



**SGS QUALIFOR**  
(Associated Documents)

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**SGS QUALIFOR**  
**FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD FOR SWEDEN**  
**2010**

This document presents the Qualifor checklist for forest management certification in Sweden, based upon the [FSC National Forest Management Standard for Sweden, V2.1 of 5 May 2010](#). This standard forms the basis for:

- Certification assessment in Sweden
- Surveillance assessment
- Information to stakeholders on the assessment criteria used by SGS Qualifor

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**CHANGES SINCE THE PREVIOUS VERSION OF THE STANDARD**

Section	Change	Date

## NATIONAL SWEDISH STANDARD FOR FSC CERTIFICATION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT

### 1. Preface

The FSC's Principles and Criteria constitute an overall framework for the development of a national, suitable forest management standard. National standards are developed to comply with local ecological, social and economic conditions, while simultaneously embodying the FSC's fundamental Principles and Criteria. When a set of standards has been approved by the FSC, all local and international certifiers must apply these standards as a minimum requirement in their certification process.

Certification in agreement with the Swedish FSC Standard implies that the forest manager accepts that the Standard will be revised regularly. The revision should be based on new knowledge and experience, and be carried out by representatives from the three chambers of FSC. This has been the prerequisites for the revision process that now has come to an end. It has brought about some procedural changes in FSC Sweden, which will be of use by the time of the next standard revision.

Since forestry is important for Swedish prosperity, and society aims at sustainability, the FSC forest management standard can play an important role to promote the management and use of forests in ways that are ecologically, socially and economically responsible. This gives good motivation to go through the process of negotiations and compromises needed in the standard work within the FSC-system – a system that aims to stimulate dialogue and mutual agreements between stakeholders representing economical, environmental and social interests.

#### 1.1 Descriptive statement of FSC

FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests.

It provides standard setting, trademark assurance and accreditation services for companies and organizations interested in responsible forestry. Products carrying the FSC label are independently certified to assure consumers that they come from forests that are managed to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations. FSC maintains representation in more than 45 countries.

Forests provide us with clean water, fresh air, and help combat global warming. They also provide food, medicine and important natural resources, such as timber and paper. If managed responsibly, forests and plantations benefit forest people and the global community.

However, in some countries as much as 80 percentages of the timber is harvested illegally. This often involves violation of human rights and felling of protected forests.

For further information, please visit: [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org)

#### 1.2 Descriptive statement of FSC Sweden

FSC Sweden is a national initiative within the network of FSC. It is a national, not for profit membership based organization. FSC Sweden has membership and Board of Directors built on three chambers; the Social, the Environmental and the Economical, with the aim to build consensus solutions. It has clear decision mechanisms, securing well balanced decisions.

The major tasks of FSC Sweden are to fulfill FSC's mission by:

- spreading knowledge about FSC and FSC-certification in Sweden
- encouraging participation and membership in FSC both on a national and international level
- safeguarding the integrity of FSC in Sweden and internationally
- managing the Swedish FSC-standard for certification of forest management.

FSC Sweden is governed by its members who appoint the Board. The Board appoints committees.

For further information, please visit: [www.fsc-sverige.org](http://www.fsc-sverige.org)

### 2. Introduction

Certification in agreement with the FSC regulations implies that the forest manager performs an environmental responsible, economically viable, socially beneficial forest management. The management shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations, the FSC Principles and Criteria and the Swedish FSC Standard. The certification also allows forest products from certified holdings to be marked with the FSC symbol in forms decided by the FSC.

The overall objective of the forest management is to: (i) maintain, and where necessary restore, the ecosystem's production capacity, fundamental ecological processes and biodiversity, (ii) secure people's livelihoods, promote a safe environment for workers, respect the cultures of local populations and Sami people, respectively, and their time-honored rights, and acknowledge the importance of values such as wildlife, fungi, berries, fish and recreation, and (iii) promote long-term valuable wood production and economic profitability.

#### 2.1 Purpose

This standard sets out the required elements against which FSC accredited certification bodies shall evaluate forest management practices within the given scope of the standard.

The FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship (February 2000) 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 Principles and Criteria therefore require the addition of indicators that are adapted to regional or national conditions in order to be implemented at the forest management unit level. The FSC Principles and Criteria together with a set of such indicators accredited by FSC constitute an FSC Forest Stewardship Standard.

This standard follows the requirements of FSC-STD-20-002 Structure and content of forest stewardship standards (November 2004) to improve consistency and transparency in certification decisions between different certification bodies in the region and in different parts of the world, and thereby to enhance the credibility of the FSC certification scheme as a whole.

## 2.2 Scope

This standard is applicable to all forest operations seeking FSC certification within Sweden. The standard applies to all forest types. Managers of major holdings are managers with holdings of over 5 000 hectares of productive forest land. Other managers are thus managers with less than 5 000 hectares of productive forest land. Indicators for Small and Low Intensity Forest Management, Slimf, are applicable for holdings with less than 1 000 hectares of productive forest land. On some indicators further exceptions are made for holdings with less than 20 hectares of productive forest land

## 2.3 Background information on the standard setting process

A Swedish National Standard for Forest Management was accredited by FSC International in 1998. The review of the accredited standard started on November 2000. The timeline and the scope for the revision were announced in Sweden and on FSC's NI-forum during 2001. An open initiation meeting to inform on the planned revision process was held the same year when the work started in working groups and sub working groups (see Template for proposal and work plan 2008).

A revised draft of the standard, version 1:0, was prepared in the end of March 2003. Several issues remained unresolved, but the draft was submitted for consultation between April to May 2003. Comments were received from 47 different entities/groups/people.

The draft was revised based on the input received during the consultation. After long discussions, involving procedural changes and employment of dispute resolution protocol, a draft version 2:0 was finally endorsed by the Board of FSC Sweden in September 2005. It was submitted to FSC's Accreditation Business Unit for endorsement.

In March 2006 a Standard Evaluation Report on the standard draft version 2:0 was made by Accreditation Services International (ASI). FSC Sweden responded to the report in December 2006, with a draft version 2:1 of the Swedish forest management standard.

FSC Sweden received an updated version of the ASI-report in September 2007. On 10th of December 2007 the Board of FSC Sweden decided on a work plan to comply with the new requirements. The forest- and standard officer of FSC Sweden, Karin Fällman, and consultant Anders Lindhe were assigned to make a new draft version.

The results of revision by Anders Lindhe and Karin Fällman were presented to the members of FSC Sweden on a one-day meeting in February 2008 (version 3:0). The ways of handling Principle 10 and other preconditions from ASI were discussed.

In March 2008, the Board of FSC Sweden appointed the Standard Development Group to lead the work required to prepare a new draft of the standard. The group consisted of one representative from each chamber. The Standard Development Group worked intensely during 2008. Frequent internal consultations were made among members within each chamber of FSC Sweden.

The Federation of Swedish Saami was coopt to the group most of the time. Due to changes in the FSC-system, a formal proposal including a work plan for the revision of the Swedish Forest Management Standard was prepared during 2008. It was submitted to FSC International in December 2008 in order to comply with the process requirements in STD-60-006.

Anders Lindhe was appointed as a consultant in December 2008 and January 2009 to further refine the indicators under Principle 10. This work included consultations with FSC International and, through the Standard Development group, also with the members of the chambers of FSC Sweden.

Consultation on a draft version 3:1 of the standard was held between 23rd of February to 20th of Mars 2009. A written invitation to take part was sent to 104 stakeholders and was publicly announced by a press release and by information on the website of FSC Sweden. In addition the website provided instructions on how to send in comments and possibilities to download the drafted standard.

Written comments were received from 14 different entities/groups/people. The Board of FSC Sweden assigned the Standard Development Group to process comments and to assess and evaluate the relevance and importance of proposed changes. All comments, proposals and decisions were compiled in a specific document (in Swedish).

A revised draft of the standard, version 4:0, was endorsed by the Board of FSC Sweden on 3rd of April 2009 and sent to FSC International. To comply with suggestions and conditions from FSC Policy and Standards Unit another draft with editorial changes, version 4:1, was submitted by the Board of FSC Sweden on 21th of September. Additional comments from FSC International and further revision by the Standard Development Group resulted in a new version 4:2 that was endorsed by the Board of FSC Sweden on the 15th of December 2009. Version 4:2 was submitted to ISC International on the 18th of December, 2009. FSC International specified additional conditions for approval in written communications on the 11th of January and on the 18th of February, 2010. The standard was revised to comply with the conditions for approval and the current version 4:3 was produced.

Decisions on SLIMF indicators were allocated to a separate standard process by decisions in Board of FSC Sweden in June 2005. FSC Sweden discussed and got acceptance for this from FSC International. The Board of FSC Sweden intends to submit an endorsed draft of SLIMF-standard to FSC International in the beginning of 2010.

Attempts to harmonize the standard setting work with the standard setting work in Canada and in countries of the Baltic region have been made during the process. A thorough analysis on harmonization in the Baltic region was made in the project "FSC – breaking the borders". Major conclusions and recommendations have been considered and addressed in the revision of the Swedish standard.

## 3. Version of the standard

### 3.1 Standard version

This standard is the fifth revision draft (4:3) of the Swedish FSC Standard for Forest

Management, originally endorsed by FSC International in 1998. Preparations for revision were initiated in year 2000. This draft was submitted to FSC International for endorsement in April 2009 and, after revision, in December 2009.

Statutes of FSC Sweden stipulate that revision of the Swedish standard should be initiated within a time period of 4 years after endorsement by FSC International.

### 3.2 Responsible parties

The Board of Directors, several working groups and the appointed Standard Committee of FSC Sweden have been responsible for making this new, revised version of the Swedish FSC Standard for forest management. The groups have comprised representatives from FSC's three different chambers; environmental, social and economic. A consensus-striving process has characterized the negotiations linked to the revision. Consultations among stakeholders have been made according to the timeline and the scope for revision (2000); on draft version 1:0 in 2003 and on draft version 3:0 in 2009.

## 4. Context

### 4.1 General description of the geographical area covered by the standard:

Sweden covers some 42 M ha and the distance between the northernmost and southernmost parts is about 1,600 km (from 69°N to 54°N and from 10°E to 24°E). Vast forested areas, numerous lakes and long coastlines characterize the geography. Nearly 70% of the land area (28.5 M ha) is covered with forests (as defined by FRA 2005). However, about 23 M ha has a productivity  $\geq 1$  m<sup>3</sup>/ha/year and is therefore regarded as productive forest land. Besides forests, Sweden also comprises nearly 96,000 lakes (larger than 100•100 m; totally 4 M ha) and large tracts of mires (4.5 M ha), rock surface (0.9 M ha), mountains and subalpine coniferous woodland (3.5 M ha) and arable land and pasture land (3.4 M ha).

The topography is rather even and most areas are located less than 300 m above sea level (a.s.l.). Yet, the Scandinavian mountains in the northwest encompass treeless mountain peaks of 1,000-2,000 m a.s.l.. Sweden's forest soils consist mainly of podzol formed on top of glacial moraine. The average wood production is 5.3 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare and year.

Sweden's climate varies from arctic-alpine in the Scandinavian mountain range to warm temperature (nemoral) in the southern coastal areas. The growing season is only some 100 days in the north while 240 days in the south. The average temperature varies from  $\pm 0$  and -15°C in January to 3-17°C in July. The annual precipitation varies between 400 mm in the eastern regions to 1,500-2,000 mm in the western regions.

The large regional differences in climate are reflected through the division of the country into several vegetation zones. In the northernmost parts, tundra and subalpine mountain birch forests are found along the mountain chain. Further, most of the country is in the cold-temperate zone; it is the area from the northernmost parts southwards to about lat. 60°N (or north of the latitude of Stockholm, the capital). This zone is characterized by relatively short growing seasons and long winters. Conifers, mainly Norway spruce and Scots pine, dominate the forests, thereby the name "the boreal coniferous belt". Birch is the most common deciduous tree species, but alder, willow and aspen are also fairly frequent. South of this zone the climate becomes milder; the boreonemoral zone begins. Pine and spruce forests still dominate, but there are also deciduous tree species including oak, elm, lime, maple, tilia and hazel. The southernmost parts of Sweden are located in the warm-temperate zone. Here we find the northern outposts of the north European nemoral deciduous forest, where oak and beech are characteristic species.

However, in most parts today's Swedish forests are the result of past forest management. The forest-use history can roughly be divided into three phases; (i) the pre-industrial phase dominated by extensive areas of natural forests and agrarian low-intensity forest use, (ii) the phase of early forestry, i.e. the gradual intensification of forest exploitations during mainly the 16-19th centuries, characterized by a „timber frontier" that moved from the south to the north and took out almost the entire stock of large, old-growth timber trees, and (iii) the phase of modern forestry, principally starting after the 2nd world war, including modern silvicultural management with clear-cutting, scarification and planting of conifer seedlings. Yet, the extent of forest use varies greatly between different regions. The characteristics of the forests in the nemoral zone have been affected by humans for thousands of years. The deciduous forests have declined considerably due to the conversion of forestland into agricultural land, but also through logging and management activities that have been unfavourable for the regeneration of deciduous trees. The importance of spruce has increased on the expense of deciduous trees, particularly during the 20th century when modern forestry was introduced. Furthermore, many areas in southern-middle boreal regions have been intensively exploited since the 17th century, mainly because of the demand for charcoal by the early mining and metal-based industries. On the contrary, forests close to the mountain range and in northern parts were affected much later. Many remote areas were still until the 20th century relatively little affected by forest management.

### 4.2 List of members of the committee that prepared the standard:

The Board of FSC Sweden with subgroups led the standard revision process during 2000–2008.

From February 2008 to April 2009 the work was led by the Standard Development Group members Mårten Larsson (SCA), Per Larsson (WWF Sweden) and Leif Johansson (Swedish Forest & Wood Trade Union), with Forest and standard officer Karin Fällman/Sara Berggren as secretary. Malin Brännström (Federation of Swedish Saami) participated in most meetings.

From May 2009 to December 2009 the work was led by the Standard Development Group members Uno Brinnen (Korsnäs), Per Larsson (WWF Sweden) and Leif Johansson (GS-union; established in June 1 2009 through a merger of the Graphics Industry Union and the Forestry- and Woodworkers Union).

### 4.3 List of key consultants and advisors who assisted the committee:

Gemma Boetekees gave advice on how to facilitate the negotiation process when it had broken down and the environmental chamber had announced a time-out (see Template for proposal and work plan 2008).

Anders Lindhe have prepared the information required for the work linked to several of the indicators.

Björn Österlöf and Börje Drakenberg have participated in the development of SLIMF indicators.

#### **4.4 Associated documentation referenced in the standard.**

*FSC STD 01 001 V4 0 EN FSC Principles and Criteria*

*FSC-STD-60-006 Procedure for the development of Forest Stewardship Standards*

*FSC STD 20 002 V2 1 EN Structure and Content Forest Stewardship Standards*

*FSC STD 01 003 V1 0 EN SLIMF Eligibility Criteria*

*FSC STD 01 003a EN SLIMF eligibility criteria addendum 2008 02 13*

*FSC-GUI-60-100 Guidance on the interpretation of the FSC Principles and Criteria to take account of scale and intensity*

*FSC-GUI-20-200 EN FSC Guidelines for Certification Bodies 2005*

*FSC POL 30 401 EN FSC certification and ILO Conventions 2002*

*FSC POL 20 002 EN Partial Certification 2000*

*FSC Guidance Document FSC-GUI-30-004: FSC Principles 2 and 3: Guidance on Interpretation*

*FSC GUI 30 001 V2 0 EN FSC Pesticides Policy Guidance 2007*

*FSC GUI 30 001a V1 0 EN Approved derogations for use of pesticides 2008 01 21*

*FSC POL 30 001 EN FSC Pesticides policy 2005*

*FSC PRO 01 004 V2 1 EN Processing pesticide derogation applications*

*FSC POL 30 602 EN FSC GMO Policy 2000*

*FSC ADV 30 602 EN Conversion of plantation to non forest land 2004 03 29*

*FSC ADV 30 602 EN Conversion of plantation to non forest land 2004 03 29*

*FSC ADV 30 901 EN Interpretation of Criterion 9 2 2003 04 28*

*FSC ADV 31 001 EN Interpretation of C10 9 2002 12 03*

*Legislation and international agreements, see Annex 1 and 2.*

#### **4.5 Terms and definitions**

Terms and definitions which are crucial to the standard, and are not defined in the FSC Principles and Criteria, are listed in glossary (Annex 11) or as footnotes where appropriate.

#### **5. Hierarchical framework:**

The indicators, text boxes, annexes and footnotes are normative and shall be the basis for assessment by certification bodies, but 'comments' and 'verifiers' are provided for guidance and are non-normative elements.

The hierarchical framework implements the basic principles described in the introduction to the FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship (February 2000):

1. FSC and FSC-accredited certification bodies will not insist on perfection in satisfying the FSC Principles and Criteria;
2. Major failures in any individual FSC Principle will normally disqualify a candidate from certification, or will lead to decertification;
3. Certification decisions will be guided by the extent to which each FSC Criterion is satisfied, and by the verifiers.

## LAYOUT OF THE STANDARD:

The standard follows the FSC Principles and Criteria of Forest Stewardship (January, 2000). The Standard is divided into 10 sections, each corresponding to one of the FSC principles with the criteria listed underneath each principle. Refer to the diagramme on the next page for further clarification.

Each page of the standard is divided into 3 columns. The standard also serves as the checklist that is used during an assessment and for every criterion the following is provided:

<b>The Qualifor Requirement: Indicator</b>	This outlines the norm or indicators that Qualifor requires for compliance with the specific FSC criterion. A potential source of information or evidence that allows an auditor to evaluate compliance with an indicator. Some indicators make a distinction between the requirements for "normal" forests and SLIMF operations (Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests).
<b>Verifiers</b>	<b>Verifiers</b> are examples of what the SGS assessor will look for to ascertain if the specific norm or indicator has been met. This list is not exhaustive and the assessor may use other means of verifying the relevant indicator.
<b>Guidance</b>	<b>Guidance</b> is written in <i>italics</i> and assists the assessor in understanding the requirement of the specific indicator.

