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# M E R

Magyar Erdőtanúsítási Rendszer

MER 1001  
2017-01-13  
v2

## Sustainable Forest Management Requirements

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Title:	Sustainable Forest Management Requirements
Code:	MER 1001 v2
Approved by:	Hungarian Forest Certification Council
Date of approval:	2017.01.13
Issue date:	2017.01.13
Application date:	2017.01.13

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## 0 General requirements and principles of application

- 0.1 HFC recognizes the long traditions of sustainable forest management in Hungary rooting back to historical times, and the requirements below shall be evaluated with respect to these traditions and the current economic, social and environmental conditions.
- 0.2 All requirements shall be met by the applicant unless the requirement is irrelevant for objective reasons.
- 0.3 Compliance to the standard shall always be evaluated with reasonable consideration to the size of forest area and the degree of naturalness of forests, especially but not limited to the requirements, where it is specified.
- 0.4 Requirements regarding the state of forest within the certified area shall be met regardless any circumstances resulting from various organizational or contractual arrangements.
- 0.5 There is a considerable overlap between the requirements in this document and the legal regulations in force. It falls within the authority of the certification body to accept the references to legal regulations as evidences, or require further proof of compliance.
- 0.6 The assessment of compliance shall be based on documentation primarily, supplemented by field inspection and interview with relevant actors. Requirements, to which the compliance can be verified for the group organization as a whole, can be assessed by the information provided by the applicant or by other sources. Guidance on the recommended sources can be found in this document (see Chapter 13), which can be overruled by the certification body according to the circumstances.
- 0.7 Requirements in Chapter 1-11 fully applies to forests, and applies to other wooded land with the instructions given in chapter 13. In the latter case 'forest' and 'manager of forest' shall be understood as 'other wooded land' and 'manager of other wooded land' respectively.

## 1 Group entity

### **In case of group forest certification the group entity...**

- 1.1 Provides information on changes of the relevant legal regulations on an annual basis.
- 1.2 Inform the general public about the current activities of the group organization, and engages in dialogue with the people and civil organizations.
- 1.3 Contributes to the training of its participants and their employees, possibly of their contractors, and provides them with information on training opportunities, and encourage them to participate in forest management related trainings and current events.
- 1.4 Participates in research, or contributes to the dissemination of research findings.
- 1.5 Informs the forest managers on the available forestry related subsidies (if there are any).

## 2 Forest management planning

### **In the preparation to forest management planning...**

- 2.1 Inventory and mapping of forest resources are established and updated in every 10 years based on field inspections. Inventory describes at least: area, site conditions, tree species composition, age, growing sock and growth rate.
- 2.2
- 2.3 Degree of protection and the inclusion into the NATURA 2000 network of forests is registered.

2.4 Primary function of forests are registered and mapped, especially in forests with special functions.

**In the course of forest management planning...**

2.5 The organization responsible for the monitoring of NATURA 2000 network is taking part.

2.6 The public is given the opportunity to be informed and to express opinion.

2.7 Forest managers' interest to achieve sound economic performance, to utilize new market and employment opportunities, or to apply non-traditional forest management methods can be considered.

2.8 Results of the evaluation of the previous forest management planning period is fed into the planning process.

**The objectives and specific means of forest management plans serve...**

2.9 The protection of the species and genetic diversity of ecosystems, as well as the protection of landscape.

2.10 The improvement of the degree of naturalness, resilience and state of health.

2.11 The maintenance of forest area, and the variegation of products and services.

**As part of the detailed elaboration of forest management plans...**

2.12 Primary function of forests, such as protection (especially primary soil and water protection, as well as sensitive and representative forest ecosystems and areas containing endemic species in significant concentrations) and recreational functions are considered.

2.13 Policies regarding other forms of land use, water regulation, regional development and nature conservation are considered.

2.14 Areas under nature protection, NATURA 200 sites, 'ex lege' values and other values of public interest in the precincts of forests are taken into account.

2.15 Forest damages on local, regional and national level, as well as risk factors are considered.

2.16 Allowable cut is quantified with appropriate methods.

**The forest management plans...**

2.17 Bear the approval of the relevant authority.

2.18 Are openly accessible to the public to the extent of information relevant to public interest, with due considerations to confidential information.

### 3 The forest management organization and the governance of forest management

**To ensure sound forestry operations the manager of forest**

3.1

3.2

3.3 Has legal authorization to use the land, which is (where applicable) based on a written agreement with the landowners.

3.4 Is co-operating with / employing forestry professional(s), which includes directing and the supervision of forestry operations.

3.5 Itself, or in co-operation with the forestry professional(s) keeps forest under regular inspection, and makes actions, when needed.

