



Final Report for the assessment of the revised Finnish PEFC System
against the PEFC Council Requirements

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- Dr. Michael Berger (PEFC International)
- Mr. Johan Vlieger (PEFC International)
- Mr. Auvo Kaivola (PEFC Finland)
- All respondents to the Stakeholder Survey
- The members of the Panel of Experts

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CB	Certification Body
Ch	Chapter
CoC	Chain of Custody
Cr	Criterion
ENGO	Environmental Non-Governmental Organisation
EUTR	European Union Timber Regulation
FFCS	Finnish Forest Certification System
FM	Forest Management
FMU	Forest Management Unit
Foc	Forest owner certification
FUEP	Finnish Union of Environmental Professionals
Gc	Group certification
GD	Guidelines (related to documents of PEFC)
ha.	Hectares
IAF	International Accreditation Forum
IGD	Informative Guide Document
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PEFC	Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
PEFCC	PEFC Council (also referred to as the PEFC Secretariat)
PEFC Board	PEFC Council Board of Directors
PEFC FI	Finnish PEFC System
PEFC Finland	Finnish PEFC organisation
PoE	Panel of Experts
Rc	Regional certification
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SSWG	Standard Setting Working Group
ST	Standard (related to documents of PEFCC and PEFC Finland)
WGDFC	Working Group on the Development of Forest Certification in Finland

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Finnish PEFC System

The development of Finnish Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) certification criteria started in 1995. The criteria were adopted by a broad-based stakeholder group in 1999. As a result 90 - 95 per cent of all production forests were certified. This development was a leap forward for group certification worldwide. The Finnish system enabled over 350.000 forest holdings to become certified, nearly all of which were private forest holdings. The average size of the holdings is around 30 hectares.

In 2000, the 'Finnish Forest Certification System' (FFCS) was endorsed for membership of PEFC. Since 2000, the system has been managed by the 'Finnish Forest Certification Council' (FFCC). The council was renamed to 'PEFC Finland' in 2008.

FFCS was revised in 2002–2003, as well as in 2008–2009. In 2011, the certification system was launched as the 'Finnish PEFC System' (PEFC FI). The current endorsement is valid until July 28th, 2015. PEFC FI is governed by 'Suomen Metsäsertifiointi ry'.

In 2013/2014 the PEFC FI criteria were updated in an open process by a 'Standard Setting Working Group' (SSWG) for forest certification in Finland. The SSWG includes organisations such as the Bioenergy Association of Finland, the Sami Parliament, the Metsä Group, and the Finnish Union of Environmental Professionals. PEFC Finland updated the documents on vocabulary, implementation and requirements for certification.

During the revision, the number of standards of PEFC FI was decreased from seven to five. The standards for group certification (PEFC FI 1002:2009) and certification of individual forest owners (PEFC FI 1003:2009) were combined into one standard (PEFC FI 1002:2014). The requirements related to regional councils of forest certification (PEFC FI 1004:2009) were included into the standard on implementation of forest certification (PEFC FI 1001:2014).

The SSWG unanimously approved the final draft of the PEFC FI 1002:2014 standard. The SSWG concluded that the revision process of Criteria for Forest Certification complied with the requirements of the standard PEFC FI 1006:2008 and all members signed the approval document of the final draft standard. During the revision process, stakeholder groups did not submit to PEFC Finland any comments related to the standard setting process.

In practice, Finnish forestry is among the most sustainable, productive, responsible and best studied in the world. In general the forest management is a result of cooperation between stakeholders and part of the culture and life of Finnish people. Many aspects of Finnish forestry are well regulated by national law and various regulations.

In 2014, approximately 95 per cent of all production forests are PEFC certified in Finland (20.619.716 ha. as of December 31th, 2014). Most forest certificates in force are regional group certificates. Regional group certificates include private forests, as well as forests owned by municipalities, parishes, organisations, companies, and the state.

1.2 Scope of the assessment

This report forms an independent and objective basis for the decision making process of the PEFC Council (PEFCC). It provides a recommendation to the PEFC Council Board of Directors (PEFCC Board) on the re-endorsement of the revised PEFC FI. The scope of this assessment is to compare the revised Finnish PEFC System against the 'PEFC Council standard requirements'.

The revised Finnish PEFC system consists of five updated standards. The following standards are part of the present assessment:

- PEFC FI 1000:2014 - PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary;
- PEFC FI 1001:2014 - Implementation of the PEFC Forest Certification System;
- PEFC FI 1002:2014 - Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification;
- PEFC FI 1005:2014 - PEFC's Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures;
- PEFC FI 1006:2014 - Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification.

The 'PEFCC Standards and Guidelines' used in the conformity assessment are listed in chapter 1.6 of this report. An overview of PEFC FI is provided in chapter 1.7. Besides the conformity assessment of PEFC FI, other aspects that might affect its functionality, credibility and efficiency were assessed as well.

This conformity assessment report has been structured according to PEFC IGD 1007-03:2012 (version of 22.09.2014) and PEFC Secretariat's clarification concerning the content of the assessment report (clarification 30.10.2012).

PEFC Finland fully adopted the international standards of the PEFCC on 'Requirements for CoC - Certification Bodies' and 'Logo Usage' therefore, these components were not assessed in this report.

1.3 The assessment procedure

The conformity assessment was conducted in accordance with the procedures prescribed by PEFCC.

1.3.1 *Preliminary desk study*

The first stage of the assessment consisted of a preliminary desk study, in which an initial conformity assessment of PEFC FI was conducted, and general information was gathered on PEFC certification in Finland. The initial assessment enabled the identification of missing information, as well as the similarities and differences between the revised Finnish PEFC System and the 'PEFC Council standard requirements'.

General analysis of the structure of PEFC FI

A first review of the PEFC FI documentation was conducted to investigate if additional documentation was required, such as relevant forestry legislation, national policies, etc. Also an analysis on the general structure of PEFC FI was carried out on the following aspects:

- The components of the system (requirements, principles, criteria, indicators, standards of performance, guidelines, etc.);
- The way the system was developed (standard setting procedures & processes, history);
- Objectives of the system and the procedures concerning monitoring, controlling, etc.

This analysis gave insight into the functionality of the system and provided vital background information to enable a good comparison with the PEFCC international requirements.

Analysis of the contents PEFC FI

Based on the PEFC Technical Documents a comparison was conducted between the PEFC Standards and Guidelines (an overview of these documents is provided in chapter 1.6 of this report) and the PEFC FI (an overview of these documents is provided in chapter 1.7).

1.3.2 Public consultation period

From the start of the assessment period, the public was invited by PEFC International to provide comments on the PEFC FI documentation. The public consultation period started December 1st, 2014, and was completed February 2nd, 2015. No comments were received during this sixty-day public consultation period.

1.3.3 Stakeholder Survey

The stakeholder survey queries the stakeholders participating in PEFC FI and checks on the basic content of the development report on the standard setting process as described in PEFC 1001:2010, Standard Setting – Requirements. The names, contact information and email addresses of the stakeholders were provided by PEFC Finland April 1st, 2015. The stakeholder survey was conducted by the assessors between April 3rd and April, 10th, 2015. All eighty-three stakeholders received an e-mail requesting them to participate in the survey, with a reminder being sent April 8th, 2015, and a final reminder April 10th, 2015. The stakeholder survey received replies from 24 respondents.

1.3.4 Preparation of a Draft Report

On basis of the results of the first evaluation, the public comments (public consultation) and the stakeholder survey, a Draft Report was developed. The Draft Report is structured according to the PEFC Guideline 'Endorsement and Mutual Recognition of National Systems and their Revision' (PEFC GD 1007:2012).

The Draft Report was presented to both PEFC Finland and the PEFC for comments and enabled both PEFC Finland and the assessors to form a clear understanding of the key issues raised during the first evaluation of the conformity assessment. PEFC Finland was provided the opportunity to clarify or solve any possible non-conformities that were identified by the assessors.

1.3.5 Preparation of a Final Draft Report

May 4th, 2015, a conference call was held between the consultants (Mrs. Bea Groenen, Mr. Edmond Muller and Mr. Rens Hartkamp) and PEFC Finland (Mr. Auvo Kaivola and members of the SSWG), the conference call was facilitated by PEFC (Mr. Johan Vlieger). The most important findings in the Draft Report and the most significant non-conformity issues were discussed. A new planning on iterations on exchanging information was proposed and agreed upon.

The assessors received additional documentation including a written response from PEFC Finland on all the non-conformities that were identified during the evaluation (draft) stage May 18th, 2015.

At the PEFC FI board meeting of May 19th, 2015, the following documents were updated: "PEFC FI 1001:2014" and "Terms of the PEFC Logo license contract".

A second conference call was held May 27th, 2015, to further discuss the non-conformities of the SFM standard. The context of and its embedding in national (forest) legislation needed to be further clarified.

June 5th, 2015, additional information was received regarding the regional forest planning, forest owner-specific forest use planning and law enforcement of the Forest Act (1093/1996) in Finland

May 21th, 2015, the assessors received remarks from PEFC on the Draft report.

Also during this period e-mails were sent to, and contact by phone was arranged by the assessors with PEFC Finland.

All information received from these processes was used in the Final Draft Report.

1.3.6 Preparation of the Final Report

The conformity assessment was finalized on the basis of the feedback obtained from the PEFC Council's Panel of Experts (PoE) review on the Final Draft Report. Based on this feedback a Final Report was elaborated (as presented here). This Final Report was submitted to the PEFC Council in both .pdf and .doc format. The Final Report also includes a summary, clearly stating the assessors' findings and recommendations regarding the conformity of PEFC FI to the PEFC requirements.

1.4 The methodology applied for this assessment

The applied methodology of assessment was a desk study. No field visits were carried out prior to or after the assessment within the framework of this assessment.

1.4.1 First screening of tender documentation

The assessors carried out a first screening of PEFC FI based on the PEFC system documentation, and documents provided by PEFC Finland. Based on this screening, an assessment methodology was proposed to PEFC (as presented in chapter 1.3 of this report). For the elaboration of the proposal, additional information was taken into account, inter alia from the PEFC tender documents and the PEFC website.

1.4.2 Assessment of PEFC FI

The procedures for the endorsement of PEFC certification systems are based on 'Endorsement and Mutual Recognition of National Systems and their Revision' (PEFC GD 1007:2012). Report versions that are submitted are written in English and submitted in electronic format (Word and PDF) to the PEFC Council, as well as to PEFC Finland. All reports have been structured according to PEFC IGD 1007-03:2012 and the PEFC Secretariat's clarification concerning the content of the assessment report (clarification 30.10.2012).

The Final Draft Report was planned to be submitted within a target of 10 weeks after the conformity assessment's starting date March 16th, 2015. The planning was altered and PEFC FI, PEFC and the Assessors agreed on a new date on the delivery of the Final report: June 26th 2015.

All reporting material and other associated documents resulting from the assessment will become property of the PEFC Council.

1.5 Timetable of the assessment

The table below indicates the agreed timeline for the conformity assessment work. The timeline was approved by the PEFC Council and PEFC Finland March 16th, 2015. The final report will be presented to the PEFC Council June 26th, 2015.

Stage	Description	Output	Time Period
Start of the Assessment	The PEFC Council announced the start of the assessment process. ForestSense, the PEFC Council and PEFC Finland agreed on dates and deadlines, related to the assessment.	E-mail, including a planning document	March 16 th , 2015
Stage 1 Assessment	ForestSense assesses the documentation referred to in the tender dossier and additional documentation submitted before the start of the assessment. ForestSense asks PEFC Finland for additional documentation and evidence. The Stage 1 Assessment also included the distribution of the Stakeholders Survey and its analysis. ForestSense delivers a revised version of the Draft Report to the PEFC Council the April, 14 th , 2015. ForestSense delivers the Draft Report to the PEFC Council and PEFC Finland the 22 th of April.	Draft Report	March 16 th – May 22 th , 2015
Comment period	In reaction on the Draft Report, PEFC Finland has the possibility to submit responses, clarifications, comments, and changes to the scheme documentation. The PEFC Council can ask for clarifications. A conference call facilitated by PEFC was held on May 4 th between ForestSense and PEFC Finland. A revised planning document was proposed.	The input of PEFC Finland and the PEFC Council to the Draft Report.	April 22 th – May 18 th , 2015
Stage 2 Assessment	ForestSense considers the responses, additional evidence and revised scheme documentation submitted by PEFC Finland. The assessment takes into account questions received from the PEFC Council as well. ForestSense delivers the Final Draft Report to the PEFC Council on the May, 13 th 2015.	Final Draft Report	May 19 th – June 8 th , 2015
Panel of Experts (PoE) Review	The PEFC Council appoints a PoE. The PoE will conduct a review on the Final Draft Report. ForestSense expects to receive the PoE Review June 19 th , 2015.	PoE Review	June 8 th – June 19 th , 2015
Stage 3 Assessment	ForestSense responds to the PoE's comments and amends the Final Draft Report. ForestSense includes the input of the PoE, and its response to the panel's contributions in the Final Report, as an Appendix. ForestSense delivers the Final Report to the PEFC Council June 26 th , 2015.	Final Report	June 19 th – June 26 th , 2015

1.6 PEFC Council standards & reference documentations

The PEFC standard, guide and reference documentation used in this assessment were:

PEFCC Standards	PEFCC international standards – Titles
PEFC ST 1001:2010	Standard Setting – Requirements
PEFC ST 1002:2010	Group Forest Management Certification – Requirements
PEFC ST 1003:2010	Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements
PEFC ST 2001:2008	PEFC Logo Usage Rules – Requirements
PEFC ST 2002:2013	Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements.
PEFC ST 2003:2012	Chain of Custody Certification Body Requirements
PEFCC Guides	PEFCC Guides – Titles
PEFC GD 1001:2008	Structure of PEFC Technical Documents
PEFC GD 1004:2009	Administration of PEFC scheme
PEFC GD 1007:2012	Endorsement and Mutual Recognition of National Systems and their Revision
Other PEFC documents	
PEFC Terms and Definitions, Annex 1	
PEFC Council Technical Document, Annex 6	
Structure of assessment report according to PEFC IGD 1007-03:2012	
Clarification content assessment report according to PEFC Secretariat's clarification (30.10.2012)	
4 Standards interpretations and clarification approved by the PEFC Board of Directors https://podio.com/pefc-international/pefc-standards-interpretations-and-clarifications/apps/standards-interpretations-and-clarification#30	
Handouts of the PEFC Assessors' Training 2012	
Presentations of the PEFC Assessors' Training 2015	

1.7 PEFC Finland's documents & sources

All documents provided by the PEFC Finland and used during this conformity are listed below.

The Finnish PEFC system (PEFC FI) includes five updated standards:

PEFC FI Standards	PEFC FI Standards – Titles
PEFC FI 1000:2014	PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary (doc #3)
PEFC FI 1001:2014	Implementation of the PEFC Forest Certification System (doc #4) (issued date: 19.05.2015)
PEFC FI 1002:2014	Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification (doc #5)
PEFC FI 1005:2014	PEFC FI 1005:2014; PEFC's Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures (doc #6)
PEFC FI 1006:2014	Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification (doc #7)

Other documents provided by PEFC Finland in the Tender dossier

Application Letter for the PEFC re-endorsement (doc #0)
PEFC FI materials for PEFC-assessment process (doc #1)
Introduction to PEFC standards Revision in 2013-14 (doc #2)
Development of PEFC FI Criteria (doc #8)
PEFC Notification (doc #9)
PEFC Chain of Custody certification (doc #10)
PEFC Logo licensing (doc #11)
Action Plan of the Standard Setting Working Group 2013-14 (doc #12)
PEFC Council Minimum Requirements Checklist (doc #13)

Other relevant documents considering logo usage

Presentation on Logo usage	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/LOGO_USAGE_TOOLKIT_V3.0%202011.pdf
Instructions for the use of the PEFC logo (Finnish) (29.12.2014)	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/Ohjeet_PEFC-merkin_kaytolle.pdf
Application form for logo usage (Finnish)	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC-merkin%20kaeyttoeioikeuden%20hakemuslomake%20(2011).pdf
Application form for logo usage (user Group C) (Finnish)	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC-merkin%20kaeytoen%20seurantalomake%20-%20Kaeyttaejaeryhmae%20C%20-%20Puun%20alkuperaen%20hallintajaerjestelmaesertifikaatin%20Ohaltija%20(2011).pdf
Terms of the PEFC logo license contract (Finnish)	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_2014_standardit/PEFC-merkin_kaeyttoeioikeuden_sopimusedot_20150519.pdf
The translations of PEFC claims in Finnish in connection with PEFC ST 2001:2008 v2 standard	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/PEFC-vaittammat%20Suomeksi%2014032011.pdf

Other relevant documents considering the Notification bodies	
The application on the PEFC notification of a certification body	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC_Finland_notification_Application_20141027.pdf
Standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Saaennoet/PEFC_Finland_Notification_Agreement_20141027.pdf
CoC certificate Fees	FSDoc#61 PEFC Finland Chain of Custody certificate fees 2015 20141202.pdf
SFM certificate Fees	FSDoc#62 PEFC-metsääsertifikaatteja koskevat maksut 2015 20141202
Documentation relating the public consultation periods	
A compilation of the comments of the first consultation period: December 2013	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Ensimmäisen_komentointijakson_satoa_20140204_-_julkinen_yhteenveto.pdf
A compilation of the comments for publication on website (Dec. 2013)	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/Kriteerien_kaesittely_20140214.pdf
A compilation of the comments of the second consultation period: April 2014	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Toisen_komentointijakson_satoa_20140507_-_julkinen_yhteenveto.pdf (doc #12)
Letter to the respondents of the second consultation period	FSDoc#13 Vastauskirje saatuihin kommentteihin 2014-03-04.pdf
Documentation relating to the SSWG	
Landing page of the SSWG with links to all documents related to the standard setting process	http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/pefc-fi--kriteerien-uudistustyo.php
Invitation letter	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-14/Invitation_Letter_PEFC_Standardsetting_Working_Group_13_022013.pdf
SSWG 12.6.2014 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140612_-_standardiluonnoksen_hyvaeksymiskokous.pdf
SSWG 15.5.2014 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140515.pdf
SSWG 14.3.2014 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140314.pdf
SSWG 14.2.2014 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140214.pdf
SSWG 29.11.2013 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131129.pdf
SSWG 5.11.2013 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131105.pdf
SSWG 18.10.2013 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131018.pdf
SSWG 6.9.2013 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130906.pdf
SSWG 14.6.2013 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130614.pdf
SSWG 8.5.2013 minutes	http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_perustava_kokous_-_

	Poeytaekirja_20130508.pdf
SSWG Working Committee 05.06.2014 minutes	FSDoc#17 PEFC-työvaliokunnan kokous - Pöytäkirja 20140605
SSWG Working Committee 29.04.2014 minutes	FSDoc#15 PEFC-työvaliokunnan kokous - Pöytäkirja 20140429
SSWG Working Committee 26.03.2014 minutes	FSDoc#16 PEFC-työvaliokunnan kokous - Pöytäkirja 20140326
Representatives of all organisations that participated the SSWG's work signed a document of approval	FSDoc#18 PEFC standardin hyväksymisasiakirja 20140612.pdf
Documentation relating to PEFC Finland's Board	
by-laws: http://www.pefc.fi/media/Saeannoet/PEFC_Finland_bylaws_20140403.pdf	
Board 27.10.2014 minutes (approval standards)	FSDoc#11 Tarkastettu pöytäkirja PEFC Suomen hallitus 20141027.pdf
Board 08.02.2014 minutes (stakeholdermapping)	FSDoc#14 Tarkastettu pöytäkirja Suomen Metsäsertifiointi ry:n hallitus 08022013.pdf

Other relevant information

FSDoc#31 Forest Use Declaration.pdf (Finnish Forest Centre)

PEFC Finland press-releases and communication

13 Newsletters sent in the different stages of the process

Documentation relating to the Draft Report

PEFC Finland's responses of 19.05.2015 to the Draft Report prepared by ForestSense

Email of 21.05.2015 from PEFC: Feedback draft report Finland

Additional information of PEFC forest management in Finland (04.06.2015)

Furthermore the websites from PEFC (www.pefc.org) and PEFC Finland (www.pefc.fi) were used as sources of information and for documents/processes relevant for the assessment.

1.8 The assessment team

The following researchers of ForestSense carried out the desk study and are responsible for this report:

- Mr. Edmond Muller, MSc (Lead Assessor);
- Mrs. Bea Groenen, BSc and MBA (Assessor procedural requirements and forest management requirements);
- Mr. Rens Hartkamp, PhD (Assessor forest management requirements).

The assessors have cooperated closely on all aspects of the conformity assessment. In this report they are referred to as 'the assessors'.

2. RECOMMENDATION

On basis of the results from this conformity assessment, the assessors conclude that the revised Finnish PEFC System conforms to the PEFC Council requirements with the exception of six (6) minor non-conformities.

The assessors recommend to the PEFC Board that it supports the re-endorsement of the revised Finnish PEFC System on the condition that the following six (6) non-conformities are resolved by PEFC Finland:

- One (1) minor non-conformity is related to the standard setting procedure (PEFC FI 1006:2014 'Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification'):
 - The non-conformity is related to the composition and method of working of the Appeal Panel (PEFC ST 1001:2010, Standard Setting, requirement 4.5 b).
- Two (2) minor non-conformities related to the standard PEFC FI 1001:2014 'Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System':
 - One non-conformity results from inadequate evidence on ensuring "that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest management certification is addressed in any other forest management certification that covers the forest owner" (PEFC ST 1002:2010 Group Forest Management Certification requirement 4.1.2).
 - Another results from inadequate evidence on defining "requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme that provides sufficient confidence in the conformity of the whole group organisation with the sustainable forest management standard" (PEFC ST 1002:2010 Group Forest Management Certification, requirement 4.1.4).
- Three (3) minor non-conformities are related to the standard PEFC FI 1005:2014 'Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification':
 - One (1) is related to the technical competence in forest management on its social impacts of the certification bodies (Annex 6, Certification and Accreditation Procedures, requirement 3.1).
 - The other two (2) of these non-conformities are related to the PEFC Board decisions (dated November 17th, 2014) on the interpretation of the requirements of Annex 6. PEFC FI was already approved by the PEFC Finland's Board at that time (decision made October 27th, 2014), resulting that PEFC Finland could not have taken these changes into account. (see Annex 6, Certification and Accreditation Procedures, requirement 4)

The assessors advise the PEFC Board that PEFC Finland shall resolve the non-conformities within a timeframe of six months, according to the Finnish PEFC standard setting procedures.

3. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

3.1 The general structure of PEFC Finland and the Finnish PEFC System

The Board of PEFC Finland and the temporarily established Standard Setting Working group (SSWG) of PEFC Finland had a role during the Standard Setting Process.

PEFC Finland has developed a structured national PEFC certification system (referred to as PEFC FI). The revised PEFC FI consists of five updated standards:

1. PEFC FI 1000:2014; PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary;
2. PEFC FI 1001:2014; Implementation of the PEFC Forest Certification System;
3. PEFC FI 1002:2014; Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification;
4. PEFC FI 1005:2014; PEFC's Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures;
5. PEFC FI 1006:2014; Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification.

The PEFC CoC standard PEFC ST 2002:2013, the PEFC Requirements for Certification Bodies operating CoC certification, and the PEFC standard on logo usage ST 2001:2008, PEFC Logo Usage Rules have been fully adopted within the PEFC FI.

The requirements related to Regional Councils for forest certification were included into the standard on implementation of forest certification (PEFC FI 1001:2014).

PEFC FI incorporates three organisational forms of forest certification, the individual certification of forest owners (foc), group certification (gc), and regional group certification (rc).

Finland has 13 regional forest areas. Forest owners can participate in 'Regional Group Certification', considering the region where they are located (rc). In the past, 13 unions of forest owners owned the Regional Group Certificates. Recently this has changed and the 13 Regional Group Certificates are now managed and owned by one organisation; the 'Association of Sustainable Forest Management'.

Under PEFC FI it is also possible to participate in 'Group Certification' (gc). In this case, the group is not limited to one of the 13 forest sector regions, but it can include forest owners throughout the whole country. The owner of the certificate can be, for example, one of the large wood working companies active in Finland.

3.2 The standard setting procedures and process

The Board of PEFC Finland gave the Standard Setting Working Group (SSWG) the assignment of revising the Finnish PEFC standards of forest management. The SSWG developed an action plan on the different steps, regarding the standard setting process.

A wide range of organisations was represented in the SSWG. A total of forty-four (44) members participated including the Sámi parliament, sawmills, forest owners, consumer organisations, fishing and hunting organisations and representatives of different industries ranging from Christmas tree to forest service companies. ENGOs did not participate in the SSWG, although extra effort was made by the SSWG Committee to invite ENGO's to participate or give comments on the standard during public consultations.

Two (2) public consultations took place (each 30 days) one in the beginning and one near the end of the assessment process. This resulted in a total forty (40) organisations/individuals responding to the first public consultation. In the second public consultation period, thirty-seven (37) responses were

received. All comments were compiled in documents which were reviewed and discussed in follow-up SSWG meetings.

All draft documents, SSWG minutes, compilation of the public consultations and other relevant documents produced during the process are public available on the website of PEFC Finland. This was conducted to provide transparency to all stakeholders, including non-SSWG members.

In the stakeholder survey carried out by the assessors of ForestSense (see Annex B) all respondents agreed that the standard setting process was well prepared and executed. Some respondents did not fully agree that the decision-making process was sound and that consensus was reached. In their view environmental aspects were not weighted as much as other interests. Although the respondents agreed on the end result they felt the discussion on different opinions could have been carried out more elaborately, for example on environmental aspects. They stated that it would be helpful if ENGOs would participate.

A subgroup was established within the SSWG to discuss and prepare the environmental requirements of the draft standard (ST 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification'). Decisions on alterations of the standard were always made during official SSWG meetings. On different occasions the question was raised if members had considerations or comments on the standards, but no reaction was given. In the end all member organisations signed the revised standards.

One (1) non-conformity related to standard setting procedures was found during the conformity assessment of PEFC FI against the requirements of PEFC ST 1001:2010. The non-conformity related to the composition and method of working of the Appeal Panel which should be indicated as being undertaken impartially or objectively (PEFC ST 1001:2010, Standard Setting requirement 4.5 b).

The standard setting process related to this requirement was conform as no Appeal Panel was established during the standard setting process and public comments were handled during the SSWG meetings. Respondents to the assessors' stakeholder survey describe the handling of the public consultation comments as careful and respectful. According to them, adjustments were processed, according to the comments given.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to PEFC ST 1001:2010.

3.3 The Sustainable Forest Management certification Standard

The criteria on Sustainable Forest Management are stated in PEFC FI 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification'. In general, the lay-out of the standard is well-structured. Additionally, the document includes a list of relevant national laws (PEFC FI 1002:2014, Annex 1).

PEFC FI incorporates three forms of forest certification, the individual certification of forest owners (foc), group certification (gc), and regional group certification (rc). In regards to the three forms of forest certification, the requirements on rc are the best defined.

Forest management programmes are developed on the regional level by professionals and in cooperation with stakeholders. Forest monitoring is executed for every forest stand separately. Forest owners need to obtain a Forest Use Declaration from the Finnish Forest Center. The Finnish Forest Center examines if the intended forest management operations comply with the Regional Forest Programme.

Considering the standard and the additional information provided in the document "PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland", some aspects of forest

management miss clear references to forestry related legal documents and regulations, for example, references to the regulation on determining the annual allowable cut and the procedure of keeping record of the total amount of harvested wood.

Although clear references were missing in the standard (and the additional information document), the conformity assessment of PEFC FI against the requirements of PEFC ST 1003 2010, did not result in non-conformities.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI conforms to PEFC ST 1003:2010.

3.4 Group certification model

PEFC FI incorporates three organisational forms of forest certification, the individual certification of forest owners (foc), group certification (gc), or regional group certification (rc) (see chapter 3.1). Considering standard PEFC FI 1001:2014 'Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System' many aspects of rc build on gc. However, in practice, the certification of individual forest owners is hardly used (one certificate).

During the conformity assessment of PEFC FI against the requirements stated in PEFC ST 1002:2010 'Standard and System Requirement Checklist for Group Forest Management Certification' the assessors found two (2) non-conformities. These non-conformities relate to inadequate evidence provided on "ensure that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest management certification is addressed in any other forest management certification that covers the forest owner" (requirement 4.1.2) and on "define requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme that provides sufficient confidence in the conformity of the whole group organisation with the sustainable forest management standard."

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to PEFC ST 1002:2010.

3.5 Chain of custody standard(s)

The PEFC Council's International standard for CoC (PEFC ST 2002:2013), was fully adopted by PEFC Finland, May 24th, 2013. A bilingual (English-Finnish) CoC standard is in use. It contains the standard 'PEFC ST 2002:2013' and an informative Finnish translation. As such, the PEFC ST 2002:2010 was not assessed by the assessors.

PEFC ST 2003:2012 (Certification Body Requirements – Chain of Custody) standard defining requirements for certification bodies carrying out PEFC chain of custody certification is available at PEFC FI website.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI conforms to the PEFC requirements for the CoC.

3.6 Logo Usage

The PEFC Logo Usage Rules (PEFC ST 2001:2008) have been fully adopted by the PEFC Finland on March 14th, 2011, as stated on the title page (page 1) of document. It also states translations in Finnish of the PEFC claims:

<http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/PEFC-vaittamatt%20Suomeksi%2014032011.pdf>.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI conforms to the PEFC requirements for Logo Usage.

3.7 Certification and accreditation procedures on forest management

The PEFC FI 1005:2014 'PEFC Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures' standard is based on ISO/IEC 17021:2011 and IAF (International Accreditation Forum) documents, relating to the application of ISO/IEC 17021:2011. The following ISO normative documents are used in the PEFC FI: ISO/IEC 17021:2011; ISO/IEC 19011:2011; ISO/IEC 17011:2004 and ISO17065:2012.

In total three (3) minor non-conformities were found. Two (2) PEFC Board decisions (taken on 17.11.2014) on the interpretation of the requirements of Annex 6 lead to two (2) non-conformities in the Finish PEFC System:

- No timescale can be found in document PEFC FI 1005:2014; (Annex 6,4)
- No reference to sufficient consultation with external stakeholders is found in document PEFC FI 1005:2014 (Annex 6,4)

This also resulted in a third non-conformity on competence:

- No reference to the requirement that certification bodies shall have the technical competence in forest management on its economic and social impacts (PEFC FI 1005, Ch 7.2.2).

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to the PEFC criteria (Annex 6).

3.8 Complaints and dispute resolution procedures

Three standards are relevant in relation to the requirements concerning the qualifications of certification bodies and auditors:

- PEFC ST 2001:2008_v2 (PEFC Logo Usage Rules)
- PEFC ST 2003:2012 (Certification Body Requirements – Chain of Custody)
- PEFC FI 1005:2014 (PEFC Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures)

The following mechanism for PEFC notification of certification bodies and logo usage are in place:

- An application form on the PEFC notification of a certification body;
- A standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland;
- Two different Application forms for logo usage (Finnish) (regular and user group C);
- Terms of the PEFC logo license contract (Finnish).

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to the PEFC criteria (Chapter 5 of PEFC GD 1004:2009).

3.9 Any other aspects affecting functionality, credibility and efficiency of PEFC FI

Considering the functionality, credibility and efficiency of the PEFC FI, it is important to state that the standard of PEFC Finland on Sustainable Forest Management (PEFC FI 1002:2014) is highly integrated in a complex system of national legislation and regulations. The development of the Regional Forest Programme is a crucial element in the cycle of monitoring, planning and evaluation.

The certification standard of PEFC Finland on Sustainable Forest Management does not explain clearly the specifics of the national system and the cycle of forest monitoring and planning, and evaluating the results of forest operations. It is only possible to assess the standard, if one has profound knowledge of the national legislation, forestry regulations, the procedures of the Finnish Forest Center, the interrelations of the parties directly involved, and the methods of interaction with relevant stakeholders.

During the assessment, PEFC Finland has elaborated the document “PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland”. It gives important information on the Finnish forest management system and the process of decision making regarding forestry planning, forest use, monitoring and legislation. The additional information is essential for assessing PEFC FI. Clearer references to relevant regulations and procedures on Finnish forestry would still be useful, for example to:

- The procedure on evaluating a Forest Use Declaration.
- The procedures and methods of developing Regional Forest Programmes.

4. GENERAL STRUCTURE OF PEFC FINLAND AND THE PEFC FI

4.1 General structure of PEFC Finland

As an organization, PEFC Finland is well structured. Decision making power is divided amongst four main entities:

1. Association Meeting;
2. The Board;
3. Working Group on the Development of Forest Certification (WGDFC);
4. Standard Setting Working Group (SSWG).

These four entities are described in more detail below:

1. The Association Meeting is a permanent body, which elects the Board members. No explicit role is dedicated to the Association Meeting during the Standard Setting Process.
2. The Board is a permanent body, which elects a secretary-general to take charge of the association's practical activities. The secretary-general operates under the Board.

The Board fulfils the following functions in the standard setting process:

- Managing of PEFC FI and owner of the standards;
 - Attending comments on the standard setting process and take necessary measures;
 - Convening of the SSWG (every 5 years);
 - Calling in members to the SSWG as comprehensively as possible;
 - Identifying key stakeholder groups and disadvantaged stakeholders;
 - Giving the SSWG an assignment, in which the purpose and deadline as well as possible intermediate goals for the working group are defined;
 - Sending a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG;
 - Communicating actively about the beginning of the standard drafting process;
 - Informing the parties that have signed in for the SSWG about the constitutive meeting;
 - The constitutive meeting is chaired by a person appointed by PEFC Finland until the SSWG has elected a chairman;
 - Publicizing all comments received during the open public consultation period, minutes of the SSWG meetings, the action plan of the SSWG, standard draft(s);
 - Examining the action plan of the SSWG;
 - Implementation of the testing considered necessary by the SSWG and informing the group of the testing results;
 - In case of a disagreement: appointing an impartial chairman to the Appeals Panel;
 - PEFC Finland shall make the decision on the approval of the final draft version containing the requirements on forest management and use. Therefore the also received other documents related to the standard setting process. (note: the PEFC standard setting procedures explicitly require to look at the consensus building as well). It will also submit the English translation to PEFC.
3. Working Group on the Development of Forest Certification (WGDFC).
The task of the Working Group on the Development of Forest Certification shall be:
 - To evaluate the applicability of certification criteria and development needs;
 - To prepare general guidelines and development proposals for forest certification;
 - To propose measures to promote forest certification.
 The WGDFC shall operate under the Board.
 4. The Standard Setting Working Group (SSWG) is a temporary body that is only active during the revision of PEFC FI. The SSWG reflects a balanced representation of stakeholders in Finland. The stakeholders are grouped in different categories. Every invited organisation participating in the SSWG appoints a representative and possibly a deputy representative.

A working committee is established within the SSWG. This committee is chaired by the chairman of the SSWG. The secretary of the SSWG holds the function of secretary of the working committee. The working committee operates under the SSWG. The committee prepares motions for the SSWG and can call in experts. It can organise its work otherwise, as it considers appropriate.

The SSWG works autonomously and independently from PEFC Finland. The SSWG defines the details of its working methods and is responsible for its communication. They are fulfilling the following functions in the standard setting process:

- Revising PEFC FI on Sustainable Forest Management (this is the working groups' primary function);
- Electing the chairman of the SSWG (Mr. Jarmo Ratia);
- Writing an action plan (procedures, practises, planning, communication plan, and testing proposal);
- Sending the meeting minutes, (draft) standards and comments to the Working Group members and, finally, to PEFC Finland.

4.2 General structure of PEFC FI

PEFC FI includes five updated standards. All documents are available in Finnish, English and Swedish on the website of PEFC Finland:

1. PEFC FI 1000:2014 - PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary;
2. PEFC FI 1001:2014 - Implementation of the PEFC Forest Certification System;
3. PEFC FI 1002:2014 - Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification;
4. PEFC FI 1005:2014 - PEFC Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures;
5. PEFC FI 1006:2014 - Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification.

Some PEFC standards have been fully adopted by PEFC Finland, such as the PEFC CoC standard PEFC ST 2002:2013, the PEFC Requirements for Certification Bodies operating CoC certification, and the PEFC standard on logo usage ST 2001:2008, PEFC Logo Usage Rules, have been fully adopted within the PEFC FI. An overview of all Finnish PEFC related documentation is provided in the table of Chapter 1.7.

Certification can be implemented as individual certification of forest owners, group certification or regional group certification (see chapter 3.1). To assess the forest certification standard, profound knowledge of the national legislation, forestry regulations, the procedures of the Finnish Forest Center, the interrelations of the parties directly involved, and the methods of interaction with relevant stakeholders is needed. During the assessment, PEFC FI has elaborated the document "PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland". It gives important information on the Finnish forest management system and the process of decision making regarding forest management planning, forest harvesting, and monitoring. It gives a better understanding of the different actors, procedures and legislation involved in forest management in Finland. Furthermore, PEFC FI has incorporated national forest legislation by including references in the standards and translated paragraphs of legal documents in for example Annex 1 of PEFC FI 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification'.

During the revision the number of PEFC FI standards was cut from seven (7) to five (5) because standards for group certification (PEFC FI 1002:2009) and certification of individual forest owners (PEFC FI 1003:2009) earlier described in different standards, were combined into one single document (PEFC FI 1002:2014). The requirements related to regional councils of forest certification (PEFC FI 1004:2009) were included into the standard on implementation of forest certification (PEFC FI 1001:2014).

PEFC FI makes use of various ISO standards that are compulsory for certification (the latest versions of ISO 19011, ISO 17011, ISO 17021, and ISO 17065). Whenever relevant, all system documents make a clear link to these ISO standards.

5. STANDARD SETTING PROCESS

The level of transparency during the standard setting process was high. All the documents produced during the standard setting process by PEFC Finland and the SSWG are publically available on PEFC Finland's website, e.g. minutes, public comments, extra newsletters, draft standards, etc. Almost all documents are in the Finnish language. On request of the assessors parts of the Finnish documentation was translated to English (the relevant translations can be found in the checklists of Annex A).

PEFC Finland gave an assignment to the forest certification SSWG which included the Working Group's task, and set the deadline and intermediate goals for the assignment. The working group worked according their action plan conforming to the requirements set for standard setting in PEFC FI 1006:2008 standard. Also in the action plan a communication plan is presented. The SSWG was independent of PEFC Finland and was responsible for their own communication to the public and all its members.

A total of forty-four (44) members participated in the SSWG such as the Sámi parliament, sawmill- and forest owners, consumer organisations, fishing- and hunting organisations and representatives of different industries ranging from Christmas tree- to forest service companies.

The only organization representing the scientific community that was invited to participate in the SSWG was the Finnish Society of Forest Science. They decided not to participate in the process, but at the same time they communicated their intention to comment on the draft standard version. The Finnish Society of Forest Science send their comments during the first 30-day commenting period in December 2013 - January 2014 and second commenting period in March - April 2014.

In autumn 2013 SSWG invited the following scientific experts: Professor Harri Vasander from Helsinki University, senior researcher Pekka Punttila from Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and Mr. Esa-Jussi Viitala from Finnish Forest Research Institute – METLA in their meetings.

ENGOS were not represented, despite the effort that was taken to invite them for participation in the SSWG as well as in the public consultation. As an answer to PEFC Finland's SSWG invitation several ENGOS informed PEFC Finland that they will not participate during the PEFC process.

The only organisation related to environmental issues, that participated as a SSWG member, was the Finnish Union of Environmental Professionals (FUEP). It represents the interests of its members in professional, financial, educational and societal matters. FUEP is an affiliate of AKAVA (The Confederation of Unions for Academic Professionals in Finland). It emphasises the professional ability and expertise of its members in environmental field. FUEP aims at enhancing environmental expertise in decision making processes.

The SSWG had representatives of 4 different stakeholder categories (see Annex E):

Stakeholder category	amount	per cent
Forest owners *	7	15,91%
Organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products	9	20,45%
Parties receiving income from forests	14	31,82%
Parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes	14	31,82%
Total	44	100,00%

* A total of six (6) organisations not categorised as forest owners also own forests, this is however not their main interest or *raison d'etre* (see Annex E).

Remarkable in the standard setting process is the two public consultation periods of 30 days each (instead of a continuous 60 days period). People could respond on the individual criteria in a survey-style form on the website of PEFC Finland. In the first consultation period a total 40 organisations/individuals responded while in the second consultation period 37 responses were received. All comments were compiled, reviewed and discussed in the succeeding SSWG meeting.

An electronic stakeholder survey (Annex B: Results of stakeholder survey) was sent to all stakeholders (Annex F) involved in the SSWG by the assessors. Respondents to the stakeholder survey replied that the standard setting process was very well planned and documentation was available on time. However, concerns were raised by some stakeholders on the decision-making process and the way consensus was reached. Almost 30 per cent of the respondents (24) partially or completely agreed on the fact that the standard deserves further consideration. Although the respondents were content with the end result they felt the discussion on different opinions could have been done better. Explanations highlighted that environmental aspects should have been considered more comprehensively. They stated that it would be helpful if ENGOs would participate in the process.

In the stakeholder survey it was mentioned by respondents that according to their view the forest owners voice was dominant, even though this is not shown in the number of forest owners in the SSWG (even if the 6 extra forest owners would be included as mentioned in the table of stakeholder category representation). This raised extra attention by the assessors regarding the decision-making process in the SSWG, especially on details related to environmental issues. It was unclear how consensus was reached and if this process could be traced, as all documentation was in Finnish. The fact that no ENGO were presented in the SSWG (in spite of being invited (Annex E)) meant that their voice was not heard. The assessors took a closer look at the way decision making was executed on environmental issues and what efforts had been made to involve ENGOs.

A subgroup was established to discuss the PEFC's environmental requirements in which SSWG members were encouraged to participate (Establishment of Ecological Criteria subgroup and decision that participants to the subgroup are recorded in the course of the meeting and after the meeting are noted in the SSWG meeting memo dated October 18th, 2013). The environmental requirements were mainly discussed during the meeting of September 6th, 2013, but also at later meetings there were opportunities to raise questions and objections. In the end, all member organisations signed the final draft standards. Two public consultation periods gave the opportunity to comment on the draft standard. Unfortunately, no ENGO did filled out the online forms. The assessors found that the process was carried out in a transparent way, and therefore conforms to PEFC Councils standards. This however should not withhold PEFC Finland to proactively seek involvement of ENGO's.

In the references made for PEFC 1001:2010, requirement 5.5 c in this report (Annex A, 14) all factual documentation on environmental decisions are further presented. The effort taken to include ENGO's can be found in the references made for PEFC 1001:2010, requirement 4.4 b in this report.

An extra requirement was assessed as part of the PEFC Boards' decision (June 2014):

"By the time of their next full assessment of all PEFC Systems a major noncompliance will be deemed to have occurred if they do not:

- *Have written standards setting procedures in place in compliance with PEFC ST 1001:2010 which have demonstrably been applied in the standard setting process, or*
- *Have documented mandatory reference to PEFC ST 1001:2010 in their scheme whose requirements have demonstrably been applied a in the standard setting process".*

In the Finnish document PEFC FI 1006:2014 which contains the standard setting procedures no specific reference is made to the document PEFC ST 1001:2010. In the Action Plan (doc #12), however, a reference to this document has been made (in the assignment given to the SSWG):

“The international standard PEFC ST 1001:2010 (Standard Setting) of the PEFC provides a framework for the revision of the criteria for forest management. International requirements are included into the document PEFC FI 1006:2008_v4 (Standard Setting Procedures) that defines procedures for setting national standards and outlines the processes for the SSWG.”

Therefore, the assessors conclude that PEFC FI conforms to this requirement. However, in the next revision period this could be taken into consideration when reviewing PEFC FI 1006:2014 Standard setting procedure.