The FSC Principle

<b>PRINCIPLE 1.</b>	<b>COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS:</b>			
Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.				
<b>Criterion 4.1: The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services</b>				
<b>Indicator 4.1.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>			
Policies and procedures and the implementation thereof make qualifications, skills and experience the basis for recruitment, placement, training and advancement of staff at all levels	<i>No evidence of discrimination on the basis of: race, colour, culture, sex, age, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin</i>			
<u>SLIMF:</u> Employees are not discriminated in hiring, advancement, dismissal remuneration and employment related to social security	Employment policies and procedures.			
	Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labor Union representatives.			
	<u>SLIMF:</u> Interviews with workers and contractors			

The FSC Criterion

An SGS Qualifor Guideline (Italics)

The SGS Qualifor verifier

The SGS Qualifor observation i.t.o. the indicator

The Swedish Indicator

The year of the evaluation

## THE STANDARD

Swedish Standard for Forest Management, including the SLIMF Indicators.

- Verifiers which have a number followed by the letter "S" are applicable to all land holdings, including also SLIMF.

- Verifiers with a simple number are applicable to land holdings >1000 ha (non SLIMF).

In some cases the verifier exists in two alternative versions, one of which is applicable only to SLIMF (e.g. the verifier for 1.5.1). The first version of the verifier is applicable to all land holdings which are not SLIMF and is simply numbered, with no additional letter (e.g. 1.5.1).

- The second version of the verifier is applicable only to SLIMF and the number is then followed by the label 'SA' (e.g. 1.5.1SA). **SLIMF indicators and verifiers are red.**

<b>PRINCIPLE 1. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES:</b>	
Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria	
<b>Criterion 1.1 Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements</b>	
<b>Indicator 1.1.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>1.1.1. Managers<sup>1,2</sup> shall be aware of all national laws, local regulations and other contracts and agreements (Annex 1) applicable to management of the landholding.</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> By "Managers" is meant: 1) Forest owners with their own forest management certificate. 2) Forest owners who are members of a certified group scheme. The "manager" can transfer implementation of various items of the standard to <b>an umbrella organisation, a representative</b>, a contractor or a trustee by written agreement. However, the manager is still responsible for compliance with the standard, and must be able to show how compliance was achieved by means of relevant verification from the contractor or trustee.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> In this standard, the concept of a manager of major holdings means a manager with over 5 000 hectares of productive forest land. Other managers are thus managers with less than 5 000 hectares of productive forest land. <b>Swedish SLIMF indicators apply to managers with less than 1000 hectares of productive forest land. Some of the indicators contain additional exceptions for managers with less than 20 and 50 hectares of productive forest land, respectively.</b></p>	<p><b>1.1.1–1.1.3 VER: Control of the manager's awareness of and compliance with legislation and agreements. Injunctions. Control of ongoing activities. Access to Skogforsk databases "Regelrätt skogsbruk" and "Riktig arbetsmiljö".</b></p> <p>Interviews with and information supplied by regulatory authorities, other stakeholders and Forest Managers.</p> <p>Control of required legal documentation. policies, operational procedures and standards demonstrate compliance with requirements.</p> <p><b>SLIMF:</b></p> <p><i>The forest manager knows what the legislation requires.</i></p> <p><i>Field observation and documentation available show that legislation is being complied with in-field.</i></p> <p><i>A legal non-compliance will be considered "significant" if:</i></p> <p>i. <i>it has been allowed to persist or remain for a period of time that would normally have allowed detection; and/or</i></p> <p>ii. <i>it is an intentional or a blatant/self-evident disregard for the law.</i></p> <p><i>A legal non-compliance will not be considered "significant if the deviation is short-term, unintentional and without significant damage to the environment.</i></p>
<b>2010</b>	System: Performance:
<b>Indicator 1.1.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>



<p><b>1.1.2S. Managers<sup>1,2</sup> shall comply with all applicable national laws, local regulations and other contracts and agreements.</b></p> <p><sup>1</sup> By "Managers" is meant: 1) Forest owners with their own forest management certificate. 2) Forest owners who are members of a certified group scheme. The "manager" can transfer implementation of various items of the standard to <b>an umbrella organisation, a representative</b>, a contractor or a trustee by written agreement. However, the manager is still responsible for compliance with the standard, and must be able to show how compliance was achieved by means of relevant verification from the contractor or trustee.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> In this standard, the concept of a manager of major holdings means a manager with over 5 000 hectares of productive forest land. Other managers are thus managers with less than 5 000 hectares of productive forest land. <b>Swedish SLIMF indicators apply to managers with less than 1000 hectares of productive forest land. Some of the indicators contain additional exceptions for managers with less than 20 and 50 hectares of productive forest land, respectively.</b></p>	<p><b>1.1.2SA VER: Control of the manager's awareness of and compliance with legislation and agreements. Injunctions. Control of ongoing activities</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations. List of applicable laws, regulations and national guidelines.</p>
2010	System: Performance:
<p><b>Indicator 1.1.3</b></p> <p><b>1.1.3. Managers shall take corrective and preventive measures in case of non-compliance with applicable laws, binding contracts and agreements.</b></p>	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p><b>Criterion 1.2 All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 1.2.1</b></p> <p><b>1.2.1. Managers shall be aware of all fees, royalties, taxes and other charges related to forest management.</b></p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><b>1.2.1-1.2.3 S VER: Control of documentation, bookkeeping and agreements/contracts.</b></p> <p><i>Invoices, tax returns, receipts.</i></p> <p><i>Interviews with and information supplied by regulatory authorities and other stakeholders.</i></p> <p><i>No evidence of non-payment</i></p>
2010	System: Performance:
<p><b>Indicator 1.2.2</b></p> <p><b>1.2.2. Managers shall document payment of all the required fees, royalties, taxes and other charges related to forest management.</b></p> <p><b>1.2.2SA. Managers shall document the economics of their management by means of correct book-keeping.</b></p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><b>1.2.1-1.2.3 S VER: Control of documentation, bookkeeping and agreements/contracts.</b></p> <p><i>Specific provisions in financial planning and long-term budgets.</i></p> <p><i>SLIME:</i></p> <p><i>Forest manager can explain how future costs will be provided for.</i></p>
2010	System: Performance:

<p><b>Indicator 1.2.3</b></p> <p>1.2.3. Managers shall verify, through written agreements or documentation, that everyone conducting forest management activities on the landholdings in question pays all the required fees, royalties, taxes and other charges.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p>1.2.1-1.2.3S <b>VER: Control of documentation, bookkeeping and agreements/contracts.</b></p>
<p>2010</p>	<p>System: Performance:</p>
<p><b>Indicator 1.2.4</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p>2010</p>	<p>System: Performance:</p>
<p><b>Criterion 1.3</b> In signatory countries, the provisions of all the binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.</p>	
<p><b>Indicator 1.3.1</b></p> <p>1.3.1. Managers shall be aware of the provisions, applicable to forest management, of all binding international treaties and agreements to which Sweden is a signatory country, such as CITES, the ILO Conventions<sup>3</sup>, ITTA and the Convention on Biological Diversity (Annex 2).</p> <p><b>1.3.1SA. There shall be no substantive evidence of infringements of the international treaties and agreements that are listed in the Swedish FSC standard (Annex 2).</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p>1.3.1-1.3.5S <b>VER: Awareness of applicable agreements/directives. Control of ongoing activities.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers Operational documentation Required licenses are in place</p>
<p><b>Indicator 1.3.2</b></p> <p>1.3.2. Managers shall ensure that forest management or other own activity on the landholding complies with applicable binding international treaties and agreements to which Sweden is a signatory country..</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p>1.3.1-1.3.5S <b>VER: Awareness of applicable agreements/directives. Control of ongoing activities.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers, contractors, labour unions and regulatory authorities. Review of policies, procedures and personnel records. <u>SLIME:</u> Forest Managers are aware of the requirements and there are no objective evidence of non-compliance.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 1.3.3</b></p> <p>1.3.3. Managers shall comply with all ILO Conventions that affect forest management or other own activity on the landholding.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p>1.3.1-1.3.5S <b>VER: Awareness of applicable agreements/directives. Control of ongoing activities.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders. Review of policies, procedures and records</p>
<p><b>Indicator 1.3.4</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>

<p><b>1.3.4. Managers shall take corrective and preventive measures if their own activities on the landholdings do not comply with applicable binding international treaties and agreements.</b></p>	<p><b>1.3.1-1.3.5S VER: Awareness of applicable agreements/directives. Control of ongoing activities.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Review of policies, procedures and records.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 1.3.5</b></p> <p><b>1.3.5. Managers shall take corrective and preventive measures if their own activities on the landholdings do not comply with all the ILO Conventions that affect forestry measures and procedures.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>1.3.1-1.3.5S VER: Awareness of applicable agreements/directives. Control of ongoing activities.</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 1.4 Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification, on a case-by-case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 1.4.1</b></p> <p><b>1.4.1. Managers shall consult with the certifier, on a case by case basis, in order to evaluate, together with affected parties, conflicts and interpretations related to certification between Swedish legislation, agreements to which Sweden is a signatory country and the Swedish FSC Standard. Evaluation shall be documented<sup>4</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>1.4.1SA. Forest managers shall inform their certification body if any situations arise in which compliance with the law would preclude compliance with any indicator of the forest stewardship standard.<sup>4</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>4</sup> Certifiers shall consult with FSC Sweden in cases of considerable conflicts and problems of interpretation.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>1.4.1S VER: Documentation of evaluation.</b></p> <p><i>SGS will assess the conflict and advise on resolution thereof, where such were possible.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and other stakeholders.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 1.5 Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorised activities</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 1.5.1</b></p> <p><b>1.5.1. Managers shall monitor the landholding for illegal or unauthorized activities.</b></p> <p><b>1.5.1SA. Managers shall implement measures where needed if there are illegal or unauthorized activities on the landholding.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>1.5.1-1.5.3 VER: Consultation with manager and possible authority. Field inspection, agreement.</b></p> <p><b>1.5.1SA VER: Consultation with manager and possible authority. Field inspection, interviews, agreement.</b></p> <p>Field observations show no damage from unauthorised or illegal activities</p> <p>Manager's explanation of protection/ prevention activities e.g. signs, gates, patrols, etc</p> <p>Copies of reports made to the authorities of problem activities</p> <p>Boundaries are known to the manager and local communities and are easily identified in the field.</p> <p>Boundaries are marked in areas where there is a high risk of encroachment.</p>

Indicator 1.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
1.5.2. Managers shall assess the need for corrective and preventive measures.	<p><b>1.5.1-1.5.3 VER: Consultation with manager and possible authority. Field inspection, agreement.</b></p> <p>Field observations provide no evidence of ongoing illegal activities</p>
Indicator 1.5.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
1.5.3. Managers shall implement the corrective and preventive measures as identified at 1.5.2.	<p><b>1.5.1-1.5.3 VER: Consultation with manager and possible authority. Field inspection, agreement.</b></p>
<b>Criterion 1.6 Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria</b>	
Indicator 1.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>1.6.1. Managers shall demonstrate their long-term commitment to the FSC Principles and Criteria by managing all landholdings of which they have full ownership – regard-less if the holdings consist of one or several properties – in compliance with the Swedish FSC Standard.</p> <p><b>1.6.1SA. Managers shall manage all landholdings of which they have full ownership – regardless if the holdings consist of one or several properties – in compliance with the Swedish FSC Standard.</b></p>	<p><b>1.6.1-1.6.4 VER: Policy document, certification contract, long-term planning document.</b></p> <p><b>1.6.1SA VER: Certification contract.</b></p> <p>Written policy with appropriate statement is available</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>The management plan</p> <p>Plans (written or informal) for investment, training, and sharing of income or other benefits</p> <p>Past management has been compatible with the P&amp;C</p>
Indicator 1.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
1.6.2. Managers of major holdings shall state their long-term commitment to comply with the Swedish FSC Standard in publicly available documents.	<p><b>1.6.1-1.6.4 VER: Policy document, certification contract, long-term planning document.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and stakeholders.</p> <p>Evidence of distribution of policy to stakeholders.</p>
Indicator 1.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>1.6.3S. The forest manager shall provide the certification body with information on all forest areas over which the forest manager has some type of ownership or management responsibility<sup>5</sup>.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> See FSC policy on Partial Certification; FSC-POL-20-002 (2000) Partial certification of large ownerships.</p>	<p><b>1.6.1-1.6.4 VER: Policy document, certification contract, long-term planning document.</b></p> <p><i>The applicant for certification must make a full disclosure of all forest areas over which the applicant has some responsibility, whether as owner (including share or partial ownership), manager, consultant or other responsibility. The disclosure shall be documented in the main assessment report. You must record full details of ownership, forest name, type, area and location for each such forest. This information must be made available to stakeholders as part of the consultation process.</i></p> <p><i>When the evaluation does not include all the forest areas in which the applicant is involved, the applicant must explain the reasons for this, and the reasons must be documented in the main assessment report.</i></p> <p>Evidence of such other forest lands.</p> <p>Policies</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers.</p>

<p><b>Indicator 1.6.4</b></p> <p><b>1.6.4S.</b> There is no substantive evidence that the forest management on potentially non-FSC certified land holdings, where the forest manager has some type of ownership or management responsibility, conflicts with the requirements of standards for FSC Controlled Wood<sup>6</sup>.</p> <p><sup>6</sup> FSC-STD-30-010 V2 0 EN (2006) Controlled Wood standard for FM enterprises.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>1.6.1-1.6.4 VER: Policy document, certification contract, long-term planning document.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, policies, procedures and field observations.</p>
<p><b>PRINCIPLE 2. TENURE AND RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES:</b></p> <p>Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.</p>	
<p><b>Criterion 2.1 Clear, long-term tenure and forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 2.1.1</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1S.</b> Managers shall demonstrate their right to conduct forest management on the landholding through ownership or legally binding contract.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1-2.1.2 VER: Proof/contract on forest use right. If required contact authorities about possible legal dispute. If needed consultation, for example if there are several owners of a single property.</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1-2.1.2SA VER: Proof/contract on forest use right. If needed consultation, for example if there are several owners of a single property.</b></p> <p>Documentation with appropriate legal status.</p> <p>Maps clearly indicating the boundaries of the FMU.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 2.1.2</b></p> <p><b>2.1.2S.</b> Managers applying for certification of jointly owned properties shall demonstrate that all the owners adhere to the certification and commit to comply with the requirements of the Swedish FSC Standard.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1-2.1.2 VER: Proof/contract on forest use right. If required contact authorities about possible legal dispute. If needed consultation, for example if there are several owners of a single property.</b></p> <p><b>2.1.1-2.1.2SA VER: Proof/contract on forest use right. If needed consultation, for example if there are several owners of a single property.</b></p> <p>Policies and management plans make clear reference to management objectives that support this indicator.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 2.2 Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 2.2.1</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1S.</b> Managers respect everyone's right to roam freely in the forest in line with Sweden's Right of Public Access<sup>7</sup> provided that, for example, the privacy of residents is not disturbed or that economic interests are not damaged.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1-2.2.3S VER: Information on local parties affected and legal claims on the landholding. If required, consultation with affected interested parties.</b></p> <p>Documentation showing acknowledgement by forest management of such agreements and maps.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local</p>

<sup>7</sup> B. Bengtsson 2004, Allemansrätten - vad säger lagen? ISBN 91-620-8161-6.	community representatives.
<b>Indicator 2.2.2</b>  <b>2.2.2S. Managers shall respect everyone's right to pick wild berries, mushrooms and flowers in the forest in line with Sweden's Right of Public Access.</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>2.2.1-2.2.3S VER: Information on local parties affected and legal claims on the landholding. If required, consultation with affected interested parties.</b>  Forest management plans Field observations
<b>Indicator 2.2.3</b>  <b>2.2.3. Managers shall be aware of, and respect, legal and customary tenure and use rights related to forest management on the landholding.</b>  <b>2.2.3SA. Managers shall respect legal and customary tenure and use rights related to forest management on the landholding.</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>2.2.1-2.2.3S VER: Information on local parties affected and legal claims on the landholding. If required, consultation with affected interested parties.</b>  Written agreements. Free and informed consent communicated by representatives of local communities. Clear evidence of payment for tenure or use rights.
<b>Criterion 2.3</b> <b>Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified</b>	
<b>Indicator 2.3.1</b>  <b>2.3.1. Managers of major holdings shall ensure that there are procedures for documenting and solving disputes related to use rights.</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>2.3.1-2.3.4S VER: Control of possible dispute. Assessment of the magnitude and legitimacy of dispute, based on the manager's documentation to try and resolve any ongoing dispute and consultation with affected parties. Control of acquired results, if any. Documents of consultation.</b>  Documented procedures. Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with representatives of local communities.  <i>Documented procedures are available that allow for a process that could generally be regarded as open and acceptable to all parties with an objective of achieving agreement and consent through fair consultation. Procedures should allow for impartial facilitation and resolution.</i>  <u>SLIMF:</u> Interviews with Forest Manager and local community groups
<b>Indicator 2.3.2</b>  <b>2.3.2S. Managers shall actively attempt to resolve any disputes related to use rights.</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>2.3.1-2.3.4S VER: Control of possible dispute. Assessment of the magnitude and legitimacy of dispute, based on the manager's documentation to try and resolve any ongoing dispute and consultation with affected parties. Control of acquired results, if any. Documents of consultation.</b>  Documented records of disputes



