



Forest Stewardship Council®



# The FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for Norway

*FSC-STD-NOR-01-2023 EN*



**Photo credit**

From left to right:






Photo 1: A person walking on a forest track. ©Reidar Haugan.

Photo 2: *Cypripedium calceolus* flower. ©Reidar Haugan.

Photo 3: Log pile. ©Reidar Haugan.

**NOTE ON THIS ENGLISH VERSION:**

*This is the official version of the FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard that is approved by FSC International Center, and it is available at [ic.fsc.org](http://ic.fsc.org). Any translation of this version is not an official translation approved by FSC International Center. If there is any conflict or inconsistency between the approved English version and any translated version, the English version shall prevail.*

<b>Title</b>	The FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for Norway
<b>Document reference code</b>	FSC-STD-NOR-01-2023 EN
<b>Status</b>	Approved
<b>Scope</b>	All forest types and scales ( <i>details in Section A.2 “Scope of the standard”</i> )
<b>Approval date</b>	04 May 2022
<b>Approval body</b>	Policy and Standards Committee
<b>Publication date</b>	17 January 2023
<b>Effective date</b>	15 April 2023
<b>Transition period<sup>1</sup></b>	12 months from the effective date
<b>Validity period</b>	Until revised, replaced or withdrawn
<b>Local contact</b>	Anders Bjurulf C/o Foreningen Skogen Postbox 23, 5031 Mjøndalen Norway  +47 48 15 33 22  <a href="mailto:a.bjurulf@no.fsc.org">a.bjurulf@no.fsc.org</a>
<b>FSC Performance and Standards Unit contact</b>	FSC International Center - Performance and Standards Unit - Adenauer Allee 134 53113 Bonn, Germany  +49-(0)228-36766-0  +49-(0)228-36766-65  <a href="mailto:psu@fsc.org">psu@fsc.org</a>
<p>© 2023 Forest Stewardship Council, A.C. All rights reserved. FSC®F000100</p> <p>No part of this work covered by the publisher’s copyright may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means (graphic, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, recording taping, or information retrieval systems) without the written permission of the publisher.</p> <p>The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.</p> <p>FSC’s vision is that 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.</p>	

<sup>1</sup> The transition period is the timeline in which there is a parallel phase-in of the new version and phase-out of the old version of the standard. Six (6) months after the end of the transition period, certificates issued against the old version are considered invalid.

## Table of contents

A	Preamble.....	6
	A.1 Purpose of the standard.....	6
	A.2 Scope of standard.....	7
	A.3 Background information on the standard development .....	8
	A.4 List of members of the committee (SDG) that prepared the standard.....	9
	A.5 List of key consultants and advisors who assisted the committee .....	10
B	Version of the standard .....	12
C	Geographical context .....	13
D	References.....	16
E	Scale Intensity and Risk (SIR).....	17
F	<i>Principles*</i> , <i>Criteria*</i> and <i>Indicators*</i> .....	18
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS</i> .....	18
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 2: WORKERS* RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS</i> ...	21
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES* RIGHTS</i> .....	25
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS</i> .....	30
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST*</i> .....	34
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 6: ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES* AND IMPACTS</i> .....	36
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 7: MANAGEMENT PLANNING</i> .....	51
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 8: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT</i> .....	54
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES*</i> .....	56
	<i>PRINCIPLE* 10: IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES</i> .....	59
G	Annexes.....	69
	Annex A List of applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions, and agreements.....	69
	Annex B Training requirements for workers.....	76
	Annex C Guidelines for the Free, Prior and informed Consent (FPIC) process – a tool for good dialogue (FPIC-methodology) .....	77
	Annex D Guidelines for processing unclarities and interest conflicts connected to FSC certified Management Units* in Norway.....	88
	Annex E HCV Framework for Norway.....	92
	Annex F Glossary of terms .....	109

## Preface

(Informative section)

### 1 Descriptive statement of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

The Forest Stewardship Council A.C. (FSC) 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 and also provides strong incentives to local people to sustain the forest resources and adhere to long-term management plans. 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 A.C. By-Laws, ratified, September 1994; last revision in June 2011).

FSC is an international organization that provides a system for voluntary accreditation and independent third-party certification. This system allows The Organization\* to market products and services as the result of environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable forest management. FSC also sets standards for the development and approval of FSC Stewardship Standards which are based on the FSC Principles and Criteria. In addition, FSC 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.

### 2 Descriptive statement of the Norwegian Standard Development Group

In absence of a national FSC organization or Network Partner in Norway, the Norwegian Standard Development Group (SDG) has been responsible for the standard process during the standard development. The project was financed by the forest product industries and forest owners' organizations (*Treforedlingens Bransjeforening, Treindustrien, Norges Skogeierforbund, and NORSKOG*). During the period of drafting, the SDG has been working in dialogue with FSC International, Performance and Standards Unit. Assistance has been received from FSC Denmark regarding management of the internet home page for *FSC Norge* (<https://no.fsc.org/>), where the public consultations was published. FSC Sweden has also been helpful with some important items regarding the standard. The national office, FSC Norge, was formally established in 2022, and has the administrative responsibility for the FSS.

English has been the working language in the FSC assessment period, and the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard (FSS) is written in English. It is translated to Norwegian for local use and it is published in both languages. If the English and the Norwegian versions contradict, the English version will prevail, according to Clause 7.1 of FSC-STD-60-002. Culturally appropriate dialogues with the Sámi SDG

representative have been in Norwegian and English, which is also well understood by the Sámi people in Norway.

The Norwegian SDG is composed of stakeholders in accordance with the required chamber-based and equal representation (Table 1). The umbrella organizations *Sabima* (environmental chamber) and The Norwegian Outdoor Council (social chamber) are together representing 26 national organizations with hundreds of thousands of members nationwide. Three chamber-based working groups (Table 2) have performed negotiations between the SDG-meetings.

## A Preamble

### A.1 Purpose of the standard

(Informative section)

The purpose is to have a Forest Stewardship Standard (FSS) that is understood and used by FSC-certified Organizations in Norway. FSC accredited Certification Bodies evaluate the forest management in these Organizations within the scope (see A.2, below) of this standard.

The FSC Principles and Criteria (P&C) for Forest Stewardship provides an internationally recognized standard for responsible forest management. However, any international standard for forest management needs to be adapted at the regional or national level in order to reflect the diverse legal, social and geographical conditions of forests in different parts of the world. The FSC P&C therefore requires the addition of indicators that are adapted to regional or national conditions in order to be implemented at the Forest Management Unit (FMU) level.

With the approval of FSC-STD-60-004 V1-0 EN the FSC International Generic Indicators (IGI) by the FSC Board of Directors in March 2015, the adaptation of the P&C to regional or national conditions is done using the IGI standard as the starting point (from 1 July 2018, the second version of this document - FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0 EN is effective). This has the advantage to:

- Ensure the consistent implementation of the P&C across the globe;
- Improve and strengthen the credibility of the FSC System;
- Improve the consistency and quality of Forest Stewardship Standards;
- Support a faster and more efficient approval process of Forest Stewardship Standards.

The FSC Principles and Criteria together with a set of indicators approved by FSC Policy and Standards Committee (PSC) constitute an FSC Forest Stewardship Standard (FSS).

The development of FSS follows the requirements set out in the following FSC normative documents:

- **FSC-PRO-60-006 V2-0 EN** Development and Transfer of National Forest Stewardship Standards to the FSC Principles and Criteria Version 5-1;
- **FSC-STD-60-002 (V1-0) EN** Structure and Content of National Forest Stewardship Standards AND
- **FSC-STD-60-006 (V1-2) EN** Process requirements for the development and maintenance of National Forest Stewardship Standards.

The above documents have been developed by the FSC Performance and Standards Unit (PSU) to improve consistency and transparency in certification decisions between different Certification Bodies in different parts of the world, and thereby to enhance the credibility of the FSC certification scheme as a whole.

## A.2 Scope of standard

(Normative section)

This standard is applicable to all forest operations seeking FSC certification within Norway. Specifically, this standard shall be applied in the following scope:

<b>Geographic region</b>	Norway
<b>Forest types</b>	All forest types (including natural forests and plantations)
<b>Ownership types</b>	All types of ownerships, including public, private and others, such as forest commons
<b>Scale and intensity categories</b> (according to section 6 of FSC-STD-60-002)	All categories of management units, including provisions for small and low intensity managed forests (SLIMFs) <i>(For relevant SLIMF thresholds, see below in this Section and also in Section 6 of this standard)</i>
<b>Forest products</b> (according to FSC-STD-40-004a)	Rough Wood NTFPs: The standard is not including Non-Timber Forest Products in the scope.

The standard applies to FSC-certified Management Units\*, where it shall be used and complied in the forest management. The forest owners either manage their own FSC-certified unit or are members of a certified group entity. The standard comprises forestry activities within the legal boundaries of the Management Unit\*, i.e. all areas that may be affected by forestry, including least productive or legally protected forest, Conservation Areas Network\*, water courses, mires and mountainous areas that are intermixed with productive forest. When emphasized, indicators apply only to the productive forest area in the Management Unit\*. Precise areas of productive forest, least productive forest, mires, water, agricultural land, and other relevant categories are provided in maps and tables for each cadastral number in the Internet service Kilden (kilden.nibio.no).

The standard includes the management of both small and large Management Units\*, but it is mainly written in order to fit the larger Management Units\* (> 1,000 ha). Because of a high level of costs and salaries in Norway, mainly the Management Units\* larger than ca. 3,000 hectares of productive forest can provide enough economic profit from forestry to employ a person on fulltime administration, and among other things, handle the documentation needed to fulfil requirements in the FSC standard. Contractors usually are engaged for forestry operations and required management. Grants are given by the forest authorities to specific management measures (e.g., cultivation of young forest and forest fertilization). Smaller units are also highly welcome to be FSC-certified, preferably as members in a certified group entity.

Normative elements in the standard are:

Scope, effective date, validity period, glossary of terms, principles, criteria, indicators, tables and annexes, (as well as other addenda which might be produced in association with this standard) unless indicated otherwise).



Not normative elements in the standard that can be used for guidance only, are:

Guidance notes (as well as other guidance documents which might be produced in association with this standard).

The text of the Principles and the Criteria under section F contain terms that are formatted in italics and marked with an asterisk\*. These terms are defined in the annex of Glossary of terms. The terms that have been marked with an asterisk\* and formatted in italics in the indicators' text, are local terms which have been added to apply to the local circumstances for this standard only. These local terms are also defined in the annex of Glossary of terms.

### **A.3 Background information on the standard development**

(Informative section)

A chamber based National Risk Assessment Working Group (NRA-WG) with rather similar representation of organizations and people as in the SDG was the precursor to the SDG. It was established In April 2016 to perform the National Risk Assessment (NRA) for Controlled Wood for Norway. The NRA was finished and approved by FSC in August 2017.

The SDG was constituted during spring 2017 and became formally registered as a SDG by FSC International 25 October 2017. During 2017, the SDG also initiated a process to develop the first Norwegian Forest Stewardship Standard. A high number of organizations and experts was simultaneously asked to participate in the Consultative Forum. This forum, consisting of 37 representatives, was specifically informed before the public consultations to encourage the representatives to provide their comments to the drafts.

The SDG consists of four representatives in each chamber (Table 1). It was early decided to establish three working subgroups with two representatives/experts from each chamber in each subgroup (Table 2). The aim for the subgroups was to discuss and draft the indicators in a consensus process and present them for further consideration and approval by the SDG. The subgroups were working with the items:

1. Alien species, exotic tree species and conversion (Criteria 6.9, 6.10, 10.2 and 10.3).
2. Indigenous people rights (the rights of the Sámi People; Principle 3).
3. Main responsibility for all indicators in the FSS and the connections between them, including those concluded by the other subgroups.

Two public consultations were conducted during development of FSS. The first public consultation (set to 1 March 2019) resulted in 304 comments and contributions to 138 indicators from 21 organizations representing a wide range of stakeholders. Amongst the stakeholders, ENGOs were represented by the organizations such as Friends of the Earth – Norway and Norwegian Zoological society; Social interests – by the Sámi Parliament and the Norwegian Trekking Association; Commercial forestry organizations – by *Glommen Mjøsen Skog* and *SB-Skog*; Educational institutes – by Forest Extension institute (*Skogbrukets Kursinstitutt*). FSC-certified Organizations\* also participated in the process.

An updated and unified draft was submitted for the forest test during summer 2019 (*WSP Danmark A/S* in cooperation with *Soil Association Certification Ltd*), and a thereafter updated draft was publicly consulted during 60 days from 15 October 2019.

The second consultation resulted in 118 comments on 93 indicators from 9 stakeholders mostly representing forestry and environmental organizations, where the two most comprehensive contributors were Friends of the Earth (both central and local departments) and one FSC-certified Organization\*.

A standard draft was submitted to FSC on 16 February 2020 in order to obtain further assistance from PSU (Performance and Standards Unit). The draft was submitted by PSU to the PSC 12 April 2021 for final assessments by PSC (Policy and Standards Committee). The Norwegian FSS was conditionally approved by PSC on 1 July 2021, presuming that 35 approval conditions were addressed by the SDG. As the next step, the SDG had worked on closing those approval conditions. By 4 May 2022, all of the approval conditions were addressed by the SDG to the satisfaction of the Chief Policy Officer of the PSU..

#### A.4 List of members of the committee (SDG) that prepared the standard.

(Informative section)

**Table 1** FSC SDG for Norway, representatives. Each chamber has four votes.

Name	Organization
<b>Economic chamber (four votes of permanent members)</b>	
Erling Bergsaker (permanent member of SDG)	NORSKOG
Nils Bøhn (permanent member of SDG)	Norwegian Forest Owners' Federation
Lars Storslett (permanent member of SDG)	The Wood Industry
Olav Vold (permanent member of SDG until June 2019)	Norwegian Pulp and Paper Organization
Bjørn Holberg Næsvoid (permanent member of SDG between June 2019 and December 2020)	Norwegian Pulp and Paper Organization
Thorolf Antonsen (permanent member of SDG since December 2020)	Norwegian Pulp and Paper Organization
Hans Asbjørn Kårstad (deputy representative)	Norwegian Forest Owners' Federation
Kjell Messenlien (deputy representative)	The Wood Industry
<b>Environmental chamber (four votes of permanent members)</b>	
Karoline Andaur (permanent member of SDG)	WWF
Marianne Hansen (permanent member of SDG)	Sabima / WWF
Sverre Lundemo (permanent member of SDG)	WWF
Christian Steel (permanent member of SDG)	Sabima

<b>Social chamber (four votes of permanent members)</b>	
Anders Blom (permanent member of SDG)	Protect Sápmi
Morten Dåsnes (permanent member of SDG)	Norwegian Outdoor Board
Arvid Eikeland (permanent member of SDG)	Norwegian United Federation of Trade Unions
Hans Erik Lerkelund (permanent member of SDG)	The Norwegian Outdoor Council
Anders Johansen Eira (deputy representative)	Protect Sápmi
Oddvin Lund (deputy representative until July 2019)	The Norwegian Trekking Association
Anne-Mari Planke (deputy representative from July 2019)	The Norwegian Trekking Association

## **A.5 List of key consultants and advisors who assisted the committee**

**Table 2** The subgroups and representatives (experts)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>Conversion and use of exotic tree species</b>	
Hans Asbjørn Kårstad (Economic chamber)	Norwegian Forest Owners' Federation
Jan Erik Rødland (Economic chamber)	The Coastal Forestry Organization
Hans Erik Lerkelund (Social chamber)	The Norwegian Outdoor Council
Oddvin Lund (Social chamber)	The Norwegian Trekking Association
Marianne Hansen (Environmental chamber)	Sabima / WWF
Christian Steel (Environmental chamber)	Sabima
<b>The rights of indigenous people</b>	
Dag Engel Hassel (from August 2017; Economic chamber)	Allskog
Anna Brustad Moe (until June 2017; Economic chamber)	Allskog
Trond Svanøe-Hafstad (Economic chamber)	The Coastal Forestry Organization
Anders Blom (Social chamber)	Protect Sápmi
Oddvin Lund (Social chamber)	The Norwegian Trekking Association
Karoline Andaur (Environmental chamber)	WWF
Marianne Hansen (Environmental chamber)	Sabima / WWF

<b>General Standards working group</b>	
Erling Bergsaker (Economic chamber)	NORSKOG
Nils Bøhn (Economic chamber)	Norwegian Forest Owners' Federation
Hans Erik Lerkelund (Social chamber)	The Norwegian Outdoor Council
Oddvin Lund (until July 2019; Social chamber)	The Norwegian Trekking Association
Anne-Mari Planke (from July 2019; Social chamber)	The Norwegian Trekking Association
Marianne Hansen (Environmental chamber)	Sabima / WWF
Christian Steel (Environmental chamber)	Sabima

These groups (table 2) have been preparing Standard Indicators for voting in the SDG (Table 1).

## **B Version of the standard**

The finally approved version of this standard is FSC-STD-NOR-01-2023.

## C Geographical context

Norway has a population of 5.4 m people. Norway (main territory) stretches 1,800 kilometres in south-north direction from 58°N (Lindesnes) to 71°N (North Cape), and between the extremes 5°E in Vestland to 31°E in eastern Finnmark. 38 % of Norway is covered by forest, and the climate and the geography provide very long ecological gradients from broadleaved thermophilous deciduous forests in the south and southwest to northern boreal coniferous and birch forests in the mountains and toward the north. Climate ranges from 3,500 mm of annual precipitation at the mild western coast down to 300 mm in the winter-cold inland rain shadow areas. These differences lead to large local differences in the forestry conditions. Due to the climate and topography, only about half of the forested area in Norway has productive and economically profitable forests. In south-eastern and central parts of Norway, forestry is economically important, while in other regions the forestry sector is of less importance, although there are local exceptions.

Forestry in Norway is mainly conducted in coniferous forests with Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) and Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), while the deciduous forests are of little economic importance, except for an annual quantity of firewood (mostly downy birch (*Betula pubescens*)). The broadleaved forests, that comprises ca. 1 % of the productive forest area, are regarded as very important for biodiversity and these areas are to a high degree protected (nature reserves, key biotopes etc.). Exotic tree species have been widely used for forestry along the coasts, especially Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*). After stricter regulations related to exotic tree species were introduced in 2012, the planting of such species for timber production has been significantly reduced.

Large variations in forest ecosystems also produce a wide range of habitats, and 48.3 % of the threatened species on the Norwegian Red List (2021) are forest dwelling species. In 2021, 5.1 % of the forest area and 3,8 % of the productive forest was protected in nature reserves and national parks. A long-term goal set by the government is to protect 10 % of the forests-area, and the area increases every year due to protection programs in collaboration with forest owner associations. The forest protection programme is gradually focusing more on the lowland forests with especially high biodiversity because a high percentage of the already protected forests are in mountain forests. Additionally, more than 87,000 forest key biotopes are mapped and set aside to strengthen the protection of habitats for red list species.

The highest biodiversity in Norwegian forests is concentrated to lowland areas with higher temperatures, a higher diversity of forest types, higher tree species diversity and more Red List species. At higher altitudes, especially on acidic bedrock-types, the biodiversity usually is lower. Hotspot areas for biodiversity in an international perspective are found in the coastal lowlands, especially in the coastal rainforests\* that occurs in the western to northern coastal regions. Other important areas are broadleaved thermophilous forests in the lowlands, and calcareous forests and areas with nature forest\* at all elevations.

There are ca. 127,000 Management Units\* with productive forest areas in Norway. 231 of these Management Units\* are larger than 2,000 hectares (19 % of the forest area). 90 % of the Management Units are smaller than 100 hectares. 77 % of the productive forest area consists of private forests, while the state (*Statskog*) owns 7 %. The rest is owned by companies, the church, forest commons and municipalities.

According to the Planning and Building Act, most of the Norwegian forest areas are classified as areas for agriculture (including forestry), nature, outdoor recreation activities and reindeer husbandry (*Landbruks-, Natur, Friluftslivs og Reindriftsområder*). The northern part of Norway (40 % of the country) is divided into

82 districts with traditional Sámi rights related to reindeer husbandry (cf. Figure 2). Approximately 20% of the Norwegian productive forest area is located within these Sámi reindeer grazing districts.

Outdoor activities (especially hiking and skiing) have a strong position in the Norwegian society. The outdoor activity organizations are among the largest NGOs in Norway and is larger than all political parties together. Public rights to free access in all forest and mountain areas is a very old common right (*Allemannsretten*) that was written into the Outdoor Recreation Act in 1957. Because of the welcome public access, forestry often meets people using areas for outdoor activities. This is especially important in densely populated areas near cities and towns. The forestry near Oslo is regulated by legal requirements regarding considerations to outdoor activities and nature.

The Norwegian forestry is conducted under the slogan “freedom under responsibility”. Practically, this means a free access to forest harvesting without direct involvement from authorities. Exceptions are the forests near Oslo (*Oslomarka*) and the mountain forests above a certain altitude (protective forest\*) where forestry authorities are involved prior to harvesting. The sector is regularly controlled by authorities and researchers to monitor the general development of forest management activities in relation to legislation. The first modern Forestry Act was established in 1932 and the latest version was approved by the King in Council of State in 2005. Older legislation goes several hundred years back in time.

The National Forest Inventory (NFI) was established in 1919 and it is the oldest comprehensive forest inventory program in the world. 12,000 fixed sample areas are monitored by the NFI, and all these have been investigated 10 times since the start of the program. Data from the inventory is used for the Norwegian forest statistics, monitoring of conversion, development of policies, legislation, research purposes, and for development of the FSS.

Norwegian wood and timber export has been important since the eleventh century, probably even before. Therefore, the Norwegian forestry has always been strongly characterized by the international market cycles. In some periods with high prices, the forests became plundered for valuable trees without actively recruiting new trees. After sufficient regeneration of trees became a legal requirement, the annual forest growth has doubled since the 1920s, and is now at the level of about 25 million cubic meters. The annual harvest in Norway is 12–13 million cubic meters. Approximately, 900 million cubic meters of timber are standing in Norwegian forests and the resources grow rather rapidly. Because of climate change, the forest areas increase with more than 100,000 hectares annually.

Timber harvesting, forest regeneration and cultivation measures in the Management Unit\* is mainly managed according to a management plan. To conduct the operations, The Organization\* often engages contractors, while the planning of the measurement is done by The Organization\* itself, including knowledge and advices from the forest owner. A minor and constantly decreasing part of the forest owners are working in their forests themselves because of high expenses, increasing bureaucracy and need of experts due to certification requirements. Professional Organizations\* are holding group certificates and the forest owners become affiliated to the certificate when signing the purchase contract before timber sales. This system has led to the fact that nearly 100 % of the sold timber volume in Norway is PEFC-certified. Most of The Organizations\* that buy timber also have FSC Chain of Custody with Controlled Wood Certificates. Because of a wide distribution of CoC CW certificates through the production levels, it is nearly impossible to harvest and sell timber outside these systems in Norway.

FSC certificates are held by less than 100 Management Units\* in Norway. Most of these are organized under group certificates carried by the timber buyer organizations *Glommen Mjøsen Skog* and *Viken Skog*. Approximately 10 % of the productive forest area in Norway, on the other hand, is FSC certified. FSCs own overview of Norwegian FSC certified companies and properties is constantly updated and can be looked up here: <https://info.fsc.org/certificate.php>. The register contains both FSC forest management certificates and Controlled Wood.



## D References

(Informative section)

The following referenced documents are relevant for the application of this standard. For references without a version number, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

FSC-POL-01-004	<i>Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC</i>
FSC-POL-20-003	<i>The Excision of Areas from the Scope of Certification</i>
FSC-POL-30-001	<i>FSC Pesticides Policy</i>
FSC-POL-30-401	<i>FSC Certification and the ILO Conventions</i>
FSC-POL-30-602	<i>FSC Interpretation on GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms)</i>
FSC-STD-01-002	<i>Glossary of Terms</i>
FSC-STD-01-003	<i>SLIMF Eligibility Criteria</i>
FSC-STD-20-007	<i>Forest Management Evaluations</i>
FSC-STD-30-005	<i>FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups</i>
FSC-PRO-01-005	<i>Processing Appeals</i>
FSC-PRO-01-008	<i>Processing Complaints in the FSC Certification Scheme</i>
FSC-DIR-20-007	<i>FSC Directive on Forest Management Evaluations</i>
FSC-GUI-60-005	<i>Promoting Gender Equality in National Forest Stewardship Standards</i>

## **E Scale Intensity and Risk (SIR)**

The IGI are in general independent of spatial scale and intensity of the forestry, but national adjustments are recommended. The Scale, Intensity and Risk are solved by several means in the FSS, but a direct SLIMF approach with separate indicators for small and large Management Units\*, or low intensity forestry and high intensity forestry Management Units has not been developed in further details in this version of the standard.

Management Units of up to 1,000 ha in area are classed as SLIMF units in this standard.

The FSS has defined indicators for large Management Units, specifically larger than 1,000 hectares of productive forest (6.4.13, 6.8.2, 6.8.4, 9.2.3). Indicator 3.2.5 applies to Management Units\* larger than 5,000 ha of total area. Also, the Guidance Note to Indicator 5.2.1 provides recommendations, based on the size of productive forest area (i.e., larger or smaller than 1,000 ha) within a Management Unit\*.

About 90 % of the Norwegian Management Units\* have less than 100 ha productive forest and a standard that is better adapted to these Management Units\* was a common wish from forestry sector stakeholders during the consultations. Among the smallholders, memberships in FSC group certification are widespread. Such affiliation is necessary to cost-efficiently manage the requirements regarding the use of experts and the maintenance and development of technology, both in the forest, and for assessments, monitoring, planning, and the development of management plans. Most forest owners in Norway live close to their forests, but a normal situation is also that they do not have their work in the forest.

Levels of intensity (including low intensity) are not defined in the FSS. Intensity will follow requirements based on the size of the land holding and natural circumstances (landscape-forms, level above the sea, production capacity in the forest stands, costs, infrastructure etc.). In the lowlands in south-eastern Norway, the normal situation is high intensity forestry “AND” small Management Units\*, not “OR”, while huge Management Units\* near the mountains or in complex or steep terrain can be very low-intensive regarding forestry, so also in the reindeer grazing districts where large Management Units are dominating. It is also required to adapt the intensity in relation to HCV (not only HCV 1-3, that is a part of the conservation network, but also HCV 4-6). In Principle 3, thresholds of forestry intensity related to the use of FPIC are described.

The risk approach is visible in e.g., Criterion 6.2 where an environmental impact assessment is required in the planning prior to each harvest. Consultation with a forest biology expert\* is required according to several other requirements of the indicators in Principle 6. If needed, field surveys are performed to provide accurate management advice. Risk in ordinary forestry management is also met by requirements in many other indicators, especially in Principle 10. In Principle 3, the risk approach is covered by the FPIC mechanism, that is described in detail in Annex C.

## F **Principles\*, Criteria\* and Indicators\***

(Normative section)

### **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.**

1.1.1 The Organization carries out all management activities within the scope of certification and is, when required by Norwegian legislation, registered in the Brønnøysund Register Centre as a legal person/company or sole proprietorship.

**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 All legal rights related to the Management Unit within the scope of certification are documented.

1.2.2 Legal tenure is granted by a legally competent authority according to legally prescribed processes.

1.2.3 The Management Units within the scope of certification are documented in the Norwegian Mapping Authority's Cadastre and Land Registry, and maps are publicly available.