One non-conformity was found relating the standard setting process. In Annex A, chapter 14 PART I: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR STANDARD SETTING (PEFC ST 1001:2010) more detailed information can be found on this non-conformity:

PEFC ST 1001:2010, Standard Setting 4.5:

“Upon receipt of the complaint, the standard-setting body shall:

b) gather and verify all necessary information to validate the complaint, impartially and objectively evaluate the subject matter of the complaint, and make a decision upon the complaint.”

PEFC FI 1006, 5.3: *“PEFC Finland appoints an impartial chairman to the Panel. The parties in a dispute or appeal case appoint, case by case, one member to the Panel. The request shall include (i) the name and contact information of the requesting party, (ii) the demands and their justification, (iii) the documents upon which the demands are based, and (iv) other pertinent material. The requesting party shall sign the appeal. PEFC Finland shall acknowledge the receipt of the complaint to the complainant. The Panel gives its decision in writing, and it is signed by the chairman and members of the Panel. The decision shall include a short description of the matter, justification and the outcome of the Panel. The Panel shall inform the Standard Setting Working Group and the complainant about its decision. The decision of the Panel is final.”*

The assessors conclude that complaints are not necessarily handled in an impartial and objective way. PEFC Finland replied on this conclusion that *“It is up to the Panel chair to organise the process of validation of the complaint in details.”*. However, the assessors are not convinced that this procedure excludes the appearance of partiality and therefore this requirement does not conform.

The processes related to these requirement conformed as no appeal panel had to be established during the standard setting process.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to PEFC ST 1001:2010.

6. FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

The criteria on Sustainable Forest Management are stated in PEFC FI 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification'. The standard has been written exclusively for the PEFC certification of forests in Finland. It includes public forests, as well as a large amount of privately owned forest holdings. Additionally, the document includes a list of relevant national laws (Annex 1). Legislation related to forestry is highly developed in Finland and essential for the assessment of the standard against the PEFC Council Requirements.

Both standards PEFC FI 1001:2014 'Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System' and PEFC FI 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification' were approved by PEFC Finland October 27th, 2014, and issued November 10th, 2014. They will come into force July 29th, 2015. There will be a transition period of one year from the date of the official announcement of the re-endorsement decision.

PEFC FI incorporates three forms of forest certification, the individual certification of forest owners (foc), group certification (gc), and regional group certification (rc) (see chapter 3.1). Regarding all three organisational forms, the requirements on rc are the best defined. In practice, forest councils together with regional forestry centres develop forestry programmes for each region separately. Stakeholders have the possibility to participate in the development of these programmes and the end-results are publically available. Forest monitoring is executed for every forest stand separately. Forest owners can acquire online access to the forest monitoring data, after which they are also able to submit updates to the Finnish Forest Center.

Forest owners need to obtain a Forest Use Declaration from the Finnish Forest Center. The Finnish Forest Center examines if the intended forest management operations comply with the law and the Regional Forest Programme.

Considering the standard and the additional information provided in the document "PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland", several important aspects of forest management (which are addressed in the PEFC checklist) are not provided with clear references. For example, references to relevant procedures and methods applied by the Finnish Forest Center and the Natural Resources Institute Finland, such as:

- References to the regulation on the method of determining the annual allowable cut and the procedure of keeping record of the total amount of harvested wood (during the implementation of the Regional Forestry Programme).
- References to the procedure on evaluating a Forest Use Declaration, including the grounds on which such a request can be rejected.
- References to the procedures and methods of developing the Regional Forest Programme, indicating the sustainability aspects considered during the process.

As indicated in the "PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland", the sentence "The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha." in Criterion 4 "Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources" is irrelevant in practice. The Finnish Forest Center has accurate data at its disposal. Additionally, forest owners can acquire a forest management plan on the FMU-level and gain access to accurate information on the forest stand level.

Regarding the individual certification of forest owners (foc) more elaboration on the indicators of several criteria is needed. Criterion 25 on supplementary training, and information sessions, excludes foc. This criterion states it only applies to regional group certification. Forest owners with an

individual certificate could participate together with entities holding a regional group certificate in their neighbourhood.

Although references were missing in the standard, the conformity assessment of PEFC FI against the requirements of PEFC ST 1003:2010, did not result in non-conformities.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI conforms to PEFC ST 1003:2010.

7. GROUP CERTIFICATION MODEL

The standard PEFC FI 1001:2014 'Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System' addresses different organisational forms of PEFC certification in Finland, and the procedural aspects of certifying forest owners and/or companies. The forest management certification can be implemented as individual certification of forest owners (foc), group certification (gc), or regional group certification (rc).

Finland has 13 regional forest areas. Forest owners can participate in 'Regional Group Certification' (considering the region where they are located). In the past 13 unions of forest owners owned the Regional Group Certificates. Recently this has changed and the 13 Regional Group Certificates are now managed and owned by one organisation; the 'Association of Sustainable Forest Management'.

Under PEFC FI it is also possible to participate in 'Group Certification'. In this case the group is not limited to one of the 13 forest sector regions, but can include forest owners throughout the whole country. The owner of the certificate can be, for example, one of the large wood working companies active in Finland.

A map of the thirteen Finnish forestry regions is published on the website of PEFC Finland. In addition to 13 regional certificates, the Finnish version of the website states six certificates held by companies. The English version states only three certificates held by companies (<http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/metsien-sertifiointi/metsaesertifikaatit.php>). The PEFC International website does not keep record of the subdivision 'regional group certificates'. These certificates are listed as 'Group Certificates FM'. According to the PEFC International website, there are currently 18 valid forest management certificates in Finland, of which one is an 'Individual Certificate'.

Certification covers the whole area of each forest holding. In case of individual certification of forest owners, this includes one or several forest holdings belonging to a forest owner that are announced for certification. Considering (regional) group certification, this includes all forest holdings announced for certification.

Regarding standard PEFC FI 1001:2014 several aspects of rc build on gc. Within rc, the obligations for members of a certification group and applicants for certification firstly refer to the obligations regarding gc, and secondly stipulate additional requirements. The criteria for rc, gc and foc are integrated in the standard PEFC FI 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification' (see previous chapter of this report).

Both standards PEFC FI 1001:2014 and PEFC FI 1002:2014 were approved by PEFC Finland October 27th, 2014, and issued November 10th, 2014. They will come into force July 29th, 2015. There will be a transition period of one year from the date of the official announcement of the re-endorsement decision.

During the conformity assessment of PEFC FI against the requirements stated in PEFC ST 1002:2010 'Standard and System Requirement Checklist for Group Forest Management Certification' (based on PEFC IGD 1007-01-2012) the assessors found two non-conformities. These non-conformities relate to inadequate or insufficient evidence provided in PEFC FI.

PEFC ST 1002:2010, Group Forest Management Certification – Requirements, 4.1.2:

“In cases where a forest certification scheme allows an individual forest owner to be covered by additional group or individual forest management certifications, the scheme shall ensure that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest management certification is addressed in any other forest management certification that covers the forest owner.”

Inadequate evidence in PEFC FI 1001, ch5.5. on *“the scheme shall ensure that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest management certification is addressed in any other forest management certification that covers the forest owner”*.

PEFC ST 1002:2010, Group Forest Management Certification – Requirements, 4.1.4:

“The forest certification scheme shall define requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme that provides sufficient confidence in the conformity of the whole group organisation with the sustainable forest management standard.”

Inadequate evidence on *“requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme”* which have not been defined in ch7 or ch8 of PEFC FI 1001:2014.

Inadequate evidence on the presence of *“an annual internal monitoring programme”* and on *“provides sufficient confidence in the conformity of the whole group organisation with the sustainable forest management standard”*. Annual monitoring can include several monitoring systems at present.

The assessors have concluded that PEFC FI does not conform to PEFC ST 1002:2010.

8. CHAIN OF CUSTODY STANDARD

The PEFC Council's International standard PEFC ST 2002:2013 'Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products', was fully adopted by PEFC Finland without any modifications on May 24th, 2013.

PEFC ST 2003:2012 (Certification Body Requirements – Chain of Custody) standard defining requirements for certification bodies carrying out PEFC chain of custody certification is available at <http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/asiakirjat-ja-materiaalit/standardit.php>.

The board of PEFC Finland reviewed PEFC Chain of Custody in Finland in the meeting (dated October 27th, 2014) and concluded that PEFC Chain of Custody conforms to the PEFC Council's document PEFC GD 1004:2009 (Administration of PEFC scheme, chapters 5.1 and 5.2.).

A bilingual (English-Finnish) CoC standard is in use. It contains the standard PEFC ST 2002:2013 and an informative Finnish translation, issued September 24th, 2013.

The PEFC ST 2002:2010 was not assessed, as it fully conforms to the PEFC requirements.

9. PEFC NOTIFICATION OF CERTIFICATION BODIES

Standard PEFC FI 1005:2014 describes procedures for the issuance of the notification of certification bodies and has been written exclusively for the PEFC certification of Forest management and verification of Chain of Custody of forest-based products in Finland. The standard is comprehensive and structured. Users of the standard can easily find relevant topics and the wording of the standard is clear and understandable. The standard explicitly mentions the scope of the certification and clearly refers to the system's CoC standard (PEFC ST 2002:2013), forest management standard (PEFC FI 1002:2014) and the Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System (PEFC FI 1001:2014).

The preconditions for certification bodies to become a notified certification body for PEFC Finland are comprehensively elaborated. Firstly, certification bodies must be accredited by a national accreditation body that is again a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). Secondly certification bodies must also fulfil the general criteria for certification bodies defined in SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17021:2011, use a documented auditing methodology and have certified, general knowledge on forest management and its environmental impacts. If all preconditions are met, a certification body can apply for PEFC notification. When approved, a notification contract is signed between PEFC Finland and the certification body. Such a notification contract must ensure proper administration of the PEFC FI system, submission of the requested data to PEFC Finland, recognition of the certification body by PEFC Finland and the recognized PEFC certification.

The standard PEFC FI 1005:2014 uses clear referencing to ISO standards which makes the standard more comprehensive and mandatory. Required references are being made to ISO 17021:2011 (Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems) and ISO 17065:2012 (Conformity assessment --Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services).

The contract obligations as well as the conditions for termination of the contract for both the certification bodies and PEFC Finland are presented in an English standard agreement. The notification process seems open and democratic. No discriminatory elements have been found in the standard nor in other documentation.

One (1) non-conformity was found relating certification bodies. In Annex 17. PART IV: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES (ANNEX 6) more detailed information on conformities and non-conformities can be found:

Requirement related to Annex 6, 3.1:

"Does the scheme documentation require that certification bodies carrying out forest certification shall have the technical competence in forest management on its economic, social and environmental impacts, and on the forest certification criteria?"

PEFC FI 1005 ch6.3, p7: *"The qualification criteria for the certification bodies doing certification audits are based on general criteria for certification bodies operating quality and environmental management system certification complemented with sectoral expertise and applied to forest management. The certification body shall:*

1. *"..."*
2. *"..."*

3. *Have general knowledge on forest management and its environmental impacts.*

Professional expertise in forest management and its environmental impacts is proved on the basis of certification experience in the field and/or appropriate education and professional experience of the staff."

PEFC FI 1005, Ch7.2.2: *“Forest Management. When auditing forest management, the audit team shall include at least one auditor qualified in forest management and one auditor qualified in environmental issues. Technical experts may complement the forest management and environmental competence of the auditors.”*

No reference was found for the technical competence in forest management on its economic and social impacts.

PEFC Finland’s viewpoint after draft report:

“forest management is economic activity that in Finland is mainly run by small private entities. Understanding of the economic feasibility of silviculture, wood harvesting and sales belongs to the concept of forest management that is of interest of forest owner and forestry experts. Forest management guidelines, and regulations are built to safeguard the forest resources and their potential to produce regular economic benefits at FMU and regional level.

The PEFC FI standard does not specify that audit team should have a social expert. The social criteria are well auditable by experts familiar with Finnish forest owner structure, regulations on forest use (free access to forests, hunting, fishing regulations, general land use planning, procedures to safeguard conditions for reindeer herding and rights of Sami people, etc.). The indicators are explicit and refer to regulations, plans or agreements made.

However, the standard could add an option that when useful technical experts may complement forest management, environmental AND SOCIAL competence of the auditors”

The assessors agree with the views of PEFC Finland.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to the PEFC Council Annex 6 requirements regarding the notification of certification bodies.

10. PROCEDURES FOR ISSUANCE OF LOGO LICENSING

The PEFC logo/label provides information relating to the origin of forest based products of sustainably managed forests, and recycled- and other non-controversial sources. Purchasers can use this information by choosing a product based on environmental or other considerations. The PEFC Logo is a registered trademark owned by the PEFC Council. PEFC Finland requires that the PEFC Logo can only be used by entities based on a valid logo license that is issued by PEFC Finland (which is the PEFC authorized body in Finland). The issuance of the PEFC logo by PEFC Finland is carried out on the condition that the current contract between PEFC Finland and the PEFC Council remains valid.

The requirements of PEFC FI concerning PEFC logo licensing are provided in three documents:

- PEFC ST 2001:2008 (PEFC Logo usage rules) (fully adopted by PEFC Finland on 31 July 2013).
- Application form of the PEFC logo license (in Finnish) is available at [http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC-merkin%20kaeyttoeioikeuden%20hakemuslomake%20\(2011\).pdf](http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC-merkin%20kaeyttoeioikeuden%20hakemuslomake%20(2011).pdf).
- Terms of the PEFC logo license contract (in Finnish with title and subtitles in English) is available at http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_2014_standardit/PEFC-merkin_kaeyttoeioikeuden_sopimusedot_20150519.pdf

Three distinct user groups are defined for issuance of PEFC logo license:

- User group 2 (group B): Forest Certificate holders
- User group 3 (group C): Wood procurement, forest industry production and forest products, distribution and trade companies operating in a certified CoC.
- User group 4 (group D): Other users, annually apply for specific items.

The logo usage contract covers the following aspects (Articles): Parties of the Contract, Validity and Payments of the PEFC logo license, Monitoring and reporting of the PEFC logo Usage, Additional Controls, Appeal Procedure, Other terms of the contract. The conditions for contract termination and appeal are elaborate and well defined.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI conforms to all criteria of chapter 6 and 8 of PEFC GD 1004:2009.

11. CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION ARRANGEMENTS

Three standards are relevant in relation to the requirements concerning the qualifications of certification bodies and auditors:

- PEFC ST 2001:2008_v2 (PEFC Logo Usage Rules)
- PEFC ST 2003:2012 (Certification Body Requirements – Chain of Custody)
- PEFC FI 1005:2014 (PEFC Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures)

The following mechanism for PEFC notification of certification bodies and logo usage are in place:

- An application form on the PEFC notification of a certification body
- A standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland
- two different Application forms for logo usage (Finnish) (regular and user group C)
- Terms of the PEFC logo license contract (Finnish)

Based on two decisions of the PEFC Board resolved November 17th, 2014, regarding the interpretation of the requirements of Annex 6 two (2) non-conformities were attributed to the PEFC FI. In Annex A 17. PART IV: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES (ANNEX 6) the specifics on conformities and non-conformities can be found.

Requirement related to Annex 6, 4

“Does the scheme documentation include requirements for public availability of certification report summaries?”

PEFC FI 1005:2014 ch7.2.2, p9: *“A summary of the forest certification audit report, compiled by the certification body, including a summary of findings on the conformity to the forest management standard, shall be made available to the public by PEFC Finland – Finnish Forest Certification Council.”*

The PEFC Council's board's decision (17.11.2014) on interpretation of this requirement states: *“The “applicable requirements defined by a certification scheme” shall cover, amongst others, “that the summary shall be made available to any interested party on request within a defined timescale”.* The assessors found no defined timescale in document PEFC FI 1005.

Requirement related to Annex 6, 4

“Does the scheme documentation include requirements for usage of information from external parties as the audit evidence?”

PEFC FI 1005:2014 ch7.2.1, p9: *“The audit evidence to determine the conformity to the forest management standard shall include relevant information from external parties (e.g. government agencies, community groups and other organisations, etc.) as appropriate.”*

The PEFC Council's board's decision (17.11.2014) on interpretation of this requirement states: *“The audit must, amongst other relevant information, include sufficient consultation with external stakeholders to ensure that all relevant issues are identified relating to compliance with the requirements of the standard.”*

The assessors found no mention of “consultation with external stakeholders” in document PEFC FI 1005:2014.

The PEFC Board decisions (dated November 17th, 2014) on the interpretation of the two requirements of Annex 6, 4 took place after PEFC FI was already approved by the PEFC Finland's Board (decision made October 27th, 2014), so PEFC Finland could not have taken these changes into account.

The assessors concluded PEFC FI does not conform to the PEFC requirements, related to Annex 6.

12. COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES

No overall dispute and complaints document or guideline for PEFC FI is available. The complaints and dispute resolution procedures of PEFC Finland are stated in different documents.

The general demeanour of the appeals procedures can be described as follows: When an appeal is lodged, a temporary panel is established by PEFC Finland or the Chamber of Commerce (depending on the issue). This body appoints an independent chairman, and one member of each party is invited to participate. The rules and procedures are described differently in each document they do however match with the PEFC standards as written in the PEFC guideline PEFC GD 1004:2009 chapter 8.2:

“Upon receipt of the complaint, the procedures shall provide for:

- a) acknowledgement of the complaint to the complainant,
- b) gathering and verification of all necessary information, validation and impartial evaluation of the complaint, and decision making on the complaint,
- c) formal communication of the decision on the complaint and the complaint handling process to the complainant and concerned parties,
- d) appropriate corrective and preventive actions.”

The notification agreement chapter 4: Complaint and dispute procedures, complies with this requirement.

Also in the by-laws of PEFC Finland, article 6: "The Forest Certification Appeals Panel shall issue recommendations to resolve disputes concerning the forest certification activities of members participating in forest certification." complies with this requirement.

One non-conformity was found in PEFC FI 1006:2010, Standard Setting 4.5, on the appearance of the Appeal Panel being biased for issues relating the standard setting process. The non-conformity is further described in chapter 5 of this report.

Consequently, the assessors requested a translation on the appeal procedure of logo usage to be able to check the composition of the panel. In the appeal procedure of logo licensing contract it is stated that “PEFC Finland nominates an impartial appeal panel that includes chair and two members who all are unchallengeable.” Therefore, the requirement 8.2 of PEFC GD 1004:2009 is in conformity for logo usage.

The documents of logo usage licenses of PEFC Finland do comply with all criteria of chapter 8 of PEFC GD 1004:2009. Hence, the assessors concluded that PEFC FI does conform to the PEFC Council requirements regarding the complaints and dispute resolution procedures for logo usage.

13. ANNEXES

Annex A: PEFC Standard Requirements Checklist

Purpose

The PEFC Standard Requirement Checklist was used by the assessors to identify compliance and non-compliance of the revised PEFC FI with the requirements of the PEFC.

Methodology of Indication of conformities and non-conformities

The results of the assessments are shown in the column '*Reference to application documents*' of the standard requirement checklist and a definitive statement regarding its conformity with the PEFC requirements is made in the column 'YES/NO'. When the FI Standard Documents were found to be fully compliant with the relevant PEFC requirements, the requirement was indicated with a 'YES'. In addition, in that case, the statement '**CONFORMS**' is written in the column '*Reference to application documents*'. When the text of the FI standard documents is an accurate copy of the text in the PEFC standards no extra comments were provided.

In the case of a non-conformity, the assessors marked the column 'YES/NO' with a 'NO'. This means that at least one element of the related PEFC requirement question is answered with 'NO'.

Subsequently, in the case of a non-conformity, a **NON-CONFORMITY** statement is made in the column '*Reference to application documents*', together with a clear argumentation as to why the criteria was assessed as a non-conformity.

References, citations and description of non-conformities and observations

The references to the respective PEFC FI standard documents and chapters are provided at the beginning of the relevant section (e.g. 'PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1, p4'). To clarify the conformity or non-conformity citations from the PEFC FI and related documents are copied into the checklists to demonstrate compliance or non-compliance. Citations are marked with quotation marks ("..."). When explanations are in the assessors own wording (e.g. by interpreting the content of the provided documented information), the text is written without quotation marks. In cases where the feedback from the assessors' stakeholder survey is used, an explicit reference is made to the stakeholder survey.

Legend for column YES/NO:

YES = Assessment showed compliance with the PEFC International Benchmark Standards

NO = Non-conformity with the PEFC International Benchmark Standards

N/A = Not applicable

14. PART I: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR STANDARD SETTING (PEFC ST 1001:2010)

14.1 Scope

Part I covers the requirements for standard setting defined in PEFC ST 1001:2010, *Standard Setting – Requirements*.

14.2 Checklist

Question	Assess. basis*	YES /NO*	Reference to application documents
Standardising Body			
4.1 The standardising body shall have written procedures for standard-setting activities describing:			
a) its status and structure, including a body responsible for consensus building (see 4.4) and for formal adoption of the standard (see 5.11),	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch 5.1: "The Finnish PEFC forest certification requirements on forest management are drafted and revised by the Standard Setting Working Group (SSWG), which is convened by PEFC Finland." PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2 "The work of the SSWG shall be based on consensus and it shall follow working methods that support the emergence of mutual understanding among its members. The SSWG's working methods are based on an open exchange of views among the members and direct negotiations between the stakeholders in order to find a compromise and reach a mutual understanding." PEFC FI 1006, ch5.3: "PEFC Finland shall make the decision on the approval of the final draft version submitted by the SSWG, and publish the approved standard without delay" The Board of PEFC Finland will formally adopt the standard, during a board meeting. CONFORMS
b) the record-keeping procedures,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, Annex 1. "Documents produced by the SSWG: Plan of action, Minutes of the meetings, Compilation of comments received during the open public consultation period and their consideration, Minutes of the of disagreements/appeals processes, Report on the testing of the Draft Standard, Draft Standard/Standards, Final draft version of the Standard." PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2 "Minutes are written of each SSWG's meeting they are signed by the meeting chairman and secretary. The meeting minutes shall be sent to the Working Group members prior to the following meeting in which the minutes will be revised and approved. The minutes shall include not only the issues discussed and decisions made in the meeting, but also the comments that the defender of the view requests to be included, with their justifications. Working drafts of standard shall be sent to SSWG members. The approved meeting minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that will publish them without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG and file all documents of the Annex 1 of this document for five years at the minimum. All documents are available from PEFC Finland upon request." The minutes of the Board meetings are part of organisation's annual Financial Statements in Finland. In Finland, records that are related to financial materials (such as Board meeting minutes) shall be stored for at least five years. CONFORMS
c) the procedures for balanced representation of stakeholders,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "PEFC Finland calls in members to the SSWG as comprehensively as possible from responsible and interested parties, such as forest owners; organisations manufacturing and marketing forest industry products; professional, entrepreneurs', environmental, consumer, recreational, and youth associations, as well as; forest research institutes, and parties representing special interests (e.g. indigenous people).

			<p>Before convening the SSWG, PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders. PEFC Finland addresses the constraints of their participation, proactively seeks their participation and contribution in the standard-setting activities defines the actions of communication to inform these groups of their possibility to participate, and clarifies any possible barriers of their participation."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
d) the standard-setting process,	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "The Finnish PEFC forest certification requirements on forest management are drafted and revised by the SSWG, which is convened by PEFC Finland"</p> <p>"PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders."</p> <p>"PEFC Finland calls in members to the SSWG as comprehensively as possible from responsible and interested parties"</p> <p>"PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG."</p> <p>"PEFC Finland shall communicate actively about the beginning of the standard drafting process "... and about the possibility of other parties, apart from those invited in writing, commenting on the scope and the standard setting process and taking part in the working group work."</p> <p>"PEFC Finland gives the SSWG an assignment in which the purpose and deadline as well as possible intermediate goals for the working group are defined."</p> <p>"PEFC Finland informs the parties that have signed in for the SSWG about the constitutive meeting that will be held at the earliest two weeks after sending the meeting call."</p> <p>"In its constitutive meeting, the SSWG (i) discusses the assignment given by PEFC Finland and (ii) the policies presented in this standard pursuant to which the SSWG will define its working methods."</p> <p>"The SSWG may establish a working committee and call in experts or otherwise organise its work as it considers appropriate. The working committee works under the SSWG and prepares motions for it. ... The experts that have been called in have the right to be present and to speak in the meeting of the SSWG, but they cannot participate in the decision-making."</p> <p>"SSWG writes a draft action plan, discusses any comments received on the draft, and makes a decision on the final action plan. The SSWG submits the action plan to PEFC Finland that examines it" ... "Working drafts of the standard shall be sent to SSWG members."</p> <p>"In order to reach a consensus the views of the SSWG members are clarified by voting in Working Group's meetings to establish whether there is opposition and by a statement on consensus from the chairman where there are no dissenting voices."... "If the working group does not reach consensus within internal discussions, the handling of the issue shall be continued by a Panel!..." "The Panel shall solve all matters given for it to discuss prior to the SSWG's approval of the final draft version."</p> <p>"All comments received during the open public consultation period will be compiled, and the compilation will be submitted to PEFC Finland for publication."</p> <p>"The SSWG shall include in the standard testing outline a description of the impacts the proposed changes to the standard induce on the procedures of forest certification's data collection, and a justified opinion of the necessity of standard testing. PEFC Finland is responsible for the implementation of the testing considered necessary by the SSWG and shall inform the group of the testing results. Based on these results the group then decides on possible changes to the standard. The SSWG will prepare a report on the implementation of the testing and its results."</p> <p>"When the SSWG has reached consensus, approved the final standard draft and finished its assignment in other respects, it submits the standard draft containing the requirements on forest management and use to PEFC Finland."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.4: "PEFC Finland shall make the decision on the approval of the final draft version submitted by the SSWG, and publish the approved standard without delay."</p> <p>PEFC FI reply on Draft Report: "The approval of standards/FM criteria are as a general rule in Finland seen as operational issues and are decided by organisation's board."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

e) the mechanism for reaching consensus, and	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2: "The work of the SSWG shall be based on consensus and it shall follow working methods that support the emergence of mutual understanding among its members. The SSWG's working methods are based on an open exchange of views among the members and direct negotiations between the stakeholders in order to find a compromise and reach a mutual understanding. In order to reach a consensus the views of the SSWG members are clarified by voting in Working Group's meetings to establish whether there is opposition and by a statement on consensus from the chairman where there are no dissenting voices. Also postal ballots can be used."</p> <p>"If the working group does not reach consensus within internal discussions, the handling of the issue shall be continued by a Panel explained further in Chapter 5.3."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.3: "Handling of Disagreements and Appeals, Disagreements on the contents of the standards as well as appeals on the activities and procedures of the SSWG are considered by a Panel that has a chairman and two members. PEFC Finland appoints an impartial chairman to the Panel. The parties in a dispute or appeal case appoint, case by case, one member to the Panel." ..." The Panel gives its decision in writing, and it is signed by the chairman and members of the Panel. The decision shall include a short description of the matter, justification and the outcome of the Panel. The Panel shall inform the SSWG and the complainant about its decision. The decision of the Panel is final. The Panel shall solve all matters given for it to discuss prior to the SSWG's approval of the final draft version."</p> <p>The mechanism for reaching consensus is present.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
f) revision of standards/normative documents.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, Ch5: Standard Setting process</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
4.2 The standardising body shall make its standard-setting procedures publicly available and shall regularly review its standard-setting procedures including consideration of comments from stakeholders.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1:"The Finnish PEFC forest certification requirements on forest management are drafted and revised by the SSWG, which is convened by PEFC Finland. Periodic revision is done every five years. The standards (requirements) on forest management will be applied in practice in line with the decisions made on transition periods. In case a need for additional specifications of the content occurs in the practical application of the requirements, PEFC Finland may convene the SSWG also in between the periodic revisions for preparing additional specifications." "PEFC Finland shall communicate actively about the beginning of the standard drafting process in its website and in other suitable media as appropriate, the objectives, timetable and contents of the work, as well as the convocation of the SSWG, and about the possibility of other parties, apart from those invited in writing, commenting on the scope and the standard setting process and taking part in the working group work."</p> <p>"Before the initiation of the SSWG's work, comments on the standard setting process can be submitted to PEFC Finland, who will attend to them without delay and take necessary measures."</p> <p>"PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG. The invitation includes (i) a time period for the reply (at least two weeks), (ii) the assignment and timetable of the working group, and possibility to comment on the scope the standard setting process and the policies on preparing a standard specified in the Finnish PEFC forest certification system, (iii) the list of invited parties, and (iv) the method by which other than invited parties can express their willingness to participate in the standard setting process."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>The standard setting procedures are publicly available on the website of PEFC Finland.</p> <p>Comments of the stakeholders were considered in different stages during the standard setting process: Prior to the constitutive meeting of the SSWG http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-14/PEFC-jaerjestyiskokous_08052013_Kutsu_ja_asialista_final.pdf the PEFC FI 1006:2008_v3 standard and a draft of the SSWG Action plan were handed over to organisations who had shown interest to participate in the meeting. ("Kokousmateriaalit" -> Materials of the meeting, "Toimintasuunnitelman luonnos" -> Draft of the Action plan", "Asialista" -> "Agenda", "PEFC FI 1006 -asiakirjan linjaukset standardityöryhmän</p>

		<p>työskentelytavalle” -> ”Guidance in PEFC FI 1005 document to the working methods of the SSWG) Standard setting procedures were discussed in the establishing meeting. No critical comments were raised and thus not documented. Outcome of the discussion (Action plan) was decided by the constitutive meeting.</p> <p>The internet-based commenting tool of the First Standard Draft http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/1.-kommentointivaihe.php and the Second Standard Draft http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/2.-kommentointivaihe.php also asked questions about the working methods (“Oletko saanut riittävästi tietoa päivitysprosessista?” -> ”Have you received enough information about the revision process”, “Pitäisikö PEFC-standardityöryhmän ottaa työssään keväällä 2014 käyttöön toimintatapoja, jotka eivät vielä tämän mennessä ole olleet käytössä?"/ Pitäisikö PEFC-standardityöryhmän ottaa viimeistellyn standardin laadinnassa käyttöön toimintatapoja, jotka eivät vielä tähän mennessä ole olleet päivitysprosessissa käytössä? -> “Should SSWG take in spring 2014 in use working methods that have not yet been used.” / Should SSWG take during the elaboration of the final draft version in use working methods that have not yet been used.)</p> <p>The comments on the first standard draft were collected in the document: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Ensimmäisen_kommentointijakson_satoa_20140204_-_julkisen_yhteenveto.pdf (“Yleiskommentit PEFC-kriteeristön päivitysprosessin sisällöstä/toteutuksesta”. -> “General comments about the realisation/content of PEFC criteria revision process”).</p> <p>The document was studied and discussed by the SSWG February 14 meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140214.pdf (“ 4) Kommentointikierroksen tulosten käsittely” -> “Processing of received comments”, “Yleiskommentit prosessista” -> “General comments on the realisation of the revision process”, ”Työ on saanut kiitosta avoimuudesta sekä tiedon saatavuudesta. Negatiivisia kommentteja ei ollut esitetty.” -> “Realisation has been thanked by its openness and availability of information. No negative comments were received”).</p> <p>Comments of the second commenting period (including also comments about the comments about the working methods: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Toisen_kommentointijakson_satoa_20140507_-_julkisen_yhteenveto.pdf (doc #12)) was studied and discussed by SSWG in May 15 meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140515.pdf “Yleiskommentit PEFC-kriteeristön päivitysprosessin sisällöstä/toteutuksesta” -> “General comments on the realisation of the revision process”, ”Työ on saanut kiitosta avoimuudesta, osallistavuudesta sekä tiedon saatavuudesta.” -> “Realisation has been thanked by its openness, inclusiveness, and availability of information”. ”Kommenteissa mainittiin prosessin sujuneen hyvin. Muutamassa kommentissa oli toivottu metsänomistajien parempaa tiedottamista. -> “In comments it was mentioned that the process had proceeded well. In couple of comments it was mentioned that forest owners should have informed better”).</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>4.3 The standardising body shall keep records relating to the standard-setting process providing evidence of compliance with the requirements of this document and the standardising body's own procedures. The records shall be kept for a minimum of five years and shall be available to interested parties upon request.</p>	<p>Procedures</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "The approved meeting minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that will publish them without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG and file all documents of the Annex 1 of this document for five years at the minimum. All documents are available from PEFC Finland upon request." PEFC FI 1006, Annex 1: "Documents produced by the SSWG: Plan of action, Minutes of the meetings, Compilation of comments received during the open public consultation period and their consideration, Minutes of the of disagreements/appeals processes, Report on the testing of the Draft Standard, Draft Standard/Standards, Final draft version of the Standard." PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2: "The views received from working group members, experts and parties outside the working group shall be dealt with transparently. The working group shall provide a reply in writing to the views received from parties outside the working group. The decisions made by the working group and replies to written comments will be included in the minutes of the meetings. All comments received during the open public consultation period will be compiled, and the compilation will be submitted to PEFC Finland for publication. If the working group does not reach consensus within internal discussions, the handling of the issue shall be continued by a Panel explained further in Chapter 5.3."</p> <p>In Finland, minutes of an organisation's Board meetings are part of organisation's annual Financial Statements. They are studied by organisation's accountant. PEFC Finland's accountant is Ernst & Young. In Finland records that are related to financial materials (such as Board meeting minutes) shall be stored for at least five years.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	<p>Process</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Plan of Action (doc #12) is available on the website of PEFC Finland, previous versions are available in Finnish http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-4/Action_Plan_of_PEFC_Standard_Setting_Working_Group_2013-2014.pdf "Action Plan 1(6) Approved at the meeting of the SSWG on 8.5.2013 (modified 14.2.2014). "</p> <p>Doc #2: "Minutes of working group meetings, draft versions of standards and other materials were placed on the Internet page designated for the use of the SSWG. The materials were accessible also for other users. "</p> <p>All minutes, agendas and documentation of the public consultation periods of the SSWG are present (in Finnish) on the website: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/pefc-fi--kriteerien-uudistustyoeh.php</p> <p>Minutes of disagreements/appeals process are not available as no appeal took place during the standard setting process.</p> <p>The SSWG regularly informed the public on different phases and progress of the work with a total of eight newsletters (circulation of approximately 2300 people including press). e.g. http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-14/Tiedote PEFC kriteerien uudistustyoeh liikkeelle 08052013.pdf.</p> <p>The SSWG for forest certification unanimously approved of the final draft standard of PEFC FI 1002:2014 on 12.6.2014 and submitted the standard drafts and other documents related to standard setting to PEFC Finland – Finnish Forest Certification Council on 23.6.2014. (http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/asiakirjat-ja-materiaalit/pefc-fi-2014--standardit.php)</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>4.4 The standardising body shall establish a permanent or temporary working group/committee responsible for standard-setting activities.</p>	<p>Procedures</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "The Finnish PEFC forest certification requirements on forest management are drafted and revised by the SSWG, which is convened by PEFC Finland." "The standards (requirements) on forest management will be applied in practice in line with the decisions made on transition periods. In case a need for additional specifications of the content occurs in the practical application of the requirements, PEFC Finland may convene the SSWG also in between the periodic revisions for preparing additional specifications." "PEFC Finland gives the SSWG an assignment in which the purpose and deadline as well as possible intermediate goals for the working group are defined."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

	Process	YES	<p>The invitation with a list of the invited parties to join the SSWG can be found: http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-14/Invitation_Letter_PEFC_Standardsetting_Working_Group_13022013.pdf</p> <p>Action plan of the SSWG (doc #12), ch3.1, p2 "Assignment: The PEFC Finland initiated revision of the PEFC FI criteria on 13.2.2013 by inviting identified stakeholders responsible and interested of sustainable management and use of forests, to join the SSWG with the aim to revise the Finnish PEFC criteria.</p> <p>The international standard PEFC ST 1001:2010 (Standard Setting) of the PEFC (www.pefc.org -> Resources -> Technical Documentation -> PEFC International Standards) provides a framework for the revision of the criteria for forest management. International requirements are included into the document PEFC FI 1006:2008_v4 (Standard Setting Procedures) that defines procedures for setting national standards and outlines the processes for the SSWG. The starting point of the revision process of the PEFC standard are two standards (PEFC FI 1002:2009 – Criteria for Group Certification and PEFC FI 1003:2009 – Criteria for certification – Level of Forest Holdings of Individual Owners) (www.pefc.fi -> Asiakirjat ja materiaalit -> Standardit), that include requirements for forest management carried out in PEFC certified Finnish forests.</p> <p>The standard setting group works autonomously and independently from the PEFC Finland. The PEFC Finland follows the standard revision process to make sure that the process and the set of criteria for forest management as its final outcome complies with the international requirements imposed by the PEFC." .</p> <p>In the minutes of the constitutive meeting on 08.05.2013 the assignment is also been noted in Finnish: "3) Suomen Metsäsertifiointi ry:n toimeksianto standardityöryhmälle"</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
4.4 The working group/committee shall:			
a) be accessible to materially and directly affected stakeholders,	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "PEFC Finland calls in members to the SSWG as comprehensively as possible from responsible and interested parties, such as forest owners; organisations manufacturing and marketing forest industry products; professional, entrepreneurs', environmental, consumer, recreational, and youth associations, as well as; forest research institutes, and parties representing special interests (e.g. indigenous people). Before convening the SSWG, PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders. PEFC Finland addresses the constraints of their participation, proactively seeks their participation and contribution in the standard-setting activities defines the actions of communication to inform these groups of their possibility to participate, and clarifies any possible barriers of their participation. A precondition for the activities of the SSWG is that representatives of the following stakeholders participate in its work: forest owners, organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products, parties receiving income from forests and parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>PEFC Finland's board approved on 08.02.2013 a stakeholder mapping report (Board minutes 8.2.2013) that covered stakeholders in the field of forest management.</p> <p>Board minutes 8.2.2013: "6. PEFC FI -standardien päivistyksen suunnitelmat." -> "6. Plans of revision for PEFC FI standards.", "Hyväksyttiin raportti sidosryhmäkartoituksesta (liite 1) ja sen sisältämä sidosryhmäluettelo kokouksessa tehtiin lisäksi käytettäväksi vuosien 2013-14 PEFC FI -kriteerien päivistyksessä."</p> <p>Translated: "A report of stakeholder mapping (attachment 1) and its list of stakeholders, including additions made in the board meeting, to be applied in the PEFC criteria revision 2013-14"</p> <p>"PEFC Suomi on selvittänyt metsien hoidosta ja käytöstä vastuuta kantavina ja kiinnostuneina tahoina metsän-omistajia, metsäteollisuustuotteiden valmistuksessa ja markkinoinnissa mukana olevia organi-saatioita, ammatti-, yrittäjä-, ympäristö-, kuluttaja- ja</p>

			<p>nuorisojärjestöjä, metsäntutkimusta sekä erityisiä kysymyksiä (esim. alkuperäiskansa) edustavat tahot. Selvitys sisälsi valtakunnallisesti toimivat ja alueellisia kysymyksiä edustavat tahot. Metsien hoitoon ja käyttöön suoraan ja välillisesti liittyvät sidosryhmät on esitetty osana tätä liitettä. Kaikki nämä sidosryhmät kutsutaan kirjeitse mukaan PEFC FI standardityöryhmään.”</p> <p>Translated: “PEFC Finland has mapped responsible and interested parties of forest management and utilization of forests, such as forest owners; organisations manufacturing and marketing forest industry products; professional, entrepreneurs’, environmental, consumer, and youth associations; forest research institutes; and parties representing special interests (e.g. indigenous peoples). Mapping included organisations that operate on national level and organisations representing regional matters. Both direct and indirect stakeholders are listed in this attachment. All these stakeholders will be invited by letter to participate PEFC FI Standard Setting Working Group.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
b) have balanced representation and decision-making by stakeholder categories relevant to the subject matter and geographical scope of the standard where single concerned interests shall not dominate nor be dominated in the process, and	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "A precondition for the activities of the SSWG is that representatives of the following stakeholders participate in its work: forest owners, organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products, parties receiving income from forests and parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>All the stakeholder categories mentioned in PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1 (forest owners, organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products, parties receiving income from forests and parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes) were represented in the SSWG. Also representatives of specific geographical matters, such as reindeer herding (Reindeer Herders' Association) and indigenous people (Sámi Parliament), were represented in the SSWG.</p> <p>In numbers the different stakeholder categories are balanced as well (See Table in chapter 5: standard Setting Process)</p> <p>NGOs were under represented and their voice was missed. This was also pointed out in the Stakeholder Survey.</p> <p>As an answer to PEFC Finland’s SSWG invitation several ENGOs informed PEFC Finland that they will not participate during the PEFC process. Extra effort was taken to include ENGO’s in the SSWG, and public consultation. Two ENGOs were contacted also by the SSWG secretary (SSWG Working Committee: 29.04.2014 Minutes) asking ENGOs’ plans for the delivery of comments, but their answers showed that comments are not anticipated to be received from them. (“-> Sihteeri oli myös tiedustellut WWF:n ja SLL:n kantaa kommenttien lähettämiseen, mutta vastausten perusteella näiltä organisaatioilta ei ole odotettavissa kommentteja.”)</p> <p>The scientific community: The only organization representing purely scientific community that was invited to participate in the SSWG was the Finnish Society of Forest Science. They decided not to participate in the process, but at the same time they communicated their intention to comment on the draft standard version. The Finnish Society of Forest Science send their comments during the first 30-day commenting period in December 2013 - January 2014 and second commenting period in March-April 2014.</p> <p>At autumn 2013 the SSWG had professor Harri Vasander from Helsinki University, senior researcher Pekka Punttila from Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and mr. Esa-Jussi Viitala from Finnish Forest Research Institute – METLA in their meetings as invited experts. Which is described in the following newsletters: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC_standardityoeryhmaen_teemoina_ekologia_ja_monimuotoisuus_23092013.pdf http://www.pefc.fi/media/Ajankohtaista/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_uutinen_04112013_-_Esillae_puutuotanto_ja_taloudelliset_kysymykset.pdf</p> <p>Members of scientific community were represented by the Finnish Union of Environmental Professionals and the Society of Finnish Professional Foresters.</p>

