

## National Forest Stewardship Standard for Czech Republic



**FSC-STD-CZE-03-01-2013 Czech Natural and Plantations EN**

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**National Forest Stewardship Standard for Czech Republic**  
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The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC's vision is where the world's forests meet the social, ecological, and economic rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations

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## **Preface**

### **Descriptive statement of FSC:**

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization established to promote the responsible management of forests worldwide. It was established as a legal entity in Mexico in February 1994 with its origins in a group of timber users, traders and representatives of environmental and human rights organization concerned about accelerating deforestation, environmental degradation and social exclusion.

At a meeting in California in 1990, this diverse group highlighted the need for a credible system that could identify well-managed forests as the sources of responsibly produced wood products. But it was only two years later during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 that provided the timely opportunity for many non-governmental organizations to gather support for the idea of a non-governmental, independent and international forest certification scheme.

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

Since its formal establishment in 1994, the growth of the FSC has seen over 1300 forest management Chain of Custody (FM/CoC) certificates and over 29000 only chain-of-custody certificates issued, with 184.288 million hectares of land certified.

### **The FSC vision and mission:**

#### **Vision:**

The world's forests meet the social, ecological and economic rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations.

#### **Mission:**

The Forest Stewardship Council A.C. (FSC) shall promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

The FSC defines environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable as follows:

- **Environmentally Appropriate:** Environmentally appropriate forest management ensures that the harvest of timber and non-timber products maintain the forest's biodiversity, productivity and ecological processes.

- **Socially Beneficial:** Socially beneficial forest management helps both local people and society at large to enjoy long term benefits and also provides strong incentives to local people to sustain the forest resource and adhere to long-term management plans.
- **Economically viable:** Economically viable forest management means that forest operations are structured and managed so as to be sufficiently profitable, without generating financial profit at the expense of the forest resource, the ecosystem, or affected communities. The tension between the need to generate adequate financial returns and the principles of responsible forest operations can be reduced through efforts to market the full range of forest products and services for their best value.

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

### **Descriptive statement of the National Office / Standard Setting Group**

The FSC Czech Republic consists of three expert sections – Economic, Environmental and Social – each having an equal vote. Members of FSC CZ develop and revise the Czech FSC Standard via the Standardization Committee of the association. FSC Czech Republic is open to new members and observers. For more information, visit the web site of the FSC CZ Civil Association: [www.czechfsc.cz](http://www.czechfsc.cz)

## **Introduction**

### **Purpose:**

This standard sets out the required elements against which FSC accredited Certification Bodies shall evaluate forest management practices within the Czech Republic. The FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship (February 2000) provides an internationally recognized standard for responsible forest management. However, any international standard for forest management needs to be adapted at the regional or national level in order to reflect the diverse legal, social and geographical conditions of forests in different parts of the world. The FSC Principles and Criteria therefore require the addition of indicators that are adapted to regional or national conditions in order to be implemented at the Forest Management Unit (FMU) level. The FSC Principles and Criteria together with a set of such indicators accredited by FSC constitute an FSC Forest Stewardship Standard.

This standard follows the requirements of FSC-STD-60-002 (Structure and content of forest stewardship standards), to improve consistency and transparency in certification decisions between different certification bodies in The Czech Republic and in different parts of the world, and thereby to enhance the credibility of the FSC certification scheme as a whole.

### **Scope:**

This standard is applicable to all forest operations seeking FSC certification within The Czech Republic. The standard applies to all forest types in the Czech Republic. The Czech FSC Standard is a fundamental normative document for forest management certification with the FSC international certification system on the territory of the Czech Republic. It is meant for forests of all types, classes, functions, ownership structures and areas. Plantations\* are not the goal of close-to-nature forest management in the Czech Republic.