**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 All activities undertaken in the Management Unit are carried out in compliance with:

- 1) Applicable laws and regulations and administrative requirements;
- 2) Legal and customary rights; and
- 3) Obligatory codes of practice.

1.3.2 Imposed taxes and fees, as well as payments to the *Forest Trust Fund\** are paid by The Organization in a timely manner.

1.3.3 Activities covered by the management plan are designed to comply with all applicable laws.

**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 Measures are implemented to provide protection from unauthorized or illegal harvesting, hunting, fishing and other unauthorized activities.

1.4.2 Engagement is conducted with relevant authorities to avoid, prevent and control illegal activities, when necessary, based on scale, intensity and risk.

1.4.3 If illegal or unauthorized activities are detected, measures are implemented to address them.

**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.**

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.

**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\*.**

1.6.1 A publicly available and culturally appropriate dispute resolution process method (as outlined in Annex D) is used to resolve disputes related to the implementation of this standard.

1.6.2 Whenever possible, disputes and unresolved legal and customary issues regarding user rights or property boundaries, are settled in a timely manner out of court.

1.6.3 Up to date records of disputes related to issues of applicable laws or customary law, are held including:

- 1) Steps taken to resolve disputes;
- 2) Outcomes of all dispute resolution processes; and
- 3) Unresolved disputes, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.

1.6.4 Operations cease in areas where disputes related to issues of applicable laws or customary law exist:

- 1) Of substantial magnitude; or
- 2) Of substantial duration; or
- 3) Involving a significant number of interests.

- 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.
- 1.7.1 A publicly freely available policy is implemented that includes a commitment not to offer or receive bribes of any description.
- 1.7.2 Bribery, coercion and other acts of corruption do not occur.
- 1.7.3 Any indications of corruption are dealt with and corrective measures are implemented accordingly.
- 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.
- 1.8.1 A written, publicly available policy, endorsed and implemented by the authorized individuals of The Organization, includes a long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with FSC Principles and Criteria and related Policies and Standards.
- 1.8.2 The FSC certification agreement clearly states which management units are included, and which properties the management unit consists of.

## **PRINCIPLE\* 2: WORKERS\* RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS**

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

**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 Labour Conventions\**.**

2.1.1 The Organization does not use child labour.

2.1.1.1 The Organization does not use child labour below age of 15, except when in accordance with the Working Environment Act (chapter 11, paragraph 1).

2.1.1.2 According to the Working Environment Act (chapter 11, paragraph 1), employment of persons between the ages of 13 to 15 years in light work is allowed, if such employment does not interfere with schooling and school hours, nor be harmful to health or development of these persons.

2.1.1.3 No person under the age of 18 is employed in hazardous or heavy work except for the purpose of training as described in the Working Environment Act (chapter 11, paragraph 1).

2.1.1.4 Worst forms of child labour is prohibited according to the ILO convention 182.

2.1.2 The Organization has eliminated all forms of forced and compulsory labour in accordance with the ILO convention 105 and the Human Rights Act (paragraph 2, article 4).

2.1.2.1 Employment relationships are voluntary and based on mutual consent, without threat of a penalty (Working Environment Act, chapter 14).

2.1.2.2 There is no evidence of any practices indicative of forced or compulsory labour, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) Physical and sexual violence
- 2) Bonded labour
- 3) Withholding of wages, including payment of employment fees and or payment of deposit to commence employment
- 4) Restriction of mobility/movement
- 5) Retention of passport and identity documents
- 6) Threats of denunciation to the authorities.

2.1.3 The Organization ensures that there is no discrimination in employment and occupation.

2.1.3.1 Employment and occupation practices are non-discriminatory with reference to the Working Environment Act, (chapter 13, paragraph 1).

2.1.4 The Organization respects freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining.

2.1.4.1 Workers are able to establish or join workers' organizations of their own choosing according to ILO Convention 98.

2.1.4.2 The Organization respects the rights of workers to engage in lawful activities related to forming, joining, or assisting a workers' organization, or to refrain from doing the same, and does not discriminate or punish workers for exercising these rights (the Working environment Act, chapter 13, paragraph 1-4).

2.1.4.3 The Organization negotiates with lawfully established workers' organizations and/or duly selected representatives in good faith and with the best efforts to reach a collective bargaining agreement.

2.1.4.4 Collective bargaining agreements are implemented where they exist.

2.1.4.5 Individual employment agreements are in writing and formulated in accordance with the Working Environment Act (chapter 14, paragraph 5-6).

**2.2 *The Organization\* shall promote gender equality\* in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement\* and management activities.***

2.2.1 Systems are implemented that promote gender equality (including equal salaries) and prevent gender discrimination in recruitment, employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities in accordance with the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act, the Working Environment Act and the Competition Act.

2.2.2 Job opportunities and training and health & safety programs are open to both women and men under the same conditions in accordance with the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act (chapter 5).

2.2.3 Women are encouraged to participate actively in all levels of employment in accordance with the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act (chapters 4 and 5).

2.2.4 Women and men are paid equally the same wage when they do the same work (Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act, chapter 5, paragraph 34), using mutually and voluntarily agreed payment methods.

2.2.5 Parents are entitled to shared paid leave of absence for a total of 12 months after childbirth based on Norwegian Working Environment Act (chapter 12, paragraph 5).

2.2.6 Meetings, management committees, boards and decision-making forums are organized to include women and men, and to facilitate the active participation of both (Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act, chapter 4-5, Limited liability companies Act, chapter 6, paragraph 11a).

- 2.2.7 Confidential and effective mechanisms exist for reporting and eliminating cases of sexual harassment and discrimination based on gender, marital status, parenthood or sexual orientation (Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act).
- 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 provisions of the Working Environment Act and the Internal Control Regulation relating to Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) are complied with.
- Note:** The legislation is in accordance with the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.
- 2.3.2 Workers have personal protective equipment appropriate to their assigned tasks, and use of the equipment is enforced in accordance with the requirements of HSE-systematics in work as written in the Working Environment Act, chapter 3 and 4.
- 2.3.3 Records are kept on health and safety practices, including accident rates.
- 2.3.4 According to the Working Environment Act (chapter 4, paragraph 1), the health and safety practices are reviewed and revised as required after major incidents or accidents with aim to mitigate future incidents, including possible risk to third parties.
- 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, salaries and contracts paid by The Organization meet or exceed the minimum rates determined according to the forestry sector agreements.
- Note:** Refers to the agreement Overenskomst for Naturbruk between Confederation for Norwegian Enterprise (NHO) and The United Federation of Trade Unions, and (for heavy machines contractors) the agreement Miljøoverenskomsten concluded between Norwegian Association of Heavy Equipment Contractors (MEF) and Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO).
- 2.4.2 Wages, salaries and contracts are paid on time.
- 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 job specific training consistent with Annex B and supervision to safely and effectively contribute to the implementation of the management plan and all management activities.



- 2.5.2 Up to date training records are kept for all relevant workers.
- 2.5.3 All work in the Management Unit is carried out in accordance with this standard and everyone who works in the Management Unit is aware of the relevant provisions of the standard, other relevant regulations for carrying out the work, and the known environmental values in the Management Unit.

**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 For organizations with more than 10 employees a culturally appropriate dispute resolution process is in place, developed through engagement with the workers.
- 2.6.2 For Management Units with more than 10 employees, a safety representative is designated (Working Environment Act, chapter 6) that assists individual employees in HSE issues or complaints about internal conditions.
- 2.6.3 Workers grievances are identified and are immediately responded to, and are either resolved or are in the dispute resolution process (Annex D).
- 2.6.4 Up-to-date records of workers grievances related to workers loss or damage of property, occupational diseases or injuries are maintained including:
  - 1) Steps taken to resolve grievances;
  - 2) Outcomes of all dispute resolution processes including fair compensation; and
  - 3) Unresolved disputes, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.
- 2.6.5 Fair compensation is provided to workers for work-related loss or damage of property and occupational disease or injuries.
- 2.6.6 Based on the Injury Insurance Act, the employer has covered all employees by compulsory occupational injury insurance.

### **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 Sámi reindeer herders, that may be affected by forestry-based management activities in the respective reindeer grazing district are identified.

3.1.2 The following topics are recorded and mapped through a culturally appropriate and active dialogue (FPIC) with the Sámi reindeer herders (cf. 3.1.1, 3.5.1):

- 1) The rights of Sámi reindeer herders to use and have access to land, water, forests, natural resources and ecosystem services relevant for the Management Unit;
- 2) Evidence supporting these rights and obligations;
- 3) Areas where the rights of the Sámi reindeer herders are contested;
- 4) Documentation that The Organization has established routines regarding conflicts and disputed rights;
- 5) Sámi activities affected by forestry activities;
- 6) Occurrence of ICL in the Management Unit;
- 7) The duty of the Sámi reindeer herders to orientate themselves and recognize the rights and activities of The Organization;
- 8) Any occurrence of HCV;
- 9) The aspirations and goals of Sami peoples related to management activities.

3.1.3 The dialogue is also recording places of special cultural, economic, ecological, religious, or spiritual significance (cf. 3.5.1), and the result a culturally appropriate and active dialogue is documented (cf. 3.3.2).

**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 To secure the Sámi reindeer herders rights to resources and land, The Organization informs through a culturally appropriate and active dialogue when, where and how the Sámi can comment on and demand modifications to the forestry-based management activities.

**Note:** A culturally appropriate and active dialogue means that both parties understand the language and the terms used in their respective forestry and reindeer husbandry practices. The meeting situation is at a place that is comfortable for the reindeer grazing district and suitable for both parties.

3.2.2 Before forestry-based management activities that may affect the rights of the Sámi reindeer herders are implemented, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is granted by the Sámi reindeer herders, and The Organizations' responsibilities during the FPIC process include:

- 1) To ensure that the Sámi know their rights and obligations regarding the resource;
- 2) To make sure that The Organization know how the different areas are valued in reindeer husbandry;
- 3) To inform the Sámi of their right to withhold consent if necessary to secure their rights, and the opportunity to change or modify the given consent if the right is no longer secured;
- 4) To inform the Sámi of the current and future forestry activities that may affect the Sámi's rights.

3.2.3 Culturally appropriate and active dialogue that obtains a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is carried out prior to the following activities (see methodology – Annex C, summarized in Table 3):

- 1) Clear cuttings larger than 3 hectares of forest with significant occurrences of pendulous tree lichens in grazing height;
- 2) Clear cuttings larger than 10 hectares of forest rich in ground dwelling lichens (the *vegetation type* lichen woodland);
- 3) Clear cuttings larger than 10 hectares which affects sites listed in indicator 3.5.1;
- 4) Fertilization of areas rich in ground dwelling lichens (the *vegetation type* lichen woodland).

**Note:** Significant occurrences of pendulous tree lichens in grazing height are often found in mountain forests with low branching.

**Table 3** Summary of an FPIC process. See also Annex C: Guidelines for the Free, Prior and informed Consent (FPIC) process – a tool for good dialogue (FPIC-methodology)

Section	Relevant indicators
Step 1: Preparatory work (The Organization* collects data)	3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.3, 3.5.1
Step 2: Initial communication (The Organization* contacts the Sámi representative to arrange a meeting and clarify mandate)	3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.5
Step 3: Active dialogue – First meeting and designing the decision-making process for the further dialogue (methods and agreements)	3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2
Step 4: Active dialogue – Interactive mapping and forestry activities (joint review of planned forestry activities; any adjustments; consent process)	3.1.2, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.5.1
Step 5: Written agreement	3.3.1, 3.3.2
Step 6: Adjustment and renewal of consent agreements	3.5.4

3.2.4 The representatives of the reindeer husbandry interests receive a copy of the application to build a road if The Organization is applying for the construction of a new forest road.

**Note:** The representatives of reindeer husbandry interests may demand an FPIC process if they have objections to the application (cf. 3.5.1); any claims are submitted no later than 3 weeks after a copy of the application has been received from The Organization.

3.2.5 Management Units above 5,000 hectares (entire area) annually invite representatives of respective reindeer grazing districts to review forestry plans and activities, unless otherwise agreed between The Organization and the reindeer grazing district.

3.2.6 Where evidence exists that the rights of the Sámi related to forestry-based management activities have been violated, the situation is corrected, and if necessary, first through an FPIC process, then through a conflict resolution method as described in Criteria 1.6 and 4.6 and Annex D.

3.2.7 Where the process of FPIC has not yet resulted in an FPIC agreement, The Organization and the affected Reindeer herders district are engaged in a mutually agreed FPIC process that is advancing in good faith, accepted by the representatives.

**Note:** In this case the reindeer grazing district can decide to approve the planned forestry related management activities even though a binding FPIC agreement and a certification is not in place.

**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 The established binding FPIC agreement contains:

- 1) Duration;
- 2) Provisions for renegotiation;
- 3) Renewal;
- 4) Termination;
- 5) Economic conditions;
- 6) Any additional terms.
- 7) Routines for further communication
- 8) Provisions for following up the terms and conditions of the Binding Agreement.

3.3.2 Records of binding agreements are established and maintained.

**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)*.

3.4.1 The rights, customs and culture of the Sámi reindeer herders as defined in the Reindeer Husbandry Act, the Human Rights Act, ILO Convention 169 and UNDRIP are not violated by The Organization.

3.4.2 If the rights, customs and culture of the Sámi, as defined in 3.4.1, have been violated by The Organization, the situation is documented, and measures are taken to restore these rights to the satisfaction of the rights holders.

**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 Sámi sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, for which the reindeer herders hold rights, are identified through a culturally appropriate and active dialogue.

**Note:** For example, these sites may be:

- 1) *Automatically protected\** Sámi cultural heritage sites from 1917 or older (cf. the Cultural Heritage Act);
- 2) Migration and moving routes for the reindeer;
- 3) Gathering areas for reindeer;

- 4) Difficult passages for migrating reindeer;
- 5) Areas important for pendulous tree lichens;
- 6) Grazing paddocks;
- 7) Calving areas;
- 8) Sámi sacred sites, sacrificial sites, burial sites, culturally important trails and other places of special cultural-historical significance.

**Note (continued):** If The Organization does not agree with the reindeer herders concerning the significance of Sámi sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual importance, then the Sámi reindeer herders via a FPIC process are entitled to practice their rights to withhold, withdraw or modify their consent.

- 3.5.2 Through a culturally appropriate and active dialogue with the Sámi reindeer herders, The Organization agrees on measures to secure such sites (cf. 3.5.1), and these measures are documented and implemented.
- 3.5.3 When the Sámi determine that positioning on maps will threaten these sites (cf. 3.5.1), the information is communicated in other ways.
- 3.5.4 When The Organization receives information about new sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, forestry-based management activities at the new site are ceased immediately, until agreement is reached with the Sámi reindeer herders on how to secure the sites, and in accordance with laws and regulations.

**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 Traditional knowledge and intellectual property are protected and are only used when the acknowledged owners of that traditional knowledge and intellectual property have provided their Free, Prior and Informed Consent formalized through a Binding Agreement.
- 3.6.2 Sámi Reindeer herders are compensated in accordance with the binding agreement as described in 3.6.1.

## **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 exist in the Management Unit and those that may be affected by forest management are identified.
- 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 General public has the right to free access, stay and harvesting of berries and mushrooms etc. within the limits set by the Outdoor Recreation Act and other legislation; access opportunities are ensured, and attention is paid to outdoor activity qualities.
- 4.2.2 Legal rights, use rights and easements are respected.
- 4.2.3 Communication with other stakeholders at an annual meeting or in any other appropriate manner is ensured, so that the parties are informed of each other's plans in the area and reasonable considerations are incorporated.
- 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.**
- 4.3.1 Local forest service providers are preferred by The Organization when their services are competitive in terms of price, quality, availability and treatment of employees and Health, Safety and Environment (HSE).
- 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 Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified based on suggestions from local communities and relevant organizations.

**Note:** Within the framework of reasonable commercial exploitation and privacy, The Organization contributes to appropriate solutions, e.g. regarding the construction of footpaths, skiing trails, rest areas and other measures.

- 4.4.2 Use of outdoor forest areas for kindergartens, schools and school recreation schemes that is not in conflict with important commercial or ecological considerations, or with the Outdoor Recreation Act, is authorized by The Organization.

**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 Through culturally appropriate engagement with local communities, measures are implemented to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities regarding *outdoor recreation\** activities.

- 4.5.2 Skiers are notified about harvesting and other forestry operations (that might pose significant risks to their safety) with signs.

- 4.5.3 Operators preparing skiing trails are directly contacted in due time and at the latest two weeks before forestry operations.

- 4.5.4 *Outdoor recreation\** interests are given special emphasis in widely used *outdoor recreation\** areas, especially near cities and towns.

**Note:** The forestry-related measures include e.g. selective logging in accordance with Criterion 10.5, preferably in combination with small-scale clearcutting and thinning to facilitate selective logging in the next turnover, varying of the size of the regeneration areas, and careful *soil scarification\**.

- 4.5.5 Extra considerations to prevent and mitigate damages, in accordance with requirements in Criterion 10.10, is taken in widely used *outdoor recreation\** areas.

**Note:** Examples of areas where extra considerations should be taken are important routes and footpaths.

**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\**.**

- 4.6.1 A publicly available procedure for resolving conflicts with local communities is established (Annex D).

- 4.6.2 Operations cease in areas while disputes exist of:

- 1) Substantial magnitude;
- 2) Substantial duration; or
- 3) Involving a significant number of interests.



**Note:** The requirement to cease operations applies to only those operations that are affecting community or individual rights or interests, only to operations that are causing a dispute, and only to the areas where a dispute exists.

4.6.3 Inquiries, opinions and complaints are handled systematically and in a credible way in relation to the stakeholder.

**Note:** The management of inquiries, opinions and complaints can be adapted in proportion to scale, intensity, and risk. A systematic and credible management of complaints would normally include:

- 1) Publicly available contact details for conveying inquiries, opinions and complaints to The Organization,
- 2) Confirmation of receipt and information about how and when the matter will be handled;
- 3) That planned and implemented measures are communicated;
- 4) That an internal timeframe is in place for handling and implementing b and c;
- 5) That the communication method is well-adapted to the stakeholder.

4.6.4 There is a documented and publicly available general description of how The Organization handles complaints and other input.

**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\**.**

4.7.1 By planning and management, The Organization takes into account recorded archaeological and architectural monuments and sites, and cultural environments.

**Note:** All monuments and sites and cultural environments from 1537 or older, and all equivalent Sámi sites from 1917 or older are *automatically protected\**, cf. the Cultural Heritage Act. In addition, other known and valuable cultural heritage sites are considered. Information is provided by the databases Askeladden and Kulturminnesøk.

4.7.2 The Organization consults with the regional cultural heritage authority if harvesting or other forestry activities may conflict with *automatically protected\** cultural heritage sites (cf. 10.10.15 and 10.10.19).

4.7.3 Measures to protect cultural heritage sites are documented and implemented. When local communities determine that physical identification of sites in writing or on maps would threaten the value or protection of the sites, then other means are used.

4.7.4 Management activities are adapted to avoid destruction of new identified cultural heritage sites.

4.7.5 No new forest is actively established on cultural lands smaller than 0.5 hectares in the forest landscape, except when approved by the municipality under section 9 of the Land Act, providing that this does not negatively affect valuable cultural heritage sites or cultural environments.

**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.***

N/A The Criterion is not applicable for Norway. Therefore, there are no indicators in this criterion.

**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 The Organization has an overview of resources and ecosystem services of economic importance in the Management Unit.

5.1.2 Methods of silviculture and forest management that generate optimal utilization of the diversity of resources and ecosystem services that the forest can provide are used.

5.1.3 The forest resources are utilized according to management objectives of The Organization, and other local interest holders have opportunities to develop activities within legal limitations.

5.1.4 When The Organization uses FSC Ecosystem Services Claims, The Organization complies with applicable requirements in FSC-PRO-30-006.

**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 Long-term sustainable harvest level is calculated, based on best available information.

**Note:** For forest properties above 1,000 hectares of *productive forest\** the sustainable harvest level can be calculated according to the management plan. Regarding smaller properties (below 1,000 hectares of *productive forest\**), the calculations can be based on data from the internet database and map *Kilden\**.

5.2.2 Annual harvest level in the Management Unit is registered, that does not exceed the harvest level that can be permanently sustained, and the harvest level during a 30-years period does not exceed the calculated harvest level for the same period (cf. 5.2.1).

5.2.3 For extraction of commercially harvested services and non-timber forest products under The Organization's control a sustainable harvest level is calculated and adhered to. Sustainable harvest levels are based on Best Available Information.

5.2.4 If calamities such as extensive insect infestation, storm-felling or forest fires occur, the harvest limit is, if needed, set aside and the calculated harvest level is adjusted accordingly based on the principles of sustainability outlined in Criterion 5.2.

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

N/A The Criterion is not applicable for Norway. Therefore, there are no indicators in this criterion.

**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.**

5.4.1 Local businesses and local employment related to management activities are preferred by The Organization when their services are competitive in terms of price, quality, availability and treatment of employees and *Health, Security and Environment\** (HSE).

**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 Sufficient financial resources are allocated, and expenditures and investments are made to implement the management plan, in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term economic viability

5.5.2 Harvesting opportunities (for timber and other forest products and services) in the Management Unit are utilized within the limits and considerations given by 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 Best Available Information (including based on the Guidance Notes to 6.4.1 and 6.5.1) is used to identify environmental values within, and, where potentially affected by management activities, outside of the Management Unit.

6.1.2 Environmental values and habitats in the Management Unit that are important to preserve in a landscape ecological perspective are identified and assessed, and the respective overview is available.

6.1.3 The overview (cf. 6.1.2) is sufficiently detailed to enable to draw up the necessary conservation measures, and to detect, monitor and evaluate any risks and/or negative effects of the activities.

6.1.4 The procedure for the environmental value assessment is well structured and tested, and adapted to the purpose, to obtain good quality and unambiguous results.

6.1.5 The environmental value assessment procedure is evaluated continuously and is available on request.

**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 An environmental impact assessment identifies potential present and future impacts within and outside the Management Unit that may affect environmental values, both positively and negatively.

6.2.2 Prior to forestry activities, the impacts on environmental values are assessed and documented.

6.2.3 The Organization informs new parties that become involved in the planning of forestry operations about previous environmental assessments.

**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 Activities in the Management Unit are planned and implemented, so that negative impacts on relevant environmental values are prevented and these values are protected.

6.3.2 If damage to environmental values occurs, measures are taken to prevent further damage and reoccurrence, and negative impacts are mitigated and/or repaired.

**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 Best Available Information is used to identify near threatened and threatened species on the Norwegian Red List, and their habitats, that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the Management Unit.

**Note:** Best Available Information about near threatened and threatened species and their habitats is found in the national open access map databases Artskart, Naturbase and *Kilden\**. Best Available Information that is not available from the databases is collected from stakeholders possessing such information (e.g., nesting sites for birds of prey or vulnerable habitats for orchids).

6.4.2 Potential impacts of management activities on rare and threatened species and their conservation status and habitats are identified, and management activities, or the management plan is modified to safeguard these species.

6.4.3 An overall survey of potential and existing habitats for red-listed species, according to nationally accepted methods, is conducted in the Management Unit to establish a basis for assessments regarding the identification of potentially negative impacts on the conservation status of these species and their habitats.

6.4.4 Conservation measures are proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities and to the conservation status and ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species.

6.4.5 Rare and threatened species are identified, and designated *key biotopes\** are established in the Management Unit based on the survey and the assessment, or other measures if appropriate (according to 6.5 and 6.6).

6.4.6 *Key biotopes\** are left untouched, or if needed, measures are described to conserve or enhance the respective habitats for the rare and threatened species.

6.4.7 The Organization has conducted required surveys and assessments according to 6.4.3–6.4.6, and the delineation of *key biotopes\** in the Management Unit is completed.

- 6.4.8 Substitution of established *key biotopes*\* with other biotopes only occurs if equal or higher biological diversity values are documented in the latter and is considered by a forest biology expert approved by The Organization.
- 6.4.9 Existing and new *key biotopes*\* are documented in writing and made available to the relevant public authorities and submitted to the public database *Kilden*\*.
- 6.4.10 Where forestry activities may affect occurrences of threatened species, *threatened habitat types*\* or *nature types*\* of A and B values that are not previously assessed in the Conservation Areas Network, a *forest biology expert*\* is consulted whether *key biotopes*\* have to be established.

**Note:** This regards occurrences of threatened species and *nature types*\* that is, according to the Norwegian Red Lists of species and *nature types*\* produced by the Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre, that are negatively affected by forestry. *Nature types*\* of A and B values are found in the national internet map Naturbase provided by the Norwegian Environment Agency. A new mapping method (NiN) with a similar value ranking system is under development. The indicator regards newly discovered occurrences that have not been submitted to previous assessments concerning biological diversity in the Management Unit due to supplementary surveys or revised red lists.

- 6.4.11 Conservation zones, protection areas and Connectivity are established and respective conservation measures are developed in consultation with a *forest biology expert*\* and documented.
- 6.4.12 Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection is conducted strictly in accordance with the Norwegian legislation, which prohibits all hunting unless explicitly allowed, and which ensures the survival of each population, with further local restrictions where it is decided by the Management Unit.
- 6.4.13 Management Units above 1,000 hectares of *productive forest*\* describe how to conserve and ensure a representative and natural species diversity.

**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 Best Available Information is used to identify native ecosystems that exist, or would exist under natural conditions, within the Management Unit.

**Note:** Best Available Information about representative sample areas of native ecosystems is found in the national open access map databases Naturbase and *Kilden*\*. Best Available Information that is not available in the databases is collected from local or regional stakeholders possessing such information.

- 6.5.2 Representative samples of native ecosystems are protected through the Conservation Areas Network.
- 6.5.3 Where Representative Sample Areas do not exist, or where existing sample areas inadequately or insufficiently represent native ecosystems, areas are restored to more natural conditions as part of the Conservation Areas Network.
- 6.5.4 The size of the Representative Sample Areas and/or restoration areas is proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, the size of the Management Unit and the intensity of forest management.
- 6.5.5 Representative Sample Areas in combination with other components of the Conservation Areas Network comprise minimum 10 % area of the Management Unit.
- 6.5.6 Minimum 10 % of the *productive forest*\* area in the Management Unit is set aside as a part of The Conservation Areas Network according to Indicators 6.5.7 and 6.5.9.

**Note:** To achieve an optimal delineation, up to 25 % of each conservation area can consist of intermixed younger forest and least *productive forest*\* areas.