			Balanced decision-making, prevention of dominance of a single concerned interest and prevention of a single concerned interest to be dominated were realised in the process due to wide representation of stakeholders, consensus-based decision-making and transparency of SSWG's work. CONFORMS
c) include stakeholders with expertise relevant to the subject matter of the standard, those that are materially affected by the standard, and those that can influence the implementation of the standard. The materially affected stakeholders shall represent a meaningful segment of the participants.	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "A precondition for the activities of the SSWG is that representatives of the following stakeholders participate in its work: forest owners, organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products, parties receiving income from forests and parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes." "Certification bodies and the accreditation organisation shall not participate in the work of the SSWG, but certification bodies can be used as experts in e.g. testing the draft standard." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	A wide variety of organisations including hunting, fishing, consumers, workers union, forest owners, industries and service providers in the forestry sector were presented in the SSWG. No rejection of participants took place. In addition, experts with no voting rights were invited to participate in the meetings of the SSWG. Annex E shows a list with all 44 organisations involved in the SSWG and to which stakeholder category the organisation belongs to. CONFORMS
4.5 The standardising body shall establish procedures for dealing with any substantive and procedural complaints relating to the standardising activities which are accessible to stakeholders.	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, 5.3: "The views received from working group members, experts and parties outside the working group shall be dealt with transparently. The working group shall provide a reply in writing to the views received from parties outside the working group. The decisions made by the working group and replies to written comments will be included in the minutes of the meetings. All comments received during the open public consultation period will be compiled, and the compilation will be submitted to PEFC Finland for publication. If the working group does not reach consensus within internal discussions, the handling of the issue shall be continued by a Panel explained further in Chapter 5.3." "5.3 Handling of Disagreements and Appeals Disagreements on the contents of the standards as well as appeals on the activities and procedures of the Standard Setting Working Group are considered by a Panel that has a chairman and two members." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	No complaints were received during the standard setting process. CONFORMS
4.5 Upon receipt of the complaint, the standard-setting body shall:			
a) acknowledge receipt of the complaint to the complainant,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, 5.3: " PEFC Finland shall acknowledge the receipt of the complaint to the complainant." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	No complaints were received during the standard setting process. CONFORMS

b) gather and verify all necessary information to validate the complaint, impartially and objectively evaluate the subject matter of the complaint, and make a decision upon the complaint, and	Procedures	NO	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.3: "PEFC Finland appoints an impartial chairman to the Panel. The parties in a dispute or appeal case appoint, case by case, one member to the Panel."</p> <p>"The request shall include (i) the name and contact information of the requesting party, (ii) the demands and their justification, (iii) the documents upon which the demands are based, and (iv) other pertinent material. The requesting party shall sign the appeal." ... "PEFC Finland shall acknowledge the receipt of the complaint to the complainant. The Panel gives its decision in writing, and it is signed by the chairman and members of the Panel.</p> <p>The decision shall include a short description of the matter, justification and the outcome of the Panel. The Panel shall inform the Standard Setting Working Group and the complainant about its decision. The decision of the Panel is final."</p> <p>NON CONFORMITY</p> <p>In the standard it is not clearly stated that the complaint shall be evaluated impartially and objectively. PEFC Finland replied: "It is up to the Panel chair to organise the process of validation of the complaint in details."</p> <p>The assessors are of the opinion that the appearance of partiality and subjectivity should be prevented in any case. As such the standard must stress this issue integrating the wording. Therefore the requirement does not conform. </p>
	Process	YES	<p>No complaints were received during the standard setting process.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
c) formally communicate the decision on the complaint and of the complaint handling process to the complainant.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.3: "The Panel gives its decision in writing, and it is signed by the chairman and members of the Panel. The decision shall include a short description of the matter, justification and the outcome of the Panel. The Panel shall inform the SSWG and the complainant about its decision. The decision of the Panel is final."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>No complaints were received during the standard setting process.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
4.6 The standardising body shall establish at least one contact point for enquiries and complaints relating to its standard-setting activities. The contact point shall be made easily available.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.3: "A written request to resolve a disagreement or complaint is addressed to the chairman of PEFC Finland, who acts as a contact point for enquiries and shall deliver the related material immediately to the chairman of the Panel, who shall without delay initiate handling of the issue. Contact information of PEFC Finland's chairman is shown on PEFC Finland's website."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
Standard-setting process			
5.1 The standardising body shall identify stakeholders relevant to the objectives and scope of the standard-setting work.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "Before convening the SSWG, PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>In doc #8 (development of the PEFC criteria) it is stated that on February 8, 2013 the board of PEFC Finland approved the report on stakeholder mapping report and on the opportunities for participation of key stakeholders. "</p> <p>PEFC Finland's board approved on 08.02.2013 the stakeholder mapping report (FSDoc#14) that covered all stakeholders in the field of forest management.</p> <p>("6. PEFC FI -standardien päivitystyön suunnitelmat." -> "6. Plans of revision for PEFC FI standards.", "Hyväksyttiin raportti</p>

			<p>sidosryhmäkartoituksesta (liite 1) ja sen sisältämä sidosryhmäluettelo kokouksessa tehdyin lisäyksiä käytettäväksi vuosien 2013-14 PEFC FI -kriteerien päivittämisessä." -> A report of stakeholder mapping (attachement 1) and its list of stakeholders, including additions made in the board meeting, to be applied in the PEFC criteria revision 2013-14")</p> <p>"PEFC Suomi on selvittänyt metsien hoidosta ja käytöstä vastuuta kantavina ja kiinnostuneina tahoina metsän-omistajia, metsäteollisuustuotteiden valmistuksessa ja markkinoinnissa mukana olevia organi-saatioita, ammatti-, yrittäjä-, ympäristö-, kuluttaja- ja nuorisjärjestöjä, metsäntutkimusta sekä erityisiä kysymyksiä (esim. alkuperäiskansa) edustavat tahot. Selvitys sisälsi valtakunnallisesti toimivat ja alueellisia kysymyksiä edustavat tahot. Metsien hoitoon ja käyttöön suoraan ja välillisesti liittyvät sidosryhmät on esitetty osana tätä liitettä. Kaikki nämä sidosryhmät kutsutaan kirjeitse mukaan PEFC FI standardityöryhmään." -> "PEFC Finland has mapped responsible and interested parties of forest management and utilization of forests, such as forest owners; organisations manufacturing and marketing forest industry products; professional, entrepreneurs', environmental, consumer, and youth associations; forest research institutes; and parties representing special interests (e.g. indigenous peoples). Mapping included organisations that operate on national level and organisations representing regional matters. Both direct and indirect stakeholders are listed in this attachment. All these stakeholders will be invited by letter to participate PEFC FI Standard Setting Working Group.")</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.2 The standardising body shall identify disadvantaged and key stakeholders. The standardising body shall address the constraints of their participation and proactively seek their participation and contribution in the standard-setting activities.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "Before convening the SSWG, PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders. PEFC Finland addresses the constraints of their participation, proactively seeks their participation and contribution in the standard-setting activities defines the actions of communication to inform these groups of their possibility to participate, and clarifies any possible barriers of their participation."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>Stakeholder mapping report approved by PEFC Finland's board 8 February 2013 is shown (FSDoc#14). The mapping report includes (i) Metsien hoitoon ja käyttöön liittyvät suorat ja välilliset sidosryhmät -> Direct and indirect stakeholders of forest management", (ii) "Viestintä standardityöryhmään osallistumismahdollisuudesta" -> "Communication on possibilities to participate" and (iii) "Sidosryhmien osallistumista rajoittavat esteet" -> "Constraints of stakeholders participation"</p> <p>PEFC Finland recorded that participation/travelling costs could be a constraint of participating for the organisations that are located in Lapland. If it is found that stakeholder's resources are insufficient to participate [meetings in Helsinki] PEFC Finland will assist SSWG to organize meetings in such a way that travelling costs do not prevent participation. ("Osallistumisen kustannukset voivat matkustamisen osalta olla merkittävän suuret mm. Lapista käsin toimiville sidosryhmille." "Tapauksissa, joissa sidosryhmän resurssit ovat osallistumisen kustannuksiin nähden riittämättömät, PEFC Suomi avustaa standardityöryhmää organisoimaan kokoukset siten, että matkustamisen kustannukset eivät aiheuta estettä työhön osallistumiselle.")</p> <p>"Target organisations of special communicational actions during fall 2012 and spring 2013 are highlighted by underlining" -> "Erityisviestinnän kohdeorganisaatiot syksyllä 2012 ja keväällä 2013 alleviivattuina")</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.3 The standardising body shall make a public announcement of the start of the standard-setting process and	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "PEFC Finland shall communicate actively about the beginning of the standard drafting process in its website and in other suitable media as appropriate, the objectives, timetable and contents of the work, as well as the convocation of the SSWG, and about the possibility of other parties, apart from those invited in writing, commenting on the scope and the standard setting process and taking part in the working group work."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

include an invitation for participation in a timely manner on its website and in suitable media as appropriate to afford stakeholders an opportunity for meaningful contributions.	Process	YES	<p>Invitations to participate in the SSWG were sent to key stakeholders in a timely manner: in February 2013, and the decision to participate was due in April 2013, in May 2013 the SSWG met for the first time.</p> <p>Doc #2 (Introduction to the PEFC standards revision 2013-2014): "The revision of standards was preceded by a public PEFC work shop focusing on general expectations on forest use and on services forests can provide. The work shop was organized by PEFC Finland in March 2013. In May 2013 PEFC Finland organized a briefing session about the revision of standards and informed on the possibility of all the parties interested in forest management to participate in standard development."</p> <p>In addition to invitation on PEFC FI website, the invitation was communicated 25 February 2013 via PEFC Finland's Newsletter (http://www.pefc.fi/media/Ajankohtaista/PEFC_Suomen_tiedote_25022013.pdf) that in the spring of 2013 had an email distribution of 2.300 recipients including also many media representatives.</p> <p>CONFORMS</p>
5.3 The announcement and invitation shall include:			
a) information about the objectives, scope and the steps of the standard-setting process and its timetable,	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG. The invitation includes (i) a time period for the reply (at least two weeks), (ii) the assignment and timetable of the working group, and possibility to comment on the scope the standard setting process and the policies on preparing a standard specified in the Finnish PEFC forest certification system, (iii) the list of invited parties, and (iv) the method by which other than invited parties can express their willingness to participate in the standard setting process."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>The invitation was sent on 13.02.2013. The time schedule, scope and steps are explained in the invitation: "to join the SSWG, whose task is to revise the Finnish PEFC criteria and assure that the criteria comply with the international PEFC requirements"... "The SSWG will prepare draft versions of the revised standards and display them for public consultation at the end of 2013. The second consultation period will take place in late winter of 2014. In May 2014 the Working Group will submit revised standards to the Finnish Forest Certification Council" (iv) participation: "We kindly ask you to appoint a representative and a potential deputy representative for the Working Group and inform us about your decision."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
b) information about opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the process,	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG. The invitation includes (i) a time period for the reply (at least two weeks), (ii) the assignment and timetable of the working group, and possibility to comment on the scope the standard setting process and the policies on preparing a standard specified in the Finnish PEFC forest certification system, (iii) the list of invited parties, and (iv) the method by which other than invited parties can express their willingness to participate in the standard setting process.</p> <p>PEFC Finland shall communicate actively about the beginning of the standard drafting process in its website and in other suitable media as appropriate, the objectives, timetable and contents of the work, as well as the convocation of the SSWG, and about the possibility of other parties, apart from those invited in writing, commenting on the scope and the standard setting process and taking part in the working group work."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>The invitation was sent to the identified stakeholders to give them the opportunity to participate.</p> <p>In addition to invitation on PEFC FI website, the invitation was communicated on 25.02.2013 via PEFC Finland's Newsletter (http://www.pefc.fi/media/Ajankohtaista/PEFC_Suomen_tiedote_25022013.pdf) that in the spring of 2013 had an email distribution of 2.300 recipients</p> <p>Also an invitation to the public to attend the briefing (8 May 2013) of PEFC FI Standard revision was announced via PEFC Finland's Newsletter http://www.pefc.fi/media/Ajankohtaista/Kutsu_8.5.2013_tiedotustilaisuuteen_PEFC-kriteerien_uudistamistyoeaie_29042013.pdf.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

(c) an invitation to stakeholders to nominate their representative(s) to the working group/committee. The invitation to disadvantaged and key stakeholders shall be made in a manner that ensures that the information reaches intended recipients and in a format that is understandable,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch 5.1: "PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG." "Before convening the SSWG, PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders. PEFC Finland addresses the constraints of their participation, proactively seeks their participation and contribution in the standard-setting activities defines the actions of communication to inform these groups of their possibility to participate, and clarifies any possible barriers of their participation." "PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG. The invitation includes (i) a time period for the reply (at least two weeks), (ii) the assignment and timetable of the working group, and possibility to comment on the scope the standard setting process and the policies on preparing a standard specified in the Finnish PEFC forest certification system, (iii) the list of invited parties, and (iv) the method by which other than invited parties can express their willingness to participate in the standard setting process." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	A written invitation was sent, with reference to the standards on the PEFC Finland's website, also an invite to seek contact if more information is needed: invitation letter: "We are willing to provide you with additional information on the process." It can be presumed that everyone in Finland can read Finnish and did receive the letter. CONFORMS
d) an invitation to comment on the scope and the standard-setting process, and	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "PEFC Finland sends a written invitation to the parties to be invited to the SSWG. The invitation includes (i) a time period for the reply (at least two weeks), (ii) the assignment and timetable of the working group, and possibility to comment on the scope the standard setting process and the policies on preparing a standard specified in the Finnish PEFC forest certification system, (iii) the list of invited parties, and (iv) the method by which other than invited parties can express their willingness to participate in the standard setting process." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	The initial invitation letter did not include an invitation to comment on the scope and the standard setting process. Reference to PEFC FI 1006:2008_v4; Standard Setting Process for Forest Certification, was not explicitly made in the invitation, but was present on the link to the website. Invitation letter: "PEFC criteria under revision are displayed online at the website: www.pefc.fi / http://www.pefc.fi/pages/en/documents-and-materials/standards.php -> Documents and Materials -> Standards -> PEFC FI 1002:2009; Criteria for group certification and PEFC FI 1003:2009; Criteria for Certification; Level of Forest Holdings of Individual Owners." Other opportunities to comment on the standard setting process: All participants of the SSWG, received the Invitation and agenda of the SSWG constitutive meeting Prior to the constitutive meeting of the SSWG http://www.pefc.fi/media/Kriteerityoe_2013-14/PEFC-jaeriestymiskokous_08052013_Kutsu_ja_asialista_final.pdf the PEFC FI 1006:2008_v3 standard and a draft of the SSWG Action plan were handed over to organisations who had shown interest to participate in the meeting. ("Kokousmateriaalit" -> Materials of the meeting, "Toimintasuunnitelman luonnos" -> Draft of the Action plan", "Asialista" -> "Agenda", "PEFC FI 1006 -asiakirjan linjaukset standardityöryhmän työskentelytavalle" -> "Guidance in PEFC FI 1005 document to the working methods of the SSWG) Standard setting procedures were discussed in the establishing meeting. No critical comments were raised and thus not documented. Outcome of the discussion (Action plan) was decided by the constitutive meeting. The internet-based commenting tool of the public consultation period First Standard Draft http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/1.-kommentointivaihe.php and the Second Standard Draft http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/2.-kommentointivaihe.php also asked questions about the working methods ("Oletko saanut riittävästi tietoa päivitysprosessista?" -> "Have you received enough information about the revision process", "Pitäisikö PEFC-standardityöryhmän ottaa työssään keväällä 2014 käyttöön toimintatapoja, jotka eivät vielä tämän mennessä ole olleet käytössä?" / Pitäisikö PEFC-standardityöryhmän ottaa viimeistellyn standardin laadinnassa käyttöön toimintatapoja, jotka eivät vielä

			<p>tähän mennessä ole olleet päivitysprosessissa käytössä? -> "Should SSWG take in spring 2014 in use working methods that have not yet been used." / Should SSWG take during the elaboration of the final draft version in use working methods that have not yet been used.)</p> <p>The comments on the first standard draft were collected in the document: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Ensimmäisen_komentointijakson_satoa_20140204_-_julkinen_yhteenveto.pdf ("Yleiskommentit PEFC-kriteeristön päivitysprosessin sisällöstä/toteutuksesta". -> "General comments about the realisation/content of PEFC criteria revision process").</p> <p>The document was studied and discussed by the SSWG February 14 meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140214.pdf (" 4) Kommentointikierroksen tulosten käsittely" -> "Processing of received comments", "Yleiskommentit prosessista" -> "General comments on the realisation of the revision process", "Työ on saanut kiitosta avoimuudesta sekä tiedon saatavuudesta. Negatiivisia kommentteja ei ollut esitetty." -> "Realisation has been thanked by its openness and availability of information. No negative comments were received".</p> <p>Comments of the second commenting period (including also comments about the comments about the working methods: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Toisen_komentointijakson_satoa_20140507_-_julkinen_yhteenveto.pdf (doc #12)) was studied and discussed by SSWG in May 15 meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140515.pdf "Yleiskommentit PEFC-kriteeristön päivitysprosessin sisällöstä/toteutuksesta" -> "General comments on the realisation of the revision process", "Työ on saanut kiitosta avoimuudesta, osallistavuudesta sekä tiedon saatavuudesta." -> "Realisation has been thanked by its openness, inclusiveness, and availability of information". "Kommenteissa mainittiin prosessin sujuneen hyvin. Muutamassa kommentissa oli toivottu metsänomistajien parempaa tiedottamista. -> "In comments it was mentioned that the process had proceeded well. In couple of comments it was mentioned that forest owners should have informed better".)</p> <p>It would have been more transparent if the question was asked explicitly in the invitation to all stakeholders. The standard setting process however was very transparent and information could be found on PEFC's website. Therefore although the invitation did not mention explicitly to comment on the scope and the standard-setting process, stakeholders were invited to comment on the standard setting process during the SSWG meeting and the public consultation period. The assessors viewed this requirement as conforming. CONFORMS </p>
e) reference to publicly available standard-setting procedures.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, 5.1: "PEFC Finland shall communicate actively about the beginning of the standard drafting process in its website and in other suitable media as appropriate, the objectives, timetable and contents of the work, as well as the convocation of the SSWG, and about the possibility of other parties, apart from those invited in writing, commenting on the scope and the standard setting process and taking part in the working group work."</p> <p>"The approved meeting minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that will publish them without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG and file all documents of the Annex 1 of this document for five years at the minimum. All documents are available from PEFC Finland upon request."</p> <p>Annex 1, includes the Draft Standard/Standards, which includes the PEFC FI 1006 document on the standard setting procedures. CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>The invitation letter refers to the standards, but not specific to the standard setting procedures. The url given: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/en/documents-and-materials/standards.php does however refers to all standards including the standard setting procedure." CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.4 The standardising body shall review the standard-setting process based on comments received from the public announcement and establish a working group/committee or adjust the composition of an already existing working group/committee based on received nominations. The acceptance and refusal of nominations shall be justifiable in relation to the requirements for balanced representation of the working group/committee and resources available for the standard-setting.</p>	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch 5.1: "Before the initiation of the SSWG's work, comments on the standard setting process can be submitted to PEFC Finland, who will attend to them without delay and take necessary measures."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1006, ch 5.1: "The Finnish PEFC forest certification requirements on forest management are drafted and revised by the SSWG, which is convened by PEFC Finland" ... "PEFC Finland calls in members to the SSWG as comprehensively as possible from responsible and interested parties, such as forest owners; organisations manufacturing and marketing forest industry products; professional, entrepreneurs', environmental, consumer, recreational, and youth associations, as well as; forest research institutes, and parties representing special interests (e.g. indigenous people).</p> <p>Before convening the SSWG, PEFC Finland identifies key stakeholder groups that are associated to forest management either directly or indirectly and disadvantaged stakeholders. PEFC Finland addresses the constraints of their participation, proactively seeks their participation and contribution in the standard-setting activities defines the actions of communication to inform these groups of their possibility to participate, and clarifies any possible barriers of their participation.</p> <p>A precondition for the activities of the SSWG is that representatives of the following stakeholders participate in its work: forest owners, organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products, parties receiving income from forests and parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>Doc #8 (Development of the PEFC Criteria): "Stakeholder groups did not submit to PEFC Finland any comments related to standard setting process during the revision process."</p> <p>Balanced representation was achieved by open invitation of all stakeholders and wide representation of stakeholders covering forest owners, organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products and parties receiving income from forests, using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes.</p> <p>Participants of the SSWG were recorded according to their notification in SSWG's constitutive meeting and after that by recording new accepted members in the SSWG meeting memos. No notifications of participation were refused by the SSWG.</p> <p>Stakeholders were not categorized during the Standard Setting Process. During this Assessment the SSWG members were categorised and agreed on consensus by PEFC Finland and the assessors. They were divided into 4 stakeholder groups, and all groups were equally represented (see reference chapter 5.1) and Annex (E).</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.5 The work of the working group/committee shall be organised in an open and transparent manner where:</p>			
<p>a) working drafts shall be available to all members of the working group/committee,</p>	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "The approved meeting minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that will publish them without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG and file all documents of the Annex 1 of this document for five years at the minimum. All documents are available from PEFC Finland upon request." Annex 1, includes the Draft Standard/Standards. PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2: "Working drafts of the standard shall be sent to SSWG members."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

	Process	YES	<p>Action plan (doc #12), p6: communication plan : "The SSWG is responsible for its own communication. Approved minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that publishes them without any delay on the internet page informing about the work of the standard setting working group http://www.pefc.fi -> Criteria work 2013–2014 ("Kriteerityö 2013"). Drafts of standards are published on the internet promptly after the working group's approval."</p> <p>Survey: 100% of respondents answered yes to the question: Did the organizers provide you on time with relevant material (working drafts, meeting minutes etc.) to participate in the scheme development and revision? "</p> <p>The documentation is publically available on the website of PEFC Finland: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/pefc-fi--kriteerien-uudistustyoe.php</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
b) all members of the working group shall be provided with meaningful opportunities to contribute to the development or revision of the standard and submit comments to the working drafts, and	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2: "The SSWG shall be transparent as regards to participation in the working group and working methods of the group. Each party participating in the SSWG has equal and meaningful opportunity to have an influence on the final result of the work. The SSWG defines the details of its own working methods."</p> <p>"The views received from working group members, experts and parties outside the working group shall be dealt with transparently. The working group shall provide a reply in writing to the views received from parties outside the working group. The decisions made by the working group and replies to written comments will be included in the minutes of the meetings. All comments received during the open public consultation period will be compiled, and the compilation will be submitted to PEFC Finland for publication."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>Open invitation and consensus-driven process provided all stakeholders participation on equal terms.</p> <p>Meaningful opportunities included possibility to participate in the process as an SSWG member and submit comments to the SSWG.</p> <p>All minutes from the SSWG meetings are placed on the website, with the comments and discussions on the different topics.</p> <p>In the view of some respondents of the stakeholder survey the opinion of ENGOs was not presented.</p> <p>As an answer to PEFC Finland's SSWG invitation several ENGOs informed PEFC Finland that they will not participate during the PEFC process. Extra effort which took place to include ENGO's in the SSWG, and public consultation. Two ENGOs were contacted also by the SSWG secretary (SSWG Working Committee: 29.04.2014 Minutes) asking eNGOs' plans for the delivery of comments, but their answers showed that comments are not anticipated to be received from them. ("-> Sihteeri oli myös tiedustellut WWF:n ja SLL:n kantaa kommenttien lähettämiseen, mutta vastausten perusteella näiltä organisaatioilta ei ole odotettavissa kommentteja.")</p> <p>Other respondents of the stakeholder survey stipulated that even when not present at a meeting contributions could be made.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
c) comments and views submitted by any member of the working group/committee shall be considered in an open and transparent way and their resolution and proposed changes shall be recorded.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.1: "The work of the SSWG shall be based on consensus and it shall follow working methods that support the emergence of mutual understanding among its members. The SSWG's working methods are based on an open exchange of views among the members and direct negotiations between the stakeholders in order to find a compromise and reach a mutual understanding."</p> <p>"The views received from working group members, experts and parties outside the working group shall be dealt with transparently. The working group shall provide a reply in writing to the views received from parties outside the working group."</p> <p>"Minutes are written of each SSWG's meeting they are signed by the meeting chairman and secretary. The meeting minutes shall be sent to the Working Group members prior to the following meeting in which the minutes will be revised and approved. The minutes shall include not only the issues discussed and decisions made in the meeting, but also the comments that the defender of the view requests to be included, with their justifications."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

	Process	YES	<p>Most of the content of all SSWG memos explain proposed changes to the PEFC FI criteria and discussion about them and how proposals were handled.</p> <p>In the stakeholder survey 3 respondents (out of 24) when asked about the decision making process partially disagreed. They commented on the weight the environmental issues were given in comparison with the opinions of e.g. the forest owners.</p> <p>To assess this requirement and to research the comments given in the survey, special attention was given to the decisions and process of environmental issues during the standard setting process: Environmental issues were discussed specifically in 6 September 2013 SSWG meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130906.pdf ("Kokouksen teema: Ekologiset, monimuotoisuutta koskevat kysymykset." -> "Theme of the meeting: Ecological and biodiversity issues.").</p> <p>SSWG members were encouraged http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130614.pdf to establish informal theme/subgroups ("...epäviraallisten teema- ja työryhmien perustaminen organisaatioiden kesken on erittäin suositeltavaa.")</p> <p>Establishment of an Ecological Criteria subgroup and decisions of participants to the subgroup are recorded in the course of the meeting and after the meeting are noted in 18 October 2013 SSWG meeting memo http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131018.pdf ("Ympäristökriteerit –alatyöryhmän perustamiseksi ja ehdotuksen alatyöryhmän tehtävistä. Esitys hyväksyttiin. Päätettiin, että ryhmään voi ilmoittautua kokouksessa, mutta ilmoittautua voi myös jälkikäteen sihteerille.")</p> <p>There were always opportunities to raise concerns and during progress towards the last meeting an extra opportunity was mentioned. The minutes of SSWG Working group minutes (FSDoc#17) 05.06.2014 the SSWG members were encouraged to deliver: ("3. Työvaliokunnalle toimitettujen kommenttien käsittely" -> "3. Handling of Comments delivered to the Working Committee".)</p> <p>("Standardityöryhmän jäseniä oli pyydetty toimittamaan sihteerille tiedoksi mahdolliset standardiluonnosta koskevat kommentit sekä muut aiheet, joita jäsenet toivovat/edellyttävät käsiteltävän standardityöryhmän 12.6. kokouksessa" -> "Members of the SSWG were asked to deliver to the secretary all comments and other issues that they wish the SSWG to consider in SSWG 12 June meeting.")</p> <p>Hence the assessors conclude that comments and views are considered and recorded in a transparent way.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.6 The standardising body shall organise a public consultation on the enquiry draft and shall ensure that:			
a) the start and the end of the public consultation is announced in a timely manner in suitable media,	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2: "The action plan of the SSWG shall include "... (iii) a communication plan describing, inter alia, practices and arrangements of public seminars, of internal communication and external communication for parties not taking part in the standard setting work and for other external parties in general, practices of inviting stakeholders for the 60-day-minimum public consultation of the draft standards and means to communicate the public consultation and its timelines effectively;"</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>The consultation periods were mentioned on the PEFC Finland's website and PEFC Finland's newsletters with distribution to 2.000 email addresses, offered wide coverage of among stakeholders with interests to forest management issues in Finland including press.</p> <p>During the both consultation periods a lot of comments were received: A compilation of the comments for publication on website (Dec. 2013)</p>

			http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivystyoe_2013_14/Kriteerien_kaesittely_20140214.pdf A compilation of the comments of the second consultation period: (April 2014) http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivystyoe_2013_14/PEFC_FI_Toisen_komentointijakson_satoa_20140507_-_julkinen_yhteenveto.pdf (doc #12) CONFORMS
b) the invitation of disadvantaged and key stakeholders shall be made by means that ensure that the information reaches its recipient and is understandable,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2: "The action plan of the SSWG shall include "... (iii) a communication plan describing, inter alia, practices and arrangements of public seminars, of internal communication and external communication for parties not taking part in the standard setting work and for other external parties in general, practises of inviting stakeholders for the 60-day-minimum public consultation of the draft standards and means to communicate the public consultation and its timelines effectively;" CONFORMS
	Process	YES	The action plan, p6: communication plan: "SSWG publishes press releases on (i) launching of the SSWG, (ii) organization and participation in the seminar, (iii) finalization of the first and (iv) second draft of the standard and possibilities for commenting on them, as well as (v) the final draft standard version. The standard setting working group reviews and approves the content of the press releases. The PEFC Finland offers its mailing list for publishing the press releases. The chairman may, however, inform public on the working group's decision before the following meeting, if he/she is authorized to do so by the working group." In Stakeholder mapping (Boardmeeting: FSDoc#14 Tarkastettu pöytäkirja Suomen Metsäsertifiointi ry:n hallitus 08022013) Lapland-based organisations were recorded as potential disadvantaged stakeholders due to the travelling costs as a potential constraint of their participation. As both Lapland-based stakeholders – Reindeer Herders' Association and Sámi People – participated the process, no special means were needed to reach them during public commenting periods. All key stakeholders were recorded according to the stakeholder mapping. All stakeholders of the stakeholder mapping were included in the PEFC FI Newsletter distribution communicating the public consultation periods. CONFORMS
c) the enquiry draft is publicly available and accessible,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p8: "The SSWG shall communicate publicly, inter alia, the start of its work, its action plan, the progress of its work and the possibility of giving comments to the draft standards during public consultation. The SSWG is responsible for its own communication and is independent of PEFC Finland." "The approved meeting minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that will publish them without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG and file all documents of the Annex 1 of this document for five years at the minimum. All documents are available from PEFC Finland upon request." The wording chosen does not explicitly require public availability of the enquiry draft. Although "the possibility of giving comments to the draft standards during public consultation" would be very difficult without access to the document. In the document is also stated that all documents are available upon request from PEFC Finland. The list of the Annex 1 also includes all standards and draft standards. CONFORMS
	Process	YES	On the website of PEFC Finland a questionnaire was placed during both consultation periods to be able to comment easily on all the Criteria of the forest certification: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/2.-komentointivaihe.php instead of reading the draft and comment later, every criteria had a space to be able to comment on that specific point, they also could leave a general comment on the whole standard. CONFORMS
d) the public consultation is for at least 60 days,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2 p8: "The action plan of the SSWG shall include (i) a description "... (iii) a communication plan describing, inter alia, practices and arrangements of public seminars, of internal communication and external communication for parties not taking part in the standard setting work and for other external parties in general, practices of inviting stakeholders for the <u>60-day-minimum public consultation</u> of the draft standards and means to communicate the public consultation and its timelines effectively;" CONFORMS

	Process	YES	Two (2) consultation periods of thirty (30) days were organised. It was already announced by PEFC Finland in their invitation letter to participate in the SSWG, that 2 public consultation periods would be provided. No mention in PEFC 1001:2010, Standard Setting – Requirements that the sixty (60) days should be consecutive, although this is common practice. Both periods provide comments of different organisations. The compilation of the comments can be found on the PEFC Finland’s website. CONFORMS
e) all comments received are considered by the working group/committee in an objective manner,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2 p7: "The decisions made by the working group and replies to written comments will be included in the minutes of the meetings. All comments received during the open public consultation period will be compiled, and the compilation will be submitted to PEFC Finland for publication." "The views received from working group members, experts and parties outside the working group shall be dealt with transparently. The working group shall provide a reply in writing to the views received from parties outside the working group." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	The compilation of the comments of the 2 consultation periods are available. In the minutes a reference is made to these documents and alterations to the standards were made considering the comments received. In the 14 February 2014 meeting memo of SSWG: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140214.pdf the criterion specific results of the public comment period were studied. Discussion and key findings of needs for change were recorded. Some of the comments were found to be suggestions of technical corrections and they will be taken into account in the rewrite of the criteria, but they are dealt specifically in the SSWG meeting. (-> "Kommentointikierroksen tuloksia käytiin lävitse kriteereittäin. Niiden osalta on todettu käyty keskustelu ja keskeiset johtopäätökset muutostarpeista. Osan kommentaista todettiin olevan teknisiä korjaustarpeita, jotka otetaan huomioon kriteeristön muokkauksessa, mutta niitä ei erikseen käsitellä kokouksessa.") In the stakeholder survey of the assessors one person partially disagreed on the objective consideration of comments from SSWG members, unfortunately no explanatory comment was given. Two notes received relating to this question elaborated on the process, which in the respondents’ view advised that the comments were handled with respect and comments considered relevant and supported by the SSWG were included in the next version of the draft standard. CONFORMS
(f) a synopsis of received comments compiled from material issues, including the results of their consideration, is publicly available, for example on a website.	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2 p7: "The decisions made by the working group and replies to written comments will be included in the minutes of the meetings. All comments received during the open public consultation period will be compiled, and the compilation will be submitted to PEFC Finland for publication." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	For the 2 public consultation periods an overview of all comments was made available to the SSWG and also available on the website of PEFC Finland. http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/pefc-fi--kriteerien-uudistustyoe.php . An extra overall presentation of the comments of the first public consultation was made available on the website of PEFC Finland for a more general view. http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/Kriteerien_kaesittely_20140214.pdf In the 14 February 2014 meeting memo of SSWG: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140214.pdf the criterion specific results of the public comment period were studied. Discussion and key findings of needs for change were recorded. Some of the comments were found to be suggestions of technical corrections and they will be taken into account in the rewrite of the criteria, but they are dealt specifically in the SSWG meeting. (-> "Kommentointikierroksen tuloksia käytiin lävitse kriteereittäin. Niiden osalta on todettu käyty keskustelu ja keskeiset johtopäätökset muutostarpeista. Osan kommentaista todettiin olevan teknisiä korjaustarpeita, jotka otetaan huomioon kriteeristön muokkauksessa, mutta niitä ei erikseen käsitellä kokouksessa.") The SSWG 14 February 2014 meeting memo including results of SSWG considerations is publicly available on PEFC FI website. CONFORMS

5.7 The standardising body shall organise pilot testing of the new standards and the results of the pilot testing shall be considered by the working group/committee.	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p8: "The action plan of the SSWG shall include (i) a description "... as well as (v) a proposal on how to test the draft standard to ensure the practical suitability of its comments and observations. The SSWG shall include in the standard testing outline a description of the impacts the proposed changes to the standard induce on the procedures of forest certification's data collection, and a justified opinion of the necessity of standard testing. PEFC Finland is responsible for the implementation of the testing considered necessary by the SSWG and shall inform the group of the testing results. Based on these results the group then decides on possible changes to the standard. The SSWG will prepare a report on the implementation of the testing and its results." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	SSWG Working Committee's 26 March 2014 meeting memo (FSDoc#16) describes the piloting process as follows: Agreement on piloting of draft criteria (-> "Kriteeristöluonnoksen pilotoinnista sopiminen") Secretary of SSWG Working committee stated that there is a tentative agreement between DNVGL and PEFC Finland on the piloting of draft criteria. Piloting will be carried out in a simple way, which means that DNV's expert carries out a desk study on draft criteria. The aim is to get feedback on the issues that could harm the realization of audits. It was noted that DNV is appropriate to carry out piloting. It was stressed that special attention is made on the verification of criteria. Secretary of SSWG Working committee will be the contact person to DNV. It was also noted that the cost analysis of the criteria carried out by Indufor Oy is also part the piloting. (-> "Sihteeri totesi, että pilotoinnista on alustavasti sovittu suullisesti DNV GL:n ja PEFC Suomen kanssa. Tarkoitus on toteuttaa pilotointi kevyesti, mikä käytännössä tarkoittaa DNV:n asiantuntijan tekemää kriteeristöluonnoksen asiantarkastusta. Tavoitteena pilotoinnissa on saada palautetta kriteeristöluonnoksen mahdollisista ongelmakohtista, jotka voisivat haitata auditointien tekemistä. Todettiin, että DNV on sopiva taho pilotoinnin tekemiseen. Erityisesti toivottiin, että arvioinnissa kiinnitetään huomiota kriteeristön todennuskelpoisuuteen. Sihteeri hoitaa pilotoinnin osalta yhteydenpidon DNV:n kanssa. Todettiin Indufor Oy:n toteuttaman kriteereiden kustannustarkastelun olevan osa pilotointia.") SSWG Working Committee's 29 April 2014 meeting memo (FSDoc#15) states that DNVGL has agreed carry out a desk study on the content of the draft criteria. Results will be at hand by 5 May. (-> "...DNV GL on lupautunut tekemään kriteeristöluonnoksen sisältöarvioinnin. Kommentit on luvattu toimittaa 5.5. mennessä.") In SSWG's 12 June meeting memo http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140612_-_standardiluonnoksen_hyvaeksymiskokous.pdf states as follows: The SSWG conducted piloting of the draft criteria in the course of the second public comment period in cooperation with DNV GL that carries out [forest management] audits. Piloting included evaluation of draft standard's auditability. The findings of the piloting have been used in clarifying the content of draft criteria. PEFC Finland purchased a cost analysis of the draft criteria from Indufor Oy. Its findings were used to evaluate criteria's economic effects. (-> "Työvaliokunta toteutti standardiluonnoksen testauksen eli pilotoinnin toisen kommentointikierroksen yhteydessä yhteistyössä auditointeja tekevän yrityksen DNV GL:n kanssa. Testaus sisälsi auditointien tekemän arvon standardiluonnoksen auditoitavuudesta ja tuloksia käytettiin standardiluonnoksen selkeyttämiseen. Suomen Metsäsertifiointi ry [PEFC Suomi] tilasi keväällä 2014 Indufor Oy:ltä standardiluonnoksen kustannustarkastelun standardityöryhmän käyttöön. Kustannustarkastelua hyödynnettiin kriteereiden taloudellista vaikuttavuutta arvioitaessa.") CONFORMS
5.8 The decision of the working group to recommend the final draft for formal approval shall be taken on the	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p7: "The work of the SSWG shall be based on consensus and it shall follow working methods that support the emergence of mutual understanding among its members. The SSWG's working methods are based on an open exchange of views among the members and direct negotiations between the stakeholders in order to find a compromise and reach a mutual understanding. In order to reach a consensus the views of the SSWG members are clarified by voting in Working Group's meetings to establish whether there is opposition and by a statement on consensus from the chairman where there are no dissenting voices. Also postal ballots can be used."

basis of a consensus.			<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p7: "If the working group does not reach consensus within internal discussions, the handling of the issue shall be continued by a Panel explained further in Chapter 5.3."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1006, ch 5.3, p9: "The Panel shall solve all matters given for it to discuss prior to the SSWG's approval of the final draft version."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1006, ch 5.4, p9: "When the SSWG has reached consensus, approved the final standard draft and finished its assignment in other respects, it submits the standard draft containing the requirements on forest management and use to PEFC Finland."..."PEFC Finland shall make the decision on the approval of the final draft version submitted by the SSWG, and publish the approved standard without delay."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>In the final SSWG meeting (http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20140612_-_standardiluonnoksen_hyvaeksymiskokous.pdf) ("...puheenjohtaja totesi olevan viimeinen mahdollinen hetki tuoda esille standardiluonnosta koskevia kommentteja. Koska kommentteja ei ollut..." -> "...chair stated that now it is the latest point of time to express any comments. No comments were given.</p> <p>In minutes of the last meeting of SSWG (12.06.2014). All members present signed off on the final draft version.</p> <p>Representatives of all organisations that participated the SSWG's work signed a document of approval. The document's approval statement was: ("PEFC-standardityöryhmässä edustamani organisaation osalta hyväksyn 12.6.2014 päivätyn PEFC-standardin (Metsäsertifiointin kriteerit - PEFC FI 1002:20xx) lopullisen luonnosversion" -> "On behalf of the organisation that I represented in the SSWG I accept the final draft (Forest Management Criteria – PEFC FI 1002:20xx) approved 12 June 2014 by the SSWG".)</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.8 In order to reach a consensus the working group/committee can utilise the following alternative processes to establish whether there is opposition:			
a) a face-to face meeting where there is a verbal yes/no vote, show of hands for a yes/no vote; a statement on consensus from the Chair where there are no dissenting voices or hands (votes); a formal balloting process, etc.,	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p 7: "In order to reach a consensus the views of the SSWG members are clarified by voting in Working Group's meetings to establish whether there is opposition and by a statement on consensus from the chairman where there are no dissenting voices. Also postal ballots can be used."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>No records of voting were found in the minutes of the SSWG.</p> <p>PEFC Finland reply after the draft report: "Technical realization of voting is not recorded in SSWG meeting memos. A common procedure was that on the basis of discussion and presented viewpoints the chair made a proposal for decision and meeting members raised their hands to support or oppose the proposal or abstain."</p> <p>During the stakeholder survey carried out by the assessors (see Appendix) 20 % of the respondents indicated that consensus was only partially reached in the development of the SFM certification criteria. Those respondents indicated that consensus was made on the overall SFM standard, but not always entirely on some minor details, such as on specific environmental issues. Those members indicated that some subjects should have given more weight during discussions. This specific feedback was given by three (non-ENGO) stakeholders. However, when asked more specifically, these stakeholders indicated to agree with the entire voting process and softened their previous statement.</p> <p>To research the comments given in the survey, special attention was given by the assessors to the decisions and process of environmental issues during the standard setting process:</p> <p>Environmental issues were discussed specifically in 6 September 2013 SSWG meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130906.pdf ("Kokouksen teema: Ekologiset, monimuotoisuutta koskevat kysymykset." -> "Theme of the meeting: Ecological and biodiversity issues.").</p>

			<p>SSWG members were encouraged http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130614.pdf to establish informal theme/subgroups ("...epäviraallisten teema- ja työryhmien perustaminen organisaatioiden kesken on erittäin suositeltavaa.")</p> <p>Establishment of Ecological Criteria subgroup and decision that participants to the subgroup are recorded in the course of the meeting and after the meeting are noted in 18 October 2013 SSWG meeting memo http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131018.pdf ("Ympäristökriteerit –alatyöryhmän perustamiseksi ja ehdotuksen alatyöryhmän tehtävistä. Esitys hyväksyttiin. Päätettiin, että ryhmään voi ilmoittautua kokouksessa, mutta ilmoittautua voi myös jälkikäteen sihteerille.")</p> <p>There were always opportunities to raise concerns and during progress towards the last meeting an extra opportunity was mentioned. The minutes of SSWG Working group minutes (FSDoc#17) 5 June 2015 the SSWG members were encouraged to deliver: ("3. Työvaliokunnalle toimitettujen kommenttien käsittely" -> "3. Handling of Comments delivered to the Working Committee".) ("Standardityöryhmän jäseniä oli pyydetty toimittamaan sihteerille tiedoksi mahdolliset standardiluonnosta koskevat kommentit sekä muut aiheet, joita jäsenet toivovat/edellyttävät käsiteltävän standardityöryhmän 12.6. kokouksessa" -> "Members of the SSWG were asked to deliver to the secretary all comments and other issues that they wish the SSWG to consider in SSWG 12 June meeting.")</p> <p>The assessors learned form the stakeholder survey comments and review of the SSWG member list that environmental issues had no spokespersons, as ENGO's were not participating.</p> <p>The assessors understand that with 43 members the process on consensus has the pitfall to not always hear the minority opinions especially when not present (ENGO, despite the extra effort to include them). The documentation on the different criterions was however very transparent, SSWG members could submit proposals for alterations also in writing prior to the meeting or discuss them in a subgroup. And the public consultation provide the public of possibilities to react. In the end all members signed the final draft report.</p> <p>The stakeholder survey raises concerns on the concensus building process, The perception that some views were not given sufficient weight should have been avoided. In the next revision process extra attention could be given on the minorities opinion. The voting process could be recorded in the minutes or maybe voting ballots can be used on some issues.</p> <p>The assessors could not find malicious intent, and sufficient mechanisms were in place for SSWG members to give their view or add comments. Therefore this requirement conforms.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
b) a telephone conference meeting where there is a verbal yes/no vote,	Procedures	N/A	
	Process	N/A	
c) an e-mail meeting where a request for agreement or objection is provided to members with the members	Procedures	N/A	
	Process	N/A	

providing a written response (a proxy for a vote), or			
d) combinations thereof.	Procedures	N/A	
	Process	N/A	
5.9 In the case of a negative vote which represents sustained opposition to any important part of the concerned interests surrounding a substantive issue, the issue shall be resolved using the following mechanism(s):			
a) discussion and negotiation on the disputed issue within the working group/committee in order to find a compromise,	Procedures	YES	PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p7: "The work of the SSWG shall be based on consensus and it shall follow working methods that support the emergence of mutual understanding among its members. The SSWG's working methods are based on an open exchange of views among the members and direct negotiations between the stakeholders in order to find a compromise and reach a mutual understanding." CONFORMS
	Process	YES	<p>Minutes of the SSWG meetings show that in order to find trade-off, discussions took place. Discussions are recorded in the SSWG minutes but viewpoints and comments are not identified by the names of the representatives or organisations.</p> <p>For different subjects: Northern Finland, working life, multiple use of forests and environmental criteria subgroups were formed. These theme-specific subgroups were of an informal nature. The role of the theme groups was to discuss themes in detail and deliver proposals to the SSWG working group and SSWG. As the theme subgroups were no decision-making bodies, minutes were not provided. The ways of working for the theme-specific subgroups were defined by the SSWG. The theme-specific subgroups defined by themselves the mode of action including calling the meeting, recording participants and making memos. SSWG's working committee was informed about outcomes of the meetings and this information was included to working committee information to the SSWG.</p> <p>The SFM standard was the work of consensus on different issues. In the end all members of SSWG agreed upon the final result.</p> <p>The representatives of all organisations that participated the SSWG's work signed a document of approval (FSDoc#18). The document. ("PEFC-standardityöryhmässä edustamani organisaation osalta hyväksyn 12.6.2014 päivätyn PEFC-standardin (Metsäsertifiointin kriteerit - PEFC FI 1002:20xx) lopullisen luonnosversion" -> "On behalf of the organisation that I represented in the SSWG I accept the final draft (Forest Management Criteria – PEFC FI 1002:20xx) approved 12 June 2014 by the SSWG".</p> <p>Stakeholder survey: When asked about the decision making process 3 respondents (out of 24) partially disagreed. They commented on the weight the environmental issues were given in comparison with the opinions of e.g. the forest owners. Also almost 30% of the respondents answered 'yes' or 'partially agree' when asked if there have been any issues or processes during the latest Standard Setting Process that was disagreed with. Two comments were received that further explained the partial agreement: It appeared that although there have been different opinions about certain issues (e.g. environmental subjects) the respondents were satisfied with the overall SFM standard and the end result.</p> <p>To research the comments given in the survey, special attention was given to the decisions and process of environmental issues during the standard setting process: Environmental issues were discussed specifically in 6 September 2013 SSWG meeting http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130906.pdf ("Kokouksen teema: Ekologiset, monimuotoisuutta koskevat kysymykset." -> "Theme of the meeting: Ecological and biodiversity issues.").</p> <p>SSWG members were encouraged http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyo_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_</p>