**The manager of forest, with due considerations to its size...**

- 3.6 Provides the professionals in charge of forestry operations with the forest management plan, and these plans are used in practice.
- 3.7 Itself, or by a forestry professional on its behalf, takes part in the forest management planning process.
- 3.8 In case of individual forest certification, complies with requirements 1.2, 1.3, 1.4.

**To ensure responsible operation of the organization the manager of forest...**

- 3.9 Makes actions to correct unsound practice in case of penalty or warning in relation to forestry, nature conservation (including protected and endangered species), environmental protection, health, labour and safety issues, consumer protection, taxes and royalties.
- 3.10 Bears the list of employees.
- 3.11
- 3.12 Hires employees with appropriate education, who regularly pass health examination, and take part in safety training, where they are informed about health and safety risks, preventive measures and safe working practices.
- 3.13 Provides for its employees safe working conditions, where health and safety risks can be identified, and all reasonable measures can be applied.
- 3.14 Complies with ILO 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138 and 182 conventions.
- 3.15 Applies within its management system a clear assignation of responsibilities of forestry professionals employed – with due considerations to its size.
- 3.16 Ensures that those carrying out forestry operations in its forest on its assignment / on its behalf / by its authority (including the contractors) is competent and complies with this standard (personal supervision, supervision of forestry professional, written instruction, contract, timber harvest plan, timber removal documentation etc.)
- 3.17 Administers its contracts with contractors, consumers and suppliers.
- 3.18

## 4 Forestation and the maintenance of forest area

**The manager of forest...**

- 4.1 Keeps records on the planned forestations.
- 4.2 Ensures the regeneration of forests, and considers afforestation on lands suitable for tree growing.
- 4.3 Keeps records on the initial plantings.
- 4.4 Makes conversion of forest to other wooded land or to other land-use forms only if is approved by the legally authorised body, it entails a small proportion of forest type, and it does not violate outstanding interests of nature conservation, cultural heritage and recreational functions.

**Forestation...**

- 4.5 Primarily aims at establishing mixed forests.
- 4.6 Contains tree species that can potentially develop a forest of good health and vitality (e.g. relevant guidance are met).
- 4.7 Is carried out using propagation material with certificate of origin.

- 4.8 With introduced species does not pose threats to the degree of naturalness, or to the site conditions of other forests and non-forest vegetation of high biological value within its immediate environment, and does not infringe the interest of the community.
- 4.9 Does not contain genetically modified organizations (GMOs).

#### **Forest regeneration...**

- 4.10 Takes place as a natural regeneration, wherever it is possible.
- 4.11 Does not involve coppicing without good reasons.

#### **Afforestation...**

- 4.12 Is carried out according to an afforestation plan with site survey.
- 4.13 Planning and approval process includes the evaluation of site conditions, and the ecological networks are considered.

#### **Operations of forestation...**

- 4.14 Do not result in the salinization of the soil, if irrigation is applied.
- 4.15 Do not affect neighbouring fields; those involving stumping, land preparation and soil cultivation do not reduce productivity of the site permanently, unless there are no other ways of forest regeneration with rational costs.
- 4.16 Utilize the natural regeneration processes as far as possible, and contribute to the conservation of the degree of naturalness of forests.

## **5 Silviculture**

#### **The manager of forest...**

- 5.1 Keeps records on the long-term forestry objectives, the cutting age and the allowable cut.
- 5.2 Does not cause degradation of the naturalness of forest by unsound operations.

#### **Considering the degree of naturalness of forests, the silvicultural operations....**

- 5.3 Correspond to the silvicultural system and silvicultural prescriptions specified in the forest management plan.
- 5.4 Do not reduce canopy closure beneath 50% in general, and 30% in protective forests.
- 5.5 Maintain the forest stand suitable for the site, or the potential of development of such stand.
- 5.6 Maintain and where appropriate promote the natural composition of the forest, with special care on rare species.
- 5.7 Maintain and where appropriate promote natural vertical structure without acceptable reasons.
- 5.8 Maintain forest edges.
- 5.9 Protect understory plants insofar as possible.
- 5.10 In natural and semi-natural forests leave dead trees that are there at least for 5 years in the forest, unless regeneration, health issues or public access requires otherwise.
- 5.11 Prevent the expansion of invasive tree species, and the control those already present to a reasonable extent.

#### **Final harvest...**

- 5.12 Does not precede the final cutting age specified in the forest management plan without good cause.

- 5.13 Is carried out at an age of the forest stand when timber can be sold, and financial loss for overmature timber does not occur, unless justified by nature conservation purposes or other reasons.
- 5.14 Does not exceed area limits in the law.
- 5.15 Preserves remnant trees in the form of tree groups or fractions of forest, to the extent of no less than 5 m<sup>3</sup>/ha and 3 tree/ha of native species suitable for the prospective forest, which are not meant to be harvested later – except in clear cuts in forests classified according to their degree of naturalness as ‘semi-plantation forests’ and ‘plantation forests’.

