.*



*Precommercial or commercial thinning to increase accessibility or improve grazing conditions, adapting the regeneration felling area, or using less harmful methods of soil scarification are examples of positive measures that can allow for implementation of the proposed management activities.*

*It is recommended that the parties discuss and agree on what good faith means in the specific participatory planning process already during the first planning meeting. An example can be to establish a written code of conduct for the continued process of engagement.*

3.2.4 Large forest owners: Within the scope of the *participatory planning process*, the representatives of the Sami reindeer herding are given the opportunity to give consent to the proposed management activities.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.4: The representatives of the *Sami village* can choose to give consent to the proposed management activity, together with the considerations and any adaptations that are agreed upon in the *participatory planning process*, or choose not to give consent to the activity. This can occur when the representatives for the *Sami village* consider the *legal and customary rights* of the Sami reindeer herding to be threatened in a way that *disables reindeer herding* after the *participatory planning process* has been conducted.

There are three possible ways to proceed in the cases when consent is not given, where *The Organization* and the representatives for the *Sami village* are:

- a) **in agreement** that the management activity will not be carried out during the participatory planning period in question. *The Organization* and the representatives for the *Sami village* have jointly identified and agreed to implement positive measures that will lead to improved grazing conditions in the area over time. The representatives for the *Sami village* have given consent for the activity to be carried out within the next participatory planning period, at the earliest in five years, or;
- b) **in agreement** that all possibilities for both parties to adapt operations have been considered, and that the reindeer herding is affected to such an extent that the management activity cannot be carried out within the participatory planning period in question. *The Organization* abstains from carrying out the activity at the site, and the activity is brought up for participatory planning again, at the earliest in five years. At the next *participatory planning process* for the activity, the prevailing conditions as well as positive adaptations or measures that have been carried out during the abstention period are considered, or;
- c) **not in agreement** regarding whether the management activity *disables reindeer herding*, and/or that all possibilities for adaptation from both parties have been considered. *The Organization* or representatives for the *Sami village* can then call for mediation to agree on a solution. If the parties are still not in agreement after mediation, a review from a *dispute resolution committee* can be called for. Requests for mediation or a review from a *dispute resolution committee* are made to FSC Sweden.

The *dispute resolution committee* reviews whether all steps in the *participatory planning process* have been fulfilled. For the *dispute resolution committee* to step in, all positive measures that could allow for the proposed management activity to be carried out must have been considered, and the representatives of the *Sami village* must provide a

description of how the management activity *disables reindeer herding* within the *Sami village*. The description shall include:

- the impact of the proposed management activity on the reindeer herding, with reference to the description of how the land is utilized by the *Sami village* and with consideration for measures that could facilitate the reindeer herding,
- the time period during which the impact of the proposed forest management activity would continue,
- if there are measures that *The Organization* could take to limit or avoid the negative impact,
- how reindeer herding has been adapted to enable the management activity to be carried out.

If the parties still cannot reach an agreement after mediation and after the *dispute resolution committee* has assessed that all possible adaptations from both parties have been considered in the *participatory planning process*, i.e. the representatives of the *Sami village* withhold their consent and the forest owner still intends to carry out the planned activity, it is up to *The Organization* to either:

- a) raise the management activity for participatory planning again once the forest grazing conditions have changed, or;
- b) carry out the activity without the consent of the *Sami village*. In this case, it is *The Organization's* responsibility to show that:
  - the claims for consideration made by the *Sami village* will substantially affect the long-term forest management. This applies when consent for management activities is withheld for a time period that exceeds *The Organization's* long-term plans, or;
  - the *Sami village* has withheld consent for a type of activity in general, without giving an account of how the activity *disables reindeer herding* in the area in question.

3.2.5 Large forest owners: Management activities that are handled in the *participatory planning process* are carried out as agreed by *The Organization* and the representatives of the *Sami reindeer herding*.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.5: *The Organization* presents the activities that have been agreed upon and carried out, as well as any deviations from the agreement, as part of the subsequent *participatory planning process*.

3.2.6 Forest owners with *landholdings* of less than 5 000 hectares of *productive forest land*: *Engagement* is offered to the *Sami villages* whose *legal* or *customary rights* are affected by management activities that are planned within the *landholding*.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.6: *Engagement* is conducted according to 4.5.2 and 4.5.4, as well as *consultation* according to 4.5.3, where necessary. *Sami villages* that utilize the same area are invited to a joint process of *engagement*. The results of the process are documented and the *Sami villages* that do not participate in the joint process are informed of the outcome within the overlapping area.

3.2.7 The following considerations are made when planning and carrying out management activities, unless otherwise agreed with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding:

- a) special considerations are made for forests with a high abundance of arboreal lichens (Sw: hänglavsrika skogar),
- b) *buffer zones* along watercourses and wetlands, as well as tree groups within or adjacent to the felling area, are retained on lands within the reindeer herding area as sources of dispersal for arboreal lichens,
- c) *exotic tree species* are not established within areas of particular importance to reindeer herding according to 3.5.1,
- d) lichen areas within the reindeer herding area are not subject to prescribed burning.

3.2.8 Large forest owners: Activities that are carried out as agreed with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding in the *participatory planning process* are monitored.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.8: Activities are monitored jointly with the *Sami villages* involved in the participatory planning. Joint monitoring is initiated by *The Organization*. The monitoring is adapted regarding the choice of method, when and how often joint monitoring is required, and based on the extent of the management activities affecting reindeer herding within the *Sami village*. Monitoring is documented, and the *Sami village* is given the opportunity to read and comment on the summarized documentation.

3.2.9 Large forest owners: The *participatory planning process* is monitored and evaluated annually in order to develop and improve the process.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.9: The monitoring and evaluation of the *participatory planning process* is conducted jointly by representatives for the Sami reindeer herding, as appointed by Sámiid Riikkasearvi (Svenska Samernas Riksförbund), and representatives of *The Organization*.

3.2.10 Affected *Sami villages* are consulted prior to any planning of land conversion within the reindeer herding area.

DIRECTIVES 3.2.10: Information regarding permanent establishments and other objects essential to reindeer herding, as well as whether the changes can lead to considerable disturbances for the reindeer herding, is documented when affected *Sami villages* are consulted. Land conversion is carried out in accordance with 6.9.1 and 6.9.2.

**3.3 In the event of delegation of control over management activities, a binding agreement between *The Organization* and the *Indigenous Peoples* shall be concluded through *Free, Prior and Informed Consent*. The agreement shall define its duration, provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic conditions and other terms and conditions. The agreement shall make provision for monitoring by *Indigenous Peoples of The Organization's* compliance with its terms and conditions.**

3.3.1 Large forest owners: Representatives for the Sami reindeer herding are given the opportunity:

- a) to consider single management activities that affect their legal or customary rights, through the participatory planning process, or



- b) to give general consent for a certain period, certain activities or certain areas.

DIRECTIVES 3.3.1: The conciliation agreement in Härjedalen meets the requirements in 3.3.1.

3.3.2 Large forest owners: Where general consent has been given for management activities, a binding agreement is concluded between the parties that regulates:

- a) the duration of consent,
- b) provisions for renegotiation,
- c) renewal and termination of the agreement,
- d) economic conditions and other terms and conditions,
- e) how the agreement shall be monitored.

**3.4 The Organization shall recognize and uphold the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples as defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989).**

The requirements in *Criterion* 3.4 are fulfilled by following this standard.

**3.5 The Organization, through engagement with Indigenous Peoples, shall identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance and for which these Indigenous Peoples hold legal or customary rights. These sites shall be recognized by The Organization and their management, and/or protection shall be agreed through engagement with these Indigenous Peoples.**

3.5.1 The following sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for the Sami are identified through *engagement* with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding:

- a) old settlements and other Sami cultural remains,
- b) work corrals,
- c) culturally important paths,
- d) sacrificial places, or other spiritual values.

3.5.2 Measures to protect sites of special significance are agreed, documented and implemented through *engagement*. When the representatives for the Sami reindeer herding determine that physical identification of the sites of special significance, in documentation or on maps, would threaten the spiritual value or *protection* of the sites, then other means are used.

*GUIDANCE 3.5.2: Verbal communication is an example of other means.*

3.5.3 Management activities within previously unidentified sites of special significance cease immediately, until *The Organization* and representatives for the Sami reindeer herding have reached an agreement regarding the *protection* of the site.

**3.6 The Organization shall uphold the right of Indigenous Peoples to protect and utilize their traditional knowledge and shall compensate local communities for the utilization of such knowledge and their intellectual property. A binding agreement as**



per *Criterion 3.3* shall be concluded between *The Organization* and the *Indigenous Peoples* for such utilization through *Free, Prior and Informed Consent* before utilization takes place, and shall be consistent with the *protection of intellectual property rights*.

3.6.1 The traditional knowledge and *intellectual property* of the Sami are respected during forest operations and are only used after consent has been given and/or a binding agreement has been concluded with the rights holder.

*GUIDANCE 3.6.1: Traditional knowledge refers to, for example, Sami designs, traditional Sami symbols, the publication of Sami narratives or stories, and describing products or services as Sami products or services.*

3.6.2 Any compensation is given according to the binding agreement.



**PRINCIPLE 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

***The Organization shall contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of local communities.***

**4.1 The Organization shall identify the local communities that exist within the Management Unit and those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these local communities, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit.**

4.1.1 Local communities that may be affected by forest management are identified prior to management activities.

4.1.2 Physical or legal persons' legal rights to the land, as well as use rights and easements, are documented.

**4.2 The Organization shall recognize and uphold the legal and customary rights of local communities to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Management Unit to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and territories. Delegation by local communities of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent.**

4.2.1 Legal rights, use rights and easements are respected.

4.2.2 The Right of Public Access (Sw: Allemansrätten) is respected, defended and cherished.

*GUIDANCE 4.2.2: See the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's website. Commercial use or operations conducted by a businessperson that go beyond the Right of Public Access should be regulated through an agreement.*

**4.3 The Organization shall provide reasonable opportunities for employment, training and other services to local communities, contractors and suppliers proportionate to scale and intensity of its management activities.**

The indicators under *Criterion 4.3* also contribute to meeting the requirements of *Criterion 5.4*.

*GUIDANCE 4.3: The implication of "local" under 4.3 will vary on a case-by-case basis. It is not possible to give a clear definition of "local" that fits all the indicators under this Criterion. The intention is to provide locals with opportunities for employment and training, or the opportunity to contribute with other services. Measures are adapted to the extent of forest management on a local scale.*

4.3.1 Local businesses and local employment, related to management activities, are given priority where a combined assessment of collective agreements, costs, quality and availability show that these are at least equivalent to non-local alternatives.

*GUIDANCE 4.3.1: The intention of 4.3.1 is to give locals increased opportunities for employment within the scope of their business operations, or as employees in the forest*



*management. Forest management, which is often conducted locally as well as in sparsely populated areas, can in this way contribute to thriving rural areas. Added costs for The Organization may be required so that the purpose of Principle 4, to maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of local communities, can be achieved.*

4.3.2 When formulating tender documents for the purchase of goods and services, the importance of local alternatives and locally operating businesses and contractors is stressed.

DIRECTIVES 4.3.2: The exclusion of small companies is avoided in tender documents.

4.3.3 Local suppliers of goods and services are prioritized over non-local suppliers, where preconditions for a long-term business relationship exist.

DIRECTIVES 4.3.3: The requirement in 4.3.3 relates to the use of local alternatives, or actively providing opportunities for local suppliers to submit bids, offers, or the equivalent. Where pre-conditions exist for local alternatives to develop into competitive suppliers, these shall be given the opportunity to accept shorter/smaller assignments, even if they are not completely comparable to non-local alternatives, and so that they can be subsequently evaluated.

For Organizations or members of *group entities* that are subject to the Swedish Public Procurement Act, the following applies instead: local suppliers of services and goods are given priority where these are comparable to non-local alternatives in terms of costs, quality, and availability. Local contractors' opportunities for tendering are encouraged within the scope of the law.

4.3.4 Local processing of raw materials is strived for, where possible while taking market conditions into account.

DIRECTIVES 4.3.4: For companies with their own processing facilities, 4.3.4 applies after the company has met its own processing needs.

4.3.5 Where local alternatives are not available, *reasonable* attempts are made to contribute to the establishment of local business and employment opportunities.

*GUIDANCE 4.3.5: "Reasonable attempts" can be to advertise the need for local contractors, or alternatively, a local workforce in the local media and in social media. When a local workforce is needed, engagement with the Swedish Public Employment Service, and preferably local investments in self-employment, should be carried out.*

4.3.6 Measures are taken to establish long-term, stable and mutually beneficial relationships with contractor businesses.

**4.4 The Organization shall implement additional activities, through engagement with local communities, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale, intensity and socio-economic impact of its management activities.**

4.4.1 Measures are implemented, in proportion to the local *landholdings* of The Organization, to contribute to the social and economic development of *local communities*.

*GUIDANCE 4.4.1: Examples of measures include:*

- *contributions, in the form of money or benefits in kind, to school forests or local non-profit organizations with activities relating to forests,*
- *supporting small-scale local business enterprises,*
- *prioritizing local populations in the lease of hunting and fishing rights, possibly at a lower fee,*
- *giving local nature tourism businesses priority to leases,*
- *granting land for outdoor and sporting establishments, such as nature trails and resting places,*
- *a positive approach to local outdoor, sporting and cultural arrangements on the landholdings,*
- *keeping roads open to the public, when possible and when taking seasonal variations into account.*

4.4.2 Large forest owners: *Systematic work to contribute to the long-term social and economic development of local communities is conducted.*

*GUIDANCE 4.4.2: In this context, “systematic work” means having procedures to suggest measures that contribute to the long-term social and economic development of local communities, as well as carrying out and evaluating these measures.*

**4.5 The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of those activities and negative impacts.**

4.5.1 Areas of importance to *local communities* for outdoor recreation, culture, or local economy, that may be negatively impacted by current activities, are documented and *affected stakeholders* are identified.

DIRECTIVES 4.5.1: The *forest sector goals* for social values (Sw: målbilder för sociala värden) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

*GUIDANCE 4.5.1: Areas of importance to local communities can be forests near urban areas, forests used primarily for recreation, resting places, or paths and trails. Areas important for the local economy can be areas utilized for concession reindeer herding.*

4.5.2 *Engagement* is carried out for areas identified in 4.5.1, in a timely manner, before the commencement of planned management activities.

DIRECTIVES 4.5.2: *Engagement* can be carried out by initiative of *The Organization* or upon request by an *affected stakeholder*. The type of *engagement* is adapted to the situation and based on the opinions of *affected stakeholders*.

*GUIDANCE 4.5.2: Engagement is an exchange of information to make considerations and adapt management activities to reduce the negative effects on recreational values and values important for the local economy. Engagement can also be used to identify activities that can have a positive effect.*



*The approach and content of the engagement process is adapted to the participants, as well as the planned management activity. Several different types of engagement can be carried out, such as information, dialogue or consultation. For consultation, see 4.5.3 as well as related directives and guidance.*

*Engagement can occur as a step in the planning process prior to a management activity in a site or for a larger area, as well as in monitoring and evaluation of implemented activities. If several different management activities are planned within the same area or for the near future, these can all be handled in the same engagement process.*

*As a first step, The Organization assesses which type of engagement is most suitable for the situation. The contact method, information, and process are adapted to the circumstances of each party and the value of the site for affected stakeholders, with the purpose of ensuring that:*

- *the parties are given enough time to acquaint themselves with the planned management activities and their impact,*
- *the parties are given the opportunity to receive information adapted to their level of knowledge and areas of interest,*
- *the affected parties are represented.*

*Engagement should be documented so that the outcomes can be monitored.*

*The interpretation of what “in a timely manner” means may vary. The exchange of information and dialogue should occur at least two weeks before the management activity, in the form of:*

- *informative signs, including contact details and a description of the management activity,*
- *information by mail or posted in a public place,*
- *advertisement in the local media,*
- *telephone calls.*

*In more complex situations, the initiative should be taken to conduct individual meetings or briefings at least six weeks before the management activity is planned to be carried out.*

**4.5.3 Consultations** are carried out for areas of special importance to *local communities*: for outdoor recreation, culture, or local economy.

**DIRECTIVES 4.5.3:** *Consultation* can be carried out by initiative of *The Organization* or upon request by an *affected stakeholder*. *Consultation* is normally not carried out with single individuals or for issues that relate to the *Right of Public Access* (Sw: Allemansrätten). In such cases, a different type of *engagement* is chosen. Areas of special importance and the need for *consultation* are identified through *engagement* with *affected stakeholders*.

*The Organization* can refrain from conducting *consultations* for management activities that are considered to have a small-scale impact on areas of special importance. The justification for not conducting a *consultation* is communicated to the *affected stakeholders*.

A *consultation* shall meet the following requirements:

- a) An invitation for *consultation*, including the time and place of the meeting, contact details of the inviting party, information about the area, and a map with an overview of the planned activities (in text or visual format), is sent to *affected stakeholders* at least six weeks before the management activity is planned to commence.
- b) Minutes from the *consultation* shall be written that include the opinions received from *stakeholders*. Participating *stakeholders* shall be given the opportunity to comment on the minutes. Comments shall be included in the minutes.
- c) A record of the *consultation* shall be made, including the minutes from the *consultation*, how *The Organization* responds or caters to the opinions received in the *consultation*, and decisions taken regarding management activities. The decision about management activities is made by *The Organization* after the *consultation* has been carried out. The *consultation* record shall be shared with the participants prior to the commencement of the management activities.

*GUIDANCE 4.5.3: Consultations are carried out to collect opinions from the local community or other stakeholders and constitute a basis for decisions about any management activities. The consultation meeting is primarily intended for communication, not for making decisions. Procedures to identify and receive opinions are adapted to the extent of the forest management locally. The Organization defines the internal distribution of responsibilities for handling and evaluating opinions.*

*The consultation is characterized by the following:*

- *clarity on the process and purpose of the consultation,*
- *openness from all parties involved,*
- *dialogue that builds trust.*

*Affected stakeholders are normally primarily impacted by large-scale management activities such as regeneration felling. However, consultation may also be necessary for other large-scale management activities that have a substantial effect, both as a step in the management planning and as a part of monitoring and evaluation of the management activities within an area.*

*It is often best to meet at the site in the forest, so that the planned management activities and the opinions of stakeholders can be clarified at the site. One meeting is often enough, although two meetings may be necessary in complex cases, such as if multiple sites or stakeholders are affected. Information about the planned management activities should be given at least two weeks before the management activities are commenced (see guidance for 4.5.2).*

4.5.4 Management activities are adapted based on the identified values in affected areas and the opinions expressed during *engagement*.

**DIRECTIVES 4.5.4:** Considerations that are made according to 4.5.4 are documented and may be counted in 6.5.2d-e. The extent of considerations shall be proportionate to the values and the extent of forest management. *The Organization* makes the final decision about the choice of activity.

4.5.5 Management activities do not negatively impact the accessibility of publicly used paths, permanent tracks or trails, and paths of cultural and historic interest.