			<p>Poeytaekirja_20130614.pdf to establish informal theme/subgroups ("...epäviraallisten teema- ja työryhmien perustaminen organisaatioiden kesken on erittäin suositeltavaa.")</p> <p>Establishment of an Ecological Criteria subgroup and decisions of participants to the subgroup are recorded in the course of the meeting and after the meeting are noted in 18 October 2013 SSWG meeting memo http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivystystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131018.pdf ("Ympäristökriteerit –alatyöryhmän perustamiseksi ja ehdotuksen alatyöryhmän tehtävistä. Esitys hyväksyttiin. Päätettiin, että ryhmään voi ilmoittautua kokouksessa, mutta ilmoittautua voi myös jälkikäteen sihteerille.")</p> <p>There were always opportunities to raise concerns and during progress towards the last meeting an extra opportunity was mentioned. In the minutes of SSWG Working group minutes (FSDoc#17) 5.06.2014 the SSWG members were encouraged to deliver: ("3. Työvaliokunnalle toimitettujen kommenttien käsittely" -> "3. Handling of Comments delivered to the Working Committee".)</p> <p>("Standardityöryhmän jäseniä oli pyydetty toimittamaan sihteerille tiedoksi mahdolliset standardiluonnosta koskevat kommentit sekä muut aiheet, joita jäsenet toivovat/edellyttävät käsiteltävän standardityöryhmän 12.6. kokouksessa" -> "Members of the SSWG were asked to deliver to the secretary all comments and other issues that they wish the SSWG to consider in SSWG 12 June meeting.")</p> <p>The assessors learned from the stakeholder survey comments and review of the SSWG member list that environmental issues had no spokespersons, as ENGO's were not participating.</p> <p>The assessors understand that with 43 members the process on consensus has the pitfall to not always hear the minority opinions especially when not present. The documentation was however very transparent, SSWG members could submit proposals for alterations also in writing prior to the meeting. And the public consultation provide the public of possibilities to react. In the end all members signed the final draft report. The stakeholder survey raises concerns on the process; in the next revision process extra attention should be given on the minority opinion. The perception that some views were not given sufficient weight should be avoided. The voting process could be recorded in the minutes or maybe voting ballots can be used on some issues.</p> <p>As several people had concerns on environmental issues, extra effort should be made to included the environmental view on the subjects even when ENGOs are not a SSWG member.</p> <p>The assessors could not find malicious intent, and sufficient mechanisms were in place for SSWG members to give their view or add comments. The misfortune that ENGO's were not present and did not participate in the public consultation period was noticed by the SSWG committee who made extra efforts to reach ENGOs. Therefore this requirement conforms.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
b) direct negotiation between the stakeholder(s)	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2 p7: "The SSWG's working methods are based on an open exchange of views among the members and direct negotiations between the stakeholders in order to find a compromise and reach a mutual understanding."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

<p>submitting the objection and stakeholders with different views on the disputed issue in order to find a compromise,</p>	<p>Process</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Direct negotiations – of PEFC ST text – were not recorded in the minutes of SSWG working committee or SSWG to have been used.</p> <p>For different subjects: Northern Finland, working life, multiple use of forests and environmental criteria subgroups were formed. These theme-specific subgroups were of an informal nature. The role of the theme groups was to discuss themes in detail and deliver proposals to the SSWG working group and SSWG. As the theme subgroups were no decision-making bodies, minutes were not provided. The ways of working for the theme-specific subgroups were defined by the SSWG. The theme-specific subgroups defined by themselves the mode of action including calling the meeting, recording participants and making memos. SSWG’s working committee was informed about outcomes of the meetings and this information was included to working committee information to the SSWG.</p> <p>The SFM standard was the work of consensus on different issues. In the end all members of SSWG agreed upon the final result.</p> <p>Stakeholder survey: When asked about the decision making process 3 respondents (out of 24) partially disagreed. They commented on the weight the environmental issues were given in comparison with the opinions of e.g. the forest owners. Also almost 30% of the responders answered ‘yes’ of ‘partially’ when asked if there have been any issues or processes during the latest Standard Setting Process that you disagreed with? Two comments were received to explain: they refer to the process when different opinion on content were discussed but the overall result is good.</p> <p>When looking at the stakeholder survey comments we can state that the opinion of the ENGO’s were not represented sufficiently as they did not participate in the SSWG, this was acknowledged by PEFC Finland.</p> <p>Extra effort which took place to include ENGO’s in the SSWG, and public consultation. Two ENGOs were contacted also by the SSWG secretary (SSWG Working Committee: 29.04.2014 Minutes) asking ENGOs’ plans for the delivery of comments, but their answers showed that comments are not anticipated to be received from them. (“-> Sihteeri oli myös tiedustellut WWF:n ja SLL:n kantaa kommenttien lähettämiseen, mutta vastausten perusteella näiltä organisaatioilta ei ole odotettavissa kommentteja.”)</p> <p>SSWG members were encouraged http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20130614.pdf to establish informal theme/subgroups.</p> <p>Establishment of an Ecological Criteria subgroup and decisions of participants to the subgroup are recorded in the course of the meeting and after the meeting are noted in 18 October 2013 SSWG meeting memo http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_kokous_-_Poeytaekirja_20131018.pdf (“Ympäristökriteerit –alatyöryhmän perustamiseksi ja ehdotuksen alatyöryhmän tehtävistä. Esitys hyväksyttiin. Päätettiin, että ryhmään voi ilmoittautua kokouksessa, mutta ilmoittautua voi myös jälkikäteen sihteerille.”)</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>c) dispute resolution process.</p>	<p>Procedures</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p7: "If the working group does not reach consensus within internal discussions, the handling of the issue shall be continued by a Panel explained further in Chapter 5.3."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	<p>Process</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>No complaints were received by PEFC Finland/its chair during the Standard Setting Process, and therefore an Appeal Panel was not installed.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

5.10 Documentation on the implementation of the standard-setting process shall be made publicly available.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.2, p8: "The SSWG writes a draft action plan, discusses any comments received on the draft, and makes a decision on the final action plan. The SSWG submits the action plan to PEFC Finland that examines it to ensure that it complies with the assignment attached to the invitation sent to the participants of the working group, and the requirements specified in this standard for the work of the SSWG. PEFC Finland shall publish the action plan without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG. The SSWG shall inform PEFC Finland without delay if there appear any changes or deviations from the planned contents of the action plan or in the timetable of its implementation."</p> <p>"The action plan of the SSWG shall include (i) a description of procedures according to which the assignment is carried out as well as an implementation schedule including interim goals; (ii) practices on convening meetings and on meeting organisation, preparation of motions and drafts as well as internal communication; (iii) a communication plan describing, inter alia, practices and arrangements of public seminars, of internal communication and external communication for parties not taking part in the standard setting work and for other external parties in general, practices of inviting stakeholders for the 60-day-minimum public consultation of the draft standards and means to communicate the public consultation and its timelines effectively; (iv) practices on handling the written comments received from members of the SSWG and external parties and replying principles to them; as well as (v) a proposal on how to test the draft standard to ensure the practical suitability of its comments and observations."</p> <p>"The approved meeting minutes shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that will publish them without delay in the web pages presenting the work of the SSWG and file all documents of the Annex 1 of this document for five years at the minimum. All documents are available from PEFC Finland upon request."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>All documents are available on the PEFC FI website: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/pefc-fi--kriteerien-uudistustyoe.php</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.11 The standardising body shall formally approve the standards/normative documents based on evidence of consensus reached by the working group/committee.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC 1006, ch 5.4, p9: "When the SSWG has reached consensus, approved the final standard draft and finished its assignment in other respects, it submits the standard draft containing the requirements on forest management and use to PEFC Finland. The SSWG shall also submit other documents related to the standard setting process, including a description of the SSWG's process in order to assess the compliance with the requirements of standard setting. The documents shall be submitted to PEFC Finland that shall publish the standard draft. PEFC Finland shall make the decision on the approval of the final draft version submitted by the SSWG, and publish the approved standard without delay." "</p> <p>In the by-laws the decision making process of PEFC FINLAND is explained: "The association's business shall be managed by a Board"... "A meeting of the Board shall constitute a quorum when the chairman or vice chairman and over half of the members of the Board are present. Board decisions shall be made by majority vote. In case of a drawn vote, the chairman shall have the deciding vote, except in elections, when lots shall be drawn"</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>Minutes of PEFC Finland's Board meeting of 27.10.2014 (FSDoc#11) show the formal decision of standards approval.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.12 The formally approved standards/normative documents shall be published in a timely manner and made publicly available.	Procedures	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006, ch5.4, p9: "PEFC Finland shall make the decision on the approval of the final draft version submitted by the SSWG, and publish the approved standard without delay."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
	Process	YES	<p>The standards are available on the PEFC website in Finnish, Swedish and English: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/asiakirjat-ja-materiaalit/pefc-fi-2014--standardit.php</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

Revisions of standards/normative documents			
6.1 The standards/normative documents shall be reviewed and revised at intervals that do not exceed a five-year period. The procedures for the revision of the standards/normative documents shall follow those set out in chapter 5.	Process	YES	PEFC FI 1006: ch 5.1: "The Finnish PEFC forest certification requirements on forest management are drafted and revised by the SSWG, which is convened by PEFC Finland. Periodic revision is done every five years." The previous PEFC Finland System was endorsed by the PEFC Council in July 2010; the current endorsement is valid until the 28th of July 2015. CONFORMS
6.2 The revision shall define the application date and transition date of the revised standards/normative documents.	Process	YES	For the following documents: PEFC FI 1000:2014: PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary, PEFC FI 1001:2014: Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System, PEFC FI 1002:2014: Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification, PEFC FI 1005:2014: PEFC Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures, instead of the transition date the following line is adopted: "one year from the official announcement of the PEFC re-endorsement decision (for the certificates issued before the date of entry into force). For document PEFC FI 1006:2014: Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification it contains no transition date. The application date in all documents mentioned above is 10.11.2014. CONFORMS
6.3 The application date shall not exceed a period of one year from the publication of the standard. This is needed for the endorsement of the revised standards/normative documents, introducing the changes, information dissemination and training.	Process	YES	For the following documents: PEFC FI 1000:2014: PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary, PEFC FI 1001:2014: Implementation of PEFC Forest Certification System, PEFC FI 1002:2014: Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification, PEFC FI 1005:2014: PEFC Qualification Criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures instead of the transition date the following line is adopted: "one year from the official announcement of the PEFC re-endorsement decision (for the certificates issued before the date of entry into force). For document PEFC FI 1006:2014: Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification it contains no transition date. The publication date: Issued 27.10.2014 except for PEFC FI 1001:2014 which has the date of 19.05.2015. The application date in document PEFC FI 1006:2014 is 14.11.2014 and the publication date 27.10.2014. For the application date in all other documents, the statement "Date of entry into force: 29.7.2015" can be found. CONFORMS
6.4 The transition date shall not exceed a period of one year except in justified exceptional circumstances where the implementation of the revised standards/normative documents requires a longer period.	Process	YES	The transition date is defined in all documents: one year from the official announcement of the PEFC re-endorsement decision. CONFORMS

15. PART II: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR GROUP FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION (PEFC ST 1002:2010)

15.1 Scope

Part II covers requirements for group forest management certification as defined in PEFC ST 1002:2010, *Group Forest Management Certification – Requirements*.

15.2 Checklist

Question	YES/NO	Reference to system documentation
General		
4.1 Does the forest certification scheme provide clear definitions for the following terms in conformity with the definitions of those terms presented in chapter 3 of PEFC ST 1002:2010:		
a) the group organisation,	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch4, p5: "managing body of a certification group: A managing body of a certification group is an applicant or another entity authorized by an applicant for certification, which represents members of the group in matters related to forest certification and is responsible for assuring that requirements determined in the requirement setting documents and implied by the certification system are fulfilled within the certified forest holding." CONFORMS
b) the group entity,	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch4, p5: "certification group: a certification group consists of a managing entity and members of the certification group." CONFORMS
c) the participant,	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch4, p5 "member of a certification group: a forest owner participating in group certification, another body possessing a right for making decisions on the forest management or any other entity belonging to a certification group, which complies with the standard requirements and implied by the certification system." CONFORMS
d) the certified area,	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch4, p5 "certified area: a total area of the certified forests." CONFORMS
e) the group forest certificate, and	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch4, p5 "group certificate: a document which indicates that an activity taking place on the certified area complies with the requirements determined in the standard documents and implied by the certification system." CONFORMS
f) the document confirming participation in group forest certification.	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch4, p5: "forest owner's confirmation: a document submitted to forest owners or other entities responsible for forest management participating in a group certification. The document refers to the forest certificate and indicates membership in a certification group" CONFORMS

<p>4.1.2 In cases where a forest certification scheme allows an individual forest owner to be covered by additional group or individual forest management certifications, the scheme shall ensure that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest management certification is addressed in any other forest management certification that covers the forest owner.</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>NON-CONFORMITY Inadequate evidence in PEFC FI 1001, ch5.5. on “the scheme shall ensure that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest management certification is addressed in any other forest management certification that covers the forest owner” </p>
<p>4.1.3 The forest certification scheme shall define requirements for group forest certification which ensure that participants’ conformity with the sustainable forest management standard is centrally administered and is subject to central review and that all participants shall be subject to the internal monitoring programme.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p9-10: "The applicant for group certification a) represents members of the certification group in a certification process, is responsible for communication and relations with the certification body, for application for certification and conclusion of an agreement related to provision of certification services,...h) implements planned internal monitoring for assessing compliance of forest management of group members with the requirements i) reviews and makes a report on compliance of activities of the certification group, including results of internal monitoring, audits carried out by certification bodies and a report on the effect of preventive and/or corrective measures" CONFORMS </p>

<p>4.1.4 The forest certification scheme shall define requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme that provides sufficient confidence in the conformity of the whole group organisation with the sustainable forest management standard.</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>NON-CONFORMITY Inadequate evidence on 'requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme have not been defined in ch7 or ch8 of PEFC FI 1001. Inadequate evidence on the presence of 'an annual internal monitoring programme' and on 'provides sufficient confidence in the conformity of the whole group organisation with the sustainable forest management standard'. Annual monitoring can include several monitoring systems at present. </p>
<p>Functions and responsibilities of the group entity</p>		
<p>4.2.1 The forest certification scheme shall define the following requirements for the function and responsibility of the group entity:</p>		
<p>a) To represent the group organisation in the certification process, including in communications and relationships with the certification body, submission of an application for certification, and contractual relationship with the certification body;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p9: "The applicant for group certification a) represents members of the certification group in a certification process, is responsible for communication and relations with the certification body, for application for certification and conclusion of an agreement related to provision of certification services" CONFORMS </p>
<p>b) To provide a commitment on behalf of the whole group organisation to comply with the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the forest certification scheme;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p9: "The applicant for group certification" ... "b) on the behalf of the certification group, commits to act in accordance with the requirements determined in the standards and implied by the certification system" CONFORMS </p>

<p>c) To establish written procedures for the management of the group organisation;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p9: "The applicant for group certification" ... "c) Compiles a written description of group management procedures including resolution of cases of negligence and breach of certification requirements, as well as examination of internal disputes within the certification group and resolution of complaints." CONFORMS </p>
<p>d) To keep records of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the group entity and participants' conformity with the requirements of the sustainable forest management standard, and other applicable requirements of the forest certification scheme, - all participants, including their contact details, identification of their forest property and its/their size(s), - the certified area, - the implementation of an internal monitoring programme, its review and any preventive and/or corrective actions taken; 	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p9-10: "The applicant for group certification" ... "d) maintains a record of i. compliance of activities of an applicant for certification and members of the certification group with the requirements set in the certification system ii. members of the certification group with their contact details, as well as holdings belonging to the certified area and their forest cover, iii. the certified area and iv. annual internal monitoring concerning the whole certification group, review of its results and implementation of preventive and/or corrective measures" CONFORMS </p>
<p>e) To establish connections with all participants based on a written agreement, which shall include the participants' commitment to comply with the sustainable forest management standard. The group entity shall have a written contract or other written agreement with all participants covering the right of the group</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2.c), p.9: "Compiles a written description of group management procedures including corrective or preventive measures, resolution of cases of negligence and breach of certification requirements (inc. exclusion of any participant from the certification group in the event of non-conformity), as well as examination of internal disputes within the certification group and resolution of complaints." CONFORMS </p>

<p>entity to implement and enforce any corrective or preventive measures, and to initiate the exclusion of any participant from the scope of certification in the event of non-conformity with the sustainable forest management standard;</p>		
<p>f) To provide participants with a document confirming participation in the group forest certification;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p10: "The applicant for group certification" ... "f) submits a forest owner's confirmation to forest owners who are members of the certification group and other bodies responsible for forest management" CONFORMS </p>
<p>g) To provide all participants with information and guidance required for the effective implementation of the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the forest certification scheme;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p10: The applicant for group certification" ... "g) provides members of the certification group with the information and guidance on effective implementation of the requirements of forest certification and other requirements set by the forest certification system" CONFORMS </p>
<p>h) To operate an annual internal monitoring programme that provides for the evaluation of the participants' conformity with the certification requirements, and;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p10: The applicant for group certification" ... "h) implements planned internal monitoring for assessing compliance of forest management of group members with the requirements" CONFORMS </p>

<p>i) To operate a review of conformity with the sustainable forest management standard, that includes reviewing the results of the internal monitoring programme and the certification body's evaluations and surveillance; corrective and preventive measures if required; and the evaluation of the effectiveness of corrective actions taken.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2, p10: "The applicant for group certification" ... "i) reviews and makes a report on compliance of activities of the certification group, including results of internal monitoring, audits carried out by certification bodies and a report on the effect of preventive and/or corrective measures" CONFORMS </p>
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Function and responsibilities of participants		
4.3.1 The forest certification scheme shall define the following requirements for the participants:		
a) To provide the group entity with a written agreement, including a commitment on conformity with the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the forest certification scheme;	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch7.4, p11: "A member of a certification group shall" ... "a) submit a signed document of admittance ¹) concerning participation in the certification group to an applicant for certification; b) act in accordance with the requirements determined in requirement setting documents and implied by the certification system" ... "1) A document of admittance submitted by an association representing members participating in group certification (for example, a forest management association) or an organization otherwise representing participating forest owners on a contractual basis (for example, a forest service company) is considered to fulfil the requirement concerning submission of a document of admittance also in regards to members representing the organization/forest owners" CONFORMS
b) To comply with the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the forest certification scheme;	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch7.4, p11: "A member of a certification group shall" ... "b) act in accordance with the requirements determined in requirement setting documents and implied by the certification system" CONFORMS
c) To provide full co-operation and assistance in responding effectively to all requests from the group entity or certification body for relevant data, documentation or other information; allowing access to the forest and other facilities, whether in connection with formal audits or reviews or otherwise;	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch7.4, p11: "A member of a certification group shall" ... "b) cooperate with an applicant for certification and a certification body, submit required data, documents and other information for audits, monitoring and other inspection, as well as offer a possibility for carrying out an inspection in his forest or premises of a member" CONFORMS
d) To implement relevant corrective and preventive actions established by the group entity.	YES	PEFC FI 1001, ch7.2.c), p.9: "Compiles a written description of group management procedures including corrective or preventive measures, resolution of cases of negligence and breach of certification requirements (inc. exclusion of any participant from the certification group in the event of non-conformity), as well as examination of internal disputes within the certification group and resolution of complaints." CONFORMS

16. PART III: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (PEFC ST 1003:2010)

16.1 Scope

Part III covers requirements for sustainable forest management as defined in PEFC ST 1003:2010, *Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements*.

16.2 Checklist

Question	YES/NO	Reference to system documentation
General requirements for SFM standards		
4.1 The requirements for sustainable forest management defined by regional, national or sub-national forest management standards shall		
a) include management and performance requirements that are applicable at the forest management unit level, or at another level as appropriate, to ensure that the intent of all requirements is achieved at the forest management unit level.	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p.10: "Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink" ...</p> <p>"(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit. The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle can, as a consequence of natural damage, exceed the sustainable allowable cut. The criteria is applied when the certified area is at least 700 000 ha.</p> <p>(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: "Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns" ...</p> <p>"In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources." ...</p> <p>"To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: "The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured." ...</p> <p>"Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: "Health of the stand shall be attended" ...</p> <p>"The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites. The control of root rot shall be done with user-safe methods .</p> <p>During forest harvest, damages to remaining trees and soil that may deteriorate the growing conditions of the remaining stand shall be avoided.</p> <p>Control measures shall be taken to prevent insect damages in the storage of timber."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr8, p17: "Seedling stands shall be timely tended" ...</p> <p>"(rc + gc) Annually at least 60% of the annual tending need of seedling stands is completed on the certified area.</p>

	<p>(foc) In forest owner's forests minimum 60% of tending needs for seedling stands for a 5-year-period has to be fulfilled." PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: "Conservation values of protected areas shall be safeguarded"..." "Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures." PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: "Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning"..." "The habitats of species dependent on forest fires and fire induced wood damaged shall be maintained and increased through prescribed burnings. This criterion shall not be applied in the Åland Province or if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 200 000 ha. PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: "Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations" "Retention trees and large trees with decaying stems shall be permanently left on site in intermediate felling and clear-cuts to safeguard the biodiversity of forest nature." ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: "Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration" "Forest regeneration shall be done with tree species native to Finland except for special cases." PEFC FI 1002, Cr16, p27: "Genetically modified seed and plant materials shall not be used" ... "Gene modified material or other material, which is not approved by the authority shall not be used in seeding and planting." PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted" ... "Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests." CONFORMS The information in "PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland" is relevant to the standard. </p>
<p>b) be clear, objective-based and auditable.</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink"..." "(rc) The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle shall be compared to the maximum sustainable allowable cut calculated for the area. (gc + foc) Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities in which it has been proved that a forest owner/holder has breached his/her obligation for regeneration." PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: "Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns" "A declaration of forest use or a separate environmental report has been established for the area of the planned harvesting." PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: "The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured." "(rc + gc) Those implementing silvicultural treatment shall have quality monitoring system for ensuring quality of silvicultural treatment. An agreement between a forest owner and a service provider requires that the latter has a quality monitoring system for ensuring the quality of works carried out." PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting" "The harvest of energy wood has been done according to the criterion when a) the proportion of sites considered as excellent or good in relation to the above-mentioned evaluation criteria (selection of harvest sites, minimum amount of biomass left in final harvest areas, securing retention trees and decaying wood and water protection measures) shall be at least 90 % of the total harvest area based on the results of monitoring b) peatlands that are in their natural state have not been drained for energy wood cultivations." PEFC FI 1002, Cr8, p17: "Seedling stands shall be timely tended" ... "(rc) Natural Resources Institute's statistics on tended areas of seedling stands are compared with the estimated tending needs of a similar area as defined in National Forest Inventory (NFI). (gc + foc) The amount of work of required tending of seedling stands shall be monitored annually and the outcome shall be compared to the recommendations established based on the forest resource data. (foc) The implementation is estimated as a moving 5-year average." PEFC FI 1002, Cr12, p24: "The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded" PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: "Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning"..." "The annual number of prescribed rehabilitation burnings in the area is at least 1 burning/year/200 000 hectares"</p>

		<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: “Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations”... “The average minimum number of retention and decaying trees left on forest regeneration sites in harvesting is 10 trees per hectare at the compartment level. Retention trees can be grouped at the compartment level.” CONFORMS Although precise references to relevant paragraphs of regulations, e.g. related to the Forest Centre and Laws are missing. </p>
<p>c) apply to activities of all operators in the defined forest area who have a measurable impact on achieving compliance with the requirements.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, Ch6.1, p9: “Applicant for certification”... “An applicant for certification may be a forest owner or an entity <u>responsible for forest management on the certified area.</u> The certification covers one holding or an entity formed from several holdings.” PEFC FI 1001, Ch6.2, p9: “Obligations of an applicant for certification”... “An applicant for certification commits to act in accordance with and bear the responsibility for <u>assuring that the requirements determined in the standard documents and those implied by the certification system are complied with in the certified forest holding.</u> An applicant for forest certification is responsible for the administration implied by certification and communication with the local people and other stakeholder groups.” CONFORMS Although elaborating on the indicators for foc is needed to make them clearer. </p>
<p>d) require record-keeping that provides evidence of compliance with the requirements of the forest management standards.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1001, Ch6, p9: “Individual certification for forest owners” PEFC FI 1001, Ch6.2, p9: “An applicant for certification commits to act in accordance with and bear the responsibility for assuring that the requirements determined in the standard documents and those implied by the certification system are complied with in the certified forest holding. An applicant for forest certification is responsible for the administration implied by certification and communication with the local people and other stakeholder groups.” PEFC FI 1001, Ch7, p9: “Group certification” PEFC FI 1001, Ch7.2, p9-10: “The applicant for group certification” ... “c) Compiles a written description of group management procedures”... “d) maintains a record of i. compliance of activities of an applicant for certification and members of the certification group with the requirements set in the certification system ii. members of the certification group with their contact details, as well as holdings belonging to the certified area and their forest cover, iii. the certified area and iv. annual internal monitoring concerning the whole certification group, review of its results and implementation of preventive and/or corrective measures e) delivers a document of admittance according to which a member commits to act in accordance with the requirements determined in the standards and implied by the certification system” ... “i) reviews and makes a report on compliance of activities of the certification group, including results of internal monitoring, audits carried out by certification bodies and a report on the effect of preventive and/or corrective measures” ... “An applicant for group certification shall submit a description of the group management procedures” PEFC FI 1001, Ch7.4, p11: “A member of a certification group shall” ... “b) act in accordance with the requirements determined in requirement setting documents and implied by the certification system c) cooperate with an applicant for certification and a certification body, submit required data, documents and other information for audits, monitoring and other inspection, as well as offer a possibility for carrying out an inspection in his forest or premises of a member.” PEFC FI 1001, Ch8, p11: “Regional group certification” PEFC FI 1001, Ch8.2, p11: “An applicant for regional certification is responsible for carrying out the tasks of an applicant for group certification described in the Chapter 7.2 of this standard.” CONFORMS </p>

Specific requirements for SFM standards		
Criterion 1: Maintenance and appropriate enhancement of forest resources and their contribution to the global carbon cycle		
<p>5.1.1 Forest management planning shall aim to maintain or increase forests and other wooded areas and enhance the quality of the economic, ecological, cultural and social values of forest resources, including soil and water. This shall be done by making full use of related services and tools that support land-use planning and nature conservation.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "Criterion 2: Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink" ... "(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit. The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle can, as a consequence of natural damage, exceed the sustainable allowable cut. The criteria is applied when the certified area is at least 700 000 ha." ... "(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling." ... "During this period the amount of carbon accumulated in tree stand (stem) is higher than the amount of carbon removed in timber harvests."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: "In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.</p> <p>(rc) A regional forest plan promotes sustainable management and use of forests." ...</p> <p>"(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha." ... "The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.1, p6: "National forest program 2015 (KFOC 2015) has been prepared in an open process in cooperation with different bodies related to, and interested in, forests. The aim of the program is to ensure work and income depending on forests, forest biodiversity and vitality, as well as recreational opportunities for citizens provided by forests." ... "The National Strategy for Sustainable Development was updated in 2013. The updated strategy for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity "Saving Nature for People" was adopted by the governmental decision in principle in December 2012. The main aim of the strategy is to stop the loss of biodiversity in Finland by 2020."</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." ... "The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §)." ... "The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §)."</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): "The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options."</p> <p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): "The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §)."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... "Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region." ... "Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities." ...</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p3: "In Finland land use planning has special importance on areas where land is encountered by many interests. Land use is planned on both nation-wide and local levels. In addition to national land use planning also regional land use plans, local master plans and local detailed plans are being prepared. Zoning is a participatory process where anybody involved can have impact." ... "For activities that might change landscape in zoned areas a permission must be applied before the realisation of the activity. Landscape work permit is granted according to Land</p>

	<p>use and building act (132/1999).”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “In the regional level the use of forests is steered by regional forestry planning covering areas of villages, municipalities or other connected areas that are larger than individual holdings. Forest Centre participates forest planning on regional level and offers forest owners information of the use of forests via Metsään.fi service (chapter 2.1).” ... “Forest Centre controls that forests are managed as stipulated by law. Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration to control the use of forests on estate level.” ... “The role of Forest Use Declaration is outstanding in small holdings where the interval between forestry activities is long and preparation of specific forest management plan is not economically viable.” ... “Increment of growing stock has exceeded harvesting drain on regional levels and, thus, harvesting volumes have been sustainable.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: “The Forest Centre is tasked with promoting forestry and related livelihoods. That includes advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to Finland’s forests and maintaining national forest resource database and enforcing forestry legislation. Forest planning is not required by law to be drawn up on forest stand/site level, but Forest Centre’s task is to offer forest owners up-to-date information on forest resources for the purposes of planning and realization of forestry activities.” ... “The Metsään.fi -eService is a web service maintained by Forest Centre. The eService offers the latest information to forest owners on their properties. eService is free of charge for forest owners (since 1st March 2015).” ... “Maps and most recent aerial photographs clearly show where properties are located , what they look like and where special habitats, for example, are located. The portal connects owners with related third parties, including providers of forestry services.” ... “The recommended silvicultural and wood harvesting actions will contribute to the achievement of the objectives that are set in national forest strategy and targets that are set in regional forest programmes.” ... “The Metsään.fi - eService draws information from a national forest resource database, which is continuously updated with data obtained by laser scanning, aerial photography, sample plot measurements and site visits. This sort of data collection is a statutory task of the Finnish Forest Centre.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p6: “Metsään.fi -eService is nowadays available free of charge for all forest owners and, thus, all forest owners have possibility to comply Criterion 4 requirement via Metsään.fi -eService regardless of the size of the forest holding. Thus, 50 hectare threshold does not play any role in PEFC FI requirements anymore.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch3, p7-8: “The Forest Centre supervises the implementation of the Forest legislation on all forest land. In accordance with the Forest Act, the landowner or holder of the right of possession or other special right must make a Forest Use Declaration concerning the intention to carry out felling, and, for regeneration felling, the method of regeneration and, as provided by decree, other treatment of habitats to the Forest Centre no less than 10 days, and no more than three years, before the start of the felling operation or other measures. The Forest Use Declaration is important tool for monitoring use of forests.” ... “the Forest Centre is required to forward all Forest Use Declarations that affect known protected species to the regional ELYCentres, which in turn decides what measures are allowed on the area concerned in relation to national legislation.” ... “According to Section 14 of the Forest Act the Forest Use Declaration is not required in cases of household cuttings, cuttings of small-sized wood (less than 13 cm dbh) and cuttings of edges of cable lines, rail tracks and equivalent. However, also household cutting shall be carried out according to Forest Act.” ... “The Finnish Forest Centre goes through all Forest Use Declarations to verify the legality and conformity with forest resource information.” ... “Monitoring and inspection activities are targeted to Forest Use Declarations and their actions of silviculture and forest use and to such sites and actions that have not been declared by Forest Use Declaration. Forestry Centre sorts out with the help of remote sensing materials, for example, the sites that have not been declared but that have been harvested.” ... “In addition, inspection will be targeted also to declared sites where harvesting is bordered by special sites of Forest Act or Nature Conservation Act or Natura 2000 or to any sites where Forest Centre has the reason to suspect that the declared wood harvesting or other activity in not accordance with Forest Act or degrees or other regulations.”</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>Although the 50 hectare threshold mentioned in Criterion 4 has become irrelevant, as up-to-date data are available at the forest stand level. </p>
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<p>5.1.2 Forest management shall comprise the cycle of inventory and planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and shall include an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts of forest management operations. This shall form a basis for a cycle of continuous improvement to minimise or avoid negative impacts.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment. (rc) A regional forest plan promotes sustainable management and use of forests." ... "In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha." ... "The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program." PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.1, p6: "State subsidies are available for securing sustainable wood production, for maintaining biological diversity and improving forest health. In addition, sustainable forest management is promoted with national forest management recommendations, forest certification, as well as with education and training." ... "First regional indicative forestry programs consistent with the Forest Act (regional forest programs) were prepared in 1998. Since then they have been revised nearly every five years. The programs are giving a general overview of forests situated at the area of each regional unit of a forest center, state of forestry and needs for development. Regional forest councils compiled from different stakeholder groups support regional units of the forest center in formulation and monitoring of forest programs. Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." ... "The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation." PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: "Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved" ... "Rare peatland types and the possibility of their restoration into natural state are especially taken into consideration in drainage maintenance as well as in other arrangements related to water management." PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... "Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region." ... "Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities." ... "Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute)." ... "Forest Centre is tasked to promote forest management and stimulate forest owners to utilise their forests in sustainable ways. For many decades the growth of Finnish forests has exceeded the total wood drain from forests." PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: "In the regional level the use of forests is steered by regional forestry planning covering areas of villages, municipalities or other connected areas that are larger than individual holdings. Forest Centre participates forest planning on regional level and offers forest owners information of the use of forests via Metsään.fi service (chapter 2.1). Forest Centre is not tasked to compile binding forest plans for forest owners, because Finnish legislation does not require the forest owner to have a specific forest plan on estate level." ... "Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration to control the use of forests on estate level. However the forest owner is responsible for obeying with law when activities are executed in the forest." ... "The role of Forest Use Declaration is outstanding in small holdings where the interval between forestry activities is long and preparation of specific forest management plan is not economically viable." PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: "The Forest Centre is tasked with promoting forestry and related livelihoods. That includes advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to</p>
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	<p>Finland's forests and maintaining national forest resource database and enforcing forestry legislation. Forest planning is not required by law to be drawn up on forest stand/site level, but Forest Centre's task is to offer forest owners up-to-date information on forest resources for the purposes of planning and realization of forestry activities." ... "The Metsään.fi -eService is a web service maintained by Forest Centre. The eService offers the latest information to forest owners on their properties. eService is free of charge for forest owners (since 1st March 2015). Information is displayed for each forest stand compartment, broken down by soil type, tree type and natural occurrence. In addition the Metsään.fi -eService comprises recommended actions including income and cost estimates that are not mandatory to follow by the forest owners. Maps and most recent aerial photographs clearly show where properties are located , what they look like and where special habitats, for example, are located. The portal connects owners with related third parties, including providers of forestry services." ... "The recommended silvicultural and wood harvesting actions will contribute to the achievement of the objectives that are set in national forest strategy and targets that are set in regional forest programmes." ... "The Metsään.fi - eService draws information from a national forest resource database, which is continuously updated with data obtained by laser scanning, aerial photography, sample plot measurements and site visits. This sort of data collection is a statutory task of the Finnish Forest Centre."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch3, p7-8: "The Forest Centre supervises the implementation of the Forest legislation on all forest land. In accordance with the Forest Act, the landowner or holder of the right of possession or other special right must make a Forest Use Declaration concerning the intention to carry out felling, and, for regeneration felling, the method of regeneration and, as provided by decree, other treatment of habitats to the Forest Centre no less than 10 days, and no more than three years, before the start of the felling operation or other measures. The Forest Use Declaration is important tool for monitoring use of forests." ... "the Forest Centre is required to forward all Forest Use Declarations that affect known protected species to the regional ELYCentres, which in turn decides what measures are allowed on the area concerned in relation to national legislation." ... "According to Section 14 of the Forest Act the Forest Use Declaration is not required in cases of household cuttings, cuttings of small-sized wood (less than 13 cm dbh) and cuttings of edges of cable lines, rail tracks and equivalent. However, also household cutting shall be carried out according to Forest Act." ... "The Finnish Forest Centre goes through all Forest Use Declarations to verify the legality and conformity with forest resource information." ... "Monitoring and inspection activities are targeted to Forest Use Declarations and their actions of silviculture and forest use and to such sites and actions that have not been declared by Forest Use Declaration. Forestry Centre sorts out with the help of remote sensing materials, for example, the sites that have not been declared but that have been harvested."... "In addition, inspection will be targeted also to declared sites where harvesting is bordered by special sites of Forest Act or Nature Conservation Act or Natura 2000 or to any sites where Forest Centre has the reason to suspect that the declared wood harvesting or other activity in not accordance with Forest Act or degrees or other regulations."</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>The complete cycle is in place: forest management planning by professionals, assessing operations and issuing an harvesting permit, and monitoring results. The system is well-adapted to the Finnish situation. Finland has many small private forest owners, the average forest holding is 30 ha.</p> <p>The Forest Damages Prevention Act (1087/2013) is mentioned in the standard, however, not in this context.</p> <p>This Law contains a the legal requirement to professional operators to conduct self-monitoring, when compliance is questionable. A professional operator has to submit (to the Forest Centre) a self-monitoring declaration and appoint a responsible person. The Forest Centre inspects the operators' efforts. </p>
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<p>5.1.3 Inventory and mapping of forest resources shall be established and maintained, adequate to local and national conditions and in correspondence with the topics described in this document.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).” ...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.” ...</p> <p>“To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.” ...</p> <p>“(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.” ...</p> <p>“The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.5, p8: “Forest research and inventory” ...</p> <p>“Every year the results of the inventory provide up-to-date and diverse regional information on the Finnish forests. In addition to information concerning wood resources the state forest inventory collects comprehensive information on forest health, vegetation and also the amount of decayed wood.” ...</p> <p>“Especially since 1990s the research of forest biodiversity and species has been highly supported in the framework of many large research programs carried out by the Finnish Forest Research Institute, universities, The Finnish Environmental Center and other research institutions.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “Forest Centre participates forest planning on regional level and offers forest owners information of the use of forests via Metsään.fi service (chapter 2.1). Forest Centre is not tasked to compile binding forest plans for forest owners, because Finnish legislation does not require the forest owner to have a specific forest plan on estate level.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: “The Metsään.fi -eService is a web service maintained by Forest Centre. The eService offers the latest information to forest owners on their properties. eService is free of charge for forest owners (since 1st March 2015). Information is displayed for each forest stand compartment, broken down by soil type, tree type and natural occurrence. In addition the Metsään.fi -eService comprises recommended actions including income and cost estimates that are not mandatory to follow by the forest owners. Maps and most recent aerial photographs clearly show where properties are located , what they look like and where special habitats, for example, are located.” ... “The recommended silvicultural and wood harvesting actions will contribute to the achievement of the objectives that are set in national forest strategy and targets that are set in regional forest programmes.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch3, p7-8: “the Forest Centre is required to forward all Forest Use Declarations that affect known protected species to the regional ELYCentres, which in turn decides what measures are allowed on the area concerned in relation to national legislation.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.1.4 Management plans or their equivalents, appropriate to the size and use of the forest area, shall be elaborated and periodically updated. They shall be based on legislation as well as existing land-use plans, and adequately cover the forest resources also.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment." ...</p> <p>"(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.</p> <p>The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program."</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "A forest owner has to submit to the Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §)." ...</p> <p>"The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §)." ...</p> <p>"- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation."</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): "The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options." ...</p> <p>"The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law (128 §). The landscape work-permit is required for example when carrying out work on areas covered by a local detailed plan and partly on areas of a local master plan."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... "Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities." ... "Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute)."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: "Forest Centre participates forest planning on regional level and offers forest owners information of the use of forests via Metsään.fi service (chapter 2.1). Forest Centre is not tasked to compile binding forest plans for forest owners, because Finnish legislation does not require the forest owner to have a specific forest plan on estate level." ... "Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration to control the use of forests on estate level. However the forest owner is responsible for obeying with law when activities are executed in the forest." ... "The role of Forest Use Declaration is outstanding in small holdings where the interval between forestry activities is long and preparation of specific forest management plan is not economically viable."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: "The Metsään.fi - eService draws information from a national forest resource database, which is continuously updated with data obtained by laser scanning, aerial photography, sample plot measurements and site visits. This sort of data collection is a statutory task of the Finnish Forest Centre."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch3, p7-8: "The Forest Centre supervises the implementation of the Forest legislation on all forest land. In accordance with the Forest Act, the landowner or holder of the right of possession or other special right must make a Forest Use Declaration concerning the intention to carry out felling, and, for regeneration felling, the method of regeneration and, as provided by decree, other treatment of habitats to the Forest Centre no less than 10 days, and no more than three years, before the start of the felling operation or other measures. The Forest Use Declaration is important tool for monitoring use of forests." ... "In addition, inspection will be targeted also to declared sites where harvesting is bordered by special sites of Forest Act or Nature Conservation Act or Natura 2000 or to any sites where Forest Centre has the reason to suspect that the declared wood harvesting or other activity in not accordance with Forest Act or degrees or other regulations."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.1.5 Management plans or their equivalents shall include at least a</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink" ... "Indicators</p> <p>(rc) The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle shall be compared to the maximum sustainable allowable cut calculated for the area.</p> <p>(gc + foc) Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities in which it has been proved that a forest owner/holder has breached his/her obligation for regeneration."</p>