### **Background information on the standard setting process:**

The Czech FSC Standard had been developed since February 2001 and its first draft was approved at the 1st FSC CZ General Assembly in January 2002 in Prague. The Standard was further developed by the Standardization Committee of FSC CZ. A broad expert consultation at national level in 2002 and 2003 followed. The second draft of the Czech FSC Standard was approved at the 2nd FSC CZ General Assembly in February 2003 in Prague. In 2003 the Standard was harmonized with the accredited German FSC-Standard and the nascent Polish FSC Standard. During 2004, in co-operation with the accredited certification bodies, the Standard was tested in the field, and four different forest properties of different areas, types and ownership structures on Czech territory were assessed: in the Krkonose National Park, and in co-operation with accredited certification bodies during the forest enterprise certification of Association of Municipal and Private Forests Svitavy, Municipal

Forests Volary Inc., and Kinsky dal Borgo Inc. In the same year, further discussion of the Czech FSC Standard with selected external experts was coordinated by the Institute for Forest Ecosystems Research.

Then, the 3rd draft of the Czech FSC Standard, approved by the 4th FSC General Assembly in Brandýs nad Labem on 25 February 2005, was once again submitted to broad national and international discussion. The final 4th draft of the Czech FSC Standard which incorporated remarks that emerged in the national and international discussion, was approved by the 5th FSC CZ General Assembly in Ceska Trebova on 29th September 2005. The FSC rules require regular revisions of national standards of forest management. This revision began in September, 2008, by election of Revision Committee members and ended in December 2014 at the FSC CZ's General Assembly where this version was approved.

### **Version of standard:**

FSC-STD-CZE-03-2013-Czech Natural and Plantations EN.

Statement of the responsible parties that oversaw the development of the standard:

The standard Revision Committee agreed consensually on this version FSC-STD-CZE-03-2013-Czech Natural and Plantations EN and recommended to the FSC CZ's members for approval. The FSC CZ's members approved this version 03 on the General assembly in December 2014. This Standard has full support of the FSC CZ's members and recommends FSC's PSU to approve this document.

### **Context**

General description of the geographical area covered by the standard:

The Czech Republic lies in the Central Europe mostly between latitudes 48° and 51° N, and longitudes 12° and 19° E. The Czech landscape is exceedingly varied. Bohemia, to the west, consists of a basin drained by the Labe and the Vltava rivers, surrounded by mostly low mountains, such as the Krkonoše range of the Sudetes. The highest point in the country, Sněžka at 1,602 m, is located here. Moravia, the eastern part of the country, is also quite hilly. It is drained mainly by the Morava River, but it also contains the source of the Odra River.

**List of members of the committee that prepared the standard**

<b>Environmental</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<b>Social</b>
Name: Jaromir Blaha	Name: Milan Hron	Name: Jitka Schneiderova
Organization: Friends of the Earth CZ	Organization: Forest owners group Svitavy	Organization: Association for rural development
Resume: Head of envi chamber, has participated in standard setting 2002-2005	Resume: Head of economic chamber, has participated in standard setting 2003-2005, manages FSC group scheme	Resume: Head of social chamber, has participated in standard setting 2002-2005
Name: Richard Višňák	Name: Vasil Hutnik	Name: Alfonz Kokoska
Organization: Individual, expert on geobotany	Organization: City forests of Solnice	Organization: Trade union (OS DLV)
Resume: Deputy of envi chamber, has participated in standard setting 2002-2005	Resume: FSC CZ member, has participated in standard setting 2002-2005	Resume: FSC CR member, has participated in standard setting 2002-2005
	Name: Tomáš Pařík	Name: Šárka Zielinská
	Organization: Association of Czech Paper industry	Organization: Beskydčan
	Resume: FSC CZ's board member since November 2012,	Resume: FSC CR member, has participated in standard setting 2002-2005

## List of key consultants and advisers who assisted the committee

Name of Expert Team	Members	List of documents (ToR, work plan, documents produced)
Meetings of the committee for standard revision where open to all members and observers (they did not have the voting right)		
Z. Mikulášek, B. Nejezchleb - Certificate holder Training Forest Enterprise Masaryk Forest Křtiny (TFE)		
M. Zavrtálek - State forests		
N. Buchta. T. Staněk – Ministry of environment		
Václav Jansa – KRNP - Krkonoše national park (FM certificate holder)		

