

Ecocert CH Control Checklist for Forest Management (Generic Standard) World-wide, for countries without regional FSC-Standards.

Requires adoption prior to use. Documents used for regional adoption:

Type of Document	Document	Version
Ecocert CH documents	generic standard E.CH II 6-3-1	
Draft of regional standard		
Regional Standard other CB		
Advice notes, other FSC documents:		
Stakeholder comments		

Date of finalisation of regional standard:

Please check the list of documents relevant for FM certification E.CH II 6.a for updates and changes EVERY YEAR prior to the audit.

Regional indicators: Whilst the adoption process, regional indicators are added to the checklist. The numbers are following the existing numbers and are indicated with an “R” at the end of the number for “regional”

Group Certificates: For each indicator it must be noted, if compliance is checked on Group or on Member’s level. The column “G/M” must be completed accordingly.

SLIMF indicators - if any exist - are listed as the first indicator of criterion. They are indicated with the no. of criterion and the letters SLIMF. The other indicators of the criterion do not apply for SLIMF companies.

LPL – Large Plantations: Plantations larger than 10.000 ha, indicators marked need to be controlled every audit (No. 2.3, 4.2, 4.4, 6.7, 6.9, 10.6, 10.7, 10.8)

LFM – Large Forest Management Units: Non plantation forests larger than 50.000 ha, indicators marked need to be controlled every audit (No. 1.5, 2.3, 3.2, 4.2, 4.4, 5.6, 6.2, 6.3, 8.2, 9.4). For size classification the area of the individual operation or group member is relevant.

HCV – High Conservation Values: For companies where high conservation forests exist within the certified area these indicators need to be controlled every audit (No. 6.2, 6.3, 6.9, 9.4) - (see FSC-STD-20-007, section 6.3.8).

Project classification: Please indicate for each project which of the following criteria applies:

Project name: _____ date of audit: _____ Auditor(s): _____

Type:	Individual certificate or group?	
Size:	SLIMF – Large Plantation – Large Forest Management Unit?	
HCVF:	Does exist or not?	

Please mark all indicators in the checklist which require an annual control with grey colour for the individual project according to this classification!