<p><b>Indicator 2.3.3</b></p> <p><b>2.3.3. Managers shall document the process of reaching agreement.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>2.3.1-2.3.4S VER: Control of possible dispute. Assessment of the magnitude and legitimacy of dispute, based on the manager's documentation to try and resolve any ongoing dispute and consultation with affected parties. Control of acquired results, if any. Documents of consultation.</b></p> <p><i>Magnitude of a dispute may be assessed by considering the scale at a landscape level associated with the opinion of a majority of community representatives and/or the time period over which the dispute has been in place</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with representatives of local communities.</p> <p>Complete record of a history of disputes.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 2.3.4</b></p> <p><b>2.3.4S. Managers shall not, at the time of certification, be involved in any major dispute related to use rights of the forest holding.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>2.3.1-2.3.4S VER: Control of possible dispute. Assessment of the magnitude and legitimacy of dispute, based on the manager's documentation to try and resolve any ongoing dispute and consultation with affected parties. Control of acquired results, if any. Documents of consultation.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with representatives of local communities.</p> <p>Complete record of a history of disputes.</p>
<p><b>PRINCIPLE 3. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS:</b></p> <p>The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognised and respected.</p>	
<p><b>Criterion 3.1 Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.1</b></p> <p><b>3.1.1S. Managers shall accept and respect Sami people's reindeer husbandry on landholdings situated within the area designated as reindeer husbandry area<sup>8</sup> by Report No. 44, Vol. 5, 1978, from the National Swedish Board of Agriculture, the National Swedish Board of Physical Planning and Building.</b></p> <p><sup>8</sup> Within the Härjedalen municipality the reindeer husbandry area, with reference to the Bergvik Skog and Holmen Skog landholdings, includes the land covered by the conciliation agreement between these companies and the Sami villages as long as it is in force.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.1.1-3.1.2S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected.</b></p> <p>Management plans and maps.</p> <p>Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.2</b></p> <p><b>3.1.2. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall conduct consultations in compliance with §§ 20 and 31 in the Swedish Forestry Act and associated regulations and general guidelines as worded 2009-01-01. Consultations shall encompass planning of forest management measures in a</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.1.1-3.1.2S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected.</b></p> <p>Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples.</p>

<p>landscape perspective for a period of three to five years. The parties may agree to forego consultations outside year round reindeer husbandry land. Consultation may be implemented within the framework of group certification or other forms of landowner co-operation.</p> <p><b>3.1.2SA. Managers with landholdings within year round reindeer husbandry land shall conduct consultations in compliance with §§ 20 and 31 in the Swedish Forestry Act and associated regulations and general guidelines as worded 2009-01-01. Additionally, consultations shall be conducted if management measures affect sites designated as of particular importance for reindeer husbandry in the Sami village land-use report or, in the absence of such report, land-use plans for reindeer husbandry. These areas shall be documented. Consultation may be implemented within the framework of group certification or other forms of landowner co-operation.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.3</b></p> <p><b>3.1.3S. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall provide the Sami village with a general forest map and, if possible a map of forest stands, prior to consultation<sup>9</sup>. If the consultation is related to lands designated as important grazing areas or equivalent in the Sami village land-use report or land-use plans for reindeer husbandry, a map of forest stands shall always be attached.</b></p> <p><sup>9</sup> The parties shall jointly schedule the consultation.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.1.3S VER: Instructions. Checking contact with the Sami village affected.</b></p> <p><i>Affected communities should have the financial, technical and logistical capacity to enable “free and informed consent”</i></p> <p>Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples.</p> <p>No evidence of disputes.</p> <p>Evidence that agreed payments for use right and/or resources are being made.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.4</b></p> <p><b>3.1.4S. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall comply with documented consultation agreements.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.1.4S VER: Checking contact with the Sami village affected, interviews and field visits.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.5</b></p> <p><b>3.1.5. Managers shall, if an agreement cannot be reach on forest management activities to be undertaken, document in the consultation minutes that the issue is postponed to a future consultation.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.6</b></p> <p><b>3.1.6. If, after a second round of consultation, agreement on forest management activities cannot be reached, the manager and the Sami village shall jointly appoint a neutral mediator to assist them in reaching an agreement. If, notwithstanding, the parties still do not agree,</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>



<p>the mediator shall propose a solution. If any of the parties reject the proposal, the reasons shall be documented in the consultation minutes together with a description of the considerations to be taken related to reindeer husbandry. The mediation process and its results shall be documented in the minutes.</p>	
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.7</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>3.1.7. Managers of major holdings with landholdings within the reindeer herding area shall carry out an annual evaluation, together with reindeer husbandry representatives, of the implementation of the consultation. The evaluation shall be carried out by a regional group appointed by the parties<sup>10</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>10</sup> The aim of these evaluations shall be to develop dialogue and consultation. Guidance as to how these evaluations shall be carried out shall be developed within the Swedish FSC after this Standard has been approved.</p>	
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.8</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>3.1.8. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall document the consultation, clearly stating the areas and measures discussed, agreements made and any remaining divergences with rationales. The consultation minutes shall be signed in approval by both parties.</b></p> <p><b>3.1.8SA. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall ensure that the consultations are documented, including the areas and measures discussed, agreements made, and any remaining divergences with rationales. The consultation minutes shall be signed in approval by both parties.</b></p>	<p><b>3.1.8S VER: Consultation minutes.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.1.9</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>3.1.9. Managers shall obtain information from affected Sami villages on installations and other important objects for reindeer husbandry, as well as on potential substantial impacts on the reindeer husbandry, prior to overall planning of any significant changes in land use. This requirement shall not be subject to the consultation and dispute resolution procedures outlined in Indicators 3.1.2 – 3.1.8.</b></p>	
<p><b>Criterion 3.2</b></p>	<p><b>Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.2.1</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>3.2.1S. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall be aware of areas and sites with significant occurrences of</b></p>	<p><b>3.2.1-3.2.6S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Instructions. Field inspection.</b></p>

arboreal or ground lichens through consultation and access to the Sami villages □ land or land use plans for reindeer husbandry use reports.	Records or impact assessments. Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples
<p><b>Indicator 3.2.2</b></p> <p><b>3.2.2S.</b> Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall leave edge zones with an abundance of arboreal lichens along watercourses and mires, and preserve areas/groups of trees from which arboreal lichens may disperse within or adjacent to the felling area.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1-3.2.6S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Instructions. Field inspection.</b></p> <p>Records of meetings. Consultation with indigenous peoples</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.2.3</b></p> <p><b>3.2.3.</b> Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall not establish stands of exotic tree species within areas of particular importance to reindeer husbandry (see 3.3.1) unless agreed upon in consultation.</p> <p><b>3.2.3SA.</b> Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall not establish stands of exotic tree species within areas of particular importance to reindeer husbandry (see 3.3.1SA) unless agreed upon in consultation.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1-3.2.6S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Instructions. Field inspection.</b></p> <p>Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples. Records of dispute resolution</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.2.4</b></p> <p><b>3.2.4S.</b> Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall not apply fertilizers on land classified as lichen type, lichen-rich type or dry dwarf-shrub types with occurrences of lichens unless agreed upon in consultation (e.g. on forest land degenerated after fire).</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1-3.2.6S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Instructions. Field inspection.</b></p> <p>Field inspections and records of corrective actions</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.2.5</b></p> <p><b>3.2.5S.</b> Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall use soil scarification methods which minimises negative impacts on the lichen availability on land classified as lichen type, lichen-rich type and dry dwarf-shrub types with occurrences of lichens unless agreed upon in consultation.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1-3.2.6S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Instructions. Field inspection.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.2.6</b></p> <p><b>3.2.6S.</b> Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall not use prescribed burning on lichen areas of importance to reindeer husbandry.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1-3.2.6S VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Instructions. Field inspection.</b></p>

<p><b>Criterion 3.3</b></p>	<p><b>Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples [and other sections of the community] shall be clearly identified in co-operation with such peoples, and recognised and protected by forest managers.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.3.1</b></p> <p><b>3.3.1. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall consider and respect areas and sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to the Sami people: old settlements and other Sami cultural remains, migration routes, natural gathering places, overnight resting-places (grazing areas), difficult passages, particularly important arboreal lichen areas, work corrals and calving as well as culturally important paths and sacrificial places. These shall be documented through consultations, in the Sami villages□ land-use reports, in land-use plans for reindeer husbandry, or in reports of areas of national interest for reindeer husbandry.</b></p> <p><b>3.3.1SA. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall consider and respect areas and sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to the Sami people, based on the designation in the Sami villages□ land-use reports or in land-use plans for reindeer husbandry.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.3.1 VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Field inspection.</b></p> <p><b>3.3.1-3.3.2SA VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Field inspection.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with stakeholders.</p> <p>Records and maps.</p> <p>Refer also to Indicator 7.1.1</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.3.2</b></p> <p><b>3.3.2S. Managers with landholdings within the reindeer husbandry area shall plan and implement forestry measures so that identified areas and sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to the Sami people are maintained and protected.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.3.2 VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Field inspection.</b></p> <p><b>3.3.1-3.3.2SA VER: Consultation minutes. Checking contact with the Sami village affected. Map and planning documentation. Field inspection.</b></p> <p>Management plans and documents.</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Interviews with the Forest Manager and field observations</p>
<p><b>Criterion 3.4</b></p>	<p><b>Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.4.1</b></p> <p><b>3.4.1. Managers shall provide the reindeer-herding Sami people with financial compensation for reasonable costs when their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems is applied in forest management.<sup>11</sup></b></p> <p><sup>11</sup> This includes reindeer herders□ knowledge of ecological conditions, e.g. how plants and animals such as the</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>3.4.1 VER: Any agreements are documented in consultation minutes.</b></p> <p><b>SLIMF: This criterion was discussed within FSC Sweden during the process of developing a SLIMF-adapted standard. The National Sámi Association was involved in these discussions and concluded that the criterion is not a relevant requirement for smaller forest owners, as these will not be part of formal consultations in the same way as larger</b></p>

reindeer react to changes in the environment.	<p><b><i>larger owners, and that as a result there will be no transfer/use of traditional knowledge.</i></b></p> <p>Documented records.</p> <p>Consultation with indigenous peoples.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Manager and indigenous peoples/local communities</p>
<p><b>PRINCIPLE 4. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS:</b></p> <p>Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.</p>	
<p><b>Criterion 4.1 The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.1</b></p> <p>4.1.1. Equivalent to 5.1.1.</p> <p><b>4.1.1SA. Equivalent to 5.1.1SA.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.1-4.1.3 VER: Checking contact with interested parties, affected trade unions. Forest management plan or equivalent field visits.</b></p> <p><b>4.1.1SA VER: Checking contact with interested parties, affected trade unions. Forest management plan or equivalent field visits.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers.</p> <p>Consultation with representatives of local communities and labour unions.</p> <p>Training strategies.</p> <p>Job advertisements in local publications</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.2</b></p> <p><b>4.1.2. Managers shall plan and manage the forest in ways that contribute to the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers as well as of people living in areas nearby.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.1-4.1.3 VER: Checking contact with interested parties, affected trade unions. Forest management plan or equivalent field visits.</b></p> <p>Interviews with contractors.</p> <p>Policies and procedures of the assessed organisation.</p> <p>Documentation on contracting of services.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.3</b></p> <p><b>4.1.3. Managers with landholdings in subalpine areas<sup>12</sup> shall plan and manage the forest in ways that promote employment and the economy of local communities, while considering the needs of reindeer husbandry and avoiding jeopardizing high natural values.</b></p> <p><sup>12</sup> Forest land at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary as defined by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, 1988, ISBN 91-558-5201-7). Forestry in subalpine areas is described in 9.3.2.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.1-4.1.3 VER: Checking contact with interested parties, affected trade unions. Forest management plan or equivalent field visits.</b></p> <p>Workers include: employees, contractors, sub-contractors, and any other persons carrying out forestry work on the forest management unit.</p> <p>Long-term training plans.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.4</b></p> <p><b>4.1.4. Managers shall strive to, taking account of</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.4 VER: Documented procedures regarding employment</b></p>

<p>market conditions, use local services providers in forest management and to employ local people and/or hire local contractors.</p> <p><b>4.1.4SA. Managers shall strive to, taking account of market conditions, use locally employed people and/or local services providers in their forest management.</b></p>	<p><b>of local labour and/or contracting local contractors.</b></p> <p><b>4.1.4SA VER: Documented procedures regarding employment of local labour and/or contracting local contractors. Interviews with land owners and employees.</b></p> <p><i>Service provision and support for local infrastructure, facilities should, as a minimum, be consistent with meeting management plan objectives over the long term (e.g. provision of basic health, education and training facilities where these do not exist) as well as avoiding or mitigating any negative social impacts of the operations.</i></p> <p>Consultation with representatives of local communities</p> <p>Provision of training; schooling; medical; facilities; housing; accommodation</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.5</b></p> <p><b>4.1.5. Managers of major holdings shall take demonstrable measures aiming at long-term, stable and beneficial relationships with contracting businesses.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.5S VER: Agreements with contractors.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities.</p> <p>Evidence of controlled harvesting activities</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.6</b></p> <p><b>4.1.6. Managers shall ensure and document that employees possess the required competence for their specific tasks as regards both production and the natural and cultural environment.</b></p> <p><b>4.1.6SA. Managers with employees shall ensure and document that employees possess the required competence for their specific tasks as regards both production and the natural and cultural environment.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.6S VER: Documentation of competence</b></p> <p><i>No evidence of discrimination on the basis of: race, colour, culture, sex, age, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin</i></p> <p>Employment policies and procedures.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Interviews with workers and contractors</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.7</b></p> <p><b>4.1.7S. Managers with employees shall implement staff development programs to strengthen the professional identity and branch competence of employees.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.7 -4.1.10S VER: Professional development schedules, checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p>Benefits may include social security payments, pension, accommodation, food, etc.</p> <p>Records of payment</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.8</b></p> <p><b>4.1.8S. Managers shall document measures in 4.1.7S in individual professional development plans that shall be prepared and implemented.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.7 -4.1.10S VER: Professional development schedules, checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.9</b></p> <p><b>4.1.9S. Management shall annually evaluate measures according to 4.1.7-4.1.8S in co-</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.7 -4.1.10S VER: Professional development schedules, checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p>

operation with the employee.	<p>National legislation may set higher minimum ages, but these ages are defined in ILO Convention 138 Article 3.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives</p> <p>Observations in the work place.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.10</b></p> <p><b>4.1.10S.</b> If any of the parties so wishes, a trade-union representative shall take part in the implementation of 4.1.7-4.1.9S.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.7 -4.1.10S VER: Professional development schedules, checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p>Where children and young persons are to be removed from employment in order to comply with this requirement, criterion 4.4 on social impact assessment and mitigation will apply. Organisations are expected to carry out a social impact assessment of the displacement of children from the workplace and effectively mitigate that impact e.g. provide suitable alternative sources of family income and ensure the children have access to adequate education facilities.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.11</b></p> <p><b>4.1.11.</b> Managers shall ensure, through written agreement or documentation, that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholding comply with the requirements for managers with employees outlined in Indicators 4.1.6.-4.1.10.</p> <p><b>4.1.11SA.</b> Managers shall ensure that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholding comply with the requirements for managers with employees outlined in Indicators 4.1.6SA - 4.1.10S.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.1.11S VER: Contract, interview</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 4.2 Forest management <u>should</u> meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.1</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1S.</b> Managers shall ensure that the employees have a good working environment to prevent any physical, mental or social ailment.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER: Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</b></p> <p>Forestry operations should follow the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and union representatives.</p> <p>Guidelines/regulations are readily available.</p> <p>Labour directives and inspection reports.</p> <p>Company OHS records</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.2</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>



<p><b>4.2.2S.</b> Managers shall ensure that the employees are informed of and comply with current regulations for systematic management of the working environment (The Swedish Work Environment Authority Provision AFS 2001:1).</p>	<p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER:</b> <i>Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and union representatives.</p> <p>Documented risk assessments.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Equipment is available to workers</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers</p> <p>Field observations</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.3</b></p> <p><b>4.2.3S.</b> Managers with more than ten employees shall report basic social information related to their staff in the annual report or other documentation.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER:</b> <i>Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers.</p> <p>Training schedules and records</p> <p>Copies of skills certificates.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.4</b></p> <p><b>4.2.4S.</b> Managers with employees shall ensure that the best overall solution is selected when deciding upon methods and organisation of work, as well as when equipment is procured, taking into account the working environment, natural environment and economy. The natural environment shall not be prioritised at the expense of the working environment.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER:</b> <i>Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.5</b></p> <p><b>4.2.5S.</b> Managers with employees shall ensure that these are provided with occupational health service offering wide-ranging competence, when available with experience from the forestry sector. The enterprise shall provide properly organized adaptation and rehabilitation services.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER:</b> <i>Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers.</p> <p>Field observations.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.6</b></p> <p><b>4.2.6S.</b> Managers shall ensure, by written agreement or documentation, that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholdings comply with the requirements in Indicators 4.2.1-4.2.5S.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER:</b> <i>Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</i></p>

4.2.5S.	Interviews with Forest Managers and workers. Field observations
<p><b>Indicator 4.2.7</b></p> <p><b>4.2.7S.</b> Managers shall ensure that the contractors commissioned and the manager agree upon consultation responsibility relating to working environment issues (The Working Environment Act, 6-7§ Chap 3,).</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.2.1-4.2.7S VER:</b> <i>Availability of the SkogForsk (Forestry Research Institute of Sweden) safety file or the corresponding web service. Contract with occupational health service. Procedure for systematic management of the working environment. Contact with affected trade unions. Agreements with contractors.</i></p> <p>Records of accidents, incidents, instructions to supervisors and workers</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Manager and workers</p>
<p><b>Criterion 4.3</b></p> <p><b>The rights of the workers to organise and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 4.3.1</b></p> <p><b>4.3.1S.</b> Managers shall guarantee the rights of workers to organize and negotiate as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labor Organization (ILO).</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> <i>Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers□ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and labour union representatives.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.3.2</b></p> <p><b>4.3.2S.</b> Managers shall comply with current legislation, shall be bound by collective agreements for their employees, and shall implement good labor market practices</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> <i>Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers□ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and labour union representatives</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.3.3</b></p> <p><b>4.3.3.</b> Managers shall ensure that wages and conditions for employees within forest management conform to applicable Swedish central and local collective agreements.</p> <p><b>4.3.3SA.</b> Managers with employees shall ensure that wages and conditions for employees within forest management conform to applicable Swedish central and local collective agreements.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> <i>Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers□ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and labour union</p>



	representatives
<b>Indicator 4.3.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>4.3.4S.</b> Managers with employees shall offer lasting and secure conditions of employment, in the form of permanent tenure unless otherwise agreed upon. Priority shall be given to this form of employment. Duration of the assignment shall be taken into consideration.</p>	<p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers □ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</p>
<b>Indicator 4.3.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>4.3.5.</b> In case of shortage of work<sup>13</sup>, managers shall promote, to the extent of their capacity, negotiations as stipulated in §§ 11 and 19 MBL (the law concerning right of participation in decision-making) with relevant trade-unions to reach agreement on mitigation measures for redundant staff.</p> <p><b>4.3.5SA.</b> In case of shortage of work<sup>13</sup>, managers with employees shall promote, to the extent of their capacity, negotiations as stipulated in §§ 11 and 19 MBL (the law concerning right of participation in decision-making) with relevant trade-unions to reach agreement on mitigation measures for redundant staff.</p> <p><sup>13</sup> "Shortage of work" refers to the Swedish concept "arbetsbrist".</p>	<p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers □ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</p>
<b>Indicator 4.3.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>4.3.6.</b> In case of shortage of work due to operational changes, managers with employees shall set up programmes, appropriate to the magnitude of change, that outline how these changes will be implemented.</p>	<p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers □ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</p>
<b>Indicator 4.3.7</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>4.3.7.</b> Managers shall ensure, by written agreement or documentation, that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholdings comply with the requirements in Indicators 4.3.1-4.3.4.</p> <p><b>4.3.7SA.</b> Managers shall ensure that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholdings comply with the requirements in Indicators 4.3.1-4.3.3S, 4.3.3SA and 4.3.4S.</p>	<p><b>4.3.1-4.3.7S VER:</b> Employment certificates, checking contact/interviews with interested parties. Membership of relevant employers □ organisation or so-called sectoral collective agreement with the trade union affected Collective Agreement. Insurance in conformity with collective agreements. Contract agreements (including duration of contract). Negotiation protocols. Contacts with representatives of contractors and trade unions.</p>