### Associated documentation referenced in the standard.

(This would include FSC document, other FSC accredited forest stewardship standards, legislation and other relevant documents).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*FSC POL 20 002 EN Partial Certification 2000*

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

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

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

*FSC POL 30 001 EN FSC Pesticides policy 2005*

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

*FSC-ADV-30-021 Pesticides and major failures*

*FSC POL 30 602 EN FSC GMO Policy 2000*

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

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

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

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

*FSC-STD-01-002(V1-0) EN*

### **Hierarchical framework**

The standard is structured as a hierarchy of the FSC Principles, FSC Criteria and the associated indicators. Compliance with the standard shall be determined by evaluating observed performance at the Forest Management Unit (FMU) level against each indicator of the standard, and in comparison with any performance threshold(s) specified for the indicator.

### **Notes on interpretation of indicators:**

Where an indicator requires that a procedure or system is documented, it is also required that the documented system is implemented and that a person has been appointed with the responsibility to ensure that the system is implemented. Where an indicator refers to a system or procedure, it is assumed that it is the job of the certification body in all cases to verify that the procedure is implemented. The existence of staff responsible for doing this would be one means of verification.

For each Criterion a number of Indicators are listed. Where indicators are simply numbered, with no additional letter (e.g. Indicator 1.1.1), the indicator is intended to be applicable to all sizes and types of forest and plantation. In cases where specific additional requirements are specified that are applicable only to large forests - areas above 500 ha - (i.e. forests which are not small or low intensity managed forests ('SLIMFs')) the indicator numbers are followed by the letter 'L'.

### **Explanatory Notes:**

**SLT** - set of forest types, or a single forest type, in compliance with the conception of the Czech Institute of Forestry Management (IFM)

**Minimal percentage of EsD\* (Ecologically stabilizing tree species\*)** – the minimum percentage of ecologically stabilizing tree species\*. In case of regenerated stands and advance growth stands, the percentage is evaluated on the basis of the area (or, in case of planting, on the basis of the number of individual trees) with stabilising species; in case of maturity approaching and mature stands\*, the percentage is evaluated on the basis of circular basal areas.

**Appropriate EsD\* (Ecologically stabilizing tree species\*)** – the list of ecologically stabilizing tree species\* (EsD) characteristic for individual forest-type groups. These main tree species\* do not necessarily need to predominate in regenerated stands. However, they should be represented in the stands. It is desirable the species composition to include multiple EsD\* corresponding to a given site. Tree species other than those listed in the table (with the exception of spruce, pine, larch, and exotic\* species) can be included in the percentage of ecologically stabilizing tree species\*.

**Abbreviations for the tree species listed:** **bbk** - Field Maple (*Acer campestre*), **bk** - Common Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), **bř** - various native Birches, usually Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*), **břp** - White Birch (*Betula pubescens*), **břek** - Wild Service Tree (*Sorbus torminalis*), **db** - various native Oaks (*Quercus* species, native species only), **dbl** - Common Oak (*Quercus robur*), **dbz** - Sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea*), **dřín** - Cornelian Cherry (Common Dogwood) (*Cornus mas*), **hb** - Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), **jd** - Silver Fir (*Abies alba*), **jl** - various native Elms (*Ulmus* species), **jlh** - Wych Elm (*Ulmus glabra*), **jř** - Rowan ("Mountain Ash") (*Sorbus aucuparia*), **js** - Common Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), **jv** - native Maples, (*Acer* species), usually Norway Maple (*Acer platanoides*), **kl** - Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), **lp** - various native Limes, usually Common Lime (*Tilia cordata*), **muk** - Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*), **ol** - various native Alders, mostly Common Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), **olš** - Grey Alder (*Alnus incana*), **ts** - Common Yew (*Taxus baccata*), **tp** - Black Poplar (*Populus nigra*) together with silver poplar (*Populus alba*), **os** - Aspen (*Populus tremula*), **tř** – Wild Cherry (*Cerasus avium=Prunus avium*), **vr** - Willows, usually tree species White Willow and Crack Willow (*Salix alba*, *Salix fragilis*), **vrby** - bush Willows, usually (*Salix aurita*), in middle altitudes also Grey Willow (*Salix cinerea*) and in high altitudes of the Sudeten Mountains and Carpathians also Silesian Willow (*Salix silesiaca*).