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
1.	COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES: 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.				
1.1	Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.				
1.1.1	The company being assessed proves it is complying to comply with the national and regional legislation and all its regulations.	policy statement		PC	
1.1.2	A register or summary of all pertinent legislation and regulations is available.	relevant legislation, regulations and their accessibility		C	
1.1.3	A person is responsible to ensure that copies of up-to-date legislation and regulations are accessible.	Diagram of responsibilities		C	
1.1.4	Employees and contractors are aware of the consequences of legislation and regulations for carrying out their work.	contracts, interviews with employees		C	
1.1.5	If violation of the law by company personnel is detected, the management takes corrective measures and their implementation is documented.	documents regarding incidents		C	
1.2	All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.				
1.2.1	The enterprise has knowledge of all taxes, fees, royalties, and other charges that apply to its company.	lists of taxes according to legislation		PC	
1.2.2	There is proof of the settlement of all dues.	receipts, accountancy reports		PC	
1.2.3	Provisions are taken for the payment of taxes and other dues in the future.	budget, accountability		C	
1.3	In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
1.3.1	The requirements of relevant international agreements (CITES, ILO-Convention, Convention for biodiversity, Convention for climate, protocols from Helsinki are known.	copies of or access to text of agreements (signatory countries).		PC	
1.3.2	No agreements relevant for forestry are violated.	list of relevant agreements, check on sensitive issues.		PC	
1.3.3	Adherence to minimum age provisions of national labour laws and regulations, and of the international standards, no child labour. No work under the age of 18 when it is likely to jeopardize health, safety or morals (unless there special provision for safety, training or traditional community circumstances)	Interviews with workers and their labour organisations or unions, collective agreements, records of labour inspectorate.		PC	
1.3.4	Prohibition of forced labour: No workers in debt bondage or other forms of forced labour are engaged (incl. Employees, self-employed or contractors). Ref: ILO Conventions 28 & 105, ILO Declaration 1998, or equivalent national legislation.	Interviews with workers and their labour organizations or unions, records of labour inspectorate, labour contracts		PC	
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 certification body and the involved or affected parties.				
1.4.1	Identified conflicts are documented.	cross reference P&C - legislation, specific documents		PC	
1.4.2	Authorities, involved and affected parties were consulted about the problem.	minutes, statements of the authorities, stakeholders		PC	
1.4.3	In case of existing conflicts between P&Cs and legislation the situation is at least explained and justified and/or propositions or other efforts for a solution are submitted by the certification body, if necessary. The national or regional FSC initiative is involved.	relevant documents, statement of authorities, proposition		C	
1.5	Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorised activities.				
1.5.1 LFM	The applicant is able to identify and monitor possible illegal activities.	control activities, demarcations of limits, surveys		PC	
1.5.2 LFM	Appropriate and competent human resources are available to prevent such activities.	diagram of responsibilities, schedules		PC	
1.5.3 LFM	Procedures exist and appropriate measures are taken against illegal activities.	procedures, documents regarding contact to authors and authorities, demarcations of limits, interviews		C	
1.6	Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
1.6.1	The applicant has knowledge of the current version of the Principles and Criteria of the FSC International.	P&C at hand		PC	
1.6.2	The applicant has a stewardship policy, which complies with the FSC Principles and Criteria.	policy statement, stewardship policy		C	
1.6.3	The policy is communicated within the enterprise and to contractors.	system of internal and external communication		C	
1.6.4	The policy is evaluated and revised periodically.	date on policy statement, policy for revision		C	
1.6.5	Information is disclosed on all forest areas over which the FMO has some degree of management responsibility (as per FSC policies, e.g. “partial certification”).	maps, land register (German: Grundbuch; Flächenbuch)		C	
1.6.6	If the exclusion of certain areas is intended, foreseen all relevant FSC policies (e.g. partial certification; POL-20-002) are considered.	Management responsibilities, ownership, range of influence		C	
1.6.7	If the forest manager is not the owner but holds a use right only, this use right must be a long-term use right. In case of doubt, if the length of the use right is sufficient, the forest owner must be included into the certification contract. (DIR-20-007 -> ADV-20-007-03)			C	
1.6.8	Any use of the trademarks (logo and initials “FSC” is approved by Ecocert CH before publishing.			C	
2.	TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.				
	NOTE: For regional adoption of the generic standard, GUI-30-004 concerning principles 2+3 shall be considered.				
2.1	Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.				
2.1.1	Documents indicating ownership of land and forest and defining long-term use and management of its resources are available.	legal title, deeds, contracts		PC	
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.				
2.2.1	The local residents or any other people who have written or customary rights regarding property and use of the forest are known.	register of legal titles and customary rights		PC	
2.2.2	In case of use rights with negative long-term effect on resources, sustainable solutions are sought.	written agreements, contracts; assessment of long-term ef-		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
		fects, proposals for solutions, minutes of negotiations, etc.			
2.2.3	Planned activities which could possibly affect customary and legal rights and use of resources are detected in advance.	check on management plan and customary activities of population; list of potential conflicts.		PC	
2.2.4	People entitled to those rights are aware of ongoing and planned forestry activities which could affect their rights.	public relation policy, documents, publications, interviews		PC	
2.3 LPL, LFM	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 a company from being certified.				
2.3.1 LPL, LFM	Records describing any conflict, in the past or present, regarding property rights and usufruct (use rights) are available.	records		C	
2.3.2 LPL, LFM	Appropriate mechanisms for the solution of conflicts were developed, including legal and internal procedures. If indigenous peoples are affected, this is considered within the dispute resolution mechanism.	instructions		C	
2.3.3 LPL, LFM	There are no conflicts of large scale, involving a big number of affected people or concerning large areas. In the case of existing conflicts on a small scale, a strong commitment towards a solution of the conflict is demonstrated.	interviews with affected people, minutes of negotiations, letters, media's, etc.		PC	
3.	<u>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS: The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognised and respected.</u>				
	NOTE: For regional adoption of the generic standard, GUI-30-004 concerning principles 2+3 shall be considered.				
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.				
3.1.1	The organization identifies and documents all indigenous peoples living in the Forest Management Unit(s) and / or having legal or customary rights to it. s	s			
3.1.1.1	The documentation includes the localization of the indigenous peoples and their legal and customary rights.	surveys, documentation on indigenous peoples and of		PC	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
		contacts with them			
3.1.1.2	In cooperation with indigenous peoples as identified in 3.1.1.1, the geographical scope for forest activities as well as management operations (operating range) is determined.	general policy, records of negotiations: interviews , maps		PC	
3.1.3	Appropriate procedures are available for the exchange of information: s them				
3.1.3.1	A dispute resolving process is established.	general policy, work planning, minutes, diagram of responsibilities; interviews		PC	
3.1.3.2	Indigenous peoples are informed on forest management activities.	general policy, work planning, minutes, diagram of responsibilities; interviews		PC	
3.1.3.3	A person responsible for the exchange of information is nominated within the organisation.	general policy, work planning, minutes, diagram of responsibilities; interviews		PC	
3.1.4	The rights for conducting forest management operations can only be transferred from indigenous peoples to other agencies with recorded free and informed consent.	written agreement, documentation of negotiation procedures (e.g. who took the initiative?), minutes; interviews		PC	
3.2 LFM	Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples.				
3.2.1 LFM	The applicant has knowledge of the resources used by indigenous peoples and the location of indigenous areas outside his management area.	surveys, interviews		PC	
3.2.2 LFM	Traditional access for subsistence uses and traditional activities is granted as long as it does not threaten the integrity of the resources or the management objective.	hearings and documentation hereof, proof of oral communication, interviews		C	
3.2.3 LFM	All Management activities are evaluated as to whether they might threaten or diminish the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples. If there is any risk, they are modified. Special attention is paid to situations with a potential for conflicts (e.g. overlapping of timber harvest areas with areas of collection of non-timber products, intensive exploitation of products).	notes in surveys, minutes/records of meetings, etc. interviews , management plan		C	
3.2.4 LFM	The indigenous peoples' rights are communicated within the applicant's company and to contractors. All relevant activities are monitored closely.	policy and practice of internal communication, responsibility for monitoring (diagram of responsibilities)		C	
See also	4.1.4 Local residents are provided in an appropriate way with information and knowledge about the management of forests.				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	<p>4.4.3 Possible social effects (positive or negative) of novel forest activities are surveyed.</p> <p>4.4.4 Results of such surveys are taken into consideration during the planning process. For conflicts solutions are sought.</p> <p>4.4.5 The applicant proves making public consultation an integrated part of the planning process, unless this has already taken place or is planned on a regional scale. The public consultation is documented in an appropriate way.</p>				
3.3	Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in co-operation with such peoples, and recognised and protected by forest managers.				
3.3.1	Sites of special significance to indigenous peoples are known and listed. The identification and definition of these sites is done in co-operation with the affected peoples.	inventory with maps, authors of survey, stakeholder consultation, field		PC	
3.3.2	Employees and contractors are informed on locations of sites of special significance. These sites are protected during forest operations and closely monitored.	policy and practice of internal communication, responsibility for monitoring (diagram of responsibilities)		C	
3.3.3	The indigenous peoples have access to their sites of special significance at any time. Temporary limitations of access (e.g. for safety reasons) are discussed with the affected people and carried out only with their agreement.	Instructions, consultation with affected people; field, interviews		PC	
3.4	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.				
3.4.1	The applicant has documented which knowledge relevant to forestry was acquired from indigenous peoples, including the economic advantages thereof.	surveys, documentation / calculations, interviews		C	