- 6.5.7 The Conservation Areas Network of the Management Unit consists of all *key biotopes*\* and all HCV areas in the categories HCV 1-3 (including *Intact Forest Landscapes*\*, cf. 9.2.4), and other areas important for the long-term conservation of environmental values, and which constitute the continuity and representativeness of habitats in the Management Unit and in the landscape.
- 6.5.8 Mapping and selection of areas to be included in the Conservation Areas Network (cf. 6.5.7) is done in collaboration with a *forest biology expert*\*.
- 6.5.9 Within the *productive forest*\* area, The Organization additionally (cf. 6.5.7) selects the Conservation Areas Network from the categories:
  - 1) *Biologically old forest*\* that is not categorized as HCV 3 according to 9.1.1 and Annex E;
  - 2) Forests in development class 5 (the oldest class) that are not heavily cultivated;
  - 3) Fire-affected forest;
  - 4) The *vegetation type*\* *calcareous forest*\*, with *old forest*\* characteristics;
  - 5) The *vegetation types*\* mire woodlands and swamp forest;
  - 6) *Coastal rainforests*\* with *old forest*\* characteristics, and dominated by Norway spruce or Scots Pine;



- 7) The *vegetation type*\* pastoral woodland;
  - 8) *Mature forests*\* dominated by deciduous trees that are not heavily cultivated;
  - 9) All areas with the *vegetation type*\* broadleaved thermophilous forests in the regions of Østlandet, Trøndelag and Nordland;
  - 10) Nesting sites for birds of prey and owls;
  - 11) Registered *nature types*\* according to DN Handbook 13 or according to the instructions of the Norwegian Environment Agency (NiN);
  - 12) Areas with specific ecological function for *priority species*\* according to the Nature Diversity Act;
  - 13) *Selected habitat types*\* according to the Nature Diversity Act;
  - 14) Restoration areas for *nature types*\* lacking in the landscape are included according to 6.6.1 (e.g. the *vegetation types*\* rich mire woodlands and swamp forests).
- 6.5.10 A minimum of 50 % of the *productive forest*\* in the Conservation Areas Network is protected from site disturbing activities.
- 6.5.11 If management measures are carried out in the remaining part of the Conservation Areas Network (cf. 6.5.7, 6.5.9 and 6.5.10), they are developed to restore, maintain or enhance the values for which the conservation area network was created, and documented in consultation with a forest biology expert approved by The Organization.
- 6.5.12 Maps, brief descriptions, including management of the areas in the Conservation areas Network, are available upon request.
- 6.5.13 Forest areas included in the Conservation Areas Network are not converted to other land uses unless it is a part of an official and openly accessible regulation plan conducted by the relevant authorities that requires such measures, and in accordance with 6.9.1.
- 6.5.14 *Productive forests*\* that are legally protected or are in the process of being legally protected before a revised FSS is finalized can be included in the Conservation Areas Network.
- 6.5.15 The Organization reviews the Conservation Areas Network when new knowledge makes this relevant.
- 6.5.16 Areas in the Conservation Areas Network can be exchangeable with other areas having equal or higher values for which the conservation areas network was created, and such substitutions areas are evaluated by a forest biology expert approved by The Organization.
- 6.5.17 The Conservation Areas Network is reviewed at least every 10 years.
- 6.5.18 Changes to the Conservation Areas Network are approved by The Organization and are documented.

**6.6** *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.

6.6.1 Plant communities and *habitat features\** that are naturally occurring, or have naturally occurred, within native ecosystems in the Management Unit are maintained, enhanced or re-established through management activities supporting the species that belong to these communities and *habitat features\** and their diversity (including genetic diversity).

6.6.2 Applicable national and regional legislation regarding hunting, trophy hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting activities (and, if needed, stricter measures) is followed to ensure that naturally occurring native species, their diversity within species and their natural distribution are maintained.

**Note:** For instance, this could be done by applying stricter bag limits or shorter hunting periods by The Organization, or that The Organization develops and implements stricter regulations than those provided in legislation to maintain sustainable populations of respective species.

6.6.3 When harvesting:

- 1) At least 10 retention trees per hectare of harvested area are set aside;
- 2) Retention trees are storm-resilient and are set aside individually or in groups in the operating area In a way that contributes to stability;
- 3) The number of retention trees applies as an average for the harvested area, and may include several forest stands;
- 4) Retention trees that die remain in the forest.

6.6.4 No retention trees of exotic species or unsuitable provenances are set aside.

6.6.5 The retention trees are chosen among the oldest trees with the highest value of biodiversity, with the following additional criteria:

- 1) Both dominant and any rare/unusual tree species are represented among the chosen retention trees; and
- 2) at least two of the retention trees are selected among dominant tree species.

**Note:** To ensure having storm-resilient spruces that function as retention trees, trees with large mass of needle-bearing branches and trees with a trunk diameter down to 20 cm may also be selected. Maximum 50 % of the retention trees of living spruce and aspen can be cut into high stumps (cut at least 3 m above ground) where there is a risk of storm-felling. The sum of spruce snags and high stumps does not exceed half of the number of retention trees. Where there is

a clear danger that retention trees or snags may cause damage to buildings and infrastructure, or create obstacles on widely used paths and roads, these can be felled and put aside.

- 6.6.6 In addition (cf. 6.6.5), the following trees are given priority:
- 1) Particularly large/old trees, hollow trees and large trees with distinctly broad, coarsely branched and/or flat crowns;
  - 2) Large/old trees with distinct older cultural traces such as pastoral woodland trees, pollarded trees and grazing trees;
  - 3) Trees with woodpecker holes and nesting function for birds of prey;
  - 4) Red-listed tree species such as ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), wych elm (*Ulmus glabra*), European yew (*Taxus baccata*), European crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), and various whitebeam species (*Sorbus* ssp.);
  - 5) Trees of goat willow (*Salix caprea*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*), bird cherry (*Prunus avium*) and dwarf cherry (*Prunus cerasus*);
  - 6) Broadleaved thermophilous trees in boreal zone forest landscapes;
  - 7) Large specimens of aspen (*Populus tremula*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), common juniper (*Juniperus communis*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*);
  - 8) Living trees with scars after fire.
- 6.6.7 In areas with more than 10 tree specimens listed in Indicator 6.6.6 per hectare, all prioritized trees are maintained.
- 6.6.8 Retention trees or such tree groups are marked on a map and documented.
- 6.6.9 All wood of deciduous trees and pines that have been dead for more than a year, and spruces that have been dead for more than 5 years, remain in the forest.
- 6.6.10 Trees are removed based on a written public order from the municipal forestry authority on measures after forest damage, in accordance with the provisions of the Forestry Act.
- 6.6.11 All relevant sources are checked to look for information about capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) leks and nesting birds of prey and owls in the Management Unit before harvesting.
- 6.6.12 Nesting sites for the birds of prey and owls listed in Table 4 have a strictly protected buffer zone where no clearcutting or seed-tree stand harvests are carried out.

**Note:** A strictly protected buffer zone and a consideration area around the nesting sites of birds of prey and owls is required, as outlined in Table 4. Nesting sites include both original nesting sites, as well as nest boxes, artificial nests, and nesting platforms established in consultation with The Organization.

6.6.13 No forestry activities are conducted within the consideration area encircling nests of birds of prey and owls (cf. Table 4) during the breeding season.

6.6.14 Exemptions from the described requirements listed in Table 4 are decided on in collaboration with a *forest biology expert*\*.

**Table 4** Overview of safeguards concerning nesting localities for birds of prey and owls (consideration areas, buffer zones and period of attention (cf. indicators 6.6.12–6.6.15)

Species	Strictly protected buffer zones and time for attention after last nesting	Consideration areas and breeding season with no forestry activities
<b>Species group 1</b>		
Golden eagle ( <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> ) White-tailed eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i> ) Eurasian eagle-owl ( <i>Bubo bubo</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flat and hilly terrain: strictly protected buffer zone is minimum 100 meters radius around the nest.</li> <li>• Rock walls/hills steeper than 60 degrees: strictly protected buffer zone is minimum 100 meters to each side and 50 meters from the base of the rock/hill.</li> <li>• Consideration is taken independently of when the last nesting was observed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration area is minimum 400 meters radius around the nest.</li> <li>• Period of attention (breeding season): 1 January to 31 July.</li> </ul>
<b>Species group 2</b>		
Osprey ( <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> ) European honey buzzard ( <i>Pernis apivorus</i> ) Rough-legged buzzard ( <i>Buteo lagopus</i> ) Peregrine falcon ( <i>Falco peregrinus</i> ) Northern goshawk ( <i>Accipiter gentilis</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flat and hilly terrain: strictly protected buffer zone is minimum 50 meters radius around the nest.</li> <li>• Rock walls/hills steeper than 60 degrees: strictly protected buffer zone is minimum 100 meters to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration area is minimum 200 meters radius around the nest.</li> <li>• Period of attention (breeding season): 1 March to 31 July.</li> </ul>

Ural owl ( <i>Strix uralensis</i> ) Great grey owl ( <i>Strix nebulosa</i> )	each side and 25 meters from the base of the rock/hill.  • Consideration is taken for 5 following years after the last nesting or clear nesting preparations.	
<b>Species group 3</b>		
Common buzzard ( <i>Buteo buteo</i> ) Eurasian hobby ( <i>Falco subbuteo</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flat and hilly terrain: strict buffer zone is minimum 25 meters radius around the nest.</li> <li>Consideration is taken for 5 following years after the last nesting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consideration area is minimum 100 meters radius around the nest.</li> <li>Period of attention (breeding season): 1 April to 31 July.</li> </ul>

6.6.15 Nesting sites of birds of prey and owls, and capercaillie leks, are not left as "islands" in the landscape and efforts are made to give the areas natural boundaries.

6.6.16 Capercaillie leks are managed so that they can maintain their function as long as possible, regardless of the size and boundaries of the Management Unit.

**Note:** A capercaillie lek includes at least two lekking males.

6.6.17 Harvests are only carried out in capercaillie leks when they do not impair the conditions of the lek, and in collaboration with a *forest biology expert\** or other qualified expert approved by The Organization.

**Note:** Depending on forest type, management of the capercaillie lek is allowed based on the following conditions:

- 1) In sparse pine or mixed coniferous forest of low site quality – harvesting should normally not be carried out;
- 2) In pine or mixed coniferous forest of medium site quality and where the forest has grown dense and shades the undergrowth that provides hiding places – harvesting which enhance lekking conditions can be carried out;
- 3) In spruce forest of medium and high site quality in which the forest has grown dense and without shrubs that provide hiding places – harvesting can be carried out if selective logging methods are used. In forests where selective logging cannot be used, the forest is set aside until its health is weakened or the capercaillie stop lekking.

- 6.6.18 Where forest thinning has facilitated the establishment of a new capercaillie lek of similar size, and the capercaillie takes the new area into use, the abandoned lek area is open for harvesting after documenting the process.
- 6.6.19 During breeding season, forestry activities are adapted so as to reduce the risk of negative effects in areas with known occurrences of territorial bird species with small populations.
- 6.6.20 Considerations (cf. 6.6.19) are directed specifically to the bird nesting areas, or to important and/or relevant breeding biotopes, of the following territorial species with small populations:
- 1) White-backed woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos*);
  - 2) Little bunting (*Emberiza pusilla*);
  - 3) Rustic bunting (*Emberiza rustica*);
  - 4) Ortolan bunting (*Emberiza hortulana*);
  - 5) Arctic warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*);
  - 6) Woodlark (*Lullula arborea*).
- 6.6.21 Forestry activities in important breeding habitats for other bird species than mentioned in 6.6.20 are adapted during the breeding season so that the risk of negative effects is reduced, and particular attention is paid to the following habitats:
- 1) Overgrown areas that were previously open landscapes, cultivated land or pastures;
  - 2) Buffer zones along cultural landscapes, water courses and *wetlands*\*;
  - 3) The *vegetation types*\* mire woodland and swamp forest;
  - 4) Deciduous forest.
- 6.6.22 Harvesting in multi-layer deciduous forests is not conducted during the bird breeding season.
- 6.6.23 When forest fires are smaller than 0.5 hectares, the entire fire-affected area in *old forest*\* is left untouched for 10 years.
- 6.6.24 Where more than 0.5 hectares of *mature forest*\* is affected by forest fire, The Organization in consultation with a forest biology expert ensures that 0.5 hectares of the biologically most valuable fire-affected forest is left untouched for 10 years.
- 6.6.25 The Organization ensures that, during the 10-year period after a forest fire, the untouched burnt forest area is assessed for long-term conservation and inclusion in the Conservation Areas Network.
- 6.6.26 The Organization welcomes external Conservation initiatives to safeguard cultural landscape elements such as pollard trees, stone fences and smaller semi-natural meadows.

6.6.27 The Organization ensures, while clearing and thinning, that a sufficient number of deciduous trees (in accordance with local ecological conditions) is present within the MU, as:

- 1) Separate deciduous stands;
- 2) Deciduous trees in groups; and/or
- 3) Separate trees.

These include large and old deciduous trees.

**6.7 The Organization\* shall protect\* or restore\* natural water courses, 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 Protection measures are implemented to protect natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their Connectivity, including water quantity and water quality.

6.7.2 Where implemented protection measures do not protect watercourses, water bodies, mires, riparian zones and their connectivity, water quantity or water quality from impacts of forest management, or degradation of these values continues or escalates, restoration activities are implemented.

**Note:** This standard uses the term buffer zone for the transition zone between water courses and production forest. The ecological function of the buffer zones includes, among other properties:

- 1) Form habitats, protection, shelter and corridors for aquatic species and species within the buffer zones;
- 2) Contribute to food supply in the form of fallen leaves, and from insects to aquatic organisms;
- 3) Create and add dead wood to the forest landscape and aquatic ecosystem;
- 4) Mitigate runoff and erosion, and contribute to flood control.
- 5) Conserve important soil chemical processes, water quality and water level.

6.7.3 A multi-layered buffer zone is conserved, or developed, along waters, rivers, and streams wider than one meter.

6.7.4 The buffer zone is wide enough to maintain stability and ecological function, and the width is adapted to the forest *vegetation type\**, topography, and other conditions in the field and varies along the water course.

6.7.5 Based on a default buffer zone width of 10-15 meters along water courses, the width is adjusted for:

- 1) The *vegetation types\** broadleaved thermophilous forest, tall-herb forest, tall-fern forest and swamp forest – significantly wider buffer zone (25-30 meters);
- 2) Dry *vegetation types\** or steep terrain along the watercourse – down to 5 meters;

- 3) One-layered pine forest – down to 5 meters;
  - 4) Along 1-2 meters broad brooks – down to 5 meters.
- 6.7.6 Periodically flooded areas are normally included in the buffer zone to capture the special conditions that occur in such areas.
- 6.7.7 Shrub vegetation and smaller trees are set aside along streams narrower than one meter, to ensure a vegetation belt.
- Note:** The requirement applies to streams with continuous waterflow that, at mean temperature above freezing point, does not dry out by natural causes more frequently than once every decade on average (definition in the Water Resources Act).
- 6.7.8 A multi-layered and stable buffer zone adjacent to mires larger than 0.2 hectares is preserved or developed during harvesting and other forestry activities, and the buffer zone is primarily on firm ground.
- 6.7.9 The buffer zone width adjacent to mires varies and is adjusted to vegetation type, the topography, and other conditions in the forest.
- 6.7.10 Based on a default buffer zone width of 10-15 meters adjacent to mires (cf. 6.7.8), the width shall be adjusted for:
- 1) The *vegetation-types\** broadleaved thermophilous forest, tall-herb forest, tall-fern forest and swamp forest – significantly wider buffer zone (25-30 meters);
  - 2) Dry *vegetation types\** or steep terrain along the mires – down to 5 meters;
  - 3) One-layered pine forest – down to 5 meters;
  - 4) Along smaller mires – down to 5 meters.
- 6.7.11 Buffer zones are normally left untouched.
- 6.7.12 Eventual harvesting in the buffer zone enhances stability, multiple layers and natural tree species distribution; exotic tree species are removed, while deciduous trees and stable conifers are saved.
- Note:** Single-layer, unstable spruce forests in buffer zones may be harvested to facilitate stability, multiple layers and natural tree species composition. Stable trees are spared, and special attention is paid along important fish spawning streams. To accommodate *outdoor recreation\**, important cultural landscapes, traffic safety or operational technical necessities, buffer zones may be partially removed in certain places.
- 6.7.13 Harvesting in buffer zones is documented and justified.
- 6.7.14 New trenching of the *vegetation-types\** mire woodlands and swamp forests does not occur.



- 6.7.15 Trenches are not cleaned or restored in areas where:
- 1) They will drain areas originally not affected by the existing trenches;
  - 2) The areas have been designated for restoration in the Conservation Areas Network;
  - 3) They occur in a site that is a *selected habitat type*\* according to the Nature Diversity Act or where the authorities will finance *wetland*\* restoration;
  - 4) It takes place in *red-listed habitat types*\* with reasonably intact nature values;
  - 5) It changes the hydrology of the Conservation Areas Network and *legally protected areas*\*.

**Note:** Cleaning or restoration of existing trench systems in former *vegetation types*\* mire woodlands and swamp forests that are not mentioned in a-e above, and which have resulted in *productive forests*\*, may be conducted.

- 6.7.16 The assessments according to 6.7.15 are documented.
- 6.7.17 Water from ditches is not discharged directly into streams, rivers or other aquatic environments.
- 6.7.18 Measures to mitigate or prevent further damage are implemented where runoff from ditches has a negative impact on the aquatic environment.

**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 A varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales, and regeneration cycles is maintained appropriate to the landscape.
- 6.8.2 The measures outlined in 6.8.1 are documented for forest properties above 1,000 hectares of *productive forest*\*.
- 6.8.3 Special ecological considerations are taken in larger contiguous forest areas with low extent of technical infrastructure.
- 6.8.4 Managements Units above 1,000 hectares of *productive forest*\* are managed in a manner that safeguards at least 2 % of *biologically old forest*\*.
- 6.8.5 The mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales, and regeneration cycles is restored where it has not been maintained appropriate to the landscape.

6.9 **The Organization\* shall not convert *natural forest\** 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 forests, including *nature forests \**, are not converted into tree plantations; neither are natural forests or tree plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest, converted to non-forest land use, except when:

- 1) The converted total area does not exceed 5% of the *productive forest\** area in the Management Unit; and
- 2) the annual converted area does not exceed 0.5% of the *productive forest\** area in the Management Unit; and
- 3) the conversion will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits in The Management Unit; and
- 4) the conversion does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values (cf. 9.1.1); and
- 5) no conversion of *nature forest\** occurs, except as explained in Indicator 6.9.2.

**Note:** 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:

- 1) Areas that are part of the forestry infrastructure and directly associated with forestry activities, such as forest roads, storage space for harvested timber, roundabouts, small quarries used for maintenance of forest roads in the Management Unit, cabins for forest workers etc.;
- 2) Establishment of scientific plantations for seed production;
- 3) Cultural heritage protection;
- 4) Exploitation for building on single plots;
- 5) Establishment of mobile phone masts.

**Note (continued):** 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 where there are impacts on a forest area which are beyond the full control of The Organization, as expropriation for mining, infrastructure and energy production.

6.9.2 *Nature forests\** are only converted to non-forest land use if there are no other practical solutions available when establishing a forest road, and conversion of more than 0.1 hectare is offset by corresponding compensation area of restored (or regenerated) *nature forest\**.

6.9.3 All conversion is documented (cf. 6.9.1 and 6.9.2).

**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:**

**a) Clear and sufficient evidence is provided that *The Organization\** was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or**

**b) 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 An overview of all conversions carried out in the Management Unit since 1994 is available, based on the Best Available Information.

6.10.2 Management Units with tree plantations converted from natural forest after November 1994 are not certified unless:

- 1) The Organization provides clear and sufficient evidence that it was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion; or
- 2) the conversion will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits in The Organization; and
- 3) the total area of tree plantations established through conversion of natural forests after 1994 is less than 5% of the *productive forest\** area in the Management Unit.

## **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 Policy and management objectives (including operational objectives) have been formulated to help meeting the requirements of this standard.

7.1.2 Summaries of the policy and objectives (cf. 7.1.1) are incorporated into the management plan and are publicly available.

**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 The Organization has a management plan containing plans and routines necessary to meet the management objectives (cf. 7.1.1), as well as the requirements in this standard.

**Note:** The management plan is the complete collection of all the required documentation as described in the specific indicators of this standard. This includes policies, management objectives, results from assessments, evaluations and monitoring, conservation- and management measures, plans, guidelines and routines. The documentation is adapted to the needs of The Organization to enable to show that requirements in this standard are met and can vary with the management objectives of different Organizations, as well as the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities. For quick assessment of the most important information needed for the daily management of the forest, The Organization should have a general strategic plan with an overview of the following key elements:

- 1) Policy and objectives (cf. 7.1.1);
- 2) Map showing property boundaries, topography, forest road networks, site quality and species;
- 3) Information on age and standing volume;
- 4) Long-term economically sustainable harvesting level (cf. 5.2.1);

- 5) The possibility of using selective logging (cf. 10.5.3);
- 6) Map showing footpaths, skiing trail networks, and other important *outdoor recreation\* values*;
- 7) Map showing cultural heritage sites (cf. 4.7) and sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for Sámi reindeer husbandry (cf. 3.5.1);
- 8) Areas with designated public restrictions (protective forests, *priority species\**, selected habitats, nature reserves, drinking water, etc.);
- 9) Map showing HCV areas, *key biotopes\** and other areas in the Conservation Areas Network (cf. 6.5.5–6.5.14, 9.1.1);
- 10) Map showing occurrences of red list species and red list ecosystems and habitat types;
- 11) Information on known capercaillie leks and nesting sites for birds of prey and owls (cf. 6.6.11);
- 12) Information and maps on watercourses, including information on spawning streams, and
- 13) Occurrences of European crayfish (*Astacus astacus*) and freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*).

**Note (continued):** Maps or overviews of the elements listed in a-l are mainly found in public databases and digital maps where this information is available (*Kilden\**, Artskart, Naturbase).

7.2.2 Plans and routines according to indicator 7.2.1 are documented and followed.

**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, and the frequency that they are assessed, are established for monitoring the progress towards each management objective.

**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 Plans and routines are continually revised and updated based on:

- 1) Results of internal and external audits;
- 2) Significant changes in the forest condition;
- 3) Results from dialogue with stakeholders and others;
- 4) New information in publicly available databases.

- 7.4.2 Plans and routines are in any case periodically revised at chosen intervals, and at least every 10 years, based on:
- 1) Evaluation of how plans and routines have contributed to meet the objectives of the Management Unit (cf. 8.1);
  - 2) New scientific and technical knowledge;
  - 3) Changes in environmental, social or economic circumstances;
  - 4) Assessment of the Conservation Areas Network (cf. 6.5.15-6.5.18).
- 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 in a format comprehensible to stakeholders including maps, and excluding confidential information, is made publicly available at no cost.
- 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.
- 7.5.3 Pursuant to the Environmental Information Act, environmental information is provided at no cost to stakeholders on request as soon as possible and no later than one month after the claim is received.
- 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 A procedure for proactive and transparent engagement with relevant stakeholders is designed in accordance with Indicator 4.2.3, adapted to the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities, and is available on request.

## **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 Based on the management plan's policies and management objectives, verifiable targets and their achievements are monitored and evaluated according to documented procedures.

**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 Organization is periodically at chosen intervals, but at least every 10 years, making an assessment of the environmental condition of the Management Unit, including clarifying the extent to which external influence or own activities have affected the environmental condition.

8.2.2 The Organization is periodically at chosen intervals, adapted to the size, intensity and risk of the management activities, making an evaluation of the social impacts of management activities, including working conditions, outdoor recreation\* interests, and indigenous peoples interests.

**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 analysed.

8.3.2 The analysis is used to revise the management plan and instructions, as per 7.4.

**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, in a format comprehensible to stakeholders including maps and excluding Confidential information, is easily accessible and publicly available at no cost.

**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 implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified. As part of that:

1) *Transaction verification\** is supported by providing FSC transaction data, as requested by the certification body;

2) Fibre testing is supported by surrendering samples and specimens of materials and information about species composition for verification, as requested by the certification body.

8.5.2 The following information about all products sold is compiled, documented, included in the sales invoices, and stored for a minimum of five years:

- 1) Name and address of seller and purchaser;
- 2) Date of sale;
- 3) Information to trace the material to the source of origin logging block;
- 4) Timber assortment and species by volume sold;
- 5) FSC certificate code for the Management Unit;
- 6) The FSC Claim "FSC 100%" identifying products sold as FSC certified (only relevant for FSC Certified products from the Management Unit ).

The Organization provides on request information on the logging date and products processed in the forest sold as FSC certified.



## **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 areas with the following High Conservation Values (HCV) is identified and assessed, using Best Available Information according to Annex E, documented and mapped:

- 1) Forests of international or national conservation value due to high concentration of important habitats, such as *key biotopes\**, and/or registered red list species, including *priority species\**, responsibility species, and *endemic species\** (HCV 1, HCV 3);
- 2) Larger contiguous (> 50 km<sup>2</sup>) forest areas with a more natural and untouched appearance than most other forest areas, including forest areas that include identified *Intact Forest Landscapes\** (IFL) (HCV 2);
- 3) National and internationally important *wetland\** areas (HCV 1, HCV 2, HCV 3);
- 4) National parks and nature reserves (HCV 1, HCV 2, HCV 3);

- 5) Landscape protection areas (HCV 6);
- 6) *Nature types\** and habitat types of national or international value, including *selected habitat types\** according to the Nature Diversity Act (HCV 3);
- 7) Forests with particularly old trees and high degree of ecological continuity (HCV 3);
- 8) Forests important for stopping or mitigating the risk for landslides or avalanches, or pollution of drinking water sources (HCV 4);
- 9) Mountain forest with rich occurrences of pendulous tree lichens available for reindeer grazing in the Sámi reindeer grazing districts (HCV 5);
- 10) Occurrences of *automatically protected\** archaeological and architectural monuments and sites, and cultural environments (cf. 4.7.1) (HCV 6).

**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 Threats to High Conservation Values are identified using Best Available Information.
- 9.2.2 In collaboration with experts, also taking into account input from relevant stakeholders, The Organization has developed effective strategies and guidelines on how to conserve and/or enhance the relevant values in HCV areas prior to management activities.
- 9.2.3 For Management Units above 1,000 hectares of *productive forest\**, The Organization develops effective strategies and guidelines on how to conserve and/or enhance the relevant values in HCV areas, prior to management activities, and through the engagement of relevant stakeholders.
- 9.2.4 *Intact Forest Landscapes\**, including IFL core areas, are protected as a part of the Conservation Areas Network of the Management Unit (cf. 6.5.7) and are strictly protected or have management strategies as outlined in 6.5.11.
- 9.2.5 To avoid fragmentation, a vast majority of each IFL are designated as Core areas and included and managed or protected as parts of the Conservation Areas Network in each affected Management Unit (cf. 6.5).

**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 Guidelines developed in accordance with 9.2 are effectively implemented in the forest management.
- 9.3.2 The strategies and guidelines prevent obvious or likely damage and avoid risks to identified High Conservation Values.

- 9.3.3 If an activity harming High Conservation Values is identified, the activity is immediately ceased, and measures to protect the relevant values and, where possible, repair of the damage are implemented.
- 9.3.4 *Legally protected areas\** and *selected habitat types\** are managed according to the Nature Diversity Act and relevant regulations, and in contact with the management authority.
- 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 A sufficiently detailed monitoring plan is developed, adapted to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, to discover changes in the High Conservation Values and High Conservation Value Areas, with focus on:
- 1) Changes in conditions as a result of the strategies/guidelines;
  - 2) Violations of management strategies;
  - 3) Maintenance and/or enhancement of High Conservation Values;
  - 4) Development of new management strategies for maintenance and/or enhancement of HCV areas if new knowledge or information about HCV occurs.
- 9.4.2 The monitoring program includes engagement with affected rights holders, affected and interested stakeholders and experts.
- 9.4.3 Monitoring is adapted to the monitoring carried out by public authorities where High Conservation Value Areas are formally protected in accordance with legislation and where the Norwegian Nature Inspectorate, or other public bodies, are responsible for the management and supervision.
- 9.4.4 Information from the monitoring referred to in 9.4.1 and 9.4.2 is used in the revision and follow-up of guidelines for the management and monitoring of High Conservation Values and High Conservation Value Areas.