<p>description of the current condition of the forest management unit, long-term objectives; and the average annual allowable cut, including its justification and, where relevant, the annually allowable exploitation of non-timber forest products.</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.” ... “To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.” Indicators (rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha. “The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).” ... “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.” ... “Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute).” ... “Forest Centre is tasked to promote forest management and stimulate forest owners to utilise their forests in sustainable ways. For many decades the growth of Finnish forests has exceeded the total wood drain from forests.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “Forest Centre controls that forests are managed as stipulated by law. Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration to control the use of forests on estate level. However the forest owner is responsible for obeying with law when activities are executed in the forest.” ... “The role of Forest Use Declaration is outstanding in small holdings where the interval between forestry activities is long and preparation of specific forest management plan is not economically viable.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: “Forest planning is not required by law to be drawn up on forest stand/site level, but Forest Centre’s task is to offer forest owners up-to-date information on forest resources for the purposes of planning and realization of forestry activities.” ... “The Metsään.fi -eService is a web service maintained by Forest Centre. The eService offers the latest information to forest owners on their properties. eService is free of charge for forest owners (since 1st March 2015). Information is displayed for each forest stand compartment, broken down by soil type, tree type and natural occurrence. In addition the Metsään.fi -eService comprises recommended actions including income and cost estimates that are not mandatory to follow by the forest owners. Maps and most recent aerial photographs clearly show where properties are located , what they look like and where special habitats, for example, are located. The portal connects owners with related third parties, including providers of forestry services.” ... “The Metsään.fi -eService draws information from a national forest resource database, which is continuously updated with data obtained by laser scanning, aerial photography, sample plot measurements and site visits. This sort of data collection is a statutory task of the Finnish Forest Centre.”</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>Although no precise reference is given in the standard to the procedure applied to calculate the annual allowable cut, nor to the procedure of evaluating a Forest Use Declaration. </p>
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<p>5.1.6 A summary of the forest management plan or its equivalent appropriate to the scope and scale of forest management, which contains information about the forest management measures to be applied, is publicly available. The summary 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.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).” ...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region. In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.” ...</p> <p>“The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1001, Ch5.5, p6: “Obligation of an applicant for certification to provide information” ... “The applicant shall submit the following information to the PEFC Finland for publishing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) without any delay, information concerning the issuance of the certificate, potential changes in its validity period and on its possible withdrawal b) contact information of a person responsible for responding to enquiries concerning the certification and possible complaints c) annually up-to-date information on the area covered by forest certification and d) annually a report on the results of an external audit including any documented nonconformities due to activities not complying with the criteria for certification.” ... “Certificate holder shall disclose on request a summary and a plan of forest management activities carried out in the certified forests (with the exception of confidential data, information regarding the property and personal data).” <p>PEFC FI 1005, Ch7.2.2, p9: “Forest Management” ... “When auditing forest management, the audit team shall include at least one auditor qualified in forest management and one auditor qualified in environmental issues. Technical experts may complement the forest management and environmental competence of the auditors.” ...</p> <p>“A summary of the forest certification audit report, compiled by the certification body, including a summary of findings on the conformity to the forest management standard, shall be made available to the public by PEFC Finland – Finnish Forest Certification Council.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.” ... “Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute).” ... “A Regional Forest Programme sets out the needs and aims for forest growth, management and use; forest-based business operations; and multiple use and protection of forests. It also sets out the measures and funding to attain the goals. They provide an overall view of the status and development needs of forests and forest management in the domain of each region.</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>A regional forestry plan is made by professionals. At the regional level the “forest management measures to be applied” are known. On the FMU level, the “measures to be applied” are made to fit the regional plan. Forest owners can acquire a forest management plan on basis of these data, or apply for a Forest Use Declaration, which will be evaluated on basis of the law and the Regional Forest Programme. </p>
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<p>5.1.7 Monitoring of forest resources and evaluation of their management shall be periodically performed, and results fed back into the planning process.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).” ...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region. In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.” ...</p> <p>“The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: “The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives.” ... “Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.1.8 Responsibilities for sustainable forest management shall be clearly defined and assigned.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Real Estate Register Act (392/1985) – (Law2): “In Finland the National Land Survey is responsible for maintenance of the Real Estate Register which contains general information concerning real estates and indirect information about owners (1 §).”</p> <p>Code of Real Estate (540/1995) – (Law3): “The Law defines the grounds for acquisition of real estates and registration of ownership.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Criterion 3: Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” ... “In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.” ... “A declaration of forest use or a separate environmental report has been established for the area of the planned harvesting.” ...</p> <p>“An environmental report established in the framework of a local master plan, local detailed plan or a local detailed shore plan fulfills the requirement of this criterion.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).” ...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §)”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.1.9 Forest management practices shall safeguard the quantity and quality of the forest resources in the medium and long</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink" ...</p> <p>“(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling.” ...</p> <p>“(rc) The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle shall be compared to the maximum sustainable allowable cut calculated for the area.</p> <p>(gc + foc) Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities in which it has been proved that a forest owner/holder has breached his/her obligation for regeneration.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p>

<p>term by balancing harvesting and growth rates, and by preferring techniques that minimise direct or indirect damage to forest, soil or water resources.</p>	<p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended” ... “The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites.” ... “Prior to harvesting the issuer of the contract shall obtain recommendations for clearing undergrowth hindering harvesting operations.” ... “Storing timber should comply with the Forest Damages Prevention Act (1087/2013). A competent authority has not imposed a conditional fine defined in Section 24 nor has pronounced a sentence defined in Section 25 of the Act related to the neglect of control of insects in the interval storage of timber.” “Harvesting site inspections produce separate estimates for the proportions of tree damages and vehicle trails for intermediate felling of even- and uneven-aged stands.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting” ... Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §).” Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).” ... “The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §).” ... “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §).” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.” ... “Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute).” ... “Forest Centre is tasked to promote forest management and stimulate forest owners to utilise their forests in sustainable ways. For many decades the growth of Finnish forests has exceeded the total wood drain from forests.” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “Forest Centre controls that forests are managed as stipulated by law.” ... “Increment of growing stock has exceeded harvesting drain on regional levels and, thus, harvesting volumes have been sustainable.” ... “All forestry in Finland is subject to the same legal requirements. Thus, the same legislation is (with few exceptions) applicable for forest land owned by state, local municipality, companies and private individuals. The forest legislation has recently been significantly revised and the new legislation entered into force in the beginning of 2014.” ... “The most important changes include allowing uneven-aged forest stands, abolition of age and diameter limits in regeneration, more diverse range of tree species, and increase in habitats of special importance.” ... “In connection with revision of Forest Act also the nation-wide forest management recommendations were renewed. Recommendations are for the use of forest owners and forestry professionals that offer their services to forest owners. Recommendations describe best practices of how forest owner can grow his forest according to one’s own objectives.” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: “The Forest Centre is tasked with promoting forestry and related livelihoods. That includes advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to Finland’s forests and maintaining national forest resource database and enforcing forestry legislation. Forest planning is not required by law to be drawn up on forest stand/site level, but Forest Centre’s task is to offer forest owners up-to-date information on forest resources for the purposes of planning and realization of forestry activities.” ... “ PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch3, p7-8: “The Forest Centre supervises the implementation of the Forest legislation on all forest land.” ... “ CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.1.10 Appropriate silvicultural measures shall be taken to maintain or reach a level of the growing stock that is economically, ecologically and socially desirable.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: “Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink” ... “(rc) The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle shall be compared to the maximum sustainable allowable cut calculated for the area. (gc + foc) Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities in which it has been proved that a forest owner/holder has breached his/her obligation for regeneration.” PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.2, p7: “Guaranteeing forest biodiversity” ... “A special attention is paid to guaranteeing forest conservation and biodiversity of commercial forests.” Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §). The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §). An obligation of regeneration also applies to commercial forests which have been declared for other use if the land use has not been changed during four years from the end of harvesting or other activity (3 §). Clearing forest for other use may require permission according to the Land Use and Building Act, the Environmental Protection Act or the Water Act. The Forest Act is applicable until a decision on granting the permission becomes effective. The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.” ... “Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute).” ... “Forest Centre is tasked to promote forest management and stimulate forest owners to utilise their forests in sustainable ways. For many decades the growth of Finnish forests has exceeded the total wood drain from forests.” CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.1.11 Conversion of forests to other types of land use, including conversion of primary forests to forest plantations, shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion:</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Criterion 3: Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” ... “In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.” ... “A declaration of forest use or a separate environmental report has been established for the area of the planned harvesting.” ... “An environmental report includes an estimation of impacts caused by an activity in order to protect characteristics of the following sites: - protected areas (criterion 9) - valuable forest habitats (criterion 10) - habitats of endangered species (criterion 12)</p>

<p>a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation relevant for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority including consultation with materially and directly interested persons and organisations; and</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>- archeological sites (criterion 30) - sites restricted by a decision of the forest owner or sites restricted by planning for the purpose of game propagation, recreational use or other such sites. An environmental report established in the framework of a local master plan, local detailed plan or a local detailed shore plan fulfills the requirement of this criterion.” Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §). An obligation of regeneration also applies to commercial forests which have been declared for other use if the land use has not been changed during four years from the end of harvesting or other activity (3 §). Clearing forest for other use may require permission according to the Land Use and Building Act, the Environmental Protection Act or the Water Act. The Forest Act is applicable until a decision on granting the permission becomes effective. ” Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options. Planning procedures must be organized in such a way that the landowners in the area and those whose living, working or other conditions the plan may have a substantial impact on, as well as the authorities and corporations whose sphere of activity the planning involves, have the opportunity to participate in preparing the plan. The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law (128 §). The landscape work-permit is required for example when carrying out work on areas covered by a local detailed plan and partly on areas of a local master plan.”</p>
<p>b) entails a small proportion of forest type; and</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Water act (587/2011) – (Law12): “The Act regulates comprehensively different uses of water resources and its purpose is to ensure the good condition of water resources (1 §).” ... “The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §).”</p>
<p>c) does not have negative impacts on threatened (including vulnerable, rare or endangered) forest ecosystems, culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>d) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.</p>	<p>YES</p>	

<p>5.1.12 Conversion of abandoned agricultural and treeless land into forest land shall be taken into consideration, whenever it can add economic, ecological, social and/or cultural value.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." ... "The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development". PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.1, p6: "National forest program 2015 (KFOC 2015) has been prepared in an open process in cooperation with different bodies related to, and interested in, forests. The aim of the program is to ensure work and income depending on forests, forest biodiversity and vitality, as well as recreational opportunities for citizens provided by forests. In 2014 the Finnish government adopted a forest policy report, which guides the use of forests until 2050. The forest policy report aims to look for new growth opportunities for the forest sector. The report has been also used for formulating a shorter-term Forest Strategy 2025, which updates the national forest program." ... "The National Strategy for Sustainable Development was updated in 2013." CONFORMS (Natural re-) forestation of agricultural land does occur. </p>
<p>Criterion 2: Maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality</p>		
<p>5.2.1 Forest management planning shall aim to maintain and increase the health and vitality of forest ecosystems and to rehabilitate degraded forest ecosystems, whenever this is possible by silvicultural means.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit." ... "The criteria is applied when the certified area is at least 700 000 ha." ... "(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling." ... "During this period the amount of carbon accumulated in tree stand (stem) is higher than the amount of carbon removed in timber harvests." PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: "Health of the stand shall be attended" ... "The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites. The control of root rot shall be done with user-safe methods." ... "The average share of damaged trees in the intermediate felling shall not exceed five percent of remaining growing trees. The share of damaged trees is annually calculated as a five-year period moving average of harvesting trace review results." ... "Prior to harvesting the issuer of the contract shall obtain recommendations for clearing undergrowth hindering harvesting operations." ... "Inspection of the harvesting site has to comply with the guidelines for site inspections of the Finnish Forest Center." PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting" ... "When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site, its biodiversity as well as the aspects related to water protection." ... "After regeneration felling a certain amount of biomass should be left on these areas: - around 30% of canopy mass as evenly as possible - at least 25 pieces/ha of stumps, and on clay and silt soils at least 50 pieces/ha - in addition to that stumps left in previous felling and stumps which are less than 15 cm in diameter." PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: "Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning" ... "The habitats of species dependent on forest fires and fire induced wood damaged shall be maintained and increased through prescribed burnings." PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.2, p7: "Guaranteeing forest biodiversity" ... "A special attention is paid to guaranteeing forest conservation and biodiversity of commercial forests." Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." ... "The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures" ... "- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation." Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): "The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §). The Law also imposes an obligation of a landowner to reface damaged trees from the forest (6 §)."</p>

		<p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.”</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>Forest Health is part of the information services of the Natural Resources Institute Finland. It includes information on causes of forest deterioration. </p>
<p>5.2.2 Health and vitality of forests shall be 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.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.2, p7: “Guaranteeing forest biodiversity” ... “A special attention is paid to guaranteeing forest conservation and biodiversity of commercial forests.” ... “In 2008 the Finnish government adopted the Forest biodiversity program for Southern Finland (METSU). The aim of the program is to safeguard important habitats and structural characteristics of forests for forest natural habitats and endangered species.” ...</p> <p>“From nearly 45 000 species known in Finland nearly half are living in forests. The occurrence of endangered species is being monitored regularly. An endangered status of Finnish species is assessed with the help of the international set of criteria of the IUCN.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended” ... “Harvesting site inspections produce separate estimates for the proportions of tree damages and vehicle trails for intermediate felling of even- and uneven-aged stands. The share of stand damages and vehicle trails referred to in the criterion, is calculated based on the weighted average”.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning” ... “The habitats of species dependent on forest fires and fire induced wood damaged shall be maintained and increased through prescribed burnings.” ... “The amount of hectares is determined according to the area of the certified forest holding.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).” ... “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §).” ... “The task of the Finnish Research Institute is to monitor and anticipate the occurrence and spreading of plant diseases and pests causing forest damages and studying the cause-effect relationships of damages and their economic significance (12§).”</p> <p>Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15): “The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management, compensations for damages caused by game animals and keeping dogs (1 §).”</p> <p>Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): “The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting (1 §). Regional wildlife councils are operating in connection with the Finnish Wildlife agency (5 §). They increase open and interactive stakeholder cooperation related to the game husbandry and their activities aim at promoting coordination of different interests. In addition to that regional wildlife councils participate in preparing national management plans concerning game species.”</p> <p>Rescue Act (379/2011) – (Law17): “The aim of the Act is to improve the safety of people and reduce the number of accidents (1 §). The Act obliges to being careful with fires and prohibits making an open fire on someone else’s land without the landowner’s permission (6 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.” ... “Forest Centre draws up statistics and reports actual amounts of wood harvesting and silvicultural work as part of monitoring of Regional Forest Programmes together with Luke (previously Finnish Forest Research Institute).”</p>

		<p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “Forest Centre controls that forests are managed as stipulated by law. Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration to control the use of forests on estate level.”</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>This requirement is very specific: “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.”. At present there is no clear reference to a concrete list of monitoring tasks covering the mentioned aspects. Monitoring of the possible forest damages is a continuous process and is maintained by Forest Centre in cooperation with the Natural Resources Institute Finland. </p>
<p>5.2.3 The monitoring and maintaining of health and vitality of forest ecosystems shall take into consideration the effects of naturally occurring fire, pests and other disturbances.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended” ... “The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites.” ... “Harvesting site inspections produce separate estimates for the proportions of tree damages and vehicle trails for intermediate felling of even- and uneven-aged stands. The share of stand damages and vehicle trails referred to in the criterion, is calculated based on the weighted average”.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning” ... “The habitats of species dependent on forest fires and fire induced wood damaged shall be maintained and increased through prescribed burnings.” ... “The amount of hectares is determined according to the area of the certified forest holding.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).” ... “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development”. <p>Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §). The Law also imposes an obligation of a landowner to reface damaged trees from the forest (6 §). The task of the Finnish Research Institute is to monitor and anticipate the occurrence and spreading of plant diseases and pests causing forest damages and studying the cause-effect relationships of damages and their economic significance (12§).”</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>Although no reference is given in the standard to maintaining forest ecosystems that develop after a pest outbreak. </p>

<p>5.2.4 Forest management plans or their equivalents shall specify ways and means to minimise the risk of degradation of and damages to forest ecosystems. Forest management planning shall make use of those policy instruments set up to support these activities.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.1, p6: "State subsidies are available for securing sustainable wood production, for maintaining biological diversity and improving forest health." Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): "The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §). The Law also imposes an obligation of a landowner to reface damaged trees from the forest (6 §). The task of the Finnish Research Institute is to monitor and anticipate the occurrence and spreading of plant diseases and pests causing forest damages and studying the cause-effect relationships of damages and their economic significance (12§)." Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "Criterion 4: Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources." ... "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment." (rc) A regional forest plan promotes sustainable management and use of forests." ... "In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha." ... "The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program." PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: "Health of the stand shall be attended" ... "The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites." ... "Harvesting site inspections produce separate estimates for the proportions of tree damages and vehicle trails for intermediate felling of even- and uneven-aged stands. The share of stand damages and vehicle trails referred to in the criterion, is calculated based on the weighted average" PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting" ... "The harvest of energy wood has been done according to the criterion when a) the proportion of sites considered as excellent or good in relation to the above-mentioned evaluation criteria (selection of harvest sites, minimum amount of biomass left in final harvest areas, securing retention trees and decaying wood and water protection measures) shall be at least 90 % of the total harvest area based on the results of monitoring b) peatlands that are in their natural state have not been drained for energy wood cultivations." ... "Monitoring can be based on own certification system of a certificate holder or subcontractor or, for example, a quality monitoring system of nature management carried out by the Finnish Forest Center." PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.2, p7: "Guaranteeing forest biodiversity" ... "A special attention is paid to guaranteeing forest conservation and biodiversity of commercial forests." ... "In 2008 the Finnish government adopted the Forest biodiversity program for Southern Finland (METSO). The aim of the program is to safeguard important habitats and structural characteristics of forests for forest natural habitats and endangered species." ... "From nearly 45 000 species known in Finland nearly half are living in forests. The occurrence of endangered species is being monitored regularly. An endangered status of Finnish species is assessed with the help of the international set of criteria of the IUCN." Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15): "The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management, compensations for damages caused by game animals and keeping dogs (1 §)." Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): "The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting (1 §)." CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.2.5 Forest management practices shall make best use of natural structures and processes and use preventive biological measures wherever and as far as economically feasible to maintain and enhance the health and vitality of forests. Adequate genetic, species and structural diversity shall be encouraged and/or maintained to enhance the stability, vitality and resistance capacity of the forests to adverse environmental factors and strengthen natural regulation mechanisms.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).” ... “The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” Act on commerce of material for forest regeneration (242/2002) – (Law9): “The Act implies that seeds and seedlings used for forest regeneration have to have an appropriate origin for this growing site, good quality and health.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: “Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration” ... “Forest regeneration shall be done with tree species native to Finland except for special cases.” ... PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.1, p6: “State subsidies are available for securing sustainable wood production, for maintaining biological diversity and improving forest health.” Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §).” PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Criterion 4: Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.” ... “(rc) A regional forest plan promotes sustainable management and use of forests.” ... “In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area.” ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended” ... “The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites.” ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting” PEFC FI 1002, Cr8, p17: “Seedling stands shall be timely tended” PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: “Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved” PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning” PEFC FI 1002, Cr16, p27: “Genetically modified seed and plant materials shall not be used” PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted” Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15): “The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management, compensations for damages caused by game animals and keeping dogs (1 §).” CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.2.6 Lighting of fires shall be avoided and is only permitted if it is necessary for the achievement of the management goals of the forest management unit.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning.” ... “The habitats of species dependent on forest fires and fire induced wood damaged shall be maintained and increased through prescribed burnings.” ... “The annual number of prescribed rehabilitation burnings in the area is at least 1 burning/year/200 000 hectares.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded” ... “The following activities are not included in Everyman’s rights: - setting fire” Rescue Act (379/2011) – (Law17): “The aim of the Act is to improve the safety of people and reduce the number of accidents (1 §). The Act obliges to being careful with fires and prohibits making an open fire on someone else’s land without the landowner’s permission (6 §).” CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.2.7 Appropriate forest management practices such as reforestation and afforestation with tree species and provenances that are suited to the site conditions or the use of tending, harvesting and transport techniques that minimise tree and/or soil damages shall be applied. The spillage of oil during forest management operations or the indiscriminate disposal of waste on forest land shall be strictly avoided. Non-organic waste and litter shall be avoided, collected, stored in designated areas and removed in an environmentally-responsible manner.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: "Retention trees and large trees with decaying stems shall be permanently left on site in intermediate felling and clear-cuts to safeguard the biodiversity of forest nature." ... "The average minimum number of retention and decaying trees left on forest regeneration sites in harvesting is 10 trees per hectare at the compartment level." Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." ... "The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures" Act on commerce of material for forest regeneration (242/2002) – (Law9): "The Act implies that seeds and seedlings used for forest regeneration have to have an appropriate origin for this growing site, good quality and health." PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: "Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration" "Forest regeneration shall be done with tree species native to Finland except for special cases." PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: "The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured." ... "Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands." ... "(rc + gc) Those implementing silvicultural treatment shall have quality monitoring system for ensuring quality of silvicultural treatment." ... "An agreement between a forest owner and a service provider requires that the latter has a quality monitoring system for ensuring the quality of works carried out." ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink" ... "(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit." ... "(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling." PEFC FI 1002, Cr28, p40: "No waste or litter shall be left in forests after forestry operations" ... "There should not be any plastic, metal or hazardous waste or litter left in the forest as the result of forestry operations." CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.2.8 The use of pesticides shall be minimised and appropriate silvicultural alternatives and other biological measures preferred.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Act on plant protection products (1563/2011) – (Law8): “The aim of the Act is to ensure appropriate and sustainable use of plant protection material and decrease the risks caused by their use (1 §). The Act implies that plant protection products have to be used appropriately whenever there is a need for it and in compliance with user instructions. The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) approves and registers plant protection products appearing on the market and monitors the legislation connected to them (5 §). The list of approved products does not include protection products of classes 1A and 1B of the WHO.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr20, p31: “Plant protection products shall be used responsibly” ... “Only approved pesticides and herbicides shall be used in forest management and wood harvesting. Broad-leaved coppice shall not be treated in forest regeneration areas or in seedling and sapling stands with chemical foliage sprays, unless it is implied by measures controlling the fungal diseases infecting young Scots pine stands from aspen coppice. No chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used in valuable habitats defined in Criterion 10. Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used only when unavoidable. Such cases can be, for instance, the control of ground vegetation on forest regeneration areas; stump treatment of broad-leaved trees; controlling the pine weevil; prevention of damages caused by elk and for treatment of coniferous timber storages in the vicinity of forest areas to prevent spreading of insect damages into the forests. The use of control agents in stump management for prevention the spreading of root rot is allowed in general but not in the valuable habitats specified in Criterion 10.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: “All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection” ... On buffer zones there should be no” ... “- use of chemical pesticides or herbicides” PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: “In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded” ... “Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) or suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply. Fertilizers shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) sources of water supply.” ... “(rc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides as well as fertilizers have been taken into consideration in the working instructions and recommendations of forest organizations.”... “(gc + foc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides are taken into account.” CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.2.9 The WHO Type 1A and 1B pesticides and other highly toxic pesticides shall be prohibited, except where no other viable alternative is available.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Act on plant protection products (1563/2011) – (Law8): “The aim of the Act is to ensure appropriate and sustainable use of plant protection material and decrease the risks caused by their use (1 §). The Act implies that plant protection products have to be used appropriately whenever there is a need for it and in compliance with user instructions. The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) approves and registers plant protection products appearing on the market and monitors the legislation connected to them (5 §). The list of approved products does not include protection products of classes 1A and 1B of the WHO.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr20, p31: “Plant protection products shall be used responsibly” ... “Only approved pesticides and herbicides shall be used in forest management and wood harvesting. Broad-leaved coppice shall not be treated in forest regeneration areas or in seedling and sapling stands with chemical foliage sprays, unless it is implied by measures controlling the fungal diseases infecting young Scots pine stands from aspen coppice. No chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used in valuable habitats defined in Criterion 10. Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used only when unavoidable. Such cases can be, for instance, the control of ground vegetation on forest regeneration areas; stump treatment of broad-leaved trees; controlling the pine weevil; prevention of damages caused by elk and for treatment of coniferous timber storages in the vicinity of forest areas to prevent spreading of insect damages into the forests. The use of control agents in stump management for prevention the spreading of root rot is allowed in general but not in the valuable habitats specified in Criterion 10.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: “All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection” ... On buffer zones there should be no” ... “- use of chemical pesticides or herbicides” PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: “In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded” ... “Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) or suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.” CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.2.10 Pesticides, such as chlorinated hydrocarbons whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use, and any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr20, p31: “Plant protection products shall be used responsibly” Criterion Only approved pesticides and herbicides shall be used in forest management and wood harvesting. Broad-leaved coppice shall not be treated in forest regeneration areas or in seedling and sapling stands with chemical foliage sprays, unless it is implied by measures controlling the fungal diseases infecting young Scots pine stands from aspen coppice.” ... “(rc) The guidelines and instructions of forest organizations include the recommended use of chemical pesticides and herbicides in different forestry operations. A forest owner has instructions for the use of plant protection products that are applied.” ... “The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) approves and registers plant protection products entering the market. Because biological decomposition of products is estimated in context of the approval of the product, there are only those products on the market, of which the biological decomposition is at the acceptable level. Approved plant protection products are listed in the Plant protection product register of Tukes.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: “In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded” ... “Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) or suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply. “(rc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides as well as fertilizers have been taken into consideration in the working instructions and recommendations of forest organizations.” ... “(gc + foc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides are taken into account.” ... “Treatment of seedlings in nurseries with pesticides and herbicides against pine weevil is not considered to be the use of pesticides and herbicides as referred to in this criterion. The same also applies to the use of chemical or biological stump treatment to prevent root rot infections. Any treatment shall be done according to the instructions and restrictions given by the Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) in the Plant Protection Product Register.” Act on plant protection products (1563/2011) – (Law8) The aim of the Act is to ensure appropriate and sustainable use of plant protection material and decrease the risks caused by their use (1 §). The Act implies that plant protection products have to be used appropriately whenever there is a need for it and in compliance with user instructions. The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) approves and registers plant protection products appearing on the market and monitors the legislation connected to them (5 §). The list of approved products does not include protection products of classes 1A and 1B of the WHO. CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.2.11 The use of pesticides shall follow the instructions given by the pesticide producer and be implemented with proper equipment and training.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Act on plant protection products (1563/2011) – (Law8): “The aim of the Act is to ensure appropriate and sustainable use of plant protection material and decrease the risks caused by their use (1 §). The Act implies that plant protection products have to be used appropriately whenever there is a need for it and in compliance with user instructions. The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) approves and registers plant protection products appearing on the market and monitors the legislation connected to them (5 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: “In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded” ... “Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) or suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.” ...</p> <p>“(rc) The forest organizations use or have access to the information on the locations of the groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) and suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>(rc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides as well as fertilizers have been taken into consideration in the working instructions and recommendations of forest organizations.” ...</p> <p>“(gc + foc) A forest owner has access to the data concerning the location of groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) and suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>(gc + foc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides are taken into account. No stump removal on Class I groundwater areas has been identified.” ...</p> <p>“Treatment of seedlings in nurseries with pesticides and herbicides against pine weevil is not considered to be the use of pesticides and herbicides as referred to in this criterion. The same also applies to the use of chemical or biological stump treatment to prevent root rot infections. Any treatment shall be done according to the instructions and restrictions given by the Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) in the Plant Protection Product Register.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr20, p31: “Plant protection products shall be used responsibly” ...</p> <p>“Only approved pesticides and herbicides shall be used in forest management and wood harvesting.” ...</p> <p>“(rc) The guidelines and instructions of forest organizations include the recommended use of chemical pesticides and herbicides in different forestry operations. A forest owner has instructions for the use of plant protection products that are applied.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: “Competence of employees’ shall be ensured”...</p> <p>“Employer and issuer of the contract shall have evidence which indicates that they have been assured of the required professional competence of the employee for each task carried out for accomplishment of work.</p> <p>Employer shall have evidence which indicates that the maintenance and necessary development of professional competence during the contract of work is ensured.</p> <p>Employees shall have access to the general guidelines needed for conducting work.</p> <p>Employees shall be given site specific work instructions and maps that include a marked worksite, as well as information on the quality, environmental and other requirements.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr22, p32: “Work safety, workplace well-being and equal opportunities at work shall be attended”...</p> <p>“A subcontractor/employee has general work safety instructions.</p> <p>An employer distinguishes and takes into account hazards and risk factors caused by work, work conditions and working time.” ...</p> <p>“Previously determined indicators can be considered fulfilled if they are included into work safety action programs of the organization or into a personnel and training plans.</p> <p>A subcontractor/employee has been made aware of the aspects and field sites possibly endangering the work safety during his/her work or at the work site.</p> <p>The working guidelines are given in the language the worker understands.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.2.12 Where fertilisers are used, they shall be applied in a controlled manner and with due consideration for the environment.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: "Fertilizers shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) sources of water supply. However, ash fertilization of peatlands is allowed." ...</p> <p>"(rc) The forest organizations use or have access to the information on the locations of the groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) and suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>(rc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides as well as fertilizers have been taken into consideration in the working instructions and recommendations of forest organizations. The monitoring of nature management has not encountered stump removal areas in Class I groundwater areas.</p> <p>(gc + foc) A forest owner has access to the data concerning the location of groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) and suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>(gc + foc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides as well as fertilizers are taken into account."</p> <p>Fertilizer product Act (539/2006) – (Law10): "The objective of this Act is that fertilizer products placed on the Finnish market are safe, of good quality and suitable for plant production (1 §)."</p> <p>Environmental protection act (86/2000) – (Law13): "The Act sets obligations and provisions regarding pollution of the environment. The Act defines that a permit has to be obtained for any activity which poses a threat of pollution (28 §). The Act also includes prohibition of groundwater pollution (8 §) and soil contamination (7 §)."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: "On buffer zones there should be no" ... "- fertilization"</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted" ...</p> <p>"In context of collecting organic products, the publicly available information required on the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides is openly accessible organized by authorities and if necessary for those estates where forest owner, or a person he/she has authorized, has made an agreement regarding the compliance with the guidelines for production of organic products."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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Criterion 3: Maintenance and encouragement of productive functions of forests (wood and non-wood)		
<p>5.3.1 Forest management planning shall aim to maintain the capability of forests to produce a range of wood and non-wood forest products and services on a sustainable basis.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted" ...</p> <p>"Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests." ...</p> <p>"No soil scarification or stump removal shall take place on recreational trails. Canopy biomass shall not be left on trails. Any permanent constructions on trails shall be safeguarded in forestry operations." ...</p> <p>"Forest and hunting organizations collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit." ...</p> <p>"(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources." ... "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment." ...</p> <p>"(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area."</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §)." ...</p> <p>"The regional forest program should include:" ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation." <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting" ...</p> <p>"When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site, its biodiversity as well as the aspects related to water protection. If possible, harvesting of energy wood during intermediate felling should protect thickets for game."</p> <p>Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15): "The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management"</p> <p>Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): "The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting"</p> <p>Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): "Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §)."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: "Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured"</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.3.2 Forest management planning shall aim to achieve sound economic performance taking into account any available market studies and possibilities for new markets and economic activities in connection with all relevant goods and services of forests.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained" ...</p> <p>"The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures"... "- a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation." <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.5, p8: "Forest research and inventory. Nearly 650 forest researchers are specializing in forests and forest management in universities and research institutions."... "Every year the results of the inventory provide up-to-date and diverse regional information on the Finnish forests."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted" ...</p> <p>"Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests." ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources." ...</p> <p>"(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area." ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: "The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured." ...</p> <p>"Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: "Health of the stand shall be attended" ...</p> <p>"The calculation is based on the information collected from forest organizations active on the certified area."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting"...</p> <p>"the proportion of sites considered as excellent or good in relation to the above-mentioned evaluation criteria"... "shall be at least 90 % of the total harvest area based on the results of monitoring"...</p> <p>"Monitoring can be based on own certification system of a certificate holder or subcontractor or, for example, a quality monitoring system of nature management carried out by the Finnish Forest Center."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr8, p17: "Seedling stands shall be timely tended"...</p> <p>"(rc) Natural Resources Institute's statistics on tended areas of seedling stands are compared with the estimated tending needs of a similar area as defined in National Forest Inventory (NFI)."</p> <p>(gc + foc) The amount of work of required tending of seedling stands shall be monitored annually and the outcome shall be compared to the recommendations established based on the forest resource data."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: "The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted"...</p> <p>"Statistics on training sessions, personal and group guidance organized for local forest owners by the regional Finnish Forest Center, forest management associations, forest owners' union, forest industry companies and forestry colleges as well as organizations committed to forest certification."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.3.3 Forest management plans or their equivalents shall take into account the different uses or functions of the managed forest area. Forest management planning shall make use of those policy instruments set up to support the production of commercial and non-commercial forest goods and services.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained” ...</p> <p>“The regional forest program should include:” ...</p> <p>”- a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development</p> <p>- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.1, p6: “Legislation and Political Guidance”...</p> <p>“The state authorities encourage forest owners to good forest management practices. State subsidies are available for securing sustainable wood production, for maintaining biological diversity and improving forest health.”...</p> <p>“National forest program 2015 (KFOC 2015) has been prepared in an open process in cooperation with different bodies related to, and interested in, forests. The aim of the program is to ensure work and income depending on forests, forest biodiversity and vitality, as well as recreational opportunities for citizens provided by forests.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.5, p8: “Every year the results of the inventory provide up-to-date and diverse regional information on the Finnish forests.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area.” ...</p> <p>“The information should cover:”...</p> <p>“- Natura 2000 – sites” ...</p> <p>“- nature management and environmental sites funded by the State and sites of continuous protection</p> <p>- monuments of antiquity”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “the proportion of sites considered as excellent or good in relation to the above-mentioned evaluation criteria”... “shall be at least 90 % of the total harvest area based on the results of monitoring”...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded”...</p> <p>“Opportunities for free moving, access and stay in forests as well as for collecting forest products according to Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: “Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured”</p> <p>“Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.</p> <p>Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): “The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting”</p> <p>Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): “Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.3.4 Forest management practices shall maintain and improve the forest resources and encourage a diversified output of goods and services over the long term.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: “Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink” ... “(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit.”... “(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling.” ... “The actual cut includes the annual cut of roundwood i.e. logs, pulpwood and the fuel wood used by small properties.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded”... “Everyman’s rights include, among others - e.g. walking, skiing or bicycling - temporary camping on other person’s land - gathering of berries, mushrooms and some other nature products” PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”... “Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests. Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained”... “The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting”... “The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures”... “- a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.3.5 Regeneration, tending and harvesting operations shall be carried out in time, and in a way that does not reduce the productive capacity of the site, for example by avoiding damage to retained stands and trees as well as to the forest soil, and by using appropriate systems.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained”... “The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting”... “The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures” PEFC FI 1002, Cr8, p17: “Seedling stands shall be timely tended”... “(rc + gc) Annually at least 60% of the annual tending need of seedling stands is completed on the certified area. (foc) In forest owner’s forests minimum 60% of tending needs for seedling stands for a 5-year-period has to be fulfilled.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”... “Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests. PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: “Employees’ adequate professional competence shall be ensured.”... “Employees shall be given site specific work instructions and maps that include a marked worksite, as well as information on the quality, environmental and other requirements.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: “The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured.”... “Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended” “The spreading of the infection of root rot (Heterobasidion parviporum attacking spruce and Heterobasidion annosum attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites. The control of root rot shall be done with user-safe methods. During forest harvest, damages to remaining trees and soil that may deteriorate the growing conditions of the remaining stand shall be avoided. Control measures shall be taken to prevent insect damages in the storage of timber.”... “Harvesting site inspections produce separate estimates for the proportions of tree damages and vehicle trails for intermediate felling of even- and uneven-aged stands.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting” “When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site” ... “In energy wood harvesting, growing retention trees determined in the Criterion 14 shall not be harvested and robust decaying wood shall not be damaged.” CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.3.6 Harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood forest products shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested forest products, with due regard to nutrient off-take.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: "Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink" ... "(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle preceding the audit. The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle can, as a consequence of natural damage, exceed the sustainable allowable cut." ... "(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling." PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting" ... "When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site, its biodiversity as well as the aspects related to water protection. If possible, harvesting of energy wood during intermediate felling should protect thickets for game." PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.3, p7: " Multiple use of forests" ... "In addition to that according to the Everyman's right one can freely collect berries and mushrooms in forests. However, moving on a motor vehicle or making a fire on the ground requires permission from the landowner. Hunting is especially important in the Finnish society. There are around 300 000 hunters and the amount is growing further." Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained" ... "The Law forbids deforestation." ... The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures" ... "- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation." PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted" ... "Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests." ... Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): "The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting" Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): "Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §)." PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: "Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured" CONFORMS Although no references are made in the standard to "Harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood forest products shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term". Everyman's Right offers a right to pick wild berries and mushroom and it is not restricted by nationality or domicile. Land owners are not allowed not reserve wild berries or mushroom for their own use. There are legal instruments that can (temporary) restrict access to ecologically vulnerable areas (and protect "non-wood forest products"). For example, sensitive areas, such as certain lakes, bays and islands, where many birds breed, are protected areas during the nesting season. </p>
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<p>5.3.7 Where it is the responsibility of the forest owner/manager and included in forest management, the exploitation of non-timber forest products, including hunting and fishing, shall be regulated, monitored and controlled.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded” ... “Everyman’s rights include, among others - e.g. walking, skiing or bicycling - temporary camping on other person’s land - gathering of berries, mushrooms and some other nature products - gathering of dried twigs, brushwood, fallen cones and nuts The following activities are not included in Everyman’s rights: - setting fire - damaging trees or bushes - driving in motor vehicles on terrain - gathering of protected plants, lichens and mosses” “An opportunity for the use of the Everyman’s right and its limitations depend on the dominant type of land use on the area. Additional information about the Everyman’s right can be obtained from the guidebook “Everyman’s rights – Legislation and practice” (Finnish environment series 30/2012) prepared by the Ministry of Environment.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”... “Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.”... “Forest and hunting organizations collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats.” PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.3, p7: “Multiple use of forests” ... “The Everyman’s right allows moving freely in forests, what means a possibility to walk, ski, cycle or ride a horse without a special permission without causing any disturbance or inconvenience on privately owned land. In addition to that according to the Everyman’s right one can freely collect berries and mushrooms in forests.”... “A hunting right is connected to the land ownership and thus hunting is a subject for authorization.”... Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15): “The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management, compensations for damages caused by game animals and keeping dogs (1 §).” Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): “The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting (1 §). Regional wildlife councils are operating in connection with the Finnish Wildlife agency (5 §). They increase open and interactive stakeholder cooperation related to the game husbandry and their activities aim at promoting coordination of different interests. In addition to that regional wildlife councils participate in preparing national management plans concerning game species.” CONFORMS The Natural Resources Institute Finland monitors and reports yields of non-wood forest products annually. Fishery is separate from forestry in Finland. Fishing is regulated by Fishing Act (379/2015). </p>
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<p>5.3.8 Adequate infrastructure such as roads, skid tracks or bridges shall be planned, established and maintained to ensure efficient delivery of goods and services while minimising negative impacts on the environment.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Act on private roads (358/1962) – (Law6): “The Act implies that building of roads is appropriate and does not cause a significant damage to the environment or decrease of cultural values of the environment or other infringement of a general advantage comparable to them (7 §). Also the Act separately safeguards Natura-sites and their natural values (7a §).”</p> <p>Water act (587/2011) – (Law12): “The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §). Construction of a bridge or a transport device over a public or main channel always requires a permit (3 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted”...</p> <p>“The number of persons participating in supplementary training, personal or group information sessions, intended for forest owners belonging to the group certification shall be equivalent to at least 20% of the total number of forest owners in the region. The criterion applies only to regional group certification.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: “Competence of employees’ shall be ensured”...</p> <p>“Employer shall have evidence which indicates that the maintenance and necessary development of professional competence during the contract of work is ensured.”</p> <p>Environmental protection act (86/2000) – (Law13): “The Act sets obligations and provisions regarding pollution of the environment. The Act defines that a permit has to be obtained for any activity which poses a threat of pollution (28 §). The Act also includes prohibition of groundwater pollution (8 §) and soil contamination (7 §).”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management” ...</p> <p>“The regional forest program should include:” ...</p> <p>“- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted” ...</p> <p>“Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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Criterion 4: Maintenance, conservation and appropriate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems		
<p>5.4.1 Forest management planning shall aim to maintain, conserve and enhance biodiversity on ecosystem, species and genetic levels and, where appropriate, diversity at landscape level.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas” <p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Criterion 3: Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns”... “in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: “Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures.”... “A forest owner shall possess the data on location of protected areas and areas belonging to Natura 2000-network situated in his/her forests.”...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr10, p19: “Typical features of valuable habitats shall be preserved”...</p> <p>“Forest management measures shall be planned and carried out respecting the following requirements:</p> <p>a) The forest-covered natural habitat types defined in Section 29 of the Nature Conservation Act”...</p> <p>“c) In addition, the most important features of the biological diversity in the habitats with high conservation value, listed below, shall be preserved in forest management operations.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites”...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr12, p24: “The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded”...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning”... “The annual number of prescribed rehabilitation burnings in the area is at least 1 burning/year/200 000 hectares”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: “Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations”... “The average minimum number of retention and decaying trees left on forest regeneration sites in harvesting is 10 trees per hectare at the compartment level.”... “If above mentioned trees and robust trees with decaying stems are not found on site, retention trees may include trees with biodiversity values that exceed 10 cm in diameter at breast height and have a good potential to develop into old trees.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: “Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.4.2 Forest management planning, inventory and mapping of forest resources shall identify, protect and/or conserve ecologically important forest areas containing significant concentrations of:</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas” <p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Criterion 3: Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” ... “in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: “Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures.” ...</p>
<p>a) protected, rare, sensitive or representative forest ecosystems such as riparian areas and wetland biotopes;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>“A forest owner shall possess the data on location of protected areas and areas belonging to Natura 2000-network situated in his/her forests.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr10, p19: “Typical features of valuable habitats shall be preserved” ...</p> <p>“Forest management measures shall be planned and carried out respecting the following requirements:</p> <p>a) The forest-covered natural habitat types defined in Section 29 of the Nature Conservation Act” ...</p> <p>“c) In addition, the most important features of the biological diversity in the habitats with high conservation value, listed below, shall be preserved in forest management operations.”</p>
<p>b) areas containing endemic species and habitats of threatened species, as defined in recognised reference lists;</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: “Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr12, p24: “The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning” ...</p>
<p>c) endangered or protected genetic in situ resources; and taking into account</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>“The annual number of prescribed rehabilitation burnings in the area is at least 1 burning/year/200 000 hectares”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: “Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations” ...</p> <p>“The average minimum number of retention and decaying trees left on forest regeneration sites in harvesting is 10 trees per hectare at the compartment level.” ...</p> <p>“If above mentioned trees and robust trees with decaying stems are not found on site, retention trees may include trees with biodiversity values that exceed 10 cm</p>
<p>d) globally, regionally and nationally significant large landscape areas with natural distribution and abundance of naturally occurring species.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>in diameter at breast height and have a good potential to develop into old trees.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: “Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.4.3 Protected and endangered plant and animal species shall not be exploited for commercial purposes. Where necessary, measures shall be taken for their protection and, where relevant, to increase their population.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas” Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).” PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: “Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved” The Law on placing timber and timber products on the market (897/2013) – (Law4): “The Law on placing timber and timber products on the market implements the principles of the EU Timber Regulation (EU No 995/2010) and EU acts based on it. Timber Regulation implies that actors shall use a so-called “due diligence system” for ensuring the legality of timber and timber products. PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: “Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures.”... PEFC FI 1002, Cr10, p19: “Typical features of valuable habitats shall be preserved”... “Forest management measures shall be planned and carried out respecting the following requirements: a) The forest-covered natural habitat types defined in Section 29 of the Nature Conservation Act”... “c) In addition, the most important features of the biological diversity in the habitats with high conservation value, listed below, shall be preserved in forest management operations.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr12, p24: “The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded”... PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning”... “The annual number of prescribed rehabilitation burnings in the area is at least 1 burning/year/200 000 hectares” PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: “Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations”... “The average minimum number of retention and decaying trees left on forest regeneration sites in harvesting is 10 trees per hectare at the compartment level.”... CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.4.4 Forest management shall ensure successful regeneration through natural regeneration or, where not appropriate, planting that is adequate to ensure the quantity and quality of the forest resources.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained”...</p> <p>“The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §). An obligation of regeneration also applies to commercial forests which have been declared for other use if the land use has not been changed during four years from the end of harvesting or other activity (3 §). Clearing forest for other use may require permission according to the Land Use and Building Act, the Environmental Protection Act or the Water Act. The Forest Act is applicable until a decision on granting the permission becomes effective.</p> <p>Act on commerce of material for forest regeneration (242/2002) – (Law9): “The Act implies that seeds and seedlings used for forest regeneration have to have an appropriate origin for this growing site, good quality and health.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr2, p:10: “Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink” ...</p> <p>“(rc) The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle shall be compared to the maximum sustainable allowable cut calculated for the area. (gc + foc) Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities in which it has been proved that a forest owner/holder has breached his/her obligation for regeneration.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” ...</p> <p>“A declaration of forest use or a separate environmental report has been established for the area of the planned harvesting.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.</p> <p>“(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.” ...</p> <p>“In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area.” ...</p> <p>“The information should cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stand-level information about trees and soils - need for silvicultural treatment of each stand” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: “The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured”...</p> <p>“Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr13, p25: “Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: “Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr16, p27: “Genetically modified seed and plant materials shall not be used”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”...</p> <p>“Forest and hunting organizations collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “The forest legislation has recently been significantly revised and the new legislation entered into force in the beginning of 2014.” ... “The most important changes include allowing uneven-aged forest stands, abolition of age and diameter limits in regeneration, more diverse range of tree species, and increase in habitats of special importance.” ... “In connection with revision of Forest Act also the nation-wide forest management recommendations were renewed. Recommendations are for the use of forest owners and forestry professionals that offer their services to forest owners. Recommendations describe best practices of how forest owner can grow his forest according to one’s own objectives.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.4.5 For reforestation and afforestation, origins of native species and local provenances that are well-adapted to site conditions shall be preferred, where appropriate. Only those introduced species, provenances or varieties shall be used whose impacts on the ecosystem and on the genetic integrity of native species and local provenances have been evaluated, and if negative impacts can be avoided or minimised.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Act on commerce of material for forest regeneration (242/2002) – (Law9): “The Act implies that seeds and seedlings used for forest regeneration have to have an appropriate origin for this growing site, good quality and health.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr15, p27: “Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration”...</p> <p>“Forest regeneration shall be done with tree species native to Finland except for special cases.”...</p> <p>“A summary of the area regenerated with species other than those native to Finland is calculated annually.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr16, p27: “Gene modified material or other material, which is not approved by the authority shall not be used in seeding and planting.”...</p> <p>“Information from the authorities responsible for the enforcement of the Act on Trade of Forest Reproductive Material (241/2002) indicates that gene modified material has not been used in seeding and planting.”...</p> <p>“The authority responsible for monitoring the trade of forest reproductive material and for the approval of forest reproductive material in Finland is the Finnish Food Safety Authority (Evira).”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area”...</p> <p>“A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §). An obligation of regeneration also applies to commercial forests”...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:”...</p> <p>“- a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns”...</p> <p>“A declaration of forest use or a separate environmental report has been established for the area of the planned harvesting.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.4.6 Afforestation and reforestation activities that contribute to the improvement and restoration of ecological connectivity shall be promoted.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).</p> <p>The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §). An obligation of regeneration also applies to commercial forests which have been declared for other use if the land use has not been changed during four years from the end of harvesting or other activity (3 §). Clearing forest for other use may require permission according to the Land Use and Building Act, the Environmental Protection Act or the Water Act. The Forest Act is applicable until a decision on granting the permission becomes effective.</p> <p>The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options.”</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law (128 §). The landscape work-permit is required for example when carrying out work on areas covered by a local detailed plan and partly on areas of a local master plan.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: “Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved”</p> <p>“Rare peatland types and the possibility of their restoration into natural state are especially taken into consideration in drainage maintenance as well as in other</p>