## 6 Timber harvest and felling operations

### Timber harvest...

- 6.1 In case of a multilevel organization, is carried out according to timber harvest plans.
- 6.2 Is carried out at suitable state of the soil, and permanent degradation of soil cannot be observed.
- 6.3 On slopes steeper than 10° logging tracks are designated with special care to the risk of erosion.
- 6.4 When it implies forest regeneration and in cases when terrain and other conditions relevant to possible erosion justify, saves a protective belt of forests within the close surroundings of streams, creeks, wells and open water surfaces of no less than 20m in width measured from the edge of the water. These protective belts are maintained at least for the period of forest regeneration.
- 6.5 Damages in the crown and on the bark of the trunk occurs on less than 10% of the stems.
- 6.6 Is aiming at the optimal use of forest products, but it does not entails the removal of twigs and branches, unless justified by economic, or forest health purposes, and with due considerations of the degree of naturalness of forests, as well as the occurrence of fertilization.

### Logging network maintained by the manager of forest...

- 6.7 And constructed after 2000 with hard surface, was constructed according to a plan that duly incorporates considerations of the effects on environment.
- 6.8 When being developed, forest related nature conservation regulations, nature conservation management plans, NATURA 2000 management plans, inventories and databases of natural values, and the migration routes of animals with nature conservation importance are duly considered.
- 6.9 Is suitable for efficient and ‘low impact’ delivery of products and services.
- 6.10 Is constructed in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses, and facilitated with properly maintained road drainage.

## 7 Non-wood forest products

### The manager of forest...

- 7.1 Exploits no protected plant and animal species for trade or consumption.
- 7.2 Allows no grazing of animals for hobby or breeding, and does not collect the leaf-litter in connection to animal husbandry.

### In case of recurring (multiple consecutive years) commercial utilization of non-wood forest products...

- 7.3 The populations of the non-wood forest products utilized are regularly monitored.
- 7.4 Management plan with the objective of sustainable utilization is needed, if the population is declining, including the evaluation of the effects on nutrient off-take.

## 8 Forest protection, protective functions of forest and protected forests

- 8.1 Health and vitality of forests is periodically monitored, especially key biotic and abiotic factors that potentially affect health and vitality of forest ecosystems, such as pests, diseases, overgrazing and overstocking, fire, and damage caused by climatic factors, air pollutants or by forest management operations. Both permanent and temporal effects shall be monitored.

### **For forest protection, the manager of forest...**

- 8.2 Keeps records on the primary function of forest, the degree of nature protection, the NATURA 2000 designation, and on forests of outstanding soil protection, water protection and fire hazard importance.
- 8.3
- 8.4 Possesses records on the populations of strictly protected organisms, and uses nature protection management plans that specify measures to protect and – where relevant – to increase their population, if they are available.
- 8.5 Prevents the accumulation of food-basis of bark beetle in forests sensitive to its damage.
- 8.6 Prevents the accumulation of fuel in forest of high fire hazard, and maintains fire gaps.
- 8.7 Applies technologies with lighting of fire only for outstanding interests, with proper attention to the protection of edaphon, and with due considerations to safety.
- 8.8 Ensures that non-organic waste and litter is avoided, and waste is collected, stored in designated areas and removed in an environmentally-responsible manner.
- 8.9 Ensures the avoidance of fuel and lubricant contamination, and make actions to proper disposal if there are any.
- 8.10 Makes use of any forest policy measures available, in cases of forest damages beyond its ability to handle.

### **For the protection of waters...**

- 8.11 The manager of forest preserves the natural character of water flows, ponds and waterlogged areas.
- 8.12 Illuviation causing significant deterioration of water quality is not induced by forestry operations in the waters within and in the surroundings of forests.
- 8.13 The considerations of water protection during forest operations are put in force in case of forests with primary water protection function, or in forest with natural waters in it, hence the timber harvest plan, or the instructions for the contractors contain the considerations of water protection and the relevant provisions.

### **For the protection of susceptible soils...**

- 8.14 The considerations of soil protection during forest operations are put in force in case of forests with primary soil protection function, or in forest with soils susceptible for erosion, or deflation, or wash-out by flooding, hence the timber harvest plan, or the instructions for the contractors contain the considerations of soil protection and the relevant provisions.
- 8.15 The manager of forest makes necessary preventive actions to avoid erosion and deflation in its forests.
- 8.16 Clearcutting in natural, semi-natural and secondary forests of primary soil protection function is not applied, unless it is absolutely necessary for the regeneration of the forest.

## 9 Plant protection and fertilization

### **The manager of forest within its forest area...**

- 9.1 Favours preventive silvicultural and biological measures.
- 9.2
- 9.3 Keep records on the usage of pesticides and fertilizers.
- 9.4 Uses pesticides with proper equipment and training, and according to the instructions given by the producer, with due considerations for the environment.
- 9.5 Uses WHO Type 1A and 1B pesticides only if there are no other alternative is available.
- 9.6 Uses no pesticides banned by international agreements or containing chlorinated hydrocarbons.
- 9.7 Uses fertilizers according to nutrient recycling plan with due considerations for the environment.

