

IMPLEMENTATION OF FSC-STD-20-007 V4-0 FOREST MANAGEMENT EVALUATIONS

Forest Management Team

31 October 2024

Calibration webinar

Implementation of FSC-STD-20-007 V4-0 Forest Management Evaluations



AGENDA



	Topic	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome & Introduction	5 min.	Diana
2	Update on DAKs alignment process	3 min.	Diana
3	Review of action points from CB meeting	15 min.	Lauri
4	Relevant docs and processes for adaptation to revised standard	7 min.	Lauri
5	Q&A	25 min.	Lauri
6	Closing remarks	5 min.	Diana

Introduction

Presenters

Purpose of the session:

- Support the implementation of FSC-STD-20-007 V4-0 by CBs.
- Conduct calibration among certification bodies and FSC.



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Policy Manager,
FSC International



Lauri Moisander
Consultant,
Luontoa Ltd.



UPDATE ON DAKKS ALIGNMENT PROCESS

Revision of FSC-STD-20-007 to align with ISO requirements and DAkkS



Category	Activity
Process type	A joint accelerated process is applied, resulting in FSC-STD-20-007 V4-1, FSC-STD-20-011 V4-3
WG composition	An internal WG with ASI and consultant input
Objective of revision process	To align with FSC-STD-20-001 and to address DAkkS nonconformities
Timeline	Aligned with FSC-STD-20-001 revision process

Implementation activities related to FSC-STD-20-007



CB meeting
Calibration workshop



Joint revision
Webinars (2)



16 July 2024

10-12 Sept. 2024

31 Oct. 2024

7 Nov. 2024

~~31 Dec. 2024~~



First calibration
webinar
Cross-walk V3 & V4 published



Second calibration
webinar

End of transition
period



ACTION POINTS FROM THE CB MEETING

Recorded action points from the CB meeting



1. **Re-evaluation / Clause 12.4** : discussion over a potential need to establish an interpretation to clarify requirements related to instances of lapse in certification.
2. **Surveillance / Clause 11.5** : discussion over a potential need to establish an interpretation to clarify what is meant with 'prioritization'.
3. **Sampling of multiple MUs** : discussion over the potential impacts of changes to sampling requirements for multiple MU certification.

Clause 12.4 : evaluation of the need to establish an interpretation to distinguish whether pre-evaluation is required.

12.4. In the case of a lapse in certification beyond 6 months after the expiry of certification, a main evaluation process without the peer review is required to renew certification. After a lapse in certification of 2 years or more after the expiry of certification, The Organization shall be treated as a new applicant for certification.

- ▶ >6 month lapse in certification = main evaluation process is required without peer review
- ▶ >2 year lapse in certification = The Organization is considered a new applicant and full main evaluation process is required (incl. pre-evaluation and peer review)

Conclusion: No interpretation is required, as the Clause states that The Organization is considered as a 'new applicant' only after 2 years of lapse in certification. Pre-evaluation is required from new applicants, but the Clause specifically requires only the main evaluation process from organizations which have endured a lapse of more than 6 months, but less than 2 years.

Clause 11.5 : evaluation of the need to establish an interpretation to distinguish whether a clarification is required to determine what ‘prioritize’ implies for certification bodies.

11.5. Where there is an approved NFSS Risk Assessment, the certification body shall prioritize the evaluation of requirements designated as specified risks of non-conformity in the NFSS.

- ▶ Non-requirement : The requirement entails very little basis for conformance assessment
- ▶ Clause 11.9 : prescribed list of Criteria to be evaluated during SE for specific types of sets of ‘like’ MUs (plantations, natural forests, HCV forests)
- ▶ Clause 11.10 : In the presence of an approved NFSS RA, Clause 11.9 prescribed Criteria replaced with specified risk requirements for types of sets of ‘like’ MUs described in Clause 11.9
- ▶ Clause 11.11 : In the presence of an approved NFSS RA, for any other types of MUs, discretion is advised. All specified and undesignated risk requirements to be evaluated at least once per certification cycle.

Conclusion: No interpretation to be issued. Prioritization is simply intended to suggest additional focus on specified risk requirements during surveillance. No specific frequency deemed necessary during the revision.

Sampling of multiple MUs : PSU continues to monitor impacts of revised sampling requirements



- ▶ Several CBs raised concerns regarding the changes in sampling requirements related to multiple MU certification
- ▶ Discussions took place during FSC/CB/ASI Triologue and CB meeting
- ▶ FSC continues to monitor the impacts of the revised sampling requirements

Conclusion: If any normative requirement is deemed not applicable or in need of revision, a due process needs to be established to instigate a revision. FSC Board of Directors, who have signed off the revised standard, would need to authorize a revision process.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