**Percentage of MZD (Directive)** – The minimum percentage of improvement and reinforcement tree species (MZD) in compliance with the Ministry of Agriculture Ordinance No. 83/1996 Col. related to Act No. 289/1995 of the Coll. The percentage set is obligatory for all owners\* of forests areas over 3 ha. These figures also served as the basis for setting the minimum percentage of ecologically stabilising species\* – the proposed percentage could not be lower than that specified in the ordinance.

**FSC Principle 1: Compliance with laws and FSC principles.**

Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.

**FSC Criterion 1.1**

Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.

**Indicators**

1.1.1. The owner shall have at his disposal all applicable laws and ordinances related to forest management, and are familiar with them (particularly with those mentioned in annex A.)

**Verifiers:** interviews, review of documents

1.1.2. There is no evidence of violation of applicable laws or of non-fulfilment of the duties related to forest management.

**Verifiers:** interviews with national authorities and representatives of stakeholders\*, field inspection

1.1.3 If any non-compliances with legal or regulatory requirements have been identified by the enterprise or by third parties in the previous five years, they shall have been documented by the enterprise, were promptly corrected, and effective action has been taken to prevent their recurrence.

**FSC Criterion 1.2**

All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.

**Indicators**

1.2.1 All legally prescribed fees shall be paid and there is no evidence of payment indiscipline (fees are fully paid within specified periods).

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interview with national authorities (possibly revision of fiscal audit outcome)

1.2.2 The enterprise/owner shall maintain records which are sufficient to confirm the calculation of all applicable fees, royalties, taxes and other charges.

**FSC Criterion 1.3**

In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreement such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.

**Indicators**

1.3.1 There shall be no evidence that the international agreements ratified by the Czech Republic (Including, but not limited to annex B) have been violated on the part of the owner\*.

<p><b>Verifiers:</b> interviews with employees* and representatives of stakeholders*</p> <p>See 1.1.3 above in case of non-compliance.</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 1.4</b></p> <p>Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification on a case by case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties.</p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p>1.4.1 The owner shall inform the certification body* of all conflicts between existing laws and regulations and the Czech FSC Standard.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> interviews with managers*, review of documentation</p> <p>1.4.2 If conflicts between existing laws and regulations and the Czech FSC Standard cannot be resolved by certification body*, the owner* shall report them to the FSC WG CZ Dispute Resolution Committee* and with the relevant authority responsible for interpreting legal requirements in an attempt to resolve the conflict.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> interviews with managers*, review of documentation</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 1.5</b></p> <p><b>Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p>1.5.1 The owner* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall apply for the establishment of a forest guard.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> interviews with national authorities, review of documentation</p> <p>1.5.2 The forest guard or the owner* shall keep records and resolves all kinds of observed offences against the existing legislation.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> review of documentation, interviews with workers* and representatives of national authorities, field inspection</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 1.6</b></p> <p><b>Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.</b></p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p>1.6.1 The owner* shall acknowledge FSC Principles and Criteria and make a written commitment to long-term conformation to them.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> review of documentation, declaration of the commitment in writing</p> <p>1.6.2 L The owner* of a forest area of over 500 ha makes his obligation to conform to the Czech FSC Standard public.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> review of released documentation</p> <p>1.6.3 L The owner of forest area* of over 500 ha shall make public a list of all forest properties over which he or she has any degree of management responsibility (see FSC Policy of Partial Certification FSC-POL-20-002).</p>

**Verifiers:** review of released documentation, interview with civil servants responsible for this agenda

1.6.4. There is no evidence that forest properties not applying for FSC certification are managed in conflict with FSC Controlled Wood Standard (FSC-STD-30-010).