## 10 Wild game management

- 10.1 The manager of forest within its forest area establishes indoor hunting facilities according to development plan that incorporates environmental considerations.

### **If and where the manager of forest practices the hunting rights on its forests...**

- 10.2 It bears wild game management plan.
- 10.3 The wild game management plan is based on the regular estimation of the game population, it contains prescriptions for game harvest, approved by the relevant authority and is subject to follow-up evaluation.
- 10.4 It makes actions to prevent the overpopulation of game and to minimize game damage in forests.

## 11 Social responsibility and public relations

### **For responsible public relations the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...**

- 11.1 Contributes to the education of children regarding the issues of forests and sustainable forest management.
- 11.2 Maintains contact with local communities and civil organizations within its vicinity, and supports local initiatives in the field of sustainable and multifunctional forest management.
- 11.3 Administers complaints about forest management, provides the complainant with relevant information, and makes actions as appropriate.

### **For the protection of local values the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...**

- 11.4 Exerts itself to recognize local knowledge, experiences and traditional management forms, to protect them, to keep their memory, or possibly use them.
- 11.5 Possesses records on the places of cultural significance such as memorial places and trees, locations of traditional ceremonies, built heritage and archaeological sites, or is aware of them.
- 11.6 Keeps records on facilities with tourism, education and recreation purposes established and maintained (within and nearby its forests) by other organizations, makes contact with them and agrees on the relevant rights and liabilities.
- 11.7 Does not limit the access to places of cultural significance without respectable reasons.

**For the accessibility of forests the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...**

- 11.8 Ensures the safety of visitors in forest of primary recreational function.
- 11.9 Makes efforts to provide the visitors in forests of primary recreational function with diverse forest landscape including open spaces and community areas, and informs them about the accessible areas.
- 11.10 Does not limit the access on foot, unless it is justified by forestry related safety concerns or other respectable reasons.

**For the good of nearby residents the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...**

- 11.11 Makes no unnecessary disturbances with forestry operations including the transportation of timber.
- 11.12 Carries out major forestry operations defined in the law in a spatial and timely manner that does not reduce the usual level and quality of ecosystem services to the public.
- 11.13 Exerts itself to maintain the landscapes around settlements.

## 12 Other wooded land

- 12.1 Other wooded land is completed by 1 hectare of buffer zones per each 100 hectares of other wooded land at minimum. Buffer zones shall be PEFC certified, but not necessarily under the management of the other wooded land's user.
- 12.2 Other wooded land established after 31 December 2010 is not a result of a forest conversion.
- 12.3 At the establishment of the other wooded land a management plan is elaborated, and it is updated after the rotation cycle or every 10 years, whichever is shorter. The management plan is signed by a forestry professional.

The content of the management plan:

A) General description:

- General long-term objectives of the establishment and maintenance of the other wooded-land
- Description of the bioregion and identification of areas of social and environmental importance.
- Evaluation of buffer-zones, how they can incorporate ecologically or socially important areas, and how they can fulfil their roles specified in the definition. Special attention shall be paid on the identification and protection of areas containing significant concentrations of:
  - Protected, rare, sensitive or representative forest ecosystems such as riparian areas and wetland biotopes;
  - Areas containing endemic species and habitats of threatened species, as defined in recognised reference lists;
  - Endangered or protected genetic in situ resources; and taking into account
  - Globally, regionally and nationally significant large landscape areas with natural distribution and abundance of naturally occurring species.
- Assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts based on expert opinion at the stage of the establishment, or based on the relevant records and the results of monitoring in the previous rotation cycle
  - Protection and enhancement of social and environmental values that fall within its boundaries
  - Protection of infrastructure