<b>Criterion 4.4</b>	<b>Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations.</b>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.1</b></p> <p>4.4.1. Managers shall make available, through procedures adapted to the size and scale of forest management operations, information to directly affected groups and individuals on how to access information about planned forest activities<sup>14</sup>.</p> <p><b>4.4.1SA. Managers shall consider comments from affected individuals and other local stakeholders related to forest management operations<sup>14</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>14</sup> Felling notification/application are public documents, and can be obtained by request from the local Swedish Forest Agency office or equivalent.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><i>New operations will normally be subjected to formal impact assessments and these assessments must include the social environment. For ongoing operations it will be necessary to maintain communication with stakeholders and thus ensure the Forest Manager is aware of any current and/or potential impacts. Management plans must provide mitigatory measures to address such impacts, e.g. problems with dust or noise caused by operations are known and planning is adjusted to reduce or negate such</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities.</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u></p> <p>Discussions with neighbours and forest manager</p> <p>Copies of newspaper advertisements, letters, posters and signs used to inform people of operations.</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p> <p>Copies of Social Impact Assessment reports</p> <p>Evidence of changes in management following results of an Social Impact Assessment <u>or</u> monitoring of social impacts.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.2</b></p> <p>4.4.2. Managers shall implement systematic procedures, adapted to the size of landholding, for handling comments on their forest management.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities.</p> <p>Management plans</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.3</b></p> <p>4.4.3. Managers shall provide affected stakeholders with an opportunity for consultation prior to final felling that affect sites of special importance in terms of recreation, culture and economy of the local population.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.4</b></p> <p>4.4.4. Managers shall summon identified stakeholders, local development groups and</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural</b></p>

<p>others with a stated interest in the site to a consultation meeting by written notification stating time and place. A map outlining planned forest management shall be distributed to all identified stakeholders prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>4.4.4SA. Managers shall ensure that consultations aiming for consensus occur in cases where stakeholders have provided comments on the forest management.</b></p>	<p><b>sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.5</b></p> <p>4.4.5. Managers shall seek assistance from a neutral party to resolve difficult disputes</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.6</b></p> <p>4.4.6. Managers shall document the consultation, including comments received, and specify where and when minutes from the meeting are available for comments. Meeting participants shall be given the opportunity to comment on the minutes and these comments shall be incorporated.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p>Documentation of communication</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.7</b></p> <p>4.4.7. Managers shall prepare final documentation of the consultation, including minutes from the meeting, that explains how concerns have been addressed and provides rationale for decisions. Decision on measures shall be taken by the manager, after consultation has been finalized.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.8</b></p> <p>4.4.8. Managers shall communicate the documentation to the consultation participants prior to commencing forest management activities on the site.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.9</b></p> <p>4.4.9. Managers shall document and compile information on archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p>

<p><b>4.4.9SA. Managers shall ensure that there is documentation on known archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding.</b></p>	<p><i>sites. Consultation with authorities.</i></p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.4.10</b></p> <p><b>4.4.10. Managers shall plan, implement and monitor forest management so that archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding are maintained.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.10SA. Managers shall ensure that forest management is implemented so that archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding are maintained.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p> <p><b>4.4.1-4.4.10SA VER: Documentation. Contact with stakeholders. High stumps to demonstrate valuable cultural sites. Consultation with authorities.</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 4.5</b>      <b>Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 4.5.1</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1. Managers shall be aware of legal and customary tenure and use rights related to forest management on the landholding. Managers shall take account of these rights in planning so as to avoid loss or damage related to rights, property, resources, or livelihood of the local population.</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1SA. Managers shall manage their forests so that legal or customary tenure or use rights are not lost or damaged.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1-4.5.3 VER: Documentation. Procedures. Checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1-4.5.3SA VER: Checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.5.2</b></p> <p><b>4.5.2. Managers shall have clarified procedures and responsibility for handling and investigating complaints related to damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihood of the local population.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1-4.5.3 VER: Documentation. Procedures. Checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1-4.5.3SA VER: Checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.5.3</b></p> <p><b>4.5.3. Managers shall provide reasonable compensation for any loss or damage related to legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihood of the local population.</b></p> <p><b>4.5.3SA. Managers shall provide reasonable compensation for any loss or damage related to legal or customary tenure or use rights.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1-4.5.3 VER: Documentation. Procedures. Checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p> <p><b>4.5.1-4.5.3SA VER: Checking contact/interviews with interested parties.</b></p>

<b>PRINCIPLE 5. BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST:</b>	
Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.	
<b>Criterion 5.1</b>	<b>Forest management should strive towards economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest</b>
<b>Indicator 5.1.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
5.1.1. Managers shall practice responsible long-term forest management with high utilization of the forest production potential, taking the natural and cultural environment as well as other interests into consideration, that creates opportunities for forest employment and further processing of forest products.	<b>5.1.1 VER: Checking contact with interested parties, affected trade unions. Forest management plan or equivalent field visits.</b>
<b>5.1.1SA. Managers shall plan and manage their forests in accordance with the planning documentation. Rationales shall be provided for deviations.</b>	<b>5.1.1SA VER: Forest management plan or equivalent field visits.</b>
	Annual plan of operations, budgets and financial statements. Yield estimates
<b>Indicator 5.1.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
5.1.2. Managers of major holdings shall make publicly available a general description of how long-term economically viable forest management is combined with maintenance of biodiversity and safeguarding of cultural and social values. For other managers, these aims shall be ensured by compliance with §§ 10 – 11 of the Forest Act and the forest management plan of the property.	<b>5.1.2 VER: Descriptions and objectives for forest management, planning documentation, financial accounting.</b>
	<i>Income may be interpreted broadly as direct income from sales of forest products and indirect income from leisure/tourism, charitable fundraising, payments for environmental services rendered and subsidies.</i>
	Financial planning records and statements. Interviews with Forest Managers
<b>Indicator 5.1.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
5.1.3. Managers of major holdings shall utilize forest production in accordance with the general public description (5.1.2.). Other managers shall act according to §§ 10 – 11 of the Forest Act and the forest management plan of the property.	<b>5.1.3 VER: Planning documentation, felling estimations/proposals and felling, present and planned annual areas.</b>
	Interviews with Forest Managers and environmental NGOs. Plans and maps. Observation of ecosystems.
<b>Indicator 5.1.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
5.1.4S. Managers shall utilize a substantial part of the available forest production.	<b>5.1.4-5.1.9 VER: Planning documentation, instructions, interviews, field visits.</b>
	<b>5.1.4-5.1.8SA VER: Planning documentation.</b>
<b>Indicator 5.1.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
5.1.5. Managers shall plan the forest management, appropriate to the size and conditions of the landholdings, with the aim of achieving a balanced age class distribution,	<b>5.1.4-5.1.9 VER: Planning documentation, instructions, interviews, field visits.</b>
	<b>5.1.4-5.1.8SA VER: Planning documentation.</b>

<p>taking account of the growth dynamics of the forest.</p> <p><b>5.1.5SA. Managers shall plan the forest management, appropriate to the size and conditions of the landholdings, with the aim of achieving a balanced age class distribution.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 5.1.6</b></p> <p><b>5.1.6S</b> Managers shall reforest all forest land after regeneration felling, unless nature conservancy agreements or authority decisions state otherwise.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.9 VER: Planning documentation, instructions, interviews, field visits.</i></p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.8SA VER: Planning documentation.</i></p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.1.7</b></p> <p><b>5.1.7S.</b> Managers shall use regeneration, clearing and thinning measures that result in reliable, rapid reforestation and well-stocked productive stands in accordance with § 10 of Forest Act and its regulations.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.9 VER: Planning documentation, instructions, interviews, field visits.</i></p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.8SA VER: Planning documentation.</i></p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.1.8</b></p> <p><b>5.1.8S.</b> Managers shall employ methods that limit the risks of damage by fungi, wind and insects through application of § 29 of Forest Act and its regulations.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.9 VER: Planning documentation, instructions, interviews, field visits.</i></p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.8SA VER: Planning documentation.</i></p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.1.9</b></p> <p><b>5.1.9.</b> Managers shall develop, in consultation with hunters and/or hunter organisations, a programme to limit damage by game. The programme shall take account of the size and conditions of the landholding, and shall be based on the best available knowledge. Potential measures shall include e.g. increased hunting pressure to reduce game populations and increased production of food for game.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.1.4-5.1.9 VER: Planning documentation, instructions, interviews, field visits.</i></p>
<p><b>Criterion 5.2 Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 5.2.1</b></p> <p><b>5.2.1.</b> Managers shall aim for methods of silviculture and forest management that generate optimal utilisation of a diversity of forest products.</p> <p><b>5.2.1SA. Managers shall manage their forests so as to generate best possible production and optimal utilisation of a diversity of forest products.</b></p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.2.1-5.2.2 VER: Policy/objectives.</i></p> <p><i>5.2.1SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.2.2</b></p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p>



<p><b>5.2.2. Managers of major holdings shall implement, where relevant, marketing activities to encourage optimal use of a diversity of forest products, taking account of local economy under conditions of the market.</b></p>	<p><b>5.2.1-5.2.2 VER: Policy/objectives.</b> Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities. Evidence of opportunities to support local processing and markets. <u>SLIMF:</u> Details of sales of timber and information about local processing options.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 5.3 Forest management <u>should</u> minimise waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 5.3.1</b></p> <p><b>5.3.1. Managers shall use felling techniques that safeguard the value of the timber and minimise damage to remaining forest and land, and continuously monitor the outcome.</b></p> <p><b>5.3.1SA. Managers shall use felling techniques that safeguard the value of the timber and minimise damage to remaining forest and land.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>5.3.1 VER: Instructions, interviews, field visits.</b> <b>5.3.1-5.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Harvest plans Forest Managers' knowledge of local BOPs <u>SLIMF:</u> Field inspections Harvest records and sales volumes</p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.3.2</b></p> <p><b>5.3.2. Managers shall be aware of the environmental impacts of forest management, of appropriate environmentally and lifecycle-adapted input products, and of technologies that are considerate to people and to nature.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>5.3.2-5.3.3 VER: Documentation, interviews</b> <b>5.3.1-5.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, supervisors and workers. Observation of harvesting operations</p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.3.3</b></p> <p><b>5.3.3. Managers that use their own forestry machinery, or that hire contractors, shall implement systematic and documented procedures for minimising hazardous emissions from machinery as well as for monitoring results of the operations and improving environmental performance where necessary.</b></p> <p><b>5.3.3SA. Managers that use their own forestry machinery, or that hire contractors, shall ensure that hazardous emissions from machinery is minimised.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>5.3.2-5.3.3 VER: Documentation, interviews</b> <b>5.3.1-5.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p><i>When timber products are removed from the stand sufficient material in the form of tops, branches and solid wood should remain behind to assist the natural nutrient cycle.</i> Observation of harvesting and on-site processing operations.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.3.4</b></p> <p><b>5.3.4. Managers of major holdings shall implement procedures, adapted to the extent and scope of the activity, to ensure a good quality of work within the machine-environmental-technical area.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>5.3.4 VER: Procedures, interviews, field visits.</b> <b>5.3.1-5.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Observation of harvesting operations. Records of timber deliveries</p>

<b>Criterion 5.4 Forest management <u>should</u> strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.</b>	
<b>Indicator 5.4.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.4.1S. Managers shall be aware of the potential of the forest to produce various benefits for the local economy.</b>	<b>5.4.1-5.4.2 VER: Planning documentation, procedures, interviews, field visits, the existence of consultation.</b> <b>5.4.1SA VER: Interviews.</b> Interviews with Forest Managers. Forest management planning <u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u> Sales records. Discussions with local communities and the forest manager
<b>Indicator 5.4.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.4.2. Managers shall take account of the views expressed by local economy representatives under normal conditions of the market. Managers of major holdings shall have procedures in place for documenting such views.</b>	<b>5.4.1-5.4.2 VER: Planning documentation, procedures, interviews, field visits, the existence of consultation.</b> Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities. Evidence of NTFP sales or licenses or permits issued.
<b>Criterion 5.5 Forest management operations shall recognise, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.</b>	
<b>Indicator 5.5.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.5.1. Managers shall be aware of the potential of the forests to produce benefits and resources such as outdoor recreation, hunting and fishing and, where appropriate, implement demonstrable measures to maintain and enhance these values.</b>  <b>5.5.1SA. Managers shall be aware of the potential of the forests to produce benefits and resources such as outdoor recreation, hunting and fishing.</b>	<b>5.5.1-5.5.5 VER: Instructions, documentation of more important installations and important ongoing activities, interviews, field visits, procedures.</b> <b>5.5.1-5.5.5SA VER: Interviews and field visits, more important installations and important ongoing activities.</b> Interviews with Forest Managers
<b>Indicator 5.5.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.5.2. Managers shall use procedures, adapted to the size of the holdings, for taking account of views expressed by representatives of affected interest organisations, general public and authorities on forest benefits and resources in relation to harvesting and other forest management activities.</b>	<b>5.5.1-5.5.5 VER: Instructions, documentation of more important installations and important ongoing activities, interviews, field visits, procedures.</b> <b>5.5.1-5.5.5SA VER: Interviews and field visits, more important installations and important ongoing activities.</b> Interviews with Forest Managers
<b>Indicator 5.5.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.5.3. Managers shall agree, through</b>	<b>5.5.1-5.5.5 VER: Instructions, documentation of more</b>



contracts or other arrangements, on joint management of various natural resources in the same area where the parties find it necessary.	<i>important installations and important ongoing activities, interviews, field visits, procedures.</i> <b>5.5.1-5.5.5SA VER: Interviews and field visits, more important installations and important ongoing activities.</b>
<p><b>Indicator 5.5.4</b></p> <p>5.5.4. Managers shall plan and implement forest management activity measures that affect recreational values with particular attention.</p> <p><b>5.5.4SA. Managers shall ensure that forest management activity measures that affect recreational values are implemented with particular attention.</b></p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.5.1-5.5.5 VER: Instructions, documentation of more important installations and important ongoing activities, interviews, field visits, procedures.</i></p> <p><b>5.5.1-5.5.5SA VER: Interviews and field visits, more important installations and important ongoing activities.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.5.5</b></p> <p>5.5.5. Managers shall plan and implement forest management activity measures so as to maintain accessibility and avoid damage to frequently used paths.</p> <p><b>5.5.5SA. Managers shall ensure that forest management activity measures are implemented so as to maintain accessibility and avoid damage to frequently used paths.</b></p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><i>5.5.1-5.5.5 VER: Instructions, documentation of more important installations and important ongoing activities, interviews, field visits, procedures.</i></p> <p><b>5.5.1-5.5.5SA VER: Interviews and field visits, more important installations and important ongoing activities.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.5.6</b></p> <p>5.5.6. Managers shall document hunting rights on the landholding and ensure that hunting is conducted sustainably in compliance with relevant hunting laws and regulations.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><b>5.5.6 VER: Documentation</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 5.5.7</b></p> <p>5.5.7. Equivalent to 6.5.17.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p>
<p><b>Criterion 5.6</b>      <b>The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels, which can be permanently sustained.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 5.6.1</b></p> <p>5.6.1. Managers of major holdings shall ensure that timber harvesting and other forest utilisation is sustainable in the long term. Documentation of long-term sustainable harvesting levels shall be available.</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p> <p><b>5.6.1-5.6.3 VER: Felling estimations. Documentation. Interviews. Field visits.</b></p> <p>Evidence of enumerations, yield calculations and harvesting planning</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Management plan</p> <p>Field observations of harvesting sites compared to areas planned for harvesting.</p> <p>Maps of tree location</p> <p>Harvest and sales records and plans over the relevant time span.</p>