**Verifiers:** review of released documentation, interview with civil servants responsible for this agenda

1.6.5 If any forest operations are carried out by contractors, the owner\* contractually ensures contractors' adherence to the requirements of the Czech FSC Standard. Changes can be implemented gradually, depending on contract conditions of the existing contracts.

**Verifiers:** review of agreements with contractors, review of documentation

1.6.6 The owner\* notifies the affected workers\* of the requirements and limitations regarding the use of the FSC logo, both in communication and advertising promotion, but especially in the labelling of products, and he respects these conditions.

**Verifiers:** interview with workers\*, review of documentation

## **FSC Principle 2: Tenure and use rights and responsibilities**

Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.

### **FSC Criterion 2.1**

Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.

#### **Indicators**

2.1.1 The entity seeking for certification shall provide clear evidence of having all owner's rights to the land, or rights to manage the forest property.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

2.1.2 There shall be documentation (including associated maps) which clearly identifies and describes any customary rights and use rights applicable to the lands and forests under evaluation. This documentation explicitly identifies any local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights

### **FSC Criterion 2.2**

Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.

#### **Indicators**

2.2.1 Local joint forest owners\* (municipalities, associations, fellowships, associations of owners\*) shall designate with free and informed consent a person or a legal subject to ensure protection of their right to control the forest management.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interview with the owner's\* agent

2.2.2 There shall be no substantive evidence that the enterprise obstructs or prevents local communities with legal tenure or use rights from exercising such rights, other than to the extent that the communities have freely agreed not to exercise such rights.

**FSC Criterion 2.3**

Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified

**Indicators**

2.3.1 The owner\* shall keep records of all disputes over tenure or use rights, including documentation of all steps that have been undertaken in order to resolve these disputes.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

2.3.2 Should there be a dispute over tenure or use rights the owner\* and the affected party shall agree on steps towards the resolution of the dispute. The owner\* adheres to the agreed procedure.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation and correspondence, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders\*

**FSC Principle 3: Indigenous peoples' rights**

The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.

According to the definition by the United Nations, there are no indigenous peoples in the Czech Republic that would feel or define themselves as such. Therefore, the principle in this form is not applicable. Criteria 3.1-3.4 can be considered to be inapplicable in the case of the Czech Republic. Aspects of this principle, which are logically related to the interests of the local population, are covered under Principle 2 (customary rights) and Principle 4 (community interests).

**FSC Criterion 3.1**

Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.

**Indicators**

3.1.1 xxx

**Verifiers**

Xxx

<p><b>FSC Criterion 3.2</b></p> <p>Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples.</p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>3.2.1 xxx</b></p> <p><b>Verifiers</b></p> <p>Xxx</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 3.3</b></p> <p>Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers.</p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>3.3.1 xxx</b></p> <p><b>Verifiers</b></p> <p>Xxx</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 3.4</b></p> <p>Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.</p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p><b>3.4.1 xxx</b></p> <p><b>Verifiers</b></p> <p>Xxx</p>
<p><b>FSC Principle 4: Community relations and worker's rights</b></p> <p>Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 4.1</b></p> <p>The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services.</p>
<p><b>Indicators</b></p> <p>4.1.1 The owner* shall keep track of local workers, suppliers and contractors.</p> <p><b>Verifiers</b> review of documentation</p> <p>4.1.2 The requirements and conditions of tender shall not disadvantage local contractors</p> <p>Verifiers: review of documentation, interviews with employees* and representatives of local</p>

stakeholders.

4.1.3 Only entities with a license and qualified to pursue the work in question shall be hired

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interview with workers\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*

4.1.4 Contracts with the contracted entities shall include an option to terminate a contract if the employees of the entities concerned prove to be insufficiently qualified.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

4.1.5. Should the employees\* be from non-EU countries, the employer shall prove they hold valid work permits for the entire duration of employment.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

4.1.6 The employees\* shall be supported in continuing their education and extending their proficiency by the employer.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interview with the workers\*

4.1.7 Where it is in accordance with legislation, the owner\* allows local schools or other organizations to use the forest for the purposes of further education

**Verifier:** review of documentation, interviews with employees\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*

#### **FSC Criterion 4.2**

Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.