- Contribution to the protection from adverse impacts of wind and water
  - Natural and artificial damages to soil and water
  - Health and vitality of tree stand
  - Utilization of resources, the economic performance and employment, range of products and services
  - Negative impacts of introduced species, provenances or varieties on the ecosystem and on the genetic integrity of native species and local provenances
- 
- Description of the type of land use before the establishment, including the date of conversion to other wooded land. Justification of conformity with MER 1001 12.2
  - Description of infrastructure that falls within the boundaries of the other wooded land and maintained by the manager
  - Map indicating the other wooded land, buffer-zones, infrastructure, relevant areas and locations of social and environmental values.
  - Approval of the establishment by the relevant authority. The approval shall be based on an evaluation of the suitability of the applied tree species to site conditions, and the comparison with relevant land-use plans. In the absence of the approval of a legally authorized body conformity with legal regulations and relevant land-use plans shall be demonstrated.
  - Average annual allowable cut and its justification
- 
- B) Description of the OWL by land lots or sub-compartment level as appropriate
- Identification of the plot, description of the site, size, tree species, growth during the rotation period and cutting age
  - Site analysis and nutrient content analysis updated after every rotation cycle
  - Description of special functions such as nature conservation, recreation, protection of historical values or other social functions, if there are any
- 
- C) Planning of operations and special measures
- Schedule of operations: stumping, soil preparation, planting, weed control, tending, pruning, harvest etc.
  - Use of fertilizers and chemicals
  - Irrigation
  - Projection of services, timber and other products
  - Means to avoid or minimize negative social, environmental and economic impacts based on the assessments in part A) addressing especially, but not exclusively
  - Protection and enhancement of social and environmental values in the area
    - Protection of infrastructure
    - Contribution to the protection from adverse impacts of wind and water
    - Avoidance of natural and artificial damages to soil, water and trees
    - Maintenance of health and vitality of tree stand
    - Avoidance of degradation of forest ecosystems
    - Avoidance of negative impacts of introduced species, provenances or varieties

12.4 Manager of the other wooded land maintains monitoring and keeps records covering the following subject areas (in addition to what is required in other parts of the standard):

Operations: stumping, soil preparation, planting, weed control, tending, pruning, harvest etc.

- 12.5 Summary of the management plan shall be publicly available, which contains information about the management measures to be applied. It may exclude confidential business and personal information and other information made confidential by national legislation or for the protection of cultural sites or sensitive natural resource features.
- 12.6 Applied management practices correspond to the planned operations, and their execution is in accordance with the special measures specified in the management plan. Tree stands, soil and waters are not damaged, canopy cover and growing stock does not fall below a critical level that would significantly limit the achievement of the management goals.

## 13 Rules and recommendations of application

13.1 The following guidance regarding the sources of evidences and the means of assessment of the requirements set in Chapter 1 to 11 shall be considered.

- a) Documents: record-keeping that provides evidences of compliance.
- b) Field inspection: inspection of forest stands and forestry operations in the field to verify the adequacy documentation and to assess conformity.
- c) Report of the applicant: document elaborated by the applicant containing evidences of compliance, where evidences are available and are applicable for the group organization as a whole.
- d) Other: Interviews with the applicant and optionally external actors regarding forestry practice.

13.2 For other wooded land requirements in chapter 1-11 apply where 'Yes' is indicated, in chapter 12 all apply.

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
<b>1. Group entity</b>					
<b>In case of group forest certification the group entity...</b>					
1.1. Provides information on changes of the relevant legal regulations on an annual basis.			x		Yes
1.2. Inform the general public about the current activities of the group organization, and engages in dialogue with the people and civil organizations.			x		Yes
1.3. Contributes to the training of its participants and their employees, possibly of their contractors, and provides them with information on training opportunities, and encourage them to participate in forest management related trainings and current events.			x		Yes
1.4. Participates in research, or contributes to the dissemination of research findings.			x		Yes
1.5. Informs the forest managers on the available forestry related subsidies (if there are any).			x		Yes
<b>2. Forest management planning</b>					
<b>In the preparation to forest management planning...</b>					
2.1. Inventory and mapping of forest resources are established and updated in every 10 years based on field inspections. Inventory describes at least: area, site conditions, tree species composition, age, growing sock and growth rate.			x		No
2.2.					
2.3. Degree of protection and the inclusion into the NATURA 2000 network of forests is registered.			x		No
2.4. Primary function of forests are registered and mapped, especially in forests with special functions.			x		No

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
<b>In the course of forest management planning...</b>					
2.5. The organization responsible for the monitoring of NATURA 2000 network is taking part.			x		No
2.6. The public is given the opportunity to be informed and to express opinion.			x		No
2.7. Forest managers' interest to achieve sound economic performance, to utilize new market and employment opportunities, or to apply non-traditional forest management methods can be considered.			x		No
2.8. Results of the evaluation of the previous forest management planning period is fed into the planning process.			x		No
<b>The objectives and specific means of forest management plans serve...</b>					
2.9. The protection of the species and genetic diversity of ecosystems, as well as the protection of landscape.			x		No
2.10. The improvement of the degree of naturalness, resilience and state of health.			x		No
2.11. The maintenance of forest area, and the variegation of products and services.			x		No
<b>As part of the detailed elaboration of forest management plans...</b>					
2.12. Primary function of forests, such as protection (especially primary soil and water protection, as well as sensitive and representative forest ecosystems and areas containing endemic species in significant concentrations) and recreational functions are considered.			x		No
2.13. Policies regarding other form of land use, water regulation, regional development and nature conservation are considered.			x		No
2.14. Areas under nature protection, NATURA 200 sites, 'ex lege' values and other values of public interest in the precincts of forests are taken into account.			x		No
2.15. Forest damages on local, regional and national level, as well as risk factors are considered.			x		No
2.16. Allowable cut is quantified with appropriate methods.			x		No
<b>The forest management plans...</b>					
2.17. Bear the approval of the relevant authority.			x		No
2.18. Are openly accessible to the public to the extent of information relevant to public interest, with due considerations to confidential information.			x		No
<b>3. The forest management organization and the governance of forest management</b>					
<b>To ensure sound forestry operations the manager of forest</b>					
3.1.					
3.2.					
3.3. Has legal authorization to use the land, which is (where applicable) based on a written agreement with the landowners.	x				Yes