<p>4.5.6 Damage to publicly used paths, permanent tracks and trails, and paths of cultural and historic interest is repaired.</p>
<p><b>4.6 The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and providing fair compensation to local communities and individuals with regard to the impacts of management activities of The Organization.</b></p>
<p>4.6.1 Inquiries, opinions and <i>complaints</i> are handled <i>systematically</i> and in a credible way in relation to the <i>stakeholder</i>.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 4.6.1: The management of inquiries, opinions and <i>complaints</i> is adapted in proportion to <i>scale, intensity</i> and <i>risk</i>. A <i>systematic</i> and credible management of <i>complaints</i> includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) <i>publicly available</i> contact details for conveying inquiries, opinions and <i>complaints</i> to <i>The Organization</i>,</li><li>b) confirmation of receipt and information about how and when the matter will be handled,</li><li>c) that planned and implemented measures are communicated,</li><li>d) that an internal timeframe is in place for handling and implementing b and c,</li><li>e) that the communication method is adapted to the <i>stakeholder</i>.</li></ul>
<p>4.6.2 There is a documented and <i>publicly available</i> general description of how <i>The Organization</i> handles opinions and <i>complaints</i>.</p>
<p><b>4.7 The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, and for which these local communities hold legal or customary rights. These sites shall be recognized by The Organization, and their management and/or protection shall be agreed through engagement with these local communities.</b></p> <p>This <i>Criterion</i> is met by the indicators under <i>Criterion</i> 4.5. These indicators cover <i>engagement</i> to adapt management activities to areas of importance for <i>local communities</i>. <i>Consultation</i> for areas of special importance is covered in indicator 4.5.3. The management and/or <i>protection</i> of such areas is addressed by the adaptation of management activities in proportion to the identified values, as per indicator 4.5.4.</p>
<p><b>4.8 The Organization shall uphold the right of local communities to protect and utilize their traditional knowledge and shall compensate local communities for the utilization of such knowledge and their intellectual property. A binding agreement as per Criterion 3.3 shall be concluded between The Organization and the local communities for such utilization through Free, Prior and Informed Consent before utilization takes place, and shall be consistent with the protection of intellectual property rights.</b></p> <p>There are no indicators under this <i>Criterion</i>. The <i>Criterion</i> is only applicable for the protection of Sami traditional knowledge and <i>intellectual property</i>, which is covered in <i>Criterion</i> 3.6.</p>



**PRINCIPLE 5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST**

*The Organization shall efficiently manage the range of multiple products and services of the Management Unit to maintain or enhance long-term economic viability and the range of social and environmental benefits.*

**5.1** *The Organization shall identify, produce, or enable the production of diversified benefits and/or products, based on the range of resources and ecosystem services existing in the Management Unit in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy proportionate to the scale and intensity of management activities.*

5.1.1 Forest owners aim for methods of silviculture and forest management that generate optimal utilization of the diversity of resources and ecosystem services that the forest can provide.

5.1.2 The forest productivity is utilized according to the forest owner's management objectives.

5.1.3 Forest management is conducted through a responsible and long-term utilization of the forest production capacity.

**5.2** *The Organization shall normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit at or below a level which can be permanently sustained.*

5.2.1 Timber harvesting levels do not exceed the harvest level that can be permanently sustained in the landholding.

DIRECTIVES 5.2.1: Large forest owners calculate long-term sustainable harvest levels using the regional divisions of the landholding. Forest owners with landholdings of less than 5 000 hectares of productive forest land base the calculations on their forest management plan.

5.2.2 Commercial use of other forest resources occurs at levels that are sustainable in the long term.

**5.3** *The Organization shall demonstrate that the positive and negative externalities of operations are included in the management plan.*

There are no indicators under this Criterion. This Criterion is not considered to contribute to a responsible forest management; rather, it would lead to a more complicated FSC standard and added costs without any positive impact in the forest.

**5.4** *The Organization shall use local processing, local services, and local value adding to meet the requirements of The Organization where these are available, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk. If these are not locally available, The Organization shall make reasonable attempts to help establish these services.*

This Criterion is met by the indicators under Criterion 4.3.



**5.5** *The Organization* shall demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to *scale, intensity* and *risk*, its commitment to long-term economic viability.

5.5.1 The *management plan* is designed to ensure a long-term economically viable forest management.

5.5.2 Expenditures and investments are made to implement the *management plan* and meet the requirements of this standard.



**PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND IMPACTS**

***The Organization shall maintain, conserve and/or restore ecosystem services and environmental values of the Management Unit, and shall avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts.***

**6.1** ***The Organization shall assess environmental values in the Management Unit and those values outside the Management Unit potentially affected by management activities. This assessment shall be undertaken with a level of detail, scale and frequency that is proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary conservation measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities.***

6.1.1 *General conservation values and habitats in the landscape are identified.*

**DIRECTIVES 6.1.1:** *Conservation values outside of the landholding that are clearly affected by management activities, positively or negatively, are also considered. The frequency, extent and level of detail of the assessment is adapted to the scale, intensity and risk of the forest management. The assessment shall be sufficient for decisions regarding necessary conservation measures to be made, and for any negative effects of the forest management to be detected, monitored and evaluated.*

**GUIDANCE 6.1.1:** *The purpose of the indicator is to provide an overview of the general conservation values that are present in the landholding or the landscape. The identification can be conducted on a regional level, in conjunction with ecological landscape planning or forest management planning, by compiling information from official sources such as municipalities, County Administrative Boards, the Swedish Forest Agency, or the Swedish Species Information Centre. Communication with large forest owners with Ecological Landscape Plans that affect the surrounding properties may also be required.*

6.1.2 *A general analysis of conservation values and habitats that are lacking in the landscape is conducted to identify prioritized conservation values and habitats.*

**GUIDANCE 6.1.2:** *Prioritized conservation values and habitats can include habitats that are lacking in the landscape; for example, habitats or structures that can harbor many red-listed species, habitats that are underrepresented in the landscape, or habitats that are disadvantaged by the current or historic forest management. The analysis can also include objectives for strengthening existing conservation values within the landscapes.*

**6.2** ***Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, The Organization shall identify and assess the scale, intensity and risk of potential impacts of management activities on the identified environmental values.***

6.2.1 *A conservation value assessment is conducted and documented as part of the site planning, generally when the ground is free from snow cover, prior to regeneration felling, final thinning and forest road construction.*

**DIRECTIVES 6.2.1 AND 6.2.2:** *To achieve sufficient consistency and a reliable result, the methodology for assessing conservation values shall be well structured and tested, and include appropriate instructions for application. The Swedish Forest Agency or other experts with equivalent competence shall regularly be consulted so that those conducting*

the *conservation value assessment* are calibrated in terms of identifying high nature *conservation values*, including *Woodland Key Habitats*. Training of those conducting the *conservation value assessment* is adapted to the challenges of identifying *conservation values* on the *landholding* that are difficult to assess.

The methodology used for *conservation value assessment* shall be communicated to the *Certification Body*. An extensive description of the methodology shall be available and be shown upon request.

When constructing forest roads, the assessment of conservation values is conducted for stands that are affected by the course of the road.

The methodology is also used as a basis for designing measures in conjunction with other management activities, for example when selecting areas to be set aside for nature conservation purposes (6.5.1 and 6.5.2a), in the analysis of *conservation values* and *habitats* that are lacking in the *landscape* (6.1.2), and in the ecological landscape planning (6.8).

*GUIDANCE 6.2.1: Results of the conservation value assessment and the occurrence of indicator species or red-listed species are weighted together as factors that may indicate the presence of high nature conservation values or a Woodland Key Habitat.*

*A conservation value assessment based on species surveys demands extensive fieldwork, and a high level of biological competence and species knowledge. A more appropriate approach for most Organizations is the use of systematic assessments of the potential for biodiversity in an area, as reflected by the presence of habitat features and environmental conditions that are important for the organisms. The assessment must be sufficiently extensive to cover the habitat requirements of the different groups of organisms, and should illustrate:*

- *topography and soil conditions,*
- *hydrology,*
- *stand climate,*
- *the composition and character of the tree layer,*
- *trees with qualities that are important for biodiversity,*
- *different types of dead wood,*
- *vegetation cover,*
- *fertility,*
- *substrates and structures associated with natural disturbance dynamics,*
- *historical land use.*

6.2.2 The methodology and application of the *conservation value assessment* is evaluated on a regular basis.

**6.3 The Organization shall identify and implement effective actions to prevent negative impacts of management activities on the *environmental values*, and to**



mitigate and repair those that occur, proportionate to the *scale, intensity and risk* of these impacts.

6.3.1 The results of identification and analysis as per 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 are used to assess what measures are needed to *conserve* or enhance prioritized *conservation values* and *habitats*.

6.3.2 Management activities and nature conservation measures are carried out according to 6.3.1 to *conserve* or enhance prioritized *conservation values* and *habitats* in the *landscape*.

**6.4 The Organization shall protect rare species and threatened species and their habitats in the Management Unit through conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities and to the conservation status and ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species. The Organization shall take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare and threatened species beyond the boundary of the Management Unit, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit.**

6.4.1 The following *habitats* are exempt from all management activities other than management required to maintain or promote natural *biodiversity* or *biodiversity* conditioned by traditional land use practices:

- a) natural, conspicuously uneven-aged and stratified forests with an abundance of old/large trees and a high frequency of coarse dead woody debris in different stages of decomposition,
- b) Woodland Key Habitats according to the definition and methodology of the Swedish Forest Agency (1995),
- c) low-productive land (land with a total annual volume increment of less than one cubic meter per hectare).

DIRECTIVES 6.4.1: The definition of 6.4.1a is interpreted in a regional perspective, taking into account the preconditions of the site and forest type. See 9.3.4 for the interpretation regarding areas above the *nature conservation boundary*. Regarding 6.4.1b, see directives for 6.2.1 about the identification of *Woodland Key Habitats* in *conservation value assessments*, as well as requirements for calibration and training of surveyors.

6.4.2 Information about occurrences of *red-listed species* is obtained, evaluated and documented.

*GUIDANCE 6.4.2: Obtaining information means making use of relevant sources of data regarding the occurrence of red-listed species, in up-to-date GIS-layers, from own inventories, the Swedish Species Observation System (Sw: Artportalen), County Administrative Boards, the Swedish Forest Agency, etc. Information about red-listed species is available on the Swedish Species Information Centre's website. Quality assurance of the information is part of the evaluation.*

6.4.3 Conservation measures are carried out for those known occurrences of *red-listed species* that are impacted by forest management.



**DIRECTIVES 6.4.3:** The extent and focus of the conservation measures shall be adapted to the ecological requirements of the species and to the *category of threat*.

*GUIDANCE 6.4.3: The measures can be part of the consideration measures that are taken according to other parts of this standard, or be specific. The measures are documented, for instance in site-specific management instructions.*

**6.4.4** In conjunction with forest management activities, considerations are made for known:

- a) nests of raptors classed as *priority bird species* according to the Forestry Act,
- b) occurrences of territorial bird species with small population sizes,
- c) capercaillie leks.

**DIRECTIVES 6.4.4:** Use the guidance for considerations for birds (Sw: Vägledning för hänsyn till fåglar) produced by the Swedish Forest Agency and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency regarding breeding seasons, buffer zones, and other considerations (see the Swedish Forest Agency's website). The term "territorial bird species with small population sizes" encompasses: red-throated diver, red kite, peregrine falcon, northern hawk-owl, great grey owl, Ural owl, Eurasian eagle-owl, grey-headed woodpecker, greenish warbler, red-breasted flycatcher, Eurasian golden oriole, and little bunting. This list of species may be revised to reflect changes in the Red List. Known occurrences of 6.4.4 a-c are documented in conjunction with management activities.

**6.4.5** When harvesting during the bird breeding season, considerations are made for important breeding habitats for birds. Management activities in stratified forests dominated by deciduous trees are conducted outside of the bird breeding season.

**DIRECTIVES 6.4.5:** The *forest sector goals* for consideration-demanding habitats (Sw: målbilder för hänsynkrävande biotoper) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

*GUIDANCE 6.4.4 AND 6.4.5: All types of management activities, as well as ditching and road construction, that may affect rare and threatened bird species should be avoided during the breeding season. In addition to the Species fact sheets (Sw: Artfaktabladen), the Swedish Forest Agency/County Administrative Boards can provide further guidance.*

**6.4.6** Considerations are made for known occurrences of forest species listed in the Regulation on the Protection of Species, Annex 1 with the designation N or n.

**DIRECTIVES 6.4.6:** Known occurrences are documented in conjunction with forest management activities.

*GUIDANCE 6.4.6: Examples of habitats with species designated as N or n in the Regulation on the Protection of Species, Annex 1:*

- *buffer zones against water (all bat species N),*
- *stratified deciduous forest habitats, for example with hazel (hazel dormouse, northern birch mouse, smooth snake N),*
- *pine forests on sandy soils (sand lizard N).*

*Protected species are listed in Annex 2 of the Regulation on the Protection of Species. Species-specific compilations on a county level for N and n species other than birds have been produced by the County Administrative Boards.*

**6.5 The Organization shall identify and protect representative sample areas of native ecosystems and/or restore them to more natural conditions. Where representative sample areas do not exist or are insufficient, The Organization shall restore a proportion of the Management Unit to more natural conditions. The size of the areas and the measures taken for their protection or restoration, including within plantations, shall be proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, and the scale, intensity and risk of management activities.**

6.5.1 A selection of the *productive forest land* area is set aside and exempt from measures other than management to maintain and promote natural *biodiversity* or *biodiversity* conditioned by traditional land use practices. The selection of areas:

- a) covers a minimum of 5 % of the productive forest land area,
- b) is based on forest conservation values, landscape representativeness and biodiversity.

DIRECTIVES 6.5.1: The following are examples of areas that can be counted in:

- *Woodland Key Habitats*,
- natural, conspicuously uneven-aged and stratified forests,
- the portion of the *landholding* that is formally protected (nature reserves, habitat protection areas) after a reduction equivalent to the area for which compensation has been provided,
- areas with nature conservation agreements that are valid for more than 25 years, unless a shorter agreement is justified for nature conservation reasons,
- *protected buffer zones* for areas set aside for nature conservation purposes,
- forest wetlands that have been created or *restored*,
- the share of jointly owned FSC-certified *productive forest land* for which there is a long-term nature conservation objective,
- other woodlands with a canopy closure of at least 25 %, where the intensity of forest grazing or hay-making is sufficient to provide suitable conditions for flora/fauna that is favored by such practices.

*Consideration patches* and transition zones that are normally demarcated during forest felling cannot be counted in.

When previously voluntarily set aside *forest land* is formally protected and the forest owner has received financial compensation for this protection, new areas shall be set aside where this is necessary to meet the target of 5 % *set aside areas*. The forest owner may, however, count in the proportion of formally protected, previously voluntarily set aside land that exceeds 1 % of the *landholding*. When the compensation consists of exchange land, new areas shall be set aside in accordance with 6.5.1.

When previously voluntarily set aside *forest land* is formally protected, an alternative to setting aside new land exclusively for protection is to use alternative methods that combine production and nature conservation objectives in suitable areas. In such cases, the area requirement shall be adjusted to reflect the extent of the nature conservation objective. For example, an area where the forest management aims for 25 % nature conservation is counted as four to one; in other words, requirements for 10 hectares of new nature conservation *set aside areas* may be exchanged for 40 hectares with such combined objectives.

*Landholdings* above the *nature conservation boundary* (see directives for 9.3.4) are exempted from the requirements in 6.5.1.

Measures to promote *recreational values* in *set aside areas* can be carried out, provided that the *conservation values* are not negatively impacted.

*Set aside areas* are documented in the *Ecological Landscape Plan* or forest management plan.

When selecting areas to be set aside, the extent to which different types of forest are protected in existing formally protected areas and voluntary *set aside areas*, as well as the authorities' conservation priorities, are taken into account.

*GUIDANCE 6.5.1: A justification is needed for counting lands above the nature conservation boundary as set aside areas according to 6.5.1. The justification shall be based on high nature conservation values and representativeness, as well as the plan or strategy for the selection of set aside areas in the landholding as a whole.*

6.5.2 At least 5 % of the *productive forest land* area is managed with long-term *protection* and enhancement of *conservation values* and/or social values as the primary objective. The following can be included, exclusively or in a combination:

- a) further areas set aside to maintain and promote natural *biodiversity* or *biodiversity* conditioned by traditional land use practices, in addition to the 5 % that is set aside according to 6.5.1,
- b) areas with enhanced nature consideration and specific nature conservation measures,
- c) areas with long-term management in the form of *continuous cover forestry* or *group felling* with *natural regeneration*,
- d) areas with enhanced considerations for *recreational values* and/or the local economy,
- e) areas with enhanced considerations for reindeer husbandry.

**DIRECTIVES 6.5.2:** Areas according to 6.5.2a-c shall be selected based on high nature *conservation values* and the potential for *conservation values*, as reflected in assessments/analyses of *conservation values* and landscape ecology. Areas and consideration measures are normally selected in conjunction with landscape planning and/or forest management planning. The selection and documentation of areas in 6.5.2a-d can also be done continuously and be verified through regularly monitored action plans.

The same terms apply for setting aside areas according to 6.5.2a as for *set aside areas* according to 6.5.1.

For areas selected according to 6.5.2b-e, at least 50 % of the original volume shall be retained to enhance future *conservation values* and/or social values in the long term, unless it is apparent in the description of objectives that the *protection/enhancement* of these values requires the removal of larger volumes.

The selection of areas and enhanced consideration measures referred to in 6.5.2d is based on *recreational values* and the local economy in the area, and is preceded by *dialogue/consultation* with *affected stakeholders* in accordance with the requirements in 4.5.2 – 4.5.4.

The selection of areas and enhanced consideration measures referred to in 6.5.2e occurs after participatory planning or *engagement* with affected *Sami villages* and is based on the values in the area.

Areas/stands are demarcated on a map, and a description of management objectives, including specific environmental/social objectives and suggested measures, is documented.

Areas according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 together comprise at least 10 % of the *productive forest land* area.

“Specific nature conservation measures” refer to measures that are beneficial for the forest *biodiversity*, and which clearly differ in extent and qualitative focus from the more general measures that are required by other indicators in this standard. Measures can be carried out during different parts of the rotation cycle, but preferentially in conjunction with thinning or regeneration felling.

“Enhanced nature consideration” and “enhanced considerations for *recreational values/reindeer husbandry*” implies that a larger proportion of the stand/compartiment is managed for considerations, compared to the more general considerations that are carried out as part of normal forest management. Such measures can be planned/implemented through the management classifications “combined goals” (Sw: Kombinerade mål (K)) or “production with enhanced consideration” (Sw: Produktion med förstärkt hänsyn (PF)).

All succession stages are included – not just older forest; for example, burned areas and deciduous tree successions.