#### **Indicators**

4.2.1 All forest operations shall be organized and carried out in accordance with existing Health and Safety legislation, especially in accordance with provisions regarding the use of protective clothing and equipment.

**Verifiers:** interviews, field inspection

4.2.2 Contracts with the contracted entities shall include an option to terminate the contract in case safety regulations are violated.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

4.2.3 Relevant safety training of workers\* shall be carried out. Employees'\* attendance at these educational courses and trainings is considered a part of their work.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, training records, field inspection, interviews with workers\*

4.2.4 A number of Workplace Safety Personnel (or an individual) are designated and are trained to be responsible for the regular checking of employees' adherence to work safety regulations and use of protective clothing and equipment. All employees\* are familiar with the designated staff (individual)

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

4.2.5 Workers\* shall have working knowledge of relevant legal regulations covering health and safety of employees.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

4.2.6 All machines, instruments and tools designated for use shall be in good technical condition so as to ensure their safe use.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with workers\*

4.2.7 The owner\* shall document work injuries, evaluates their causes and shall take measures to prevent them.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

4.2.8. The contracts with the contracted entities shall include the duty to report serious work injuries and remedies for their causes to the Owner\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

### **FSC Criterion 4.3**

The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

### **Indicators**

4.3.1 There shall be no evidence that the existing social welfare laws and regulations as well as the Convention of International Labour Organisation (ILO) and provisions of FSC policy on FSC Certification and ILO convention have been violated.

**Verifiers :** contact with representatives of local stakeholders\*, in particular with trade unions and their associations and with the Bureau of Work Safety

4.3.2 All employees\* shall be allowed to form trade unions and other labour organisations of their choice, and make collective wages agreement following the wage agreements of higher degrees without any intimidations or other interference on the employer's part. Employees\* attest that they do not fear sanctions for their trade unions activities.

**Verifiers:** interviews with employees\* and trade unions

4.3.3 Employers shall respect the applicable basic pay and collective wage agreements negotiated between employers' associations and trade unions, or between the workers\* and the owner\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

4.3.4 The owner\* shall guarantee that the wages or corresponding contracted remunerations are the same or higher than minimum wage. The paid wages are in accordance with the collective wage agreements negotiated between employers' associations and trade unions, or agreements between the worker\* and the owner\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with employees\* and workers\*

4.3.5 L Prior to commencement of the certification process the owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall inform the company's trade union, or, if it does not exist, union association, about certification, the opportunities it offers, and its impact on communication and the social sphere

**Verifier:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of trade unions and their associations

#### **FSC Criterion 4.4**

Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.

#### **Indicators**

4.4.1 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall document and evaluate changes in employment levels and workforce structure

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

4.4.2. Whenever possible, workers\* shall be employed year-round, layoffs shall be justified by the enterprise, and are carried out after consultation with trade unions.

**Verifier:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

4.4.3 Representatives of local stakeholders\* (both men and women), civil associations and other partners shall be identified, and their initiatives and discussions with them are documented.

**Verifier:** review of documentation, interviews with local stakeholders representatives\*

4.4.4 Neighbouring property owners and affected stakeholders\* shall be kept informed of forest operations that materially affect them. Their remarks are considered. Their participation in negotiations must be approved.

**Verifiers:** interviews with representatives of affected stakeholders

4.4.5 When taking decisions concerning forest management, the owner\* shall respect sites of special cultural or religious significance.

**Verifier:** field inspections, interviews

4.4.6 At company meetings or similar events, employees\* shall be kept informed about business changes that affect their social situation. The employer supports and keeps records of these consultations with employees\*.

**Verifier:** review of documentation, interviews with employees\* without the presence of their superiors

**FSC Criterion 4.5**

Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.

**Indicators**

4.5.1 The owner\* shall keep records of, and resolves all complaints from, other parties regarding damage from forest operations affecting property, legal or customary rights, or natural resources resulting from his management activities.