		<p>arrangements related to water management.”</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>In projects, such as building highways, the planning process requires an extensive environmental impact assessment (in which e.g. wildlife crossings are sometimes considered). </p>
5.4.7 Genetically-modified trees shall not be used.	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr16, p27: “Genetically modified seed and plant materials shall not be used”...</p> <p>“Gene modified material or other material, which is not approved by the authority shall not be used in seeding and planting.”...</p> <p>“Information from the authorities responsible for the enforcement of the Act on Trade of Forest Reproductive Material (241/2002) indicates that gene modified material has not been used in seeding and planting.”...</p> <p>“The authority responsible for monitoring the trade of forest reproductive material and for the approval of forest reproductive material in Finland is the Finnish Food Safety Authority (Evira).“</p> <p>Act on commerce of material for forest regeneration (242/2002) – (Law9): “The Act implies that seeds and seedlings used for forest regeneration have to have an appropriate origin for this growing site, good quality and health.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
5.4.8 Forest management practices shall, where appropriate, promote a diversity of both horizontal and vertical structures such as uneven-aged stands and the diversity of species such as mixed stands. Where appropriate, the practices shall also aim to maintain and restore landscape diversity.	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.”...</p> <p>“To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding’s forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.”...</p> <p>“(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region.</p> <p>In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.”</p> <p>“The information should cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stand-level information about trees and soils - need for silvicultural treatment of each stand - harvesting opportunities <p>“The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. Such plan is considered to be for example a regional forest program.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area”...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures” <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law (128 §). The landscape work-permit is required for example when carrying out work on areas covered by a local detailed plan and partly on areas of a local master plan.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “The forest legislation has recently been significantly revised and the new legislation entered into force in the beginning of 2014.” ... “The most important changes include allowing uneven-aged forest stands, abolition of age and diameter limits in regeneration, more diverse range of tree species, and increase in habitats of special importance.” ... “In connection with revision of Forest Act also the nation-wide forest management recommendations were renewed. Recommendations are for the use of forest owners and forestry professionals that offer their services to forest owners. Recommendations describe best practices of how forest owner can grow his forest according to one’s own objectives.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.4.9 Traditional management systems that have created valuable ecosystems, such as coppice, on appropriate sites shall be supported, when economically feasible.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): “Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §).”</p> <p>Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act. The forest management on the Sami homeland referred to in this Act shall comply with constitutional provisions on Sami cultural and linguistic rights (Const. 17.3 and 121.4 §), the Act on Sami Parliament and the Act on the use of the Sami language and international agreements concerning them ratified by Finland.”</p> <p>Reindeer Husbandry Act (848/1990)– (Law27): “In Northern Finland the Reindeer Husbandry Act guarantees opportunities for practicing reindeer herding and husbandry and guarantees wide rights for reindeer grazing also on state lands.”</p> <p>Scolt Act (253/1995)*– (Law28): “The Act provides Scoltis with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded” ...</p> <p>“Opportunities for free moving, access and stay in forests as well as for collecting forest products according to Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded.” ...</p> <p>“- gathering of berries, mushrooms and some other nature products</p> <p>- gathering of dried twigs, brushwood, fallen cones and nuts”</p> <p>“Additional information about the Everyman’s right can be obtained from the guidebook “Everyman’s rights – Legislation and practice” (Finnish environment series 30/2012) prepared by the Ministry of Environment.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: “Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.” ...</p> <p>“In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.”</p> <p>The information should cover:</p> <p>- stand-level information about trees and soils</p> <p>- need for silvicultural treatment of each stand</p> <p>- harvesting opportunities” ...</p> <p>“- nature management and environmental sites funded by the State and sites of continuous protection</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted” ...</p> <p>The number of persons participating in supplementary training, personal or group information sessions, intended for forest owners belonging to the group certification shall be equivalent to at least 20% of the total number of forest owners in the region. The criterion applies only to regional group certification.</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” ...</p> <p>“An environmental report includes an estimation of impacts caused by an activity in order to protect characteristics of the following sites:</p> <p>- sites restricted by a decision of the forest owner or sites restricted by planning for the purpose of game propagation, recreational use or other such sites.” ...</p> <p>“This criterion does not apply to harvesting for household use.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.4.10 Tending and harvesting operations shall be conducted in a way that does not cause lasting damage to ecosystems. Wherever possible, practical measures shall be taken to improve or maintain biological diversity.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained.”...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas”... “- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: “Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting” ...</p> <p>“When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site, its biodiversity as well as the aspects related to water protection. If possible, harvesting of energy wood during intermediate felling should protect thickets for game. Peatlands in their natural state shall not be transferred into energy wood cultivations.” ...</p> <p>“From areas contaminated with root rot all coniferous stumps can be extracted.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr8, p17: “Seedling stands shall be timely tended” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: “The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured.”...</p> <p>“Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands.”...</p> <p>“Silvicultural treatment includes the following types of work: soil preparation, sowing, planting, early tending and clearing of young stands.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: “Health of the stand shall be attended” ...</p> <p>The spreading of the infection of root rot”... “shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites. The control of root rot shall be done with user-safe methods.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: “Employer and issuer of the contract shall have evidence which indicates that they have been assured of the required professional competence of the employee for each task carried out for accomplishment of work.”...</p> <p>“Employees shall be given site specific work instructions and maps that include a marked worksite, as well as information on the quality, environmental and other requirements.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted”...</p> <p>Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §).” ... “ The task of the Finnish Research Institute is to monitor and anticipate the occurrence and spreading of plant diseases and pests causing forest damages and studying the cause-effect relationships of damages and their economic significance (12§).”</p> <p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.4.11 Infrastructure shall be planned and constructed in a way that minimises damage to ecosystems, especially to rare, sensitive or representative ecosystems and genetic reserves, and that takes threatened or other key species – in particular their migration patterns – into consideration.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests”... “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program”. The regional forest program should include: - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development” “- an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” Act on private roads (358/1962) – (Law6): “The Act implies that building of roads is appropriate and does not cause a significant damage to the environment or decrease of cultural values of the environment or other infringement of a general advantage comparable to them (7 §). Also the Act separately safeguards Natura-sites and their natural values (7a §).” Water act (587/2011) – (Law12): “Water resource management projects which may change the state of water resources require a consent of the permit authority (Chapter 2, 2 §). The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §). Construction of a bridge or a transport device over a public or main channel always requires a permit (3 §).” PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns”... “An environmental report established in the framework of a local master plan, local detailed plan or a local detailed shore plan fulfills the requirement of this criterion.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: “Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr10, p19: “Typical features of valuable habitats shall be preserved” PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: “Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved PEFC FI 1002, Cr12, p24: “The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded Environmental protection act (86/2000) – (Law13): “The Act sets obligations and provisions regarding pollution of the environment. The Act defines that a permit has to be obtained for any activity which poses a threat of pollution (28 §). The Act also includes prohibition of groundwater pollution (8 §) and soil contamination (7 §).” CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.4.12 With due regard to management objectives, measures shall be taken to balance the pressure of animal populations and grazing on forest regeneration and growth as well as on biodiversity.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”... “Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.” ... “Forest and hunting organizations collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats.” “In order to safeguard living conditions of game, broadleaved trees are left as supplementary seedlings in seedling stands dominated by coniferous species.” Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15): “The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management, compensations for damages caused by game animals and keeping dogs (1 §).” Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): “The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting (1 §).” Reindeer Husbandry Act (848/1990)– (Law27): “In Northern Finland the Reindeer Husbandry Act guarantees opportunities for practicing reindeer herding and husbandry and guarantees wide rights for reindeer grazing also on state lands.” Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act.” CONFORMS </p>

<p>5.4.13 Standing and fallen dead wood, hollow trees, old groves and special rare tree species shall be left in quantities and distribution necessary to safeguard biological diversity, taking into account the potential effect on the health and stability of forests and on surrounding ecosystems.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: “Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations”... Retention trees and large trees with decaying stems shall be permanently left on site in intermediate felling and clear-cuts to safeguard the biodiversity of forest nature.” ...</p> <p>“Retention trees can be divided into</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nest trees of raptorial birds, - large junipers - old trees with fire scarring - larger trees from previous tree generation - trees with unexpected form - broad-leaved woods - large aspens - tree-like willows, cherries and sorbus - alders - trees with holes created by birds and animals.”... <p>“Retention trees are primarily left in groups, in close vicinity to the habitats of special importance listed in the Criterion 10, protection belts left on edges of open peatlands determined in the Criterion 11 and on buffer-zones of water basins and small water bodies determined in the Criterion 17. Soil where retention trees left after clear-cuts are growing shall not be scarified, neither should be cleared their bases.” ...</p> <p>“Trees with decaying stems include snags with a diameter at a breast height exceeding 20cm and other dead standing trees, hollow trees and ground wood.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr12, p24: “The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded” ...</p> <p>“The habitats of species under strict protection that the Centers for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment.” ... “Habitats of other endangered species which a forest owner is informed about in accordance with the approach set for the “Protection of Endangered Species in Forest Management”...” “A list of strictly protected and other endangered species is specified in Annex 4 of the Council of State decree (913/2005) on changing the nature protection decree.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: “Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr10, p19: “Typical features of valuable habitats shall be preserved” ...</p> <p>“Forest management measures shall be planned and carried out respecting” ... “The forest-covered natural habitat types defined in Section 29 of the Nature Conservation Act (1096/1996)” ... “The management measures on sites in their natural state or equivalent to natural state as well as habitats of special importance” ... “sites defined in Section 10 of the Forest Act (1093/1996)” ... “the most important features of the biological diversity in the habitats with high conservation value, listed below, shall be preserved in forest management operations” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr11, p22: “Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved” ...</p> <p>“Rare peatland types refer to peatland types classified according to the Red List (LuTu 2008) as critically endangered or endangered (EN- and CR-categories) peatlands of Southern and Northern Finland.”</p> <p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>Criterion 5: Maintenance and appropriate enhancement of protective functions in forest management (notably soil and water)</p>		

<p>5.5.1 Forest management planning shall aim to maintain and enhance protective functions of forests for society, such as protection of infrastructure, protection from soil erosion, protection of water resources and from adverse impacts of water such as floods or avalanches.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region. In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p28: "On the area of operations the buffer zone is considered to be preserved as required by the criterion when, based on monitoring the soil is undisturbed on over 90 per cent of the length of the buffer-zone and the layer composition of vegetation has been preserved. The width of the buffer zone is at least 5-10 meters taking into account the vegetation of the shore area and shape of the landscape."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr18, p29: "Forest organizations' plans for drainage maintenance shall include a water protection plan. The planned water protection measures shall be implemented as appropriate. On clear-cut areas where water is lead to outfalls appropriate water management measures shall be applied."</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §)."</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): "The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation." <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.5.2 Areas that fulfil specific and recognised protective functions for society shall be registered and mapped, and forest management plans or their equivalents shall take these areas into account.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "(rc) A plan describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region. In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha."</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): "The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr9, p18: "Conservation value of protected areas or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures."</p> <p>Act on private roads (358/1962) – (Law6): "The Act implies that building of roads is appropriate and does not cause a significant damage to the environment or decrease of cultural values of the environment or other infringement of a general advantage comparable to them (7 §). Also the Act separately safeguards Natura-sites and their natural values (7a §)."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p28: "A buffer-zone that preserves layer composition of vegetation is left along watercourses and springs for capturing solid and nutrient run-off"</p> <p>Antiquities Act (295/1963) – (Law14): "Financing of archeological sites representing previous dwelling and history of Finland is guaranteed by the law (1 §). The financing of these sites is monitored by the National board of antiquities (3 §)."</p> <p>Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16): "The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting (1 §)."</p> <p>Regional wildlife councils are operating in connection with the Finnish Wildlife agency (5 §). They increase open and interactive stakeholder cooperation related to the game husbandry and their activities aim at promoting coordination of different interests. In addition to that regional wildlife councils participate in preparing national management plans concerning game species."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.5.3 Special care shall be given to silvicultural operations on sensitive soils and erosion-prone areas as well as in areas where operations might lead to excessive erosion of soil into watercourses. Inappropriate techniques such as deep soil tillage and use of unsuitable machinery shall be avoided in such areas. Special measures shall be taken to minimise the pressure of animal populations.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: "All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection"...</p> <p>"A buffer-zone that preserves layer composition of vegetation is left along watercourses and springs for capturing solid and nutrient run-off to. Leaving canopy biomass on the buffer zone should be avoided.</p> <p>On buffer zones there should be no</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - soil scarification - fertilization - stump removal clearing of shrub layer vegetation - use of chemical pesticides or herbicides <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: "The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured."...</p> <p>"Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: "Health of the stand shall be attended"...</p> <p>"During forest harvest, damages to remaining trees and soil that may deteriorate the growing conditions of the remaining stand shall be avoided."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr7, p16: "Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting"...</p> <p>"When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site, its biodiversity as well as the aspects related to water protection."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: "In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded"...</p> <p>"Stumps shall not be removed in Class I groundwater areas."</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): "The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law"</p> <p>Water act (587/2011) – (Law12): "The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §). Construction of a bridge or a transport device over a public or main channel always requires a permit (3 §)."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources."...</p> <p>"To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.5.4 Special care shall be given to forest management practices in forest areas with water protection functions to avoid adverse effects on the quality and quantity of water resources. Inappropriate use of chemicals or other harmful substances or inappropriate silvicultural practices influencing water quality in a harmful way shall be avoided.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: "All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection"...</p> <p>"A buffer-zone that preserves layer composition of vegetation is left along watercourses and springs for capturing solid and nutrient run-off to. Leaving canopy biomass on the buffer zone should be avoided.</p> <p>On buffer zones there should be no</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - soil scarification - fertilization - stump removal clearing of shrub layer vegetation - use of chemical pesticides or herbicides"... <p>"Chemical pesticides and herbicides refer to the definitions of plant protection products defined in the Act on Plant Protection Products 1563/2011 and the Regulation of the European Parliament and Council (EC) N:o 1107/2009."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr19, p30: "In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded"...</p> <p>"Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) or suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply."...</p> <p>"Fertilizers shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) sources of water supply. However, ash fertilization of peatlands is allowed."...</p> <p>"Stumps shall not be removed in Class I groundwater areas."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr20, p31: "Plant protection products shall be used responsibly"...</p> <p>"Only approved pesticides and herbicides shall be used in forest management and wood harvesting.</p> <p>Broad-leaved coppice shall not be treated in forest regeneration areas or in seedling and sapling stands with chemical foliage sprays, unless it is implied by measures controlling the fungal diseases infecting young Scots pine stands from aspen coppice.</p> <p>No chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used in valuable habitats defined in Criterion 10.</p> <p>Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used only when unavoidable. Such cases can be, for instance, the control of ground vegetation on forest regeneration areas; stump treatment of broad-leaved trees; controlling the pine weevil; prevention of damages caused by elk and for treatment of coniferous timber storages in the vicinity of forest areas to prevent spreading of insect damages into the forests.</p> <p>The use of control agents in stump management for prevention the spreading of root rot is allowed in general but not in the valuable habitats specified in Criterion 10."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr6, p13: "Health of the stand shall be attended"...</p> <p>"The spreading of the infection of root rot"..."shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites. The control of root rot shall be done with user-safe methods"...</p> <p>"Storing timber should comply with the Forest Damages Prevention Act (1087/2013). A competent authority has not imposed a conditional fine defined in Section 24 nor has pronounced a sentence defined in Section 25 of the Act related to the neglect of control of insects in the interval storage of timber.</p> <p>Water act (587/2011) – (Law12): "Water resource management projects which may change the state of water resources require a consent of the permit authority (Chapter 2, 2 §). The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §). Construction of a bridge or a transport device over a public or main channel always requires a permit (3 §)."</p> <p>Environmental protection act (86/2000) – (Law13): "The Act defines that a permit has to be obtained for any activity which poses a threat of pollution (28 §). The Act also includes prohibition of groundwater pollution (8 §) and soil contamination (7 §)."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.5.5 Construction of roads, bridges and other infrastructure shall be carried out in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses and preserves the natural level and function of water courses and river beds. Proper road drainage facilities shall be installed and maintained.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: “All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection”... “A buffer-zone that preserves layer composition of vegetation is left along watercourses and springs for capturing solid and nutrient run-off to. Leaving canopy biomass on the buffer zone should be avoided. On buffer zones there should be no</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - soil scarification - fertilization - stump removal clearing of shrub layer vegetation - use of chemical pesticides or herbicides <p>Tree harvesting on buffer zones can focus on other trees than those that are retention and decaying trees mentioned in the Criterion 14, however so that a bush layer and small trees of the buffer zone are preserved.” Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options.” Act on private roads (358/1962) – (Law6): “The Act implies that building of roads is appropriate and does not cause a significant damage to the environment or decrease of cultural values of the environment or other infringement of a general advantage comparable to them (7 §). Also the Act separately safeguards Natura-sites and their natural values (7a §).” Water act (587/2011) – (Law12): “The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §). Construction of a bridge or a transport device over a public or main channel always requires a permit (3 §).” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.2, p3: “The most important regulations promoting landscape protection are included in the Nature Conservation Act and the Land Use and Building Act.” ... “According to the national land use objectives set in the Land Use and Building Act, valuable landscapes must be taken into account in land use planning. For example, they must be marked in the Regional Land Use Plans.” ... “For activities that might change landscape in zoned areas a permission must be applied before the realisation of the activity. Landscape work permit is granted according to Land use and building act (132/1999).” CONFORMS </p>
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Criterion 6: Maintenance of other socio-economic functions and conditions		
<p>5.6.1 Forest management planning shall aim to respect the multiple functions of forests to society, give due regard to the role of forestry in rural development, and especially consider new opportunities for employment in connection with the socio-economic functions of forests.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained.”... “A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).”...</p> <p>“The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures”... “- a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.”... <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns”...</p> <p>“a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.”...</p> <p>“An environmental report includes an estimation of impacts caused by an activity in order to protect characteristics of the following sites:”...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “- archeological sites (criterion 30) - sites restricted by a decision of the forest owner or sites restricted by planning for the purpose of game propagation, recreational use or other such sites.” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”...</p> <p>“Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.3, p7: “Multiple use of forests”...</p> <p>“Hunting is especially important in the Finnish society. There are around 300 000 hunters and the amount is growing further.”... “A hunting right is connected to the land ownership and thus hunting is a subject for authorization.” ... “In Northern Finland reindeer husbandry is an important part of multiple use of forests.” ... “The right of free grazing is secured by law.”</p> <p>Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): “The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way.” ... “With participation of stakeholder groups implementation of sustainability on different areas is taken into account (4 §).”</p> <p>Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): “Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.” ... “Forest Centre examines the monitoring results annually with the regional Forest Council and discusses the fulfilling of the objectives. On the basis of the results the Forest Centre prepares an updated regional plan that includes quantitative targets for silvicultural work and realisation of cutting activities.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p3: “In Finland land use planning has special importance on areas where land is encountered by many interests. Land use is planned on both nation-wide and local levels. In addition to national land use planning also regional land use plans, local master plans and local detailed plans are being prepared. Zoning is a participatory process where anybody involved can have impact.” ... “For activities that might change landscape in zoned areas a permission must be applied before the realisation of the activity. Landscape work permit is granted according to Land use and building act (132/1999).”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “In the regional level the use of forests is steered by regional forestry planning covering areas of villages, municipalities or other connected areas that are larger than individual holdings. Forest Centre participates forest planning on regional level and offers forest owners information of the use of forests via Metsään.fi service (chapter 2.1).”... “Forest Centre controls that forests are managed as stipulated by law. Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration</p>

		<p>to control the use of forests on estate level.” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: “The Forest Centre is tasked with promoting forestry and related livelihoods. That includes advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to Finland's forests and maintaining national forest resource database and enforcing forestry legislation.” CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.6.2 Forest management shall promote the long-term health and well-being of communities within or adjacent to the forest management area.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”... “Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.” ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr26, p38: “Knowledge of forestry and interaction with nature among children and adolescents shall be promoted” PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.3, p7: “Multiple use of forests”... “Nearly all Finnish people enjoy outdoor activities and a great deal of these activities take place in forest areas. The Everyman’s right allows moving freely in forests”... “one can freely collect berries and mushrooms in forests.”... “In Northern Finland reindeer husbandry is an important part of multiple use of forests. The population of reindeers is being actively taken care of and reindeers can graze freely. The right of free grazing is secured by law.” Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): “Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §).” PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: “Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured” ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: “Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi “Measures required by the traditional reindeer herding belonging to the Sami culture and the necessity for cooperation are defined in the agreement on Reindeer Herding and cooperation and reconciliation of activities of Metsähallitus and reindeer herding activities between herding cooperatives of the Sami homelands, the Finnish Sami Parliament, the Skolt Council and Metsähallitus.” Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act. The forest management on the Sami homeland referred to in this Act shall comply with constitutional provisions on Sami cultural and linguistic rights (Const. 17.3 and 121.4 §).” Reindeer Husbandry Act (848/1990)– (Law27): “In Northern Finland the Reindeer Husbandry Act guarantees opportunities for practicing reindeer herding and husbandry and guarantees wide rights for reindeer grazing also on state lands.” Scolt Act (253/1995)*– (Law28): “The Act provides Scolts with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).” PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted”... “Topics discussed in training sessions can include e.g. economically profitable timber production and harvesting, forest ecology and nature management of commercial forests, multiple use of forests, game management, forest culture, independent forest management, Everyman’s rights and PEFC-forest certification.” COMFORMS </p>

<p>5.6.3 Property rights and land tenure arrangements shall be clearly defined, documented and established for the relevant forest area. Likewise, legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land shall be clarified, recognised and respected.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Real Estate Register Act (392/1985) – (Law2): “In Finland the National Land Survey is responsible for maintenance of the Real Estate Register which contains general information concerning real estates and indirect information about owners (1 §).”</p> <p>Code of Real Estate (540/1995) – (Law3): “The Law defines the grounds for acquisition of real estates and registration of ownership.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.3, p7: “Multiple use of forests” ...</p> <p>The Everyman’s right allows moving freely in forests” ... “without a special permission without causing any disturbance or inconvenience on privately owned land.”... “one can freely collect berries and mushrooms in forests. However, moving on a motor vehicle or making a fire on the ground requires permission from the landowner.”</p> <p>“There are around 300 000 hunters and the amount is growing further.”... “A hunting right is connected to the land ownership and thus hunting is a subject for authorization.”...</p> <p>“In Northern Finland reindeer husbandry is an important part of multiple use of forests.”... “The right of free grazing is secured by law.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded</p> <p>“An opportunity for the use of the Everyman’s right and its limitations depend on the dominant type of land use on the area.</p> <p>Additional information about the Everyman’s right can be obtained from the guidebook “Everyman’s rights – Legislation and practice””</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: “Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured”</p> <p>“The cooperation observes the Agreement by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders’ Association signed on 4.4.2013 by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders’ Association as well as the sections of Metsähallitus natural resources planning addressing the integration of forestry and reindeer husbandry.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: “Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development” ...</p> <p>“Measures required by the traditional reindeer herding belonging to the Sami culture and the necessity for cooperation are defined in the agreement on Reindeer Herding and cooperation and reconciliation of activities of Metsähallitus and reindeer herding activities between herding cooperatives of the Sami homelands, the Finnish Sami Parliament, the Skolt Council and Metsähallitus.”</p> <p>Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured”</p> <p>Reindeer Husbandry Act (848/1990)– (Law27): “In Northern Finland the Reindeer Husbandry Act guarantees opportunities for practicing reindeer herding and husbandry and guarantees wide rights for reindeer grazing also on state lands.”</p> <p>Scolt Act (253/1995)*– (Law28): “The Act provides Scolts with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.4 Forest management activities shall be conducted in recognition of the established framework of legal, customary and traditional rights such as outlined in ILO 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which shall not be infringed upon without the free, prior and informed consent of the holders of the rights, including the provision of compensation where applicable. Where the extent of rights is not yet resolved or is in dispute there are processes for just and fair resolution. In such cases forest managers shall, in the interim, provide meaningful opportunities for parties to be engaged in forest management decisions whilst respecting the processes and roles and responsibilities laid out in the policies and laws where the certification takes place.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: “Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development” ...</p> <p>“In the Sámi homelands the management and use of areas and natural resources administered by the State shall be organized in such a way that they ensure the facilities for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods.”...</p> <p>“The management of state forests is carried out in compliance with the international laws, article 8j in Biodiversity Convention and the rights of Sámi as defined in the Constitution, as well as in such a manner that the engagement of the Sámi Parliament in preparation and decisions on the issue is secured.”...</p> <p>“Measures required by the traditional reindeer herding belonging to the Sami culture and the necessity for cooperation are defined in the agreement on Reindeer Herding and cooperation and reconciliation of activities of Metsähallitus and reindeer herding activities between herding cooperatives of the Sami homelands, the Finnish Sami Parliament, the Skolt Council and Metsähallitus.”...</p> <p>“The cooperation complies with the previously mentioned agreement, starting from the date of its validity, as well as sections of the Metsähallitus natural resource plans concerning reconciliation of forest management and the Sami culture.”</p> <p>Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): “The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way. Metsähallitus practices businesses within the framework of the obligations to the society laid down in this Act and manages public administration duties (2 §). With participation of stakeholder groups implementation of sustainability on different areas is taken into account (4 §).”</p> <p>Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act. The forest management on the Sami homeland referred to in this Act shall comply with constitutional provisions on Sami cultural and linguistic rights (Const. 17.3 and 121.4 §), the Act on Sami Parliament and the Act on the use of the Sami language and international agreements concerning them ratified by Finland.”</p> <p>Reindeer Husbandry Act (848/1990)– (Law27): “In Northern Finland the Reindeer Husbandry Act guarantees opportunities for practicing reindeer herding and husbandry and guarantees wide rights for reindeer grazing also on state lands.”</p> <p>Scolt Act (253/1995)*– (Law28): “The Act provides Scoltis with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: “Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured” ...</p> <p>“Forest management activities on reindeer herding sites of state forests, under the administration of Metsähallitus, and reindeer herding shall be integrated in a local level cooperation so that the conditions for reindeer husbandry are safeguarded in forest management activities on a broad and long-term basis in the region designated for reindeer herding.”</p> <p>“To reach this target Metsähallitus shall cooperate with the representatives of relevant reindeer herding cooperatives when carrying out such activities that might have a significant impact on reindeer herding. Significant activities and need for cooperation shall be determined in cooperation so that the target will be achieved. The cooperation observes the Agreement by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders’ Association signed on 4.4.2013 by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders’ Association as well as the sections of Metsähallitus natural resources planning addressing the integration of forestry and reindeer husbandry.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.5 Adequate public access to forests for the purpose of recreation shall be provided taking into account respect for ownership rights and the rights of others, the effects on forest resources and ecosystems, as well as compatibility with other functions of the forest.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: "Everyman's rights shall be safeguarded" "Opportunities for free moving, access and stay in forests as well as for collecting forest products according to Everyman's rights shall be safeguarded."... "An opportunity for the use of the Everyman's right and its limitations depend on the dominant type of land use on the area."... "Additional information about the Everyman's right can be obtained from the guidebook "Everyman's rights – Legislation and practice"" PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted"...</p> <p>"Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests."... "Forest and hunting organizations collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats." PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.3, p7: "Multiple use of forests"...</p> <p>Forests are important environment for recreation of Finnish people and an important part of nature tourism. Nearly all Finnish people enjoy outdoor activities and a great deal of these activities take place in forest areas. The Everyman's right allows moving freely in forests, what means a possibility to walk, ski, cycle or ride a horse without a special permission without causing any disturbance or inconvenience on privately owned land. In addition to that according to the Everyman's right one can freely collect berries and mushrooms in forests."...</p> <p>"In Northern Finland reindeer husbandry is an important part of multiple use of forests. The population of reindeers is being actively taken care of and reindeers can graze freely. The right of free grazing is secured by law." Outdoor recreation act (606/1973) – (Law23): "The aim of the Act is, among others, to determine practices concerning establishment of official outdoor recreation routes (2 §) and wilderness recreation areas (16 §)." Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): "Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §)." Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): "The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way."... "With participation of stakeholder groups implementation of sustainability on different areas is taken into account (4 §)."</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>Everyman's right is restricted in protected areas such as nature reserves. Sensitive areas, such as certain lakes, bays and islands, where many birds breed, must be avoided during the nesting season. </p>
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<p>5.6.6 Sites with recognised specific historical, cultural or spiritual significance and areas fundamental to meeting the basic needs of local communities (e.g. health, subsistence) shall be protected or managed in a way that takes due regard of the significance of the site.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: "Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns" ... "An environmental report includes an estimation of impacts caused by an activity in order to protect characteristics of the following sites:"... - archeological sites (criterion 30)" PEFC FI 1002, Cr4, p12: "Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources." "To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment." ... "In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area." ... "The information should cover:" ... - monuments of antiquity registered in the respective register that have reliable site specific data on their location." ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: "Everyman's rights shall be safeguarded" ... "Opportunities for free moving, access and stay in forests as well as for collecting forest products according to Everyman's rights shall be safeguarded." ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr26, p38: "Knowledge of forestry and interaction with nature among children and adolescents shall be promoted" ... "There shall be an up-to-date action program to promote the forest based knowledge and strengthen interaction with nature among children and adolescents in the region. The criterion applies only to regional group certification. PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: "Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development" Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): "The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options." Antiquities Act (295/1963) – (Law14): "Financing of archeological sites representing previous dwelling and history of Finland is guaranteed by the law (1 §). The financing of these sites is monitored by the National board of antiquities (3 §)." CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.7 Forest management operations shall take into account all socio-economic functions, especially the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests by maintaining for example varied forest structures, and by encouraging attractive trees, groves and other features such as colours, flowers and fruits. This shall be done, however, in a way and to an extent that does not lead to serious negative effects on forest resources, and forest land.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted” ... “Accessibility on recreational trails possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.” ... “No soil scarification or stump removal shall take place on recreational trails. Canopy biomass shall not be left on trails. Any permanent constructions on trails shall be safeguarded in forestry operations. When the monitoring of nature management indicates that 90 per cent of a trail length is intact (in forestry operations), when the trail has not been made inaccessible or there has been ensured an alternative trail, the accessibility on the trails is taken into consideration as required by the criterion.” ... “In order to safeguard living conditions of game, broadleaved trees are left as supplementary seedlings in seedling stands dominated by coniferous species.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: “Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns” ... “In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established.” ... “- sites restricted by a decision of the forest owner or sites restricted by planning for the purpose of game propagation, recreational use or other such sites.” ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr14, p25: “Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations” ... “Retention trees and large trees with decaying stems shall be permanently left on site in intermediate felling and clear-cuts to safeguard the biodiversity of forest nature.” ... “Retention trees can be divided into - nest trees of raptorial birds, - large junipers - old trees with fire scarring - larger trees from previous tree generation - trees with unexpected form - broad-leaved woods - large aspens - tree-like willows, cherries and sorbuses - alders - trees with holes created by birds and animals.” “Retention trees are primarily left in groups” ... “protection belts left on edges of open peatlands determined in the Criterion 11” ... “and on” ... “small water bodies determined in the Criterion 17.” PEFC FI 1002, Cr27, p39: “Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded” ... “Opportunities for free moving, access and stay in forests as well as for collecting forest products according to Everyman’s rights shall be safeguarded.” ... PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: “Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development” ... Outdoor recreation act (606/1973) – (Law23): “The aim of the Act is, among others, to determine practices concerning establishment of official outdoor recreation routes (2 §) and wilderness recreation areas (16 §).” Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).” CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.8 Forest managers, contractors, employees and forest owners shall be provided with sufficient information and encouraged to keep up-to-date through continuous training in relation to sustainable forest management as a precondition for all management planning and practices described in this standard.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr5, p13: "The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured."...</p> <p>"Parties providing services for forest owners shall have quality monitoring system for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands."...</p> <p>"(rc + gc) Those implementing silvicultural treatment shall have quality monitoring system for ensuring quality of silvicultural treatment."...</p> <p>"An agreement between a forest owner and a service provider requires that the latter has a quality monitoring system for ensuring the quality of works carried out."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: "Competence of employees' shall be ensured"...</p> <p>"Employer and issuer of the contract shall have evidence which indicates that they have been assured of the required professional competence of the employee for each task carried out for accomplishment of work."...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: "The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted"</p> <p>"The number of persons participating in supplementary training, personal or group information sessions, intended for forest owners belonging to the group certification shall be equivalent to at least 20% of the total number of forest owners in the region. The criterion applies only to regional group certification." ...</p> <p>"Statistics on training sessions, personal and group guidance organized for local forest owners by the regional Finnish Forest Center, forest management associations, forest owners' union, forest industry companies and forestry colleges as well as organizations committed to forest certification."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.6, p8: "Forest education and guidance for forest owners" ...</p> <p>"The forest education is offered by the University of Helsinki and the University of Eastern Finland, as well as several universities of applied sciences and secondary schools in various parts of the country. The education for forest owners is also organized in organizations of private forestry, forest educational centers and adult education centers." ...</p> <p>"Forest management associations, the Finnish Forest Center, companies providing forest services, buying wood and other actors in the forest sector give advice to forest owners and offer services connected to silviculture and forest use. Such guidance for forest owners can be personal or carried out in groups or collective during different exhibitions, competitions and trips.</p> <p>The statutory task of the Finnish forest center is to collect information on privately-owned forest resources and update it. The information on forest resources supports long-term forest management. Such information includes detailed data on forest resources of a holding, valuable sites of the forest environment, proposed necessary silvicultural work, opportunities for harvesting and other uses of forests. This information is needed for creating a basis for decision-making of a forest owner."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.2, p6: "Local Forestry Associations, Forest Centre, forestry service providers and forest industry companies offer personal advise to hundreds of thousands of forest-owners in Finland on how to manage their forests. Such advice can include information of the relevance of Forest Use Declaration, practical recommendations concerning forest management methods, how to plan for future income obtainable from growing forests and opportunities related to the protection of valuable forest habitats or landscapes."</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2.1, p5: "The Forest Centre is tasked with promoting forestry and related livelihoods. That includes advising landowners on how to care for and benefit from their forests and the ecosystems therein, collecting and sharing data related to Finland's forests and maintaining national forest resource database and enforcing forestry legislation. Forest planning is not required by law to be drawn up on forest stand/site level, but Forest Centre's task is to offer forest owners up-to-date information on forest resources for the purposes of planning and realization of forestry activities." ... "The Metsään.fi -eService is a web service maintained by Forest Centre. The eService offers the latest information to forest owners on their properties. eService is free of charge for forest owners (since 1st March 2015). Information is displayed for each forest stand compartment, broken down by soil type, tree type and natural occurrence. In addition the Metsään.fi -eService comprises recommended actions including income and cost estimates that are not mandatory to follow by the forest owners. Maps and most recent aerial photographs clearly show where properties are located , what they look like and where special habitats, for example, are located. The portal connects owners with related third parties, including providers of forestry services."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.9 Forest management practices shall make the best use of local forest-related experience and knowledge, such as those of local communities, forest owners, NGOs and local people.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained”...</p> <p>“The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development”... “- a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: “The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted”...</p> <p>“The criterion applies only to regional group certification.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr29, p41: “Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted”...</p> <p>“Forest and hunting organizations collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats.”...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: “Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured”...</p> <p>“Forest management activities on reindeer herding sites of state forests, under the administration of Metsähallitus, and reindeer herding shall be integrated in a local level cooperation so that the conditions for reindeer husbandry are safeguarded in forest management activities on a broad and long-term basis in the region designated for reindeer herding.”...</p> <p>“To reach this target Metsähallitus shall cooperate with the representatives of relevant reindeer herding cooperatives when carrying out such activities that might have a significant impact on reindeer herding. Significant activities and need for cooperation shall be determined in cooperation so that the target will be achieved. The cooperation observes the Agreement by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders’ Association signed on 4.4.2013 by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders’ Association as well as the sections of Metsähallitus natural resources planning addressing the integration of forestry and reindeer husbandry.”...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: “Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development”...</p> <p>“Measures required by the traditional reindeer herding belonging to the Sami culture and the necessity for cooperation are defined in the agreement on Reindeer Herding and cooperation and reconciliation of activities of Metsähallitus and reindeer herding activities between herding cooperatives of the Sami homelands, the Finnish Sami Parliament, the Skolt Council and Metsähallitus.</p> <p>The cooperation complies with the previously mentioned agreement, starting from the date of its validity, as well as sections of the Metsähallitus natural resource plans concerning reconciliation of forest management and the Sami culture.”</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options.”...</p> <p>“The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law (128 §). The landscape work-permit is required for example when carrying out work on areas covered by a local detailed plan and partly on areas of a local master plan.”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.10 Forest management shall provide for effective communication and consultation with local people and other stakeholders relating to sustainable forest management and shall provide appropriate mechanisms for resolving complaints and disputes relating to forest management between forest operators and local people.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:”...</p> <p>“- a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” ...</p> <p>PEFC FI 1001, Ch5.5, p6: “Obligation of an applicant for certification to provide information” ...</p> <p>“The applicant shall submit the following information to the PEFC Finland for publishing:” ...</p> <p>“An applicant shall also submit to PEFC Finland information about the cases where a forest owner or another actor is excluded from certification. PEFC Finland shall inform other holders of PEFC forest certificates about these cases.” ...</p> <p>“Certificate holder shall disclose on request A summary and a plan of forest management activities carried out in the certified forests”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1001, Ch5.7, p8: “Appeals procedures”</p> <p>Disputes and complaints regarding implementation of forest certification in group and regional group certification will be addressed in line with the procedures of the group management” ... “In case of (i) an appeal regarding individual certification of a forest owner, or (ii) if a dispute case or a complaint cannot be resolved by the group management or (iii) if an appellant is not satisfied with the adopted ruling, the case can be submitted to appeal panel for examination. The panel is convened by PEFC Finland and it includes a chairman and two other members. PEFC Finland appoints an independent chairman for the panel for each particular case.” ...</p> <p>“The panel shall act on the basis of a consensus meaning that it shall follow working practices which support development of mutual understanding among members of the panel, but in adopting a decision the panel does not need to reach unanimity.” ... “The ruling of the panel is final.”</p> <p>PEFC FI 1001, Ch7.2, p9: “Obligations of an applicant for certification” ...</p> <p>The applicant for group certification” ...</p> <p>“c) Compiles a written description of group management procedures including resolution of cases of negligence and breach of certification requirements, as well as examination of internal disputes within the certification group and resolution of complaints.” ...</p> <p>“j) is responsible for communication with the local people and other stakeholder groups.” ...</p> <p>Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): “The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way. Metsähallitus practices businesses within the framework of the obligations to the society laid down in this Act and manages public administration duties (2 §). With participation of stakeholder groups implementation of sustainability on different areas is taken into account (4 §).”</p> <p>Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act. The forest management on the Sami homeland”</p> <p>Scolt Act (253/1995)*– (Law28): “The Act provides Scolts with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p2-3: ... “Regional Forest Programmes are development plans for the forest sector in the districts of the Forest Centre/regions. These are revised regularly in accordance with the policies outlined in the National Forest Strategy 2025. The programmes are prepared and reviewed by the Forest Centre in cooperation with the forest owners and other interest groups in the region.”</p> <p>PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch1.1, p3: “In Finland land use planning has special importance on areas where land is encountered by many interests. Land use is planned on both nation-wide and local levels. In addition to national land use planning also regional land use plans, local master plans and local detailed plans are being prepared. Zoning is a participatory process where anybody involved can have impact.” ... “For activities that might change landscape in zoned areas a permission must be applied before the realisation of the activity. Landscape work permit is granted according to Land use and building act (132/1999).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.11 Forestry work shall be planned, organised and performed in a manner that enables health and accident risks to be identified and all reasonable measures to be applied to protect workers from work-related risks. Workers shall be informed about the risks involved with their work and about preventive measures.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: "Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns"...</p> <p>"In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: "Competence of employees' shall be ensured"...</p> <p>"Employer and issuer of the contract shall have evidence which indicates that they have been assured of the required professional competence of the employee for each task carried out for accomplishment of work.</p> <p>Employer shall have evidence which indicates that the maintenance and necessary development of professional competence during the contract of work is ensured.</p> <p>Employees shall have access to the general guidelines needed for conducting work.</p> <p>Employees shall be given site specific work instructions and maps that include a marked worksite, as well as information on the quality, environmental and other requirements."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr22, p32: "Work safety, workplace well-being and equal opportunities at work shall be attended"...</p> <p>"An employer or issuer of the contract has an approach allowing ensuring that subcontracted work does not endanger safety and health of a subcontractor/employee. A subcontractor/employee has general work safety instructions. An employer distinguishes and takes into account hazards and risk factors caused by work, work conditions and working time"</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr23, p34: "Statutory obligations of employers shall be adhered to"...</p> <p>"An employer or issuer of contract shall comply with the labor and social legislation, collective agreements and legislation on employment of foreign labor."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr24, p35: "Good practices shall be adhered to in contracting forest services"...</p> <p>"Projects concerning forestry operations undertaken by forest organizations have to fulfill good contracting practices."...</p> <p>Occupational safety and health act (738/2002) – (Law18): "The aim of the Act is to improve the working environment and working conditions"</p> <p>Act on occupational safety and health enforcement and cooperation on occupational safety and health at workplaces (44/2006) – (Law19): "The aim of the Act is to safeguard compliance with provisions concerning occupational safety and improve the working environment and working conditions with the help of monitoring carried out by occupational safety authorities and cooperation between an employer and employees (1 §)."</p> <p>Act on contractor's obligations (1233/2006) – (Law20): "The Act obliges a contractor to ensure that the other contracting party has fulfilled its legal obligations (5 §)."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr25, p37: "The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted"</p> <p>"The number of persons participating in supplementary training, personal or group information sessions, intended for forest owners belonging to the group certification shall be equivalent to at least 20% of the total number of forest owners in the region. The criterion applies only to regional group certification." ...</p> <p>"Statistics on training sessions, personal and group guidance organized for local forest owners by the regional Finnish Forest Center, forest management associations, forest owners' union, forest industry companies and forestry colleges as well as organizations committed to forest certification."</p> <p>CONFORMS</p> <p>Criterion 25 on supplementary training, and information sessions excludes foc; this criterion states it only applies to regional group certification. </p>
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<p>5.6.12 Working conditions shall be safe, and guidance and training in safe working practices shall be provided to all those assigned to a task in forest operations.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr3, p11: "Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns"...</p> <p>"In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report shall be established."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr21, p32: "Competence of employees' shall be ensured"...</p> <p>"Employer and issuer of the contract shall have evidence which indicates that they have been assured of the required professional competence of the employee for each task carried out for accomplishment of work.</p> <p>Employer shall have evidence which indicates that the maintenance and necessary development of professional competence during the contract of work is ensured.</p> <p>Employees shall have access to the general guidelines needed for conducting work.</p> <p>Employees shall be given site specific work instructions and maps that include a marked worksite, as well as information on the quality, environmental and other requirements."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr22, p32: "Work safety, workplace well-being and equal opportunities at work shall be attended"...</p> <p>"An employer or issuer of the contract has an approach allowing ensuring that subcontracted work does not endanger safety and health of a subcontractor/employee. A subcontractor/employee has general work safety instructions. An employer distinguishes and takes into account hazards and risk factors caused by work, work conditions and working time"</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr23, p34: "Statutory obligations of employers shall be adhered to"...</p> <p>"An employer or issuer of contract shall comply with the labor and social legislation, collective agreements and legislation on employment of foreign labor."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr24, p35: "Good practices shall be adhered to in contracting forest services"...</p> <p>"Projects concerning forestry operations undertaken by forest organizations have to fulfill good contracting practices."...</p> <p>Occupational safety and health act (738/2002) – (Law18): "The aim of the Act is to improve the working environment and working conditions"</p> <p>Act on occupational safety and health enforcement and cooperation on occupational safety and health at workplaces (44/2006) – (Law19): "The aim of the Act is to safeguard compliance with provisions concerning occupational safety and improve the working environment and working conditions with the help of monitoring carried out by occupational safety authorities and cooperation between an employer and employees (1 §)."</p> <p>Act on contractor's obligations (1233/2006) – (Law20): "The Act obliges a contractor to ensure that the other contracting party has fulfilled its legal obligations (5 §)."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.13 Forest management shall comply with fundamental ILO conventions.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr31, p43: "Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured" "Forest management activities on reindeer herding sites of state forests, under the administration of Metsähallitus, and reindeer herding shall be integrated in a local level cooperation so that the conditions for reindeer husbandry are safeguarded in forest management activities on a broad and long-term basis in the region designated for reindeer herding."...</p> <p>"To reach this target Metsähallitus shall cooperate with the representatives of relevant reindeer herding cooperatives when carrying out such activities that might have a significant impact on reindeer herding. Significant activities and need for cooperation shall be determined in cooperation so that the target will be achieved. The cooperation observes the Agreement by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders' Association signed on 4.4.2013 by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders' Association as well as the sections of Metsähallitus natural resources planning addressing the integration of forestry and reindeer husbandry."...</p> <p>"The certification criterion refers to the agreement valid at the time. The criterion applies to state lands of reindeer herding excluding the Homeland of the Sami people. Metsähallitus follows each agreement which it has concluded with a herding cooperative. Metsähallitus complies with the Reindeer Husbandry Act, the environmental guide of Metsähallitus and aspects of the natural resource planning."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1002, Cr32, p44: "Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development"...</p> <p>"In the Sámi homelands the management and use of areas and natural resources administered by the State shall be organized in such a way that they ensure the facilities for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods.</p> <p>"The management of state forests is carried out in compliance with the international laws, article 8j in Biodiversity Convention and the rights of Sámi as defined in the Constitution, as well as in such a manner that the engagement of the Sámi Parliament in preparation and decisions on the issue is secured."</p> <p>Measures required by the traditional reindeer herding belonging to the Sami culture and the necessity for cooperation are defined in the agreement on Reindeer Herding and cooperation and reconciliation of activities of Metsähallitus and reindeer herding activities between herding cooperatives of the Sami homelands, the Finnish Sami Parliament, the Skolt Council and Metsähallitus.</p> <p>The cooperation complies with the previously mentioned agreement, starting from the date of its validity, as well as sections of the Metsähallitus natural resource plans concerning reconciliation of forest management and the Sami culture."</p> <p>Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): "The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way. Metsähallitus practices businesses within the framework of the obligations to the society laid down in this Act and manages public administration duties (2 §). With participation of stakeholder groups implementation of sustainability on different areas is taken into account (4 §)."</p> <p>Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): "The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act. The forest management on the Sami homeland referred to in this Act shall comply with constitutional provisions on Sami cultural and linguistic rights (Const. 17.3 and 121.4 §), the Act on Sami Parliament and the Act on the use of the Sami language and international agreements concerning them ratified by Finland."</p> <p>Scolt Act (253/1995)* – (Law28): "The Act provides Scolts with special rights concerning land-use (9 §)."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
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<p>5.6.14 Forest management shall be based inter-alia on the results of scientific research. Forest management shall contribute to research activities and data collection needed for sustainable forest management or support relevant research activities carried out by other organisations, as appropriate.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, Ch5.5, p8: “Forest research and inventory. Nearly 650 forest researchers are specializing in forests and forest management in universities and research institutions. Since 1920s the Finnish Forest Research Institute has been regularly carrying out the state forest inventory. Every year the results of the inventory provide up-to-date and diverse regional information on the Finnish forests. In addition to information concerning wood resources the state forest inventory collects comprehensive information on forest health, vegetation and also the amount of decayed wood. Especially since 1990s the research of forest biodiversity and species has been highly supported in the framework of many large research programs carried out by the Finnish Forest Research Institute, universities, The Finnish Environmental Center and other research institutions. Owing to these programs the knowledge of Finnish forest species is high on the international level.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).” ... “The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.” <p>Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The task of the Finnish Research Institute is to monitor and anticipate the occurrence and spreading of plant diseases and pests causing forest damages and studying the cause-effect relationships of damages and their economic significance (12§).”</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
<p>Criterion 7: Compliance with legal requirements</p>		
<p>5.7.1 Forest management shall comply with legislation applicable to forest management issues including forest management practices; nature and environmental protection; protected and endangered species; property, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous people; health, labour and safety issues; and the payment of royalties and taxes.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, CR1, p9: “Requirements enacted by legislation shall be complied with Forestry activities shall comply with the forest, environmental and labor legislation in force and with the related international agreements that Finland has ratified.” ...</p> <p>“Indicators Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities by which activities of a forest owner/holder or a forest organization are proven to be non-compliant with forest, environmental and labor legislation on the certified area during the period of validity of the certificate.”</p> <p>Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).”</p> <p>Real Estate Register Act (392/1985) – (Law2): “In Finland the National Land Survey is responsible for maintenance of the Real Estate Register which contains general information concerning real estates and indirect information about owners (1 §).”</p> <p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options.”</p> <p>Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7): “The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §).”</p> <p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11): “The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).”</p> <p>Occupational safety and health act (738/2002) – (Law18): “The aim of the Act is to improve the working environment and working conditions (1 §), what includes protection and maintenance of the working capacities of employees.”</p> <p>Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): “The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way.”</p> <p>Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25): “Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §).”</p> <p>Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26): “The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a</p>