*GUIDANCE 6.5.2: The purpose of the indicator is to highlight forest areas where the forest owner has other objectives than management for traditional forest production.*

*The function of the entire area is documented according to the directives. Smaller patches of unproductive forest land may be counted as part of the delimited area provided that they comprise a natural, smaller part of the delimited area and contribute to strengthening the defined values.*

*Forest management planning may be conducted according to large forest owners’ planning procedures, or through the establishment/revision of a smallholder’s forest management plan.*

Management classifications are often used in forest management as a tool to classify the objectives for the management of different sites. The classification is based on a gap analysis of what is lacking in the landscape.

Examples of areas/measures as per 6.5.2 include:

- areas important for local tourism,
- areas that are important for the local economy in other ways,
- particular considerations for threatened species,
- areas with a large proportion of trees with high biodiversity values,
- areas with enhanced nature considerations adapted to the landscape, for example based on High-value Landscapes (Sw: värdestrakter), other landscape values, or action plans for threatened species,
- mosaic lands with historical cultural impacts, such as forest grazing lands, pasture lands, hay meadows,
- areas where structures/substrates are actively and extensively created, for example in the form of dead wood, stratification, restoration of hydrology,
- areas with a large proportion of buffer zones and consideration patches,
- burned areas of different ages, deciduous tree successions,
- forests with a high abundance of arboreal lichens (Sw: hänglavsrika skogar).

6.5.3 Areas that are set aside according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a are quality assured and, where necessary, the selection and delimitation of *set aside areas* is revised with the purpose of increasing the nature conservation benefit. Revisions of *set aside areas* are documented.

*GUIDANCE 6.5.3: A review of the selection, delimitation and conservation quality of the set aside areas may be carried out in conjunction with the revision of forest management plans and Ecological Landscape Plans, and when there is new knowledge about specific areas. The frequency of the revision of set aside areas depends on the size of the landholding and on the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities, as well as the state of knowledge about conservation values.*

6.5.4 Long-term nature conservation objectives are formulated and documented for *set aside areas*, based on the analysis and assessment as per 6.3.1 and 6.3.2, and with the purpose of maintaining or enhancing *biodiversity*.

**DIRECTIVES 6.5.4:** Large forest owners shall consider action plans for threatened species and habitats (Sw: åtgärdsprogram för hotade arter och naturtyper) when developing strategies for *conservation management measures*. The *forest sector goals* for consideration-demanding habitats (Sw: målbilder för hänsynskrävande biotoper) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

*GUIDANCE 6.5.4: Action plans for threatened species and habitats can be found on the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's website. For more detailed guidance on conservation management measures see the Swedish Forest Agency's report "Naturvårdande skötsel av skog och andra trädbärande marker." J. Nitare (2014) Skogsstyrelsen (in Swedish).*

<p>6.5.5 <i>Set aside areas</i> that require active <i>conservation management measures</i> are managed according to the nature conservation objectives formulated for the area.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.5.5: Measures that are carried out are documented.</p>
<p>6.5.6 <i>Conservation management measures</i> implemented in <i>set aside areas</i> are monitored. The results of monitoring and evaluation are documented and applied as per 7.4.1.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.5.6: The monitoring can be conducted through random sampling. The extent of monitoring is based on the focus of the measures, the size of the <i>landholding</i> and the results of previous monitoring.</p>
<p><b>6.6 <i>The Organization shall effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and genotypes, and prevent losses of biological diversity, especially through habitat management in the Management Unit. The Organization shall demonstrate that effective measures are in place to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting.</i></b></p>
<p>6.6.1 Trees with high biodiversity values are retained and safeguarded in forest management. Trees with high biodiversity values are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) atypical, particularly large and/or old trees,</li> <li>b) large trees with notably wide and thick-branched and/or flat crowns,</li> <li>c) large, previously solitary growing spruces on pasture land,</li> <li>d) large aspens and alders,</li> <li>e) arborescent goat willow, mountain ash, whitebeam, maple, lime, bird cherry, and wild cherry,</li> <li>f) large hazel and junipers,</li> <li>g) trees with open bole fire scars,</li> <li>h) hollow trees and trees with stick nests of birds of prey,</li> <li>i) trees with evident features of cultural importance,</li> <li>j) noble broad-leaf trees in forests north of Limes Norrlandicus.</li> </ol> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.1: <i>Exotic tree species</i> and trees that are part of the regular silvicultural program, such as trees retained for timber, shelter trees, seed trees where regeneration is younger than 25 years, or main stems in stands of <i>noble broad-leaf trees</i>, are not considered as trees with high biodiversity values.</p> <p>Trees with high biodiversity values may be removed in exceptional cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• where there is a risk for harm to people or damage to buildings, in conjunction with road construction or adjacent to electric cables,</li> <li>• where the objective is to promote other prioritized trees with high biodiversity values,</li> <li>• if they risk destroying archaeological monuments and cultural remains,</li> </ul>

- large aspens and alders where such trees occur in abundance in coniferous stands, provided that sufficient numbers are retained for nature conservation,
- if they prevent access in conjunction with felling.

*GUIDANCE 6.6.1: The indicator specifies features, tree species and qualities that are associated with high cultural or conservation values, and that characterize trees with high biodiversity values. These trees shall be visually distinguishable from other trees in the forest stand. "Old trees" in 6.6.1a refers to trees that, because of their age, have developed particular conservation values. These may be easily recognizable features such as the size of the stem or branches, the appearance of the tree crown, the structure of the bark, or stem hollows, but also features that can be more difficult to recognize and assess, such as slow growth.*

*Trees with high biodiversity values are normally identified through their appearance, sometimes in combination with age determination. Those that survey and single out trees with high biodiversity values should be calibrated to recognize trees with high biodiversity values in the region in question. In areas with an abundance of trees with high biodiversity values over a larger area, it may be appropriate to delimit the whole or parts of the stand as a consideration patch as per 6.6.4 or set these aside as per 6.5.1 or 6.5.2a.*

*A practical boundary for what can be considered as "arborescent" has been set at 7 cm DBH (diameter at breast height). An example of a map of an adapted border for Limes Norrlandicus can be found on FSC Sweden's website.*

6.6.2 During regeneration felling, on average at least 10 trees per hectare are retained on the felled area.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.2: The purpose of 6.6.2 is that retained trees develop into larger trees with high biodiversity values in the new forest stand. Wind-resistant trees are selected based on their significance for *biodiversity* at the stand or landscape level. The stem diameter of the retained trees shall be representative of the stand, or larger. The trees are retained as solitary trees or in smaller tree groups. Spruce in pure spruce stands, and pine, birch and spruce with shallow roots on *peatlands previously cultivated for agriculture* and in managed swamp forests, may be exempted from retention.

Trees retained in *consideration patches/buffer zones* may be included in felling areas that are smaller than 4 hectares south of Limes Norrlandicus, or in felling areas that are smaller than 10 hectares north of Limes Norrlandicus. Trees with high biodiversity values that have been retained may be included.

6.6.3 *Consideration patches, buffer zones*, groups of trees and single wind-resistant coarse trees are retained during regeneration felling so as to avoid large treeless areas.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.3: The trees are placed to lessen the impression of a clearcut. Trees can be retained as single, coarse, wind-resistant trees, or in smaller tree groups. In areas of significance for outdoor recreation, specific adjustments are made to reduce the impression of a clearcut: for example, through the formation and size of the felled area and the configuration of nature consideration.

Instructions for avoiding large treeless areas shall be available and include the maximum acceptable size of such areas. On felling areas that are larger than 4 hectares south of Limes Norrlandicus, and on felling areas that are larger than 10 hectares north of Limes



Norrlandicus, the distance from any point in the felling area to the nearest consideration, object or clearcut edge shall not exceed 70 meters.

6.6.4 *Conservation values in consideration-demanding habitats* are maintained or enhanced in conjunction with management activities.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.4: The *forest sector goals* for consideration-demanding habitats (Sw: målbilder för hänsynskrävande biotoper) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

6.6.5 *Buffer zones and consideration patches* are maintained and/or created in conjunction with precommercial and commercial thinning.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.5: *Buffer zones and consideration patches* are only precommercially thinned with the purpose of promoting *conservation values*. *Buffer zones* with an abundance of deciduous trees are *restored* where possible. The *forest sector goals* for buffer zones along water bodies, watercourses and wetlands (Sw: målbilder för kantzoner mot sjöar, vattendrag och våtmarker) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

6.6.6 Management activities in conifer-dominated stands are carried out so that deciduous trees constitute at least 10 % of the dominant or co-dominant stems in the stand, where conditions allow.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.6: All deciduous tree stems are retained if the stems of deciduous trees prior to the management activity are too few to reach the target of 10 % stems after the activity, unless there are social or nature conservation reasons to remove them.

6.6.7 In conjunction with commercial thinning, at least five existing deciduous trees on average per hectare are given favorable conditions to develop into trees with high biodiversity values in the future. Priority is given to *noble broad-leaf trees*, aspen, goat willow, and mountain ash.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.7: In areas with risk of *Melampsora* rust, other deciduous trees than aspen may be prioritized.

6.6.8 Trees favored by game for browsing (aspen, mountain ash, goat willow, willow, *noble broad-leaf trees*, juniper and wild apple) are retained to a great extent during precommercial thinning.

6.6.9 Measures are carried out to limit damage to forests caused by game.

DIRECTIVES 6.6.9: The measures shall contribute to promoting productive tree species that are *adapted to the site*, and deciduous trees that are important for nature conservation, such as mountain ash, aspen, goat willow, oak, and other *noble broad-leaf trees*. The extent of measures is adapted to the size and conditions of the *landholding*, the extent of damage, and *best available information*.

*GUIDANCE 6.6.9: Examples of measures can be active participation in moose management areas (Sw: älgskötselområde), monitoring of browsing damage and game populations over time, facilitating hunting and, when necessary, the active use of open hunting (Sw: avlysningsjakt).*



*Open hunting refers to when all hunting teams in a particular moose management area or license area are given permission to shoot the remaining moose within the shooting quota of the area. When the set number and type of game has been shot, the hunting ceases.*

6.6.10 Engagement is conducted where necessary with relevant authorities to avoid, prevent, and control illegal:

- a) hunting,
- b) fishing,
- c) trapping,
- d) collecting activities.

*GUIDANCE 6.6.10: Illegal hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting activities include hunting and fishing without a permit, activities that are against the terms stated in the permit, disturbing wild birds and mammals, damaging the nests or dens of wild bird and mammals, collecting or destroying bird eggs, and collecting protected plant species.*

6.6.11 High stumps, lying coarse dead wood and other trees that have been dead for more than one year are retained. Forest management is carried out so that damage to dead wood is minimized.

**DIRECTIVES 6.6.11:** Lying coarse dead wood refers to fallen dead wood with a diameter that exceeds 15 cm at breast height (1.3 meters from the largest end of the tree).

Exceptions to 6.6.11 can be made in the following cases:

- a) if dead wood constitutes a safety hazard for those working in the forest, or to the public using, for instance, demarcated paths or resting areas in forests near urban areas,
- b) if dead wood is blocking frequently used paths and roads,
- c) when large wood volumes have been damaged and these have not yet been processed due to a lack of resources,
- d) to meet the regeneration requirements in the Forestry Act in larger, cohesive areas with dead wood, other than in stands that are prioritized as *set aside areas* according to 6.5.1 or 6.5.2a.

6.6.12 In conjunction with management activities, *fresh dead wood* is retained, and considerations are made for *fresh dead wood*:

- a) originating from trees with high biodiversity values and other trees previously retained as nature considerations,
- b) in areas set aside for nature conservation purposes, including consideration patches,
- c) on low-productive land with an annual increment of less than one cubic meter per hectare.

**DIRECTIVES 6.6.12:** If the requirements in 6.6.12 conflict with the Forestry Act, derogation is sought from the Swedish Forest Agency.

Exceptions to 6.6.12 can be made in the following cases:

- a) if dead wood constitutes a safety hazard for those working in the forest, or for the public using, for instance, demarcated paths or resting areas in forests near urban areas,
- b) if dead wood is blocking frequently used paths and roads,
- c) in areas established for pest control by the Swedish Forest Agency, where special provisions have been issued to prevent the mass propagation of pests and where derogations cannot be obtained to retain *fresh dead wood* in *consideration patches* or areas set aside for nature conservation purposes.

6.6.13 The amount of *fresh dead wood* of different tree species is increased after regeneration fellings and second thinnings by:

- a) creating, on average, at least three high stumps or girdled trees per hectare on harvested areas,
- b) cutting the high stumps at the maximum height that is considered as safe,
- c) selecting the coarseness of high stumps based on what is representative for the stand, striving for an overrepresentation of high stumps of deciduous trees.

**DIRECTIVES 6.6.13:** Specific tree species can be prioritized in cases where this is justified from a nature conservation perspective. High stumps of deciduous trees are avoided in areas where such trees occur very sparsely. When harvesting in mature stands of oak and beech, dead wood is created so that on average at least two girdled trees or high stumps of the primary tree species remain per hectare across the managed stand.

*GUIDANCE 6.6.13: "The maximum height that is considered as safe" for cutting trees to create high stumps is normally above three meters in height.*

6.6.14 When harvesting windthrown seed or shelter trees, an average of at least two coarse new windthrows per hectare is retained.

**DIRECTIVES 6.6.14:** The requirement does not apply in the case of repeated windthrows within the same stand.

6.6.15 *Biodiversity* conditioned by former traditional land-use and cultural values associated with trees and shrubs are favored when forest management activities are carried out.

6.6.16 *Forest edge* zones with diverse tree and shrub layers are maintained or *restored* when forest management activities are carried out adjacent to agricultural land.

6.6.17 Trees with high biodiversity values are favored when forest management activities are carried out in or adjacent to *forest edge* zones and other, previously sun-exposed, islets and small habitats that originated in the agricultural landscape, but now form part of forest stands that do not connect to arable land.

**6.7 The Organization shall protect or restore natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity. The Organization shall avoid negative impacts on water quality and quantity and mitigate and remedy those that occur.**

6.7.1 Ecologically functional *buffer zones* along watercourses and open water bodies are maintained or *restored* where necessary. The configuration and width of the *buffer zone*

is planned and adapted based on the *conservation value* and sensitivity of the water environment as well as the forest *conservation values* of the *buffer zone*.

**DIRECTIVES 6.7.1 AND 6.7.2:** The *forest sector goals* for buffer zones along water bodies, watercourses and wetlands (Sw: målbilder för kantzoner mot sjöar, vattendrag och våtmarker) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

*GUIDANCE 6.7.1 AND 6.7.2: Ecologically functional buffer zones can contribute to:*

- *preserving important chemical soil processes,*
- *preventing particle runoff into watercourses and wetlands,*
- *producing food for aquatic organisms through falling leaves and small insects,*
- *providing shade,*
- *producing dead wood,*
- *conserving biodiversity.*

*An ecologically functional buffer zone is often stratified, with several tree species, standing dead wood, and ground vegetation. Wider buffer zones are required, for example, on moist/wet soils and areas sensitive to erosion, as well as along watercourses with high nature conservation values and/or high sensitivity.*

**6.7.2** *Buffer zones* adjacent to wetlands are maintained or *restored* to ecologically functional *buffer zones*.

**6.7.3** *Soil damage* does not occur in *buffer zones*.

**DIRECTIVES 6.7.3:** The *forest sector goals* for driving on forest land (Sw: målbilder för körning i skogsmark) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

**6.7.4** Management is adapted with the purpose to not negatively impact wetland and water environments with high nature *conservation values*.

*GUIDANCE 6.7.4: Information about wetland and water environments with high nature conservation values is available from the following sources, among others:*

- *the Swedish national wetland inventory,*
- *the Swedish swamp forest inventory (Sw: Sumpskogsinventeringen),*
- *records of water environments of national and particular national value.*

**6.7.5** Large forest owners: Wetland and water environments are *restored* based on the preconditions, necessity and benefit from a landscape perspective.

*GUIDANCE 6.7.5: The plan to restore wetland and water environments is normally included in the Ecological Landscape Plan.*

**6.7.6** *Soil damage* is prevented when management activities are carried out.



DIRECTIVES 6.7.6: The *forest sector goals* for driving on forest land (Sw: målbilder för körning i skogsmark) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.

6.7.7 *Soil damage* is remedied, provided that remediation does not risk worsening the effect of the damage.

6.7.8 New ditches for soil drainage are not established on land which has not previously been ditched.

6.7.9 Existing ditches are only maintained when this is necessary to ensure that the productivity is not significantly impaired.

6.7.10 Protective ditching is only applied where needed to meet the regeneration requirements of the Forestry Act.

DIRECTIVES 6.7.9 AND 6.7.10: Possibilities to avoid ditch maintenance or protective ditching through the selection of silvicultural methods and/or tree species is considered in the planning.

6.7.11 Previously established ditches on *low-productive peatlands* are not maintained.

DIRECTIVES 6.7.11: Exceptions can be made for the maintenance of outlet ditches from other, previously ditched, highly productive stands.

6.7.12 *Best practice* is applied to minimize particle runoff into watercourses, water bodies, and *wetlands with significant conservation value*.

*GUIDANCE 6.7.12: Information on best practice to minimize particle runoff to watercourses, water bodies, and wetlands can be obtained from relevant authorities.*

6.7.13 When maintaining ditches, operators are provided with information through site-specific management instructions or the equivalent that describes:

- a) which sections of the ditch shall be cleared,
- b) which protection measures and considerations shall be implemented to prevent damage to wetlands and downstream water environments.

**6.8 The Organization shall manage the landscape in the Management Unit to maintain and/or restore a varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales and regeneration cycles appropriate for the landscape values in that region, and for enhancing environmental and economic resilience.**

6.8.1 Large forest owners: A landscape ecology perspective is applied in planning, taking into account the spatial distribution of the *landholding*.

DIRECTIVES 6.8.1: An *Ecological Landscape Plan* is produced through the *systematic* collection of information and analysis in accordance with relevant indicators in the standard. Among other elements, the plan includes:

- a) the *landscape division*, with justification for the division,

- b) prioritization of *set aside areas*,
- c) objectives for *conservation management measures* and the restoration of biologically valuable forests,
- d) area of *exotic tree species*.

The *Ecological Landscape Plan* is documented and regularly updated, based on monitoring and evaluation as per *Principle 8*.