## **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 Before harvesting, method to achieve timely and sufficient regeneration is considered and documented including *harvesting method\** and the potential of natural regeneration, as well as the need for *soil scarification\**.

10.1.2 In areas where natural regeneration is planned after harvesting, the *harvesting method\** is such that regeneration is established as quickly as possible.

10.1.3 If natural regeneration is not successful, supplementary planting or other silvicultural measures are implemented to achieve the regeneration requirements.

10.1.4 Areas where planting or sowing is planned after harvesting are planted or sown in a timely manner, at the latest within the timelines specified by the Forestry Act, paragraph 6.

**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 Species and provenances that are well adapted to the site for regeneration are used, and the natural genetic variation of the species is preserved.

10.2.2 Native species are used for forest regeneration.

10.2.3 At least 30 % of the forested area of the Management Unit consists of forests dominated by tree species naturally occurring at that site.

10.2.4 When the portion of naturally occurring tree species is lower than described in 10.2.3, The Organization develops a plan and implements activities to achieve the required portion.

10.2.5 Tree species replacement does not exceed 70 % of the forested area of the Management Unit and is only carried out in areas where a systematic and economically profitable tree species replacement has been carried out in the past and is associated with established road networks or *Hovedplan Veg\** plans.

10.2.6 Tree species replacement is not carried out in the following areas:

- 1) High Conservation Value Areas, or other areas where it is documented that the measure may damage or threaten High Conservation Values;
- 2) The *vegetation-type\** Scots pine mire woodlands in Western Norway;
- 3) The *vegetation-type\** swamp forest;
- 4) The *vegetation-type\** broadleaved thermophilous forest, except occasionally in bilberry-oak forest (cf. Guidance Note to 10.5.10);
- 5) The *vegetation-type\** floodplain forest;
- 6) The *vegetation-type\** rich and humid tall-herb birch forest with almost full under-growth of tall herbs and ferns (north of Mt. Saltfjellet);
- 7) The *vegetation-type\** tall-fern forest and bay willow thicket (*Salix pentandra*) in Northern Norway;
- 8) The *vegetation-type\** *calcareous forest\**;
- 9) Buffer zones along water courses;
- 10) Abandoned agricultural areas with special nature values;
- 11) *Threatened habitat types\** according to the Norwegian Red List for Ecosystems and Habitat types (in addition to the *nature types\** mentioned in a-m in this list);
- 12) Where it damages habitats with known occurrences of threatened species;
- 13) Within the Conservation Areas Network

10.2.7 The design of the plant fields is adapted to the landscape and emphasis is placed on creating smooth transitions to the surrounding areas.

10.2.8 In Western Norway and in Northern Norway north of Mt. Saltfjellet, The Organization develops a plan for the removal of economically unprofitable Norway spruce (cf. 10.2.5) where the species is not considered to be naturally occurring; Norway spruce stands with the risk of spreading into HCV areas are prioritized for removal.

**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 Exotic tree species are not used for regeneration.

10.3.2 A plan is developed, and measures implemented to reduce and remove exotic tree species in Management Unit where these tree species have been planted. Tree species and stands with a high risk of spread, as well as the risk of spread to HCV areas, are prioritised.

10.3.3 During regenerating after harvesting exotic tree species, natural regeneration from the previous forest stand is combated and trees are removed before producing seeds.

- 10.3.4 Spreading of invasive Alien species, where The Organization is responsible for introducing them in the Management Unit, is controlled and combated.

**Note:** Invasive Alien species in indicators 10.3.4 and 10.3.5 may for example apply to Indian balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), red-berried elder (*Sambucus racemosa*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) or other species that are not production tree species. Exotic tree species for wood production are treated in 10.2.4 and 10.3.2.

- 10.3.5 The Organization notifies the municipality and/or other relevant bodies and facilitates monitoring and implementation of control measures if The Organization itself is not responsible for introducing invasive Alien species in the Management Unit, or where dispersal takes place in neighbour Management Units.

**10.4 *The Organization\* shall not use genetically modified organisms\* in the Management Unit\*.***

- 10.4.1 Genetically modified plant material or other organisms (GMOs) are not used.

**10.5 *The Organization\* shall use silvicultural\* practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives\*.***

- 10.5.1 The size and arrangement of harvesting areas are adapted to the shapes and lines of the landscape.

- 10.5.2 In the young forest treatment and thinning emphasis is placed on utilizing the area's opportunities for quality production, that builds up stable forest stands, and provides a foundation for variation in harvesting and regeneration methods.

- 10.5.3 The Management Plan describes possible ways of achieving an increased portion of selective logging in relevant text and/or on maps.

**Note:** Increased portion of selective logging can be achieved, e.g. by identifying well-suited areas with reduced risk for windthrows.

- 10.5.4 If protective forests or other forest areas with special regulations exist within the management unit, any management activities undertaken (not just harvesting) are according to the legislation.

- 10.5.5 In mountain forests, priority is given to enhancing and maintaining *old forest\** characteristics.

- 10.5.6 To achieve the purpose of Indicator 10.5.5, selective logging methods (mountain forest harvests) are used as widely as possible in spruce-dominated forest, and small-scale clearcutting or smaller-scale seed-tree stands harvesting in pine-dominated forest.

- 10.5.7 In spruce-dominated forest, selective logging or small-scale clear cutting is used where the conditions are economically and biologically suitable.

**Note:** The requirement for using selective logging methods in spruce-dominated forest on firm ground is that good stability can be achieved for the remaining trees, and that the *harvesting method*\* provides a foundation for a satisfying regeneration with respect to the conditions at the site. Regarding harvesting in the *vegetation types*\* mire woodlands, swamp forests, and in transition zones towards firm ground, cf. indicator 10.5.8.

10.5.8 As far as possible regarding stability and regeneration of present tree species, selective logging is used in mire woodlands and swamp forests larger than 0.2 hectares, and in transition zones toward firm ground.

**Note:** If selective logging is impossible, small-scale clearcutting can be used. In forest management, emphasis is placed on safeguarding the ecological functions of all mire woodlands and swamp forests, regardless of size. Shrub vegetation is particularly important.

10.5.9 Pine forests are normally regenerated by means of seed-tree stand harvesting or other *harvesting methods*\* that facilitate natural regeneration.

**Note:** If a significant production gain can be achieved, pine can be planted or sown.

10.5.10 Selective logging methods are used in broadleaved thermophilous forest.

**Note:** Forestry activities can be implemented to cultivate Scots pine in bilberry-oak forest with low and medium site quality, where this increases the production.

10.5.11 All small trees of native species that are not of economic interest are saved during thinning and other harvesting activities, as long as they do not hinder forestry measures or inhibit future tree production.

**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 Fertilization is limited to areas where it can be documented that fertilization will give significant positive effects on increased tree production and minimal negative effects on nature diversity and water quality, and only to suitable areas with the *vegetation types*\* bog bilberry forest, cowberry forest, bilberry forest, small-fern forest or tall-fern forest, and former trenched areas with established *productive forests*\*.

10.6.2 The use of fertilizers is documented, including type, rates, date, site, and frequencies of application.

10.6.3 Fertilizers do not affect lakes, streams, rivers, mires, or the Conservation Areas Network, and a fertilizer -free zone of 25 meters is left to avoid runoffs.

**Note:** The requirement regarding streams applies to streams with continuous waterflow that, at mean temperature above freezing point, does not dry out by natural causes more often than once every decade on average (definition in the Water Resources Act).

- 10.6.4 Fertilization is usually conducted after the snow melting is complete, but if this is not feasible because of uneven or late snow melting, the fertilization is adjusted so that the risk of nutrient leakage is mitigated.
- 10.6.5 Damage to environmental values resulting from fertilizer use is mitigated or, if possible, repaired.
- 10.6.6 The Organization ensures that the Management Unit is managed in a way that maintains the natural processes and long-term production capacity of the soil; nutritional losses and nutrient leakage are minimized.
- 10.6.7 Spreading of ash in the forest is done according to the same rules for fertilization as those outlined in indicators 10.6.1-10.6.6.

**Note:** Spreading of ash to suitable forest areas, as a return of nutrients from wood combustion plants, can be conducted when legislation permits. Only ash with approved values for heavy metals can be spread in the forest.

- 10.6.8 Spreading of ash during breeding season is avoided.

**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.***

- 10.7.1 Integrated pest management, including selection of silviculture systems, is used to avoid, or aim to eliminate, the frequency, extent, and amount of chemical pesticide applications, and result in non-use or overall reductions in applications.
- 10.7.2 Pesticides that are prohibited by FSC-POL-30-001a and Norwegian legislation are not used or stored in the Management Unit.
- 10.7.3 The use of chemical pesticides is documented by The Organization in accordance with the required procedure described in FSC-POL-30-001 (including the requirements of Sub-Clause 6.1 of Clause 6 "Monitoring of the use of chemical pesticides and the impact of the FSC Pesticides Policy" and the ESRA framework, and by using the ESRA form of the policy).
- 10.7.4 The use of pesticides complies with the ILO document "Safety in the use of chemicals at work" regarding requirements for the transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for clean-up following accidental spillages.

**Note:** The use of pesticides additionally complies with the Working Environment Act and the Regulation relating to plant pesticides.



10.7.5 Spraying to prevent growth of grasses, herbs and leafy vegetation that prevents the desired regeneration, is avoided or reduced wherever possible.

**Note:** Spraying can occur when it is the only effective, practical and economical method to prevent the growth of grasses, herbs and leafy vegetation that prevents the desired regeneration. By varying harvesting and silvicultural methods, the use of pesticides is mitigated.

10.7.6 Spraying does not occur on vegetation taller than 2 meters on average, except when controlling and combating invasive Alien species.

10.7.7 Spraying does not occur closer than 25 meters from water, streams and rivers, as well as in other buffer zones and the Conservation Areas Network.

10.7.8 The selection of pesticide, application method and time of application minimizes the risk of damage to non-target species.

10.7.9 In widely used *outdoor recreation\** areas, emphasis is placed on ensuring that the landscape qualities and experience values linked with a varied range of deciduous trees are not significantly reduced by spraying.

10.7.10 Users of pesticides in the forestry have a personal spray certificate.

**Note:** The spray certificate (the official authorization) is given after completing mandatory training in accordance with the Regulation on plant pesticides, chapter III. The training has special emphasis on potential damage to environmental values and human health from pesticide use.

10.7.11 Damage to environmental values and human health from pesticide use is prevented and mitigated or repaired when damage occurs.

**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\**.**

10.8.1 The use of Biological control agents is minimized.

**Note:** Biological control agents are approved by the Norwegian Food Safety Authority in accordance with the Regulation on the use of plant control agents, chapter X. In forestry, this applies only the use of the fungus *Phlebiopsis gigantea* to hinder establishment of the rot fungus *Heterobasidium parviporum*. New control agents can only be approved after independent scientific assessments of biological and ecological implications and risks.

10.8.2 Use of Biological control agents complies with internationally accepted scientific protocols.

**Note:** The internationally accepted scientific protocols are also in accordance with respective requirements of the Norwegian Food Safety Authority.

10.8.3 The use of Biological control agents is recorded including type, quantity per area, period, location and reason for use.

10.8.4 Damage to environmental values caused by the use of Biological control agents is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs.

**10.9 The Organization\* shall assess risks\* and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from Natural Hazards\* proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk\*.**

10.9.1 Potential negative impacts of natural hazards such as forest fires, erosion, landslides, floods and storm-felling are assessed.

10.9.2 Forestry activity is in accordance with general precautions to forest fires and requirements according to the Fire and Explosion Protection Act.

10.9.3 Harvesting, choice of tree species and young forest treatment is adapted to the assessed risk of tree breakages due to heavy snow cover, storm-felling, landslides and other natural hazards.

**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.**

10.10.1 When planning and building forest roads, emphasis is placed on *outdoor recreation* \*, environmental values, and the danger of floods, erosion and landslides, in addition to forestry and other commercial land use.

10.10.2 The choice of route and road standards is planned so that there is as little disturbance of nature as possible. The alignment is adapted to the landscape as far as possible, and the road is constructed carefully in the terrain.

10.10.3 No obstacles are created for natural watercourses and fish migration.

10.10.4 Simple tractor routes, winter vehicle routes and other considerate transport means are prioritized in marginal forest areas with significant environmental and *outdoor recreation*\* interests.

10.10.5 When planning new road systems, The Organization documents that construction of roads in areas with registered special environmental values is avoided.

10.10.6 New road-systems are as far as possible avoided in larger contiguous forest areas with special values for environmental protection or *outdoor recreation* \*, and with few traces from technical infrastructure.

10.10.7 Off-road vehicle transport does not take place through the Conservation Areas Network, unless clarified in writing with a *forest biology expert*\*.

**Note:** Off-road transport through the Conservation Areas Network is possible if it is absolutely necessary to carry out planned conservation measures or if there is no other practical transport route; low impact service-related transport for other purposes can also be used.

10.10.8 Driving in buffer zones along mires, lakes, streams, and rivers, is avoided if there is an alternative.

10.10.9 In connection with off-road transport, emphasis is placed on avoiding unsightly driving damages, or damages which impede public traffic, or causes run-off and erosion.

10.10.10 When crossing rivers and streams with forest machinery, emphasis is placed on avoiding driving tracks which leads to erosion.

**Note:** An example of a preventive measure to avoid erosion is to build a temporary bridge.

10.10.11 Footpaths and ski trails, as well as roads of cultural interest, are not used as routes for motor vehicles if it is practically possible to avoid this, and damage to trails caused by vehicles is avoided.

**Note:** Exceptions can be decided if footpaths or skiing trails are placed in already existing transport routes, to avoid double routes or routes that will have a greater negative consequence for environmental values or *outdoor recreation*\*. Footpaths and skiing trails are per definition found in the map series N50 and are waymarked or clearly shown in the terrain.

10.10.12 In harvesting areas with poor load bearing capacity and a major risk for terrain damage caused by operations in summer, timber is preferably removed when the ground is frozen or thoroughly snow-covered.

10.10.13 Mitigation measures or ceasing of operations are considered where significant damage to the terrain is in danger of worsening.

10.10.14 Wheel-ruts causing runoff and erosion, damage to footpaths and skiing trails, and other significant damages, are repaired as soon as the moisture conditions make it practically possible, and once use of the routes are discontinued.

10.10.15 No damages caused by vehicles occur closer than 5 m from the outer edge of *automatically protected*\* monuments and sites and cultural environments (cf. also 4.7.2).

10.10.16 *Soil scarification*\* is only used when a significant benefit is documented, and the scarification covers no more than 70% of the operating area.

10.10.17 *Soil scarification*\* is adapted to the location and landscape with the currently best available method and technique, to limit the damage to the nature environment, reindeer husbandry and *outdoor recreation*\*, and to avoid increased runoff, erosion, and changes in drainage conditions.

10.10.18 Patch scarification is preferred, and if another method is used, continuous furrows do not exceed 6 meters in length and normally do not go deeper than 20 cm.

10.10.19 *Soil scarification*\* is not carried out:

- 1) In the *vegetation-types*\* mire woodlands, swamp forest and spring water forest;
- 2) In the *vegetation-types*\* *calcareous forest*\* and low-herb forest on calcareous ground;
- 3) In the *vegetation-type*\* tall-herb forest;
- 4) On lichen-covered ground with a humus-cover thinner than 3 cm and other lichen-covered forest grounds that are important for the reindeer husbandry;
- 5) In buffer zones;
- 6) Closer than 5 m from streams with continuous waterflow that, at mean temperature above freezing point, does not dry out by natural causes more often than once every decade on average (definition in the Water Resources Act);
- 7) Closer than 5 m from the outer border of *automatically protected*\* monuments and sites and cultural environments;
- 8) Within *automatically protected*\* cultural environments;
- 9) Closer than 2.5 m to frequently used tracks;
- 10) In the Conservation Areas Network;
- 11) In moist depressions and biologically important "small areas".

Areas in the categories a-k are clarified and documented before the *soil scarification*\* is implemented, and damage to coarse woody debris and snags is avoided.

**Note:** The requirement regarding dead wood does not apply to branches, treetops, and small sized timber.

10.10.20 Stump removal is only carried out based on approval by FSC Norge.

**10.11 *The Organization*\* shall manage activities associated with harvesting and extraction of timber and *non-timber forest products*\* so that *environmental values*\* are conserved, merchantable waste is reduced, and damage to other products and services is avoided.**

10.11.1 Harvesting practices optimize the use of forest products and merchantable materials.

10.11.2 Emphasis is placed on avoiding damage to regeneration, remaining forest and non-timber forest products during harvesting and transport of timber out of the forest.

**Note:** Examples of commercial non-timber forest products in Norway are forest grazing grounds for livestock and reindeer, heather nectar (for honey production), edible berries and mushrooms, game, peat moss (e.g. used for winter-storage of decorative or edible plants, or liquid absorbance), and star-tipped reindeer lichen (for decoration).

- 10.11.3 Wood waste is removed from streams, rivers, lakes, footpaths and skiing trails unless special circumstances dictate otherwise; the removal is carried out immediately after harvesting is completed.
- 10.11.4 In order to avoid unnecessary obstacles to public traffic, footpaths and skiing trails are cleared of wood waste as soon as practically possible during the harvest operation.

**10.12 *The Organization*\* shall dispose of *waste materials*\* in an environmentally appropriate manner.**

- 10.12.1 The Organization ensures that as little waste and emissions as possible are generated and that waste and emissions are handled according to the Pollution Act.
- 10.12.2 All types of waste from both manual and mechanical forestry activities are removed once work has been completed.
- 10.12.3 Hazardous waste such as oils, chemical fluids, batteries, fuel containers and similar is delivered to an approved waste reception, and anyone who performs work in the forest have routines to document this.
- 10.12.4 Best Available Technology (BAT) is preferred when selecting equipment and machinery for implementation of forestry activities on the basis of the risk of contamination and other serious environmental damage, and anyone who performs work in the forest have routines to document this.
- 10.12.5 Oil leaks are stopped. Spillages are reported according to The Pollution Act, and requirements from the authorities for repairing are followed.
- 10.12.6 Fuel is stored in correctly CE-marked (Conformité Européenne) and lockable tanks.
- 10.12.7 Fuel is not stored closer than 50 meters to drinking water sources, unless otherwise specified in local regulations.

## G Annexes

(Normative section)

**Table 5** Annexes to the FSS

Annex A	List of applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions, and agreements
Annex B	Training requirements for workers
Annex C	Guidelines for the Free, Prior and informed Consent (FPIC) process – a tool for good dialogue (FPIC methodology).
Annex D	Guidelines for processing unclarities and interest conflicts connected to FSC certified Management Units* in Norway.
Annex E	HCV Framework for Norway
Annex F	Glossary of terms

### **Annex A List of applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions, and agreements.**

**Table 6** List of applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions, and agreements

<b>1. Legal* rights to harvest</b>	
1.1 Land tenure* and management rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act on a national register for land information [Cadastre Act] (LOV-2005-06-17-101).</li> <li>• Act relating to reindeer husbandry [Reindeer husbandry Act] (LOV-2007-06-15-40).</li> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Act relating to bygd commons [Bygd commons Act] (LOV-1992-06-19-59).</li> <li>• Act relating to user rights to other persons property [Easement Act] (LOV-1968-11-29).</li> <li>• Act relating different questions about animal grazing [Grazing Act] (LOV-1961-06-16-12).</li> <li>• Act relating to legal relations and management of land and natural resources in the county of Finnmark [Finnmark Act] (LOV-2005-06-17-85).</li> <li>• Act relating to land consolidation [Land Consolidation Act] (LOV-2013-06-21-100).</li> <li>• Act relating to concession when acquiring of real estate [Concession Act] (LOV-2003-11-28-98).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to concession freedom (FOR-2003-12-08-1434).</li> <li>• Act relating to the allodial right [Allodial right Act] (LOV-1974-06-28-58).</li> <li>• Act relating to land [Land Act] (LOV-1995-05-12-23).</li> <li>• Act relating to river systems [River system Act] (LOV-1940-03-15-3).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to regulations of watercourses [Water Regulation Act] (LOV-1917-12-14-17).</li> <li>• Act relating to the generation, conversion, transmission, trading, distribution and use of energy etc. [Energy Act] (LOV-1990-06-29-50).</li> <li>• Act relating to the acquisition and extraction of mineral resources [Minerals Act] (LOV-2009-06-19-101).</li> <li>• Act relating to the registering of businesses [Business Enterprise Registration Act] (LOV-1985-06-21-78).</li> <li>• Act relating to tax from wealth and income [Taxation Act] (LOV-1999-03-26-14).</li> </ul>
1.2 Concession licenses	N/A
1.3 Management and harvesting planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593).</li> <li>• Regulation related to grants for forestry planning with environmental registrations (FOR-2004-02-04-449).</li> </ul>
1.4 Harvesting permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to forest management and forestry measures for the forest areas in Oslo and adjacent municipalities (FOR-2021-09-10-2698).</li> </ul>
<b>2. Taxes and fees</b>	
2.1 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to Forest Trust Fund (FOR-2006-07-03-881).</li> </ul>
2.2 Value added taxes and other sales taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to value added tax [VAT Act] (LOV-2009-06-19-58).</li> </ul>
2.3 Income and profit taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to tax from wealth and income [Taxation Act] (LOV-1999-03-26-14).</li> <li>• Act relating to annual accounts [Accounting Act] (LOV-1998-07-17-56).</li> </ul>
<b>3. Timber harvesting activities</b>	
3.1 Timber harvesting regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593).</li> <li>• Act relating to planning and the processing of building applications (the planning part) [Planning- and Building Act] (LOV-2008-06-27-71).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to planning and approving of roads related to agriculture (FOR-2015-05-28-550)</li> <li>• Regulation relating to risk assessments (FOR-2017-06-21-854).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to grants for business- or environmental measures in forestry (FOR-2004-02-04-447).</li> </ul>
3.2 Protected sites and species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593).</li> <li>• Act relating to the management of biological, geological and landscape diversity [Nature Diversity Act] (LOV-2009-06-19-100).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulation relating to selected nature types (FOR-2011-05-13-512).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to protection of threatened species (FOR-2001-12-21-1525).</li> <li>• Act relating to nature areas in Oslo and adjacent municipalities [Oslo Act] (LOV-2009-06-05-35).</li> <li>• Act relating to hunting and capture of game [Game Act] (LOV-1981-05-29-38).</li> <li>• Act related to Norwegian nature surveillance [Nature surveillance Act] (LOV-1996-06-21-38)</li> <li>• Regulation relating to management of large predators (FOR-2005-03-18-242).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to exercising game hunt and capturing (FOR-2002-03-22-313).</li> <li>• Regulations relating to each protected area according to the Nature Diversity Act (about 3 000 protected areas).</li> <li>• Regulations relating to each priority species (13 species).</li> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593).</li> <li>• Convention on Biological Diversity (05-06-1992 nr 1 Multilateral).</li> <li>• Convention on wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitat (02-02-1971 nr 1 Multilateral).</li> <li>• Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats (19-09-1979 nr 1 Multilateral).</li> </ul>
3.3 Environmental requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31)</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593)..</li> <li>• Regulation relating to forest tree seeds and forest tree plants (FOR-1996-03-01-291)</li> <li>• Act relating to the management of biological, geological and landscape diversity [Nature Diversity Act] (LOV-2009-06-19-100).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to alien organisms (FOR-2015-06-19-716).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to planting of foreign tree species for forestry purposes (FOR-2012-05-25-460).</li> <li>• Act relating to the right to environmental information and participation in decision-making processes relating to the environment [Environmental Information Act] (LOV-2003-05-09-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to the Appeal Committee for environmental information (FOR-2003-12-14-1572).</li> <li>• Act relating to the Cultural Heritage [Cultural Heritage Act] (LOV-1978-06-09-50).</li> <li>• Act relating to the production and use of genetically modified organisms, etc. [Gene Technology Act] (LOV-1993-04-02-38).</li> <li>• Act relating to Salmonids and Fresh-Water Fish etc. [Salmon and inland fisheries Act] (LOV-1992-05-15-47).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to physical measures in watercourses (FOR-2004-11-15-1468).</li> <li>• Act relating to the control of products and consumer services [Product Control Act] (LOV-1976-06-11-79).</li> <li>• Act relating to protection against pollution and on waste (LOV-1981-03-13-6)</li> <li>• Regulation relating to recirculation and treatment of waste</li> </ul>