	Data on likely or actual growth rates of species harvested.
<b>Indicator 5.6.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.6.2. Other managers shall ensure that levels of timber harvesting are long-term sustainable through compliance with §§ 10-11 of the Forest Act and the forest management plan of the property.</b>	<b>5.6.1-5.6.3 VER: Felling estimations. Documentation. Interviews. Field visits.</b>
<b>5.6.2SA. Equivalent to 5.1.1SA.</b>	<b>5.6.2SA VER: Planning documentation. Interviews. Field visits.</b>
	Timber resource planning
<b>Indicator 5.6.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>5.6.3. Managers of major holdings shall implement procedures to ensure that harvesting over longer periods do not exceed stated long-term sustainable levels.</b>	<b>5.6.1-5.6.3 VER: Felling estimations. Documentation. Interviews. Field visits.</b>
	Management plans
<b>PRINCIPLE 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:</b>	
Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.	
<b>Criterion 6.1</b>	<b>Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed - appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources - and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site disturbing operations.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.1.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.1.1. Managers shall document their landholdings in accordance with Annex 3A and 3B.</b>	<b>6.1.1S-6.1.3 VER: Control of planning instruments, gap analysis</b>
<b>6.1.1SA. Equivalent to 7.1.a-bS, 7.1.fS, 7.1.gSA.</b>	<i>For all operations or activities carried out on the FMU, there should be an evaluation of the possibility of the following potentially negative impacts being caused: soil erosion and compaction; changes to soil productivity; changes to invasive exotic, native or naturalised flora or fauna species abundance, diversity or distribution. Habitat fragmentation, pesticide, lubricant, nutrient or fertiliser pollution (by runoff, spray drift or spillage) and sedimentation of watercourses or water bodies; changes to water flow and drainage regimes of watercourses, water bodies, visual changes to prominent landscapes. Working Instruction 01 regarding on-site processing plants must be used as reference.</i>
	Interviews with Forest Managers, environmental NGOs and government conservation agencies.
<b>Indicator 6.1.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.1.2. Managers of major holdings shall apply a landscape ecology perspective in their planning, taking account of the spatial configuration of the landholding and other local circumstances.</b>	<b>6.1.1S-6.1.3 VER: Control of planning instruments, gap analysis</b>
	A "significant activity is an activity that has the potential to cause environmental impacts that are:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Permanent or long term; or</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Affects a wide environment</i></li> </ul> <p>An EIA is the <b>formal</b> procedure that is followed to collect, organise, analyse, interpret and communicate data that are relevant to making a decision. The procedure can however be followed as an <b>informal</b> assessment for a project such as the planning of a harvesting operation. The <b>purpose of an EIA</b> is to minimise negative impacts, ensure the conservation of important features and to enhance positive aspects of the project.</p> <p>Principles that a <b>formal</b> EIA should comply with are:</p> <p><b>Informed Decision Making:</b> Decision-making should be based on reliable information.</p> <p><b>Accountability:</b> Responsibilities must be clearly defined.</p> <p><b>Environment in the Broadest Sense:</b> The environment includes all aspects (i.e. physical, social, political, economic, visual).</p> <p><b>Open Consultation:</b> Consultation with all interested and affected parties must be done in a transparent manner.</p> <p><b>Specialist Input:</b> Specialists in the particular field must support impact assessments.</p> <p><b>Alternatives:</b> Consider all possible alternatives in terms of location and activities.</p> <p><b>Mitigatory Measures:</b> Assess mitigatory measures that will reduce or negate negative impacts and enhance the positive impacts of the planned activities.</p> <p><b>Consider all Stages:</b> The assessment should consider all stages of the development, from the planning phase through to closure.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers also testing their basic knowledge of EIAs.</p> <p>Records of assessments and decisions.</p> <p>Environmental management plans.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Manager's knowledge of the site and impacts of operations</p> <p>Field observations</p> <p>Management plan</p> <p>Documented environmental statement or assessment where legally required</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.1.3</b></p> <p><b>6.1.3. Managers of major holdings shall plan forest management with the aim of achieving an ecologically balanced age distribution in the landscape, with special attention to the proportion of older forest in landscapes where there is a deficit of such forest.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.1.1S-6.1.3 VER: Control of planning instruments, gap analysis</b></p> <p>See also requirements 6.5.1 and 6.5.2.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, supervisors and workers also testing their knowledge of minimum requirements.</p> <p>Field observations and operational plans. For <u>large scale operations</u>, these provisions and controls will be documented in plans.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.1.4</b></p> <p><b>6.1.4. Managers of major holdings shall make publicly available ecological landscape plans, or</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.1.4 VER: Procedures, interviews</b></p>

<p>equivalent documentation, with accompanying rationales.</p>	<p><u>Corrective Actions:</u></p> <p>The first <u>objective</u> is, whenever there is a non-conformance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ action is taken to correct any damage to the environment that may have occurred (corrective action); and</li> <li>▪ measures are instituted to prevent the non-conformance from recurring (preventive action).</li> </ul> <p>The <u>second objective</u> is to ensure that preventative action is taken where there is obvious potential for an activity to develop into a non-conformance with subsequent environmental impact(s).</p> <p>The <u>third objective</u> is to ensure that CARs are reviewed periodically to identify persistent problem areas and to ensure that such problem areas are appropriately addressed, in either a corrective or a preventative manner.</p> <p>Interviews with managers.</p> <p>Comparison of quality of ongoing operations and associated record of past CARs.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.1.5</b></p> <p><b>6.1.5. Other managers shall ensure that regional biodiversity action plans or equivalent are taken into account when planning the forest management.</b></p> <p><b>6.1.5SA. Development of forest management plans shall take account of regional biodiversity action plans<sup>15</sup> or equivalent, to the extent possible and in accordance with the character of the property.</b></p> <p><sup>15</sup> Example of regional biodiversity action plan: Skogsvårdsstyrelsen Mälardalen 2000. Aktionsplan för biologisk mångfald och uthålligt skogsbruk i region Mälardalen.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.1.5 VER: Planning documentation, awareness of regional action plans or equivalent</b></p> <p><b>6.1.5-6.1.7SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspection, implemented assessments of biodiversity values.</b></p> <p><u>Records of CARs</u></p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Interviews with the forest Manager and workers and field observations</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.1.6</b></p> <p><b>6.1.6S. Managers shall not use untested forest management methods or materials with potentially serious adverse impacts on people or nature unless approved by FSC Sweden.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.1.6 VER: Statement from the FSC national body.</b></p> <p><b>6.1.5-6.1.7SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspection, implemented assessments of biodiversity values.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, environmental NGOs and government agencies.</p> <p>Research briefs.</p> <p>Licences and permits.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.1.7</b></p> <p><b>6.1.7. Managers shall assess environmental values<sup>16</sup> at stand level prior to any major forest management activities, document the results, and plan and implement forest management so as to minimize adverse impacts.</b></p> <p><b>6.1.7SA. Managers shall assess and document environmental values<sup>16</sup> at stand level prior to</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.1.7 VER: Interviews, field inspection, implemented assessments of biodiversity values.</b></p> <p><b>6.1.5-6.1.7SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspection, implemented assessments of biodiversity values.</b></p>

<p><b>any major forest management activities in areas where such values have not already been assessed in the development of forest management plans.</b></p> <p><sup>16</sup> In accordance with Annex 4.</p>	
<p><b>Criterion 6.2</b></p>	<p><b>Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g. nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.1</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1S. Managers shall exempt the following habitats from measures other than management required to maintain or promote natural biodiversity or biodiversity generated by traditional practices<sup>17</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>a) Natural, conspicuously un-even-aged and stratified forests with an abundance of old/large trees and a high frequency of coarse dead woody debris in different stages of decomposition<sup>18</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>b) Woodland key habitats according to the definitions and methodology of the Swedish Forest Agency, 1995.</b></p> <p><b>c) Low/non-productive forest land (land with a total annual volume increment less than 1 cubic meter per hectare).</b></p> <p><sup>17</sup> Measures to promote outdoor recreation may be taken on condition that they are not detrimental to the biodiversity values.</p> <p><sup>18</sup> The definition shall be applied in view of regional conditions taking into consideration the potential of the site and of the forest type. As to application of the definition in subalpine forests, see Indicator 9.3.2.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p> <p><i>Where survey data are incomplete, it should be assumed that relevant species ARE present.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p> <p>Refer also to 7.1.7</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u></p> <p>Manager's knowledge of rare, threatened and endangered species in the area.</p> <p>Records from other sources of species found on the site.</p> <p>Field observations of nesting and feeding areas of rare, threatened and endangered species.</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p> <p>Manager's and workers' knowledge of rare, threatened and endangered species in the area.</p> <p>Reports of training for forest workers on protection issues.</p> <p>Field observations of nesting and feeding areas of rare, threatened and endangered species.</p> <p>Reports of the conservation status of the FMU from other sources.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.2</b></p> <p><b>6.2.2S. Managers shall ensure that woodland key habitats requiring active interventions are managed in accordance with defined and documented management objectives.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p> <p>Records and maps.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Maps showing conservation features</p> <p>Field observations and interviews with forest manager</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.3</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>

<p>6.2.3. Managers shall evaluate and document information about occurrences of red-listed species (Annex 5) outside delimited woodland key habitats, and about consideration measures to be taken as regards such occurrences.</p>	<p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p> <p>Operational plans.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.4</b></p> <p>6.2.4. Managers shall take demonstrable measures to protect occurrences of red-listed species (in accordance with 6.2.2) outside delimited woodland key habitats. These can be generic, including detailed consideration or care-demanding patches at felling, or specific such as small-scale measures or setting aside forest land for nature conservation purposes.</p> <p><b>6.2.4SA. Managers shall consider known occurrences of red-listed species (Annex 5) outside delimited woodland key habitats and take demonstrable measures to protect them. Such measures can be generic, including detailed consideration or care-demanding patches at felling, or specific such as small-scale measures or setting aside forest land for nature conservation purposes.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p> <p><i>Where less than 10% of the total area of large FMUs has been set aside for conservation zones and protection areas, justification must be provided for this in the form of consultation with local experts and/or government agencies.</i></p> <p><i>For smaller FMUs the conservation zones and protection areas should exist within the FMU or in nearby landscapes.</i></p> <p>Plans and maps and records of completed work.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.5</b></p> <p>6.2.5. Managers shall document known raptors <input type="checkbox"/> nests and capercaillie leks and take demonstrable measures to protect them.</p> <p><b>6.2.5SA. Managers shall consider known raptors <input type="checkbox"/> nests and capercaillie leks and take demonstrable measures to protect them.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p> <p>Plans and maps, including annual plan of operations.</p> <p>Field observations</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.6</b></p> <p>6.2.6S. Managers shall avoid harvesting operations in stratified forests dominated by broad-leaf trees during the breeding season of birds.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p> <p>Policies and procedures.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p> <p>Field observations and records of collection.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.7</b></p> <p>6.2.7. Managers shall not establish forests on: a) delimited patches of open or spontaneously overgrowing cultural land less than 0.5 hectare in the forest landscape; b) open and spontaneously overgrowing cultural land where the species composition is still conditioned by former traditional management practises (crofters <input type="checkbox"/> holdings, old cultivations).</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p>

<p><b>6.2.7SA. Managers shall not establish forests on: a) delimited patches of open or spontaneously overgrowing cultural land less than 0.5 hec-tare<sup>19</sup> in the forest landscape; b) open and spontaneously overgrowing cultural land where the species composition is still conditioned by former traditional management practises (crofters □ holdings, old cultivations).</b></p> <p><sup>19</sup> Not applicable to holdings with less than 20 hectares of productive forest land.</p>	
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.8</b></p> <p><b>6.2.8S. Managers shall maintain or create, preferably traditionally managed, open forest edge zones as part of the regular management of the stand.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.9</b></p> <p><b>6.2.9S. Managers shall plan their forest management so as to avoid future shading of sun-exposed forest edges, forest islets on arable land and other small habitats.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.10</b></p> <p><b>6.2.10S. Managers shall strive to maintain the biological diversity of uncultivated meadows and pastureland where the species composition is still conditioned by former traditional management practises. Biodiversity values associated with large previously solitary trees and with tree and shrub species characteristic of traditionally managed areas shall be promoted.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.11</b></p> <p><b>6.2.11S. Managers shall manage, where possible, any other afforested, previously open, cultural areas so that deciduous trees dominate throughout the rotation period in areas immediately adjacent to non-forested cultural land.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.2.12</b></p> <p><b>6.2.12. Managers shall monitor their landholding for signs of illegal hunting and fishing and take corrective and preventive measures as required.</b></p> <p><b>6.2.12SA. Equivalent to 1.5.1SA.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12 VER: Procedures. Documentation. Interviews. Field inspection.</b>  <b>6.2.1-6.2.12SA VER: Planning documentation. tion. Interviews. Field inspection</b></p>



<p><b>Criterion 6.3</b></p>	<p><b>Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Forest regeneration and succession.</li> <li>▪ Genetic, species and ecosystem diversity.</li> <li>▪ Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.1</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1. Managers shall adapt forest management measures to site conditions and document the measures.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1SA. Managers shall adapt forest management measures to site conditions.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1 VER: Instructions, plans, field inspection, interviews, knowledge/training.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p> <p><i>This requirement applies to natural forest and plantation management organisations. Compliance might involve an initial assessment and monitoring of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Regeneration of natural forest areas harvested, degraded areas, fragmented areas, areas damaged by fire, conservation zones and protection areas;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Impacts of past management e.g. logging, collection of NTFPs, soil erosion</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Distribution and status of plant communities;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Conservation status of native floral and faunal assemblages, species and their habitats;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Spread of invasive species</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Ongoing soil erosion</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Water quality</i></li> </ul> <p>Records and maps</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.2</b></p> <p><b>6.3.2. Managers shall have knowledge about management methods that mimic important aspects of natural and traditional forest dynamics and when such management methods are preferable.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.2-6.3.3 VER: Interviews, knowledge/training, field inspection.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.3</b></p> <p><b>6.3.3S. Managers shall make use of stands of seed trees, shelterwoods, group or tree selection systems and exploitation felling, when these methods produce successful regeneration with tree species that are appropriate for the site and for management objectives.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.2-6.3.3 VER: Interviews, knowledge/training, field inspection.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p> <p><i>Enhancement, maintenance and restoration activities should be prepared to provide for the restoration of degraded natural areas, weed infestation, erosion, borrow pits, waste sites, quarries, etc.</i></p>



	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts. Plans and maps and field observations.
<b>Indicator 6.3.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.3.4S. Managers shall retain all snags, windthrows and other trees that have been dead for more than 1 year except when they:</b></p> <p>a) constitute a safety risk for forestry workers or for the general public within recreation areas, b) block up frequently used paths and roads, c) constitute small-dimension felling residues, d) constitute breeding substrate for pest insects in case there is a documented risk of mass propagation<sup>20</sup>.</p> <p><sup>20</sup> In large connected areas of dead forests, management activities may be carried out to establish new forests in accordance with requirements of the Swedish Forestry Act.</p>	<p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p> <p>Plans and maps</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts</p>
<b>Indicator 6.3.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.3.5S. Managers shall retain all snags, windthrows and other trees that have been dead less than 1 year<sup>21</sup>:</b></p> <p>a) that originate from trees with high biodiversity values (6.3.18) or other trees previously retained for nature conservation purposes b) in areas set aside for nature conservation including care-demanding patches c) on low/non-productive forest land with an annual increment less than 1 cubic metre per hectare.</p> <p><sup>21</sup> In forests in proximity of urban areas and along commonly used trails, management of dead wood may be modified to promote accessibility and safety. Measures may also be taken to ensure workers' safety.</p>	<p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p> <p>Plans and maps</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts</p>
<b>Indicator 6.3.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.3.6S. Managers shall retain, on average, at least two coarse new windthrows per hectare when harvesting windthrown stems on final felled areas (in addition to windthrows addressed in 6.3.4S and 6.3.5S).</b></p>	<p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>
<b>Indicator 6.3.7</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.3.7S. Managers shall create, in average, at least three<sup>22</sup> high stumps<sup>23</sup> or girdled trees per hectare of areas harvested through regeneration felling and thick-stem thinning, striving to select for this purpose equal numbers of coarse pine, spruce, birch and aspen trees without high biodiversity values.</b></p> <p><sup>22</sup> At regeneration felling in oak and beech stands dead wood is produced, making sure that at the time of the old stand wind-up there shall be on an average, at least two</p>	<p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>