Crosswalk and FAQ



Clause	Standard FSC-STD-20-007 V3-0	Clause	Revised standard FSC-STD-20-007 V4-0	Type of change	Change description	Comments, feedback, clarifying questions
		1.10.	Primary or secondary processing facilities not covered in Clause 1.7. shall not be included in the scope of FM/CoC certification	New	This requirement is new. Possibility of adding secondary processing facilities within the scope of FM/CoC certification removed from V4-0. Possibilities for adding primary processing facilities within the scope of FM/CoC certification has been clarified and limited under Clause 1.7.	
2	Documented procedures					
2.1	The certification body shall document and implement its systems and procedures for evaluating forest management enterprises, in conformity with the requirements specified in this standard.			Deleted	This requirement has been deleted for streamlining the normative framework. Redundant requirement covered in FSC 20-001 STD V4-0 General requirements for FSC accredited certification bodies, requirement 1.1.2.	
2.2	The certification body shall allow sufficient time for the auditors in an evaluation to fully implement the requirements as specified in the certification body's procedures. NOTE: The amount of time spent by the certification body to evaluate conformity with the requirements of the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard varies with the number of FMUs selected, the complexity of the management and social and environmental conditions, the number of sites, records and documents evaluated and stakeholders interviewed, and with the time taken to carry out those evaluations and consultations. The amount of time expected to be required for a competent evaluation will be included in the guidance to this standard.			Revised	This requirement has been deleted in V4. However, determination of the audit time has been clarified in section 4 of V4.	
		4	Determination of the audit time			
		4.1	The certification body shall maintain a procedure for calculating audit times needed to execute and complete effective audits considering, but not limited to, the activities below: a. conducting the opening and closing meeting;	New	This requirement regarding audit time is new and has been added to ensure the certification body has the ability to monitor and report on audit time related to each t	

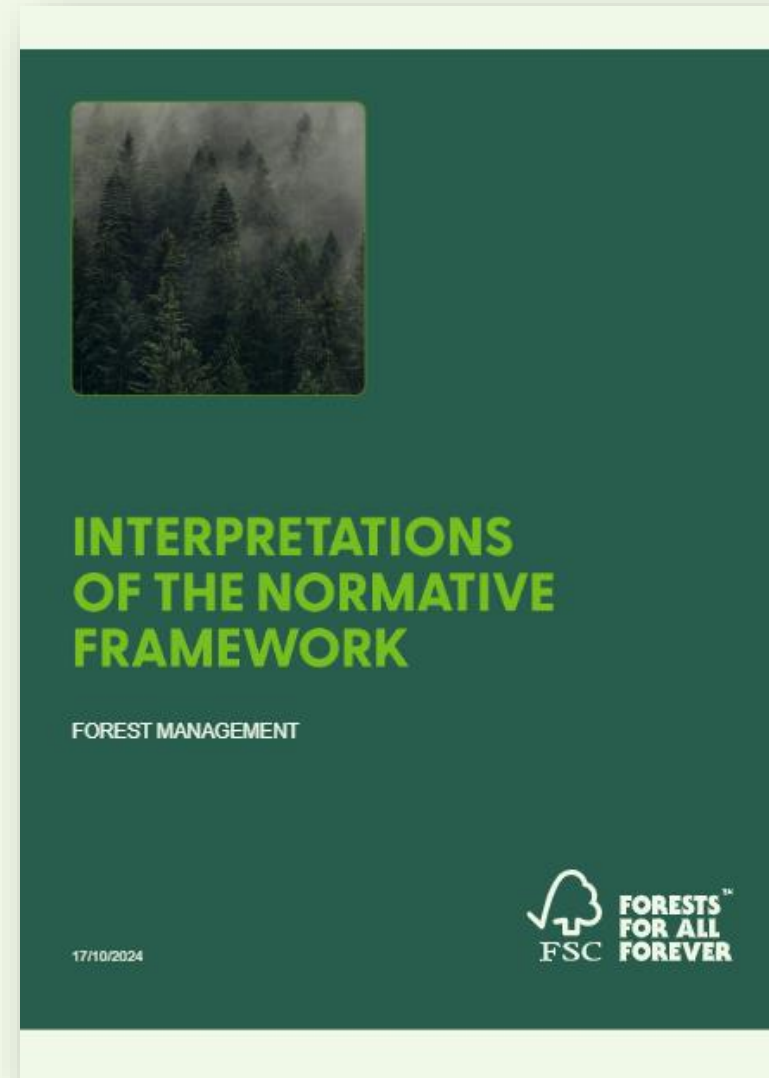
► **Available at:**
[Revision of the Forest Management Evaluations Standard \(FSC-STD-20-007\) and associated addenda | FSC Connect](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE FOREST MANAGEMENT EVALUATIONS STANDARD

Interpretations

Update of the FM interpretations

- ▶ Keep / Revise / Remove
- ▶ Timeline contingent with effective date and changes implied by the DAKs revision
- ▶ **FSC is working on an interpretations analysis to be shared via the FSC CB Forum (New)**



Request for interpretations



Enquiry Procedure PSU-PRO-10-201 V2-2 EN

- 1.6 PSU will only provide interpretations on, or derogations to the requirements of the FSC normative framework.
- 1.7 PSU will not respond to political or strategic enquiries on FSC's position or intentions as this rests with the FSC Board of Directors and the FSC Director General.

1.1 Interpretation requests:

- a) Should be formulated in a way that they can ideally be answered with a **YES** or **NO**, together with a brief justification;
- b) Should be limited to **a single issue**; multiple issues on the same subject should be submitted as separate requests;
- c) Should make a **clear** and **correct reference** to the clause(s) of the respective FSC normative document(s);

Template for Interpretations request in Procedure or via email to **forestmanagement@fsc.org**

Q&A



CLOSING REMARKS



Reminders

Ongoing public consultation of FSC-STD-20-001, FSC-STD-20-007, FSC-STD-20-011 until 21 Nov



Webinar on FSC accreditation standards revision for technical users (including key changes to FSC-STD-20-007)



Thursday, 07 November 2024 at 9:00 – 10:30 CET
Thursday, 07 November 2024 at 16:00 – 17:30 CET

Questions: forestmanagement@fsc.org

Thank you



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