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
3.4. Is co-operating with / employing forestry professional(s), which includes directing and the supervision of forestry operations.	x				Yes
3.5. Itself, or in co-operation with the forestry professional(s) keeps forest under regular inspection, and makes actions, when needed.				x	Yes
<b>The manager of forest, with due considerations to its size...</b>					
3.6. Provides the professionals in charge of forestry operations with the forest management plan, and these plans are used in practice.	x				No
3.7. Itself, or by a forestry professional on its behalf, takes part in the forest management planning process.	x				No
3.8. In case of individual forest certification, complies with requirements 1.2, 1.3, 1.4.	x				Yes
<b>To ensure responsible operation of the organization the manager of forest...</b>					
3.9. Makes actions to correct unsound practice in case of penalty or warning in relation to forestry, nature conservation (including protected and endangered species), environmental protection, health, labour and safety issues, consumer protection, taxes and royalties.	x				Yes
3.10. Bears the list of employees.	x				Yes
3.11.	x				
3.12. Hires employees with appropriate education, who regularly pass health examination, and take part in safety training, where they are informed about health and safety risks, preventive measures and safe working practices.	x				Yes
3.13. 3.13 Provides for its employees safe working conditions, where health and safety risks can be identified, and all reasonable measures can be applied.	x				Yes
3.14. Complies with ILO 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138 and 182 conventions.			x		Yes
3.15. Applies within its management system a clear assignation of responsibilities of forestry professionals employed – with due considerations to its size.	x				Yes
3.16. Ensures that those carrying out forestry operations in its forest on its assignment / on its behalf / by its authority (including the contractors) is competent and complies with this standard (personal supervision, supervision of forestry professional, written instruction, contract, timber harvest plan, timber removal documentation etc.)	x				Yes
3.17. Administers its contracts with contractors, consumers and suppliers.	x				Yes
3.18.					
<b>4. Forestation and the maintenance of forest area</b>					
<b>The manager of forest...</b>					
4.1. Keeps records on the planned forestations.	x				Yes

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
4.2. Ensures the regeneration of forests, and considers afforestation on lands suitable for tree growing.	x				Yes
4.3. Keeps records on the initial plantings.	x				Yes
4.4. Makes conversion of forest to other wooded land or to other land-use forms only if is approved by the legally authorised body, it entails a small proportion of forest type, and it does not violate outstanding interests of nature conservation, cultural heritage and recreational functions.	x				No
<b>Forestation...</b>					
4.5. Primarily aims at establishing mixed forests.	x				No
4.6. Contains tree species that can potentially develop a forest of good health and vitality (e.g. relevant guidance are met).			x		Yes
4.7. Is carried out using propagation material with certificate of origin.	x				Yes
4.8. With introduced species does not pose threats to the degree of naturalness, or to the site conditions of other forests and non-forest vegetation of high biological value within its immediate environment, and does not infringe the interest of the community.		x			Yes
4.9. Does not contain genetically modified organizations (GMOs).			x		Yes
<b>Forest regeneration...</b>					
4.10. Takes place as a natural regeneration, wherever it is possible.	x				No
4.11. Does not involve coppicing without good reasons.	x				No
<b>Afforestation...</b>					
4.12. Is carried out according to an afforestation plan with site survey.			x		Yes
4.13. Planning and approval process includes the evaluation of site conditions, and the ecological networks are considered.			x		No
<b>Operations of forestation...</b>					
4.14. Do not result in the salinization of the soil, if irrigation is applied.	x				Yes
4.15. Do not affect neighbouring fields; those involving stumping, land preparation and soil cultivation do not reduce productivity of the site permanently, unless there are no other ways of forest regeneration with rational costs.		x			Yes
4.16. Utilize the natural regeneration processes as far as possible, and contribute to the conservation of the degree of naturalness of forests.		x			No
<b>5. Silviculture</b>					
<b>The manager of forest...</b>					
5.1. Keeps records on the long-term forestry objectives, the cutting age and the allowable cut.	x				No
5.2. Does not cause degradation of the naturalness of forest by unsound operations.			x		Yes