		<p>separate act.” Scolt Act (253/1995)* – (Law28): “The Act provides Scolts with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).” CONFORMS </p>
<p>5.7.2 Forest management shall provide for adequate protection of the forest from unauthorised activities such as illegal logging, illegal land use, illegally initiated fires, and other illegal activities.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>PEFC FI 1002, CR1, p9: “Requirements enacted by legislation shall be complied with Forestry activities shall comply with the forest, environmental and labor legislation in force and with the related international agreements that Finland has ratified.” ... “Indicators Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities by which activities of a forest owner/holder or a forest organization are proven to be non-compliant with forest, environmental and labor legislation on the certified area during the period of validity of the certificate.” Forest Act (1093/1996) (Law1): “The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §).” Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5): “The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §).” Rescue Act (379/2011) – (Law17): “The aim of the Act is to improve the safety of people and reduce the number of accidents (1 §). The Act obliges to being careful with fires and prohibits making an open fire on someone else’s land without the landowner’s permission (6 §).” Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24): “The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way. Metsähallitus practices businesses within the framework of the obligations to the society laid down in this Act and manages public administration duties (2 §).” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch2, p4: “Forest Centre controls that forests are managed as stipulated by law. Forest Use Declaration is the major monitoring tool required by Finnish legislation (chapter 3.1). Forestry authorities use Forest Use Declaration to control the use of forests on estate level. However the forest owner is responsible for obeying with law when activities are executed in the forest.” ... “The role of Forest Use Declaration is outstanding in small holdings where the interval between forestry activities is long and preparation of specific forest management plan is not economically viable.” ... “All forestry in Finland is subject to the same legal requirements. Thus, the same legislation is (with few exceptions) applicable for forest land owned by state, local municipality, companies and private individuals.” PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland, Ch3, p7-8: “The Forest Centre supervises the implementation of the Forest legislation on all forest land.” ... “The Forest Use Declaration is important tool for monitoring use of forests.” ... “The purpose of the Forest Use Declaration is to have the authority verify that the planned treatment is legal. The Finnish Forest Centre is required to check the conformity to law of the planned harvesting, and if necessary, to intervene before any treatment takes place in forest. The Finnish Forest Centre goes through all Forest Use Declarations and carries out field inspections based on risk-based analysis.” ... “Monitoring and inspection activities are targeted to Forest Use Declarations and their actions of silviculture and forest use and to such sites and actions that have not been declared by Forest Use Declaration. Forestry Centre sorts out with the help of remote sensing materials, for example, the sites that have not been declared but that have been harvested.” ... “In addition, inspection will be targeted also to declared sites where harvesting is bordered by special sites of Forest Act or Nature Conservation Act or Natura 2000 or to any sites where Forest Centre has the reason to suspect that the declared wood harvesting or other activity in not accordance with Forest Act or degrees or other regulations.” CONFORMS </p>

17. PART IV: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES (ANNEX 6)

17.1 Scope

This document covers requirements for certification and accreditation procedures given in Annex 6 to the PEFC Council Technical Document (*Certification and accreditation procedures*).

17.2 Checklist

No.	Question	Reference to PEFC Council PROCEDURES	YES/NO	Reference to scheme documentation
Certification Bodies				
1.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification shall be carried out by impartial, independent third parties that cannot be involved in the standard setting process as governing or decision making body, or in the forest management and are independent of the certified entity?	Annex 6, 3.1	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1006: ch5.2, p6: "Certification bodies and the accreditation organisation shall not participate in the work of the SSWG, but certification bodies can be used as experts in e.g. testing the draft standard."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1005: ch6.2: "The agreement on PEFC Notification does not limit the possibilities of the certification body to operate in an impartial and independent manner in forest certification and/or in certification of the chain of custody of forest based products related to PEFC forest certification."</p> <p>PEFC-FI 1005:2014 Ch 6.3 "The certification body shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for certification bodies defined in SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17021:2011."</p> <p>ISO 17021:2011: "</p> <p>Sec 4.2.1 Being impartial, and being perceived to be impartial, is necessary for a certification body to deliver certification that provides confidence.</p> <p>sec 4.2.3 To obtain and maintain confidence, it is essential that a certification body's decisions be based on objective evidence of conformity (or nonconformity) obtained by the certification body, and that its decisions are not influenced by other interests or by other parties</p> <p>Sec 5.2.1 The certification body shall have top management commitment to impartiality in management system certification activities...</p> <p>Sec 5.2.2 The certification body shall identify, analyse and document the possibilities for conflict of interests arising from provision of certification including ...</p> <p>Sec 5.2.3 When a relationship poses an unacceptable threat to impartiality (such as a wholly owned subsidiary of the certification body requesting certification from its parent), then certification shall not be provided</p>

				<p>Sec. 5.2.6 The certification body and any part of the same legal entity shall not offer or provide internal audits to its certified clients. The certification body shall not certify a management system on which it provided internal audits within two years following the end of the internal audits. This also applies to that part of government identified as the certification body.</p> <p>Sec. 6.2.1 The structure of the certification body shall safeguard the impartiality of the activities of the certification body and shall provide for a committee (CB Committee for safeguarding impartiality) to:</p> <p>d) conduct a review, at least once annually, of the impartiality of the audit, certification and decision-making processes of the certification body.</p> <p>Sec 6.2.2 The composition, terms of reference, duties, authorities, competence of members and responsibilities of this committee shall be formally documented and authorized by the top management of the certification body to ensure</p> <p>c) that if the top management of the certification body does not respect the advice of this committee, the committee shall have the right to take independent action (e.g. informing authorities, accreditation bodies, stakeholders). In taking independent action, committees shall respect the confidentiality requirements of 8.5 relating to the client and certification body."</p> <p>ISO 17021:2011: "8.1 Publicly accessible information</p> <p>8.1.1 The certification body shall maintain and make publicly accessible, or provide upon request, information describing its audit processes and certification processes for granting, maintaining, extending, renewing, reducing, suspending or withdrawing certification, and about the certification activities, types of management systems and geographical areas in which it operates."</p> <p>PEFC Finland's reply after draft report: "PEFC FI requires that certification bodies conform to the requirements of ISO 17021 that require full impartiality of certification body and certification activity (including impartiality of certified entity as an organisation and impartiality of auditors). CBs shall have a committee that monitors the impartiality at an annual basis."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
2.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification body for forest management certification shall fulfil requirements defined in ISO 17021 or ISO Guide 65?	Annex 6, 3.1	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1005 ch6.3, p7: "The qualification criteria for the certification bodies doing certification audits are based on general criteria for certification bodies operating quality and environmental management system certification, complemented with sectoral expertise and applied to forest management.</p> <p>The certification body shall:</p> <p>1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for certification bodies defined in SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17021:2013,"</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

3.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification bodies carrying out forest certification shall have the technical competence in forest management on its economic, social and environmental impacts, and on the forest certification criteria?	Annex 6, 3.1	NO	<p>PEFC FI 1005 ch6.3, p7: "The qualification criteria for the certification bodies doing certification audits are based on general criteria for certification bodies operating quality and environmental management system certification, complemented with sectoral expertise and applied to forest management. The certification body shall: 1. "..." 2. "..." 3. Have general knowledge on forest management and its environmental impacts. Professional expertise in forest management and its environmental impacts is proved on the basis of certification experience in the field and/or appropriate education and professional experience of the staff." PEFC FI 1005 Ch 7.2.2: "Forest Management. When auditing forest management, the audit team shall include at least one auditor qualified in forest management and one auditor qualified in environmental issues. Technical experts may complement the forest management and environmental competence of the auditors." NON-CONFORMITY No reference found for the technical competence in forest management on its economic and social impacts.</p> <p>PEFC Finland's viewpoint after draft report: "forest management is economic activity that in Finland is mainly run by small private entities. Understanding of the economic feasibility of silviculture, wood harvesting and sales belongs to the concept of forest management that is of interest of forest owner and forestry experts. Forest management guidelines, and regulations are built to safeguard the forest resources and their potential to produce regular economic benefits at FMU and regional level. The PEFC FI standard does not specify that audit team should have a social expert. The social criteria are well auditable by experts familiar with Finnish forest owner structure, regulations on forest use (free access to forests, hunting, fishing regulations, general land use planning, procedures to safeguard conditions for reindeer herding and rights of sami people, etc.). The indicators are explicit and refer to regulations, plans or agreements made. However, the standard could add an option that when useful technical experts may complement forest management, environmental AND SOCIAL competence of the auditors" The assessors agree with the views of PEFC Finland </p>
4.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification bodies shall have a good understanding of the national PEFC system against which they carry out forest management certification?	Annex 6, 3.1	YES	<p>ISO 17021 "Ch 7.1 Competence of management and personnel 7.1.1 General considerations The certification body shall have processes to ensure that personnel have appropriate knowledge relevant to the types of management systems and geographic areas in which it operates. It shall determine the competence required for each technical area (as relevant for the specific certification scheme), and for each function in the certification activity. It shall determine the means for the demonstration of competence prior to carrying out specific functions."</p> <p>PEFC FI 1005 Ch 5.1: "The auditors shall: 2 Have a good knowledge on the PEFC standards with regard to forest management. Ch 5.2 Have a good knowledge on the PEFC forest certification standards with regard to the verification of chain of custody of forest based products."</p> <p>PEFC Finland's viewpoint after draft report: "ISO 17021 and PEFC FI 1005 together provide the evidence. When the personnel of CB is obliged to have adequate competence, it emphasizes the organisation responsibility when planning forest/chain of custody certification program within the CB. The competence requirements are specified in PEFC FI 1005</p>

				for auditors that are the contact point with applicant and CB.” The assessors agree with the reasoning of PEFC FI. CONFORMS
5.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification bodies have the responsibility to use competent auditors and who have adequate technical know-how on the certification process and issues related to forest management certification?	Annex 6, 3.2	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch5.1, p5 "The qualification criteria for auditors used in certification audits are based on the general auditing guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems, or on the competence criteria of product certification, complemented with sectoral expertise. The auditors shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for environmental auditors defined in SFS-EN ISO 19011:2011, 2. Have a good knowledge on the PEFC standards with regard to forest management and 3. Have general knowledge on forest management and its environmental impacts." CONFORMS
6.	Does the scheme documentation require that the auditors must fulfil the general criteria of ISO 19011 for Quality Management Systems auditors or for Environmental Management Systems auditors?	Annex 6, 3.2	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch5.1, p5 "The qualification criteria for auditors used in certification audits are based on the general auditing guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems, or on the competence criteria of product certification, complemented with sectoral expertise. The auditors shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for environmental auditors defined in SFS-EN ISO 19011:2011," CONFORMS
7.	Does the scheme documentation include additional qualification requirements for auditors carrying out forest management audits? [*1]	Annex 6, 3.2	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch5.1, p5 "The qualification criteria for auditors used in certification audits are based on the general auditing guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems, or on the competence criteria of product certification, complemented with sectoral expertise. The auditors shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for environmental auditors defined in SFS-EN ISO 19011:2011, 2. Have a good knowledge on the PEFC standards with regard to forest management and 3. Have general knowledge on forest management and its environmental impacts." CONFORMS
Certification procedures				
8.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification bodies shall have established internal procedures for forest management certification?	Annex 6, 4	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch6.3, p7: "The qualification criteria for the certification bodies doing certification audits are based on general criteria for certification bodies operating quality and environmental management system certification, complemented with sectoral expertise and applied to forest management. The certification body shall: 1. "..." 2. Use a documented method, according to which forest management may be audited and certified, " CONFORMS
9.	Does the scheme documentation require that applied certification procedures for forest management certification shall fulfil or be compatible with the	Annex 6, 4	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch6.3, p7: "The qualification criteria for the certification bodies doing certification audits are based on general criteria for certification bodies operating quality and environmental management system certification, complemented with sectoral expertise and applied to forest management. The certification body shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for certification bodies defined in SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17021:2013,"

	requirements defined in ISO 17021 or ISO Guide 65?			CONFORMS
10.	Does the scheme documentation require that applied auditing procedures shall fulfil or be compatible with the requirements of ISO 19011?	Annex 6, 4	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch5.1, p5 "The qualification criteria for auditors used in certification audits are based on the general auditing guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems, or on the competence criteria of product certification, complemented with sectoral expertise. The auditors shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for environmental auditors defined in SFS-EN ISO 19011:2011," CONFORMS
11.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification body shall inform the relevant PEFC National Governing Body about all issued forest management certificates and changes concerning the validity and scope of these certificates?	Annex 6, 4	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch8, p11 "The certification body shall without delay provide PEFC Finland – Finnish Forest Certification Council, that manages the PEFC certification system, information on all issued forest management certificates and certificates that verify the chain of custody, and on changes concerning the validity and scope of these certificates." CONFORMS
12.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification body shall carry out controls of PEFC logo usage if the certified entity is a PEFC logo user?	Annex 6, 4	YES	The PEFC FI conditions for PEFC logo license contract (http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/Ohjeet PEFC-merkin kayttole.pdf , 29 December 2014) and annual reports on logo, separate for the different user categories A-C (p4: http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC-merkin%20kaeytoen%20seurantalomake%20-%20Kaeyttaejaeryhmae%20-%20Puu%20alkuperaen%20hallintajaerjestelmaesertifikaatin%20haltija%20(2011).pdf) require that license holder report on logo use and certification body confirms the report. To conform the report the CB shall control the appropriate use of the logo (including recording of the volumes and appropriate lay-out and publishing of the logo). CONFORMS
13.	Does a maximum period for surveillance audits defined by the scheme documentation not exceed more than one year?	Annex 6, 4	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch7.3.3, p10 "Surveillance audits are carried out at least once a year during the validity of the certificate. The scope of surveillance audits may be limited compared to certification audits." CONFORMS
14.	Does a maximum period for assessment audit not exceed five years for forest management certifications?	Annex 6, 4	YES	PEFC FI 1005 ch7 "A certificate is valid for a maximum of five years. The certification body may withdraw a granted certificate permanently or suspend it for a specified time period. A decision on withdrawal or suspension and its justification shall be communicated to the auditee in writing." PEFC FI 1005 ch7.3.1: "Audit by a Certification Body. The certification decision is made by the certification body on the basis of the audit report. The decision may be positive or negative. A positive decision leads to immediate certification and issuance of a certificate. The basis for a negative certification decision is based on non-conformity to the certification criteria." This implies that every five year an audit report should be made. CONFORMS

15.	Does the scheme documentation include requirements for public availability of certification report summaries?	Annex 6, 4	NO	<p>PEFC FI 1005 ch7.2.2, p9: "A summary of the forest certification audit report, compiled by the certification body, including a summary of findings on the conformity to the forest management standard, shall be made available to the public by PEFC Finland – Finnish Forest Certification Council."</p> <p>NON-CONFORMITY</p> <p>The PEFC Council's board's decision (17.11.2014) on interpretation of this requirement states: "The "applicable requirements defined by a certification scheme" shall cover, amongst others, "that the summary shall be made available to any interested party on request <u>within a defined timescale</u>"</p> <p>No timescale can be found in document PEFC FI 1005. </p>
16.	Does the scheme documentation include requirements for usage of information from external parties as the audit evidence?	Annex 6, 4	NO	<p>PEFC FI 1005 ch7.2.1, p9: "The audit evidence to determine the conformity to the forest management standard shall include relevant information from external parties (e.g. government agencies, community groups and other organisations, etc.) as appropriate."</p> <p>NON-CONFORMITY</p> <p>The PEFC Council's board's decision (17.11.2014) on interpretation of this requirement states: "The audit must, amongst other relevant information, <u>include sufficient consultation with external stakeholders</u> to ensure that all relevant issues are identified relating to compliance with the requirements of the standard."</p> <p>No reference to include consultation with external stakeholders could be found. </p>
17.	Does the scheme documentation include additional requirements for certification procedures? ^[*1]	Annex 6, 4	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1005 Ch7.2.1, p8: "The auditing criteria are primarily the requirements of the forest certification standards PEFC FI 1001:2014, PEFC FI 1002:2014 and PEFC ST 2002:2013. In addition, the auditee may define other auditing criteria, e.g., policy, legislation, guidelines, practices and procedures."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
Accreditation procedures				
18.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification bodies carrying out forest management certification shall be accredited by a national accreditation body?	Annex 6, 5	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1005 ch6.1, p5: "Certification bodies carrying out forest management certification and/or chain of custody certification are accredited by a national accreditation body."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
19.	Does the scheme documentation require that an accredited certificate shall bear an accreditation symbol of the relevant accreditation body?	Annex 6, 5	YES	<p>PEFC FI 1005 ch6.1, p6: "Information on accreditation shall accompany any issued forest certificate and chain of custody certificate."</p> <p>PEFC Finland's reply after draft report: "Information on accreditation is most often presented as a logo/symbol of the accreditation body in the certificate template issued by a CB. Accreditation bodies have the right to decide how the CBs shall present the information on their accreditation, whether it is a written statement or a logo/symbol or something else."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

20.	Does the scheme documentation require that the accreditation shall be issued by an accreditation body which is a part of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) umbrella or a member of IAF's special recognition regional groups and which implement procedures described in ISO 17011 and other documents recognised by the above mentioned organisations?	Annex 6, 5	YES	PEFC FI 1005 Ch6.1, p5: "The accreditation is issued by an accreditation body which is a part of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) umbrella and which implements procedures described in ISO/IEC 17011:2004 and other documents approved by the IAF." CONFORMS
21.	Does the scheme documentation require that certification body undertake forest management certification as "accredited certification" based on ISO 17021 or ISO Guide 65 and the relevant forest management standard(s) shall be covered by the accreditation scope?	Annex 6, 5	YES	PEFC FI 1005 6.1. "Accreditation. Certification bodies carrying out forest management certification and/or chain of custody certification are accredited by a national accreditation body. The accreditation is issued by an accreditation body which is a part of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) umbrella and which implements procedures described in ISO/IEC 17011:20042 and other documents approved by the IAF." PEFC FI 1005 Ch 6.3 "The certification body shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for certification bodies defined in SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17021:2011," PEFC FI 1005 Ch 6.4: "The certification body shall: 1. Fulfil the general criteria, as appropriate, for certification bodies defined in ISO/IEC 17065:2012. Use a documented procedure, according to which the chain of custody of forest based products may be verified and certified" PEFC FI 1005 ch6.1, p6: "Information on accreditation shall accompany any issued forest certificate and chain of custody certificate." CONFORMS
22.	Does the scheme documentation include a mechanism for PEFC notification of certification bodies?	Annex 6, 6	YES	PEFC FI 1005: ch 6.2 PEFC Notification Certification bodies make an agreement with PEFC Finland on the administrative tasks to be performed in order to implement PEFC Notification requirements." This whole document describes the procedures for the notification of CB's by PEFC Finland. The application on the PEFC notification of a certification body can be found on the PEFC Finland's website: http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC_Finland_notification_Application_20141027.pdf . Also a standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland is present on the website: http://www.pefc.fi/media/Saaennoet/PEFC_Finland_Notification_Agreement_20141027.pdf This means mechanism are in place. CONFORMS
23.	Are the procedures for PEFC notification of certification bodies non-discriminatory?	Annex 6, 6	YES	In the PEFC FI 1005 document, the standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland and in the application form on the PEFC notification of a certification body no explicit statement is made that all CB's complying with the PEFC FI requirements may enter the PEFC Finland notification, no evidence have been found regarding discriminatory elements in the notification procedures for CB's. Also the application form and standard agreement are in the English language, so no disadvantage for not native speakers. As such the PEFC FI conforms to this requirement. CONFORMS

18. PART V: STANDARD AND SYSTEM REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR SYSTEM SPECIFIC CHAIN OF CUSTODY STANDARDS – (PEFC ST 2002:2010)

The PEFC Council's International standard PEFC ST 2002:2013, Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products, was fully adopted by PEFC Finland, without any modifications. The board of PEFC Finland reviewed the PEFC Chain of Custody in Finland in its meeting on October 27th, 2014 and concluded that PEFC Chain of Custody is in compliance with PEFC Council's document PEFC GD 1004:2009 (Administration of PEFC scheme, chapters 5.1 and 5.2.)

A bilingual (English-Finnish) CoC standard document ([http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/PEFC_ST_2002-2013_CoC_standard_\(eng_suomi\)_24092013.pdf](http://www.pefc.fi/media/Standardit/PEFC_ST_2002-2013_CoC_standard_(eng_suomi)_24092013.pdf)) is in use. It contains the PEFC ST 2002:2013 standard and an informative translation in Finnish issued September 24th, 2013. As such, the PEFC ST 2002:2010 will not be assessed as it fully conforms to the PEFC requirements.

19. PART VI: STANDARD AND SCHEME REQUIREMENT CHECKLIST FOR SCHEME ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

19.1 Scope

Part VI is used for the assessment of requirements for the administration of PEFC schemes outlined in PEFC 1004:2009, *Administration of PEFC scheme*. Any inconsistencies between this text and the original referred to document will be overruled by the content and wording of the standard or the guide. The compliance with these requirements is only evaluated in the first PEFC assessment of a scheme or on specific request by the PEFC Secretariat.

19.2 Checklist

No.	Question	Reference to PEFC GD 1004:2009	YES/NO	Reference to application documents
PEFC Notification of certification bodies				
1.	Are procedures for the notification of certification bodies in place, which comply with chapter 5 of PEFC GD 1004:2009, Administration of PEFC scheme?	Chapter 5	YES	<p>The application on the PEFC notification of a certification body http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC_Finland_notification_Application_20141027.pdf and the standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland http://www.pefc.fi/media/Saeaennoet/PEFC_Finland_Notification_Agreement_20141027.pdf cover and conform to all criteria of chapter 5 of PEFC GD 1004:2009.</p> <p>In Finland notification fees are charged directly from certificate holders PEFC chain of custody certificate fees (i.e. PEFC Notification fee) and their related logo use right are explained in FSDoc#61 document. PEFC forest management certificate fees (i.e. PEFC Notification fee) and their related logo use right are explained in FSDoc#62 document.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

PEFC Logo usage licensing				
2.	Are procedures for the issuance of PEFC Logo usage licenses in place, which comply with chapter 6 of PEFC GD 1004:2009, Administration of PEFC scheme?	Chapter 6	YES	<p>CoC PEFC Finland fully adopted PEFC Council's standard PEFC ST 2001:2008_v2 (PEFC Logo Usage Rules) and fully adopted document PEFC ST 2002:2013 (Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products - Requirements).</p> <p>CONFORMS SFM</p> <p>The logo licensing contract: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_2014_standardit/PEFC-merkin_kaeyttoeikeuden_sopimusehdot_20150519.pdf cover and conform to all criteria of chapter 6 of PEFC GD 1004:2009.</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>
Complaints and dispute procedures				
3.	Are complaint and dispute procedures go usage licenses in place, which comply with chapter 8 of PEFC GD 1004:2009, Administration of PEFC scheme?	Chapter 8	YES	<p>The application on the PEFC notification of a certification body http://www.pefc.fi/media/Lomakkeet/PEFC_Finland_notification_Application_20141027.pdf and the standard agreement between the certification body and PEFC Finland http://www.pefc.fi/media/Saeaennoet/PEFC_Finland_Notification_Agreement_20141027.pdf and the logo licensing contract: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_2014_standardit/PEFC-merkin_kaeyttoeikeuden_sopimusehdot_20150519.pdf cover and conform to all criteria of chapter 8 of PEFC GD 1004:2009.</p> <p>Appeal procedure of logo licensing contract (translation provided by PEFC Finland): "PEFC Finland (i.e. Suomen Metsäsertifiointi ry) can be provided with an appeal on the basis of decision of denial, termination of agreement or withdrawal of PEFC logo license contract. An appeal shall be delivered in written form and at latest four weeks after the receiving of the denying decision. In cases of temporary withdrawal and permanent withdrawal of the contract the organization can deliver a written appeal to PEFC Finland in the course of four weeks.</p> <p>PEFC Finland nominates an impartial appeal panel that includes chair and two members who all are unchallengeable. The meeting of the appeal panel will be held within 21 days from the receipt of the appeal. The appellant shall be informed at least seven days before the appeal meeting about the time, venue and assembly of the panel. Previously made decision of withdrawal is valid until the panel meeting. In the panel meeting both the appellant and PEFC Finland's representative have right to be heard. The ruling will be according to the majority of the votes of the panel members.</p> <p>Disagreements in which PEFC Finland is a party, shall be handled in Helsinki District Court."</p> <p>CONFORMS </p>

ANNEX B: Results of Stakeholder survey

A stakeholder survey with 12 questions was conducted from April 3rd, 2015, till April 10th, 2015. Invitations to complete the online stakeholder survey were sent to all participants in the standard setting process via e-mail – this included a total of 83 stakeholders directly involved in the standard setting process (see Annex F). The respondents are guaranteed anonymity, therefore received comments are summarised.

The stakeholders included the chairman and secretary of PEFC Finland and experts with no voting rights. As some stakeholder organisations participating in the SSWG also appointed a deputy representative on the SSWG, this person was also asked to participate. No e-mail invitations bounced, and 2 reminder e-mails were sent (April 8th, 2015, and April 10th, 2015). In total 24 people responded (29 per cent of all contacted stakeholders), representing a variety of stakeholder categories except for environmental associations, worker representative organisations and scientific organisation (question 1).

There were comments provided by the respondents on the representation of environmental groups missing from the SSWG. The respondents mentioned that the most important ENGOs in Finland received invitations to participate, but that they chose not to join.

The majority of the respondents agreed that all members were given the opportunity to participate and contribute equally. Some concerns were raised about environmental issues not given the priority they deserved, and not given enough time to the experts to present their subject matter.

Everyone agreed on the fact that the organizers provided on time the relevant material to participate in the scheme development and revision. When meetings were not attended, respondents elaborated this was due to their own time schedule. They had opportunities to participate with arguments and ideas before the meetings.

One person partially disagreed on the objective consideration of comments from SSWG members; unfortunately, no explanatory comment was given. Two notes received relating to this question elaborated on the process, in the respondent's view the comments were handled with respect and comments considered relevant and supported by the SSWG were included in the next version of the draft standard. In the stakeholder survey, responses it was clear that subgroups were formed, to which those in touch with the subgroup topic could attend.

In the view of 20% of the respondents, consensus was partially reached in the development of the forest certification criteria. Comments of respondents partially disagreeing stated there was consensus on the general points, but not always on the details. Other members found environmental issues should have given more weight.

In reaction on the decision making process 3 respondents partially disagreed. They commented on the weight the environmental issues were given, in comparison with the opinions of, for example, the forest owners.

Also almost all respondents agreed that the development and revision process was planned and well structured. One respondent partially disagreed, but no comment was given.

In total almost 30 per cent of the respondents partially or completely agreed on the fact that the standard deserves further consideration. Comments given to explain their answer highlight that environmental aspects should be further considered. They also stated that it would be helpful if ENGOs would participate.

Also almost 30 per cent of the respondents answered ‘yes’ or ‘partially’ on the question of “Have there been any issues or processes during the latest Standard Setting Process that you disagree with?” Two explanatory comments were received on this issue. Although the respondents were content with the end result they felt the discussion on different opinions could have been done better.

Stakeholder survey results per question:

1. What stakeholder category do you represent? (one choice possible)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Forest owners and managers	25,0%	6
Manufacturing and marketing wood based products	12,5%	3
Consumer representatives,	4,2%	1
Hunters, hikers or other recreational users	4,2%	1
Environmental associations, worker representative organisations, youth organisation	0,0%	0
Research centres and scientific organisations	0,0%	0
Timber trade	4,2%	1
Forest professional	12,5%	3
Organisations using forest for immaterial goods	4,2%	1
Organisations receiving income from forest	20,8%	5
Other (please specify)	12,5%	3
answered question		24

2. Did the participating stakeholders represent the range of interest in forest management in your country?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	66,7%	16
No	4,2%	1
Partially	29,2%	7
If not, please specify other interests groups:		9
answered question		24

3. In your view, were all interested parties given the possibility to participate and contribute equally to the scheme development and revision?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	91,7%	22
No	0,0%	0
Partially	8,3%	2
Please provide comments and additional information:		4
answered question		24

4. Did the organizers provide you on time with relevant material (working drafts, meeting minutes etc.) to participate in the scheme development and revision?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100,0%	24
No	0,0%	0
Partially	0,0%	0
Please provide comments and additional information:		1
<i>answered question</i>		24

5. Did you (or your organisation) attend all meetings of the Standard Setting Working Group?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	62,5%	15
No	16,7%	4
Partially	20,8%	5
If not? or Partially? Please provide comments and additional information on your constraints:		7
<i>answered question</i>		24

6. In your view were all comments received during the public consultation period considered in an objective manner?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	95,8%	23
No	0,0%	0
Partially	4,2%	1
Please provide comments and additional information:		2
<i>answered question</i>		24

7. In your view were comments received by members of the standard setting working group considered in an objective manner?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	95,8%	23
No	0,0%	0
Partially	4,2%	1
Please provide comments and additional information:		1
<i>answered question</i>		24

8. Was a consensus reached in the development of the certification criteria?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	79,2%	19
No	0,0%	0
Partially	20,8%	5
Please provide comments and additional information:		4
<i>answered question</i>		24

9. Were you satisfied with the decision making process?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	87,5%	21
No	0,0%	0
Partially	12,5%	3
Please provide comments and additional information:		2
answered question		24

10. Was the development and revision process well planned and structured?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	95,8%	23
No	0,0%	0
Partially	4,2%	1
Please provide comments and additional information:		0
answered question		24

11. Do you believe any aspects of the scheme deserve further considerations?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	12,5%	3
No	70,8%	17
Partially	16,7%	4
Please provide comments and additional information:		3
answered question		24

12. Have there been any issues or processes during the latest Standard Setting Process that you disagree with?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	12,5%	3
No	70,8%	17
Partially	16,7%	4
Please provide comments and additional information:		4
answered question		24

ANNEX C: Results of international consultation

PEFCC carried out an international stakeholders consultation through the PEFCC website. During a sixty (60) day global public consultation period, all interested stakeholders and the general public was invited to submit comments regarding the PEFC FI. Comments had to be sent directly to PEFCC. The consultation period was open from December 1st, 2014, till February 2nd, 2015.

On April 9th, 2015, PEFCC informed the assessor that no stakeholder comments had been received (e-mail correspondence).

ANNEX D: Panel of Experts comments

Report chapter / page (Final Draft Report)	Consultant's report statement	PoE member comment	Consultant's response
General Comment		<p>This is a very comprehensive evaluation of the Finnish PEFC system. The depth of analysis of the criteria and supporting information for the forest management standard is to be highly commended. All sections displayed a thorough assessment backed by evidence to enable a clear conclusion on conformance or compliance. On this basis.</p> <p>I have no hesitation in agreeing with the Consultant although some of the expression for the conclusions in 3 could have been handled in a different manner to indicate conformance except for the non-conformities identified and subject to corrective action.</p>	<p>Comment appreciated.</p> <p>Chapter 3: recommendations is amended.</p>
		<p>The assessment is based on a desk study and a questionnaire. No field visit was carried out. It is, however, a comprehensive study. Because of a few minor non-conformities it recommends a conditional re-endorsement and a time scale of 6 months for resolving the non-conformities. I agree with this recommendation and support it.</p> <p>The Final Report yet to come needs a cross-reading to correct some minor mistakes and errors if possible by someone with English as mother tongue. Research is of high quality.</p>	<p>Comment appreciated.</p> <p>The spelling is correct throughout the report.</p> <p>Comment appreciated.</p>
General Comment		Prefer to see 'per cent' in text and % in tables.	Corrected, % is adjusted to 'per cent' in the main text.
General Comment		There are too many different styles for displaying dates – suggest a format could be dd (number) mm (text) yyyy (number) e.g. 19 June 2015	Corrected.
General Comment		The consultant needs to consider whether it is the organisation 'PEFC Finland' or the system 'PEFC FI' that is referenced in many places – the context of reference needs to be considered carefully	<p>The assessors agree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organisation is referred to as PEFC Finland. • The standards are referred to as PEFC FI. <p>This has been added to the list of ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS.</p>
General Comment		In 14, could include a list of applicable documents (title & identifier) which were relied on for conformity assessment.	The assessors state that in the column 'reference to application documents' all comments refer to specific documents and the text is literally copied. Sometimes direct references are made to

Report chapter / page (Final Draft Report)	Consultant's report statement	PoE member comment	Consultant's response
			the website locations, to improve reading and controlling. However all used documents are listed in chapter 1.7, accompanied by the url of the website of PEFC Finland, when applicable. No extra list is added in Annex A, 14.
General Comment		Where relevant, each transcribed text in quotation marks should start on a new line to ensure it is reviewed as stand alone text	Corrected in the main body of the document.
General Comment		In 14, check on formatting in cells under 'Reference to application documents' as some have shortened format compared to the same text cell with full format across the cell	Corrected.
General Comment		As mentioned by the consultant, the forest management standard is reliant on the application of relevant Finnish legislation which is related to forests. From the responses in 16, the evidence is a combination of relevant requirements plus aspects of Finnish legislation to compile the overall conformance.	Sustainable forest management has developed to a high level in Finland, most aspects are regulated by law, or national forestry regulations. The information provided in the document "Additional information of PEFC forest management in Finland" gives essential information on the interrelation between PEFC FI and the legislative basis of forestry in Finland.
General Comment		In 1.8 have defined a term 'the assessors' so need to use consistently and make sure that when used as singular it is changed to plural and accompanying text compensates for the correct term.	The term 'assessors' is now used in the entire document.
General Comment		The assessment refers to a group of assessors and therefore uses the plural for the group of persons, while at other places it uses the singular form.	The term 'assessors' is now used in the entire document.
General Comment		In certain chapters the expressions are rather vague (e.g. "a wide range of organizations").	Corrected.
General Comment		A weakness certainly is the total absence of ENGOs and trade and workers unions. The scientific community is also missing although Finland offers excellent education and training in forestry and the timber sector.	Trade unions/workers represented in the SSWG are METO - Forestry Experts' Association and The Wood and Allied Workers' Union. In addition, the Finnish Paper Workers' Union was invited but they did not participate. The information about representation of the scientific community is added in the report chapter 5 and Annex 14 as they did not participate in the SSWG. The only organization representing purely scientific community that was invited to participate in the SSWG was the Finnish Society of Forest Science. They decided not to participate in the process, but at the same time they communicated their

Report chapter / page (Final Draft Report)	Consultant's report statement	PoE member comment	Consultant's response
			<p>intention to comment on the draft standard version. The Finnish Society of Forest Science send their comments during the first 30-day commenting period in December 2013 - January 2014 and second commenting period in March-April 2014.</p> <p>At autumn 2013 the SSWG had professor Harri Vasander from Helsinki University, senior researcher Pekka Punttila from Finnish Environment Institute SYKE and mr. Esa-Jussi Viitala from Finnish Forest Research Institute – METLA in their meetings as invited experts.</p> <p>Which is described in the following newsletters: http://www.pefc.fi/media/PEFC_FI_paeivitystyoe_2013_14/PEFC_standardityoeryhmaen_teemoina_ekologia_ja_monimuotoisuus_23092013.pdf http://www.pefc.fi/media/Ajankohtaista/PEFC-standardityoeryhmaen_uutinen_04112013_-_Esillae_puutuotanto_ja_taloudelliset_kysymykset.pdf</p> <p>Members of scientific community were represented by the Finnish Union of Environmental Professionals and the Society of Finnish Professional Foresters.</p>
General Comment		Where used in the text, 'survey' should be expanded to 'Stakeholder Survey' (or in lower case) to ensure the correct reference.	Corrected, the term 'stakeholder survey' is now used in the entire document.
General Comment		For me it is not clear whether or not all (essential) documents are also available in English. Some questions in Finnish are not accessible for me to lacking the English translation. See also 6 (p. 26, 2 nd chapter), p. 28 and 10 (p. 33).	<p>P. 26, 2nd chapter and p.28: The essential documents were available in English. In general, more translations of accompanying documentation would improve the comprehensibility and assessability of the standard.</p> <p>P 33: both documents: Terms of the PEFC logo license contract is in Finnish with title and subtitles in English and The Application form of the PEFC logo license is in Finnish. Translations of the necessary parts were provided by PEFC Finland in their reply to the draft report. The translation of the appeal procedure can be found in Annex A, 19 3.</p>
General Comment		<p>Different to other national systems the Finnish one offers 3 Forma of forest certification (i.e. individual – only 1 – , group certification, and regional certification).</p> <p>For CoC and the Logo Usage Rules it adapted the international regulations. So the assessment only refers to</p>	<p>Comment appreciated.</p> <p>We gave an explanation on the three forms of forest certification in Chapter 3.1 and Chapter 7.</p>

Report chapter / page (Final Draft Report)	Consultant's report statement	PoE member comment	Consultant's response
		this in brief.	
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS Pg 5		Need to include doc: GD; ST.	Corrected, GD and ST are included in the acronyms and abbreviations chapter.
1. INTRODUCTION Pg 6, 1 st para	... As a result 90 – 95% of all production forests ...	Presume this is for Finland? Qualify.	Corrected by adding "(20.619.716 ha. as of 31 December 2014)" Reference from the annual review 2014: http://www.pefc.fi/media/Asiakirjat/Annual%20reviews/PEFC_2014_annual_review.pdf
4 th para	... (SSWG) for forest certification ...	Should qualify that it is for Finland or Finnish.	Corrected by adding: "in Finland".
5 th para	... into one document ...	What is it?	Corrected, 'document' is replaced by the word 'standard'.
8 th para	Today, approximately 95 ...	It would be better to refer to a year.	Corrected, 'Today' is replaced by 'In 2014'.
1.2 Scope of the assessment Pg 7, 2 nd para	For example: PEFC FI 1006:2014; Standard Setting Process for PEFC Forest Certification.	In the dot points, would remove the ; and replace with a –	Corrected, ';' is replaced by '—'
4 th para	... (clarification 30.10.12).	For consistency with other dates, it should be 2012.	Corrected, '12' is replaced by '2012'.
1.3 The assessment procedure Pg 7, 1.3.1, 1 st para	"The initial assessment enabled the identification of missing information, as well as the similarities and differences between PEFC FI and the PEFC Council Requirements."	Compare text at end of this paragraph with first paragraph in 1.2 – need to use consistent text.	Corrected: "the revised Finnish PEFC System and the 'PEFC Council standard requirements'."
1.3.1, 2 nd para	Objectives of the system and the procedures concerning monitoring, controlling, etc	Is this statement a dot point? It reads as one when compared to the two above it.	This is correct as the dot points earlier refer to structure (1) and development (2) this dot point (3) is referring to the appliance of the standard.
Pg 8, 1.3.3		There is no information on responses compared to 1.3.2 .	Corrected, the number of respondents is added in the text: "The stakeholder survey received replies from 24 respondents".
Pg 8, 1.3.5, 1 st para	"The planning and the most important findings in the Draft Report and common nominators for the identified non-conformities were discussed. A new planning was proposed." On the dd.mm.yyyy ... of the Forest Act in Finland. ... assessor with PEFC FI.	Use of 'planning' – what is the context as need to associate the planning with something. I don't understand the context of 'nominators'? Don't need 'the' – delete. Usually would have a year with the Act title. The 'PEFC FI' is the 'system' as a whole. Surely it was PEFC Finland or an entity?	Corrected. Corrected. Corrected. Corrected. Corrected: PEFC FI is replaced by PEFC Finland.
2 nd & 5 th para 5 th para 7 th para (Pg 9)			

Report chapter / page (Final Draft Report)	Consultant's report statement	PoE member comment	Consultant's response
1.4 The methodology applied for this assessment Pg 9, 1 st para	... the framework of this research.	I don't believe it is research <i>per se</i> , it is an assessment and the wording should reflect that.	Corrected.
1.5 Timetable of the assessment Pg 10 Start of the Assessment	"The table below indicates the agreed timeline for the conformity assessment work. The timeline was approved by the PEFC Council and PEFC Finland on the 16th of March, 2015." "E-mail, including a planning "	A date should be included in the Description. Again, what is context of 'planning' in the Output?	Corrected, "The final report will be presented to the PEFC Council June 26 th , 2015." Corrected, the wording is changed from "planning" to 'planning document'.
Comment period	"A conference call facilitated by PEFC was held the 4th of May between ForestSense and PEFC Finland. A new planning was proposed."	Again, what is context of 'planning' in the Description?	Corrected, the wording is changed into: "A revised planning document was proposed".
1.6 PEFC Council standard & reference documentation Pg 11	"PEFC Council standard & reference documentation"	As there are more than one standard and one guide, the text should be in the plural	Corrected, Title is changed into: "PEFC Council standards & reference documentations"
2. RECOMMENDATION Pg 15, 1 st para	... the revised Finnish PEFC Scheme conforms ...	It is called the 'Finnish PEFC System' in 1.1, so is it a Scheme or System? Need consistent use of language	Corrected, the wording is changed into 'System' instead of 'Scheme', as this is the reference term PEFC Finland and PEFC uses in the tender documentation.
2 nd para, 2 nd dot point		The opening text should be presented so as to be consistent with the dot point above and below i.e. ... standard [title of standard] (standard identifier)	Corrected.
Ch 3, p16-20.	For example: "PEFC FI does not fully comply with all criteria of PEFC ST 1001:2010."	Chapter 3 sections – in conclusions on status of PEFC FI to the PEFC requirements, have used 'comply' and 'conforms' – would be better to choose one term for consistency	Corrected.
3. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS 3.1 The general structure of PEFC Finland and the Finnish PEFC System Pg 16, 2 nd para	... PEFC certification scheme (referred to as PEFC FI). The revised FI scheme ...	Use of 'scheme' – it is referred to as 'System in 1.1, 3 rd para (& in title of this section!). Use of 'PEFC FI scheme' – just doubles up on language.	Corrected, the wording is changed into 'System' instead of 'Scheme', as this is the reference term PEFC Finland uses. Corrected, the text 'PEFC FI scheme' is changed into 'PEFC FI'.
3 rd para	"Three (3) minor non-conformities related to the qualification criteria for Certification Bodies and Certification Procedures (PEFC FI 1005:2014):	If use an identifier for one standard, should be used for the other two standards.	Corrected.