*GUIDANCE 6.8.1: An Ecological Landscape Plan should be designed to contribute to creating a green infrastructure in the landscape, and the content should reflect:*

- *general conservation values and habitats in the landscape (6.1.1),*
- *the analysis regarding conservation values and habitats that are lacking in the landscape (6.1.2),*
- *the analysis of the occurrence of red-listed species (6.4.2) from a landscape perspective,*
- *areas that are set aside for nature conservation purposes, and the rationales for setting them aside (6.4.1, 6.5.1, 6.5.2, 6.5.3),*
- *habitats that require management through the use of traditional practices (6.6.16, 6.6.17),*
- *the necessity and benefit of restoring wetland and water environments in a landscape perspective (6.7.5),*
- *the landscape division, with justifications (directives for 6.8.1),*
- *High-value Landscapes (Sw: värdestrakter) as identified by the authorities, regionally relevant action plans for threatened species and habitats (Sw: åtgärdsprogram för hotade arter och naturtyper), or the equivalent (6.8.2),*
- *at least 2 % older forest stands in each landscape (6.8.3),*
- *burning of at least 5 % of the regeneration area on dry and mesic forest land over a rolling five year period (6.8.4),*
- *at least 5 % of the total area of mesic and moist forest land that consists of deciduous-rich stands (6.8.5),*
- *converted area and area of plantations (6.9.1, 6.9.2, 6.10.1),*
- *area with nature conservation measures that compensate for conversion (6.9.1, 6.9.2, 6.10.2),*
- *occurrence of areas with High Conservation Values (see Principle 9),*
- *the establishment and management of areas of exotic tree species (10.3.8),*
- *that exotic tree species are not established in landscapes that contain no or a low proportion of exotic tree species (10.3.9).*

**6.8.2 High-value Landscapes (Sw: värdestrakter) identified by authorities and regionally applicable action plans for threatened species and habitats (Sw: åtgärdsprogram för hotade arter och naturtyper) are taken into account in the ecological landscape planning or forest management planning.**

6.8.3 Large forest owners: The presence or creation of at least 2 % older forest stands in each *landscape*, calculated from the area of the *landholding*, is ensured in conjunction with ecological landscape planning.

DIRECTIVES 6.8.3: “Older forest stands” refer to stands on *productive forest land* that have reached the age of 140 years in northern Sweden, and 120 years in southern Sweden, and that are larger than 0.5 hectares. Older production stands, *set aside areas*, and larger *consideration patches* may be counted in. In *landscapes* with a lower proportion of older forests, a plan is in place to reach 2 % older forest stands.

6.8.4 Large forest owners: An area equivalent to at least 5 % of the regeneration area on dry and mesic *forest land* is burned over a rolling five-year period. Felling is adapted and burning is carried out with the goal of promoting species favored by fire.

DIRECTIVES 6.8.4: Exceptions from the burning requirement may be made for Halland, Skåne, and southern Blekinge, as well as in *subalpine forests* above the *nature conservation boundary*, as natural fires have been of secondary importance in these regions. Exceptions can also be made for Öland and Gotland.

Land that has previously been affected by fire is primarily chosen when selecting areas for prescribed burning. The regeneration area on dry and mesic *forest land* that is used to calculate the area to burn (5 %) may be reduced:

- by discounting forests near urban areas,
- due to proximity to neighbors,
- when a general ban on the burning of *forest land* is in place,
- by discounting lichen areas of importance for reindeer husbandry.

The reasons for reducing the area are documented, and the area to burn (5 %) is calculated based on the net regeneration area.

*The Organization* shall have a plan for prescribed burning and carry out *reasonable* measures to implement the plan, provided that the burning can be securely carried out considering the weather and technical circumstances for burning. Reasons for not being able to carry out prescribed burning shall be documented.

When calculating the burned area, only the area that really did burn is counted in. The parts of the area that have not been affected by the fire may not be counted. Wildfires may be counted in.

The net burned area can be multiplied by an upward adjustment factor according to the table below.

Type of burning and implemented measures	Upward adjustment factor
Burned <i>productive forest land</i> that is classed as production forest.	1



Burned <i>unproductive forest land</i> that is situated within burned <i>productive forest land</i> areas.	1
Burned land that is allowed to naturally regenerate without soil scarification.	1.5
Burned land where at least 15 % of the wood volume has been retained as a nature consideration. Nature considerations in moist/ wet <i>consideration patches</i> or <i>buffer zones</i> that are difficult to burn are not counted.	1.5
Burned land where at least 30 % of the wood volume has been retained as a nature consideration. Nature considerations in moist/ wet <i>consideration patches</i> or <i>buffer zones</i> that are difficult to burn are not counted.	2
Burning in areas set aside for nature conservation purposes according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a.	3

Wood that has been retained as nature consideration may not be removed at a later stage. When burning in areas that are set aside for nature conservation purposes (according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a), any felling and burning measures are based on the nature conservation objectives for the area and form part of the *conservation management measures*. Such areas are documented in planning documentation and forest registers, for example in the *Ecological Landscape Plan*. Decisions about setting aside burnt areas can be made after the fire.

*GUIDANCE 6.8.4: The area to burn should be calculated so that the requirement of 5 % burned area can be met in the long term. To meet the burning requirement when considering the weather and other circumstances, The Organization should plan to burn a significantly larger area than what is required per year. Examples of reasons for not burning can be lack of consent from the emergency services, or that wildfires have occurred on the property to such an extent that the burning requirement has been met.*

6.8.5 The *landholding* is planned and managed so that an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the total area of mesic and moist *forest land* consists of deciduous-rich stands dominated by deciduous trees during most of the rotation period.

DIRECTIVES 6.8.5: Those that have not yet reached the target shall establish an action plan to reach the target. The action plan is monitored on a regular basis and revised as necessary. Deciduous-rich stands that are set aside according to 6.5.1 may be counted north of Limes Norrlandicus. Deciduous-rich stands that are set aside according to 6.5.2 may be counted in for all of Sweden. An example of a practical border for Limes Norrlandicus is available on FSC Sweden's website.

*Landholdings* above the *nature conservation boundary* (see 9.3.4) are exempt from the calculation of the area according to the requirements in 6.8.5.

6.8.6 *Biodiversity* associated with deciduous trees is promoted when managing stands that already are or will become dominated by deciduous trees as per 6.8.5.

*GUIDANCE 6.8.6: Examples of consideration measures to promote biodiversity associated with deciduous trees include the retention and promotion of many deciduous retention trees, the active creation of deciduous dead wood, precommercial and commercial thinning that promotes particular tree and shrub species, pollarding of trees, and active measures to promote the regeneration of tree species that are sensitive to browsing by game.*

**6.9 The Organization shall not convert to plantations, nor natural forests or plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land use, except when the conversion:**

- a) affects a very limited portion of the area of the *Management Unit*, and
- b) will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the *Management Unit*, and
- c) does not damage or threaten *High Conservation Values*, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those *High Conservation Values*.

6.9.1 *Natural forest* is not converted to *plantations* or other land uses except when:

- a) the conversion affects a total of maximum 5 % of the certified *landholding*, and maximum 0.5 % of the certified *landholding* per year (see directives for 6.9.2 for exemptions from the 0.5 % limit), and
- b) additional measures are carried out to strengthen important social or conservation values, and
- c) the conversion does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values (HCVs, see 9.1.1).

**DIRECTIVES 6.9.1:** When converting forests to other land uses, *The Organization* shall seek to reduce negative effects on social values and *conservation values*. Land conversion is documented. Large forest owners carry out additional measures according to 6.9.1b within the *landscape* in question.

*GUIDANCE 6.9.1: The following are examples of land conversion that can be carried out without additional measures, as they can either be considered a part of the forest management, or because they normally occur on a small scale:*

- *all establishments directly associated with forest management, such as forest roads and quarries for road-building material,*
- *establishment of game fields, enclosures or ponds,*
- *establishment of grazing lands or agricultural lands,*
- *establishments with the purpose of improving conditions for outdoor recreation,*
- *cultural heritage protection,*
- *trainings and other operations under the control of a recognized research institution,*
- *exploitation for building on single plots,*
- *establishment of mobile phone masts,*
- *establishment of single wind turbines.*



The following are examples of other land uses that occur at a larger scale, and where compensation can be required to fulfill 6.9.1b:

- commercial quarrying that is not directly associated with forest management,
- establishment of wind turbines (see 6.9.2),
- conversion of natural forests to plantations (see indicators under 10.3 and 6.10).

For the conversion of forests to other land uses that can be considered to be of a more permanent character, FSC's Policy on the Excision of Areas from the Scope of Certification, FSC-POL-20-003 2004, should be applied.

Examples of such land uses include:

- mining,
- exploitation for building where physical planning is required.

6.9.2 Considerations are made for the effects of wind turbine establishment on nature conservation, *recreational values* and local economy.

DIRECTIVES 6.9.2: The directives for wind turbine establishment on FSC certified land in Sweden consist of two parts: 1. Directives for land conversion for wind power, and 2. Directives for early engagement. The directives apply for all contracts signed with wind turbine developers after the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2014, or where the wind turbines are not yet operational. The FSC requirements apply in addition to the statutory process that is carried out when establishing wind turbines on *forest land*. The establishment of single wind turbines is managed under 6.9.1.

**1. DIRECTIVES FOR LAND CONVERSION FOR WIND POWER:** The following applies for wind turbine establishment on FSC certified land:

- a) The wind turbine establishment, including other types of land conversion, may not affect more than 5 % of the *landholding* in total.
- b) The area used to calculate the area for land conversion is set to one hectare per wind turbine. This corresponds to the physical conversion, i.e. the total area for one wind turbine including related power lines and road construction.
- c) One hectare of *productive forest land* is set aside for each wind turbine. Areas to be set aside are prioritized, selected and delimited according to their significance for *biodiversity* and *landscape* representativeness (according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a), and/or consideration for areas important for *recreational values* and for local economy (according to 4.5.1 and 6.5.2). The area is documented separately from the areas that are set aside according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a. Forest owners with *landholdings* that are smaller than 20 hectares are exempt from requirements to set aside land to compensate for wind turbines.
- d) Wind turbines may not be established in *Woodland Key Habitats* or so that they damage or threaten *High Conservation Values* (HCVs) according to 9.1.1. Exceptions can be made for single *Woodland Key Habitats* in areas where contracts were signed before the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2014, and only in the cases where such contracts would otherwise have to be renegotiated due to serious costs or complications. Only limited damage may occur in the *Woodland Key Habitat*.

Impact assessments, measures taken to avoid damage to *Woodland Key Habitats*, and decision-making materials shall be documented in the case of such exceptions, so that the documentation can be presented to *interested* and/or *affected stakeholders* upon request.

- e) The forest owner shall inform the wind turbine developer if there are *High Conservation Values* or *Woodland Key Habitats* in the areas where wind turbines are not yet operational, and take action to conserve these areas.
- f) The wind turbine developer is informed of known values: *Woodland Key Habitats* (6.4.1), other forests set aside for nature conservation purposes (6.5.1 and 6.5.2a), and areas important for *recreational values* and for the local economy (4.5.1 and 6.5.2) that have been identified within the area for wind turbine establishment.
- g) When establishing wind turbines within the reindeer herding area, affected *Sami villages* are contacted to obtain information about establishments and other important objects for reindeer husbandry. Respect is shown and considerations are made for old settlements and other Sami cultural remains, migration routes, natural gathering places, overnight resting places (grazing areas), difficult passages, particularly important arboreal lichen areas, work corrals and calving land as well as culturally important paths and sacrificial places.
- h) It is ensured that the wind turbine developer, when planning wind turbine establishment, compiles and considers the information from the forest owner regarding points d-g above, and that the information is presented as part of the statutory public consultation and in the permit application to the legal authority.
- i) The forest owner compiles documentation of how the wind turbine project contributes to supporting the long-term social and economic well-being of the *local community*, at the latest before the wind turbines become operational. The turbine construction and installation phases cannot be counted as support to the *local community*. This applies to all wind turbines that are put in operation after this standard becomes effective. Examples for how the *local community* can be supported in different ways have been compiled by FSC Sweden.

## 2. DIRECTIVES FOR EARLY ENGAGEMENT WHEN ESTABLISHING WIND TURBINES:

The directives for early engagement apply for forest owners with more than 1 000 hectares of *productive forest land*.

The purpose of early engagement is to enable *affected stakeholders*, such as neighboring residents and affected *Sami villages*, to obtain information about potential wind turbine establishment and to present their views early in the planning, i.e. prior to the initiation of the statutory permit process for wind turbine establishment. At this early stage of the process, the planning is still very schematic, but at this stage the forest owner still has full control of the *landholding*.

- a) The forest owner shall publicly present wind areas, projection areas, and who is contracted as the wind turbine developer. Wind areas are areas with potential for wind turbine projection. Projection areas are areas where projection is ongoing. The presentation of these aspects is done for example through a website. Publication on the website is advertised through local media. Affected *Sami villages* are informed through established channels. Notification of new or

substantially updated information on wind areas or projection areas on the website can be given to *stakeholders* through e-mail or SMS.

- b) *Affected stakeholders* shall be given the opportunity to present their opinions to the forest owner before the projection of a wind area begins. A physical meeting can take place if requested by any of the *stakeholders* and by the initiative of the *stakeholder*.
- c) The forest owner shall offer local *affected stakeholders* a physical meeting in conjunction with the commencement of projection. Representatives for local *affected stakeholders* can be identified, for example, through the local or regional level of the organization Rural Sweden (Sw: Hela Sverige Ska Leva).
- d) Wind turbine projection may commence, at the earliest, three months after new wind areas have been presented. The projection is considered to have commenced when a contract to use the area for wind turbine projection is signed between the forest owner and the wind turbine developer. When the projection is performed by forest owners themselves, or by the company group that the forest owner is part of, the projection is considered to have commenced when the statutory public consultation takes place.
- e) During the meeting as per b or c, the plans are presented and the opinions of the *stakeholders* are collected. Within the reindeer herding area, information is obtained about fixed establishments and other objects of substantial importance for reindeer husbandry so that considerations can be made. Information about how a wind turbine establishment can affect the long-term social and economic well-being of the *local communities* is also compiled, to enable considerations to be made. Information is provided about models for partnership and local refund for wind turbine establishment. The opinions and assessments for each area are compiled.
- f) After early engagement, the compilation is submitted to the wind turbine developer if the projection commences. The forest owner ensures that the wind turbine developer considers the opinions and assessments in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) when the projection is initiated.
- g) Early engagement is not required if a forest owner becomes involved in an ongoing wind turbine project that has already reached the phase of the statutory public consultation, and where the forest owner's *landholding* only covers a minor part of the total area for wind turbine establishment. In such cases, the statutory permit process is sufficient. A "minor part" means maximum five wind turbines, and no more than 35 % of the wind farm.

*GUIDANCE 6.9.2.2d: A model for partnership and local refund has been developed by the organization Rural Sweden (Sw: Hela Sverige ska leva).*

**6.10 Management Units containing plantations that were established on areas converted from natural forest after November 1994 shall not qualify for certification, except where:**

- d) clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or**
- e) the conversion affected a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit.**

6.10.1 The conversion of *natural forest* to *plantations* is limited so that the total area of *plantations* established after November 1994 constitutes a maximum of 5 % of the certified *landholding*.

DIRECTIVES 6.10.1: Reforestation with *exotic tree species* on land that has previously been classified as a *plantation* is not subject to this indicator. See the definition of *plantations* in the glossary of terms in this standard.

6.10.2 When converting *natural forest* to *plantations*, additional measures are carried out to strengthen considerations for important *conservation values*.

DIRECTIVES 6.10.2: The extent and implementation of measures when establishing new stands of *exotic tree species* shall be proportionate to the area of newly established stands with *exotic tree species*. The measures are based on an analysis of important *conservation values* that need to be enhanced in the *landscape* in question (see 6.1.2). Planned and implemented measures are documented. Examples of such measures are more extensive *set aside areas* for nature conservation purposes, more extensive nature consideration during management activities, specific management measures for *threatened species*, and the recreation and more extensive management of areas with high nature *conservation values*. “More extensive” refers to measures that go further than what the other indicators in this standard require.

**PRINCIPLE 7: MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

***The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management. The associated planning and procedural documentation shall be sufficient to guide staff, inform affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders and to justify management decisions.***

**7.1 *The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and objectives for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and objectives shall be incorporated into the management plan, and publicized.***

7.1.1 *The Organization has policies and management objectives that contribute to fulfilling the requirements in this standard.*

7.1.2 *A summary of the overall policies and management objectives is made publicly available.*

7.1.3 *Large forest owners: A management system is in place to meet the overall management objectives and operational targets, including the fulfillment of the requirements in this standard.*

**DIRECTIVES 7.1.3:** *The management system ensures that the organizational structure, governance, planning, monitoring, evaluation and improvement of the operations are in line with the established policies and management objectives, as well as the requirements in this standard. The management system is adapted to scale, intensity and risks associated with management activities, and is used to systematically and continually develop and ensure the quality of the operations and the fulfillment of the requirements.*

*Within the scope of the management system, the top management shall take responsibility for the operation of the system, allocate necessary resources, and lead and support staff within their relevant areas of responsibility so that the requirements in this standard are met. This includes identifying the operations and activities that are affected by the requirements in this standard, and planning these so they occur in accordance with procedures and specified requirements. Procedures that are covered by the management system are documented. The management system shall at least include:*

- a) *identification of legislation and other requirements that affect the operations, as per 1.3.1 and 1.5,*
- b) *communication of the overall policies and management objectives to customers, employees and contractors,*
- c) *communication of relevant requirements to suppliers, contractors and other contract workers,*
- d) *description of the organizational structure of the operations, including defined roles and responsibilities,*
- e) *procedures for competence and training, as per 2.5.1,*

- f) procedures for external communication, including procedures for inquiries and information about the status of certification, *engagement with affected stakeholders* as per 4.5, and the handling of external opinions and *complaints* as per 4.6,
- g) procedures for handling and maintaining documentation, including the time period that documents shall be archived for,
- h) procedures for regular monitoring and evaluation, as per *Principle 8*,
- i) procedures for handling non-conformities and the implementation of corrective actions,
- j) procedures for annual internal audits of the function of the *management system*, and for agreements regarding external audits,
- k) procedures for regular review and evaluation of the *management system*.

*GUIDANCE 7.1.3: A management system refers to systematic work to ensure the governance of an operation. A clear management system often requires documentation regarding the vision, policies, strategies, objectives, organizational chart, division of responsibilities, procedures, instructions, etc. The requirement for a management system can be met with the help of an ISO 9001 or 14001 certification.*

**7.2 The Organization shall have and implement a *management plan* for the *Management Unit* which is fully consistent with the policies and management objectives as established according to *Criterion 7.1*. The *management plan* shall describe the natural resources that exist in the *Management Unit* and explain how the plan will meet the FSC certification requirements. The *management plan* shall cover forest management planning and social management planning proportionate to *scale, intensity* and *risk* of the planned activities.**

7.2.1 A *management plan* that reflects the established policies and management objectives is in place and is complied with.

7.2.2 The forest natural resources are documented in the *management plan*.

DIRECTIVES 7.2.2 AND 7.2.3: The documentation is adapted to the needs of the forest owner to be able to show that they meet the requirements in this standard.

*GUIDANCE 7.2.2 AND 7.2.3: The documentation is intended to secure communication and governance of the operations according to the management plan. As such, the documentation can vary with the management objectives of different forest owners, as well as the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities. Certain requirements have to be demonstrated through documented procedures, monitoring, or records; such as agreements reached in consultations and consideration measures planned in conjunction with regeneration felling. Other requirements can be demonstrated in the field, for example that three high stumps are retained per hectare, that planned consideration measures have been carried out, or that the tops of deciduous trees are left when extracting tops and branches.*

7.2.3 Strategies, procedures and measures are documented and implemented in accordance with the *management plan*.

DIRECTIVES 7.2.3: Large forest owners document and implement strategies, procedures and measures in accordance with their *management system*.