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
<b>Considering the degree of naturalness of forests, the silvicultural operations....</b>					
5.3. Correspond to the silvicultural system and silvicultural prescriptions specified in the forest management plan.	x				No
5.4. Do not reduce canopy closure beneath 50% in general, and 30% in protective forests.		x			No
5.5. Maintain the forest stand suitable for the site, or the potential of development of such stand.		x			Yes
5.6. Maintain and where appropriate promote the natural composition of the forest, with special care on rare species.		x			No
5.7. Maintain and where appropriate promote natural vertical structure without acceptable reasons.		x			No
5.8. Maintain forest edges.		x			No
5.9. Protect understory plants insofar as possible.		x			No
5.10. Leave dead trees that are there at least for 5 years in the forest, unless regeneration, health issues or public access requires otherwise.		x			No
5.11. Prevent the expansion of invasive tree species, and the control those already present to a reasonable extent.		x			Yes
<b>Final harvest...</b>					
5.12. Does not precede the final cutting age specified in the forest management plan without good cause.	x				No
5.13. Is carried out at an age of the forest stand when timber can be sold, and financial loss for overmature timber does not occur, unless justified by nature conservation purposes or other reasons.	x				Yes
5.14. Does not exceed area limits in the law.	x				No
5.15. Preserves remnant trees in the form of tree groups or fractions of forest, to the extent of no less than 5 m <sup>3</sup> /ha and 3 tree/ha of native species suitable for the prospective forest, which are not meant to be harvested later – except in clear cuts in forests classified according to their degree of naturalness as ‘semi-plantation forests’ and ‘plantation forests’.		x			No
<b>6. Timber harvest and felling operations</b>					
<b>Timber removal...</b>					
6.1. In case of a multilevel organization, is carried out according to timber harvest plans.	x				Yes
6.2. Is carried out at suitable state of the soil, and permanent degradation of soil cannot be observed.		x			Yes
6.3. On slopes steeper than 10° logging tracks are designated with special care to the risk of erosion.		x			Yes
6.4. When it implies forest regeneration and in cases when terrain and other conditions relevant to possible erosion justify, saves a protective belt of forests within the close surroundings of streams, creeks, wells and open water surfaces of no less than 20m in width measured from the edge of the water. These protective belts are maintained at least for the period of forest regeneration.		x			Yes
6.5. Damages in the crown and on the bark of the trunk occurs on less than 10% of the stems.		x			Yes

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
6.6. Is aiming at the optimal use of forest products, but it does not entails the removal of twigs and branches, unless justified by economic, or forest health purposes, and with due considerations of the degree of naturalness of forests, as well as the occurrence of fertilization.		x			Yes
<b>Logging network maintained by the manager of forest...</b>					
6.7. And constructed after 2000 with hard surface, was constructed according to a plan that duly incorporates considerations of the effects on environment.	x				Yes
6.8. When being developed, forest related nature conservation regulations, nature conservation management plans, NATURA 2000 management plans, inventories and databases of natural values, and the migration routes of animals with nature conservation importance are dully considered.	x				Yes
6.9. Is suitable for efficient 'low impact' forwarding and transport of timber.		x			Yes
6.10. Is constructed in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses, and facilitated with properly maintained road drainage.		x			Yes
<b>7. Non-wood forest products</b>					
<b>The manager of forest...</b>					
7.1. Exploits no protected plant and animal species for trade or consumption.			x		Yes
7.2. Allows no grazing of animals for hobby or breeding, and does not collect the leaf-litter in connection to animal husbandry.			x		Yes
<b>In case of commercial utilization of non-wood forest products...</b>					
7.3. The populations of the non-wood forest products utilized are regularly monitored.	x				Yes
7.4. Management plan with the objective of sustainable utilization is needed, if the population is declining, including the evaluation of the effects on nutrient off-take.	x				Yes
<b>8. Forest protection, protective functions of forest and protected forests</b>					
8.1. Health and vitality of forests is periodically monitored, especially key biotic and abiotic factors that potentially affect health and vitality of forest ecosystems, such as pests, diseases, overgrazing and overstocking, fire, and damage caused by climatic factors, air pollutants or by forest management operations. Both permanent and temporal effects shall be monitored.			x		Yes
<b>For forest protection, the manager of forest...</b>					
8.2. Keeps records on the primary function of forest, the degree of nature protection, the NATURA 2000 designation, and on forests of outstanding soil protection, water protection and fire hazard importance.	x				Yes
8.3.					