**Verifiers** review of documents, interview with representatives of local stakeholders.

4.5.2 The owner\* shall take measures to prevent such damage.

**Verifier** review of documents, interview with representatives of local stakeholders\*

4.5.3 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall designate a person responsible for decisions on complaints and compensation for damage.

**Verifiers:** review of documents, interviews with management and local stakeholders\*

4.5.4 The Owner\* shall offer the local communities fair compensation in case any infringement of legal regulations related to owner's forest management activities occur that result in a loss or damage of their legal or customary rights, properties, resources or livelihoods.

**Verifiers** interviews with local stakeholders' representatives and public authorities

**FSC Principle 5: Benefits from the forest**

Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.

**FSC Criterion 5.1**

Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.

**Indicators**

5.1.1 If comparable profits can be achieved, the owner\* shall choose environmentally and socially friendlier technologies and methods.

5.1.2 The budget of the owner\* shall include costs for all significant activities and necessary investments (including the cost of meeting all social and environmental commitments) identified or implied in the forest management plan and associated policies and planning documentation.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation – financial plan (budgets, annual accounting statements)  
5.1.5 If the budget shows a deficit for the year, the forest manager shall demonstrate how the shortfall will be covered whilst ensuring that the management plan is implemented in the long term.

**FSC Criterion 5.2**

Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.

**Indicators**

5.2.1: With respect to local and regional economic needs, the owner\* shall produce and place on the market a wide range of high quality forest products.

**Verifiers:** interviews with management\*, review of documentation

**FSC Criterion 5.3**

**Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and onsite processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.**

**Indicators**

5.3.1 The owner\* shall choose such methods of tree harvesting and transportation that lead to the elimination of loss and damage of timber.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interviews

5.3.2 The owner\* shall choose technologies and methods of tree harvesting and transportation that prevent damage to advanced growths, surrounding stands, and other forest resources\*.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interview with workers\*

5.3.3 Following the harvesting, all damage shall be monitored and measures to prevent its recurrence shall be employed.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

5.3.4 These measures (5.3.3) shall be considered when planning forest operations and included in agreements with contractors.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

5.3.5 For oiling chainsaws used in the forest only biodegradable oils shall be used, machinery shall use only biodegradable hydraulic liquids.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with employees\*

**FSC Criterion 5.4**

Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product

**Indicators**

5.4.1 The owner\* shall communicate with regional enterprises and small processing enterprises about their specific needs (small or specific orders).

**Verifiers:** interviews with management\* (possibly with local partners or stakeholders\*)

5.4.2: The owner\* shall have information on the range of potential products and services that could be supplied from their FMU; including 'lesser known' timber species, Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) and opportunities for forest recreation.

**Verifiers:** interviews with management\* (possibly with local partners or stakeholders\*)

**FSC Criterion 5.5**

Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.

**Indicators**

5.5.1 On the basis of the available information and following consultation with the public, and according to the scale and intensity of forest management, the owner\* shall identify all- society functions of the forest.

**Verifiers:** interviews with management\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*, review of documentation of consultations and management planning

5.5.2 The identification of all-society functions of specific vegetation shall be considered when developing forest management planning.

**Verifiers:** interviews with management\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*, review of documentation of consultations and management planning

5.5.3 When managing forest and building barriers in a stream, the owner\* shall create conditions for functional and ecologically-balanced runoff conditions in the drainage area.

**Verifiers:** interviews, field inspection

5.5.4 Systematic drainage shall not be done on the FMU, and existing drainage shall not be maintained. Only temporary drainage of disaster areas is permissible, to enable forest regeneration.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interview

5.5.5 Any aesthetically noteworthy natural objects and structures shall be preserved by the owner\* when carrying out any forest operations, even when these are not designated as natural monuments.

**Verifiers:** interviews with forest manager, field inspection

5.5.6 The owner\* shall not consent to organise mass gatherings when there is a well-founded assumption that these could damage the forest ecosystem.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews

5.5.7 Game population shall permit the natural regeneration of appropriate tree species stands.

**Verifiers:** field inspections, interviews, review of documentation

5.5.8 Should there be apparent damage from game, the owner\*, employing all existing legal measures, must strive to reduce game populations.