	<p>(FOR-2004-06-01-930).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulation relating to warning of acute pollution (FOR-1992-07-09-1269).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to pollution restriction (FOR-2004-06-01-931).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to organic fertilizer products etc. (FOR-2003-07-04-951).</li> <li>• Act relating to food production and food safety etc. [Food Act] (LOV-2003-12-19-124).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to plant control agents (FOR-2015-05-06-455).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to water supply and drinking water (FOR-2016-12-22-1868).</li> <li>• Act relating to river systems and groundwater [Water Resources Act] (LOV-2000-11-24-82).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to framework for the water management (FOR-2006-12-15-1446).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to security at water constructions (FOR-2009-12-18-1600).</li> <li>• Act relating to the prevention of fire, explosion and accidents involving hazardous substances and the fire service [Fire and explosion protection Act] (LOV-2002-06-14-20)</li> <li>• Regulation relating to treatment of flammable, reactive and high pressure impregnated materials, as well as equipment and constructions used for the treatment (FOR-2009-06-08-602).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to fire prevention (FOR-2015-12-17-1710).</li> <li>• Act relating to motor traffic on uncultivated land and in watercourses [Motor traffic Act] (LOV-1977-06-10-82).</li> <li>• Act relating to outdoor recreation [Outdoor recreation Act] (LOV-1957-06-28-16).</li> </ul>
3.4 Health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to working environment, working hours and employment protection, etc. [Working Environment Act] (LOV-2005-06-17-62).</li> <li>• Act relating to industrial injury insurance [Injury Insurance Act] (LOV-1989-06-16-65).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to systematic health-, environment- and security-work in enterprises (FOR-1996-12-06-1127).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to organizing of leadership and involvement (FOR-2011-12-06-1355).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to design and appliance of jobs and working locations (FOR-2011-12-06-1356).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to work execution, use of working equipment and belonging technical demands (FOR-2011-12-06-1357).</li> <li>• Act relating to food production and food safety etc. [Food Act] (LOV-2003-12-19-124).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to plant control agents (FOR-2015-05-06-455).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to water supply and drinking water (FOR-2016-12-22-1868).</li> </ul>
3.5 Legal* employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to working environment, working hours and employment protection etc. [Working Environment Act] (LOV-2005-06-17-62)</li> <li>• Act relating to equality and a prohibition against discrimination [Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act] (LOV-2017-06-16-51).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to individual pension scheme [Individual pension scheme Act] (LOV-2008-06-27-62).</li> <li>• Act relating to the entry of foreign nationals into the Kingdom and their presence in the realm [The Immigration Act] (LOV-2008-05-15-35).</li> <li>• Act relating to industrial injury insurance [Injury Insurance Act] (LOV-1989-06-16-65)</li> <li>• Act relating to national insurance [National insurance Act] (LOV-1997-02-28-19)</li> <li>• Act relating to limited liability companies [Limited liability companies Act] (LOV-1997-06-13-44).</li> <li>• ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights.</li> <li>• Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87).</li> </ul> <p><b>ILO Core Conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1951 (No. 98).</li> <li>• Forced Labour Convention, 2016 (No. 29).</li> <li>• Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1959 (No. 105).</li> <li>• Minimum Age Convention, 1976 (No. 138).</li> <li>• Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 2002 (No. 182).</li> <li>• Equal Remuneration Convention, 1953 (No. 100).</li> <li>• Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1960 (No. 111).</li> </ul>
<b>4. Third parties' rights</b>	
4.1 Customary rights*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to reindeer husbandry [Reindeer husbandry Act] (LOV-2007-06-15-40).</li> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to sustainable forestry (FOR-2006-06-07-593).</li> <li>• Act relating to outdoor recreation [Outdoor recreation Act] (LOV-1957-06-28-16).</li> <li>• Act relating to legal relations and management of land and natural resources in the county of Finnmark [Finnmark Act] (LOV-2005-06-17-85).</li> <li>• Act relating to user rights to other persons property [Easements Act] (LOV-1968-11-29).</li> <li>• Act relating to bygd commons [Bygd Commons Act] (LOV-1992-06-19-59).</li> <li>• Act relating different questions about animal grazing [Grazing Act] (LOV-1961-06-16-12).</li> </ul>
4.2 Free Prior and Informed Consent*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (ILO Convention No. 169) (27-06-1989 nr 2 Multilateral).</li> <li>• United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).</li> </ul>
4.3 Indigenous Peoples** rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to planning and the processing of building applications (the planning part) [Planning- and Building Act] (LOV-2008-06-27-71).</li> <li>• Act relating to the Sámi Parliament and other Sámi legal matters [Sámi Act] (LOV-1987-06-12-56).</li> <li>• Act relating to the Cultural Heritage [Cultural Heritage Act] (LOV-1978-06-09-50).</li> <li>• Act relating to reindeer husbandry [Reindeer husbandry Act] (LOV-2007-06-15-40).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Act relating to the management of biological, geological and landscape diversity [Nature Diversity Act] (LOV-2009-06-19-100).</li> <li>• Act relating to legal relations and management of land and natural resources in the county of Finnmark [Finnmark Act] (LOV-2005-06-17-85).</li> <li>• Act relating to the strengthen of human rights position in Norwegian law [Human rights Act] (LOV-1999-05-21-30).</li> <li>• Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (ILO Convention No. 169) (27-06-1989 nr 2 Multilateral).</li> <li>• United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).</li> </ul>
<b>5. Trade and transport</b> <b>NOTE:</b> This section covers requirements for forest* management operations as well as processing and trade.	
5.1 Classification of species, quantities, qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to Forest Trust Fund (FOR-2006-07-03-881).</li> </ul>
5.2 Trade and transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulation relating to use of vehicles (FOR-1990-01-25-92).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to use class, legal total weight and legal total length of trailers for normal transport, timber transport and driving with module trucks on state roads (FOR-2021-10-06-2970).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to use class, legal length of trailers, and the road-list for special-transport on state roads (FOR-2021-10-06-2960).</li> <li>• Act concerning implementation and enforcement of the competition rules of the EEA Agreement [The EEA Competition Act] (LOV-2004-03-05-11).</li> <li>• Act on competition between undertakings and control of concentrations [Competition Act] (LOV-2004-03-05-12).</li> </ul>
5.3 Offshore trading and transfer pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to tax from wealth and income [Taxation Act] (LOV-1999-03-26-14).</li> <li>• Act relating to import and export regulations [Import and export regulations Act] (LOV-1997-06-06-32).</li> <li>• Act relating to implementation in Norwegian law of the main part of agreement relating to the European Economic Area (EEA) etc. [EEA Act] (LOV-1992-11-27-109).</li> <li>• Act concerning implementation and enforcement of the competition rules of the EEA Agreement [The EEA Competition Act] (LOV-2004-03-05-11).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to trade of timber with Norwegian origin (FOR-2015-04-24-403).</li> </ul>
5.4 Custom regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to customs and movements of goods [Custom Act] (LOV-2007-12-21-119).</li> </ul>
5.5 CITES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulation relating to import and export, possession etc. of threatened species of wild fauna and flora (FOR-2018-06-15-889).</li> </ul>

<b>6. Due diligence / due care</b>	
6.1 Due diligence / due care procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to forestry [Forestry Act] (LOV-2005-05-27-31)</li> <li>• Regulation relating to trade of timber with Norwegian origin (FOR-2015-04-24-403)</li> <li>• EU timber regulation – EUTR (2015).</li> </ul>
<b>7. Ecosystem Services</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act relating to river systems and groundwater [Water resources Act] (LOV-2000-11-24-82).</li> <li>• Regulation relating to water supply and drinking water (FOR-2016-12-22-1868).</li> <li>• Regulations relating to protective forest for each municipality or county.</li> </ul>

## Annex B Training requirements for workers

The list of training requirements in this Annex is intended for those workers with specific job responsibilities related to the implementation of the Standard.

*Workers\* shall\** be able to:

- 1) Implement forest activities to comply with applicable legal requirements (Criterion 1.5);
- 2) Understand the content, meaning and applicability of the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions (Criterion 2.1);
- 3) Recognize and report on instances of sexual harassment and gender discrimination (Criterion 2.2);
- 4) Safely handle and dispose of hazardous substances to ensure that use does not pose health risks (Criterion 2.3);
- 5) Carry out their responsibilities for particularly dangerous jobs or jobs entailing a special responsibility (Criterion 2.5);
- 6) Identify where Indigenous Peoples have legal and customary rights related to management activities (Criterion 3.2);
- 7) Identify and implement applicable elements of UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169 (Criterion\* 3.4);
- 8) Identify sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance to Indigenous Peoples and implement the necessary measures to protect them before the start of forest management activities to avoid negative impacts (Criterion 3.5 and Criterion 4.7);
- 9) Identify where local communities have legal and customary rights related to management activities (Criterion 4.2);
- 10) Carry out social, economic and *environmental impact assessments\** and develop appropriate mitigation measures (Criterion\* 4.5);
- 11) Implement activities related to the maintenance and/or enhancement of declared ecosystem services\* (Criterion\* 5.1);
- 12) Handle, apply and store pesticides\* (Criterion\* 10.7); and
- 13) Implement procedures for cleaning up spills of waste materials\* (Criterion\* 10.12).

## **Annex C Guidelines for the Free, Prior and informed Consent (FPIC) process – a tool for good dialogue (FPIC-methodology)**

The FSC Principle 3 covers Indigenous Peoples rights and is meant to secure and uphold the indigenous peoples rights in accordance to the FSC guidelines for FPIC<sup>2</sup>, national legislation and international conventions and declarations<sup>3</sup>. This guide is designed to cover the requirements in the FSC International Generic Indicators (IGI)<sup>4</sup>, which is the standard for the development of Indicators for forest management standards<sup>5</sup>. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is further explained in the In-depth explanation of the FPIC principle below.

The guide is designed to help The Organization\* to fulfil the requirement to secure the Sámi reindeer herders right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC). The implementation of the FPIC also means that The Organization\* adapts to FSC's policies and procedures.

FPIC is, among other things, used for handling cases where different rights holders have equal rights to commercial, and other activities in the same areas, in our case limited to forestry and Sámi reindeer husbandry. The rights holders may in agreement decide how, and to what extent, they wish to follow the guidelines, a process aided by establishing a good relation between the parties. The process, as described below may seem comprehensive, but it is important as some of the steps are covering the initial communication, establishment of an active dialogue and collecting data. The participants need to agree on the design of the decision-making process, and some of the steps may be adjusted according to needs. FPIC is mandatory in the reindeer grazing districts (Figure 2), and this guide is a tool for the implementation of FPIC. The Organization\* may incorporate and adapt the FPIC process to fit their own routines to make it more user friendly, as long as it covers the different elements of an FPIC process and fulfils the requirements for FPIC in the FSC standards.

FPIC is a new principle to be introduced in Norwegian forestry. As the rights holders/the parties have no practical experience, it has been decided that this guide shall be revised and, if necessary, adjusted within 2 years from publication.

### *The use of Free, prior and informed consent in FSC-certified management units in Norway*

In accordance with FPIC requirements, in the FSC standard, The Organization\* shall invite the Sámi reindeer herders with rights within the management unit to a formal and regular dialogue. The content of the dialogues shall cover relevant topics and professions, and the aim of the dialogue is to openly discuss forestry activities and to find good solutions between the rights holders to prevent potential conflicts.

The rights holders shall openly discuss how forestry activities may affect/impact reindeer husbandry, and vice versa, and the rights holders shall include the consented forestry activities in a formalized agreement. In dialogue, the parties can decide on alternative solutions or mitigation measures to safeguard vulnerable sites (see Table 3). Ultimately, the reindeer herders may, when they have a clear and professional justification, choose to withhold their consent to the planned forestry activities. This should be linked to activities with obvious, long-term and negative impact on reindeer

<sup>2</sup> FSC-GUI-30-003 V2-0 EN FPIC, FSC guidelines for the implementation of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

<sup>3</sup> Particularly the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) that Norway voted for on 13. September 2017, the ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous Peoples rights, the International Conventions on Civil and Political Rights, Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and FNs Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Norway has ratified these Conventions.

<sup>4</sup> FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0 EN, International Generic Indicators.

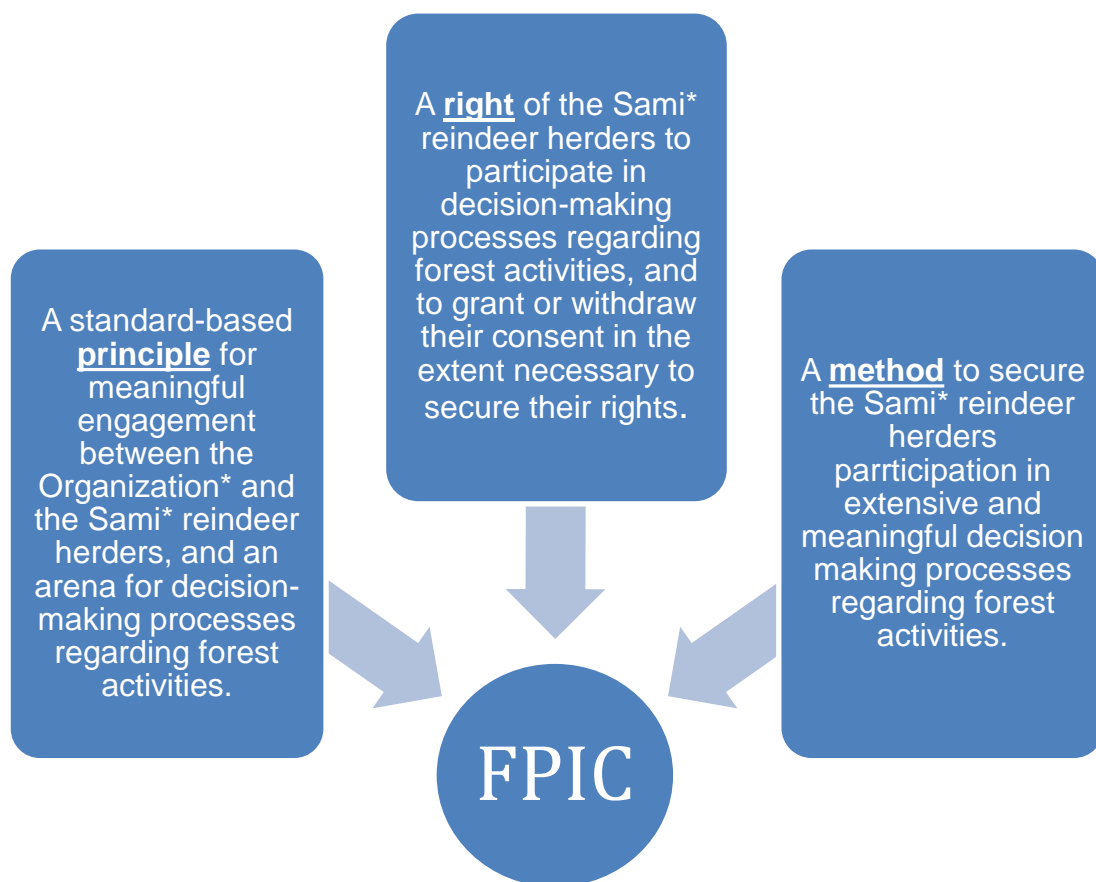
<sup>5</sup> See the Norwegian FSC Standard, Principle 3 and the definition of FPIC in the standard's glossary

husbandry. The conflict resolution mechanism, as described in annex D, is used when the rights holders are not able to reach an agreement through the FPIC decision-making process.

Forestry activities cannot be implemented in areas where disputes exist until the rights holders have reached an agreement.

FPIC is a principle, right and method to ensure that the Sámi are informed in advance, and able to freely participate as an equal party in decision-making processes about activities that may affect their use and access to resources and land, and their way of life and culture (Figure 1). FPIC requires that identified rights are respected and recognized. The process shall contribute to a common use and utilization of land and resources at a landscape level.

There has not yet been established a body to supervise the training and management of FPIC methodology at the national level.



**Figure 1:** Schematic illustration of the FPIC principles.

**Forestry activities that require Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) (cf. Indicator 3.2.3):**

- Clear cuttings larger than 3 hectares of forest\* with significant\* occurrences of pendulous tree lichens in grazing height;
- Clear cuttings larger than 10 hectares of forest\* rich in ground dwelling lichens (the vegetation type\* lichen woodland);
- Clear cuttings larger than 10 hectares which affects sites listed in indicator\* 3.5.1;
- Fertilization of areas rich in ground dwelling lichens (the vegetation type\* lichen woodland).

**Regarding construction of new roads (cf. Indicator 3.2.4):**

The representatives of the reindeer husbandry interests receive a copy of the application to build a road if The Organization\* is applying for the construction of a new forest\* road. The representatives of reindeer husbandry interests may demand an FPIC process if they have objections to the application (cf. 3.5.1); any claims are submitted no later than 3 weeks after a copy of the application has been received from The Organization\*.

**The following sites are examples of areas that may be protected from negative impacts by the Sámi reindeer herders via a FPIC process (cf. Indicator 3.5.1 and 3.5.2):**

- Automatically protected\* Sámi cultural heritage sites from 1917 or older (cf. the Cultural Heritage Act);
- Migration and moving routes for the reindeer;
- Gathering areas for reindeer;
- Difficult passages for migrating reindeer;
- Areas important for pendulous tree lichens;
- Grazing paddocks;
- Calving areas;
- Sámi sacred sites, sacrificial sites, burial sites, culturally important trails and other places of special cultural-historical significance.

*Proposed guidelines for the implementation of FPIC*

The following guidelines can be used to design and implement a FPIC process applicable to forestry activities within the Sámi grazing district, as long as all the elements of the guidelines are covered.

The guidelines are divided into six main steps covering the FPIC process from the initial preparations and dialogue to the formalization of agreements. It may not be necessary to always go through all the elements in every meeting. The relevance of the different elements will depend on the agreed decision-making process, meeting agenda and the stage of the process. For instance, the first step covers the preparatory work, collection of information, and the initial communication and dialogue with the Sámi about their participation in the FPIC process. The six steps are also not fixed, and the order of the steps, the design of the FPIC process and the review frequency<sup>6</sup> of the different steps shall be decided on in agreement with the Sámi.

<sup>6</sup> There might be a need for a more significant revision of the FPIC process if key conditions are changed, such as administrative changes (boundary adjustments, real estate transfer), technical disturbances, or if changes in standards or routines make this necessary (cf. step 6).



## Step 1: Preparatory work

The Organization\* should go through the following elements (checklist) prior to contacting the Sámi with the right to herd reindeers within the management unit.

<i>Elements of Step 1</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> The management unit is situated within a reindeer grazing district or (partly) overlaps with it</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> The Sámi reindeer herders that may be affected by forestry activities in the management unit are identified through their reindeer grazing district (see Indicator 3.1.1)</li></ul> <p>The following important basic data is collected and compiled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Forest resources in the management unit</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Maps showing registered sites of special importance for the Sámi (cf. Indicator 3.5.1, see Textbox 1)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> ICL<sup>7</sup> in the management unit (cf. Indicator 3.1.2)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Forestry activities that require an FPIC process (cf. Indicator 3.2.3, see Table 3) and the impact these forestry activities may have on the rights of the Sámi (cf. Indicator 3.5.1, see Table 3) have been thought through</li></ul>

## Step 2: Initial communication

A meeting with the Sámi representative is scheduled well ahead of time, and all necessary information is made available. It is important that both parties participating in the meeting have a mandate to make decisions on behalf of the rights holders.

<i>Elements of Step 2</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> The reindeer grazing district is contacted and the representative for the rights holders, and contact person for the further engagement and dialogue, are identified</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> The Sámi representative is contacted, a meeting suitable regarding time and location for both parties has been agreed on, and the purpose of the meeting has been clarified</li></ul> <p>The following information is shared according to the agreement and well in advance of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> A description of FSC and FPIC</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> The collected basic data (cf. Step 1)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> A description of the forestry activities that require an FPIC process and how these activities might affect the rights of the Sámi (cf. Indicator 3.2.3, see Table 5).</li></ul> <p>The following information is shared according to an agreement when adjusting or renewing an existing agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> A summary of the forestry activities implemented since the last meeting</li></ul>

<sup>7</sup> ICL (Indigenous Cultural Landscapes): See the glossary.

- A description of how the earlier agreed measures and safeguards have been implemented and documented
- Changes in the earlier compiled relevant basic data (cf. 3.5.1, see Table 3)

**Step 3: Active dialogue – First meeting and designing the decision-making process for the further dialogue**

At the first meeting, an agreement is made concerning the design of the decision-making process for the further dialogue and communication, as well as how to record the process and final agreements. The meeting is held at a place suitable for both parties<sup>8</sup>.

*Elements of Step 3 (tick when completed/mapped)*

The following elements are reviewed and understood by the representatives of reindeer grazing district:

- The description of FSC and FPIC
- Why they have been contacted and the purpose of the further dialogue
- Any needs for additional information or explanations
- The parties' opportunity to continue their participation in the process regarding the choice of meeting venue, time and progress etc.

The following elements are reviewed and agreed on:

- It is decided how often (or in which circumstances) there is a need for meetings, and how future meetings and communication should be arranged
- It is agreed how to exchange information (cf. Indicator 3.2.1, bullet d)
- It is decided how meetings, agreements and feedback shall be recorded and reviewed
- It is agreed how conflicts are handled if they occur (cf. Indicator 3.1.2 and Annex D)
- It is decided by the Sami\* rights holders whether they agree to continue the dialogue and cooperation, or not.

<sup>8</sup> It is important to understand each others' work flows, and to find good solutions for how to best implement the FPIC process.

#### Step 4: Active dialogue – Interactive mapping and forestry activities

The pre-submitted data and the descriptions of planned, or possible, forestry activities should be reviewed together between the parties to further map and get a common overview of the management unit. The extent of the consent may range from a general to a case-by-case based acceptance and to a consent not given. The consent may for example cover all forestry activities, all presented forestry activities, specific activities, certain forest areas within the management unit, adapted activities, or conditionally with the implementation of additional safeguards.

##### *Elements of Step 4*

The following elements are reviewed and understood:

- The basic data and any changes since the last meeting (cf. Indicator 3.5.1, see Table 3)
- A description of how agreed activities, mitigations and safeguards have been implemented and documented
- A description of the forestry activities that requires an FPIC process (cf. Indicator 3.2.3, see Table 3) and how these forestry activities may affect the rights of the Sámi (cf. Indicator 3.5.1, see Table 3)
- Executed forestry activities implemented in accordance to agreements settled in previous meetings
- The forest owner receives, based on information provided by the Sámi, an update on how the different areas are valued and used in the reindeer husbandry (cf. Indicator 3.2.2)
- Maps are updated according to received information on inaccuracy or inadequate mapping
- Overview of, if any, areas where the rights of the Sámi reindeer herders are contested (cf. Indicator 3.1.2)
- The possible impacts of forestry activities on Sámi reindeer herders' activities are discussed and feedbacks collected
- Whether previous agreements are maintained and any needs for adjustments before renewal are assessed and discussed
- Agreed forestry activities are documented and, if decided, marked on maps
- Disagreements related to forestry activities are documented and, if decided, marked on maps.

## Step 5: Written agreement

The consent agreement is formalized either as a written formal agreement or, if the parties find it sufficient, in the form of a mutually approved meeting minute. The agreement shall include a clear overview of the agreed forestry activities as well as disagreements, as described in step 4.

<i>Elements of Step 5</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> A written and binding agreement is formalized in accordance to the agreed decision-making process</li></ul> <p>The agreement shall include, if not otherwise agreed, the following elements (cf. Indicator 3.3.1 and 3.3.2, see step 3 and step 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Its duration, provisions for re-negotiation, renewal and termination</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> The process for further communication, exchange of information and meeting activity</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> A written record of feedbacks, decisions and agreements</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Economic conditions (applies to compensation for mitigation measures) or any other additional terms</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> The approval/signature from both parties.</li></ul>

## Step 6: Adjustments and renewal of consent agreements

Forestry activities that require an FPIC process can only be implemented in accordance with agreements established between the rights holders (see Table 3). A current agreement needs to be adjusted or renewed if the planned forestry activities are changed, or when planning to carry out activities not covered by any agreement. The FPIC decision-making process should be followed when adjusting or renewing an existing agreement. The FPIC process can be limited to the relevant steps and elements in accordance with conditions set in the decision-making process and dialogue.

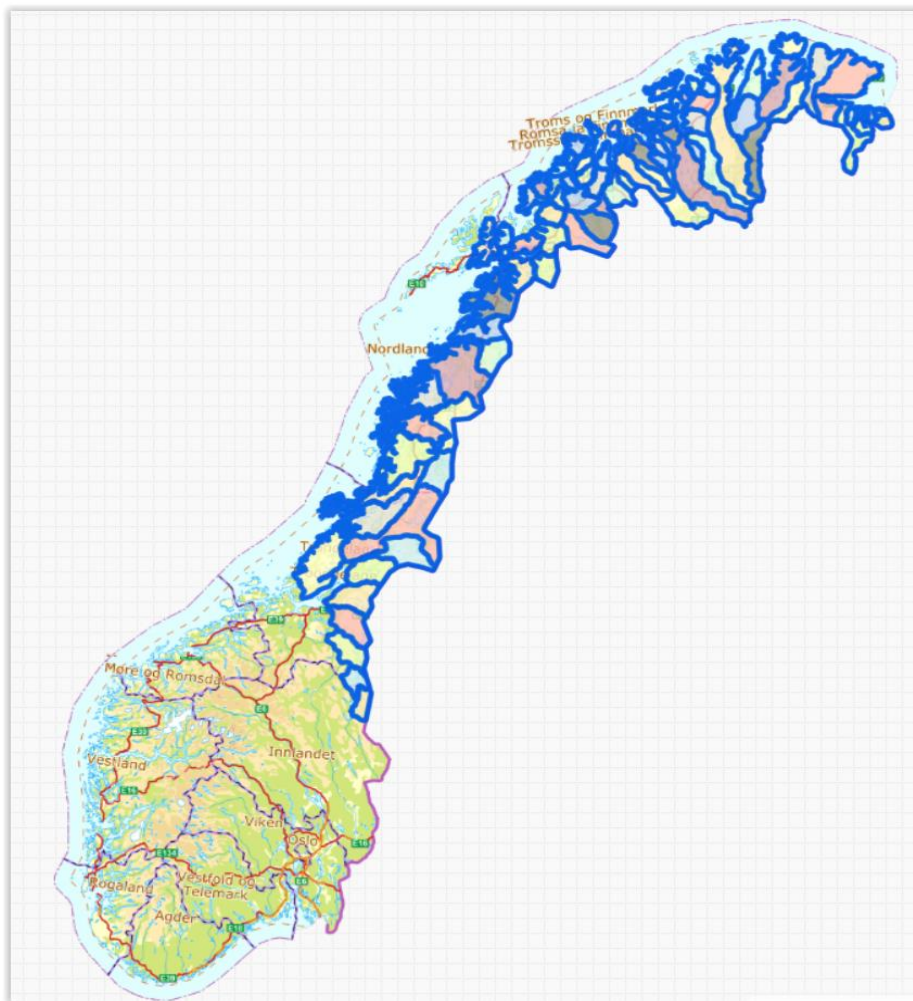
There are several other reasons for the need to renew or adjust an established agreement in addition to the need to obtain a prior consent for new forestry activities. The agreement shall for example be renewed or extended when the existing agreement terminates. It is also necessary to adjust or renew agreements if the conditions are not met, when new knowledge needs to be assessed (cf. Indicator 3.5.3), or when FSC standards, laws, regulations or public decisions that may have an effect on agreements are updated or changed.

## *In-depth explanation of the FPIC principle*

### *Introduction – FPIC in an international perspective*

The right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is seen as one of the key principles of international human rights law and the rights of Indigenous peoples. This is properly explained in the document *Free, prior and informed consent: a human rights-based approach (A/HRC/39/62)* from UNs Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), (eleventh session, 2018).

FPIC is a human rights norm, based on many types of universally accepted human rights such as the right to cultural integrity, the right to equality and the right to property, as set in the international Conventions on Civil and Political Rights, UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and UN Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Norway has ratified all these conventions and they are therefore binding. The Norwegian Human Rights Act, section 3, reads “The provisions of the conventions and protocols mentioned in section 2 shall take precedence over any other legislative provisions that conflict with them”. This is meant to protect the legal and customary rights of Indigenous Peoples, and to prevent further destruction of their lives, cultures and livelihoods.



**Figure 2.** Map of the 82 Sámi reindeer grazing districts in northern Norway (source: Kilden.no).

Increasingly, FPIC is also seen as a right for indigenous people to protect themselves from significant impact on their resources and territories for which they can make a justified claim of long and established use. Obtaining the FPIC of indigenous peoples, before undertaking forestry operations on lands they legally or customarily own and/or use, is therefore an important requirement in the new FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Management. In Norway, the Sámi reindeer herders within the reindeer grazing districts (Figure 2) fulfil these requirements, and their rights and the right to FPIC shall be respected in FSC certified forest management.

#### *What is FPIC?*

FSC's definition of FPIC (Free, Prior, and Informed Consent) is "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." (FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0 EN).

FSC's definition of Customary rights is "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." (FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0 EN).

In Norway, FSC's definition of FPIC pictures something that might seem both foreign and obvious. FSC's policy shall apply to anyone who applies the standard, regardless of political climate or common views. Very few disputes between reindeer husbandry and forestry have occurred in Norway, and one of the main goals of the FPIC process shall therefore be to continue, develop and document the good relations in a functional and effective manner.

The right to FPIC includes that the customary rights of the Sámi reindeer herders give them the right to say "Yes" or "No" to forestry activities, based on a well-informed judgement. FPIC is based on good relationships and respect for each other's livelihoods. A "Yes" or "No" from the Sámi reindeer herders shall be strongly justified and knowledge based. FPIC is a tool to prevent potential future conflicts.

It is the FSC-certified management unit, represented by The Organization\*, who is the responsible initiator of the FPIC process. The latter is implemented in accordance with the FPIC decision-making process included in the forest owners' management plan.

#### *Description of the different elements of the FPIC principle (Free, Prior and Informed Consent)<sup>9</sup>*

##### **Free** means:

The Organization\* ensures that the Sámi reindeer herders are able to freely participate in decision-making processes about forestry activities. "Free" refers to a process:

- Without force, threats, or manipulation;
- Without discrimination;
- There is sufficient capacity to participate in the FPIC process;
- Meetings with Sámi reindeer herders are held at agreed locations.

<sup>9</sup> For further details, see FSC-GUI-30-003 V2.0 EN *FSC Guidelines for the Implementation of the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent*.