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
8.4. Possesses records on the populations of strictly protected organisms, and uses nature protection management plans that specify measures to protect and – where relevant – to increase their population, if they are available.	x				Yes
8.5. Prevents the accumulation of food-basis of bark beetle in forests sensitive to its damage.		x			Yes
8.6. Prevents the accumulation of fuel in forest of high fire hazard, and maintains fire gaps.		x			Yes
8.7. Applies technologies with lighting of fire only for outstanding interests, with proper attention to the protection of edaphon, and with due considerations to safety.		x			Yes
8.8. Ensures that non-organic waste and litter is avoided, and waste is collected, stored in designated areas and removed in an environmentally-responsible manner.				x	Yes
8.9. Ensures the avoidance of fuel and lubricant contamination, and make actions to proper disposal if there are any.				x	Yes
8.10. Makes use of any forest policy measures available, in cases of forest damages beyond its ability to handle.	x				Yes
<b>For the protection of waters...</b>					
8.11. The manager of forest preserves the natural character of water flows, ponds and waterlogged areas.		x			Yes
8.12. Illuviation causing significant deterioration of water quality is not induced by forestry operations in the waters within and in the surroundings of forests.		x			Yes
8.13. The considerations of water protection during forest operations are put in force in case of forests with primary water protection function, or in forest with natural waters in it, hence the timer harvest plan, or the instructions for the contractors contain the considerations of water protection and the relevant provisions.	x				Yes
<b>For the protection of susceptible soils...</b>					
8.14. The considerations of soil protection during forest operations are put in force in case of forests with primary soil protection function, or in forest with soils susceptible for erosion, or deflation, or wash-out by flooding, hence the timer harvest plan, or the instructions for the contractors contain the considerations of soil protection and the relevant provisions.	x				Yes
8.15. The manager of forest makes necessary preventive actions to avoid erosion and deflation in its forests.		x			Yes
8.16. Clearcutting in natural, semi-natural and secondary forests of primary soil protection function is not applied, unless it is absolutely necessary for the regeneration of the forest.	x				No
<b>9. Plant protection and fertilization</b>					
<b>The manager of forest within its forest area...</b>					
9.1. Favours preventive silvicultural and biological measures.				x	Yes
9.2.					
9.3. Keep records on the usage of pesticides and fertilizers.	x				Yes

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
9.4. Uses pesticides with proper equipment and training, and according to the instructions given by the producer, with due considerations for the environment.	x				Yes
9.5. Uses WHO Type 1A and 1B pesticides only if there are no other alternative is available.			x		Yes
9.6. Uses no pesticides banned by international agreements or containing chlorinated hydrocarbons.			x		Yes
9.7. Uses fertilizers according to nutrient recycling plan with due considerations for the environment.	x				Yes
<b>10. Wild game management</b>					
10.1. The manager of forest within its forest area establishes indoor hunting facilities according to development plan that incorporates environmental considerations.	x				Yes
<b>If and where the manager of forest practices the hunting rights on its forests...</b>					
10.2. It bears wild game management plan.	x				Yes
10.3. The wild game management plan is based on the regular estimation of the game population, it contains prescriptions for game harvest, approved by the relevant authority and is subject to follow-up evaluation.			x		Yes
10.4. It makes actions to prevent the overpopulation of game and to minimize game damage in forests.				x	Yes
<b>11. Social responsibility and public relations</b>					
<b>For responsible public relations the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...</b>					
11.1. Contributes to the education of children and youngsters regarding the issues of forests and sustainable forest management.				x	Yes
11.2. Maintains contact with local communities and civil organizations within its vicinity, and supports local initiatives in the field of sustainable and multifunctional forest management.				x	Yes
11.3. Administers complaints about forest management, provides the complainant with relevant information, and makes actions as appropriate.	x				Yes
<b>For the protection of local values the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...</b>					
11.4. Exerts itself to recognize local knowledge, experiences and traditional management forms, to protect them, to keep their memory, or possibly use them.				x	Yes
11.5. Possesses records on the places of cultural significance such as memorial places and trees, locations of traditional ceremonies, built heritage and archaeological sites, or is aware of them.	x				Yes
11.6. Keeps records on facilities with tourism, education and recreation purposes established and maintained (within and nearby its forests) by other organizations, makes contact with them and agrees on the relevant rights and liabilities.	x				Yes
11.7. Does not limit the access to places of cultural significance without respectable reasons.				x	Yes

List of requirements	Sources				OWL
	A	B	C	D	
<b>For the accessibility of forests the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...</b>					
11.8. Ensures the safety of visitors in forest of primary recreational function.				x	Yes
11.9. Makes efforts to provide the visitors in forests of primary recreational function with diverse forest landscape including open spaces and community areas, and informs them about the accessible areas.		x			Yes
11.10. Does not limit the access on foot, unless it is justified by forestry related safety concerns or other respectable reasons.			x		Yes
<b>For the good of nearby residents the manager of forest with due regards to its size and degree of naturalness of its forest...</b>					
11.11. Makes no unnecessary disturbances with forestry operations including the transportation of timber.	x				Yes
11.12. Carries out major forestry operations defined in the law in a spatial and timely manner that does not reduce the usual level and quality of ecosystem services to the public.	x				Yes
11.13. Exerts itself to maintain the landscapes around settlements.	x				Yes