**7.3 The *management plan* shall include verifiable targets by which progress towards each of the prescribed management objectives can be assessed.**

7.3.1 Verifiable targets are established to evaluate the achievement of the overall management objectives and operational targets.

**7.4 The *Organization* shall update and revise periodically the management planning and procedural documentation to incorporate the results of monitoring and evaluation, *stakeholder engagement* or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.**

7.4.1 The *management plan* and instructions are regularly revised and updated to incorporate:

- a) results from monitoring and evaluation, including results from external and internal audits,
- b) stakeholder engagement results,
- c) new scientific and technical information,
- d) changes in environmental, social, or economic circumstances,
- e) changes in legislation,
- f) changes in the FSC normative framework.

**7.5 The *Organization* shall make *publicly available* a summary of the *management plan* free of charge. Excluding *confidential information*, other relevant components of the *management plan* shall be made available to *affected stakeholders* on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling.**

7.5.1 A summary of the *management plan*, including maps and excluding *confidential information*, is made *publicly available* at no cost and in an easily accessible format.

DIRECTIVES 7.5.1:

**1. For forest owners with *landholdings* of more than 50 000 hectares of *productive forest land*, the following information is made available on a website. For forest owners with *landholdings* of between 5 000 to 50 000 hectares of *productive forest land*, the following information can be made available upon request, digitally or as a physical copy.**

- A. An overall description of the *Ecological Landscape Plan*, as per 6.8.1, including:
  - a) a map of *landscapes*, including *set aside areas* and *Woodland Key Habitats*,
  - b) a description of how the landscape division is done,
  - c) the size of the landscapes,
  - d) areas prioritized for nature conservation within the landscapes, including considerations taken for High Conservation Values (HCVs).
- B. Objectives and outcomes within the *landholding*, regarding areas of:

- a) enhanced consideration, as per 6.5.2,
- b) continuous cover forestry, as per 6.5.2,
- c) proportion of older forest, as per 6.8.3,
- d) burned forest land, as per 6.8.4,
- e) forest land that has been converted to another land use, as well as compensatory nature conservation measures for this conversion, as per 6.9.1 and 6.9.2,
- f) plantations, as per 6.10.1.

More detailed information regarding specific *Ecological Landscape Plans* is provided upon request.

C. General information about *The Organization*:

- a) policy against corruption, as per 1.7.1,
- b) long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with this standard and related FSC Policies and Standards, as per 1.8.1,
- c) contact details for The Organization for inquiries, opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.1,
- d) general description of how The Organization handles opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.2.

**2. For forest owners with *landholdings* of less than 5 000 hectares of *productive forest land***, the following information is made available upon request, digitally or as a physical copy. The information can also be provided through the *group entity* that the forest owner is a member of.

- a) policy against corruption, as per 1.7.1,
- b) long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with this standard and related FSC Policies and Standards, as per 1.8.1,
- c) contact details for The Organization for inquiries, opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.1,
- d) general description of how The Organization handles opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.2,
- e) Woodland Key Habitats, as per 6.4.1,
- f) set aside areas, as per 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a, divided into the management classifications “nature conservation, unmanaged” (Sw: naturvård orört, NO) and “nature conservation, managed” (Sw: naturvård skötsel, NS),
- g) areas with enhanced consideration, as per 6.5.2,
- h) areas with continuous cover forestry, as per 6.5.2,
- i) proportion of deciduous-rich stands, as per 6.8.5,
- j) considerations made for High Conservation Values (HCVs, see Principle 9),





k) description of the work to achieve functional nature conservation in relevant landscapes, as per 6.1 and 6.3.

7.5.2 Relevant components of the *management plan*, excluding *confidential information*, are available to *affected stakeholders* on request at the actual costs of reproduction and handling or through a visit to a relevant office.

DIRECTIVES 7.5.2: *The Organization* can refrain from providing information if they find the request not to be relevant, or to protect FSC as a certification system. Refraining from providing information is documented, and justification as to why information is not provided is communicated to the *affected stakeholder*.

**7.6 *The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, proactively and transparently engage affected stakeholders in its management planning and monitoring processes, and shall engage interested stakeholders on request.***

7.6.1 Procedures are in place for proactive and transparent *engagement* with *affected stakeholders*, and for *engagement* with *interested stakeholders* on request.

DIRECTIVES 7.6.1: *Engagement* is adapted to the *scale, intensity and risk* of the management activities. Procedures for *engagement* with *affected stakeholders* are designed in accordance with 4.5.2.



**PRINCIPLE 8: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT**

**The Organization shall demonstrate that, progress towards achieving the management objectives, the impacts of management activities and the condition of the Management Unit, are monitored and evaluated proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, in order to implement adaptive management.**

**8.1 The Organization shall monitor the implementation of its management plan, including its policies and management objectives, its progress with the activities planned, and the achievement of its verifiable targets.**

8.1.1 The *management plan*, policies and management objectives are monitored and evaluated.

DIRECTIVES 8.1.1: Large forest owners monitor and evaluate the *management plan*, policies and management objectives in accordance with their *management system*.

8.1.2 The extent of monitoring and evaluation is adapted to the *scale, intensity and risk* of the management activities.

**8.2 The Organization shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit, and changes in its environmental condition.**

8.2.1 The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored in proportion to the *scale, intensity and risk* of the management activities.

8.2.2 Large forest owners: Strategies, procedures and measures are monitored and evaluated in accordance with the requirements for internal audits in the *management system*.

**8.3 The Organization shall analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process.**

8.3.1 The results of monitoring and evaluation are periodically analyzed.

DIRECTIVES 8.3.1: Large forest owners analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation in accordance with their *management system*.

8.3.2 The analysis is used to revise the *management plan* and instructions, as per 7.4.1.

**8.4 The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring free of charge, excluding confidential information.**

8.4.1 A summary of the results of monitoring and evaluation, excluding *confidential information*, is *publicly available* at no cost and in an easily accessible format.



**8.5** *The Organization* shall have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to *scale, intensity* and *risk* of its management activities, for demonstrating the source and volume in proportion to projected output for each year, of all products from the *Management Unit* that are marketed as FSC certified.

8.5.1 A system is in place to demonstrate the source and volume that has been sold as FSC certified for each year.

**PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES**

The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach.

**9.1** *The Organization, through engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence and status of the following High Conservation Values in the Management Unit, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values:*

**HCV 1 – Species diversity.** Concentrations of *biological diversity* including endemic species, and *rare, threatened* or endangered species, that are *significant* at global, regional or national levels.

**HCV 2 – Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics.** *Intact forest landscapes* and large landscape-level *ecosystems* and *ecosystem* mosaics that are *significant* at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.

**HCV 3 – Ecosystems and habitats.** Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.

**HCV 4 – Critical ecosystem services.** Basic *ecosystem services* in *critical* situations, including *protection* of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.

**HCV 5 – Community needs.** Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of *local communities* or *Indigenous Peoples* (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through *engagement* with these communities or *Indigenous Peoples*.

**HCV 6 – Cultural values.** Sites, resources, *habitats* and *landscapes* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of *critical* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of *local communities* or *Indigenous Peoples*, identified through *engagement* with these *local communities* or *Indigenous Peoples*.

9.1.1 The occurrence and status of the following *High Conservation Values* within the *landholding* are identified and documented:

- a) forest areas of national interest for nature conservation or forest areas of recognized nation-wide significance:
  1. with a concentration of *Woodland Key Habitats*, and/or
  2. with a concentration of *threatened species* (VU, EN, CR) (HCV 1, HCV 3).
- b) *subalpine forests* of category 1 and 2, at altitudes above the *nature conservation boundary*, see 9.3.4, as well as *Intact Forest Landscapes* (IFLs) (HCV 2).
- c) *defined water protection areas* (HCV 4, HCV 5).
- d) *wetlands* of national and international significance (*class 1 areas* from the Swedish national wetland inventory, the Swedish Mire Protection Plan, and Ramsar sites) (HCV 1, HCV 2, HCV 3).
- e) *water environments* of particular national value (HCV 1, HCV 3).

- f) *Natura 2000 areas, nature reserves, and cultural reserves (HCV 1, HCV 2).*
- g) *sites of special significance for the Sami, such as old settlements and other Sami cultural remains, work corrals, and culturally important paths (HCV 5, HCV 6).*
- h) *registered archaeological monuments and cultural remains of nation-wide interest (HCV 6).*

DIRECTIVES 9.1.1: Existing inventories and other available materials from relevant authorities are used when identifying *High Conservation Values*. *Engagement* with relevant authorities, experts or other *stakeholders* is conducted when required for the identification of *High Conservation Values*.

9.1.1b: *Intact Forest Landscapes* (IFLs) in Sweden are identified according to a map available on FSC Sweden's website.

9.1.1g: Sites of special significance for the Sami are identified through *engagement* with *Sami villages*. This can occur as a part of the *participatory planning process* as per 3.2.2, or *engagement* as per 3.2.6.

GUIDANCE 9.1.1: *Relevant maps are available on the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's map tool "Skyddad Natur". Other important data sources and references for identifying areas include:*

9.1.1a: *The Swedish Forest Agency or County Administrative Boards may be contacted to identify areas that are of national interest. A map of areas of national interest for nature conservation is available on FSC Sweden's website.*

9.1.1a2: *"A concentration of threatened species" refers to:*

- *important populations of individual species that are dependent on the specific area for their survival on a national level, or*
- *several different species that, together, comprise a species diversity that is significant from a national perspective.*

9.1.1c: *The authority that designated the water protection area is contacted for applicable maps and provisions for defined water protection areas. The relevant authority may vary between counties; it is often the municipality but may also be the County Administrative Board for the county where the forest is located.*

9.1.1d: *Information on Ramsar sites in Sweden is available on the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's website. For the Swedish national wetland inventory and the Swedish Mire Protection Plan, see the following publications (in Swedish):*

*Naturvårdsverket, 2009. Våtmarksinventeringen - resultat från 25 års inventering. Nationell slutrapport för våtmarksinventeringen (VMI) i Sverige. Rapport 5925. Naturvårdsverket.*

*Naturvårdsverket, 2007. Myrskyddsplan för Sverige – Huvudrapport över revidering 2006. Rapport 5667. Naturvårdsverket.*

9.1.1e: *Water environments of particular national value are water environments with high values for nature, culture and fish/fishing. These water environments are prioritized by authorities for formal protection. An up-to-date map, available in the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's map tool "Skyddad Natur" shall be used. Dialogue with*



County Administrative Boards shall occur when necessary to ensure that the map is updated.

For more information, see the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's report (in Swedish): Naturvårdsverket, 2007. Nationell strategi för skydd av vattenanknutna natur- och kulturvärden – delmål 1. Levande sjöar och vattendrag. Rapport 5666. Naturvårdsverket.

9.1.1h: GIS-maps with known, registered archaeological monuments and other cultural remains in Sweden can be downloaded from the Swedish National Heritage Board's database "Fornsök". Archaeological monuments or cultural remains of nation-wide interest may be identified through engagement with the Swedish National Heritage Board or County Administrative Boards.

**9.2 The Organization shall develop effective strategies that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values, through engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and experts.**

9.2.1 Large forest owners: Strategies are in place for the long-term conservation and enhancement of High Conservation Values in the identified areas.

DIRECTIVES 9.2.1: When formulating strategies, knowledge and opinions are obtained from relevant stakeholders and/or experts on how the identified High Conservation Values can be maintained or enhanced.

GUIDANCE 9.2.1: Strategies may include:

- ecological landscape planning,
- adapted consideration measures in conjunction with management activities,
- engagement with other forest owners or authorities,
- targeted action plans or inventories,
- research initiatives, for instance through support or providing land for research,
- management or conservation plans defined by authorities,
- the forest sector goals for environmental considerations (Sw: Målbilder för god miljöhänsyn).

**9.3 The Organization shall implement strategies and actions that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values. These strategies and actions shall implement the precautionary approach and be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities.**

9.3.1 Large forest owners: Strategies for the long-term conservation and enhancement of High Conservation Values, are implemented.

9.3.2 Forest management is adapted to avoid damage to High Conservation Values.

9.3.3 Activities that harm High Conservation Values cease immediately and actions are taken to restore and protect the affected High Conservation Values.

9.3.4 Forest management above the *nature conservation boundary* and in *Intact Forest Landscapes* (IFLs) (9.1.1b) is adapted to the land use history of the stand and to existing *conservation values*.

DIRECTIVES 9.3.4: Forest management is restricted in areas above the *nature conservation boundary* and in *Intact Forest Landscapes* (IFLs) by the division of forests into three categories (see below). A map of the *nature conservation boundary* is available on FSC Sweden's website. Where necessary, the boundary may be revised in a local consensus process with *affected stakeholders* and FSC Sweden.

Signing a written declaration that *The Organization* does not intend to conduct forest management above the *nature conservation boundary* is considered to fulfill the requirements of 9.3.4.

Considering the forest management restrictions above the *nature conservation boundary*, the requirements of setting aside an area equivalent to 5 % (6.5.1) and maintaining a 5 % proportion of deciduous-dominated stands (6.8.5) do not need to be met in this area.

**Category 1:** Areas of virgin-type forests

Areas with virgin-type forests can be characterized by:

- a) continuity of lying coarse dead wood,
- b) abundance of *red-listed species*,
- c) abundance of lying coarse dead wood, often 15-20 per hectare,
- d) diverse age structure and pronounced stratification,
- e) abundance of natural stumps and dead standing trees,
- f) no or few felling stumps.

All *Woodland Key Habitats* above the *nature conservation boundary* are included in Category 1.

These forests are exempt from all management activities except those with the purpose of promoting natural *biodiversity*.

**Category 2:** Other forests of significance for nature conservation

Other forests of significance for nature conservation can be characterized by:

- a) scattered dead standing trees,
- b) moderate frequency of lying coarse dead wood and sparse or isolated occurrences of *red-listed species*,
- c) often a diverse age structure and stratification,
- d) evident signs of dimension felling.

These forests may be managed by *continuous cover forestry* or *group felling* and particular nature consideration measures.



Other forests of significance for nature conservation that are situated within or adjacent to areas of virgin-type forests, that form a natural integrated unit with these areas, are managed as Category 1. These areas are exempt from all management activities except those with the purpose of promoting natural *biodiversity*.

**Category 3:** Forests that are neither of Category 1 nor 2

Areas that belong to Category 3 are, primarily, recently managed areas or other severely affected areas with broken forest continuity.

These may be managed in accordance with other parts of this standard, except for 6.5.1 and 6.8.5 (see above).

9.3.5 Current provisions from *legally competent authorities* are complied with for *landholdings* within defined water protection areas (9.1.1c).

9.3.6 Any management activities in *landholdings* within Natura 2000 areas, cultural reserves and nature reserves (9.1.1f) are carried out in accordance with existing management and conservation plans and current provisions from relevant authorities.

**9.4 The Organization shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of High Conservation Values, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and shall include engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and experts.**

9.4.1 Large forest owners: Changes in areas with High Conservation Values and the effects of management activities on High Conservation Values are monitored. The extent of monitoring is adapted to the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities.

DIRECTIVES 9.4.1: If necessary, monitoring is conducted through *engagement* with, or by, relevant authorities, experts, or other *stakeholders*. The results of monitoring are documented.

9.4.2 Large forest owners: Strategies for the long-term *conservation* and enhancement of *High Conservation Values* are adapted according to the results of the monitoring.



**PRINCIPLE 10: IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Management activities conducted by or for *The Organization* for the *Management Unit* shall be selected and implemented consistent with *The Organization's* economic, environmental and social policies and objectives and in compliance with the *Principles* and *Criteria* collectively.

**10.1** After harvest or in accordance with the *management plan*, *The Organization* shall, by natural or artificial regeneration methods, regenerate vegetation cover in a timely fashion to pre-harvesting or more natural conditions.

10.1.1 Harvested sites are regenerated in a timely manner and to a sufficient extent to ensure forest production, as per the Forestry Act.

10.1.2 Regeneration activities are implemented in a manner that is *adapted to the site* with respect to regeneration methods, as well as choice of seed and plant material.

DIRECTIVES 10.1.2: Possibilities for *natural regeneration* are considered in the selection of regeneration methods.

**10.2** *The Organization* shall use species for regeneration that are ecologically well *adapted to the site* and to the management objectives. *The Organization* shall use native species and local genotypes for regeneration, unless there is clear and convincing justification for using others.

10.2.1 Regeneration is carried out using *native tree species* that are *adapted to the site*, with exceptions as per 10.3.1.

10.2.2 At least 50 % of the *productive forest land* area in the nemoral zone, including areas set aside as per 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a, are dominated by native deciduous trees and/or pine in the long run.

DIRECTIVES 10.2.2: The nemoral zone is defined in the report "Gränsen mellan nemoral och boreo-nemoral zonen" by Yvonne Aldetun, which can be downloaded from FSC Sweden's website. The demarcation of the nemoral zone that has been accepted by *Certification Bodies* before the effective date of this standard can continue to be applied.

10.2.3 Where the proportion of *productive forest land* area in the nemoral zone dominated by native deciduous trees and/or pine is lower than 50 %, measures are carried out to reach the target.

DIRECTIVES 10.2.3: The time plan and measures to be taken to reach the target are stated in planning documentation.

**10.3** *The Organization* shall only use alien species when knowledge and/or experience have shown that any invasive impacts can be controlled and effective mitigation measures are in place.

10.3.1 An *exotic tree species* can only be used once it is shown through a *systematic* review that:

- a) the tree species provides considerable advantages, in terms of production or otherwise, in comparison to native tree species,
- b) the tree species is ecologically well adapted to the sites where it is used,
- c) the tree species does not cause substantial negative impacts on natural soil processes and long-term productivity,
- d) the tree species does not cause substantial negative impacts on other ecosystems or biodiversity,
- e) self-dispersal to the surroundings can be limited and removed.

DIRECTIVES 10.3.1: “*Systematic review*” refers to a *systematic* analysis of the tree species based on: 1. scientific experiments or 2. proven experience and scientifically documented studies. *Exotic tree species* that have not undergone a *systematic review* are considered as untested and are treated in accordance with 10.5.4.

*GUIDANCE 10.3.1d: “Other ecosystems” refers to dispersal and impact on, for example, forest wetlands, alpine environments, etc.*

10.3.2 Enrichment planting with seedlings from *exotic tree species* is only carried out in stands already dominated by *exotic tree species*.

10.3.3 Special considerations, in the form of retained *native tree species*, are made prior to and during the establishment of new stands of *exotic tree species*.