**Prior** means:

The Organization\* ensures:

- Early participation (prior) of the reindeer grazing district/rights holders
  - Before all decisions are made;
  - Before the implementation of forestry activities in accordance with the FSC standard;
- Early formation of an agreed decision-making process.

**Informed** means:

The Organization\* provides sufficient information about the planned forestry activities for the Sámi rights holders to make their own informed decisions.

The information shall be culturally adapted, i.e. contain:

- Maps and descriptions showing where the planned activities will be implemented;
- Considerations towards traditional knowledge;
- Respect for social values;
- Adaptations to appropriate language, if required;
- Description of both positive and negative impacts from forestry activities – economic, social, environmental and cultural.

**Consent** means:

The Organization\* ensures:

- The consent from the Sámi rights holders – “Yes” or “No”, or a modified agreement. Consent is not the same as engagement and consultation.
- The consent if formalized in a binding agreement
- The right to say “Yes” or “No” is not final – the consent may change when conditions change.

The FPIC process is primarily included in Principle 3 (see the FSC standard, particularly Indicators 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.6, 3.2.7, 3.3.1, 3.5.1, 3.5.2 and 3.6.1), but is also relevant to other parts of the standard even if not directly indicated.

## References

This section includes important documents needed to understand and adapt the FPIC process. The latest editions of the referenced documents (including any amendments) apply. The documents can be downloaded from <https://fsc.org/en/document-centre>:

FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0 EN International Generic Indicators

FSC-STD-01-003 (V1-0) EN SLIMF Eligibility Criteria

FSC-STD-20-007 (V3-0) EN Forest Management Evaluations

FSC-STD-20-006 (V3-0) EN Stakeholder Consultation for Forest Evaluations

FSC-STD-30-005 (V1-1) EN FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups

FSC-GUI-30-003 (V2-0) FSC guidelines for the implementation of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)

FSC-GUI-60-002 (V1-0) Guideline for Standard Developers for addressing risk of unacceptable activities in regard to scale and intensity

FSC-PRO-30-006 V1-0 EN Ecosystem Services Procedure

FSC-STD-30-010 (V2-0) EN FSC Controlled Wood Standard for Forest Management Enterprises

HCV Network: Common Guidance for the Identification of High Conservation Values (2013); Policy Motion 65 (2014)

Norway NRA FSC-NRA-NO V1-0. FSC National Risk Assessment for Norway. Controlled Wood Risk Assessment (2018).

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, EMRIP, in the document «Free, prior and informed consent: a human rights-based approach» (A/HRC/39/62).



## **Annex D Guidelines for processing unclarities and interest conflicts connected to FSC certified Management Units\* in Norway.**

*Categories of conflicts and how to organize the complaint processes.*

Disputes\*, and how to address these, are mentioned in Principle\* 1 *Compliance with Laws*, Principle\* 3 *Indigenous peoples' Rights*, and Principle\* 4 *Community Relations* in the FSC International Generic Indicators\* (IGI), and in Criteria\* 1.6, 2.6, 3.1, 3.2 and 4.6 in the Norwegian FSC standard.

There might arise both confusions about how the requirements of the standard should be understood, and interest conflicts between the different parties and rights holders, associated with the running and management of the Management Unit. It is important to have established a commonly agreed procedure and mechanism for resolving conflicts in a cost-efficient manner that meets FSC requirements before conflicts arise.

If needed, for resolving conflicts relating to the interpretation of FSC's international normative framework, help of FSC's Performance and Standards unit (PSU) could be sought.

Conflicts related to the interpretation of requirements of this FSS shall be dealt with first at the national level in coordination with FSC Norge. If this Organization is unable from taking decisions, the final authority for FSC dispute resolution rests with the Director General of FSC (FSC-PRO-01-008 v2-0).

Conflicts may arise where other than landowners have rights to commercial use of lands and resources. A typical example of this type of rights are grazing rights, which includes the Sámi reindeer herders' legal\* right to use resources and lands to which they do not have a formal property right through land titles.

Conflicts can be divided into 2 main categories:

### 1) *Formal rights*

- Disagreement related to interpretation of legal\* rights, both national and international, or property documentation
- Boundary disputes\*.

### 2) *Interest Conflicts*

- Disagreements about the degree to which the parties need to consider the interests of the others
- Various interpretations of the FSC standards requirements and commitments towards these.

In general, all conflicts should be settled at the lowest possible level. All discovered conflicts need to be followed up. The first step, regardless of category, is to try to solve it through communication between the parties through active dialogue and, if applicable, the FPIC process (cf. Annex C).

If the parties fail resolving the conflict at the lowest possible level, the following procedures are followed:

Category 1 conflicts (formal conflicts) are settled in court, either the ordinary court or the land consolidation court. These conflicts do not influence the FSC certification. The legal\* rights of The Organizations\* and reindeer husbandry regulate the certification requirements.

Indigenous peoples\* rights have a strong position in FSC. The provisions referenced throughout ILO 169 and UNDRIP shall be emphasized even if the content has not been fully implemented in national legislation. It might be necessary to handle formal conflicts as interest conflicts (category 2) where this is the case, and the courts do not have the jurisdiction to settle the conflict.

The settling of category 2 conflicts, in contrast to category 1 conflicts, can be steered by the certification requirements. The interest conflict can often involve the correct interpretation of certification requirements, in relation to each specific issue. The next step in resolving category 2 conflicts is to clarify the content of the conflict in question with The Organization\*.

If the conflict is not settled through the involvement of The Organization\*, then the next step would be to involve The Organization's certification body. The latter can assist in the correct interpretation of respective FSC requirements.

Some conflicts may be more characterized by conflicting interests, and where the solution might be to find the sufficient balance between interests for the specific issue, more than the correct interpretation of the certification requirements. The steps to resolve these types of conflicts, and the conflicts not resolved by involving the certification body, can be divided into two different alternatives:

Principal conflicts (complaint option 1):

More general and principal conflicts can be brought forward to a Complaint council (that is to be organized and established by FSC Norge). The three chambers shall be represented in the Complaint council. The Complaint council decisions shall be issued specific and based on agreements between the chambers. The Norwegian FSC standard, as well as FSCs International Generic Indicators\* and other international policies<sup>10</sup> shall be used as the basis for the National boards decisions. Decisions by the Complaint council has always to be aligned with FSC dispute resolution procedures and other relevant mandatory FSC rules and procedures.

Conflicts related to Principle\* 3 (complaint option 2):

The Sámi reindeer herders' right to FPIC, a process with the goal to receive their consent to planned forestry activities (see Annex C), has been introduced in this new Norwegian FSC FSS, Principle\* 3. To execute planned forestry activities without this consent would be a violation of the standards requirements. It will often be beneficial for all the involved participants in conflicts related to the requirements in Principle\* 3 to try to settle the conflict at a low level, and as quickly as possible. There should be established a mediation process with an appointed mediator for the processing of these conflicts, which will mainly be related to regions in Trøndelag and northern Norway. The mediator/mediators shall be appointed by FSC Norge, in cooperation with the Sámi Parliament of Norway and the *Norske Reindriftsamers Landsforbund* (NRL), a national association for the Sámi reindeer herders in Norway. The appointed mediator needs to be knowledgeable about both Norwegian forestry and reindeer husbandry. The mediator position shall be fixed, in the sense that there shall not be appointed a new mediator for every new conflict. The mediator shall be able to process a complaint within three weeks from receiving it.

<sup>10</sup> The Norwegian conflict resolution mechanism cannot cover decisions that are in conflict with the official dispute\* resolution system described in "FSC Dispute Resolution System" (FSC-PRO-01-009, FSC-PRO-01-008 or FSC-PRO-01-005).

A conflict related to Principle\* 3 can be brought up to the Complaint council if the mediation has not resulted in a common agreement.

The participating parties shall cover the cost of the appeal process by covering their own direct costs. FSC Norge shall cover the cost of the use of a mediator.

*More details about the mediation process*

1) *The mediators position etc.*

The mediator shall be neutral and independent. It is recommended that a chamber-based group coordinated by FSC Norge appoints the mediator together. It is recommended that the SDG chambers, or another appointed body<sup>1</sup>, select one or more persons as mediators. The appointed mediator needs to be knowledgeable about both Norwegian forestry and reindeer husbandry. The parties have the responsibility for training mediators in these disciplines.

2) *The mediators duty to share information*

Anyone who is asked to take on the position as a mediator shall share information about matters that may reduce the mediators credibility or neutrality.

Mediators who become aware of such situations mentioned in the first paragraph shall immediately inform the conflicting parties in writing.

3) *Obligation to safeguard confidentiality.*

The mediator and parties, as well as any other person participating in the conflict resolution process, shall respect the duty of confidentiality regarding the mediation and the issue, unless otherwise decided between the participants. The need for confidentiality shall be taken into account.

A party cannot, in neither trial nor arbitration, use the mediator as a witness or expert in the dispute\*, if the hearing concerns matters arising from mediation, and a party cannot reuse any information or suggestions from the mediation process as evidence in a trial or arbitration.

4) *Mediation request*

A request for mediation can be directed to FSC Norge. The chambers in the SDG, or another appointed body<sup>1</sup>, shall then ensure that the mediation is initiated in accordance with the FSS requirements (cf. bullet 1).

5) *The appointment of mediator*

The mediator shall be selected from the group of pre-selected mediators (cf. 1. *The mediators position etc.*). If the parties are not able to agree on a mediator, then lots will be drawn between the candidates on question.

6) *Dismission of mediator*

The parties must replace the mediator with a new one (cf. 5. *The appointment of mediator*) if the mediator is prevented from completing the assignment or fails to complete the assignment.

7) *Settlement of conflict*

The mediator shall decide whether the procedure (as outlined in these guidelines) takes into account the wishes of the parties and contribute to a quick and effective resolution of the conflict.

The parties shall always be given the opportunity to present the issue to the extent necessary. No planned forestry activities linked to the conflict shall be executed during an ongoing mediation process.

8) *Closing the conflict*

The mediation shall be terminated within two months from the conflict being presented to the mediator (cf. 4. *The appointment of mediator*), unless otherwise decided by the parties. If the parties agree, the time may be extended.

Mediation stops when:

- 1) The conflict between the parties is settled,
- 2) The mediator informs the parties that further mediation is not considered worthwhile,
- 3) The two months have passed since the conflict was presented to the mediation, or
- 4) The conflict management between the parties is continued through an FPIC-process.

## Annex E HCV Framework for Norway

The HCV Framework (Table 7) concept is to assist The Organization\* for identifying High Conservation Values\* and High Conservation Value Areas\* in the Management Unit\* according to Principle 9. The framework concept also indicates sources of information and stakeholders\* that The Organization\* may resort to evaluate the occurrence and the status of the High Conservation Values\* within the management unit\*. Measures for HCV protection, maintenance/improving and monitoring are also included in this framework.

**Table 7** The HCV Framework for Norway

<b>HCV 1 – Species diversity. Concentrations of <i>biological diversity</i>* including endemic species, and <i>rare</i>*, <i>threatened</i>* or endangered species, that are <i>significant</i>* at global, regional or national levels.</b>		
<b>IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 1</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV 1	Best Available Information* for identifying HCV 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicable Red List of species (Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre)</li> <li>• Priority species* (Nature Diversity Act)</li> <li>• Responsibility species*</li> <li>• Endemic species*</li> <li>• Legally protected areas*</li> <li>• Key biotopes*</li> <li>• Nationally and internationally important wetlands* (including RAMSAR areas)</li> </ul>	An ongoing forest protection program is based on volunteerism from forest owners with favourable and tax-free compensations for the legally protected forest.
2. Description of relevant stakeholders	Relevant stakeholders (including authorities and research institutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affected local stakeholders</li> <li>• Sabima-organizations</li> <li>• Friends of the Earth Norway and local departments</li> <li>• WWF Norway</li> <li>• Local experts</li> <li>• Interested local stakeholders</li> <li>• Norwegian Environmental Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Agricultural Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre</li> <li>• Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research – NIBIO</li> <li>• County Governors departments for Climate and the Environment / Agriculture and Food</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> </ul>	

<p>3. Description of culturally appropriate engagement for identifying HCV1 in Norway</p>	<p>Most HCV 1-areas are available to the public by the internet for no cost (map sources).</p> <p>Stakeholder information is shared on interactive platforms that are publicly available, e.g. species observations, cultural heritage registrations and other important items that are relevant for the FSC-standard management. Stakeholders with special interest in HCV areas are contacted by The Organization.</p> <p>The Organization* is obliged to give HCV1 information on request.</p>	
<p>4. Examples of HCV 1 species in the country</p>	<p>Concentrations of Red List species occurrences, and protected species according to regulations under the Nature Diversity Act.</p> <p>Concentrations of key biotopes*(indicating occurrences of Red List species).</p>	
<p>5. Geographic areas where HCV 1 is likely present</p>	<p>The HCV 1 areas of all categories are present all over Norway.</p>	
<p>6. Maps of HCV 1 areas in the country</p>	<p>Map sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norwegian Biodiversity Information centre (<a href="https://artskart.artsdatabanken.no">https://artskart.artsdatabanken.no</a>)</li> <li>• Naturbase (<a href="https://kart.naturbase.no/">https://kart.naturbase.no/</a>)</li> <li>• Kilden* (<a href="https://kilden.nibio.no">https://kilden.nibio.no</a>)</li> <li>• Maps covering the Management Unit* (that are mainly digital maps)</li> </ul>	<p>Norwegian Biodiversity information centre gives an overview of known occurrences of red-listed species.</p> <p>Kilden* provides, among other things, an overview of key biotopes* and red-listed species.</p>
<p>7. Threats to HCV 1 areas in the country</p>	<p>Habitat* loss, fragmentation or degradation, mainly due to resource exploitation, nature conversion or climate changes.</p>	

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 1	National Description	Additional SDG comment if any
<p>1. Protection zones, harvest prescriptions, and/or other strategies to protect threatened, endangered, endemic species, or other concentrations of biological diversity* and the ecological communities and habitats* upon which they depend, sufficient to prevent reductions in the extent, integrity, quality, and viability of the habitats* and species occurrences.</p>	<p>All HCV 1 areas are included in the Conservation Areas Network* in the Management Unit* and are managed to conserve and/or enhance the biodiversity values.</p> <p>When the areas are managed to protect and enhance the environmental values (based on assessment using Best Available Information), two main strategies apply.</p> <p>Strategy 1: The areas are strictly protected. This is the main strategy and often the best strategy in boreal ecosystems.</p> <p>Strategy 2: The areas are managed because conditions for species or habitats in focus are enhanced, and the development of the habitat will favour stronger and more reproductive populations regarding these species</p> <p>Harvest prescriptions are always developed in collaboration with a forest biology expert.</p>	<p>About 97 % of the Norwegian forest is PEFC-certified. The regulation regarding sustainable forestry refers to the requirements in the PEFC standard about registration and management of key biotopes. These regulations are also enshrined in the FSC standard (6.4.1-6.4.8).</p>
<p>2. Where enhancement is identified as the objective*, measures to develop, expand, and/or restore* habitats* for such species are in place.</p>	<p>All legally protected areas have a management plan* to conserve or enhance biodiversity values by forest* management or no management. Environmental authorities are responsible for planning and conducting management.</p> <p>The Organization* describes the need to manage certain HCV 1 areas.</p> <p>Areas in the HCV 1 category are restored or re-established in accordance with indicators 6.5.3 and 6.5.4 (Representative Sample Areas), 6.5.7 (nature types), 6.6.1 (plant communities), 6.7.2 and 6.7.15 (water courses), and 6.9.1 (conversion of nature forest).</p>	<p>Grants can be obtained to restore* and repair natural meadows, water courses and legally selected habitat types*. Grants from authorities are also given to combat alien species* and to enhance habitats for legally selected species.</p>

## MONITORING HCV 1

All legally protected areas and important wetlands are monitored in field several times per year by the operative Norwegian nature surveillance (that is a department of the Environmental Directorate) in accordance with the Nature surveillance Act. This department also have national responsibilities for monitoring of species of concern regarding HCV 1.

Highly detailed internet sources (with arial images that are updated regularly each 5-10 year) are used for monitoring of key biotopes and species. The Kilden\* database merges all relevant data about species localities, key biotopes and nature types, and the database is updated at least weekly. The Kilden\* database is regularly used by The Organizations\* for monitoring HCV 1 in the Management Units.

The Red List of species and the red list of nature types are updated every 5-6 year (experts engaged by Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre). 4957 species was included in the last Norwegian Red list (2021).

Monitoring of species in field is organized in a high number of separate projects, mostly by the Environmental Directorate and local departments.

ENGOS, especially Sabima organizations, are specialized in field-based monitoring of species in monitoring programmes in collaboration with the Environmental Directorate, the Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre, Norwegian nature surveillance, forest owners, and others. The interactive and daily updated internet source Artskart is used to store and visualize monitoring information continuously, and in officially financed surveys and programmes it is mandatory to store data about species in Artskart.

Monitoring of many species requires expertise and highly targeted resources of different types due to the ecology of the species and resource availability. Therefore, the monitoring frequencies are varying a lot between species.



HCV 2 – <i>Landscape</i> *-level <i>ecosystems</i> * and mosaics. Intact forest landscapes and large <i>landscape</i> *-level <i>ecosystems</i> * and <i>ecosystem</i> * mosaics that are <i>significant</i> * 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.		
IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 2	National Description	Additional SDG comment if any
1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV 2	Best Available Information* for identifying HCV 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legally protected areas*</li> <li>• Intact Forest Landscapes*</li> <li>• Key biotopes* concentrations</li> <li>• Nationally and internationally important wetlands* (including RAMSAR areas)</li> </ul>	There is no national overview except those areas protected as national parks or nature reserves. Legally protected areas that are larger than 5,000 hectares and are published in Naturbase.
2. Description of relevant stakeholders	Relevant stakeholders (including authorities and research institutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affected local stakeholders</li> <li>• Sabima-organizations</li> <li>• Friends of the Earth Norway and local departments</li> <li>• WWF Norway</li> <li>• Local experts</li> <li>• Interested local stakeholders</li> <li>• Norwegian Environmental Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Agricultural Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research – NIBIO</li> <li>• County Governors departments for Climate and the Environment / Agriculture and Food</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> </ul>	
3. Examples of HCV 2 areas in the country	Examples are all IFLs in Norway: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pasvik (Finnmark county)</li> <li>• Øvre Anárjohka (Finnmark county)</li> <li>• Hestkjølen (Trøndelag county)</li> <li>• Kvisleflået-Smoldalen (Innlandet county)</li> </ul>	
4. Geographic areas where IFLs or other types of HCV 2	Intact Forest Landscapes*: see list above.	

is likely present	Other HCV 2 areas are present in all counties of Norway.	
5. Maps of HCV 2 areas in the country	Map sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naturbase (<a href="https://kart.naturbase.no/">https://kart.naturbase.no/</a>)</li> <li>• Global Forest Watch (<a href="https://www.globalforestwatch.org/map">https://www.globalforestwatch.org/map</a>)</li> </ul>	
6. Threats to HCV 2 areas in the country	Habitat* loss, fragmentation or degradation, mainly due to resource exploitation, nature conversion or climate changes.	
<b>STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV2</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
1. Strategies that fully maintain the extent and intactness of the forest* ecosystems* and the viability of their biodiversity concentrations, including plant and animal indicator species, keystone species, and/or guilds associated with large intact natural forest* ecosystems*.	<p>All HCV 2 areas are included in the Conservation Areas Network* in the Management Unit* and are managed to conserve and/or enhance the biodiversity values.</p> <p>When the areas are managed to protect and enhance the environmental values (based on assessment using Best Available Information*), two main strategies apply.</p> <p>Strategy 1: The areas are strictly protected. This is the main strategy and often the best strategy in boreal ecosystems.</p> <p>Strategy 2: The areas are managed because conditions for species or habitats in focus are enhanced, and the development of the habitat will favour stronger and more reproductive populations regarding these species.</p> <p>Harvest prescriptions are always developed in collaboration with a forest biology expert.</p>	<p>Many of the HCV 2 areas (including IFL) are strictly protected in nature reserves and national parks.</p> <p>The forest in the protected areas is owned by the state and therefore also managed by the state. The main strategy is free development of the forests, with a few exceptions.</p>
2. Examples include protection* zones and set-aside areas, with any commercial activity in areas that are not set-aside being limited to low intensity* operations that fully maintain forest* structure, composition,	<p>Examples can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection zones along the borders of HCV 2 areas.</li> <li>• Harvesting activity to manage biodiversity in intermediate areas within concentrations of key biotopes.</li> </ul>	

regeneration, and disturbance patterns at all times.		
3. Where enhancement is identified as the objective*, measures to restore* and reconnect forest* ecosystems*, their intactness, and habitats* that support natural biological diversity* are in place.	All legally protected areas* have a management plan* to conserve or enhance biodiversity values by forest* management or no management (strictly protected). Environmental authorities are responsible for planning and conducting management.  The Organization* identifies needs to manage HCV 2 areas according to landscape* ecological considerations, including restoration*.	
4. The core area of each Intact Forest Landscape* within the Management Unit* is protected, comprising 100% of the Intact Forest Landscapes within the Management Unit.	This standard requires that 100 % of Norwegian Intact Forest Landscapes* are designated as core areas* and the areas are also included in the Conservation Areas Network* of the respective FSC-certified Management Units*.	
<b>MONITORING HCV 2</b>		
See monitoring of HCV 1. This applies also for monitoring of HCV 2.  IFL/ICL are monitored by Global Forest Watch.  Aerial images are updated regularly each 5-10 year and presented as a map layer in Kilden* database.  Management plans for the Management Units are used for monitoring of HCV 2.		

HCV 3 – Ecosystems* and habitats*. Rare*, threatened*, or endangered ecosystems*, habitats* or refugia*.		
IDENTIFICATION OF HCV3	National Description	Additional SDG comment if any
1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV 3	<p>Best Available Information* for identifying HCV 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nationally and internationally important wetlands* (including RAMSAR areas)</li> <li>• Nature types* of international or national value</li> <li>• Narin core areas</li> <li>• Selected habitat types* (Nature Diversity Act)</li> <li>• Applicable Red List of Threatened Ecosystems and Habitat types* (Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre)</li> <li>• Old forests* with High Conservation Values*</li> <li>• Red List of species</li> <li>• Priority species* (Nature Diversity Act)</li> <li>• Responsibility species*</li> <li>• Endemic species*</li> <li>• Legally protected areas* (Nature Diversity Act)</li> <li>• Key biotopes*</li> <li>• Forests* with High Conservation Values* because of particularly old age.</li> </ul>	<p>Initially, only nature types of category A is considered to be of national value, but since the classification may be uncertain, nature types* in category B should also be considered.</p> <p><i>Narin core areas</i> is not a synonym to IFL core areas (cf. HCV 2). They are categorized similar to nature types.</p> <p>Forests with particularly old age are often categorized and identified as a nature type* / habitat type* or key biotope*. The stand information in the Management plan* or the Kilden* database will be a possible source where these forests* have not been covered by these surveys. The Management plan indicates the average age per forest* stand. A starting point for further assessment of stands in this category may be the average age equal to 2 times the recommended harvesting maturity age for the site index.</p>
2. Description of relevant stakeholders	<p>Relevant stakeholders (including authorities and research institutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affected local stakeholders</li> <li>• Sabima-organizations</li> <li>• Friends of the Earth Norway and local departments</li> <li>• WWF Norway</li> <li>• Interested local stakeholders</li> <li>• Local experts</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre</li> <li>Norwegian Environmental Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Agricultural Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research – NIBIO</li> <li>• County Governors departments for Climate and the Environment / Agriculture and Food</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> </ul>	
3. Examples of HCV 3 ecosystems and habitats in the country	Unprotected areas are mapped as HCV 3 areas after having been assessed according to officially accepted methods and described as Nature types* of high value (including Narin core areas). Often these areas also overlap with extraordinary old forests*.	
4. Geographic areas where HCV 3 is likely present	The HCV 3 areas of all categories are present all over Norway.	
5. Maps of HCV 3 areas in the country	Map sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naturbase (<a href="https://kart.naturbase.no/">https://kart.naturbase.no/</a>)</li> <li>• Narin database (<a href="http://www.borchbio.no/narin">www.borchbio.no/narin</a>)</li> <li>• Kilden* (<a href="https://kilden.nibio.no">https://kilden.nibio.no</a>)</li> </ul>	
6. Threats to HCV3 areas in the country	Habitat* loss, fragmentation, or degradation, mainly due to resource exploitation, nature conversion or climate changes.	
<b>STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 3</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
1. Strategies that fully maintain the extent and integrity of rare or threatened ecosystems*, habitats*, or refugia*.	<p>A national objective* is to protect 10 % of the Norwegian forest* in nature reserves or national parks. A strategy may be to support this goal by offering areas with rare and threatened habitats and ecosystems for legal* protection*.</p> <p>All HCV 3 areas are considered as belonging to the Conservation</p>	Assessments made by the Environmental Directorate concludes that it is a high need for forest reserves on fertile soils in the lowlands.