3.4.2	Extent and type of compensation are agreed by both parties and in writing.	contracts		C	
3.4.3	Compensations are settled before activities start. (including activities before application for certification)	receipts or equivalent documents, work records		PC	
4.	<u>COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS:</u> Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.				
4.1	The communities within, or adjacent to the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services. (social aspects see 4.4)				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
4.1.1	At least one employee is responsible for the contact to local people and acceptance of their concerns.	diagram of responsibilities		C	
4.1.2	Local people are given preference for employment if they meet the requirements.	personnel policy, list of personnel		C	
4.1.3	Criteria for awarding work to contractors are not only the price, but also qualifications, quality and the place of origin of the contractor and its workers.	list of contractors, selection criteria		C	
4.1.4	Local residents are provided in an appropriate way with information and knowledge about the management of forests.	hearings and documentation hereof, brochures,		C	
4.1.5	The company is committed to include the forest owners in their efforts of training and public information.	policies regarding education and in-house training, educational materials, number of training and attendees, letters, records, invitations		C	
4.2 LPL, LFM	Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.				
4.2.1 LPL, LFM	Up-to-date instructions regarding safety and health of workers exist and are applied.	instructions, safety equipment and its condition, field		PC	
4.2.2 LPL, LFM	The implementation of safety and health regulations is continually controlled.	diagram of responsibilities, record keeping of responsible person		C	
4.2.3 LPL, LFM	Dangerous areas in frequently visited forests are visibly marked.	criteria for marking danger areas, field		C	
4.2.4 LPL, LFM	Equipment and machines are periodically checked and maintained in safe working condition. There is proof of passed inspections and examination as prescribed by law. (applies also to contractors and their equipment)	maintenance records, inspection records, condition of equipment		C	
4.2.5 LPL, LFM	Appropriate safety equipment for everyone is available in the workplace and is used. For chain saw operators, the following equipment is obligatory: Chain brake on the saw, safety pants, helmet, ear protectors, visor or eyeglasses and steel-toed boots.	safety equipment and its condition, list of personnel, field		PC	
4.2.6 LPL, LFM	It is defined what a work accident is.	Law, executive order, industrial regulations, insurance, company documents		C	(E.g. oil industry: 10 minutes undesired interruption of work)
4.2.7	All work accidents are recorded and analysed. Measures to improve the safety	records, analysis, measures		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
LPL, LFM	situation are taken accordingly.	taken after accidents			
4.2.8 LPL, LFM	The company provides healthy conditions for workers living on the company's premises or in work camps. This refers especially to health care, clean water and the provisions for other basic needs.	Space per worker or family, concept and logistics for provision, field		PC	
4.2.9 LPL, LFM	For work accidents, a procedure is defined and known by the workers. First aid kits and means of communication like mobile phones exist, addresses of first aid institutions are known, means of transportation are available.	Work instruction, safety concept, field		C	
4.3	The rights of 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).				
4.3.1	The rights of workers according to national legislation and the ILO conventions are known. Especially national regulations concerning minimum wages for workers are available and implemented by the company. The rates and all social welfare benefits are fixed in the workers' contracts.	Legislation, workers' contracts, wages regulations available/accessible		PC	
4.3.2	The employees are free to organise and to negotiate with their employer.	existing workers organisations, or reasons for non existence, minutes of negotiations		PC	
4.3.3	An employee is appointed for communication with unions and other workers' organisations. Minutes of meetings are kept.	diagram of responsibilities, Protocols, letters		C	
4.3.4	Requests and concerns of unions and other workers' organisations are dealt with constructively and objectively.	minutes, records		PC	
4.4 LPL, LFM	Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations. (see 3.3)				
4.4.1 LPL, LFM	The applicant has knowledge of relevant local stakeholders and affected groups.	list		PC	
4.4.2 LPL, LFM	Discussions with stakeholders about their concerns, and measures to be taken are properly documented.	records, minutes, letters, media, stakeholder consultation		C	
4.4.3 LPL, LFM	Possible social effects (positive or negative) of novel forest activities are surveyed.	surveys beforehand/after		C	
4.4.4 LPL,	Results of such surveys are taken into consideration during the planning process. For any conflict, solutions are sought.	surveys, adaptations of planning, documentation re-		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
LFM		garding conflicts			
4.4.5 LPL, LFM	General service for the public like recreation and leisure activities are taken into account. Restricted access to certain areas or at a certain time are justified in writing.	documentation of activities, work records, list of services and planned activities		C	
4.5	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.				
4.5.1	A responsible contact person is nominated to deal with any claims concerning losses or damages. The name of this person and where and how they can be contacted must be published in the local forest offices.			C	
4.5.2	Written procedures how to avoid any loss or damages caused by forest management activities are implemented. Appropriate compensation is offered and every reasonable effort is made to resolve conflicts through consultation aiming at achieving agreement or consent.	written procedures, if applicable documentation of their use		C	
5.	<u>BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST:</u> 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.				
5.1	Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and economic costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.				
5.1.1	All costs of forest management including the cost of conservation and social activities are recorded and taken into account in present and future accounts.	accountability, budget		C	
5.1.2	The necessary investments to maintain the diverse services and the productivity of the forest are made.	accountability, budget		C	
5.1.3	A bookkeeping system is in place which allows defining different types of costs and analyse the costs.	accountancy system		C	
5.2	Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.				
5.2.1	Appropriate efforts are made to open new markets for wood and other forest products, and to promote their optimal use and local processing.	processing standard of sold products, customers, marketing, market surveys		C	
5.3	Forest management should minimise waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.				
5.3.1	Garbage of harvest and processing shall be surveyed and minimised.	estimated volumes before		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	Any kind of garbage (broken machinery, containers, saw chains, etc.) is collected and disposed of outside the forest.	and measured volume after harvest field			
5.3.2	Sensitive areas like riparian zones or wetlands are marked and excluded from harvesting activities.	working instructions, field		C	
5.3.3	Felled timber of usable quality is removed from the forest before natural processes decrease quality; efficiency of timber usage is intended.	policy, contracts with buyers, field		C	
5.4	Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.				
5.4.1	The forest is managed for more than one single product, including timber and non-timber products.	management plans, products		C	
5.4.2	The harvest of non-timber products by the local population is promoted within the limits of legal regulations and sustainability.	list of non-timber products, percentages, quantities, who collects them, company policy		C	
5.4.3	The use of non-timber products by the local population shall not put the sustainable development of the forest ecosystem in danger.	surveys		C	
5.5	Forest management operations shall recognise, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.				
5.5.1	The management plan describes and takes into account possible services of the forest, including those outside the area covered by forest (such as municipal watersheds, commercial and recreational fisheries or the supply of water to downstream fisheries, visual quality, contributions to regional biodiversity, recreation and tourism). A wide range of products is produced and marketed. If services are missing or could be enhanced, they are incorporated into the management.	surveys on forest services, list of relevant areas, maps, number of products		C	
5.5.2	Sensitive areas are known and detectable on maps. They are integrated in the management plan.	surveys on forest services, list of relevant areas, maps, field		C	
5.6 LFM	The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.				
5.6.1 LFM	Management plans are based on current calculation of the sustainable yield for timber and non-timber products.	annual cut, calculation of sustainable yield for non-timber products, management plan for all types of products		PC	
5.6.2	The calculation of the annual allowable cut is based on recognised methods and	calculation method		PC	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
LFM	calculated for a long term planning period. Sufficient data is collected as basis for the calculation.				
5.6.3 LFM	Harvested quantities are measured and recorded accurately and set against the growth data.	harvest register, sales record		PC	
5.6.4 LFM	Sustainability is calculated for the entire company, not for individual single species. If changes in the species composition result in a changing harvesting volume per species over the years it must be evaluated whether these changes are adequately considered in the management plan (FSC-DIR-20-007 -> ADV-20-007-08).	Management plan		C	
6.	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: 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.				
6.1	Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed - appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management 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.				
6.1 SLIMF	Knowledge of the possible negative impacts of activities is shown, and it is sought to minimise them.	management plan, maps, interviews, field		C	
6.1.1	Any site disturbing management activity performed is assessed for its environmental impact prior to the management. This applies only for activities which are not mentioned specifically in this standard (e.g. timber harvest, road construction, etc.).	list of activities, field		C	
6.1.2	If such surveys are carried out, they are considering the following aspects: - flora, fauna and biodiversity - soil properties (physical and chemical) - quality and quantities of water resources - use and disposal of chemicals - inorganic waste - landscape considerations	surveys		C	
6.1.3	Effects of the forest management on the environment are integrated into the management plan.	surveys, management plans, instructions, field		C	
6.1.4	Large forest ecosystems (ca. ≥10.000 ha) consisting of undisturbed natural forests are mapped and defined as a separate forest type. For the identification of these large forest ecosystems the regional situation is relevant, not the property of the FMO. (A forest owner might be responsible	Maps, field regional maps, aerial photographs and satellite scenes		PC	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	even for an area much smaller, which still qualifies as large forest ecosystem due to forests adjacent to the own forest.)				
6.1.5	In order to define these large forest ecosystems, key criteria of viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance exist.	Surveys, management plan		C	