<p>girdled trees or high stumps of the main tree species per hectare of the harvested area. No high stumps or girdled trees of other valuable broad-leaf tree species are required.</p> <p><sup>23</sup> Crosscutting shall be done at the maximum height considered safe.</p>	
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.8</b></p> <p><b>6.3.8. Managers shall plan and implement forestry measures so that, wherever natural conditions permit, broad-leaf trees constitute a minimum average of 10% of the stand volume<sup>24</sup>, including immediately adjacent land, at the time of regeneration felling, (5 % in areas north of the <i>limes norrlandicus</i>). Naturally present broad-leaf tree species shall generally be maintained in the stand.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.8SA. Managers shall plan and implement their management so that, wherever natural conditions permit, general nature consideration measures in pre-commercial thinning, thinning and regeneration felling prioritise broad-leaf trees, with the aim that such trees, together with broad-leaf trees managed for production purposes, constitute 10% of the stand volume prior to regeneration felling (5 % north of <i>limes norrlandicus</i>). Naturally present broad-leaf tree species shall generally be maintained in the stand.</b></p> <p><b>Lower stand level proportions of broad-leaf trees are acceptable on holdings where:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>conservation set aside areas (as defined in 6.4.1S) dominated by broad-leaf trees constitute at least 10 % of the productive forest land; or</b></li> <li>• <b>stands that are, and/or in the near future will be dominated by broad-leaf trees constitute at least 20 % of the productive forest land (10% north of <i>limes norrlandicus</i> ).</b></li> </ul> <p><sup>24</sup> Including high stumps of broad-leaf trees</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.2-6.3.8 VER: Field inspection, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.9</b></p> <p><b>6.3.9<sup>S</sup>. Managers shall plan and manage the landholdings so that, over time, an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the total area of mesic and moist forest land<sup>25</sup>, suitable for natural regeneration and growth of broadleaf trees, carry deciduous rich stands dominated by broadleaf trees during the major part of the rotation period. The stands shall be managed in order to promote favourable conditions for biodiversity associated with broadleaf trees.</b></p> <p><sup>25</sup> Areas dominated by broad-leaf trees that have been set aside according to 6.4.1-6.4.3 may be included north of the <i>limes norrlandicus</i>. Subalpine forests at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary as defined by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (1988) are</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.9-6.3.10 VER: Field inspection, present percentage of valuable broad-leaf forests, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>

excepted from the requirements of 6.3.8.	
<b>Indicator 6.3.10</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.10S. Managers with landholdings in the nemoral zone outside the natural range of spruce shall plan and manage the holdings so that, over time, less than 50 % of the productive forest land carries stands dominated by spruce (in addition to any stands dominated by exotic tree species).</b>	<b>6.3.9-6.3.10 VER: Field inspection, present percentage of valuable broad-leaf forests, control of plans and instructions and also checking contact with the manager.</b>  <b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.3.11</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.11. Managers of major holdings shall take demonstrable measures<sup>26</sup> to allow tree species sensitive to browsing by game to develop naturally into normal arborescent individuals.</b>  <sup>26</sup> The measures shall be based on an assessment in a landscape perspective and on best available knowledge and consultation with hunter organisations.	<b>6.3.11 VER: Plans, field inspection.</b>  <b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.3.12</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.12. Managers of major holdings shall take all reasonable measures to burn an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the regeneration area<sup>27</sup> on dry and mesic forest land over a five-year period. Felling and burning operations shall be designed to promote fire-dependent species and measures shall be taken to minimize leaching of plant nutrients directly into watercourses. (See also Annex 6 on burning.)</b>  <sup>27</sup> Areas subject to the treatment shall preferably be areas previously influenced by fire, with the exception of lichen areas important to reindeer husbandry. Exceptions shall be permitted in regions where natural forest fires have had minor influence. Under this category come subalpine forests, the west Västergötland province, the west Småland province, the Halland and Skåne provinces, and the south Blekinge province. Exceptions shall also be permitted in forests in proximity of urban areas and on the islands of Öland and Gotland.	<b>6.3.12-6.3.13 VER: Documentation, burning plans, burning statistics, field inspection.</b>  <b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.3.13</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.13. Managers of major holdings shall document all burning measures in planning documentation and forest registers.</b>	<b>6.3.12-6.3.13 VER: Documentation, burning plans, burning statistics, field inspection.</b>  <b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.3.14</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.14S. Managers shall demarcate, preferably when the ground is free from snow cover, as care-demanding patches:</b> <b>a. small habitats with specific biodiversity values</b>	<b>6.3.14-6.3.18 VER: Field inspection. Managers of major holdings and group representatives monitor and document the extent of consideration measures.</b>  <b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and</b>

b. any buffer zones required adjacent to habitats with specific biodiversity values	<i>fertilisation.</i>
Indicator 6.3.15	Verifiers & Guidance:
6.3.15S. Managers shall promote continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features adjacent to wetlands and low/non-productive forest land. Demarcation is preferably performed when the ground is free from snow cover.	6.3.14-6.3.18 VER: <i>Field inspection. Managers of major holdings and group representatives monitor and document the extent of consideration measures.</i>  6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: <i>Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</i>
Indicator 6.3.16	Verifiers & Guidance:
6.3.16S. Managers shall retain wind resistant trees of different species with good potentials to develop into large and old trees during the next rotation period, with the aim that the next stand shall contain at least 10 such trees <sup>28</sup> (including relevant biodiversity value trees according to 6.3.18S) per hectare (in average for the productive forest land within the unit of operation, including transition zones and care-demanding patches).  <sup>28</sup> In areas where trees with high biodiversity values are large oak or beech trees the number may be reduced.	6.3.14-6.3.18 VER: <i>Field inspection. Managers of major holdings and group representatives monitor and document the extent of consideration measures.</i>  6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: <i>Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</i>
Indicator 6.3.17	Verifiers & Guidance:
6.3.17S. Managers shall retain care-demanding patches, edge zones, groups of trees and biodiversity value trees (6.3.18S), so as to avoid large treeless areas.	6.3.14-6.3.18 VER: <i>Field inspection. Managers of major holdings and group representatives monitor and document the extent of consideration measures.</i>  6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: <i>Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</i>
Indicator 6.3.18	Verifiers & Guidance:
6.3.18S. Managers shall retain and safeguard, as part of all forestry measures, all trees with high biodiversity values <sup>29</sup> : a. aberrant, particularly large and/or old trees, b. large trees with notably wide girth and thick-branched and/or flat crowns, c. large, previously solitary growing spruces on pasture land, d. large aspen and alders where these do not occur in abundance, in stands dominated by conifers, e. arborescent goat willow, mountain ash, whitebeam, maple, lime, bird-cherry, wild cherry and large hazel in stands dominated by conifers,  f. large junipers, g. trees with distinct open bole fire scars, h. hollow trees and trees with stick nests of birds of prey, i. trees with evident features of cultural	6.3.14-6.3.18 VER: <i>Field inspection. Managers of major holdings and group representatives monitor and document the extent of consideration measures.</i>  6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: <i>Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</i>

<p>importance, j. individual or small groups of valuable broad-leaf trees in the boreal forest landscape.</p> <p><sup>29</sup> Exceptions shall be permitted if the trees are included in the standard forest management program, for instance in saw-timber stands, shelterwoods, seed tree stands of less than 25 years duration and main stems in stands of valuable broad-leaf trees. Exceptions shall also be granted for road constructions, if there is risk of injury or damage to buildings, and for trees close to power lines.</p>	
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.19</b></p> <p><b>6.3.19S. Managers shall plan and manage their landholding so as to promote that a significant number of broadleaf trees, and an appropriate number of other trees, develop into trees with high biodiversity values.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.20</b></p> <p><b>6.3.20. Managers shall monitor and document compliance with Indicators 6.3.14-6.3.19 and take corrective and preventive measures in case of non-compliance.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.21</b></p> <p><b>6.3.21. Managers shall aim to maintain the natural processes and long-term productivity of soils, and to avoid negative impacts on other ecosystems and biodiversity values. Managers adding or restoring nitrogen/mineral plant nutrients shall demonstrate, with the support of generic documentation<sup>30</sup>, that these measures do not conflict with this aim.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.21SA. Managers shall aim to maintain the natural processes and long-term productivity of soils, and to avoid negative impacts on other ecosystems and biodiversity values.</b></p> <p><sup>30</sup> See Annex 7 on nitrogen fertilization.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.22</b></p> <p><b>6.3.22. Managers shall ensure that nitrogen fertilisers are used in accordance with the Swedish Forest Agency's regulations, general guidelines and recommendations and in accordance with Indicator 6.3.21.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.22-6.3.25 VER: Field visits and interviews, register of fertilized areas and areas where biofuel has been extracted.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.3.23</b></p> <p><b>6.3.22SA. Managers shall ensure that nitrogen fertilisers are used in accordance with the Swedish Forest Agency's regulations, general guidelines and recommendations and in accordance with the recommendations of Indicator 6.3.21SA<sup>30</sup>.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.3.22-6.3.25 VER: Field visits and interviews, register of fertilized areas and areas where biofuel has been extracted.</b></p> <p><b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER: Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</b></p>

<sup>30</sup> See Annex 7 on nitrogen fertilization.	
<b>Indicator 6.3.24</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.24S.</b> Managers shall ensure that any spread of ash, lime or nutrients to compensate for biofuel extraction, soil acidity, or nutritional imbalances, complies with the Swedish Forest Agency's regulations and general guidelines.	<b>6.3.22-6.3.25 VER:</b> <i>Field visits and interviews, register of fertilized areas and areas where biofuel has been extracted.</i> <b>6.3.1-6.3.24SA VER:</b> <i>Planning documentation, field inspection, documentation of biofuel extraction and fertilisation.</i>
<b>Indicator 6.3.25</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.3.25.</b> Managers shall apply updated research-based knowledge about long-term forest land productivity in planning and implementation of their management activities.	<b>6.3.22-6.3.25 VER:</b> <i>Field visits and interviews, register of fertilized areas and areas where biofuel has been extracted.</i>
<b>Criterion 6.4</b>	<b>Representative samples of existing ecosystems within landscapes shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale of operations and the uniqueness of the resource.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.4.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.4.1S.</b> Managers shall exempt a minimum of 5 % of the productive forest land area 31 (in accordance with Annex 8) from measures other than management required to maintain or promote biodiversity conditioned by natural processes or traditional land use practices.	<b>6.4.1-6.4 VER:</b> <i>Control of planning documentation. Field inspection.</i> <b>6.4.1-6.4.3SA VER:</b> <i>Planning documentation, interview, field inspection.</i>
<b>Indicator 6.4.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.4.2S.</b> Managers shall select areas according to 6.4.1S, demarcated and prioritized based on their significance for biodiversity and landscape representativeness.	<b>6.4.1-6.4 VER:</b> <i>Control of planning documentation. Field inspection.</i> <b>6.4.1-6.4.3SA VER:</b> <i>Planning documentation, interview, field inspection.</i>
<b>Indicator 6.4.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.4.3S.</b> Within areas defined according to 6.4.1-6.4.2S, managers may take actions to promote outdoor recreation provided that there is no negative impact on biodiversity.	<b>6.4.1-6.4 VER:</b> <i>Control of planning documentation. Field inspection.</i> <b>6.4.1-6.4.3SA VER:</b> <i>Planning documentation, interview, field inspection.</i>
<b>Criterion 6.5</b>	<b>Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimise forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.5.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.5.1S.</b> Managers shall restrict site preparation to sites where such measures are necessary to achieve successful regeneration, and adapt techniques and intensities to the conditions of the site.	<b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER:</b> <i>Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</i> <b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER:</b> <i>Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</i> <i>Forest operations include: site preparation, fire belt management, planting, weed control, stand management,</i>



	<p><i>harvesting and extraction, road surfacing material extraction and excavation site closure, road network design, road design, construction, maintenance and closure.</i></p> <p>Records, plans and maps.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations</p> <p>Maps showing new roads and locations of new and ongoing operations</p>
<b>Indicator 6.5.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.5.2S. Managers shall use intermittent site preparation methods on moist soils and on erosion-prone soils, and shall not carry out mechanical site preparation in edge zones along water and wetlands.</b>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p><i>The main assessment report should make explicit reference to the national or regional best practice guidelines used as a reference.</i></p> <p>Operational plans, interviews with staff and field observations.</p>
<b>Indicator 6.5.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.5.3. Managers shall implement procedures for avoiding damage caused by heavy machinery, including appropriate methodology and technology for transports across watercourses<sup>32</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.3SA. Managers shall ensure that damage from heavy machinery is avoided, particularly where timber is transported across watercourses.</b></p> <p><sup>32</sup> Substantial ground damages refer to, for example, damages causing significant erosion and sediment transport to watercourses, wheel tracks changing the direction of water flows, damages in areas with specific biodiversity values, and wheel tracks in areas of particular importance to outdoor recreation, especially close to urban areas.</p>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p><i>The main assessment report shall make explicit reference to the national or regional best practice guidelines used as a reference.</i></p> <p>Operational plans, interviews with staff and field observations.</p>
<b>Indicator 6.5.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.5.4. Managers shall implement procedures to act on substantial soil damage caused by vehicles.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.4SA. Managers shall repair substantial soil damage caused by vehicles.</b></p>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Operational plans, interviews with staff and field observations.</p> <p>No evidence of significant spillages.</p>
<b>Indicator 6.5.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.5.5. Managers shall implement procedures to ensure that construction of new roads does not change the running of, or cause damage to, natural watercourses.</b></p>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>



<p><b>6.5.5SA. Managers shall ensure that construction of new roads does not change the running of, or cause damage to, natural watercourses.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 6.5.6</b></p> <p><b>6.5.6S. Managers shall remove obstacles to the migration of aquatic organisms when maintaining or reconstructing culverts.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.5.7</b></p> <p><b>6.5.7. Managers of major holdings shall develop action plans for removing obstacles caused by road culverts to the migration of aquatic organisms in watercourses with special biodiversity values,</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.5.8</b></p> <p><b>6.5.8S. Managers shall not establish new ditches for soil drainage on land which has not previously been ditched<sup>33</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>33</sup> Exceptions shall be permitted in the case of flooding which threatens the stand vitality on condition that the required permissions have been obtained from the authorities concerned.</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.5.9</b></p> <p><b>6.5.9S. Managers shall apply protective ditching only where such measures are clearly necessary to comply with the regeneration requirements of the Forest Act.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.5.10</b></p> <p><b>6.5.10S. Managers shall ensure that ditches and road ditches do not discharge directly into watercourses, lakes or valuable wetlands. Exceptions may be applicable due to adverse topography or other special conditions.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.5.11</b></p> <p><b>6.5.11S. Managers shall not maintain previously established ditches on peat land<sup>34</sup> with low forest production<sup>35</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>34</sup> Classified as lichen type, lichen-rich type, poor dwarf-shrub type, Empetrum-Calluna type or Carex-Equisetum type according to Hägglund &amp; Lundmark 1987. Bonitering, Del 1. Definitioner och anvisningar. The Swedish Forest Agency, Jönköping. 53 pp. ISBN 91-85748-64-1.</p> <p><sup>35</sup> Exceptions shall be permitted for maintenance of drainage ditches from other previously ditched forest stands with higher forest production than the site classes</p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>

listed above.	
<b>Indicator 6.5.12</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
6.5.12. Managers shall be aware of existing local and downstream biodiversity values, and of options for restoration, prior to clearing of ditches. Protective measures shall be applied and consideration shall be documented. <b>6.5.12SA. Managers shall be aware of existing local and downstream biodiversity values, and of options for restoration, prior to clearing of ditches.</b>	<i>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</i> <b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.5.13</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
6.5.13S. Managers that clear ditches, or apply protective temporary drainage, shall construct functional sedimentation ponds where necessary to minimise negative effects of sedimentation.	<i>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</i> <b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.5.14</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
6.5.14. Managers shall implement procedures that promote continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features along watercourses and open water areas. <b>6.5.14SA. Managers shall ensure that management along watercourses and open water areas promotes continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features.</b>	<i>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</i> <b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.5.15</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
6.5.15S. Managers shall plan and manage their landholding so that stands, dominated by broadleaf trees and with high potential for biodiversity, are maintained and/or established: a. on moist sedimentary soils adjacent to watercourses and open water bodies; b. in sediment ravines; c. on other moist/wet land that is naturally dominated by broadleaf trees.	<i>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</i> <b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.5.16</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
6.5.16. Managers shall take account of aquatic habitats when forest land is set aside for nature conservation purposes.	<i>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</i> <b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.5.17</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>

<p>6.5.17. Managers shall consider wetland and aquatic habitats in a watershed perspective beyond the context of the landholding and take specific consideration measures to such habitats with high biodiversity values.</p> <p><b>6.5.17SA. Managers shall consider wetland and aquatic habitats in their management, taking specific account of habitats with high biodiversity values, e.g. in setting aside areas for conservation.</b></p>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.5.1 – 6.5.17SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<p>Indicator 6.5.18</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p>
<p>6.5.18. Managers of major holdings shall use procedures to assess the need for, and practical/economic possibilities of, re-creating water environments in their ecological landscape planning.</p>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p>
<p>Indicator 6.5.19</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p>
<p>6.5.19. Managers of major holdings shall monitor and document compliance with Indicators 6.5.1-6.5.18 and shall take corrective and preventive measures in case of non-compliance.</p>	<p><b>6.5.1-6.5.19 VER: Procedures, justifications, monitoring results, interviews, field visits, planning documentation.</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 6.6</b> Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organisation Type 1A and 1B chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimise health and environmental risks.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.6.1</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p>
<p><b>6.6.1S.</b> Managers shall limit the risks of damage caused by fungi, insects and wind through compliance with § 29 of the Forest Act.</p>	<p><b>6.6.1 VER: Decisions on exceptions.</b></p> <p><b>6.6.1-6.6.5SA VER: Decisions on exceptions. Interviews, field inspections.</b></p> <p><i>Chemical pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and rodenticides in the formulation applied in the field (including any surfactants, dispersants or solvents used).</i></p> <p>Records of chemicals in use.</p> <p>Receipts and invoices.</p> <p>Procedures for the safe and appropriate use of chemicals</p>
<p>Indicator 6.6.2</p>	<p>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</p>
<p><b>6.6.2S.</b> Pesticides classified by National Chemicals Inspectorate as „very toxic□, „toxic□, „causing burns□, „dangerous to health□, or „dangerous for the environment□ (or pesticides classified as “Highly hazardous pesticides” according to FSC-POL-30-001), shall not be used</p>	<p><b>6.6.2 VER: Instructions in relevant languages, procedures, field inspection, interviews with affected interested parties and affected trade unions. Regulations, instructions, guidelines and checklists from concerned authorities.</b></p> <p><b>6.6.1-6.6.5SA VER: Decisions on exceptions. Interviews, field</b></p>

<p><b>on forest land<sup>36</sup> unless exceptions have been granted by FSC<sup>37</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>36</sup> By use on FSC certified forest land is meant planting of plants which have been treated against pine weevil attack in the forest nursery as well as subsequent treatment in the field. It does not refer to the use of other chemicals by forest nurseries.</p> <p><sup>37</sup> Exceptions for use of the pesticides on the FSC list of “Highly hazardous pesticides” can only be given by the FSC Policy and Standards Unit. In order to get exceptions for use of use pesticides which are included in the list, forest managers shall apply to FSC Policy and Standards Unit in accordance with FSC-POL-30-001 (2005) FSC Pesticides policy and associated documents. Regarding the use of such pesticides in Sweden, it is also necessary to apply for exceptions from FSC Sweden. Regarding pesticides not classified as “Highly hazardous pesticides”, the board of the Swedish FSC can, after application, decide on exceptions from 6.6.2 if there are special reasons. The regulations for possible exceptions are decided upon by the Swedish FSC (see Annex 9 “Commitments, criteria and procedures for exceptions in respect of the use of chemical biocides to counter pine weevil”).</p>	<p><b>field inspections.</b></p> <p><b>Refer SGS Qualifor Work Instruction 16 for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ <b>Current list of prohibited pesticides;</b></li> <li>▫ <b>Derogations;</b></li> <li>▫ <b>Temporary derogations; and</b></li> <li>▫ <b>Use of prohibited chemicals for emergency situations.</b></li> </ul> <p>Chemical records</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.6.3</b></p> <p><b>6.6.3S. If pesticides or treated seedlings are used, managers shall take all stipulated protective measures, restrictions and precautions to avoid damage or detriment to human health or to the environment. The best possible technique shall be used.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.6.3-6.6.5 VER: Environmental management system at the nursery</b></p> <p><b>6.6.1-6.6.5SA VER: Decisions on exceptions. Interviews, field inspections.</b></p> <p><i>Usage, and reduction targets should be expressed on a per hectare basis and sub-divided according to operations and catchment/drainage basin; targets should be quantitative</i></p> <p><i>Some organisations may be allowed to increase use of certain chemical pesticides in the short or medium term, where the use of these pesticides is justified on social or environmental grounds, see 6.6.</i></p> <p>This requirement applies to nurseries located on the certified FMU.</p> <p>Documented long term strategy</p> <p>Chemical use records.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.6.4</b></p> <p><b>6.6.4. Instructions and safety data sheets in relevant languages shall be provided at the location of the activity.</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><b>6.6.3-6.6.5 VER: Environmental management system at the nursery</b></p> <p><b>6.6.1-6.6.5SA VER: Decisions on exceptions. Interviews, field inspections.</b></p> <p><i>Pesticides may be preferred in some instances, for example, to eliminate invasive weeds, control vectors of serious human diseases.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Documented justification.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 6.6.5</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>