	<p>Areas Network*.</p> <p>When the areas are managed to protect and enhance the environmental values (based on assessment using Best Available Information*), two main strategies apply.</p> <p>Strategy 1: The areas are strictly protected. This is the main strategy and often the best strategy in boreal ecosystems.</p> <p>Strategy 2: The areas are managed because conditions for red listed nature types or ecosystems are enhanced, and the development of the habitats will favour stronger and more reproductive populations regarding red listed species in these habitats.</p> <p>Harvest prescriptions are always developed in collaboration with a forest biology expert.</p>	
<p>2. Where enhancement is identified as the objective*, measures to restore* and/or develop rare or threatened ecosystems*, habitats*, or refugia* are in place.</p>	<p>The most important enhancement of forest* habitats is to strictly protect the forest* from any management activities. Some areas, on the other hand, need management activities to preserve and develop important features, including restoration*.</p>	
<p><b>MONITORING HCV 3</b></p>		
<p>See monitoring of HCV 1. This applies also for monitoring of HCV 3.</p> <p>Arial images are updated regularly each 5-10 year and presented as a map layer in Kilden* database.</p> <p>Management plans for the Management Units are used for monitoring of HCV 3.</p>		

**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.**

IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 4	National Description	Additional SDG comment if any
1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV 4	Best Available Information* for identifying HCV 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NVE hazard and risk map</li> <li>• Maps for drinking water sources</li> <li>• Detailed land maps and new aerial images</li> </ul>	
2. Description of relevant stakeholders	Relevant stakeholders (including authorities and research institutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affected local stakeholders</li> <li>• Friends of the Earth Norway and local departments</li> <li>• WWF Norway</li> <li>• Interested local stakeholders</li> <li>• Local experts</li> <li>• The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate</li> <li>• Norwegian Environmental Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Agricultural Agency</li> <li>• County Governors departments for Climate and the Environment / Agriculture and Food</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> <li>• NVE – The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate</li> <li>• Norwegian Food Safety Authority</li> <li>• Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research – NIBIO</li> <li>• Norwegian Geotechnical Institute – NGI</li> </ul>	
3. Examples of HCV 4 critical ecosystem services in the country	Drinking water, forest* binding soil in steep areas with risk* for landslides, or stopping avalanches	
4. Geographic areas where HCV4 is likely present	Risk and hazard zones occur all over Norway, but are mostly present in the coastal areas with high precipitation, and steep terrain, or in quick clay	

	areas below the ancient marine limit. Drinking water sources are present all over Norway.	
5. Maps of HCV 4 areas in the country	Map sources • NVE hazard and risk map ( <a href="https://temakart.nve.no/link/?link=faresoner">https://temakart.nve.no/link/?link=faresoner</a> ) • Kilden* ( <a href="https://kilden.nibio.no">https://kilden.nibio.no</a> )	
6. Threats to HCV 4 areas in the country	Wrong forestry-management, agriculture, infrastructure* development, climate change, erosion.	
<b>STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 4</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
1. Strategies to protect any water catchments of importance to local communities* located within or downstream of the Management Unit*, and areas within the unit that are particularly unstable or susceptible to erosion.	Careful forestry operations in danger zones for landslides or avalanches in accordance with legislation and the FSS.  Good planning to always avoid pollution of drinking water resources, including assessment and monitoring of possible erosion in such areas.	
2. Examples may include protection* zones, harvest prescriptions, chemical use restrictions, and/or prescriptions for road construction and maintenance, to protect water catchments and upstream and upslope areas.	Examples are: • Buffer zones along water courses • Harvesting of wet areas in dry periods • Strict requirements for fertilization and spraying near water sources. • Avoid trenching resulting to dirty water into rivers and brooks. • Careful machine driving in steep or other vulnerable terrain to avoid land-slides and erosion.	
3. Where enhancement is identified as the objective*, measures to restore* water quality and quantity are in place.	Examples of revised and stricter local regulations for drinking water sources to enhance quality is available in local regulations.	
4. Where identified HCV 4 ecosystem services* include climate regulation, strategies to maintain or enhance carbon sequestration and storage are in place.	The protective forest* is the upper forest belt below the mountains. A careful management of protective forests* is required regarding the Forestry Act to protect lower altitude forests against hazards caused by the hard winter	



	<p>climate (low temperatures and wind).</p> <p>The parliament has initiated a “climate forest” programme for carbon sequestration, i.e. afforestation of ceased or degraded agriculture and range lands, especially in the high productive areas along western coasts.</p>	
<b>MONITORING HCV 4</b>		
<p>Local forestry departments are monitoring the protective forest* by involvement in the planning and approval of forestry measures in the areas.</p> <p>The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE) monitors the groundwater and water courses in a network of measure stations and continuously monitoring of critical areas with digital measuring instruments. They also have the responsibility to monitor areas with high risk for landslides (including rock or mountain slides and quick clay slides). The most vulnerable areas are continuously monitored with digital measure instruments.</p> <p>Drinking water is continuously monitored by the respective municipalities and the Norwegian Food Safety Authority.</p>		

<b>HCV 5 – Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of <i>local communities*</i> or <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through <i>engagement*</i> with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.</b>		
<b>IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 5</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV 5	Best Available Information* for identifying HCV 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old mountain forests* in the Sámi reindeer grazing districts.</li> <li>• Key biotopes*</li> </ul>	
2. Description of relevant stakeholders	Relevant stakeholders (including authorities and research institutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Sámi reindeer herders</li> <li>• Other affected local stakeholders</li> <li>• Sámi organizations</li> <li>• Outdoor Activity Organizations</li> <li>• Interested local stakeholders</li> <li>• Local experts</li> <li>• Sámi reindeer grazing districts</li> <li>• Sámi Parliament</li> <li>• Norwegian Environmental Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Agricultural Agency</li> <li>• County Governors departments for Climate and the Environment / Agriculture and Food</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> <li>• Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research – NIBIO</li> </ul>	
3. Examples of HCV 5 sites and resources fundamental for local communities in the country	Reindeer grazing areas in forests* with significant* occurrences of pendulous lichens	There is no official overview of forests* with a lot of pendulous tree lichens. Identification is based on management plan information, local knowledge and through the active dialogue (FPIC) with Sámi reindeer herders.
4. Geographic areas where HCV 5 is likely present	Sámi reindeer grazing districts that are covering the northern part of Norway (see figure 2, Annex C).	
5. Maps of HCV 5 areas in the country	Map sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kilden* (<a href="https://kilden.nibio.no">https://kilden.nibio.no</a>)</li> </ul>	

6. Threats to HCV 5 areas in the country	Infrastructure*, cumulative effects of development in grazing areas, forestry (to a lesser degree).	
<b>STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 5</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
1. Strategies to protect the community's and/or Indigenous Peoples* needs in relation to the Management Unit* are developed in cooperation with representatives and members of local communities* and Indigenous Peoples*.	Implementing the FPIC methodology that has been developed in the FSS with respect to Principle 3 (see Annex C).	
<b>MONITORING HCV 5</b>		
<p>The operative Norwegian nature surveillance (that is a department of the Environmental Directorate) in accordance with the Nature surveillance Act is monitoring outdoor recreation activities, including fishing, hunting and motor traffic in nature areas (regulated by the Motor traffic Act). The monitoring is done in the field and is based on tips/alerts and sample controls.</p> <p>The Norwegian nature surveillance, in collaboration with the outdoor recreation organizations (in cooperation with the Sami Reindeer grazing districts where applicable), is monitoring the hiking/trekking activity to avoid human presence in vulnerable areas for e.g., reindeer calving.</p> <p>The Norwegian nature surveillance also monitors and files reindeer killed by large predators and organizes and conducts measures against alien species.</p> <p>Sami* organizations and the Sami* parliament monitors the reindeer grazing areas and effects of development of infrastructure constructions.</p>		

**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.**

IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 6	National Description	Additional SDG comment if any
1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV 6	Best Available Information for identifying* HCV 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formally and automatically protected* cultural heritage sites, monuments and environments.</li> <li>• Landscape protection areas (legally protected)</li> <li>• Other important sites or objects of cultural and/or historical interest</li> </ul>	
2. Description of relevant stakeholders	Relevant stakeholders (including authorities and research institutes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affected local stakeholders</li> <li>• National Trust of Norway</li> <li>• Local history associations</li> <li>• Sámi organizations</li> <li>• Interested local stakeholders</li> <li>• Local experts</li> <li>• Sámi Parliament</li> <li>• Sámi reindeer grazing districts</li> <li>• Norwegian Environmental Agency</li> <li>• Norwegian Agricultural Agency</li> <li>• County Governors departments for Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Municipalities</li> </ul>	
3. Examples of HCV6 significant cultural values in the country	All sites and objects older than 1537 are legally protected, as also Sámi sites and objects older than 1917. Some of the legally protected sites are sacred and secret places for the Sámi, information about which must be obtained in a relationship of trust.	
4. Geographic areas where HCV 6 is likely present	HCV 6 is present all over Norway.	
5. Maps of HCV 6 areas in the country	Map sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Askeladden (<a href="https://askeladden.ra.no">https://askeladden.ra.no</a>)</li> <li>• Kulturminnesøk (<a href="https://kulturminnesok.no/">https://kulturminnesok.no/</a>)</li> </ul>	The databases include both legally protected and other important sites.

6. Threats to HCV 6 areas in the country	Forestry, agriculture, infrastructure*, conversion and construction activities.	
<b>STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 6</b>	<b>National Description</b>	<b>Additional SDG comment if any</b>
	<p>Examples of strategies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good planning of forestry-related management by using Management Plan and other required sources (Kulturminnesøk, Kilden*).</li> <li>• Field planning before forestry measures in collaboration with the County Governors departments for Cultural heritage.</li> <li>• Active and good communication with local stakeholders to obtain information about certain cultural heritage sites.</li> <li>• Preventive education of relevant persons and contractors to avoid unlikely destruction of cultural heritage sites and to fully understand the Cultural heritage Act and the consequences of breaking the law.</li> </ul>	The fees for breaking the Cultural heritage Act are very high.
<b>MONITORING HCV 6</b>		
<p>The Norwegian nature surveillance monitors the cultural heritage sites. The monitoring is done in the field and is based on tips/alerts and sample controls.</p> <p>County Governors departments for Cultural heritage has responsibility for the management of the cultural heritage sites according to the Cultural heritage act and monitors important sites in many different programs. This is also done in collaboration with the municipalities and local NGO organizations.</p> <p>Stakeholders monitoring local sites are filing registrations and monitoring results in the open access database / internet map <i>Kulturminnesøk</i>, that is also included into the the <i>Kilden*</i> database.</p> <p>Immaterial traditions and handcraft belonging to the Sami* people is monitored by the Sami* organizations.</p>		

## Annex F Glossary of terms

This glossary includes internationally accepted definitions whenever possible. These sources include, for instance, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005) as well as definitions from online glossaries as provided on the websites of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Invasive Alien Species Programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity. When other sources have been used they are referenced accordingly.

The term 'based on' means that a definition was adapted from an existing definition as provided in an international source.

Words used in the International Generic Indicators, if not defined in this Glossary of Terms or other normative FSC documents, are used as defined in the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary or the Concise Oxford Dictionary.

**Active dialogue:** A culturally appropriate\* and active dialogue means that both parties understand the language and the terms used in their respective forestry and reindeer husbandry practices. The meeting situation is at a place that is comfortable for the reindeer husbandry district and suitable for both parties (3.2.1).

**Adaptive management:** A systematic process of continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of existing measures (Source: Based on IUCN. Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).

**Affected stakeholder:** 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. Examples include, but are not restricted to (for example in the case of downstream landowners), persons, groups of persons or entities located in the neighborhood of the Management Unit. The following are examples of affected stakeholders:

- Local communities
  - Indigenous Peoples
  - Workers
  - Forest dwellers
  - Neighbors
  - Downstream landowners
  - Local processors
  - Local businesses
  - Tenure and use rights holders, including landowners
  - Organizations authorized or known to act on behalf of affected stakeholders, for example social and environmental NGOs, labor unions, etc.
- (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Affected Rights Holder:** Persons and groups, including Indigenous Peoples\*, traditional peoples\* and local communities\* with legal or customary rights\* whose free, prior and informed consent\* is required to determine management decisions.

**Alien species:** A species, subspecies or lower taxon, introduced outside its natural past or present distribution; includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs, or propagules of such species that might survive and subsequently reproduce (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Invasive Alien Species Programme. Glossary of Terms as provided on CBD website).

**Applicable law:** 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 the FSC Principles and Criteria. This includes any combination of statutory law (Parliamentary-approved) and case law (court interpretations), subsidiary regulations, associated administrative procedures, and the national constitution (if present) which invariably takes *legal\** precedence over all other *legal\** instruments (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Automatically protected:** Applies to all Norwegian archaeological and architectural monuments and sites, and cultural environments in all their variety and detail created earlier than AD 1537 and Sami\* monuments and sites older than 1917, automatically protected according to the Cultural Heritage Act. A buffer zone of 5 meter is also protected from actions that could affect the object.

**Best Available Information:** Data, facts, documents, expert opinions, 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\**.

**Best Available Technology (BAT):** The best available technology for both solving a particular task and minimizing the impact to the external environment.

**Binding Agreement:** A deal or pact, written or not, which is compulsory to its signatories and enforceable by law. Parties involved in the agreement do so freely and accept it voluntarily.

**Biological diversity:** 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).

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

**Biologically old forest:** The definition is based on a stand age that is significantly higher than the regular mature age for harvesting (development class 5 in the Norwegian system). The level for classifying a forest as biologically old forest is adjusted according to site index and species. Lower limit for biologically old forest is between 80 (deciduous forest, good site index) and 180 years (lower limit for Scots pine forest, poor site index). The classification is based on Naturindeks 2010 and is used by the National Forest Inventory (Skog og Landskap, Rapport 02/2012, Søggaard et al.).

**Buffer zone:** This FSS uses the term buffer zone for the transition zone between water courses and production forest. See also *Riparian zone*.

**Child:** any person under the age of 18 (ILO Convention 182, Article 2).

**Coastal rainforest:** Temperate to boreal rain forests along western to northern coasts of Norway. The rainforests are dominated by Scots pine or Norway spruce, and intermixed with deciduous tree species. Mature stands with old forest characteristics can be habitats for rare and threatened mosses. The rainforests are threatened habitat types according to the Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre (Red list for habitats 2018).

**Collective bargaining:** a voluntary negotiation process between employers or employers' organization and workers' organization\*, with a view to the regulation of terms and conditions of employment by means of collective agreements (ILO Convention 98, Article 4).

**Confidential 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.

**Connectivity:** A measure of how connected or spatially continuous a corridor, network, or matrix is. The fewer gaps, the higher the connectivity. Related to the structural connectivity concept; functional or behavioural 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 R.T.T. Forman. 1995. Land Mosaics. The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions. Cambridge University Press, 632pp).

**Conservation/Protection:** 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:** Those portions of the Management Unit\* for which conservation is the primary and, in some circumstances, exclusive objective; such areas include *representative sample areas\**, *conservation zones\**, *protection areas\**, *connectivity\* areas* and *High Conservation Value Areas\**.

**Conservation zones and protection areas:** Defined areas that are designated and managed primarily to safeguard species, habitats, ecosystems, natural features or other site-specific values because of their natural environmental or cultural values, or for purposes of monitoring, evaluation or research, not necessarily excluding other management activities. For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria, these terms are used interchangeably, without implying that one always has a higher degree of conservation or protection than the other. The term 'protected area' is not used for these areas, because this term implies *legal\** or official status, covered by national regulations in many countries. In the context of the Principles and Criteria, management of these areas should involve active conservation, not passive protection' (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Core area:** The portion of each Intact Forest Landscape\* designated to contain the most important cultural and ecological values. Core areas\* are managed to exclude industrial activity\*. Core Areas\* meet or exceed the definition of Intact Forest Landscape\*.



**Critical:** The concept of criticality or fundamentality in Principal 9 and 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.). The notion of criticality here refers to the importance and risk for natural resources and environmental and socio-economic values (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

**Culturally appropriate** [mechanisms]: Means/approaches for outreach to target groups that are in harmony with the customs, values, sensitivities, and ways of life of the target audience.

**Customary law:** Interrelated sets of customary rights may be recognized as customary law. In some jurisdictions, customary law is equivalent to statutory law, within its defined area of competence and may replace the statutory law for defined ethnic or other social groups. In some jurisdictions customary law complements statutory law and is applied in specified circumstances (Source: Based on N.L. Peluso and P. Vandergeest. 2001. Genealogies of the political forest and customary rights in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, *Journal of Asian Studies* 60(3):761–812).

**Customary rights:** 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).

**Discrimination:** includes- a) any distinction, exclusion or preference made on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction, social origin, sexual orientation\*, which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation; b) such other distinction, exclusion or preference which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation as may be determined by the Member concerned after consultation with representative employers' and workers' organization\* where such exist, and with other appropriate bodies (adapted from ILO Convention 111, Article1). \*'Sexual orientation' was added to the definition provided in Convention 111, as it has been identified as an additional type of discrimination which may occur.

**Dispute:** for the purpose of the IGI, this is an expression of dissatisfaction by any person or organization presented as a complaint to *The Organization\**, relating to its management activities or its conformity with the FSC Principles and Criteria, where a response is expected (Source: based on FSC-PRO-01-005 V3-0 Processing Appeals).

**Dispute of substantial duration:** *Dispute\** that continues for more than twice as long as the predefined timelines in the FSC System (this is, for more than 6 months after receiving the complaint, based on FSC-STD-20-001).

**Dispute of substantial magnitude:** For the purpose of the International Generic Indicators, a *dispute*\* of substantial magnitude is a *dispute*\* that involves one or more of the following:

- Affects the legal\* or customary rights\* of Indigenous Peoples\* and local communities\*;
- Where the negative impact of management activities is of such a scale that it cannot be reversed or mitigated;
- Physical violence;
- Destruction of property;
- Presence of military bodies;
- Acts of intimidation against forest\* workers\* and stakeholders\*.

This list should be adapted or expanded by Standard Developers.

**Economic viability:** The capability of developing and surviving as a relatively independent social, economic or political unit. Economic viability may require but is not synonymous with profitability (Source: Based on the definition provided on the website of the European Environment Agency).

**Ecosystem:** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interaction as a functional unit (Source: Convention of Biological Diversity 1992, Article 2).

**Ecosystem function:** An intrinsic ecosystem characteristic related to the set of conditions and processes whereby an ecosystem maintains its integrity (such as primary productivity, food chain, biogeochemical cycles). Ecosystem functions include such processes as decomposition, production, nutrient cycling, and fluxes of nutrients and energy. For FSC purposes, this definition includes ecological and evolutionary processes such as gene flow and disturbance regimes, regeneration cycles and ecological seral development (succession) stages. (Source: Based on R. Hassan, R. Scholes and N. Ash. 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Series. Island Press, Washington DC; and R.F. Noss. 1990. Indicators for monitoring biodiversity: a hierarchical approach. Conservation Biology 4(4):355–364).

**Ecosystem services:** The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include:

- provisioning services such as food, forest products and water;
- regulating services such as regulation of floods, drought, land degradation, air quality, climate and disease;
- supporting services such as soil formation and nutrient cycling; and
- Cultural services and cultural values such as recreational, spiritual, religious and other non-material benefits.

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

**Employment and Occupation:** includes access to vocational training, access to employment and to particular occupations, and terms and conditions of employment (ILO Convention 111, Article 1.3).

**Endemic species:** Species with a geographical distribution that is delimited to a certain area or habitat (limited geographical distribution). Very few endemic species occur in Norway.

**Engaging / engagement:** The process by which The Organization communicates, consults and/or provides for the participation of interested and/or affected stakeholders ensuring that their concerns, desires, expectations, needs, rights and opportunities are considered in the establishment, implementation and updating of the *management plan*\* (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA):** Systematic process used to identify potential environmental and social impacts of proposed projects, to evaluate alternative approaches, and to design and incorporate appropriate prevention, mitigation, management and monitoring measures (Source: based on Environmental impact assessment, guidelines for FAO field projects. Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO). Rome, FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Environmental values:** The following set of elements of the biophysical and human environment:

- ecosystem functions (including carbon sequestration and storage);
  - biological diversity;
  - water resources;
  - soils;
  - atmosphere;
  - Landscape values (including cultural and spiritual values).
  - The actual worth attributed to these elements depends on human and societal perceptions.
- (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Exotic tree species:** Tree species not native to Norway.

**Fair compensation:** Remuneration that is proportionate to the magnitude and type of services rendered by another party or of the harm that is attributable to the first party.

**Fertilizer:** Mineral or organic substances, most commonly N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>O, which are applied to soil for the purpose of enhancing plant growth.

**Fibre Testing:** a suite of wood identification technologies used to identify the family, genus, species and origin of solid wood and fibre based products.

**Forced or compulsory labour:** work or service exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself/ herself voluntarily (ILO Convention 29, Article 2.1)

**Forest:** A tract of land dominated by trees (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0. Derived from FSC Guidelines for Certification Bodies, Scope of Forest Certification, Section 2.1 first published in 1998, and revised as FSC-GUI-20-200 in 2005, and revised again in 2010 as FSC-DIR-20-007 FSC Directive on Forest Management Evaluations, ADVISE-20-007-01).

**Forest (Norwegian definition):** area with > 10 % coverage of trees that are or can grow to at least 5 m height in an area of 0.1 hectares at the actual locality. The area is still a forest in areas that are temporarily without tree coverage (NIBIO, national forest research institute).

**Forest biology expert:** A person with competence within accepted methods and professional details about registration and management of key biotopes, red-listed species and their habitats, care demanding bird species, water environments, all categories of nature types/habitat types including red-listed ecosystems and habitat

types, as well as the FSC standard requirements in general.

**Forest stand** (Norwegian forestry definition): a uniform forest area regarding age and development class, often treated as a management area. A forest stand is larger than 0.2 hectares.

**Forest trust fund:** Payment to the Forest trust fund is obligatory according to the Forestry Act when selling timber from the property (4-40 % of the selling price). One Forest Trust Fund account is connected to each Management Unit\*, and the account is administered by the municipality authority. The Organization\* can use money from the Forest trust fund account (with tax advantages) to finance measures such as regeneration (tree planting), constructing or repairment of forest roads, forestry planning, or forest insurance against hazards.

**Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):** 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).

**Gender equality:** Gender equality or gender equity means that women and men have equal conditions for realizing their full human rights and for contributing to, and benefiting from, economic, social, cultural and political development (Source: Adapted from FAO, IFAD and ILO workshop on 'Gaps, trends and current research in gender dimensions of agricultural and rural employment: differentiated pathways out of poverty', Rome, 31 March to 2 April 2009.).

**Good faith:** A process of engagement where the parties make every effort to reach an agreement, conduct genuine and constructive negotiations, avoid delays in negotiations, respect agreements concluded and under development, and give sufficient time to discuss and settle disputes (adapted from Motion 40:2017).

**Genetically modified 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)).

**Genotype:** The genetic constitution of an organism (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

**Habitat features:** *Forest*\* stand attributes and structures, including but not limited to:

- Old commercial and non-commercial trees whose age noticeably exceeds the average age of the main canopy;
- Trees with special ecological value;
- Vertical and horizontal complexity;
- Standing dead trees;
- Dead fallen wood;

- Forest openings attributable to natural disturbances;
- Nesting sites;
- Small wetlands, bogs, fens;
- Ponds;
- Areas for procreation;
- Areas for feeding and shelter, including seasonal cycles of breeding;
- Areas for migration;
- Areas for hibernation.

**Harvesting methods:** Depending on the planned regeneration method, type of forest floor vegetation, tree species, the forest structure, and the climate, different harvesting methods are preferred. Clearcuts and seed-tree stands are often used in ordinary one-layered spruce- and pine forests. Clearcutting removes all trees except for the retention trees, and the regeneration method is planting. The seed-tree stands harvesting method is adapted to natural regeneration of Scots pine or is mixed with planting. 30 – 150 mature seed-trees are spared per hectare to sufficiently disperse seeds. In some forest types it is recommended or required to use small-scale clearcutting, e.g. in the montane forest (montane forest harvesting). Different types of selective logging shall be considered before logging, especially in vulnerable *vegetation types*\* such as swamp forests, multi-layered forests and in the mountain forest areas. Less open harvest methods shall also be considered in areas important for outdoor recreation, but the measure often depends on the structure and resilience of the remaining forest after logging.

**Hazardous work (in the context of child labour):** any work which is likely to jeopardize children’s physical, mental or moral health, should not be undertaken by anyone under the age of 18 years. Hazardous child\* labour is work in dangerous, or unhealthy conditions that could result in a child\* being killed or injured/maimed (often permanently) and/or made ill (often permanently) as a consequence of poor safety and health standards and working arrangements. In determining the type of hazard child labour referred to under (Article 3(d) of the Convention No 182, and in identifying where they exist, consideration should be given, inter alia, to

- Work which exposes children to physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
- Work underground, under water at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;
- Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads;
- Work in unhealthy environment which may, for examples, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health;
- Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child\* is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer

(Source: ILO, 2011: IPEC Mainstreaming Child labour concerns in education sector plans and Programmes, Geneva, 2011 & ILO Handbook on Hazardous child labour, 2011).

**Heavy work (in the context of child labour):** refers to work that is likely to be harmful or dangerous to children’s health (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).

**High Conservation Value (HCV):** 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: based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**High Conservation Value Areas:** Zones and physical spaces which possess and/or are needed for the existence and maintenance of identified *High Conservation Values\**.

**Hovedplan Veg:** The Norwegian national overview of existing and planned forestry roads, available on the publicly accessible database Kilden\*.

**ILO Core (Fundamental) Conventions:** these are labour standards that cover fundamental principles and rights at work: freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining\*; the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour\*; the effective abolition of child\* labour; and the elimination of discrimination\* in respect of employment and occupation\*. The eight Fundamental Conventions are:

- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
  - Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)
  - Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
  - Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)
  - Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
  - Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)
  - Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)
  - Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111).
- (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).

**ILO Committee on Freedom of Association:** a Governing Body Committee set up in 1951, for the purpose of examining complaints about violations of freedom of association, whether or not the country concerned had ratified the relevant conventions. Is composed of an independent chairperson and three representatives each of governments, employers, and workers\*. If it decides to receive the case, it establishes the facts in dialogue with the government concerned. If it finds that there has been a violation of freedom of association standards or principles, it issues a report through the Governing Body and makes recommendations on how the situation could be remedied. Governments are subsequently requested to report on the implementation of its recommendations (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).

**ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Followup, adopted by the International Labour conference at its Eighty-sixth Session, Geneva, 18th June 1998 (Annex revised 15 June 2010):** is a resolute reaffirmation of ILO principles (art 2) which declares that all Members, even if they have not ratified the Conventions in question, have an obligation, arising from the very fact of membership in the organization, to respect, to promote and to realize, in good faith\* and in accordance with the Constitution, the principles concerning the fundamental rights which are the subject of those Conventions, namely:

- Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining\*;
  - The elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour\*;
  - The effective abolition of child\* labour; and
  - The elimination of discrimination\* in respect of employment and occupation\*.
- (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017)

**Indicator:** A quantitative or qualitative variable which can be measured or described, and which provides a means of judging whether a *Management Unit\** complies with the requirements of an FSC Criterion. Indicators and the associated thresholds thereby define the requirements for responsible forest management at the level of the *Management Unit\** and are the primary basis of forest evaluation (Source: FSC-STD-01-002 V1-0 FSC Glossary of Terms (2009)).

**Indigenous cultural landscapes:** Indigenous cultural landscapes\* are living landscapes to which Indigenous Peoples\* attribute environmental, social, cultural and economic value because of their enduring relationship with the land, water, fauna, flora and spirits and their present and future importance to their cultural identity. An Indigenous cultural landscape\* is characterized by features that have been maintained through long-term interactions based on land-care knowledge, and adaptive livelihood practices. They are landscapes over which Indigenous Peoples\* exercise responsibility for stewardship.

**Indigenous Peoples:** 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 pre-colonial and/or pre-settler societies;
- 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).

**Industrial activity:** Industrial forest and resource management activities such as road building, mining, dams, urban development and timber harvesting.

**Infrastructure:** In the context of forest management, roads, bridges, culverts, log landings, quarries, impoundments, buildings and other structures required in the course of implementing the *management plan*\*.

**Intact Forest Landscape:** 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:** 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:** 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:** Any person, group of persons, or entity that has shown an interest, or is known to have an interest, in the activities of a Management Unit. The following are examples of interested stakeholders.

- Conservation organizations, for example environmental NGOs;
- Labour (rights) organizations, for example labour unions;
- Human rights organizations, for example social NGOs;
- Local development projects;
- Local governments;
- National government departments functioning in the region;
- FSC National Offices;
- Experts on particular issues, for example High Conservation Values.

(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Internationally accepted scientific protocol:** A predefined science-based procedure which is either published by an international scientific network or union, or referenced frequently in the international scientific literature (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Invasive species:** Species that are rapidly expanding outside of their native range. Invasive species can alter ecological relationships among native species and can affect ecosystem function and human health (Source: Based on IUCN. Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).



**Key biotopes:** Key biotopes are mainly registered according to Regulations on grants for forestry planning with environmental registrations, demanding the use of the MiS-method that was developed and described in a handbook by the Norwegian forest Research Institute (NIBIO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (2002). The method is recently calibrated with the NiN-method into MiS-NiN. (Source: Norwegian Agricultural Agency 2020: *Veileder for kartlegging av MiS-livsmiljøer etter NiN. Veileder 1.0.3 Mai 2020*).

**Kilden:** Publicly available Norwegian internet map database managed by the national forest research institute (NIBIO). The *Kilden* database contains detailed maps (down to each forest stand) showing information regarding forest resources, reindeer herding resources, HCV areas and hazard zones. *Kilden* is a central information, planning and monitoring tool that is required to use to fulfil a high number of the requirements of this standard. Additionally to the forest resources maps, relevant map layers from several other map services are merged into the *Kilden* internet map, e.g., *Naturbase* (important nature areas) and *Kulturminnesøk* (cultural heritage sites) from the Environmental Directorate, the NVE hazard zones, and *Artskart* (species occurrences) from the Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre.