6.1.6	The natural dynamics in the large forest ecosystems must be described prior to setting up a management plan. Management activities must consider these dynamics and avoid a negative impact.	Surveys, management plan, instructions		C	
6.2 LFM, HCV	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.				
6.2. SLIMF	Where information exists on rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitat, the FMO uses this information to map and protect these resources.			C	
6.2.1 LFM, HCV	The applicant has knowledge of the existence of threatened and endangered species and habitats according to international, national and regional decrees and inventories. They respect the relevant protection measures.	decrees, inventories, surveys, management plan, instructions		PC	
6.2.2 LFM, HCV	Information on locally or nationally rare, endangered or threatened species and their biology is available.	list of rare and endangered species, magazines, literature		PC	
6.2.3 LFM, HCV	Employees and contractors are taught about the existence and recognition of rare and endangered species.	in-house training scheme, educational materials, field		C	
6.2.4 LFM, HCV	Known occurrence of rare, endangered or threatened species is protected through adopted management. Protection means are the first priority on such sites. Harvesting is only allowed, if damage can be excluded by appropriate measures e.g. reduced intensity, selective cutting, temporary or permanent cutting off of access to areas, etc.	work plans and instructions, field		PC	
6.2.5 LFM, HCV	The individual units of reservations with total protection representing typical forest associations or habitats shall be of a minimum area large enough to maintain viable populations of key species. Experts, literature and local conservation organisations are consulted.	Objectives of protection for the individual reservations, information about key species and their biology		C	
6.2.6 LFM, HCV	Forest owner and hunters co-ordinate and agree on adequate hunting quotas for each ecosystem. Vital needs of indigenous and/or local residents are taken into account.	Assessments of game density, hunting quotas, agreements with hunter, knowledge about local residents' needs		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
6.2.7 LFM, HCV	Appropriate measures are taken to avoid harmful and illegal hunting, fishing and collecting.	communication with population and hunters, monitoring system		PC	
6.3	Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including: a) Forest regeneration and succession. b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity. c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.				
6.3.1 LFM, HCV	Information describing the existing and potential natural forest types and non-forest ecosystems and their present condition in the sphere of action of the applicant and/or adjacent areas is available.	surveys, literature		C	
6.3.2 LFM, HCV	The silviculture techniques and the size of harvest units and clear cuttings are adapted to the ecosystem. Limits of clear-cut sizes set by national working groups are considered.	silviculture concept, field		PC	
6.3.3 LFM, HCV	Natural regeneration on non-forest land is maintained. Clearing of such developing forests may be justified if the regeneration consists of exotic species or endangers valuable non-forest ecosystems. The decision and justification for the management approach shall be included into the management plan. (FSC-DIR-20-007 -> ADV-20-007-09)	silviculture concept, management plan, field		C	
6.3.4 LFM, HCV	If trees are planted, site adapted species and provenances are used. Attention is paid to the genetic composition (e.g. diversity, quality) of the reproductive material.	register of plant sources, including provenances, seed source and genetic information		C	
6.3.5 LFM, HCV	A concept addressing the issue of maintaining and promoting diversity (habitats, species, genetic succession, natural regeneration, natural dynamics) within the entire company and within the process of forest management exists.	silviculture concept, field (e.g. pioneer species, shrubs, secondary species)		PC	
6.3.6 LFM, HCV	The concept includes the protection of non-forest ecosystems. The company refrains from draining or intensifying existing draining systems, afforestation of succession areas, irrigation of dry-land or other activities affecting non-forested ecosystems.	General policy, management and silviculture concept, field		PC	
6.3.7 LFM, HCV	At least a part of the dead trees, especially those of diameters > 30 cm, are not removed, except for safety reasons. The forest management defines internally a certain quantity of dead wood to be achieved as long term goal, based on documented research or local best management practice and stakeholder input, respectively.	silviculture concept, instructions, surveys, research papers, field		C	
6.4	Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected re-				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	sources.				
6.4. SLIMF	Representative samples of ecosystems that are unique and not under protection by public or private agencies known to exist, are identified, documented and excluded from the harvest area. Such areas shall be mapped.	maps, concept for protected areas, management plans		C	
6.4.1	Representative areas of natural ecosystems are selected, recorded on maps and put under appropriate protection and/or management. These measures are discussed and co-ordinated with the stakeholders.	maps, concept for protected areas, specific management plans		C	
6.4.2	The individual units representing typical forest associations or habitats shall be of a minimum area large enough to maintain viable populations of key species. Experts, literature and local conservation organisations are consulted.	Management and protection concept, information about key species and their biology		C	
6.5	Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to control erosion, protect water resources, minimise forest damage during harvesting, road construction and all other mechanical disturbances.				
6.5.1	Specific guidelines to minimise damages by management are implemented. They cover all topics relevant for the company, e.g. road construction, harvesting with machines, the control of erosion and the protection of sensitive areas.	list of critical activities, specific instructions, guidelines, monitoring records		C	
6.5.2	Appropriate measures are taken to prevent forest fires.	risk assessment, concept for prevention, prevision for emergency		C	
6.5.3	The size of clear cuts is considering the danger of wind/water erosion for the open soil. Erosion especially on clear cut areas shall be minimised and monitored.	monitoring document		C	
6.5.4	Along streams and water courses, buffer zones are maintained and demarcated in maps. Water courses are only crossed by machines if precautionary means are implemented.	maps, field		C	
6.5.5	Any other sensitive areas are marked in maps and identifiable in the field. These areas are protected against any negative impacts.	maps, field , working instructions		C	
6.5.6	Soil damage and compactation whilst harvest or any other activity is minimised. Driving should be done mainly on skidding lines; the logging must be done according to a planned and systematic method.			RE C	
6.5.7	Other factors which influence the damage by harvesting (e.g. growth periods or climate aspects) are taken into account.	e.g. growth periods, rainy season, etc. for determination of time of harvest, relevant surveys and investigations, field		C	
6.6	Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organisation Type 1A and 1B and 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.				
	NOTE: If chemicals are used, several FSC documents apply: Pesticides Guidance (GUI-30-001), P. Policy (POL-30-001), Processing P. Derogations (PRO-01-004, v2-2), P. Derogations (GUI-30-001a-1), Checklist for Application Derogation (PRO-01-004a, v1-0).				
6.6.1	The applicant proves they are refraining from use of any harmful substances according to international treaties (World Health Organisation Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides) and national legislation.	receipts, accountability, de-pot/store,		PC	
6.6.2	The applicant proves they are minimising the use of any synthetic pesticide and fertiliser, including in nurseries and timber landings and stock. If synthetic pesticides or fertilisers are currently used: a) Any application is accurately documented and monitored (type of substance, reason for application, date/time, quantity, concentration, etc.) and b) effectiveness and cost/effect calculation are recorded and c) a plan for the reduction of chemical input (e.g. through practices better suited to the natural conditions and/or the replacement of chemicals by ecologically sound methods and substances) exists.	silviculture concept, receipts, surveys, records, de-pot/store, field		C	
6.6.3	A plan describing procedures in exceptional situations like insect calamities, etc. must exist.	concept with definition of exceptional situations and list of potential calamities, specific records		C	
6.6.4	If chemicals are used, instructions and monitoring ensure that the application is performed or organised and observed by competent (i.e. licensed) personnel and that protective clothing is available and used.	personnel, education/training, protective clothing/equipment		PC	
6.6.5	If chemicals are used, specific and accurate instructions ensure correct storage, mixing, application, and disposal of containers and remainder of chemicals.	specific instructions, store, disposal		PC	
6.6.6	If chemicals are used, specific emergency procedures for accidents with chemicals exist. Chemicals are never applied over groundwater bodies, near any surface water and under bad weather conditions (like rain, wind).	emergency procedures, instruction, training		PC	
6.6.7	The restrictions for the use of chemicals apply also to third parties (e.g. in the case of sold timber stored in the forest).	note on sale contract		C	
6.7	Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
LPL	and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.				
6.7.1 LPL	The necessity for the use of environmentally dangerous substances is surveyed and alternatives are considered (e.g. type of chain oil for chainsaws).	concept to minimise waste (especially non-organic), disposal concept		C	
6.7.2 LPL	All waste like oils, tires, containers, etc. is collected at central locations and disposed of in the safest way in regard to the environment at official off-site locations. Waste related to harvesting: See Principle 5.3	waste disposal concept		PC	
6.7.3 LPL	Oil changes and tanking up machinery takes place only in appropriate places equipped with relevant protection.	installations, specific instructions		C	
6.7.4 LPL	A member of the staff is responsible for the control of these measures.	name		C	
6.8	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.				
	NOTE: For definitions and details see GMO Policy (POL-30-602)				
6.8.1	If biological control agents are used, legal regulations and scientific studies concerning their use are acknowledged.	scientific studies, regulations, personnel (e.g. with special experience)		PC	
6.8.2	All use of biological control agents is documented and strictly controlled against these regulations.	special instructions, records		PC	
6.8.3	A concept how to minimise the biological control agents is established and implemented.	biological control minimising concept		C	
6.8.4	The applicant proves they are not using any genetically modified organisms.	principle (general policy)		PC	
6.9 LPL	The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.				
6.9.1 LPL, HCV	The results of surveys and inventories show the percentages of area and volume occupied by exotic tree species ¹ .	results of surveys and inventories, management plan, stand descriptions, field		C	
6.9.2 LPL, HCV	Exotic species are monitored, in particular where they form stands: Growth and growth dynamic, phytosanitary condition, natural regeneration, effects on flora and fauna. The surveys allow projections for the future development.	specific surveys and recorded observations, ecological studies and literature		C	
6.9.3 LPL,	The management has analysed reasons for plantation and/or promotion of exotics and their natural regeneration. They are only maintained and/or promoted	silviculture concept, reasons for species selection, test re-		C	