*GUIDANCE 10.3.3: Special considerations in the form of retained native tree species are made to enable future considerations entirely based on native tree species.*

10.3.4 New stands of lodgepole pine are not established within 1 km of nature reserves or national parks.

DIRECTIVES 10.3.4: Already established stands within 1 km of nature reserves or national parks are removed no later than by the time of regeneration felling. The requirements in 10.3.4 also apply for other *exotic tree species* if such species show a significant *risk* of self-dispersal, according to 10.3.1.

10.3.5 *The Organization* has a program for removing the self-dispersal of *exotic tree species* outside of existing and planned stands of *exotic tree species*.

DIRECTIVES 10.3.5: Measures are carried out *systematically* and in proportion to the assessed negative impacts, with consideration for the *risk* of continued dispersal from trees originating from self-dispersed seedlings. Measures normally occur in conjunction with the regular management and maintenance, but can, where necessary, comprise additional measures.

When stands of *exotic tree species* are removed to establish new stands of *native tree species*, measures are carried out to prevent the establishment of seedlings from self-dispersal of the previously occurring *exotic tree species*.

*Engagement* to remove and/or counteract self-dispersal of *exotic tree species* to areas outside of the *property* occurs in agreement with the landowner that is affected by the self-dispersal.



10.3.6 <i>Exotic tree species</i> are not retained as nature consideration during fellings.
10.3.7 <i>Exotic tree species</i> are actively removed from <i>consideration patches</i> and <i>buffer zones</i> in conjunction with management activities.
10.3.8 Large forest owners: The establishment and management of stands with <i>exotic tree species</i> are planned using a landscape perspective so as to avoid negative ecological impacts.
10.3.9 Large forest owners: <i>Exotic tree species</i> are not established in the majority of <i>landscapes</i> that contain no or a low proportion of <i>exotic tree species</i> .  DIRECTIVES 10.3.9: <i>Landscapes</i> that contain no or a low proportion of <i>exotic tree species</i> are <i>landscapes</i> where less than 2 % of the area in the <i>landscape</i> consists of <i>exotic tree species</i> stands. The <i>landscapes</i> are based on the landscape division in the <i>Ecological Landscape Plan</i> .
10.3.10 Large forest owners: A plan to develop <i>landscapes</i> that contain no or a low proportion of <i>exotic tree species</i> is in place where such <i>landscapes</i> are missing in the <i>landholding</i> .  GUIDANCE 10.3.10: <i>The plan to develop landscapes with no or a low proportion of exotic tree species can be a long-term plan for replacing exotic tree species with native tree species during regeneration felling. It can also entail the earlier removal of stands with exotic tree species. When selecting such landscapes, the occurrence of exotic tree species on adjacent properties, as well as preconditions for having a low proportion of exotic tree species in the whole landscape, should be considered.</i>
10.3.11 The use and management of <i>exotic tree species</i> is monitored and documented in terms of <i>risks</i> for negative impacts on the surrounding environment, based on scientific appraisal.
<b>10.4 The Organization shall not use genetically modified organisms in the Management Unit.</b>
10.4.1 Genetically modified organisms are not used.
<b>10.5 The Organization shall use silvicultural practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives.</b>
10.5.1 Silvicultural practices that are implemented are <i>adapted to the site</i> and designed to meet the silvicultural objectives.
10.5.2 Undergrowth that does not obstruct the subsequent management activities is retained during precommercial thinning of the understory prior to commercial thinning, regeneration felling, soil scarification or planting.
10.5.3 Consideration is shown during precommercial and commercial thinning for the shrub and tree species present prior to the thinning.
10.5.4 When <i>untested methods and materials</i> are used, the following applies:

- a) FSC certified land can be used for research that is conducted by universities, colleges, research institutions, or national authorities.
- b) If *The Organization*, in their management operations or own experimental trials, wants to use an *untested method or material* that could entail a significant negative impact on human health or the environment, the directives for 10.5.4b are followed.

DIRECTIVES 10.5.4b: *The Organization* assesses if an *untested method or material* comprises a *risk* for significant negative impacts on human health or the environment. The materials used to determine the *risk* are documented and communicated with the *Certification Body*. If *The Organization* assesses the *risk* for negative impacts to be significant, or finds it difficult to assess the *risk*, *The Organization* shall consult FSC Sweden prior to the use of *untested materials or methods*.

**10.6 The Organization shall minimize or avoid the use of fertilizers. When fertilizers are used, The Organization shall demonstrate that use is equally or more ecologically and economically beneficial than use of silvicultural systems that do not require fertilizers, and prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values, including soils.**

10.6.1 The Swedish Forest Agency's provisions and guidelines for the Forestry Act (Sw: Skogsstyrelsens föreskrifter och allmänna råd till skogsvårdslagen) from 2017 are complied with during fertilization.

10.6.2 Large forest owners: At least 20 % of the fertilizable area is left unfertilized.

DIRECTIVES 10.6.2: "Fertilizable area" refers to *forest land* that can be fertilized according to the Swedish Forest Agency's guidelines from 2017. Fertilizable area that has been set aside in relation to 6.5.1 or 6.5.2 or that has not been fertilized as a consideration for reindeer herding (3.2.2) may be counted.

10.6.3 When fertilizers are used, their type, dose, and time of application are documented on the stand level.

DIRECTIVES 10.6.3: The Swedish Forest Agency is consulted regarding all areas to be fertilized.

10.6.4 Fertilization is monitored. Any damage to the environment is documented, and plans and instructions are revised to avoid its recurrence.

10.6.5 The Swedish Forest Agency's recommendations are complied with for ash recycling.

10.6.6 *Organic fertilizers* are not used without review according to the directives for *untested methods and materials* as per 10.5.4.

**10.7 The Organization shall use integrated pest management and silviculture systems which avoid, or aim at eliminating, the use of chemical pesticides. The Organization shall not use any chemical pesticides prohibited by FSC policy. When pesticides are used, The Organization shall prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values and human health.**



<p>10.7.1 The <i>risks</i> of damage caused by fungi, wind and insects is reduced through the application of section 29 of the Forestry Act and related provisions.</p>
<p>10.7.2 Chemical <i>pesticides</i> classified by the Swedish Chemicals Agency as “toxic”, “corrosive”, “harmful”, and “dangerous for the environment” are not used on <i>forest land</i> unless FSC has granted derogation. This also applies to chemical <i>pesticides</i> that are prohibited by the FSC Pesticides Policy, FSC-POL-30-001.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.7.2: For chemical <i>pesticides</i> classified by the Swedish Chemicals Agency as “toxic”, “corrosive”, “harmful”, and “dangerous for the environment”, but not considered “highly hazardous pesticides” in the FSC Pesticides Policy, FSC Sweden can grant derogations for special circumstances. The rules for derogations regarding 10.7.2 are set by FSC Sweden.</p> <p>Derogations for using chemical <i>pesticides</i> that are on the FSC list of “highly hazardous pesticides” can be granted after application to the FSC Performance and Standards Unit according to FSC-PRO-30-001 (Pesticide Derogation Procedure). For the use of such chemical <i>pesticides</i> in Sweden, an application for derogation must also be submitted to FSC Sweden.</p> <p>Derogation is required both for the planting of seedlings that have been preliminarily treated in the nursery, and for post-treatment in the field. This requirement does not apply to other chemical use in nurseries.</p>
<p>10.7.3 When seedlings are ordered, requirements are placed on the plant producer to work <i>systematically</i> to reduce the use of chemical <i>pesticides</i> that may have negative impacts on human health and the environment in the nursery.</p>
<p>10.7.4 Any use of chemical <i>pesticides</i> complies with safety data sheets that fulfill the Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council (REACH) and user instructions.</p>
<p>10.7.5 Any use of chemical <i>pesticides</i> is documented regarding type, quantity used, time period, location and rationale for use.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.7.5: The indicator does not apply for pine weevil post-treatment in the field that has been handled according to 10.7.2.</p>
<p>10.7.6 Any use of chemical <i>pesticides</i> is monitored, and plans and instructions are revised to ensure effective use and avoid damage to human health and the environment.</p>
<p><b>10.8 The Organization shall minimize, monitor and strictly control the use of biological control agents in accordance with internationally accepted scientific protocols. When biological control agents are used, The Organization shall prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values.</b></p>
<p>10.8.1 The use of <i>biological control agents</i> is minimized.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.8.1: The fungus <i>Phlebiopsis gigantea</i> may be used to treat root rot as necessary.</p>



<p>10.8.2 Only scientifically evaluated and effective <i>biological control agents</i> that are approved by the Swedish Chemicals Agency are used.</p>
<p>10.8.3 Any use of <i>biological control agents</i> occurs with appropriate techniques and methods that comply with the terms of the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</p>
<p>10.8.4 Any use of biological control agents where there is risk of damage to human health and the environment is documented regarding type, quantity used, time period, location and rationale for use.</p>
<p>10.8.5 Any use of biological control agents is monitored, and plans and instructions are revised to ensure effective use and avoid damage to human health and the environment.</p>
<p><b>10.9 The Organization shall assess risks and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk.</b></p>
<p>10.9.1 Forest management is conducted, within the scope of the forest management objectives, so that the risk for extensive damage to forests and other ecosystems is reduced when natural hazards occur.</p>
<p>10.9.2 Preventative measures against fire are carried out in conjunction with management activities where there is a high risk of fire.</p>
<p><b>10.10 The Organization shall manage infrastructural development, transport activities and silviculture so that water resources and soils are protected, and disturbance of and damage to rare and threatened species, habitats, ecosystems and landscape values are prevented, mitigated and/or repaired.</b></p>
<p>10.10.1 Soil scarification is <i>adapted to the site</i> and is carried out using <i>best practice</i> to minimize the impact on soil.</p>
<p>10.10.2 Soil scarification is carried out so that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) damage to known archaeological monuments and cultural remains is prevented,</li> <li>b) damage to existing nature considerations is prevented,</li> <li>c) erosion and negative impacts on the water environment are prevented.</li> </ul> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.10.2: The <i>forest sector goals</i> for cultural heritage sites on forest land (Sw: målbilder för kulturmiljöer i skogsmark) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.</p> <p>GUIDELINES 10.10.2: In addition to the above, see the forestry sector's joint guidelines for considerations for archaeological monuments and cultural remains (Sw: skogsbrukets branschgemensamma riktlinjer för hänsyn till forn- och kulturlämningar) on Skogforsk's website.</p>
<p>10.10.3 Site-specific management instructions with planned consideration measures are in place prior to soil scarification.</p>



<p>10.10.4 Damage from soil scarification is repaired as long as this does not risk worsening the damage that occurred.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.10.4: If archaeological monuments are damaged, the County Administrative Board is contacted before any restoration measures are carried out.</p>
<p>10.10.5 When new forest roads are constructed it is ensured that:</p>
<p>a) the running of watercourses is preserved,</p>
<p>b) damage to the water environment and associated buffer zones is prevented,</p>
<p>c) crossings over watercourses do not create obstacles to the migration of aquatic organisms,</p>
<p>d) road ditches do not discharge directly into watercourses or wetlands with significant conservation value.</p>
<p>10.10.6 Obstacles to the migration of aquatic organisms caused by road culverts are removed in conjunction with road reparations that involve excavation.</p>
<p>10.10.7 When carrying out forest road restoration that involves excavation, particle runoff into water is minimized and it is ensured that road ditches do not discharge directly into watercourses or <i>wetlands with significant conservation value</i>.</p>
<p>10.10.8 Large forest owners: Action plans are developed and implemented to remove obstacles to the migration of aquatic organisms caused by road culverts in <i>valuable watercourses</i>.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 10.10.8: "Valuable watercourses" refer to watercourses of particular national or regional conservation or fishing value identified by authorities. The action plan is linked to the Ecological Landscape Plan.</i></p>
<p><b>10.11 The Organization shall manage activities associated with harvesting and extraction of timber and non-timber forest products so that <i>environmental values</i> are conserved, merchantable waste is reduced, and damage to other products and services is avoided.</b></p>
<p>10.11.1 Tops and branches of spruce, pine and birch can be extracted where the impacts on the productivity of the soil are limited, provided that at least 20 % of the tops and branches are retained.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.11.1: Tops and branches do not have to be retained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) from <i>exotic tree species</i>,</li><li>b) as a consideration for outdoor recreation,</li><li>c) in conjunction with management to create deciduous-dominated stands, or forest grazing/pasture lands,</li><li>d) where the retention of tops and branches counteracts the nature conservation objective.</li></ul> <p><i>GUIDANCE 10.11.1: Piles of tops and branches are preferentially retained in sun-exposed sites and/or in association with other retained considerations after regeneration felling.</i></p>



<p>10.11.2 The extraction of tops and branches of tree species other than spruce, pine, birch and <i>exotic tree species</i> is avoided.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.11.2: Tops and branches of such tree species may be extracted in conjunction with <i>conservation management measures</i> or in deciduous-dominated production stands, except where the stand can be expected to have high values for wood-living beetles associated with deciduous trees. Tops and branches are retained to a sufficient extent to achieve the nature conservation objective for the stand.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 10.11.2: High values can be expected if the stand lies in a region or landscape with well-known populations of rare and threatened beetles associated with deciduous wood.</i></p>
<p>10.11.3 Considerations are made for wood-living beetles by adapting the storage and chipping of tops and branches.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 10.11.3: If stacks, particularly of noble broad-leaf trees, have been left lying over the summer, it is important to remove and retain the topmost layer of branches during extraction. For additional guidance, see the Swedish Forest Agency's publication: "Hänsyn vid uttag av grot" (in Swedish).</i></p>
<p>10.11.4 Stumps can only be harvested after review and approval by FSC Sweden.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 10.11.4: Exceptions from the need for review apply when the method is used at a very small scale and not as a part of the regular commercial operations.</p>
<p><b>10.12 The Organization shall dispose of waste materials in an environmentally appropriate manner.</b></p>
<p>10.12.1 Harmful emissions of chemicals, fuel, oils and non-organic waste are minimized through preventative measures and choice of chemical products.</p>
<p>10.12.2 Waste materials are returned to the supplier or deposited at an approved recycling station.</p>
<p>10.12.3 <i>Dangerous goods</i> are transported in approved packages or containers.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 10.12.3: See the website for the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency for more information about the transport of dangerous goods.</i></p>



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following definitions apply for the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden. The terms that are defined in the glossary are marked in italics in this standard. The source is given in parentheses after each definition. When FSC Sweden is named as the source, the definition has been developed specifically for this standard. When the definition is “based on” a source, it has been adapted to better suit the context in this standard.

**Adapted to the site (Sw: anpassat till ståndort):** See definition for site adaptation.

**Affected stakeholder (Sw: berörd intressent):** Any person, group of persons or entity that is or is likely to be subject to the effects of the activities of a *Management Unit*. The following are examples of affected stakeholders:

- workers,
- labor organizations that hold the applicable *collective agreement*,
- concession Sami villages that conduct *concession reindeer herding*,
- local businesses,
- local organizations,
- landowners and other tenure and *use rights* holders,
- locals,
- Sami villages,
- schools. (FSC Sweden and FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Applicable law (Sw: tillämplig lag):** Means applicable to *The Organization* as a *legal* person or business enterprise in or for the benefit of the *Management Unit* and those laws which affect the implementation of this standard. This includes any combination of *statutory law* and case law (court interpretations), regulations and provisions, associated administrative procedures, and the national constitution. The national constitution invariably takes *legal* precedence over all other *legal* instruments. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Best available information (Sw: bästa tillgängliga kunskap):** Data, facts, documents, expert opinions, documents from authorities and results of field surveys or consultations with *stakeholders* that are most credible, accurate, complete, and/or pertinent and that can be obtained through *reasonable* effort and cost, subject to the *scale* and *intensity* of the management activities and the *precautionary approach*. (Source: FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0)

**Best practice (Sw: bästa tillgängliga metod och teknik):** A working method or technique that is officially accepted as being the best to use in a particular business or industry. (Source: Based on Cambridge Dictionary)

**Biological control agents (Sw: biologiska bekämpningsmedel):** Organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other organisms. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0 and World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website)

**Biological diversity/Biodiversity (Sw: biologisk mångfald):** The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic *ecosystems* and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of *ecosystems*. (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity 1992, Article 2)



**Buffer zone (Sw: *kantzön*):** An area with trees and vegetation that is retained along a watercourse, a wetland, a water body, or another environmental or social value. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Category of threat (Sw: *hotkategori*):** The classification of species in the Red List on the basis of prognoses of *risk* for extinction in Sweden. See definition for *red-listed species*. (Source: Based on IUCN, 2001. *IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.*)

**Certification Body (Sw: *certifieringsorganisation*):** The body that performs conformity assessment services, that makes certification decisions and that can be the object of accreditation. In this standard, “Certification Body” refers to organizations accredited to make decisions about FSC certification and to perform audits of FSC certified forest management. (Source: FSC Sweden and FSC-STD-20-001 V4-0)

**Collective agreement (Sw: *kollektivavtal*):** A written agreement, between the employer/employer organization and the *employees’* labor organizations, which regulates wages and terms at the workplace. (Source: Based on *Arbetsmiljöupplysningen’s* website)

**Complaint (Sw: *klagomål*):** In this standard, a complaint is an expression of dissatisfaction by any person or organization presented as a complaint to *The Organization*, relating to its management activities and its conformity with this standard, where a response is expected. (Source: Based on FSC-PRO-01-005 V3-0 *Processing Appeals*)

**Concession reindeer herding (Sw: *koncessionsrenskötsel*):** Concession reindeer herding is a form of reindeer herding conducted with special permission, carried out by nine concession Sami villages in northeastern Sweden. The concession holder that manages the reindeer must be Sami. The reindeer owners are local residents that may or may not be Sami. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Confidential information (Sw: *konfidentiell information*):** Private facts, data and content that, if made *publicly available*, might put at risk *The Organization*, its business interests or its relationships with *stakeholders*, clients and competitors. (Source: FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0)

**Connectivity (Sw: *konnektivitet*):** A measure of how connected or spatially continuous a corridor, network, or matrix is. Related to the structural connectivity concept; functional or behavioral connectivity refers to how connected an area is for a process, such as an animal moving through different types of *landscape* elements. Aquatic connectivity deals with the accessibility and transport of materials and organisms, through groundwater and surface water, between different patches of aquatic *ecosystems* of all kinds. (Source: Based on Forman, 1995. *Land Mosaics. The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions. Cambridge University Press*)