Report chapter / page (Final Draft Report)	Consultant's report statement	PoE member comment	Consultant's response
	- Two of these non-conformities are related to the PEFC Board decisions (17.11.2014) on the interpretation of the requirements of Annex 6. The PEFC FI standards were already approved by the PEFC Finland's Board at that time (decision taken on 27.10.2014), so PEFC Finland could not have taken these changes into account. - Another is related to the technical competence in forest management on its economic and social impacts of the certification bodies (PEFC FI 1005 Ch 7.2.2).“		
3.2 The standard setting procedures and process Pg 16, 1 st para	... revising the PEFC FI standard. ...	1.1 describes it as a 'System' ie composed of a number of standards and other documents. The PEFC FI stands alone as a system!	Corrected, 'PEFC FI standard' is replaced by 'Finnish PEFC standards of forest management'.
2 nd para	Last sentence	Is this the consultant's conclusion based on examination of PEFC Finland/SSWG documentation?	Yes, minutes of the SSWG Committee were made available to prove the extra contact with ENGO's to include them in the SSWG or the public consultation periods (in addition to the initial invitations to participate in the SSWG).
3 rd para (Pg 17)	... 37 reactions were received. ...	Would use similar language as the previous sentence ie 'responses'.	Corrected, the wording is changed to 'responses'.
4 th para	... available on the PEFC FI website. ...	The system has its own website? Or is it in a section on the PEFC Finland website?	Corrected, the text is adjusted to: "on the website of PEFC Finland." The website of PEFC Finland contains a special section with all standard setting relating documents: http://www.pefc.fi/pages/fi/kriteerityoe-2014/pefc-fi--kriteerien-uudistustyoe.php
6 th para	... requirements of the draft standard.	Which one was it as there are 5 standards in the PEFC FI?	Corrected, the related standard was added in the text: "(ST 1002:2014 'Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification')."
9 th para		I don't believe this reflects the discussion. Shouldn't it be 'The PEFC FI complies with the criteria of PEFC ST 1001:2010 apart from one minor non-conformity on the procedures for an Appeals Panel'.	Corrected.

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Ch 3.2 p17, p45 4.5b	Non-conformity because "does not state appeal panel should be indicated as 'impartially or objectively'"	The Finns do appear to partially answer this on p 25 with the statement that "it is up to the Panel chair to organise the process of validation of the complaint in detail", the panel chair having been chosen as "impartial". Nevertheless perhaps a more definitive statement regarding impartiality and objectivity should be added.	The assessors agree with the process of an impartial panel chair but argue that the impartiality and objectivity of an appeal panel should be above any suspicion.
3.3 The Sustainable Forest Management certification Standard Pg 17, 1 st para	... The standard is well-structured. ...	In what respect eg coverage of the FM requirements or layout of the standard or ?	The coverage of the general lay-out was meant here, the sentence is corrected into: "In general, the lay-out of the standard is well-structured."
3 rd para	Forest management plans ...	Do these come under the Regional Forest Programme? If so, it closes the loop with the last sentence in paragraph.	"Forest management plans" is changed to "Forest management programmes". Sustainable forest management is considered and evaluated by an independent party on stand level.
4 th para (Pg 18)	... management miss clear references, ...	Is this to other documents? Need to qualify.	We added: "...references <u>to forestry related legal documents and regulations</u> , for example, references to the regulation on determining the annual allowable cut and the procedure of keeping record of the total amount of harvested wood."
5 th para, last sentence	... the Finnish PEFC system ...	This should be on a separate line as a paragraph as this is the crucial conclusion. Isn't it the FM standard of the PEFC FI, which conforms?	Corrected. PEFC FI is assessed against the international standard. Statements from different PEFC FI standards have been used during the assessment against the international standard (Annex part III).
P18 P29 P67, 4.1.2	Non-conformity because does not "ensure that non-conformity by the forest owner identified under one forest certification is addressed in any other forest management certificate that covers the owner".	This needs to be added	Comment appreciated.
P18 P29 P67,4.1.4	Non-conformity because does not "define requirements for an annual internal monitoring programme.."	This needs to be added	Comment appreciated.
3.4 Group certification model Pg 18, 3 rd para		See comment at 3.2 on the conclusion	Corrected.
3.5 Chain of custody standard(s)	"The PEFC Council's International standard PEFC 2002:2013 'Chain of	fully adopted by PEFC Finland, Is the date of adoption the same one as in 4rd para?	Corrected, the date in 4rd para to September 24 th , 2013 and the adaptation date are added.

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1 st para	Custody of Forest Based Products', was fully adopted by PEFC Finland, without any modifications. "" "A bilingual (English-Finnish) CoC standard is in use. It contains the standard PEFC ST 2002:2013 and an informative Finnish translation, issued 24th of October, 2013."		PEFC ST 2002:2013 standard came into force the May 24 th , 2013, and it was fully adapted by PEFC Finland from the same date without any modifications. The bilingual version of PEFC ST 2002:2013 standard with original standard text (without any modifications) in English and informative Finnish translation was approved PEFC Finland on September 24 th , 2013.
2 nd para	"PEFC ST 2003:2012 (Certification Body Requirements – Chain of Custody) standard defining requirements for certification bodies carrying out PEFC chain of custody certification is available at PEFC FI website."	Shouldn't this link to 3.7!	Valid point, the assessors decided to keep the CoC requirements (including certification bodies) in chapter 3.5. The title of 3.7 is however changed referring to forest management only.
3.6 Logo Usage 2 nd para, last sentence	"As such, the PEFC FI fully conforms to the PEFC requirements for Logo Usage. It was not considered relevant to summarize the system design."	Is this statement required?	Corrected, the statement is indeed redundant. It is deleted in the text.
3.7 P19 P34 P140 (15)	Non-conformity because no reference to a response "within a defined timescale".	Perhaps this is implicit but could be elaborated	The PEFC board decision explicitly uses the wording "within a defined timescale" as interpretation. No elaboration required.
P19 P34 P141 (16)	Non-conformity because no reference to "sufficient consultation with external stakeholders"	From what is said elsewhere in the standard this is implicit but a clear statement should be added	The PEFC board decision explicitly uses the wording "sufficient consultation with external stakeholders" as interpretation. No elaboration required.
P19 P32 P137 (3)	Non-conformity because no "requirement that certification bodies shall have the technical expertise in forest management and its economic and social impact"	I agree with the Finnish argument that forest management entails relevant economic expertise, and to no little extent the social impact of forestry. However, given the sensitive social aspect of forestry in parts of Finland the suggestion by the Finns that "and Social" be included in the wording "when useful technical experts may complement forest management, environmental AND SOCIAL competence of the auditors" seems sufficient. In this event it need no longer be regarded as a non-conformity.	The suggestion to add SOCIAL makes the requirement conforms The assessors concludes it is still a non-conformity because at this moment the PEFC FI is not revised yet.
3.9 Any other aspects affecting functionality, credibility and efficiency	... state that the Finnish standard is highly ...	Presume it is the Forest Management standard?	Agreed, we changed this into: "Considering the functionality, credibility and efficiency of PEFC FI, it is important to state that the standard of PEFC Finland on Sustainable Forest Management

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of the PEFC FI Pg 19, 1 st para			(PEFC FI 1002:2014) is highly integrated in a complex system of national legislation and regulations."
Chapter 4.1 and Chapter 4.2	"4.1 General structure of PEFC Finland" "4.2 General structure of the PEFC FI"	The heading of 4.1 (p. 21) is repeated under 4.2 (p. 21).	One heading is about the organisational structure of PEFC Finland and the other about PEFC FI, the Finnish PEFC System. The assessors did not find the repetition.
4 GENERAL STRUCTURE OF PEFC FINLAND AND THE PEFC FI 4.1 General structure of PEFC Finland Pg 21, 2 nd para, 2.	"Some PEFC standard have been fully adopted by the PEFC FI, such as the PEFC CoC standard PEFC ST 2002:2013, the PEFC Requirements for Certification Bodies operating CoC certification, and the PEFC Logo Usage Rules. An overview of all PEFC FI documentation is provided in the table of Chapter 1.7"	The PEFC FI is a system – see comment in 3.2! Use of 'assignment' – is this to review & revise the PEFC FI? Qualify Is this a dot point or a separate paragraph? It reads as a separate paragraph!	Corrected This text is compiled using the by-laws of PEFC Finland. In practice the assignment is given to the SSWG to review and revise the PEFC FI. No text adjustment was conducted as the process is described further in chapter 5 Corrected, a paragraph under dot point 4.
2 nd para, 4.	"A working committee is established within the SSWG. This committee is chaired by the chairman of the SSWG. The secretary of the SSWG holds the function of secretary of the working committee. The working committee operates under the SSWG."	2 nd para, 1 st and 4 th sentences They essentially say the same thing.	The fourth sentence wants to emphasize that the working Committee is not a standalone committee but operates under the SSWG and always needs permission of the SSWG to handle certain issues.
3 rd para, 4.	"• Sending the meeting minutes, (draft) standards and comments to the Working Group members and, finally, to PEFC Finland; • Writing an action plan (procedures, practises, planning, communication plan, and testing proposal)."	3 rd and 4 th dot points. Would swap dot points for logical progression of work	Corrected, the dot points are swapped in the text.
4.2 General structure of the PEFC FI Pg 22, 1 st para	For example: "PEFC FI 1000:2014; PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary;" "Some PEFC standard have been	See comment at 3.1 regarding use of ; and — as well as the use of standard identifiers	Corrected, the ';' is replaced by '-'. Corrected, "ST 2001:2008, PEFC Logo Usage Rules "is added,

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	fully adopted by the PEFC FI, such as the PEFC CoC standard PEFC ST 2002:2013, the PEFC Requirements for Certification Bodies operating CoC certification, and the PEFC Logo Usage Rules. An overview of all PEFC FI documentation is provided in the table of Chapter 1.7."		
4 th para	...and ISO 65. ...	Isn't it ISO 17065?	Corrected, changed to ISO 17065.
Chapter 5		Chapter 5 (p. 23) is rather general, and what about the language (p. 23)?	Corrected, the following text was added: On request of the assessors parts of the Finnish documentation was translated to English (relevant translations can be found in the checklists of Annex A)
5. STANDARD SETTING PROCESS Pg 23, 1 st para	... in the Finnish language.	This is to be expected for a national forest certification scheme/system. Required to be in English for PEFC endorsement	Corrected, the following text was added: On request of the assessors parts of the Finnish documentation was translated to English (relevant translations can be found in the checklists of Annex A)
Table	# %	Should use words not symbols at head of column The title is usually above the table	Corrected, symbols are replaced by words. Noted.
7 th para (Pg 24)	... have been considered more elaborate. ...	'elaborate' doesn't suit – is it 'expansively' or 'comprehensively'?	Corrected, the word 'elaborate' is replaced by 'comprehensively'
9 th para	A subgroup was established ...	A subgroup of the SSWG? Need to qualify	Corrected, an extra reference to the establishment of the subgroup is added: "(Establishment of Ecological Criteria subgroup and decision that participants to the subgroup are recorded in the course of the meeting and after the meeting are noted in 18 October 2013 SSWG meeting memo)."
14 th para	... can be found on these non-conformities: ...	As there was one, it is singular ie 'on this non-conformity'	Corrected
Last para (Pg 25)		See comment at 3.2	Corrected.
6. FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD Pg 26, 2 nd para	Last sentence	Does this mean that the Finnish version is the normative in the PEFC FI?	The Finnish version prevails. PEFC FI ST1002, Ch2: "This English translation is based on the original Finnish standard PEFC FI 1002:2014 that was approved by PEFC Finland on 27.10.2014. The translated standard versions are informal and the Finnish original standard applies also to the interpretation of their content." We encountered a few small translation errors were corrected.

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			The original Finnish document was correct.
3 rd para	... to submit updates.	To whom or what?	We added: "to the Finnish Forest Center".
Last para (Pg 27)	2 nd (last) sentence	This should be on a separate line as it is the crucial conclusion	Agreed.
7. GROUP CERTIFICATION MODEL Pg 28, 4 th para	... Next to the 13 regional certificates, ...	Use of 'Next' – maybe it is 'Besides'?	We changed this to: "In addition to"
5 th para	Use of 'announced'	Is this the correct term? Maybe it is 'verified'?	We followed what is stated in PEFC FI ST.1001, Ch. 5.2
7 th para	Last sentence	See comment in 6. for 2 nd para	Correct. We decided to place this ... to the front as it ...
Last para (Pg 29)		See comment at 3.2	Corrected.
8. CHAIN OF CUSTODY STANDARD Pg 30, 1 st para	... fully adopted by PEFC Finland, ...	Is the date of adoption the same one as in 3 rd para of 8?	Corrected, date added.
Last para	... as it fully conforms to the PEFC requirements.	Presumably as the revised version has been adopted and is the version required for PEFC endorsement of the PEFC FI	Noted.
9. PEFC NOTIFICATION OF CERTIFICATION BODIES Pg 32, 2 nd last para	... The assessors agree with the reasoning of PEFC Finland.	It is 'the views' – it is not reasoning as the assessors still find a negative outcome on this issue	Corrected "reasoning" is replaced by "the views"
4 th para	... seems open and democratic: ...	Finish sentence with a full stop	Corrected the ":" is replaced by "."
10. PROCEDURES FOR ISSUANCE OF LOGO LICENSING Pg 33, 1st para	The issuance of the PEFC logo by PEFC Finland is carried out on the condition that a valid contract exists between PEFC Finland and the PEFC Council.	... that a valid contract exists ... What for? Qualify	Corrected: "The issuance of the PEFC logo by PEFC Finland is carried out on the condition that the current contract between PEFC Finland and the PEFC Council remains valid." Currently a valid license is present. The contract refers to the PEFC Logo Use Contract with the PEFC Council (user group A).
2nd para	"The requirements of the PEFC FI concerning qualification for PEFC logo licensing are documented in three documents:"	Not sure is 'qualification' is the correct word	Corrected "qualification" is deleted as the word "requirements" is already present in the sentence.
11. CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION ARRANGEMENTS Pg 34, 3 rd para		This relates to the date that the PEFC FI was provided to the PEFC. I cannot find it but 1.3.2 indicates that public consultation commenced on 1/12/2014. So the PEFC FI was submitted much earlier and it would have been caught by the PEFC BoD decisions and not able to make changes in documentation until the assessors found a non-conformity. Is this correct? If so, it should be reflected in the paragraph	In the recommendations chapter this is mentioned. The assessors agree that extra explanation on the reason of the non-conformities and the time schedule should be in this chapter as well. The following text was admitted: "The PEFC Board decisions on 17 November 2014 on the interpretation of the requirements of Annex 6,4 took place after The PEFC FI was already approved by the PEFC Finland's Board (decision taken on 27.10.2014), so PEFC Finland could not have taken these changes into account."

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Last para		I note that compliance would have been achieved if not for the two PEFC BoD decisions in the timeline of the re-endorsement process. As it was a PEFC BoD decision, PEFC Finland should be allowed to correct it under a non-conformity with conditions	The following text was admitted: "The PEFC Board decisions on 17 November 2014 on the interpretation of the requirements of Annex 6,4 took place after the PEFC FI was already approved by the PEFC Finland's Board (decision taken on 27.10.2014), so PEFC Finland could not have taken these changes into account."
12. COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES Pg 35, 1 st para	... for the total standard is available. ...	Wouldn't this be the PEFC FI?	Corrected "the total standard" is changed to "PEFC FI".
2 nd para	... are described different in each document they do ...	Need to indicate which documents to ensure coverage of standard setting especially	Corrected. "Also in the by-laws of PEFC Finland, article 6: "The Forest Certification Appeals Panel shall issue recommendations to resolve disputes concerning the forest certification activities of members participating in forest certification." complies with this requirement." The following text was adjusted to include the documents name: "As a consequence the assessors requested a translation on the appeal procedure of logo usage to be able to check the composition of the panel. In the appeal procedure of logo licensing contract it is stated that "PEFC Finland nominates an impartial appeal panel that includes chair and two members who all are unchallengeable." Therefore the requirement 8.2 of PEFC GD 1004:2009 is in conformity for logo."
4 th para	... is stated that "Finland nominates ...	What entity relates to Finland?	Corrected 'Finland' is replaced by 'PEFC Finland'.
13. ANNEXES Pg 36, Purpose	"The PEFC Standard Requirement Checklist was used by the assessors to identify compliance and non-compliance of the revised PEFC FI with the requirements of the PEFC."	Don't need to be in plural ie compliance and non-compliance.	Corrected.
Methodology ...	"When the text of the FI standard documents is an accurate copy of the text in the PEFC standards no extra comments were provided. In the case of a non-conformity, the assessors marked the column	2 nd and 3 rd paras. Need a space between paragraphs ie new para at 'In the case of a non-conformity ...	Corrected, a space was included in the text.

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	'YES/NO' with a 'NO'. ... a non-conformity statement	Should be in capitals to be consistent with CONFORMS	Corrected to ' NON-CONFORMITY '
'3 rd para'	In the case of a non-conformity, the assessors marked the column 'YES/NO' with a 'NO'. A 'NO' means that a part of the PEFC requirements has not been met and that the requirement is a non-conformity.."	"2 nd sentence Needs revision to ensure it reads correctly!	Corrected: "This means that at least one element of the related PEFC requirement question is answered with 'NO'."
4 th para, References, ...	"In cases formulation was done in the assessors own wording (e.g. by interpreting the content of the provided documented information), the text is written without quotation marks."	... In cases formulation was done ...I don't understand the context for using this word.	Corrected: "When explanations are in the assessors own wording".
14.2 Checklist 4.1 f) revision of standards/normative documents	"PEFC FI 1006, Ch5: Standard Setting process CONFORMS "	Need to indicate that the Chapter hasn't been transcribed	The entire chapter 5 of PEFC FI 1006:2014 describes the revision of the standards, the assessors decided not to copy the entire chapter into the report.
4.2 Process	... website of PEFC FI.	Isn't it PEFC Finland? The PEFC FI is the Finnish PEFC system and not an organisation	Corrected 'PEFC FI' is replaced by 'PEFC Finland'
4.3 Procedures	Use of 'E&Y'	Means nothing unless the full name is used	Corrected 'E&Y' is replaced by 'Ernst & Young'
4.4. b) Process 3 rd para	"ENGOS were under represented and their voice was missed. This was also pointed out in the Stakeholder Survey. As an answer to PEFC Finland's SSWG invitation several ENGOS informed PEFC Finland that they will not participate during the PEFC process. "	This should be in the discussion of 5. It indicates a position seemingly adopted by ENGOS for this and other PEFC national schemes	Corrected: The text "As an answer to PEFC Finland's SSWG invitation several ENGOS informed PEFC Finland that they will not participate during the PEFC process" was added in chapter 5.
4.5 b) Procedures Last para	"The assessors are of the opinion that the appearance of partiality and subjectivity should be prevented in any case. As such the standard must stress this issue integrating the wording. Therefore the requirement does not conform."	Use of 'should' – or is it a 'could'?	Our assessment resulted in "should". With "should" we reflect our assessment result based on strong arguments. "Could" can be interpreted in several ways, for example as a non-binding advice. As assessors we make decisions on basis of our findings, we do not give consultancy. The board makes the final decision. As confirmed by PEFC Finland, "impartially and objectively" depends on one person only: the Panel chair. The experience

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			and opinion of the Panel chair will determine the outcome. This method does not excel in "impartially and objectively".
4.5 c) Procedures	PEFC FI 1006, 5.3:"	Close quotation marks	Corrected, the quotation marks are closed.
5.1 Process	... on stakeholder survey ...	Surely it is 'mapping'? See 4.4 a	Corrected, 'survey' is replaced by 'mapping'
5.2 Process		There is no conclusion on conformity!	Corrected, requirement is conform.
5.4 Process	3 rd para Last para - ... by PEFC FI and assessor. ...	Have used SSGW twice when it should be SSWG! Isn't this PEFC Finland?	Corrected 'SSGW' is changed to 'SSWG' Corrected 'PEFC FI' is changed to 'PEFC Finland'
5.6 a) Process	"Two consultation periods of 30 days were organised. It was already announced by PEFC Finland in their invitation letter to participate in the SSWG, that 2 public consultation periods would be provided. No mention in PEFC 1001:2010, Standard Setting – Requirements that the days should be consecutive, although this is common practice."	There is no mention of days in the public consultation achieving the required 60 days as a minimum	Two (2) consultation periods of thirty (30) days equals sixty (60) days. To improve readability, numbers were added in the text. "Two (2) consultation periods of thirty (30) days were organised. It was already announced by PEFC Finland in their invitation letter to participate in the SSWG, that 2 public consultation periods would be provided. No mention in PEFC 1001:2010, Standard Setting – Requirements that the sixty (60) days should be consecutive, although this is common practice."
5.8 a) Process	1 st para"PEFC FI 6 th para ... were encouraged to deliver. ... 9 th para ... when not present (ENGO). ...	Again, isn't it PEFC Finland? What was to be delivered? From previous information, it is also that they did not wish to participate even with extra efforts to seek participation	Corrected, the text 'PEFC FI' is changed to 'PEFC Finland'. The following text is added: "No records of voting were found in the minutes of the SSWG." In 7 th para the next lines are translated: "Members of the SSWG were asked to deliver to the secretary all comments and other issues that they wish the SSWG to consider in SSWG 12 June meeting." To increase readability the space between the two paragraphs is removed. Corrected, in 9 th para the following text was added: "(ENGO, despite the extra effort to include them)"
5.9 a) Process	1 st para ... are not identified by persons.	Isn't it representatives? Also, they 'represent' an organisation or entity, so the viewpoints is from that level not at a personal level	Corrected: "not identified by the names of the representatives or organisations."
15.2 Checklist 4.2.1 e)		Where is the evidence to support the conclusion?	Proof added. An amended version of the PEFC FI 1001:2014 standard was approved by the PEFC Finland Board May 19 th , 2015. The amendment dealt with this requirement.
4.3.1 d)		Where is the evidence to support the conclusion?	Proof added. An amended version of the PEFC FI 1001:2014 standard was approved by the PEFC Finland Board May 19 th ,

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			2015. The amendment dealt with this requirement.
16.2 Checklist 4.1 a) to c)		Seems to be missing evidence when compared to d)! The statements appear to be assessors conclusion	<p>These requirements on the quality of the standard, criteria, and indicators are of a different assessment level (higher) than the ones on specific forestry related issues. Referring to the criteria is comparable to giving examples.</p> <p>The standard cannot be seen independent of the national laws and regulations on forestry, as well as the organisational structure related to implementing forest management and law-enforcement. The document "PEFC FI Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland" is important to conform to 4.1.a).</p> <p>To illustrate our findings we added criteria (4.1.a) and indicators (4.1.b).</p>
P110 5.4.6	The PEFC requirement here is that "Afforestation and reforestation activities that contribute to the improvement and restoration of ecological connectivity shall be promoted."	There is no mention in the assessor's comments to "ecological connectivity". Perhaps it is covered in the "land Use and Buildings Act" referred to. Given the density of forest cover in Finland this may not be an issue but perhaps more information is required in relation to this requirement.	In our draft report, we gave comments on this point of "improving ecological connectivity" indeed. We have discussed the topic with PEFC Finland. In practice, this issue is addressed sufficiently. The organization of forestry and land use in Finland ensures that these requirements are met. In the final report we deleted our comments on this point. However, PEFC FI could add information on this issue to the standard.
5.4.12.	"With due regard to management objectives, measures shall be taken to balance the pressure of animal populations and grazing on forest regeneration and growth as well as on biodiversity"	There is no criterion or criteria in the FM standard!	These measures are taken in practice; there is a well-organised community of hunters. We added PEFC FI 1002, Cr29: "Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted", which mentions hunting practices and information on biodiversity.
5.5.5.	"Construction of roads, bridges and other infrastructure shall be carried out in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses and preserves the natural level and function of water courses and river beds. Proper road drainage facilities shall be installed and maintained"	There is no criterion or criteria in the FM standard!	<p>This is covered by legislation. Construction projects are subject to preliminary environmental risks evaluations</p> <p>We added information from the 'Land use and Building act' and from the document: 'Additional information of PEFC forest management in Finland'.</p> <p>We added also PEFC FI 1002, Cr17, p27: "All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection"</p>
P127 5.6.7	The PEFC requirement here is that	There are no references in the assessor's comments to	Aesthetic values are not mentioned in the provided

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	"Forest management operations shall take into account all socio-economic functions, especially the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests."	aesthetic values. These may be incorporated under recreation and nature conservation but a more specific reference to how aesthetic values are covered would be useful.	documentation, but we have found that the present forest management system does cover this point. The Finnish landscape level approach to forestry contributes to the implementation of aesthetic values also. The (cultural) respect for forests, natural sites and landscapes has been translated into a legislative and regulative framework that takes into account aesthetic values.
5.6.10		There is no criterion or criteria in the FM standard!	This topic on "effective communication and consultation with local people and other stakeholders" and "resolving complaints and disputes" certainly needs attention in the PEFC FI's FM standard, like several other ones. After discussion with PEFC Finland and obtaining clarifications, we concluded PEFC FI does conform to this criterion, as the present systems in place do ensure effective communication with local people and other stakeholders.
P133 5.6.13	The PEFC requirement is that "Forest management shall comply with fundamental ILO conventions"	The detailed discussion by the assessors seems to concentrate on only one of the conventions but all are listed on p22. Perhaps there should also be reference to the full set here.	All the 8 fundamental conventions listed below are ratified by Finland. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) • Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) • Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) • Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) • Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) • Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) • Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) • Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111). More details on the ratification dates of the fundamental conventions can be found on the ILO website: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:10011:0::N O::P10011_DISPLAY_BY,P10011_CONVENTION_TYPE_CODE:1,F
5.7.1		There is no criterion or criteria in the FM standard!	Criterion 1 of the PEFC FI 1002 standard is relevant and is added to the assessment table. The indicator of this criterion is based on court rulings. This is an indirect way of evaluating compliance and therefore information on the effectiveness of this criterion was needed. Relevant information was provided in the document "Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland".

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5.7.2		There is no criterion or criteria in the FM standard!	Criterion 1 of the PEFC FI 1002 standard is relevant and is added to the assessment table. The indicator of this criterion is based on court rulings. This is an indirect way of evaluating compliance and therefore information on the effectiveness of this criterion was needed. Relevant information was provided in the document "Additional Information document to PEFC forest management in Finland".
17.2 Checklist 1.	5.2.3 & 5.2.6 Last para: "PEFC FI reply after draft report"	Presumably commence with Sec as in others above and below? Presume it was PEFC Finland and not PEFC FI!	Corrected: 'Sec.' added in front of 5.2.3 & 5.2.6. Corrected: "PEFC Finland's reply after draft report".
2.; 5.; 6.; 7.; 9.; 10.; 20.;	For example: "described in ISO/IEC 17011:20042"	Have an extra digit in the year for the ISO standard ie 5 digits and not 4 digits.	Corrected all extra digits in the year for the ISO standard are deleted. For example: "described in ISO/IEC 17011:2004".
3.	"The assessors agree with the reasoning of PEFC Finland" Last para	See comment in 9.	Corrected 'reasoning' is adjusted to 'the view'.
19.2 Checklist 3. Question	Are complaint and dispute procedures go usage ...	Use of 'go' seems inappropriate – check the PEFC checklist question.	In the PEFC Checklist is also 'go' used, also in the revised version of 22.09.2014.
3. Reference to application documents	3 rd and 5 th lines ... provided by PEFC FI): ...	The 'And' should be replaced with 'and' Isn't it PEFC Finland – PEFC FI is the system not the organisation!	Corrected 'And' is replaced by 'and' in both lines. 'PEFC FI' is replaced by 'PEFC Finland'.
ANNEX B: Results of stakeholder survey Pg 146, 2 nd para 10 th para	... As the organisation also It would be helpful if ENGOs ...	Which organisation? Is this the SSWG or the assessors?	To clarify the following text is added: "some stakeholder organisations participating in the SSWG also appointed a deputy representative on the SSWG". The respondents of the stakeholder survey (mostly members of the SSWG). Corrected, the text is adjusted to: "They also stated that it would be helpful if ENGOs would participate."
ANNEX E: LIST SSWG MEMBERS Pg 152	Dot point 4	There is no need for the full stop in front of Parties.	Corrected dot point removed.
	Organisation's representative / deputy	It would be better if this was in a table with 4 columns.	No table was prepared, but the representatives names are now clearly separated from the organizations name by a '/' to increase readability.

ANNEX E: List of SSWG members

The stakeholder category of the organisation is mentioned after the participants names. There are 4 stakeholder categories defined within the PEFC FI:

- ① Forest owner
- ② Organisations manufacturing and marketing wood-based products
- ③ Parties receiving income from forests
- ④ Parties using forests for immaterial goods and for recreational purposes

* Also forest owner but not their main income or purpose

Organisation/ Organisation's representative / deputy and stakeholder category.

The Bioenergy Association of Finland/ Tage Fredrisson / Jyrki Peisa ②
 Finnish Energy Industries/ Jukka Makkonen / - ②
 Association of Jointly Owned Forests of Southern Finland/ Pauli Sibakov / Juha Simola ①
 Association of Finnish Forest Estate Owners/ Jaakko Temmes / Rauno Numminen / Juha Nikula ①
 Federation of the Printing Industry /Lasse Krogell / - ②
 Infra ry/ Eija Ehrukainen / Magnus Frisk ③
 Finnish Christmas Tree Growers Association/ Päivi Rajakari / Heini Katajisto ③ *
 The Chemical Industry Federation of Finland/ Petri Kortejärvi / - ③
 Church Council (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland)/ Harri Palo / Ilkka Sipiläinen ④ *
 The Trade Association of Finnish Forestry and Earth Moving Contractors/ Ville Manner /
 Aku Mäkelä ③
 The Consumers' Union of Finland/Juha Beurling / Jenni Vainioranta ④
 Local government sector/ Risto Laukas / Kari Tornainen ④ *
 The Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners/ Lea Jylhä / Anssi Kainulainen ①
 The Martha Organization/ Asta Kuosmanen / - ④
 METO - Forestry Experts' Association/ Erkki Eteläaho / Ilpo Puputti ③
 METO – Forestry Entrepreneurs' Association/ Tuomo Turunen / Timo Rajajärvi ③
 Metsä Group/ Janne Soimasuo / Jussi Ripatti ② *
 Association of Forest Industry Road Carriers/ Kari Palojärvi / Jouni Bergroth ③
 Metsähallitus/ Juhani Karjalainen / Antti Otsamo ①
 The Society of Finnish Professional Foresters/ Jukka Sippola / Tapio Hankala ③
 Forest Management Associations Services MHYP Oy – Forest Management Associations /Petri
 Pajunen / Petra Huupponen ③
 Finnish Forest Industries Federation /The Association of Finnish Furniture and Joinery Industries/Anu
 Islander / Karoliina Niemi ③
 MTK's forest delegation / Forest Owners' Unions/Auvo Heikkilä / Jukka Hujala ③
 Reindeer Herders' Association/ Sanna Hast / Anne Ollila ④
 Association of Jointly Owned Forests of Northern Finland/ Jarmo Korhonen / Markus Laatikainen ①
 The Wood and Allied Workers' Union/ Harri Häkkinen /Aleksi Kuusisto ③
 The Association of Finnish Woodworking and Furniture Industries/ Tapani Tuohiniemi / Janne Liias
 ②
 Finnish Hardware Association (DIY)/ Kari Kulmala (until 31.7.2013), Harri Fagerlund (from 1.8.2013)/ -
 Sámi Parliament/ Klemetti Näkkäläjärv / - ④
 The Association of Finnish Small-scale Sawmilling Entrepreneurs/ Eero Koskela / Heikki Rytönen ②
 Stora Enso Wood Supply Finland/ Pasi Lehtosaari / Tuukka Kataja ③
 The Finnish 4H Federation/ Juha Ruuska / Helena Herttuainen ④
 The Outdoor Association of Finland/ Anne Rautiainen / - ④
 The Finnish Nature-based Entrepreneurship Association/ Juha Rutanen / Anne Matilainen ④
 Finnish Hunters' Association/ Tero Saarikko / - ④
 The Guides and Scouts of Finland/ Panu Räsänen / -④
 Hunters' Central Organization/ Marko Svensberg / - ④

Finnish Sawmills Association / Kai Merivuori / - ②
 Finnish Federation for Recreational Fishing/ Ilkka Mäkelä / Juha Ojajarju ④
 The Central Union of Swedish-speaking Agricultural Producers in Finland (SLC)/ Stefan Borgman / Fredrik Granberg ①
 Tornator Oyj/ Tuija Luukkanen / Maarit Sallinen ①
 UPM Kymmene Forest/ Juha-Matti Valonen / Matti Yläne ③ *
 Finnish Curly Birch Society/ Antti Koskimäki / Antti Sipilä ③ *
 The Finnish Union of Environmental Professionals/ Pekka Ihalainen / Tero Sipilä ④

External expert organisations (without voting rights): Organisation's representative / deputy:

National Board of Antiquities Päivi Maaranen / -
 The Finnish Forest Centre Jouni Rantala / -
 PEFC Finland Auvo Kaivola / Simo Jaakkola

Chair of the Standard Setting Working Group:

Secretary of the Standard Setting Working Group: Working Committee members / deputies:

Jarmo Ratia, former Director
 General of National Survey of Finland
 Kalle Vanhatalo,
 Forestry Development Centre TAPIO
 Ville Manner /Aku Mäkelä
 Lea Jylhä / -
 Juhani Karjalainen / -
 Anu Islander / -
 Erkki Eteläaho / -
 Anne Rautiainen / Juha Rutanen
 Tage Fredriksson / Jouko Rämö
 Pauli Sibakov / Juha Simola

Other organisations invited to participate in the Standard Setting Working Group February 13th, 2013:

BirdLife Finland
 Dodo ry
 Finnish Business & Society (FiBS)
 Friends of the Earth
 Greenpeace
 L&T Biowatti Oy
 Nature League
 Organic Farmers' Union of Finland
 Technology for Life
 The Association for Finnish Work
 The Finnish Association for Environmental Education
 The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation
 The Finnish Orienteering Federation
 The Finnish Paper Workers' Union
 The Finnish Society of Forest Science
 The Finnish Society for Nature and Environment
 WWF Finland

ANNEX F: Stakeholders invited to online survey

The table below shows the list of 83 stakeholders (individual persons) that received an invitation for the online survey, carried out by ForestSense:

Name	E-mail	Organisation
Aku Makela	aku.makela@koneyrittajat.fi	Koneyrittäjien Liitto ry
Anna-Liisa Myllynen	anna-liisa.myllynen@storaenso.com	Stora Enso Oyj Metsa
Anne Matilainen	anne.matilainen@helsinki.fi	Suomen luontoyrittäjyysverkosto ry
Anne Ollila	anne.ollila@paliskunnat.fi	Paliskuntain yhdistys
Anne Rautiainen	anne.rautiainen@suomenlatu.fi	Suomen Latu ry
Anssi Kainulainen	anssi.kainulainen@mtk.fi	Maa- ja metsätaloustuottajain Keskusliitto MTK ry
Antti Koskimäki	antti.koskimaki@metsakeskus.fi	Visaseura ry
Antti Otsamo	antti.otsamo@metsa.fi	Metsähallitus
Antti Sipilä	antti.sipila@hamk.fi	Visaseura ry
Anu Islander	anu.islander@forestindustries.fi	Metsäteollisuus ry / Puusepätöteollisuus ry ?
Asta Kuosmanen	asta.kuosmanen@martat.fi	Marttaliitto
Auvo Heikkilä	auvo.heikkila@mhy.fi	MTK metsävaltuuskunta / metsänomistajaliitot
Auvo Kaivola	auvo.kaivola@pefc.fi	PEFC Suomi
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Eljas Heikkinen	eljas.heikkinen@metsakeskus.fi	Suomen Metsakeskus
Erkki Etelaaho	erkki.etelaaho@meto-ry.fi	METO - Metsäalan Asiantuntijat ry
Fredrik Granberg	fredi.granberg@pp.inet.fi	Svenska Lantbruksproducenternas Centralförbund - SLC rf
Harri Fagerlund	Harri.Fagerlund@kesko.fi	RASI ry
Harri Hakkinen	harri.hakkinen@puuliitto.fi	Puu- ja erityisalojen Liitto
Harri Palo	harri.palo@evl.fi	Kirkkohallitus
Heikki Paltto	heikki.paltto@gmail.com	Saamelaiskarajat
Heikki Rytönen	heikki.rytonen@finnstamm.inet.fi	Sahayrittajat ry
Heini Katajisto	heini@katajisto.fi	Joulupuuseura
Ilkka Makela	ilkka.makela@vapaa-ajankalastaja.fi	Suomen vapaa-ajan kalastajien keskusjärjestö
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Jaakko Temmes	jaakko.temmes@pkmo.org	Etämetänomistajien Liitto ry
Janne Liias	janne.liias@puuteollisuus.fi	Puuteollisuusyrittäjät ry
Janne Soimasuo	janne.soimasuo@metsagroup.com	Metsa Group
Jarmo Korhonen	jarmo.korhonen@kuusamon yhteismetsa.fi	Pohjois-Suomen yhteismetsien yhdistys ry
Jarmo Ratia	jarmo.ratia@gmail.com	Työryhman puheenjohtaja - Chair of the SSWG
Jenni Vainionranta	jenni.vainioranta@kuluttajaliitto.fi	Kuluttajaliitto - Konsumentförbundet ry
Jouko Ramo	jouko.ramo@bioenergia.fi	Bioenergia ry
Jouni Bergroth	jouni.bergroth@skal.fi	Metsäalan Kuljetusyrittäjät ry

Name	E-mail	Organisation
Jouni Rantala	jouni.rantala@metsakeskus.fi	Suomen Metsakeskus
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Juha Rutanen	juha.rutanen@aitoluonto.fi	Suomen luontoyrittäjyysverkosto ry
Juha Ruuska	juha.ruuska@4h.fi	Suomen 4H-liitto
Juha-Matti Valonen	juha-matti.valonen@upm.com	UPM Kymmene Oyj Metsä
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Kari Palojarvi	kari.palojarvi@skal.fi	Metsäalan Kuljetusyrittäjät ry
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