¹ Exotic tree species are introduced species or subspecies not native or endemic to the area in question and which were introduced by man, voluntarily or not, during the last 1000 years. See also annex I for central Europe.

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
HCV	on suitable sites and only if they prove to be of superior performance (growth and quality) to local species and if a market for their products exist.	sults, market analysis			
6.9.4 LPL, HCV	Exotic species are not introduced in rare or endangered forest ecosystems. Any unwelcome natural regeneration of exotic species in protected areas and native forest areas has to be removed.	results of surveys and inventories, management plan, stand descriptions, field		C	
6.10	Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion: a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.				
	.				
6.10.1	Prior to any planned conversion, Ecocert CH is informed in order to evaluate whether the FSC requirements are met:	documents, maps, management plan		PC	
6.10.1.1	The area affected does not exceed 0.5% of the area of the FMU in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the FMU.	documents, maps, management plan		PC	
6.10.1.2	The conversion does not take place in high conservation value forests.	documents, maps, management plan		PC	
6.10.2	If conversion is permitted according to indicator 6.10.1, measures are implemented to restore, conserve or manage natural forest or grasslands of the FMU:				
6.10.2.1	The long-term ecological benefits from compensation for the forest enterprise are evaluated.	management plan, stand descriptions, environmental impact assessment		C	
6.10.2.3	The size of the area determined for compensation is equal to or exceeding the size of the area to be converted.	environmental impact assessment, lists, maps		C	
6.10.3	In case of establishment of wind turbines, the following is considered:				
6.10.3.1	The affected area does not exceed 5% of the FMU. (The annual conversion limits of 0.5% are not applicable in this case.)	Maps, Stakeholder Consultation		PC	
6.10.3.2	The conversion is supported by social and environmental stakeholders.	Maps, Stakeholder Consultation		PC	
6.10.4	The affected areas which are destroyed or converted are documented for a long term.	annual results (German: „Vollzug“; harvested volume, cultural measures, etc.), reports, book keeping		PC	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
7.	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.				
7.1	<p>The management plan and supporting documents shall provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) Description of silviculture and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories. d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection. e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics. f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments. g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species. h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership. i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used. 				
7.1 SLIMF	<p>A written management plan exists that includes at least the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The objectives of management; b) A description of the forest; c) How the objectives will be met, harvesting methods and silviculture (clear cuts, selective cuts, thinnings) to ensure sustainability; d) Sustainable harvest limits (which must be consistent with FSC criteria 5.6); e) Environmental/social impacts of the plan; f) Conservation of rare species and any high conservation values (HCV); g) Maps of the forest, showing protected areas, planned management and land ownership; and, h) Duration of the plan. 	management plan		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
7.1.1	A management plan lists all activities of the company and indicates how the plan relates to superior and previous plans.	management plan		PC	
7.1.2	The management plan declares management objectives in the long, medium and short term	management plan		C	
7.1.3a	The forest management plan contains: a) Basic information: - ownership of land, forest area - Inventory/survey data: standing volume, growth data, dead wood - stand map: species, age distribution, structure - site maps (plant associations, soil, etc.) - sensitive/rare habitats of national and regional significance, hunting grounds, groundwater bodies, recreational and tourist areas, forest areas with protective function, other areas with special function or services - maps and description of reservations and protected areas	management plan		C	
7.1.3b	b) Planning: - management objectives, annual cut, harvest levels for non-timber products - silviculture concepts (objectives and activities), including strategy and techniques for regeneration, targeted species composition, objectives and activities in protected areas. - management of dead wood - existing road network and planned roads, harvest techniques based on road density, risk for erosion and soil compaction and other damage to the stands.	management plan		C	
7.1.4	The management plan contains a specific section for conservation and protected areas or makes reference to an existing regional conservation concept that is followed.	conservation concept, plan for protected areas		C	
7.2	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 circumstances.				
7.2 SLIMF	Management plan shall be reviewed at least every 5 years and updated, if necessary, incorporating the results of monitoring to plan and implement future management.	planning procedures, management plan		C	
7.2.1	Responsibilities for the gathering of current and new data for the revision of the management plan are defined.	planning procedures, management plan		C	
7.2.2	Specific instructions define which data has to be gathered for the revision of the management plan.	planning procedures, management plan		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
7.2.3	A system is in place which guarantees that new scientific knowledge and technical novelties are taken into account during the revision of the management plan.	planning procedures		C	
7.2.4	Changes in the ecological, social, and economic environment are taken into account during the revision of the management plan.	planning procedures		C	
7.2.5	There is a time table for the revision of the management plan or parts of it. Evidence shows that it is followed.	planning procedures, management plan		PC	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
7.3	Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.				
7.3.1	A specific person is responsible for all issues regarding education and training of the employees.	in-house training scheme, diagram of responsibilities		C	
7.3.2	Appropriate training is provided for the employees at all levels, specifically considering: safety, health and environmental issues.	education of personnel, in-house training scheme		C	
7.3.3	Educational needs are detected.	in-house training scheme, supervision of personnel		C	
7.3.4	Supervisors went through appropriate training.	education and experience of personnel		C	
7.3.5	All activities, especially those carried out in the forest, are supervised in an appropriate manner to ensure they meet set quality standards.	instructions for supervisors, records, work organisation, field		C	
7.3.6	For contractors, the same education, training and quality standards apply and are enforced.	contracts, field		C	
7.4	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.				
7.4. SLIMF	<u>Stakeholders who are directly affected by the forest management activities (e.g. neighbouring landowners) have access to relevant parts of the management plan.</u>	public access		C	
7.4.1	A summary of the management plan including information on elements listed in criterion 7.1, is publicly available on demand.	summary of management plan, information of public		C	
8.	<u>MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT: 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.</u>				
8.1	The frequency and intensity of monitoring should be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.				
8.1 SLIMF	Regular and consistent monitoring in connection with harvesting operations and reforestation is conducted.	see above		PC	
8.1.1	Records are being kept about all activities. The data in these records is consistent and replicable over time and allows comparison of results and assessment of change. It is used for the permanent improvement of the planning and the social, ecological, and economic services of the company.	records, evaluations		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
8.1.2	There is a list of activities including those relevant to legal regulations and important management activities that need monitoring. Frequencies of monitoring are defined including nature conservancy issues.	list of monitored activities		PC	
8.1.3	A time table exists for the monitoring, indicating type and amount of data to be gathered.	monitoring plan		C	
8.1.4	Work quality of contractors and compliance with contractual agreements is monitored.	contracts, records, field		C	
8.1.5	Responsibilities for the monitoring are clear.	diagram of responsibilities		C	
8.1.6	Where activities carried out differ from the planned ones or where planned interventions did not yield the expected results, justification is given and/or corrective measures are in place or scheduled.	monitoring records, management plan, field		C	
8.1.7	Records of monitoring activities are available.	access to records		C	
8.2	Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators: a) Yield of all forest products harvested. b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest. c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna. d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations. e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.				
8.2 SLIMF	Information on the following is monitored and recorded: a) Amount of products harvested; b) Regular monitoring of any identified high conservation values; c) Invasive exotic species; d) Growth and regeneration of managed species; e) Post harvest inspection for erosion and estimate of residual basal area; and, f) Periodic inventory (every 10 years).			C	
8.2.1 LFM	The applicant proves they are keeping the following records and disclose them to the certification body upon request: a) concerning monitoring Principle 3: - incidents and complaints by indigenous peoples b) concerning monitoring Principle 4: - statistics of accidents - training activities for employees c) concerning monitoring Principle 5: - growth and yield of forest products - accounts (incomes and costs of company) - sales (quantities, buyers, dates)	records		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	<p>d) concerning monitoring Principle 6/9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deviations from silviculture plans, especially from annual cut and activities in protected areas - assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes - areas in regeneration, techniques used, species composition <p>e) concerning monitoring Principle 10:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - species and provenances and area they cover - phytosanitary problems 				
8.2.2 LFM	Scope of inventories/surveys and data being gathered are defined.	instruction for inventory/survey		C	
8.2.3 LFM	During inventories/surveys, data about changes in the composition of flora and fauna are gathered.	inventories/surveys		C	
8.2.4 LFM	Effects of harvest and other activities on the environment (ecological and social) are recorded. Special attention is paid to effects of changes on the species composition and changes in the forest types managed.	records		C	
8.2.5 LFM	Significant positive experiences or effects of activities and new knowledge gained is recorded for the continued process of learning.	records		C	
8.3	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."				
8.3.1	A system for tracking and tracing forest products back to their origin is in place.	Accountant, bookkeeping		PC	
8.3.2	All invoices for certified products should tell the type, quantity, buyers name and the full sellers' details to indicate the origin of the products. After certification, the certification number and category "FSC 100%" should be written on invoices and delivery notes.	accountancy		RE C	
8.4	The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.				
8.4.1	Results and knowledge gained from data collection and monitoring are analysed at the latest when the management plan is revised.	evaluations, analysis		PC	
8.4.2	The results of monitoring activities are incorporated into management plans when revised. Policies and specific instructions are adapted.	adaptations in new management plans		PC	
8.5	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.				
8.5.1	Summaries of the results of the monitoring according to 8.2 are produced periodically and are available upon request.	monitoring summaries		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
9.	<p><u>MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS:</u> 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.</p>				
9.1	<p>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.</p>				
9.1.1	<p>Definition HCVF: HCV1 BIODIVERSITY CONCENTRATION: Globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia). HCV2 LARGE LANDSCAPE LEVEL (ca. > 10.000 ha): Globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance HCV3 RARE; THREATENED; ENDANGERED ECOSYSTEMS. HCV4 BASIC SERVICES IN CRITICAL SITUATIONS (PROTECTION FORESTS / SCHUTZWÄLDER“): Basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control). HCV5 BASIC SOCIAL NEEDS of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health). HCV6 TRADITIONAL CULTURAL IDENTITY: Critical to local communities’ traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).</p> <p>For each category of HCVF, it is checked if forest areas are meeting these criteria. For each category, the locations and the areas in hectare are listed.</p>	silviculture concept, criteria for planting, HCVF assessment		PC	
see also	6.2: 6.2.1 to 6.2.10				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
9.2	The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.				
9.2.1	The forest company is responsible for implementing stakeholder consultation. Stakeholders are informed about conservation attributes as well as proposed strategies for their maintenance or threat reduction. Ecocert CH assesses whether the company's consultation was adequate. (Interpretation of Criterion 9-2 (ADV-30-901))	concept for protected zone, protection decree, documented stakeholder input and reaction by FMU		C	
9.3	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.				
9.3.1	The management plan specifies the areas of HCVF and tells which specific measures must be taken to protect them. These measures are consistent with the precautionary approach: Where threats are identified, early preventive action is taken regardless of full scientific certainty. The implementation of the measures is controlled.	HCVF management plan		PC	
9.3.2	If planting activities are done in HCVF, only species and provenances natural to the site are used. Attention is paid to genetic characteristics (e.g. diversity, quality).	silviculture concept, register for reproductive material, field		PC	
9.3.3	The HCVF management plan or its summary is publicly available.	HCVF management plan		C	
9.4	Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.				
9.4.1 LFM, HCV	Measures maintaining or enhancing the conservation attributes, which require monitoring, are defined.	concept for control		C	
9.4.2 LFM, HCV	If measures are defined, their effectiveness is monitored annually.	results of internal monitoring		C	
10.1	The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.				See 7.1
10.1.1	The objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration, are stated in the management plan and demonstrated in the field.			C	
10.2	The design and layout of plantations should promote the protection, resto-				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	ration 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 company. The scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape.				
10.2.1	The applicant has knowledge of the composition and structure of natural forests or the potential natural vegetation in the region/landscape in question.	survey of natural habitats		PC	See 6.3.xx
10.2.2	A concept exists which describes policies and measures regarding the protection, rehabilitation and maintenance of natural forests and other (rare/threatened) habitats in the region.	specific concept		C	
10.2.3	The concept addresses at least the following issues: protected areas (forest and other) and their spatial distribution, areas of rehabilitation of natural forest, distribution of plantation blocks (especially in relation to existing natural forest) and other land uses within the entire company.	specific concept		C	
10.2.4	The different zones are described and recorded on maps and, if appropriate, demarcated in the field.	maps, demarcations and criteria for it		C	
10.2.5	The protected areas shall be interconnected or efforts for better interconnection are made. Protected areas are not exclusively limited to unproductive land.	concept for conservation, biology of rare/threatened species		C	
10.3	Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.				
10.3.1	A concept addresses the diversity, including at least the following: definition of maximum size of management units, diversity of species, provenance and genetic level (within and between management units), age classes and structures.	management plan		C	
10.3.2	Native tree species are included in the management in order to increase the diversity. Limits are defined for the minimum quantity (number or percentage) required, also the species suitable and how to reach the required minimum.	general policy, management plan, field		C	
10.3.3	Thorough knowledge and extensive experience are required to run plantations with highly specialised management units (genetically). Specific compensatory measures are in place (e.g. maintenance and promotion of gene reserves, in addition to the measures described in 10.2).	education and experience of personnel, register of identity and sources of reproductive material, records, organisational capacities, risk assessment, compensatory measures, field		C	
10.3.4	For formerly established management units which are not as diverse as re-	maps, plantation dates, spe-		C	