**Conservation/Protection (Sw: *bevarande/skydd*):** These words are used interchangeably when referring to management activities designed to maintain the identified environmental or cultural values in existence long-term. Management activities may range from zero or minimal interventions to a specified range of appropriate interventions and activities designed to maintain, or compatible with maintaining, these identified values. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Conservation Areas Network (Sw: *bevarandenätverk*):** Areas exempt from management for forest production, or that are managed with protection and enhancement of conservation values and/or social values as the primary objective. This network can include set aside areas, areas with adapted management, areas that have been retained as nature considerations in conjunction with felling, low-productive land, High Conservation Value areas, and formally protected areas. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Conservation management measures (Sw: *naturvårdande skötsel*):** Measures aimed at conserving and/or developing *conservation values* of single trees or stands where nature conservation is the primary objective. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Conservation value assessment (Sw: *naturvärdesbedömning*):** Identification and description of the *conservation values* in a given area. Conservation value assessments are used as a basis for planning nature considerations and prioritizing areas to be set aside. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Conservation values (Sw: *naturvärden*):** A generic term for features of importance for *biological diversity*. This includes *habitats* that are important for the survival and reproduction of specific species or species groups, rare or threatened habitat types, and structures and elements in the *landscape*. The occurrence of certain species (for example, *red-listed species* or indicator species) can also be designated as a conservation value. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Consideration-demanding habitat (Sw: *hänsynskrävande biotop*):** An area with tangible *conservation values*, where special considerations should be made during all management activities to prevent or limit damage in or near the habitat. Damage refers to management activities that destroy or cause significant negative changes in the *habitat* features, such as its stand structure, soil conditions or species composition. Certain types of consideration-demanding habitats are primarily preserved by a lack of interventions. In other cases, management is required to, for instance, strengthen the *habitat* features, or maintain or enhance *conservation values* associated with natural disturbances or cultural heritage. (Source: Based on Skogsstyrelsen, 2016. *Nya och reviderade målbilder för god miljöhänsyn: skogssektorns gemensamma målbilder för god miljöhänsyn vid skogsbruksåtgärder (in Swedish). Rapport 12/2016. Skogsstyrelsen, Jönköping*)

**Consideration patch (Sw: *hänsynsyta*):** A smaller area that has been left as a nature consideration during management activities. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Consultation (Sw: *samråd*):** A formal meeting between The Organization and affected stakeholders. Consultation is a type of engagement. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Continuous cover forestry (Sw: *kontinuitetsskogsbruk*):** Forest management with the objective of maintaining a continuous tree cover, and where the management maintains or enhances the stratification of the forest. Continuous cover forestry is one type of forestry without clearcuts. Examples of other forestry methods without clearcuts are *group felling*, and stand retention for timber, seed trees, or shelter trees; however, these are not counted as continuous cover forestry. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Contract worker (Sw: *uppdragstagare*):** Workers without an employment relationship, such as consultants and contractors. For workers to be considered contract workers, the contract worker is required to:

- conduct business operations,
- hold class F/FA tax,
- be registered for value added tax (VAT),
- hold a registered business,
- conduct the work themselves. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Criterion (pl. Criteria) (Sw: *kriterium (pl. kriterier)*):** A means of judging whether or not a *Principle* has been fulfilled. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0)

**Critical in Principle 9 (Sw: viktig i princip 9):** The concept of criticality or fundamentality in Principle 9 and High Conservation Values (HCVs) relates to irreplaceability and to cases where loss or major damage to this HCV would cause serious prejudice or suffering to *affected stakeholders*. An *ecosystem service* is considered to be critical (HCV 4) where a disruption of that service is likely to cause, or poses a threat of, severe negative impacts on the welfare, health or survival of *local communities*, on the environment, on HCVs, or on the functioning of significant infrastructure (roads, dams, buildings etc.). (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Customary law (Sw: sedvanerätt):** Legally binding rules, not defined in legislation, based on previous court decisions, as well as general custom and use. (Source: Säkerhetspolitik.se)

**Customary rights (Sw: hävdvunna rättigheter):** Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Dangerous goods (Sw: farligt gods):** Substances and products that can entail risks for health and safety, property, or the environment when they are transported or used. (Source: The Swedish Transport Agency's website)

**Disabling of reindeer herding (Sw: omöjliggörande av renskötsel):** When the availability of reindeer pasture is substantially negatively impacted in the long-term, considering the whole area of *the Sami village* (the *landscape*), and with consideration for the migration over the year as well as the functional *connectivity* within the area. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Dispute resolution committee (Sw: tvistlösningskommitté):** A committee that reviews whether all steps in the *participatory planning process* have been fulfilled. Review from the committee can be requested by the representatives of the Sami reindeer herding or by *The Organization*. The dispute resolution committee is convened by FSC Sweden. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Easement (Sw: servitut):** A legal term for the right of one *property* to use a part of another *property*, such as a road or a well. An easement is bound to a specific *property*, and not to a specific person. The easement is valid regardless of who owns the *property*. (Source: Based on the definition as provided by Lantmäteriet)

**Ecological Landscape Plan (Sw: ekologisk landskapsplan):** A concept and a tool for forest management planning on a *landscape* level, based on maps and with *biodiversity conservation* as the primary aim. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Ecosystem (Sw: ekosystem):** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit. (Source: Based on the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 2)

**Ecosystem services (Sw: ekosystemtjänster):** The benefits people obtain from *ecosystems*. These include:

- provisioning services such as forest products and food from plants,
- supporting services such as nutrient cycling, water cycling and pollination,
- regulating services such as regulation of climate, air and water quality,
- cultural services such as aesthetic and *recreational values*.

(Source: Based on Hassan, Scholes and Ash, 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Series. Island Press, Washington DC)



Employee (**Sw: *anställd***): See definition for *staff*.

**Engagement (Sw: *samverkan*)**: The process used by *The Organization* to inform about management activities and collect opinions from *affected stakeholders* and/or *interested stakeholders*, and to ensure that their concerns, desires, expectations, needs, and rights are considered in the forest management. The process for engagement is adapted to the participating parties. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Environmental values (Sw: *miljövärden*)**: The following set of elements of the biophysical and human environment:

- conservation values,
- ecosystem functions (including carbon sequestration and storage),
- biological diversity,
- water resources,
- soils,
- atmosphere,
- landscape values.

The actual worth attributed to these elements depends on human and societal perceptions. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Exotic tree species (Sw: *främmande trädslag*)**: A tree species occurring outside of its natural range (past or present) and dispersal potential. (Source: Based on the definition as provided on the Convention for Biological Diversity's website)

**Externalities (Sw: *externa effekter*)**: The positive and negative impacts of activities on people that are not directly involved in those activities, or on a natural resource or the environment, which do not usually enter standard cost accounting systems, such that the market prices of the products of those activities do not reflect the full costs or benefits. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Forest edge (Sw: *bryn*)**: The transition zone between forest and open land. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Forest land (Sw: *skogsmark*)**: Land within a cohesive area where the tree height is more than five meters and the canopy closure is higher than 10 %, or where the conditions exist to reach this tree height and canopy closure without active measures to increase production. (Source: *The Forestry Act*)

**Forest sector goals (Sw: *skogssektorns målbilder*)**: The forest sector joint goals for environmental considerations provide guidance for how considerations for nature, recreation, outdoor activities, and cultural heritage sites should be formed in management activities. The goals have been developed through engagement and formulated for use in the practical forest management. (Source: *The Swedish Forest Agency*)

**Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) (Sw: *på förhand givet, fritt och upplyst samtycke*)**: A *legal* condition whereby a person or community can be said to have given consent to an action prior to its commencement, based upon a clear appreciation and understanding of the facts, implications and future consequences of that action, and the possession of all relevant facts at the time when consent is given. Free, prior and informed consent includes the right to grant, modify, withhold or withdraw approval. (Source: *Based on the Preliminary working paper on the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent of*



*Indigenous Peoples (...)* (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2004/4 8 July 2004) of the 22nd Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 19–23 July 2004)

**Fresh dead wood (Sw: färsk död ved):** Wood from trees that have been dead for less than one year. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Gender equality (Sw: jämställdhet):** When women and men have the same rights, obligations and opportunities within all essential aspects of life. (Source: Nationalencyklopedin)

**Genetically modified organism (Sw: genmodifierad organism):** An organism in which the genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination. (Source: Based on FSC-POL-30-602 FSC Interpretation on GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms))

**Green infrastructure (Sw: grön infrastruktur):** An ecologically effective network of *habitats* and structures, natural areas and established elements that are formed, used and managed in a way that maintains *biodiversity* and promotes *ecosystem services* that are important for the community in the whole *landscape*. (Source: The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's website)

**Group entity (Sw: gruppcertifikat):** The entity representing the forest properties that constitute a group for the purpose of FSC forest management certification. The group entity holds the forest management certificate. The group entity is responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this standard are met. The group entity may be an individual, a cooperative body, an owner association, or other similar *legal* entity. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-30-005 V1-1)

**Group felling (Sw: luckhuggning):** A forestry method that involves felling to create gaps for forest regeneration. (Source: The Swedish Forest Agency)

**Habitat (Sw: biotop/livsmiljö):** The place or type of site where an organism or population occurs. (Source: Based on the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 2)

**High-value Landscape (Sw: värdestrakt):** A section of a *landscape* that has a particularly high ecological value. High-value Landscapes have a substantially higher concentration of core areas of importance for flora and fauna (Sw: värdekärnor), including structures, functions, and processes, than what is present in the overall landscape. (Source: The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's website)

**High Conservation Values (HCVs) (Sw: Höga bevarandevärden):** Any of the following values:

- HCV1: Species Diversity. Concentrations of *biological diversity* including endemic species, and *rare, threatened* or endangered *species*, that are *significant* at global, regional or national levels.
- HCV 2: Landscape-level *ecosystems* and mosaics. *Intact Forest Landscapes*, large landscape-level *ecosystems* and *ecosystem* mosaics that are *significant* at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- HCV 3: Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.

- HCV 4: *Critical ecosystem services*. Basic *ecosystem services* in *critical* situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.
- HCV 5: Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of *local communities* or *Indigenous Peoples* (for example for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water), identified through *engagement* with these communities or *Indigenous Peoples*.
- HCV 6: Cultural values. Sites, resources, *habitats* and *landscapes* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of *critical* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of *local communities* or *Indigenous Peoples*, identified through *engagement* with these *local communities* or *Indigenous Peoples*. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**In good faith (Sw: *i god anda*):** Good faith implies that the parties make every effort to reach an agreement, conduct genuine and constructive negotiations, avoid unjustified delays in negotiations, respect agreements, and give time to discuss and settle disputes and disagreements. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0)

**Indigenous Peoples (Sw: *urfolk*):** People and groups of people that can be identified or characterized as follows:

- the key characteristic or criterion is self-identification as Indigenous Peoples at the individual level and acceptance by the community as their member,
- historical continuity with a strong link to territories and surrounding natural resources,
- distinct social, economic or political systems,
- distinct language, culture and beliefs,
- form non-dominant groups of society,
- resolve to maintain and reproduce their ancestral environments and systems as distinctive peoples and communities.

(Source: Adapted from United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous, Factsheet 'Who are Indigenous Peoples' October 2007; United Nations Development Group, 'Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples' Issues' United Nations 2009, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 13 September 2007)

**Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs) (Sw: *intakta skogslandskap*):** A territory within today's global extent of forest cover which contains forest and non-forest *ecosystems* minimally influenced by human economic activity, with an area of at least 500 km<sup>2</sup> (50 000 ha) and a minimal width of 10 km (measured as the diameter of a circle that is entirely inscribed within the boundaries of the territory). (Source: *Intact Forests / Global Forest Watch. Glossary definition as provided on Intact Forest website. 2006-2014*)

**Intellectual property (Sw: *immateriella rättigheter*):** Practices as well as knowledge, innovations and other creations of the mind. (Source: Based on the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 8(j); and World Intellectual Property Organization. What is Intellectual Property? WIPO Publication No. 450(E)).

**Intensity (Sw: *intensitet*):** A measure of the force, severity or strength of a management activity or other occurrence affecting the nature of the activity's impacts. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)



**Interested stakeholder (Sw: *övrig intressent*):** Any person, group of persons, or entity that has shown an interest, or is known to have an interest, in the management and its impacts on the forest. Interested stakeholders do not encompass stakeholders that are directly affected by activities in the *Management Unit* (see definition for *affected stakeholder*). The following are examples of interested stakeholders:

- conservation organizations, for example environmental NGOs,
- labor organizations, for example labor unions;
- human rights organizations, for example social NGOs,
- FSC Sweden,
- experts/researchers on particular issues, for example *High Conservation Values*,
- outdoor recreation organizations. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Landholding (Sw: *markinnehav*):** The total of all properties held by the same owner. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Landscape (Sw: *landskap*):** A geographical mosaic composed of interacting *ecosystems* and *habitats* resulting from the influence of geological, topographical, soil, climatic, biotic and human interactions in a given area. (Source: Based on World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website)

**Landscape values (Sw: *landskapsvärden*):** Environmental values on the landscape level. Landscape values can vary according to, for instance, the age structure and species composition of the forest, fragmentation, or the occurrence of species or *habitats* on a landscape level. (Source: FSC Sweden) See also definitions for *green infrastructure* and *connectivity*.

**Legal (Sw: *laglig/rättslig*):** An action or activity that is conducted in accordance with applicable legislation, or actions or activities that may come to be settled by a legal authority in accordance with applicable legislation. (Source: Based on the Swedish Academy Dictionary)

**Legally competent authority (Sw: *behörig myndighet*):** An authority mandated in law to perform a certain function. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2) In the Swedish context, this means authorities such as the Swedish Forest Agency, County Administrative Boards, municipalities, etc. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Local communities (Sw: *lokalsamhällen*):** Communities of any size that are in or adjacent to the *Management Unit*, and also those that are close enough to have a significant impact on the economy or the *environmental values* of the *Management Unit* or to have their economies, rights or environments significantly affected by the management activities or the biophysical aspects of the *Management Unit*. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Low-productive land (Sw: *impediment*):** Land with a low capacity for producing timber. This can include, for example: mires, rock outcrops, or mountains. Low-productive forest land has a total annual volume increment of less than one cubic meter per hectare. (Source: Based on *Skogsencyklopedin*)

**Low-productive peatlands (Sw: *lågproduktiva torvmarker*):** Peatlands are lands where the organic layer (peat layer) exceeds a depth of 30 cm. The following vegetation types are included in the term “low-productive peatlands”: lichen type, lichen-rich type, poor dwarf shrub type, *Empetrum nigrum-Calluna vulgaris* type, and *Carex-Equisetum* type. (Source: *Hägglund*)





and Lundmark, 1987. *Bonitering, Del 1. Definitioner och anvisningar (in Swedish)*. The Swedish Forest Agency, Jönköping)

**Management plan (Sw: *skötseplan*):** Documented maps, stand descriptions, and management proposals that describe, justify and regulate the activities carried out in accordance with this standard. For large forest owners, this constitutes GIS systems, stand registries, estimations of harvests, etc. For smallholders, this is equivalent to a green forestry plan (Sw: *grön skogsbruksplan*). (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Management system (Sw: *ledningssystem*):** A system for planning, managing, monitoring, and evaluating operations, often while striving for continuous improvement in performance. The management system is used to systematically and continually develop the compliance of the operations with this standard. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Management Unit (Sw: *skogsbruksenhet*):** One area or several areas that are submitted for FSC certification, with clearly defined boundaries managed to a set of explicit long-term management objectives which are expressed in a *management plan*.

The *Management Unit* is the area used by *Certification Bodies* to calculate random samples of areas to visit during an audit. It is also the area of the individual *landholding*, or the area for which harvest areas are calculated. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Native tree species (Sw: *inhemska trädslag*):** A tree species occurring within its natural range (past or present) and dispersal potential (i.e. within the range it occupies naturally or could occupy without direct or indirect introduction or care by humans). (Source: Based on the definition as provided on the Convention for Biological Diversity's website)

**Natural forest (Sw: *naturlig skog*):** A forest area with many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native *ecosystems*, such as complexity, structure and *biological diversity*, including soil characteristics, flora and fauna, in which all or almost all the trees are native species, not classified as *plantations*. "Natural forest" includes the following categories:

- Forests affected by harvesting or other disturbances, in which trees are being or have been regenerated by a combination of *natural regeneration*, planting and sowing, with species typical of natural forests in that site, and where many of the above-ground and below-ground characteristics of the natural forest are still present.
- Natural forests which are maintained by traditional silvicultural practices including different forms of *natural regeneration*.
- Well-developed secondary or colonizing forests of native species which have regenerated in non-forest areas.
- The definition of "natural forest" may include areas described as wooded *ecosystems*, such as wooded grazing areas, wooded mires, etc.

In Sweden, natural forests comprise everything from naturally regenerated forests to managed forests conditioned by traditional land-use practices. Boreal or north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species can be considered as natural forests if a combination of *natural regeneration*, planting and sowing is used to regenerate forest of the same native species, and most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native *ecosystems* of that site are present. In this standard, forests that are not defined as *plantations* are considered to be natural forests. (Source: FSC Sweden and FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Natural regeneration (Sw: *naturlig föryngring*):** Regeneration through self-dispersal or sprouting. (Source: *Skogsencyklopedin*)



**Nature conservation boundary (Sw: *naturvårdsgränsen*):** The boundary for forest management in *subalpine forests*, as defined by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation. (Source: von Sydow, 1988. *Gräns för storskaligt skogsbruk i fjällnära skogar: förslag till naturvårdsgräns* (in Swedish). The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation) A map of the nature conservation boundary is available on FSC Sweden's website.

**Noble broad-leaf trees (Sw: *ädellövträd*):** A collective term for the following deciduous tree species: ash, beech, elm, hornbeam, lime, maple, oak and wild cherry. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Occupational accidents (Sw: *arbetsolyckor*):** An occurrence arising out of, or in the course of, work which results in fatal or non-fatal injury. (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website)

**Occupational diseases (Sw: *arbetsrelaterade sjukdomar*):** Any disease contracted as a result of an exposure to risk factors arising from work activity. (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website)

**Occupational injuries (Sw: *arbetsskador*):** Any personal injury, disease or death resulting from an occupational accident or the work environment. (Source: Based on International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website)

**Ongoing legal dispute (Sw: *pågående rättslig tvist*):** A dispute on trial in court. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Organic fertilizers (Sw: *organiska gödselmedel*):** Fertilizers of animal or plant origin, such as animal manure, compost, and sewage sludge. (Source: Based on *Nationalencyklopedin*)

**The Organization (Sw: *certifikatsinnehavaren*):** The person or entity holding or applying for certification and therefore responsible for demonstrating compliance with the requirements upon which FSC certification is based. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Participatory planning process (Sw: *samplaneringsprocess/process för samplanering*):** A process used to reach joint agreements between large forest owners and representatives for the Sami reindeer herding regarding forest management in the Sami reindeer herding area. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Peatlands previously cultivated for agriculture (Sw: *mossodling*):** A drained peatland that has been used to cultivate crops. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Pesticide (Sw: *bekämpningsmedel*):** Any substance or preparation used in protecting plants, wood or other plant products from pests; in order to limit the negative effects of such pests. This definition includes insecticides, rodenticides, acaricides, molluscicides, larvacides, fungicides and herbicides. (Source: FSC-POL-30-001, *FSC Pesticides Policy 2005*)

**Plantation (Sw: *plantageskog*):** A forest area established by planting or sowing using either exotic or native species, often with one or few species, regular spacing and even ages, and which lacks most of the principal characteristics and key elements of *natural forests*. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

In Sweden, plantations consist of:

- stands where *exotic tree species* have been actively introduced,
- stands on previous agricultural land, where establishment and management does not lead to a more natural tree species composition, stratification, structures and soil

conditions in the long term. These stands are characterized by trees planted in rows, more intensive management, homogenous plant undergrowth and, often, a stand hydrology that has been modified through ditching.