<p><b>6.6.5. Managers shall ensure that all employees and contractors that handle or apply pesticides or treated seedlings are adequately trained for their tasks<sup>38</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>6.6.5SA. Personell that apply pesticides or handle treated seedlings shall be adequately trained for their tasks<sup>38</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>38</sup> Biocides AFS 1998:6          Chemical working environment risks AFS 2000:4          Systematic working environment work AFS 2001:1          Use of personal protective equipment AFS 2001:3          First aid and crisis support AFS 1999:7          Minors AFS 1996:1          Design of the workplace AFS 2000:2</p>	<p><b>6.6.3-6.6.5 VER: Environmental management system at the nursery</b></p> <p><b>6.6.1-6.6.5SA VER: Decisions on exceptions. Interviews, field inspections.</b></p> <p>Procedures and records.          Interviews with staff</p>
<b>Indicator 6.6.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.6.6. When purchasing seedlings, managers shall require that the plant producer minimize the use of pesticides in the nursery and unwanted impacts of pesticides.</b></p>	<p><b>6.6.6. VER. Requirements for purchasing seedlings.</b></p>
<b>Criterion 6.7 Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.</b>	
<b>Indicator 6.7.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.7.1S. Managers shall implement procedures for legal and environmentally appropriate handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste.</b></p>	<p><b>6.7.1-6.7.2 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, documentation.</b></p> <p><b>6.7.1SA VER: Interviews, field inspections.</b></p> <p>Field observations and interviews with staff</p>
<b>Indicator 6.7.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.7.2. Managers shall ensure that all employees and contractors that handle chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste have sufficient competence.</b></p>	<p><b>6.7.1-6.7.2 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, documentation.</b></p> <p><i>Waste includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Surplus chemicals</li> <li>▪ Chemical containers</li> <li>▪ Plastic waste</li> <li>▪ Fuels and lubricants</li> <li>▪ Worn vehicle tyres</li> <li>▪ Used vehicle batteries</li> <li>▪ Waste produced from processing operations</li> <li>▪ Domestic</li> </ul> <p>Evidence that waste has been disposed off in an acceptable manner.</p>
<b>Indicator 6.7.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>Indicator 6.7.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>

<b>Criterion 6.8</b>	<b>Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimised, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.8.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.8.1. Managers shall ensure that only scientifically proven and effective biological control agents are used.</b>	<b>6.8.1-6.8.6 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, possible decisions by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b> Interviews with Forest Managers. Policies and procedures.
<b>Indicator 6.8.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.8.2. Managers shall use appropriate techniques and methods for any application of biological control agents so as to minimize the use and avoid damage or detriment to human health or to the environment.</b>	<b>6.8.1-6.8.6 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, possible decisions by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b> <b>6.8.2-6.8.6SA VER: Interviews, field inspection.</b> Documentation
<b>6.8.2SA. Managers shall ensure that only biological control agents approved by the Swedish Chemicals Agency are used, and that the application complies with terms stated by the Agency.</b>	
<b>Indicator 6.8.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.8.3. Instructions and safety data sheets in relevant languages shall be provided at the location of the activity.</b>	<b>6.8.1-6.8.6 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, possible decisions by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b> <b>6.8.2-6.8.6SA VER: Interviews, field inspection.</b> Documentation
<b>Indicator 6.8.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.8.4. Managers shall ensure that anyone handling or applying biological control agents is adequately trained for their tasks.</b>	<b>6.8.1-6.8.6 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, possible decisions by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b> <b>6.8.2-6.8.6SA VER: Interviews, field inspection.</b> Interviews with staff. Records of biological material sources and supplies
<b>Indicator 6.8.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.8.5. Managers may use biological control agents in case of mass propagation of pest insects in accordance with terms stated by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b>	<b>6.8.1-6.8.6 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, possible decisions by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b> <b>6.8.2-6.8.6SA VER: Interviews, field inspection.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.8.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.8.6S. Managers shall not use genetically modified organisms.</b>	<b>6.8.1-6.8.6 VER: Instructions and procedures, field inspection, interviews, possible decisions by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b>



	<b>6.8.2-6.8.6SA VER: Interviews, field inspection.</b>
<b>Criterion 6.9</b>	<b>The use of exotic species shall be controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts</b>
<b>Indicator 6.9.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.9.1. Managers who establish and/or manage stands with exotic tree species shall be aware of production and quality advantages compared to native tree species, and of potential negative impacts, through generic documentation, trials and/or experience.</b>	<b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b> Records of scientific studies. Interviews with Forest Managers
<b>Indicator 6.9.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.9.2S. Exotic tree species may be used, with considerable restraint, after trials or experience have demonstrated that the species: - provides considerable production benefits or other advantages over native tree species; - is ecologically well adapted to the conditions of the sites where it is used; - is not invasive; - does not cause significant negative impacts on other ecosystems or biodiversity; - does not cause substantial negative impacts on natural soil processes or long-term productivity.</b>	<b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b> <b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b> Monitoring records
<b>Indicator 6.9.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.9.3. Managers shall limit any use of exotic tree species so that the total area of newly established stands of such species, as from 2009, does not exceed 5 % of the productive forest area<sup>39</sup>.</b>  <b>6.9.3SA. Managers shall limit any use of exotic tree species so that the total area of newly established stands of such species, as from 2009, does not exceed 5 % of the productive forest area<sup>39</sup>. Managers of holdings of less than 50 hectares shall limit any use of exotic tree species so that the total area of newly established stands of such species does not exceed 2.5 hectare of the productive forest land.</b>  <sup>39</sup> Reforestation with exotic tree species on land previously dominated by such species shall not subject to the area restrictions.	<b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b> <b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b>
<b>Indicator 6.9.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>6.9.4. Managers that establish or manage stands with exotic tree species shall implement procedures for such tree species</b>	<b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b> <b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field</b>



	<i>visits.</i>
<b>Indicator 6.9.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.9.5. Managers who establish new stands with exotic tree species in accordance with 6.9.2S shall take additional and more extensive consideration measures in support of important biodiversity and environmental values. The scope and implementation of the measures shall clearly relate to the area of newly established stands of exotic tree species. Measures shall be selected and implemented based on analyses of important biodiversity and environmental values in need of enhancement in the landscape. Managers shall regularly report on their plans and measures in a publicly available format<sup>40</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>6.9.5SA. Managers who establish new stands with exotic tree species in accordance with 6.9.2S shall take additional and more extensive consideration measures in support of important biodiversity and environmental values. The scope and implementation of the measures shall clearly relate to the area of newly established stands of exotic tree species<sup>40</sup>.</b></p> <p><sup>40</sup> Examples of such measures are more extensive setting aside of land for conservation purposes, more extensive consideration taken in forestry measures, special measures of care for threatened or endangered species, more extensive care and re-creation of areas of high biodiversity value. By more extensive is meant such measures which are obviously more far-reaching than prescribed by other indicators in this standard, and which otherwise would not have been undertaken.</p>	<p><b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b></p> <p><b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<b>Indicator 6.9.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.9.6. Managers of major holdings who establish new stands with exotic tree species shall adapt conservation strategies and landscape planning to conform with 6.9.5.</b></p>	<p><b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b></p> <p><b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
<b>Indicator 6.9.7</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.9.7. Managers of major holdings that establish or manage stands with exotic tree species shall plan the use in a landscape perspective so as to avoid and minimise adverse ecological effects, e.g. invasive propagation and negative impacts on areas of high biodiversity value. This shall imply e.g. that exotic tree species are not established in the majority of landscapes that contain less than 2% of such species at the landscape level.</b></p>	<p><b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b></p> <p><b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>

Indicator 6.9.8	Verifiers & Guidance:
6.9.8. Managers shall actively monitor their use of exotic tree species, through procedures adapted to the extent and intensity of the use, so as to avoid adverse ecological impacts.	<p><b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b></p> <p><b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
Indicator 6.9.9	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>6.9.9. Managers that use exotic tree species shall have a programme for mitigating potential adverse ecological impacts that include active measures, e.g. limitation and removal of self propagated seedlings.</p> <p><b>6.9.9SA. Managers that use exotic tree species shall limit self-propagation and remove unwanted self-propagated seedlings.</b></p>	<p><b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b></p> <p><b>6.9.2-6.9.9SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p>
Indicator 6.9.10	Verifiers & Guidance:
6.9.10. Managers that use exotic tree species shall document and monitor their measures.	<p><b>6.9.1-6.9.10 VER: Interviews. Field visits. Knowledge and documentation of exotic tree species. Monitoring systems and results. Procedures. Documentation, analysis and account of extra measures for nature conservation. Programme for managing adverse ecological aspects.</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 6.10 Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and</li> <li>b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and</li> <li>c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.</li> </ul>	
Indicator 6.10.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p><b>6.10.1S. Managers shall not convert forest land to other use for other purposes than developing forest management or social-related infrastructure, research, improving conditions for outdoor recreation, or maintaining cultural environments or biodiversity. Rationales for conversion of forest land shall be documented and justified.</b></p>	<p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4 VER: Forest management plan. Interviews. Field visits. Required permits such as, for example, exceptions from the Forest Act.</b></p> <p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p><i>Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with a mixture of native species in the absence of satisfactory natural regeneration is not considered forest conversion to plantation. Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with an exotic species is considered conversion.</i></p> <p><i>The clearance of isolated single trees or pockets of natural vegetation less than 0.001 ha to consolidate plantation blocks or for essential infrastructure development is only permitted where acknowledged experts and regulatory authorities have been consulted and find it acceptable.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p> <p>Plans and maps.</p> <p>Field observations.</p>

<b>Indicator 6.10.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.10.2S.</b> Conversion of forest land shall only be permitted for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- important forestry-and social-related infrastructure in accordance with applicable legal requirements, official land-use planning and/or forest-management planning</li> <li>- the consolidation of important cultural and environmental values</li> </ul>	<p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4 VER: Forest management plan. Interviews. Field visits. Required permits such as, for example, exceptions from the Forest Act.</b></p> <p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p> <p>Plans and maps.</p> <p>Field observations.</p>
<b>Indicator 6.10.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.10.3S.</b> Managers shall not convert forest land within High Nature Conservation Value forest areas (see 9.1).</p>	<p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4 VER: Forest management plan. Interviews. Field visits. Required permits such as, for example, exceptions from the Forest Act.</b></p> <p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Conversion may, for example, have a net conservation benefit where an area is converted back to its original natural or semi-natural habitat type such as open wetland or grassland.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.</p>
<b>Indicator 6.10.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>6.10.4S.</b> Where forest conversion does occur the manager shall ensure that this only entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit and is in accordance with relevant legislation.</p>	<p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4 VER: Forest management plan. Interviews. Field visits. Required permits such as, for example, exceptions from the Forest Act.</b></p> <p><b>6.10.1-6.10.4SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field visits.</b></p> <p>Scientific evidence and interviews with Forest Managers and local experts</p>

**PRINCIPLE 7. MANAGEMENT PLAN:**

A management plan - appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations - shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long-term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.

**Criterion 7.1 The management plan and supporting documents shall provide:**

- a) management objectives;
- b) description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands;
- c) rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection;
- d) provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics;
- e) environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments;
- f) plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species;
- g) maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership;
- h) description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.

**Indicator 7.1**

7.1. a-b**S**. Managers shall comply with requirements for planning documentation in accordance with Annex 3A and 3B.

7.1. c. Managers shall describe how management methods are selected based on the ecological conditions of the forest and inventories of the present forest condition, site conditions, specific biodiversity values etc. in accordance with Annex 3A and 3B.

7.1. d-e. Annual timber harvest level and tree species selection shall be decided upon and monitored by using established area and management planning systems.

7.1. f**S**. Forest management activities in, or adjacent to, areas with particularly high cultural and biodiversity values shall be based on site-specific management instructions.

7.1. g. Equivalent to 6.1.7.

**7.1. gSA. Equivalent to 6.1.7SA.**

7.1. h. Managers shall comply with requirements for documentation in accordance with Annex 3A and 3B.

7.1. i. Managers shall describe and justify the felling techniques and the equipment being used as addressed by Indicators 5.1.7; 5.2.1; 5.3.2 and 6.3.1., as well as by 6.6.1-6.6.6.

**Verifiers & Guidance:**

**7.1.a-7.1.i VER: Planning documentation, interviews, instructions, method for assessment of biodiversity values, field inspection.**

**7.1.a-bSA, 7.1.fSA, 7.1.gSA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspection.**

Management plan

SLIMF:

Checking the plan exists and contains all the information required.

Field checks that the plan has been implemented in the past and is currently still followed.

<b>Criterion 7.2</b>		<b>The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic considerations.</b>
<b>Indicator 7.2.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>7.2.1. Managers shall use systematic procedures, adapted to the size and conditions of the landholding, to regularly update management planning and documentation based on the results of monitoring, new information (from authorities, research, etc.), and changing environmental, social and economic conditions.</b>	<b>7.2.1 VER: Planning documentation, procedures.</b>	
<b>7.2.1SA. Managers shall be revised in accordance with the scale and intensity of operations. Major revisions of the planning shall reflect the results of monitoring and relevant new knowledge.</b>	<b>7.2.1SA VER: Planning documentation.</b>	
	Company procedures	
<b>Criterion 7.3</b>		<b>Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan</b>
<b>Indicator 7.3.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>7.3.1S. Managers shall ensure that employees and contractors are adequately trained<sup>41</sup> for their tasks, and that they are given the instructions and supervision necessary to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.</b>	Training records	
<b>7.3.1 VER: Procedures. Interviews. Certificates of knowledge. Employment certificates. Agreement on contract by tender (i.a. period of agreement), affected trade unions</b>	Interviews with workers and management	
<b>7.3.1SA VER: Certificates of knowledge. Employment certificates. Interviews. Agreement on contract by tender (i.a. period of agreement), affected trade unions.</b>	Field observations	
<sup>41</sup> For competence see Indicators 4.1.6 – 4.1.8.		
<b>Criterion 7.4</b>		<b>While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1 above.</b>
<b>Indicator 7.4.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>7.4.1. Managers shall ensure that a summary of the primary elements is publicly available, including those listed in 7.1.</b>	<b>7.4.1 VER: Procedures for accessibility of documentation.</b>	
<b>7.4.1SA. Managers shall be able to demonstrate their planning documentation on request<sup>42</sup>, confidential parts excepted (e.g. information about species sensitive to disturbances or subject to criminal activities).</b>	<b>7.4.1SA VER: Accessibility of documentation.</b>	
	Public Summary of Management Plan	
	<u>SLIMF:</u>	
	Management Plan is available	
<sup>42</sup> Annex 3A states what information in the planning documentation that shall be public. Mandatory documentation requirements are listed in 7.1.		

Indicator 7.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
7.4.2. Documentation on the protection of species sensitive to disturbance or crime shall be confidential.	7.4.2 VER: <i>Procedures for the accessibility of plans.</i>	
<p><b>PRINCIPLE 8. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT:</b></p> <p>Monitoring shall be conducted - appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management - to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.</p>		
Criterion 8.1	<p>The scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment <u>should</u> determine the frequency and intensity of monitoring. Monitoring procedures <u>should</u> be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessments of change.</p>	
Indicator 8.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>8.1.1. Managers shall ensure the implementation of replicable monitoring procedures that allow comparisons of results and evaluations of changes related to relevant Indicators of this Standard.</p> <p><b>8.1.1SA. Managers shall monitor the state of the forest through revisions of the planning documentation. Measurements shall be replicable over time.</b></p>	<p>8.1.1-8.1.2 VER: <i>Procedures, plans, documents and monitoring results.</i></p> <p><b>8.1.1SA VER: <i>Monitoring results.</i></b></p> <p>Interviews with Management and environmental specialists/stakeholders</p> <p>Monitoring programme</p>	
Indicator 8.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>8.1.2. Managers shall use monitoring procedures adapted to the size and conditions of the landholding.</p>	<p>8.1.1-8.1.2 VER: <i>Procedures, plans, documents and monitoring results.</i></p> <p>Monitoring programmes</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Manager's field notes</p> <p>Manager's description of how monitoring is done.</p>	
Criterion 8.2	<p>Forest management <u>should</u> include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>yield of all forest products harvested;</li> <li>growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest;</li> <li>composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna;</li> <li>environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations;</li> <li>costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.</li> </ol>	
Indicator 8.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>8.2. a. Managers shall provide general documentation on the harvesting of traditional forest products upon request.</p> <p><b>8.2. aSA. Managers shall keep general documentation of the harvesting of timber, pulpwood and biofuels.</b></p>	<p>8.2. a VER: <i>Procedures, documents.</i></p> <p><b>8.2. aSA, 8.2. b.1SA, 8.2. b.2SA, 8.2.eSA VER: <i>Planning documentation, documentation of harvested timber, pulpwood and biofuels.</i></b></p> <p>8.2. b VER: <i>Procedures, documents, field visits.</i></p> <p>8.2. c VER: <i>Inventories, statistics, awareness of information from research/authorities/organisations, procedures.</i></p>	