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	quired, a plan to increase diversity exists. Alternatively, a reason is given for non intervention until the end of the turnover for these units.	cific plan			
10.4	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 before 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.				
10.4.1	The specific characteristics of the planted sites are known and documented.	maps on climates, soils, plant geography and associations, etc.		C	
10.4.2	The applicant has knowledge about the performance and potential of local species in plantations, and of their products on the market. Efforts to improve this knowledge are continuously made.	scientific literature, applicant's own research and tests.		C	
10.4.3	Species are selected carefully and solid justification for the choice is given based at least on the experience made under similar conditions (found in scientific literature) including research on wood and other qualities, adaptation and growth potential of the species.	reasoning in management plan, scientific literature consulted, research and tests performed.		C	
10.4.4	Native species are preferred over exotic species. Exotic species are only used if their performance is greater.	management plan		C	
10.4.5	If exotic species are used, their selection is analysed with particular care, giving additional information on products to be produced, productivity, expected prices, demand and possible ecological and social side effects.	reasoning in management plan, scientific literature consulted, research and tests performed.		C	
10.4.6	Within the company only seed and seedlings of known provenance and genetic quality are used.	register of used seed and seedlings		C	
10.4.7	Appropriate attention is paid to the issues of genetic diversity. Criteria for the use of genetically specialised or diverse seeds are established.	register for each management unit (provenance, seed source, parent trees), management plan		C	
10.4.8	All species and provenances, in particular exotic and/or genetically specialised seeds, are only used on a large scale if justified by the objective of the plantation and if the used provenance has been tested successfully. The production of locally adapted seed is promoted. See also 10.6.	results of provenance test, etc., reasoning in records for species/provenance selection.		C	
10.5	A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the				