- Stands in the nemoral zone dominated by spruce, on lands that lack a natural continuity of spruce and where spruce has been favored at the expense of other natural tree species. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Precautionary approach (Sw: försiktighetsförfarande):** An approach requiring that when the available information indicates that management activities pose a threat of severe or irreversible damage to the environment or a threat to human welfare, *The Organization* will take explicit and effective measures to prevent the damage and avoid the *risks* to welfare, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of *environmental values* are uncertain. (Source: Based on Principle 15 of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992, and Wingspread Statement on the Precautionary Principle of the Wingspread Conference, 23–25 January 1998)

**Principle (Sw: princip):** An essential rule or element; in FSC's case, of forest stewardship. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Priority bird species (Sw: prioriterade fågelarter):** See Annex 4 of the Swedish Forest Agency's provisions and guidelines for the Forestry Act (Sw: Skogsstyrelsens föreskrifter och allmänna råd till skogsvårdslagen; SKSFS 2011:7).

**Productive forest land (Sw: produktiv skogsmark):** Forest land that, estimated through common practice, can produce an annual volume increment of at least one cubic meter per hectare. (Source: The Forestry Act)

**Property (Sw: fastighet):** A taxation unit with arable land, forest, pasture, etc. (Source: Based on Skogencyklopedin)

**Property rights (Sw: egendomsrätt):** The right to own and use one's property. Property rights can be limited by law or entered agreements. (Source: Allt om Juridik's glossary of legal terms)

**Protected buffer zone (Sw: skyddszon):** An area needed to prevent or limit the damaging effects of forest management on adjacent environments. (Source: The Swedish Forest Agency's provisions and guidelines for the Forestry Act (SKSFS 2011:7)) This includes areas adjacent to areas set aside for nature conservation purposes, or other areas with high nature *conservation values*, as protection against negative changes due to modified hydrology or local climate. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Protection (Sw: skydd):** See definition for *conservation*.

**Publicly available (Sw: tillgänglig för allmänheten/allmänt tillgänglig):** In a manner accessible to or observable by people generally. (Source: Collins English Dictionary, 2003 Edition)

**Rare species (Sw: sällsynta arter): Species with small population sizes.** They are usually localized within restricted geographical areas or *habitats* or are thinly scattered over a more extensive range. A species can be rare and not necessarily be threatened. Rare species have a higher *risk* of extinction since a small population size is less likely to recover from stochastic events. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Ratified (Sw: ratificerad):** The process by which an international law, convention or agreement (including multilateral environmental agreement) is legally approved by a national legislature or equivalent *legal* mechanism, such that the international law, convention or

agreement becomes automatically part of national law or sets in motion the development of national law to give the same legal effect. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Reasonable (Sw: rimlig):** Judged to be fair or appropriate to the circumstances or purposes, based on general experience. (Source: Shorter Oxford English Dictionary)

**Recreational values (Sw: upplevelsevärden):** Recreational values can be visualized as layers of human perceptions overlaid on the physical *landscape*. Some recreational values, like economic, subsistence value or visual quality are closely related to physical *landscape* attributes. Other recreational values such as intrinsic or spiritual value are more symbolic in character and are influenced more by individual perception or social construction than physical *landscape* attributes. (Source: Based on website of the Landscape Value Institute)

**Red-listed species (Sw: rödlistade arter):** The Red List is a prognosis of the *risk* for individual species to go extinct in Sweden. Red-listed species refer to species within the following *categories of threat*: near threatened (NT), vulnerable (VU), endangered (EN), and critically endangered (CR). The Red List is a system developed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to assess the state of species in the wild. (Source: Based on IUCN, 2001. IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK)

**Refugia (Sw: refugieområde):** An isolated area where extensive changes, typically due to changing climate or by disturbances such as those caused by humans, have not occurred and where plants and animals typical of a region may survive. (Source: Glen Canyon Dam, Adaptive Management Program Glossary as provided on website of Glen Canyon Dam website)

**Restore (Sw: återställa/återskapa):** This word is used in different senses according to the context and in everyday speech. In some cases, “restore” means to repair the damage done to *environmental values* that resulted from management activities or other causes. In other cases, “restore” means the formation of more natural conditions in sites which have been heavily degraded or converted to other land uses. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**The Right of Public Access (Sw: allemansrätten):** The Right of Public Access grants access to nature for everyone. It includes both the right to reside in nature and, for instance, pick wildflowers, berries and mushrooms, and the obligation to show respect for the surrounding environment, including for plants and animals, as well as landowners and locals. The Right of Public Access is supported in the Swedish Constitution and in the Swedish Environmental Code. (Source: Based on the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency’s website)

**Risk (Sw: risk):** The probability of an unacceptable negative impact arising from any activity in the *Management Unit* combined with its seriousness in terms of consequences. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Sami village (Sw: sameby):** A Sami village is both an economic association and an area. It is a designation of a reindeer herding area, and the association for the Sami within the area. (Source: Based on Nationalencyklopedin)

**Scale (Sw: skala):** A measure of the extent to which a management activity or event affects an *environmental value* or a *Management Unit*, in time or space. An activity with a small or low spatial scale affects only a small proportion of the forest each year, an activity with a small or low temporal scale occurs only at long intervals. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Scale, intensity and risk (Sw: skala, intensitet och risk):** See individual definitions of the terms *scale*, *intensity*, and *risk*.



**Set aside areas (Sw: avsättningar/avsatta områden):** Defined areas that are designated and managed primarily to safeguard species, *habitats*, *ecosystems*, natural functions/processes or other site-specific values because of their long-term environmental or cultural values, or for purposes of monitoring, evaluation or research.

The term “formally protected area” is not used for these areas, because this term implies *legal* or official status, covered by national regulations. (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Significant in Principle 9 (Sw: betydelsefull i princip 9):** For the purposes of Principle 9, HCVs 1, 2 and 6 there are two main forms of recognizing significance.

- A designation, classification or recognized conservation status, assigned by authorities or an international or national organization (such as IUCN or Birdlife International) on the basis of its concentration of *biodiversity*, *conservation values* and/or cultural values.
- A voluntary recognition by *The Organization*, on the basis of available information, or of the known or suspected presence of a significant *biodiversity* concentration, even when not officially designated by other agencies. (Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Site adaptation (Sw: ståndortsanpassning):** The choice of soil and stand measures that, based on the site conditions, create suitable growth conditions while also minimizing the *risk* for negative impacts on the environment. (Source: Based on Skogsencyklopedin)

**Soil damage (Sw: körskador):** For the definition of soil damage, see the *forest sector goals* for soil damage in forest land (Sw: skogssektorns målbilder för körning i skogsmark).

**Staff (Sw: personal):** Workers that are employed. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Staff facilities (Sw: personalutrymme):** Facilities for changing, drying, washing, showering, eating, resting, waiting, sleeping, and with toilets; for *staff* to eat, rest and care for their personal hygiene. (Source: Arbetsmiljöupplysningen's website)

**Stakeholder (Sw: intressent):** See definitions for affected stakeholder and interested stakeholder.

**Statutory law/Statute law (Sw: skriven lag):** The body of law contained in national legislature. (Source: Oxford Dictionary of Law)

**Subalpine forest (Sw: fjällnära skog):** Mountainous forest below the forest limit in the Swedish mountain range. (Source: Skogsencyklopedin)

**Systematic (Sw: systematisk):** According to a previously established system or methodology. This often includes procedures and instructions that, together, form a systematic workflow and framework for decision-making. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Systematic Work Environment Management (Sw: systematiskt arbetsmiljöarbete):** Refers to the Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions regarding systematic work environment management, that apply for all employers. Systematic Work Environment Management means to investigate, carry out and follow up activities to prevent accidents and ill health at work. (Source: The Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions regarding Systematic Work Environment Management (AFS 2001:1))

**Threatened species (Sw: hotade arter):** Species that meet the IUCN (2001) criteria for Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically Endangered (CR), and are facing a high, very high or extremely high *risk* of extinction in the wild. (Source: Based on IUCN, 2001. IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.)



**Unproductive forest land (Sw: improduktiv skogsmark):** Forest land that is not classified as productive forest land. (Source: The Forestry Act). See definitions for forest land and productive forest land.

**Untested methods and materials (Sw: oprövade metoder och material):** Methods and materials not yet tested through experience or research regarding *risks* and management of *risks*. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Uphold (Sw: upprätthålla):** To acknowledge, respect, sustain and support. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Use rights (Sw: nyttjanderätt):** Rights for the use of resources of the *Management Unit* that can be defined by local custom, mutual agreements, or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific levels of consumption or particular harvesting techniques. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

In the Swedish context, use rights include:

- easements,
- customary law,
- agreements that are entered into. (Source: FSC Sweden)

**Valuable watercourses (Sw: värdefulla vattendrag):** A compilation of the most valuable freshwater environments in Sweden. These are selected by authorities based on criteria from the national strategy for protection of natural and cultural environments linked to water, using best available knowledge. (Source: Based on the definition as provided by the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management)

**Wetlands with significant conservation value (Sw: värdefulla våtmarker):** Wetlands classified as class 1 and 2 in the Swedish national wetland inventory. See the report from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (in Swedish): Naturvårdsverket, 2009. Våtmarksinventeringen – resultat från 25 års inventeringar. Nationell slutrapport för våtmarksinventeringen (VMI) i Sverige. Naturvårdsverket, Stockholm.

**Woodland Key Habitat (Sw: nyckelbiotop):** A forest area where a collective assessment shows that the *habitat* structure, species composition, history and abiotic environment are of substantial importance to the flora and fauna of the forest. *Red-listed species* occur or can be expected to occur in Woodland Key Habitats, with the exception of species with landscape-level ecological requirements; for example, many birds and large mammals. (Source: Skogsstyrelsen, 2014. *Handbok för inventering av nyckelbiotoper*. Skogsstyrelsen, Jönköping)

**Workers (Sw: den som utför arbetet):** All employed persons including public *employees* as well as “self-employed” persons. This includes part-time and seasonal *employees*, of all ranks and categories, including laborers, administrators, supervisors, executives, contractor *employees* as well as self-employed contractors and sub-contractors. (Source: ILO Convention 155, *Occupational Safety and Health Convention*, 1981)



## ANNEX A: MINIMUM LIST OF APPLICABLE LAWS, REGULATIONS AND NATIONALLY-RATIFIED INTERNATIONAL TREATIES, CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

The following is a list of laws, regulations, provisions, and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements that are applicable for this standard. References are to the original versions of documents. Refer to the relevant authority's website for up-to-date versions of provisions, as these are modified on a regular basis. This list is up to date as of December 2018. It is The Organization's responsibility to keep track of applicable legislation and any updates to such legislation.

<b>1. Legal rights to harvest</b>	
1.1 Land tenure and management rights	The Instrument of Government (1974:152) Land Code (1970:994) Land Acquisition Act (1979:230) Forestry Act (1979:429) Reindeer Husbandry Act (1971:437) Swedish Income Tax Law (1999:1229) Act on Notice to Pay and Judicial Assistance (1990:746) ( <i>unofficial translation</i> )
1.2 Concession licenses	N/A
1.3 Management and harvesting planning	N/A
1.4 Harvesting permits	Forestry Act (1979:429) Forestry Regulation (1993:1096) Swedish Environmental Code (1998:808) Planning and Building Act (2010:900) Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2011:7) for the Forestry Act Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2013:3) on the obligation to register for consultation regarding harvesting activities according to Chapter 12, Section 6 of the Swedish Environmental Code
<b>2. Taxes and fees</b>	



2.1 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	N/A
2.2 Value added taxes and other sales taxes	Swedish Sales Tax Law (1994:200)
2.3 Income and profit taxes	Swedish Income Tax Law (1999:1229)
<b>3. Timber harvesting activities</b>	
3.1 Timber harvesting regulations	Forestry Act (1979:429) Forestry Regulation (1993:1096) Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2011:7) for the Forestry Act
3.2 Protected sites and species	Forestry Act (1979:429) Forestry Regulation (1993:1096) Swedish Environmental Code (1998:808) Regulation on the Protection of Species (2007:845) Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2011:7) for the Forestry Act Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's list of areas of unspoiled nature as referred to in Chapter 7, Section 27 of the Swedish Environmental Code (NFS 2014:29)
3.3 Environmental requirements	Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC Forestry Act (1979:429) Forestry Regulation (1993:1096) Swedish Environmental Code (1998:808) Regulation on Pesticides (2014:425) Law on Flammable and Explosive Goods (2010:1011) Regulation on Flammable and Explosive Goods (2010:1075) Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2011:7) for the Forestry Act





	<p>Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2016:2) on the use of plant protection products on forest land</p> <p>Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's Provisions on the distribution and overall use of chemical pesticides (NFS 2015:2)</p> <p>Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's Provisions on protection against pollution of ground and water from flammable liquids (NFS 2017:5)</p> <p>Swedish Chemicals Agency's Provisions (KIFS 2008:3) on pesticides</p> <p>Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency's Provisions (MSBFS 2013:3) on permits for handling flammable gases and liquids</p> <p>Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency's Provisions (MSBFS 2014:5) on tanks and pipes for flammable liquids</p> <p>Swedish Board of Agriculture's Provisions (SJVFS 2014:35) on qualifications for using plant protection products</p>
<p>3.4 Health and safety</p>	<p>Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC</p> <p>Regulation (EU) No 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on personal protective equipment and repealing Council Directive 89/686/EEC</p> <p>Act with Complementary Provisions to the EU Regulation on Personal Protective Equipment (2018:125) (<i>unofficial translation</i>)</p> <p>Regulation with Complementary Provisions to the EU Regulation on Personal Protective Equipment (2018:127) (<i>unofficial translation</i>)</p> <p>Work Environment Act (1977:1160)</p> <p>Work Environment Ordinance (1977:1166)</p> <p>Working Hours Act (1982:673)</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2012:3) on the work environment of minors</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2012:2) on ergonomics for the prevention of musculoskeletal disorders</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2012:1) on chain saws and clearing saws</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2011:19) on chemical hazards in the working environment</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2008:13) on signs and signals</p>



	<p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2007:5) on pregnant and nursing workers</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2006:4) on the use of work equipment</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2005:16) on noise</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2005:15) on vibrations</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2005:6) on occupational medical supervision</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environmental Authority (AFS 2001:3) on the use of personal protective equipment</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2001:1) on systematic work environment management</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 1999:7) on first aid and crisis support</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 1998:6) on pesticides</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 1994:1) on the adjustment of work and rehabilitation</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 1982:17) on documentation of stand-by duty time and over time</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 1982:3) on work alone</p> <p>Provisions and Recommendations of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2018:1) on cut-off points for hygiene</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2015:4) on organisational and social work environment</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2009:2) on workplace design</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2008:3) on machines (that have reached the market after 29 December 2009)</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2004:6) on the use of tractors</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS: 1998:5) on work at a screen</p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 1996:7) on the execution of personal protective equipment (applies to protective equipment that has reached the market before 21 April 2018)</p> <p>Swedish Board of Agriculture's Provisions (SJVFS 2014:35) on qualifications for using plant protection products</p>
<p>3.5 <i>Legal</i> employment</p>	<p>The Instrument of Government (1974:152)</p>



	<p>Employment Protection Act (1982:80)</p> <p>Penal Code (1962:700)</p> <p>Working Hours Act (1982:673)</p> <p>Aliens Act (2005:716)</p> <p>Social Insurance Act (2000:980)</p> <p>Work Environment Act (1977:1160)</p> <p>Employment (Co-Determination in the Workplace) Act (1976:580)</p> <p>Annual Leave Act (1977:480)</p> <p>Discrimination Act (2008:567)</p> <p>Parental Leave Act (1995:584)</p> <p>Employee's Right to Educational Leave Act (1974:981)</p> <p>Trade Union Representatives (Status at the Workplace) Act (1974:358)</p> <p>Public Employment Act (1994:260)</p> <p>Labor Disputes (Judicial Procedure) Act (1974:371)</p> <p>Act on Sickness Payments (1991:1047)</p> <p>Agency Work Act (2012:854)</p> <p>Posting of Workers Act (1999:678)</p> <p>Act (1974:13) Respecting Certain Measures for the Promotion of Employment</p> <p>Prohibition of Discrimination of Employees Working Part Time and Employees with Fixed term Employment Act (2002:293)</p> <p>Act on Employer's Right to Wage Set-offs (1970:215) <i>(unofficial translation)</i></p> <p>Act on the Right to Leave due to Urgent Family Reasons (1998:209) <i>(unofficial translation)</i></p> <p>Act on the Right to Leave to Conduct Business Operations (1997:1293) <i>(unofficial translation)</i></p> <p>Act on the Right to Leave due to Sickness to Try Out Other Work (2008:565) <i>(unofficial translation)</i></p> <p>Provisions of the Swedish Work Environment Authority (AFS 2012:1) on chain saws and clearing saws</p>
<b>4. Third parties' rights</b>	
4.1 <i>Customary rights</i>	<p>Forestry Act (1979:429)</p> <p>Forestry Regulation (1993:1096)</p> <p>Reindeer Husbandry Act (1971:437)</p>



	Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2011:7) for the Forestry Act
4.2 <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent</i>	Forestry Act (1979:429) Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions and Guidelines (SKSFS 2011:7) for the Forestry Act
4.3 <i>Indigenous Peoples' rights</i>	Reindeer Husbandry Act (1971:437)
<b>5. Trade and transport</b>	
This section covers requirements for forest management operations as well as processing and trade.	
5.1 Classification of species, quantities, qualities	Timber Measurement Act (2014:1005) Regulation on Timber Measurement (2014:1006) Swedish Forestry Agency's Provisions (SKSFS 2014:11) on timber measurement
5.2 Trade and transport	N/A
5.3 Offshore trading and transfer pricing	Swedish Income Tax Law (1999:1229) Law on Taxation Procedure (2011:1244) Law on decision on transfer pricing on international transactions (2009:1289) Regulation on decision on transfer pricing on international transactions (2009:1295)
5.4 Custom regulations	Commissions Implementing Regulation (EU) No 498/2012 of 12 June 2012 on the allocation of tariff-rate quotas applying to exports of wood from the Russian Federation to the European Union Swedish Board of Agriculture's Provisions (SJVFS 1995:94) on protective measures against spreading of pests
5.5 CITES	Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein Regulation on Protection of Species (2007:845)
<b>6. Due diligence / due care</b>	
6.1 Due diligence / due care procedures	Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market



	<p>Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 607/2012 of 6 July 2012 on the detailed rules concerning the due diligence system and the frequency and nature of the checks on monitoring organisations as provided for in Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market</p> <p>Accounting Act (1999:1078)</p> <p>Law on trade with timber and wood products (2014:1009)</p>
<p><b>7. Ecosystem services</b></p>	
	<p>The certification of <i>ecosystem services</i> is not applied in the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden.</p>



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