<p>8.2. b.1. Managers shall document implemented management measures in the management plan or the equivalent.</p> <p><b>8.2. b.1SA. Managers shall document implemented management measures.</b></p> <p>8.2. b.2. Managers shall use systematic procedures to monitor forest condition and regeneration. Major changes shall be documented.</p> <p><b>8.2. b.2SA. Managers shall monitor forest condition and regeneration. Major changes shall be documented. 60</b></p> <p>8.2. c. Managers shall use systematic procedures to evaluate information on changes in flora and fauna, obtained from authorities, researchers and interest organisations, in their planning.</p> <p>8.2. d.1. Managers shall use systematic procedures to regularly evaluate information, obtained from authorities and researchers, of relevance for the implementation of the Standard.</p> <p>8.2. d.2. Managers shall be willing to contribute to research and data collection of relevance for the Standard</p> <p>8.2. d.3. Managers shall collect information and, where relevant update their planning documentation, as specified in Annex 3A and 3B. In addition, managers shall implement monitoring procedures that ensure compliance with the following indicators: - 5.3.4: Environmental impact of machinery. - 6.6.1-6.6.6: Use of chemical pesticides. - 6.7.1: Legal handling of non-organic waste, fuel, and oils. - 6.8.1: Use of biological control agents.</p> <p>8.2. d.4. Managers shall take account of, and where necessary monitor, social impacts of forest management based on information obtained through implementation of Indicators 3.1.2, 4.2.1, 4.3.4-4.3.6, 4.4.1, 4.4.2.</p> <p>8.2. d.5. Managers that commission contractors shall use systematic procedures to monitor the implementation of agreements and/or field instructions necessary to ensure compliance with the Standard.</p> <p>8.2. e. Managers shall use systematic procedures to monitor income, cost, productivity and efficiency of forest management.</p> <p><b>8.2. eSA. Equivalent to 1.2.2SA.</b></p>	<p><i>8.2. d VER: Procedures, documentation, awareness of information from research/authorities/organisations, agreements, inventories, interviews.</i></p> <p><i>8.2. e VER: Procedures, bookkeeping, documentation.</i></p> <p>Harvesting records</p>



<b>Criterion 8.3</b>		<b>Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organisations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the “chain of custody.”</b>
<b>Indicator 8.3.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>8.3.1S. Timber marketed as FSC timber shall be labelled at the timber landing so as to enable identification of the felling area and the manager.</b>	<b>8.3.1-8.3.3 VER: Procedures, stack tags, field inspection.</b> <b>8.3.1-8.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspections, stack tags or equivalent.</b>  <i>The scope of a joint FM/CoC certificate covers harvesting and transportation of roundwood to the first point of sale, unloading or processing. On site processing e.g. charcoal burning, use of a mobile saw-bench, or purchase and harvesting of standing timber by a third party (e.g. sawmill, harvesting contractor, timber merchant) must be covered by a separate chain of custody certificate if the products are to be sold as certified.</i>  Interview with Forest Managers  Procedures.	
<b>Indicator 8.3.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>8.3.2S. Timber stacks on roadsides shall be tagged prior to further transport.</b>	<b>8.3.1-8.3.3 VER: Procedures, stack tags, field inspection.</b> <b>8.3.1-8.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspections, stack tags or equivalent.</b>  Delivery notes, receipts and stock records	
<b>Indicator 8.3.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>8.3.3S. Managers shall ensure that documents enabling tracing of timber origin, e.g. sales contracts or measurement verifications, are available for inspection.</b>	<b>8.3.1-8.3.3 VER: Procedures, stack tags, field inspection.</b> <b>8.3.1-8.3.3SA VER: Planning documentation, interviews, field inspections, stack tags or equivalent.</b>  Sales invoices	
<b>Criterion 8.4</b>		<b>The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.</b>
<b>Indicator 8.4.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>8.4.1. Management activities, plans and instructions shall be evaluated and, where necessary, revised to reflect the results of monitoring.</b> <b>8.4.1SA. Equivalent to 7.2.1SA.</b>	<b>8.4.1 VER: Planning documentation, procedures, monitoring results, field inspection.</b>  Interviews with local experts and Forest Managers.  Forest planning documents	
<b>Criterion 8.5</b>		<b>While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.</b>
<b>Indicator 8.5.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
<b>8.5.1. Managers shall make publicly available a summary of monitoring results including those elements listed in 8.2.</b> <b>8.5.1SA. Equivalent to 7.4.1SA.</b>	<b>8.5.1 VER: Monitoring results.</b>  Public summary	

<b>PRINCIPLE 9. MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS:</b>	
Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes, which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.	
<b>Criterion 9.1</b>	<b>Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management</b>
<b>Indicator 9.1.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>9.1.1. Managers shall identify as High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) in the Swedish context the following forest types: a) Forest areas of national interest and/or of recognised nation-wide significance, with a concentration of key habitats and/or habitats for red-listed species outside defined key habitats (HCVF 1, HCVF 3); b) Subalpine forests at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary<sup>43</sup>, (HCVF2); c) Protective forests as defined by §15 Forest Act (HCVF 4); d) Forests within protection areas for sources of water supply (HCVF 4).</b></p> <p><b>9.1.1SA. Managers shall, as part of the planning documentation process, check if the holding contains any of the following forest types: a) Forest areas of national interest and/or of recognised nation-wide significance, with a concentration of key habitats and/or habitats for red-listed species outside defined key habitats (HCVF 1, HCVF 3); b) Subalpine forests at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary<sup>43</sup> (HCVF2); c) Protective forests as defined by §15 Forest Act (HCVF 4); d) Forests within protection areas for sources of water supply (HCVF 4).</b></p> <p><sup>43</sup> As defined by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, 1988, ISBN 91-558-5201-7.</p>	<p><b>9.1.1-9.1.2S VER: Planning documentation</b></p> <p><i>This requirement must be applied to all forests undergoing assessment. HCVFs possess one or more the following attributes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values and/or large landscape level forests where viable populations of most/all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems;</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Forests that provide basic ecological services in critical situations (e.g. water quality or flow, protection against erosion or natural disasters such as cyclones or hurricanes, pollinators);</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Forests fundamental to meeting basic economic or bio-physiological needs of local communities or critical to local community cultural identity.</i></li> </ul> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Evidence of assessments.</p>
<b>Indicator 9.1.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p><b>9.1.2S. Managers shall document the presence of High Conservation Value Forests and classify the types in accordance with 9.1.1 within managed parts of the landholdings. The category of subalpine forests at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary denotes those forests that comply with definitions 1 and 2 in Annex 10.</b></p>	<p><b>9.1.1-9.1.2S VER: Planning documentation.</b></p> <p>Documented procedures and records</p>

<b>Criterion 9.2</b>		<b>The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.</b>	
<b>Indicator 9.2.1</b>		<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
9.2.1. Managers with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values areas shall consult with relevant stakeholders and/or expertise on how to maintain or enhance the identified values.		9.2.1-9.2.2 VER: Documentation of consultative process.	
9.2.1SA. Managers with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values areas shall be open to knowledge and views from relevant stakeholders and/or experts on how to maintain or enhance those values. Comments and materials received shall be added to the planning documentation.		9.2.1SA VER: Planning documentation.	
		Management plans and maps	
		Consultation with stakeholders and/or government agencies or evidence of input by these agents	
<b>Indicator 9.2.2</b>		<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
9.2.2. Managers with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values shall report on the consultative process to the certifier at the time of certification/audit.		9.2.1-9.2.2 VER: Documentation of consultative process.	
		Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and communities.	
		Affected communities/persons are listed on the stakeholder list (refer Criterion 4.4).	
<b>Criterion 9.3</b>		<b>The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.</b>	
<b>Indicator 9.3.1</b>		<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
9.3.1S. Managers with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values shall prepare and implement specific management plans that incorporate a precautionary approach to the maintenance or enhancement of these values.		9.3.1-9.3.2 VER: Planning documentation, field inspection.	
		9.3.1-9.3.2SA VER: Planning documentation.	
		Management plan	
<b>Indicator 9.3.2</b>		<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
9.3.2. Managers with landholdings at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary (9.1.1b) shall ensure compliance with Annex 10.		9.3.1-9.3.2 VER: Planning documentation, field inspection.	
9.3.2SA. Managers with landholdings at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary (9.1.1SA b) shall ensure compliance with Annex 10.		9.3.1-9.3.2SA VER: Planning documentation.	
		Management plan	
<b>Indicator 9.3.3</b>		<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>	
9.3.3. Managers with protective forests (9.1.1c) shall ensure that this forest is managed in compliance with §§15 and 16 Forest Act, with associated regulations and general guidelines.		9.3.3-9.3.4S VER: Field inspection, felling permits, map and regulations from the County Administrative Board or from the municipality.	
9.3.3SA. Managers with protective forests (9.1.1SA c) shall ensure that this forest is managed in compliance with §§15 and 16 Forest Act, with associated regulations and general		Management plan	

<b>guidelines.</b>	
<b>Indicator 9.3.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p>9.3.4S. Managers with landholdings within areas protected as sources of water supply (9.1.1d) shall ensure compliance with current regulations.</p> <p><b>9.3.4SA. Managers with landholdings within areas protected as sources of water supply (9.1.1SA d) shall ensure compliance with current regulations.</b></p>	<p><b>9.3.3-9.3.4S VER: Field inspection, felling permits, map and regulations from the County Administrative Board or from the municipality.</b></p> <p>Management plans and maps.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Field observations.</p>
<b>Indicator 9.3.5</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p>9.3.5. Managers of major holdings with landholdings containing forest with High Conservation Values shall make publicly available a summary specification of the measures taken to maintain and/or enhance the identified conservation attributes.</p>	<p><b>9.3.5-9.3.6 VER: Planning documentation, procedures for public availability.</b></p> <p><b>9.3.5-9.3.6SA VER: Planning documentation, procedures for public availability.</b></p> <p>Management plans and maps.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts</p>
<b>Indicator 9.3.6</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p>9.3.6. Other managers shall document measures taken to maintain or enhance High Conservation Values when updating or revising their forest management plans and make this information available upon request.</p> <p><b>9.3.6SA. Managers shall document measures taken to maintain or enhance High Conservation Values when updating or revising their forest management plans and make this information available upon request.</b></p>	<p><b>9.3.5-9.3.6 VER: Planning documentation, procedures for public availability.</b></p> <p><b>9.3.5-9.3.6SA VER: Planning documentation, procedures for public availability.</b></p>
<b>Criterion 9.4</b>	<b>Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.</b>
<b>Indicator 9.4.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p>9.4.1. Managers of major holdings with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values shall annually monitor measures taken to maintain or enhance these values, and evaluate the effectiveness of the measures at appropriate intervals<sup>44</sup>.</p> <p><sup>44</sup> Exceptions are permitted in the case where the measures do not consist of active management.</p>	<p><b>9.4.1-9.4.2 VER: Planning documentation. Results of evaluations carried through.</b></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts</p>
<b>Indicator 9.4.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<p>9.4.2. Other managers with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values shall monitor measures taken to maintain or enhance these values and evaluate the effectiveness of the measures when updating or revising their forest management plans.</p>	<p><b>9.4.1-9.4.2 VER: Planning documentation. Results of evaluations carried through.</b></p> <p><b>9.4.2SA VER: Planning documentation.</b></p> <p>Records of monitoring</p>

<b>9.4.2SA. Managers with landholdings that contain High Conservation Values shall monitor measures taken to maintain or enhance these values when revising their planning documentation.</b>	

Currently no clients or group members are concerned with the principle 10 in Sweden. (in practice very few forest owners are.)

Therefore the checklist has not been updated with the national indicators and verifiers.

<b>PRINCIPLE 10. PLANTATIONS:</b>	
Plantations shall be planned and managed in accordance with Principles and Criteria 1 - 9, and Principle 10 and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.	
<b>Criterion 10.1</b>	<b>The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conversion and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.</b>
<b>Indicator 10.1.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>The management plan of the plantation explicitly states the management objectives for the plantation itself, as well as for natural forest conversion and restoration (see also Criterion 7.1)</b>	<i>"Natural forest" can be also be interpreted as natural vegetation.</i> Forest Management Plan Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.
<b>Indicator 10.1.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>The achievement of the objectives can be clearly demonstrated</b>	Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts. Field observations
<b>Criterion 10.2</b>	<b>The design and layout of plantations <u>should</u> promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests, and not increase pressures on natural forests. Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods, shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest stands within the natural landscape.</b>
<b>Indicator 10.2.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>Natural vegetation areas within the FMU are identified and demarcated on maps and such areas within the landscape are known and considered during planning</b>	Maps
<b>Indicator 10.2.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>For protection, restoration and conservation of natural forest and wildlife corridors, refer to Criteria 6.2</b>	

<b>Indicator 10.2.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Buffer zones are maintained along watercourses and around water bodies; these buffer zones are demarcated on maps and comply with specifications made in national and regional best practice guidelines. Refer indicator 6.5.3.	
<b>Indicator 10.2.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
The scale and layout of existing and new plantation blocks are consistent with the patterns of forest stands within the natural landscape.	Maps and field observations
<b>Criterion 10.3</b> Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity <u>may</u> include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.	
<b>Indicator 10.3.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Plantation planning and reestablishment make provision for diversity in species and/or provenances and/or clones to achieve optimal economic, ecological and social stability; restructuring of even-aged and/or stands low in diversity is carried out where necessary	Forest plans and maps Field observations
<b>Indicator 10.3.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Maximum clear-cut size is defined. Documented justification should be provided where there are potential adverse environmental or socio-economic impacts  <u>SLIMF:</u> Maximum clear-cut size is defined and justified.	Policies and procedures. <u>SLIMF:</u> Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations
<b>Criterion 10.4</b> The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity, native species are preferred over exotic species in the establishment of plantations and the restoration of degraded ecosystems. Exotic species, which shall be used only when their performance is greater than that of native species, shall be carefully monitored to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts.	
<b>Indicator 10.4.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Selection of species, provenances and clones is based on documented trials that demonstrate their suitability to the site and management objectives  <u>SLIMF:</u> The species chosen for plantations are suited to the site and matched to the objectives.	Scientific evidence and interviews with local experts <u>SLIMF:</u> Discussions with manager about plantation objectives Plans for future planting

<b>Indicator 10.4.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Exotic species are used only where they outperform native species in meeting management objectives	Scientific evidence and interviews with local experts
<b>Indicator 10.4.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Information is available on seed sources and these can be traced to the stand data	Plant records
<b>Criterion 10.5</b>	<b>A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.</b>
<b>Indicator 10.5.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
There is sufficient evidence that an appropriate proportion of the overall forest management area is managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover. Refer Criterion 6.2	<u>SLIMF:</u> Field observations of conservation features Plans for future improvements
<u>SLIMF:</u> Improvements to the ecological value of the plantation are made where conservation features exist.	
<b>Criterion 10.6</b>	<b>Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns</b>
<b>Indicator 10.6.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
There is information on all soil types in the plantation area that indicate their susceptibility to degradation from forest operations and appropriate plantation species;	Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts. Documented site information. Evidence that site information is being used in planning of operations.
<u>Small growers</u> and SLIMF can demonstrate their efforts to get access to adequate information on soil types occurring within the managed area.	
<b>Indicator 10.6.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Where soils are degraded from previous activities, there are plans to restore them	Soil degradation through erosion, oil and chemical spills, etc. Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations.
<b>Indicator 10.6.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
Major water resources within the forest area are identified	Maps and interviews with Forest Managers
<b>Indicator 10.6.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
For impacts on soil and other biophysical	



<b>aspects, refer also to Criteria 6.1 and 6.5</b>	
<b>Criterion 10.7</b> Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimise outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilisers. Plantation management <u>should</u> make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilisers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.	
<b>Indicator 10.7.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>The principle forest pests and diseases are identified.</b> <b>For <u>large scale organisations</u> these shall be documented.</b>	
<b>Indicator 10.7.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>In terms of pest and/or weed control and management, refer to Criterion 6.6</b>	
<b>Indicator 10.7.3</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>Appropriate control and remedial action is taken in the event of a pest or disease problem.</b> <b>For <u>large scale organisations</u> these actions shall be documented.</b>	Interview with Forest Managers and staff. Documentation
<b>Indicator 10.7.4</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>Where appropriate, adequate measures are taken to protect the forest from fire.</b> <b>For <u>large scale organisations</u> there is regular monitoring of fire readiness that test all procedures</b>	<i>These measure will include documented* procedures for fire suppression that include definition of responsibilities and reporting lines.</i> Interviews with staff and records of training. Fire readiness and control procedures.
<b>Criterion 10.8</b> Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations, shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site impacts, (e.g. natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social well-being), in addition to those elements addressed in principles 8, 6 and 4. No species <u>should</u> be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or experience have shown that they are ecologically well-adapted to the site, are not invasive, and do not have significant negative ecological impacts on other ecosystems. Special attention will be paid to social issues of land acquisition for plantations, especially the protection of local rights of ownership, use or access.	
<b>Indicator 10.8.1</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>
<b>For potential on-site impacts, see Criteria 6.1 and 6.5</b>	
<b>Indicator 10.8.2</b>	<b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b>

<p><b>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</b></p> <p><b>Potential biophysical off-site impacts shall be monitored on a regular basis. Evidence of consultation with affected parties in terms of these impacts should be available</b></p>	<p><i>Off-site impacts may include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Spread of exotic plantation species.</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Unwanted natural regeneration of native plantation species</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Effects on water resources</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Effects on soil fertility</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Impacts on the aesthetics of the landscape</i></li> </ul> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities and/or experts.</p> <p>Evidence of consultation.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 10.8.3</b></p> <p><b>For exotic or invasive species issues, see Criterion 10.4</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>Indicator 10.8.4</b></p> <p><b>For social impacts, see Criteria 2.1 and 2.2</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 10.9 Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or indirectly for such conversion.</b></p>	
<p><b>Indicator 10.9.1</b></p> <p><b>The plantation does not occupy land converted from natural forest since November 1994</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p><i>Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with a mixture of native species in the absence of satisfactory natural regeneration is not considered forest conversion to plantation. Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with an exotic species is considered conversion.</i></p> <p><i>Where the requirements of criteria 10.9 are in conflict with criterion 6.10, the latter will take precedence.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and Government Agencies.</p> <p>Plantations plans and maps.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 10.9.2</b></p> <p><b>If the plantation was converted since November 1994, there is adequate evidence that the current manager/owner was not responsible</b></p>	<p><b>Verifiers &amp; Guidance:</b></p> <p>Legal evidence of ownership or use-right</p>

**End of Standard**