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	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.				
10.5 SLIMF	Plantation design and management enhances ecological values, especially around conservation features.	management plans, specific concept		C	
10.5.1	A concept for rehabilitation and management of (near) natural forest (as part of the plantation company) exists.	management plans, specific concept		C	
10.5.2	A minimum of (...) % ² of the planted area is set aside for rehabilitation of (near) natural forest. Attention is paid to the appropriate size and spatial distribution (e.g. connecting corridors) of areas under rehabilitation, and to represent the different natural forest types of the area in question. The individual units of rehabilitation areas shall be of a minimum area large enough to maintain viable populations of key species. Experts, literature and local conservation organisation are consulted.	management plans, specific concept (especially criteria for selection of sites), maps		C	
10.5.3	Interventions in and development of the areas under rehabilitation are documented. The areas are mapped and delimited.	records, maps, field		C	
10.6 LPL	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.				See 5.3 +6.5
10.6.1 LPL	Soil structure, fertility, and biological activity are improved. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species do not result in soil or water degradation or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns.			C	
10.7 LPL	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 should make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilisers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered by criteria 6.6 and 6.7.				See 6.6 and 6.7
10.7.1 LPL	Measures are taken against pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Prevention and biological control are preferred before chemical pesticides and fertilisers including nurseries.			C	
10.8 LPL	Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the company, monitoring of plantations shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site				See 8.2 and P4