**Lands and territories:** For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria these are lands or territories that Indigenous Peoples or local communities have traditionally owned, or customarily used or occupied, and where access to natural resources is vital to the sustainability of their cultures and livelihoods (Source: Based on World Bank safeguard OP 4.10 Indigenous Peoples, section 16 (a). July 2005.).

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

**Landscape values:** Landscape values can be visualized as layers of human perceptions overlaid on the physical landscape. Some landscape values, like economic, recreation, subsistence value or visual quality are closely related to physical landscape attributes. Other landscape 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).

**Legal:** In accordance with primary legislation (national or local laws) or secondary legislation (subsidiary regulations, decrees, orders, etc.). 'Legal' also includes rule-based decisions made by legally competent agencies where such decisions flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations. Decisions made by legally competent agencies may not be legal if they do not flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations and if they are not rule-based but use administrative discretion (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Legal registration:** National or local *legal*\* license or set of permissions to operate as an enterprise, with rights to buy and sell products and/or services commercially. The license or permissions can apply to an individual, a privately-owned enterprise or a publicly owned corporate entity. The rights to buy and sell products and/or services do not carry the obligation to do so, so *legal*\* registration applies also to Organizations operating a Management Unit without sales of products or services; for example, for unpriced recreation or for conservation of biodiversity or habitat (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Legal status:** The way in which the Management Unit is classified according to law. In terms of tenure, it means the category of tenure, such as communal land or leasehold or freehold or State land or government land, etc. If the Management Unit is being converted from one category to another (for example, from State land to communal indigenous land) the status includes the current position in the transition process. In terms of administration, legal status could mean that the land is owned by the nation as a whole, is administered on behalf of the nation by a government department, and is leased by a government Ministry to a private sector operator through a concession (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Legally competent:** Mandated in law to perform a certain function (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Legally protected areas:** Areas that are protected by the state as national parks, nature reserves or landscape protection areas. In Norway, the state buys the trees when protecting forests in nature reserves or national parks, and the state has the managing responsibility in the protected areas. Each protected area has its own legal regulation.

**Light work:** national laws\* or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work which is- a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received (ILO Convention 138, Article 7).

**Living wage:** The remuneration received for a standard work week by a worker in a particular place sufficient to afford a decent standard of living for the worker and her or his family. Elements of a decent standard of living include food, water, housing, education, health care, transport, clothing, and other essential needs including provision for unexpected events (Source: A Shared Approach to a Living Wage. ISEAL Living Wage Group. November 2013).

**Local communities:** 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).

**Long-term:** The timescale of the forest owner or manager as manifested by the objectives of the *management plan*\*, the rate of harvesting, and the commitment to maintain permanent forest cover. The length of time involved will vary according to the context and ecological conditions, and will be a function of how long it takes a given ecosystem to recover its natural structure and composition following harvesting or disturbance, or to produce mature or primary conditions (Source: FSC-STD-01-002 V1-0 FSC Glossary of Terms (2009)).

**Management objective:** Specific management goals, practices, outcomes, and approaches established to achieve the requirements of this standard.

**Management plan:** The collection of documents, reports, records and maps that describe, justify and regulate the activities carried out by any manager, staff or organization within or in relation to the Management Unit, including statements of objectives and policies (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Management plan monitoring:** Follow up and oversight procedures for the purpose of evaluating the achievement of the *management objectives*\*. The results of the monitoring activities are utilized in the implementation of *adaptive management*\*.

**Management Unit (adapted for Norwegian context):** A spatial area or areas submitted for FSC certification with clearly defined boundaries, and each with unique cadastral numbers, managed to a set of explicit long term management objectives which are expressed in a *management plan*\*. This area or areas include(s):

- All facilities and area(s) within or adjacent to this spatial area or areas under legal\* title or management control of, or operated by or on behalf of The Organization, for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives; and
- All facilities and area(s) outside, and not adjacent to this spatial area or areas and operated by or on behalf of The Organization\*, solely for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives, e.g. roads and other necessary constructions (Source: adapted from FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Minimum age (of employment):** National laws\* of Norway permit the employment of 13-15 year old children in light work\* which is neither prejudicial to school attendance, nor harmful to a child's\* health or development.

**Mountain forest:** Forests at high elevations bordering the mountains. Characterized by short summers (short growth periods and low site quality), low temperatures and hard winds. The mountain forests are often open with relatively few young trees and often many damaged trees. The trees are often richly set with low branches with a lot of pendulous tree lichens growing on them. The evaporation from the forest is limited and the ground can often be boggy or swampy. There are few tree species (dominated by Norway spruce, Scots pine or/and downy birch).

**Narin core areas:** Important nature types found in the Narin-database (Source: Skogdatabasen Narin - Biofokus).

**National laws:** The whole suite of primary and secondary laws (acts, ordinances, statutes, decrees), which is applicable to a national territory, as well as secondary regulations, and tertiary administrative procedures (rules / requirements) that derive their authority directly and explicitly from these primary and secondary laws (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Native species:** Species, subspecies, or lower taxon, occurring within its natural range (past or present) and dispersal potential (that is, within the range it occupies naturally or could occupy without direct or indirect introduction or care by humans) (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Invasive Alien Species Programme. Glossary of Terms as provided on CBD website).

**Natural conditions/native ecosystem:** For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria and any applications of restoration techniques, terms such as 'more natural conditions', 'native ecosystem' provide for managing sites to favor or restore native species and associations of native species that are typical of the locality, and for managing these associations and other environmental values so that they form ecosystems typical of the locality. Further guidelines may be provided in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Natural forest:** 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:

- Forest affected by harvesting or other disturbances, in which trees are being or have been regenerated by a combination of natural and artificial regeneration 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. In boreal and north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species, a combination of natural and artificial regeneration to regenerate forest of the same native species, with most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems of that site, is not by itself considered as conversion to plantations;
- Natural forests which are maintained by traditional silvicultural practices including natural or assisted natural regeneration;
- Well-developed secondary or colonizing forest of native species which has regenerated in non-forest areas;
- The definition of 'natural forest' may include areas described as wooded ecosystems, woodland and savannah.

The description of natural forests and their principal characteristics and key elements may be further defined in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards, with appropriate descriptions or examples.

'Natural forest' does not include land which is not dominated by trees, was previously not forest, and which does not yet contain many of the characteristics and elements of native ecosystems. Young regeneration may be considered as natural forest after some years of ecological progression. FSC Forest Stewardship Standards may indicate when such areas may be excised from the Management Unit, should be restored towards more natural conditions, or may be converted to other land uses.

FSC has not developed quantitative thresholds between different categories of forests in terms of area, density, height, etc. FSC Forest Stewardship Standards may provide such thresholds and other guidelines, with appropriate descriptions or examples. Pending such guidance, areas dominated by trees, mainly of native species, may be considered as natural forest.

Thresholds and guidelines may cover areas such as:

- Other *vegetation types*\* and non-forest communities and ecosystems included in the Management Unit, including grassland, bushland, wetlands, and open woodlands;
- Very young pioneer or colonizing regeneration in a primary succession on new open sites or abandoned farmland, which does not yet contain many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems. This may be considered as natural forest through ecological progression after the passage of years;
- Young natural regeneration growing in natural forest areas may be considered as natural forest, even after logging, clear-felling or other disturbances, since many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems remain, above-ground and below-ground;
- Areas where deforestation and forest degradation have been so severe that they are no longer 'dominated by trees' may be considered as non-forest, when they have very few of the principal above-ground and below-ground characteristics and key elements of natural forests. Such extreme degradation is typically the result of combinations of repeated and

excessively heavy logging, grazing, farming, fuelwood collection, hunting, fire, erosion, mining, settlements, infrastructure, etc. FSC Forest Stewardship Standards may help to decide when such areas should be excised from the Management Unit, should be restored towards more natural conditions, or may be converted to other land uses.

(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

In the FSS for Norway is the term Natural forest in near compliance with the Norwegian NiN-category *normalskog* (Source: Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre, NiN- system v 2.0 (7SD-NS), 7SD *Skogbestandsdynamikk* (biodiversity.no)).

**Natural Hazards:** disturbances that can present risks to social and *environmental values\** in the *Management Unit\** but that may also comprise important ecosystem functions; examples include drought, flood, fire, landslide, storm, avalanche, etc.

**Nature forest:** This term covers forest which has undergone only natural regeneration within the forest stand. Human management activities have been insignificant, have happened for such a long time ago, or have been conducted in such a way that the original soil composition, natural forest structure and ecological processes dominate. (Source: Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre: NiN- system v 2.0 (7SD-NU), 7SD *Skogbestandsdynamikk* (biodiversity.no)).

**Nature types:** (1) Nature types registered, mapped and categorized due to the method described in DN-handbook 13 (2007) developed by the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management (DN). Narin core areas\* in the Narin database are registered according to this method. (2) Nature types registered and mapped based on the NiN-system (Nature Types in Norway) that is under current development by the Norwegian Species Information Centre (2022). The NiN system is designed to recognize that most of the variation in nature derives from a more or less gradual variation in species composition in response to variations along ecological gradients.

**Non-timber forest products (NTFP):** All products other than timber derived from the Management Unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Objective:** The basic purpose laid down by *The Organization\** for the forest enterprise, including the decision of policy and the choice of means for attaining the purpose (Source: Based on F.C. Osmaston. 1968. *The Management of Forests*. Hafner, New York; and D.R. Johnston, A.J. Grayson and R.T. Bradley. 1967. *Forest Planning*. Faber & Faber, London).

**Obligatory code of practice:** A manual or handbook or other source of technical instruction which The Organization must implement by law (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Old forest:** Forest in the Norwegian development classes 4 and 5, that is mature forest ready for harvesting. The age depends on the forest site quality.

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

**Outdoor recreation:** Recreation activities in the spare time with the aim to have nature experiences and good training. Ordinary outdoor recreation activities are trekking, skiing, boating, fishing or hunting. Kindergarten- and schoolchildren do outdoor activities as an important part of their education. Widely used recreation areas are presented as a map layer in the public database *Naturbase* (<http://kart.naturbase.no/>).

**Organism:** Any biological entity capable of replication or of transferring genetic material (Source: Council Directive 90/220/EEC).

**The Organization:** 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).

**Pesticide:** Any substance or preparation prepared or used in protecting plants or wood or other plant products from pests; in controlling pests; or in rendering such pests harmless. This definition includes insecticides, rodenticides, acaricides, molluscicides, larvacides, fungicides and herbicides (Source: FSC-POL-30-001 FSC Pesticides Policy (2005)).

**Plantation:** A forest area established by planting or sowing with using either alien 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. The description of plantations may be further defined in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards, with appropriate descriptions or examples, such as:

- Areas which would initially have complied with this definition of 'plantation' but which, after the passage of years, contain many or most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems, may be classified as natural forests.
- Plantations managed to restore and enhance biological and habitat diversity, structural complexity and ecosystem functionality may, after the passage of years, be classified as natural forests.
- Boreal and north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species, in which a combination of natural and artificial regeneration is used to regenerate forest of the same native species, with most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems of that site, may be considered as natural forest, and this regeneration is not by itself considered as conversion to plantations.  
(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2)

**Plantation (Norwegian definition):** The Norwegian NiN-system for classification of nature types gives the following definition of a Tree Plantation: Strongly changed soils that are submitted to production of wooden biomass (trees) for timber, energy or Christmas trees. The trees are planted systematically in rows, often after soil scarification, and the planted trees dominates with more than 90 % of the stems. Plantations are one-layered, and trees are equally aged. The ground vegetation is

often missing, and the area has often been fertilized, ditched and/or sprayed. Key elements like dead wood are lacking. (Source: Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre, Nature in Norway, T38 Tree Plantation). Tree plantations have often been established on previously farmed or grazed land that is abandoned.

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

**Priority species:** Species and their functional habitats that are protected according to the Nature Diversity Act.

**Productive forest:** If an area can produce at least one cubic meter wood, including bark, per hectare and year, it is productive forest (Source: NIBIO research institute/the Norwegian National Forest Inventory program 2022).

**Protection:** See definition of Conservation.

**Protection Area:** See definition of Conservation Zone. See also definition of Legally protected areas.

**Protective forest:** The protective forest is the upper forest belt below the mountains or rarely a forest belt along the coast. A careful management of protective forests\* is required regarding the Forestry Act to protect lower altitude forests against hazards caused by the hard winter climate (low temperatures and wind). Boundaries of the protective forests are drawn by local authorities and are justified in regulations.

**Public right of access:** an old Norwegian customary right – Allemannsretten - that is included in the Outdoor Recreation Act. There is publicly free access to all nature areas independent of the ownership, including all forests. (Source: <https://www.regjeringen.no/no/tema/klima-og-miljo/friluftsliv/innsiktsartikler-friluftsliv/allemannsretten/id2076300/>).

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

**Rare species:** Species that are uncommon, scarce, or declining, but not classified as threatened. These species are located in geographically restricted areas or specific habitats, or are scantily scattered on a large scale. They are approximately equivalent to the IUCN (2001) category of Near Threatened (NT), including species that are close to qualifying for, or are likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future. They are also approximately equivalent to imperiled 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).

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

**Red listed habitat types:** Habitat types according to the Red List for Ecosystems and Habitat Types, that is based on the NiN-system (see Nature Types). The list was developed by biology experts, and it is managed by the Norwegian Species Information Centre (2018).

**Reduced impact harvesting:** Harvesting (or logging) using techniques to reduce the impact on the residual stand (Source: Based on Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests, IUCN 2006).

**Refugia:** 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).

**Reindeer grazing district (reinbeitedistrikt):** Sámi reindeer husbandry in Norway are divided into six regional pasture ranges, these pastures are divided into 82 reindeer herding districts (reinbeitedistrikt). The boundaries for each pasture range and reindeer herding district is decided and regulated by governmental authorities and can be found on the Internet map service *Kilden* (<https://kilden.nibio.no/>). A district is an administrative unit which includes a specific geographical area and whose main task is to organize and to conduct an ecological, economic and culturally sustainable reindeer husbandry within the district. A district is not a legal entity which can borrow money or issue a contract, but a district can represent individual reindeer herders/family groups in any consultation, negotiation and any disputes. In each district, groups of reindeer owners operate one or more common herds, sharing in day-to-day operation. These herd groups are called *siida* and *sitje* in North and South Saami language, respectively. The work within a *siida* can be seasonally orientated, like a summer or winter *siida* or be a year-round *siida*. Legally, the *siida* unit is understood as a family which, or an individual who, represents a unit within the district and are/is engaged in reindeer herding in a *siida* with leadership of an individual, a married couple or a couple living together. Sámi who do not belong to a *siida* unit fall outside the legal bounds now established for reindeer husbandry in Norway. In recent years there have been around 100 individual summer *siida* and about 150 individual winter *siida*. All reindeers within the reindeer herding districts are privately owned and carry an owner's ear mark.

**Remuneration:** includes the ordinary, basic or minimum wage or salary and any additional emoluments whatsoever payable directly or indirectly, whether in cash or in kind, by the employer to the worker and arising out of the workers\* employment (ILO Convention 100, Article1a).



**Relevant stakeholder:** A collective term used in this standard, Principle 9, regarding stakeholders with legal or customary rights in the MU, or with other interests. It also includes stakeholders that may be contacted by *The Organization*\* due to public database records that are possible to track back to an individual, NGO or institution even when the source does not have specific interests regarding the MU.

**Representative Sample Areas:** Portions of the *Management Unit*\* delineated for the purpose of conserving or restoring viable examples of an ecosystem that would naturally occur in that geographical region.

**Resilience:** The ability of a system to maintain key functions and processes in the face of stresses or pressures by either resisting or adapting to change. Resilience can be applied to both ecological systems and social systems (Source: IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA). 2008. Establishing Marine Protected Area Networks – Making it Happen. Washington D.C.: IUCN-WCPA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and The Nature Conservancy.).

**Responsibility species:** Species with particularly high management interest because the Norwegian population of the species is important in an international perspective. (Source: <https://artsdatabanken.no/rodlisteforarter2021/fordypning/ansvarsarterrodlistaieteuropeiskperspektiv>).

**Restore / Restoration:** These words are 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. In the Principles and Criteria, the word 'restore' is not used to imply the recreation of any particular previous, pre-historic, pre-industrial or other pre-existing ecosystem (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

*The Organization*\* is not necessarily obliged to restore those environmental values that have been affected by factors beyond the control of The Organization, for example by natural disasters, by climate change, or by the legally authorized activities of third parties, such as public infrastructure, mining, hunting or settlement. FSC-POL-20-003 The Excision of Areas from the Scope of Certification describes the processes by which such areas may be excised from the area certified, when appropriate.

The Organization is also not obliged to restore environmental values that may have existed at some time in the historic or pre-historic past, or that have been negatively affected by previous owners or organizations. However, The Organization is expected to take reasonable measures to mitigate, control and prevent environmental degradation which is continuing in the Management Unit as a result of such previous impacts.

**Right holder:** A term used for the different rights holders that have equal rights to commercial, and other activities in the same areas, in this standard limited to forestry and Sámi reindeer husbandry.

**Riparian zone:** Interface between land and a water body, and the vegetation associated with it. See also *Buffer zone*.

**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).

**Sámi:** The Sámi people are the only Indigenous Peoples of Norway. They are the descendants of nomadic peoples and have inhabited northern Scandinavia for thousands of years. The Sámi\* reindeer husbandry is a traditional livelihood affected by management activities, and the husbandry is a commercial sector and is also regarded as the most important cultural marker. The Sámi reindeer husbandry is organized as mainly family groups (Siida) into 82 Sámi\* reindeer grazing districts\* in central and northern parts of Norway.

**Sámi reindeer herders (reindriftssamer):** A sub-population of the Sámi People are the Sámi reindeer herders. Their traditional way of using extensive land in Norway for reindeer husbandry and other cultural activities are well protected by fully recognized customary rights and national legislation.

**Sámi sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance\*:**

- Calving areas: The female reindeer gathers in exceptionally rich calving areas during spring where the calves are born and raised.
- Gathering areas for reindeer: Gathering areas are natural delimited areas where the reindeer temporarily are gathered during migration, ear marking of calves, sorting or slaughtering.
- Grazing paddocks: Fenced areas where reindeer are collected or captured for feeding or in wait for being driven into separate areas for ear tagging or to be slaughtered.
- Lichen rich areas: Reindeer are dependent on the access to lichen dominated vegetation systems for grazing during winter. These lichens are growing on the ground in open forests or in the mountains, i.e. mostly species of the genera Alectoria, Cladonia and Cetraria. The most important species growing on tree branches are pendulous species of Alectoria, Bryoria and Usnea.
- Migration and moving routes: Traditional/ancient migration routes for the reindeer between winter and summer grazing areas.

**Scale:** 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:** See individual definitions of the terms 'scale', 'intensity', and 'risk'.

**Selected habitat types:** Legally protected habitat types under the Nature Diversity Act.

**Significant:** For the purposes of Principle 9, HCVs 1, 2 and 6 there are three main forms of recognizing significance.

- A designation, classification or recognized conservation status, assigned by an international agency such as IUCN or Birdlife International;
- A designation by national or regional authorities, or by a responsible national conservation organization, on the basis of its concentration of biodiversity;
- A voluntary recognition by the manager, owner or 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.

Any one of these forms will justify designation as HCVs 1, 2 and 6. Many regions of the world have received recognition for their biodiversity importance, measured in many different ways. Existing maps and classifications of priority areas for biodiversity conservation play an essential role in identifying the potential presence of HCVs 1, 2 and 6. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Silviculture:** The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the targeted diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis (Source: Nieuwenhuis, M. 2000. Terminology of Forest Management. IUFRO World Series Vol. 9. IUFRO 4.04.07 SilvaPlan and SilvaVoc).

**Soil scarification:** A measure that is conducted after clearcutting. The soil scarification helps to efficiently rejuvenate the harvested area by turning the humus layer and opening the mineral soil below. Usually, planting of the area is done after scarification, but the method is also suitable for additional natural regeneration. Soil scarification prevents attacks from the large pine weevil (*Hylobius abietis*) on juvenile spruce plants.

**Stakeholder:** See definitions for ‘affected stakeholder’ and ‘interested stakeholder’.

**Tenure:** Socially defined agreements held by individuals or groups, recognized by *legal*\* statutes or customary practice, regarding the ‘bundle of rights and duties’ of ownership, holding, access and/or usage of a particular land unit or the associated resources there within (such as individual trees, plant species, water, minerals, etc.) (Source: IUCN. Glossary definitions provided on IUCN website).

**Threat:** An indication or warning of impending or likely damage or negative impacts (Source: Based on Oxford English Dictionary).

**Threatened species:** 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. These categories may be re-interpreted for FSC purposes according to official national classifications (which have *legal*\* significance) and to local conditions and population densities (which should affect decisions about appropriate conservation measures) (Source: Based on IUCN. (2001). IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.).

**Timber harvesting level:** The actual harvest quantity executed on *the Management Unit*\*, tracked by either volume (e.g. cubic meters or board feet) or area (e.g. hectares or acres) metrics for the purpose of comparison with calculated (maximum) allowable harvest levels.

**Timely manner:** As promptly as circumstances reasonably allow; not intentionally postponed by *The Organization*\*; in compliance with applicable laws, contracts, licenses or invoices.

**Traditional Knowledge:** Information, know-how, skills and practices that are developed, sustained and passed on from generation to generation within a community, often forming part of its cultural or spiritual identity (Source: based on the definition by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Glossary definition as provided under Policy / Traditional Knowledge on the WIPO website).

**Transaction verification:** Verification by certification bodies and/or Accreditation Services International (ASI) that FSC output claims made by certificate holders are accurate and match with the FSC input claims of their trading partners (Source: FSC-STD-40-004 V3-0).

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

**Use rights:** 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).

**Vast majority (Norwegian definition):** 100% of the total area of Intact Forest Landscapes\* within the Management Unit\* as of January 1, 2017. The vast majority\* also meets or exceeds the minimum definition of Intact Forest Landscape\*.

**Vegetation-types:** *vegetation types*\* mentioned in the Norwegian standard are:

- Bay willow forests: rich swamp-forests dominated by bay willow (*Salix pentandra*); A rare forest type.
- Bilberry forest: The most common forest-type in Norway, usually in medium site quality. It is dominated by bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) in the field layer. The associated tree species are usually Norway spruce, downy birch or oak (oak-bilberry forest).
- Bog bilberry forest: Usually pine-dominated forest, sometimes in mire woodland. Bog bilberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum*) and heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) usually dominate the field layer. The tree production in the vegetation type is very low.
- Calcareous forest: Forest vegetation types on calcareous ground, especially dominated by Scots pine, Norway spruce or downy birch. Because of the many rare and threatened species of fungi and vascular plants occurring, the calcareous forests are red-listed habitat types.
- Cowberry forest: Forest vegetation dominated by a mixture of bilberry, cowberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*) and crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*) in the field layer. It is a common vegetation type in forests with Scots pine and Norway spruce, often in mixed stands. The site quality is somewhat poorer than the bilberry forest.
- Broadleaved thermophilous forest: Deciduous tree species belonging to the temperate (hemiboreal) zone (oak, ash, wych elm, Norway maple, small-leaved lime, beech, black alder or/and hazel). Some rich or calcareous types of broadleaved thermophilous forest are threatened habitat types.

- Floodplain forest: Forests in regularly flooded areas along rivers. Often dominated by grey alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), willow (*Salix* spp.) or Norway spruce.
- Lichen woodland: Pine- or birch-dominated woodland totally dominated by ground-dwelling lichens (*Cladonia*, *Cetraria* etc.). Lichen woodland is important for reindeer grazing. The site quality for forest production is rather low.
- Low-herb forest: Low herbs dominate under various tree species. The site quality is rather good for forest production.
- Mire woodland: More or less forested, low productive areas on different types of mires (bogs, fens and marshes). Common tree species are Scots pine, Norway spruce or downy birch.
- Pastoral woodland: wooded areas in cultural landscapes that often have been grazed or used for firewood collection. Many different tree species occur, but the type is often dominated by deciduous trees.
- Pollard woodland: areas where ash or wych elm has been traditionally pollarded for animal fodder. Pollards are habitats for many red listed species of insects, lichens, bryophytes and wood inhabiting fungi.
- Small-fern forest: Usually spruce forest. The field layer is characterized by more prominent occurrences of beech fern (*Phegopteris connectilis*) and oak fern (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*). The site quality is medium to high.
- Swamp-forest: A wide range of forest types characterized by high ground level on peaty or muddy ground, often in areas with more or less open mires and mire woodlands. Rich swamp forest has high biodiversity and is a red-listed habitat type.
- Tall-fern forest: Tall ferns of various species grow in the field layer. Tree species are usually Norway spruce or downy birch. Tall-fern forests are usually highly productive.
- Tall-herb forest: Tall herbs and grasses dominate the field layer under Norway spruce or various boreal deciduous tree species. Tall-herb forests are usually species-rich and very productive.

**Verifiable targets:** Specific goals, such as desired future forest conditions, established to measure progress towards the achievement of each of the *management objectives*\*. These goals are expressed as clear outcomes, such that their attainment can be verified and it is possible to determine whether they have been accomplished or not.

**Very Limited portion:** The area affected *shall*\* not exceed 0.5% of the area of the *Management Unit*\* in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the *Management Unit*\* (Source: based on FSC-STD-01-002 V1-0 FSC Glossary of Terms (2009)).

**Very limited portion of core area:** The area affected shall\* not exceed 0.5% of the area of the core area\* in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the core area\*.

**Waste materials:** unusable or unwanted substances or by-products, such as:

- Hazardous waste, including chemical waste and batteries;
- Containers;
- Motor and other fuels and oils;
- Rubbish including metals, plastics and paper; and
- Abandoned buildings, machinery and equipment.

**Water bodies** (including water courses): Seasonal, temporary, and permanent brooks, creeks, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes. Water bodies include riparian or wetland systems, lakes, swamps, bogs and springs.

**Wetlands:** Transitional areas between terrestrial and aquatic systems in which the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water (Source: Cowardin, L.M., Carter, V., Golet, F.C., Laroe, E.T. 1979. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. DC US Department: Washington).

Under the Ramsar Convention, wetlands can include tidal mudflats, natural ponds, marshes, potholes, wet meadows, bogs, peatlands, freshwater swamps, mangroves, lakes, rivers and even some coral reefs (Source: IUCN, No Date, IUCN Definitions – English).

**Workers:** 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 C155 Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981).

**Workers’ organization:** any organization of workers\* for furthering and defending the interest of workers\* (adapted from ILO Convention 87, Article 10). It is important to note that rules and guidance on composition of workers’ organization vary from country to country, especially in relation to those who are considered as rank and file members, as well those who are deemed to have power to “hire and fire”. Workers’ organizations tend to separate association between those who can “hire and fire” and those who cannot (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).

**Worst forms of child\* labour:** comprises a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; b) the use, procuring or offering of a child\* for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performance; c) the use, procuring or offering of a child\* for illicit activities, in particular for production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children (ILO Convention 182, Article 3).



Forest Stewardship Council®

---

**[www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org)**

FSC International Center gGmbH  
Adenauerallee 134 · 53113 Bonn · Germany



All Rights Reserved FSC® International 2023 FSC®F000100