² (...) stands for quantitative indicators which are specified before the assessment in national or regional standards by Ecocert CH personnel. See also paragraph 0.2 of this document.

No.	P&C Requirement	Sources of Verification	G/M	PC/C	Result
	ecological and social 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 should 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.				
10.8.1 LPL	Negative environmental or social impacts are documented. Measures to address the impacts are designed and implemented.	see above		C	
10.9	Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 <i>normally</i> 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 of such conversion.				
10.9.1	For plantations established on land converted from natural forests after November 1994, clear evidence exists that the current manager/owner was not responsible.	history and date of plantation, purchase contracts, land register (German: Grundbuch; Flächenbuch); fragments of old vegetation in the field		PC	
10.9.2	Primary, degraded primary and mature secondary forests, and threatened or endangered ecosystems were not cleared or converted by current forest managers to create tree plantations.	history and date of plantation, purchase contracts, land register (German: Grundbuch; Flächenbuch); fragments of old vegetation in the field		PC	
10.9.3	If conversion into plantation took place after November 1994, the following indicators are considered:				
10.9.3.1	Conversion can be compensated by restoring an area equal to the plantation into natural forests with species composition of the region	History and date of plantation establishment; purchase contracts, land register, fragments of old vegetation in the field, map of restoration area, stakeholder consultation, interviews, survey on success of restoration		PC	
10.9.3.2	National stakeholder support exists for compensation measures according to 10.9.3.1 [Advice 31-001]			PC	
10.9.3.3	Converted plantations can only be included after the restoration area has been successfully established.			PC	

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