**Verifiers:** field inspections, review of documentation

5.5.9 The influence of game populations on the forest and its economic impact shall be evaluated at least annually.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

5.5.10 If damage is identified, then the outcome of the evaluation shall justify the steps taken to reduce game populations and claims for compensation.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

#### **FSC Criterion 5.6**

**The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.**

#### **Indicators**

5.6.1 The volume of harvesting and its composition shall be such that there is no long-term reduction of forest resources\* and other forest functions.

**Verifiers :** management planning

5.6.2 No negative impact of the collection of non-timber forest products on forest ecosystems is identified.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

5.6.3 Should any apparent negative impact be identified, the owner\* takes measures to eliminate it.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

#### **FSC Principle 6: Environmental Impact**

Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.

#### **FSC Criterion 6.1**

Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed -- appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources -- and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations.

## **Indicators**

6.1.1 Prior to the commencement of site-disturbing operations, the owner\* shall evaluate their potential impact on the environment, affected resources and landscape.

**Verifiers:** inspection of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.1.2 Should there be any doubt regarding the degree of impact of the intended operations, or if any doubts are put forward by local residents or stakeholders\*, a survey by expert, appropriate to the scale of the operations, shall be carried out.

**Verifiers:** inspection of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.1.3 L Prior to the commencement of forest operations, the Organization\* of a forest area of over 500 ha or a responsible person takes into account and adjusts for- according to the scale and intensity of these interventions - their environmental impact, particularly the impact on High Conservations Values plant and animal species\*, endangered ecosystems (biotopes), and on the water regime

**Verifiers:** inspection of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.1.4 The owner\* of a forest area up to 500 or responsible person shall prove to have knowledge of impacts of their forest management on the environment.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews

6.1.5 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha designates a person or a group of persons are responsible for compliance with indicators 6.1.1., 6.1.2 a 6.1.3 and are responsible for carrying out and controlling of the suggested measures.

**Verifiers:** interviews, possibly review of documentation

6.1.6 When the management plan\* is being developed, the environmental impact of suggested measures shall also be considered at landscape level.

**Verifiers:** forest management plan\*, interviews

6.1.7 The rationale of suggested measures is incorporated into the management plan\*.

**Verifiers:** forest management plan\*, interviews

6.1.8 The enterprise shall complete and document an assessment of the environmental impacts of any processing facilities within the FMU under assessment.

## **FSC Criterion 6.2**

Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.

## Indicators

6.2.1 Forest management operations shall respect the habitats of highly-protected and endangered plant and animal species\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, filed inspection, interviews

6.2.2 In these areas (6.2.1), forest management operations shall be carried out only to an extent and in such a way as to ensure the maintenance or enhancement of populations and habitats of given species.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, filed inspection, interviews

6.2.3 Natural forest-free areas\* of forest land shall be left in their natural condition (in particular, these areas are not afforested).

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation

6.2.4 Wetlands, spring areas, pools, watercourses and bodies of water shall be given attention leading to the maintenance and enhancement of their biodiversity and regeneration of their functions in the future.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.2.5 Trees with cavities (den trees) shall be left to age and decay naturally.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation

6.2.6 The owner\* shall have records on rare, threatened and endangered plant and animal species at his/her disposal.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.2.7 The owner\* does not hunt or tolerate the hunting of highly-protected animal species\*, poaching, inappropriate hunting, fishing, or gathering.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspection

6.2.8 Conservation zones are selected to maximise their contribution to the conservation of biodiversity relative to their size (for example through the creation of conservation corridors, protected wetland areas and consolidation of natural areas). The size and location of conservation zones shall be sufficient overall for self-sustaining populations of rare, threatened or endangered species as listed, to protect existing examples of ecosystems in their natural state (see Criterion 6.4) and are not less than 10% of the area of the FMU under assessment.

**Note:** conservation zones are not necessarily forested land. They may include wetlands and open space, and may have multiple purposes (e.g. they may be located partly on slopes susceptible to erosion, or in order to protect water sources). However, in all cases, the overall selection must be justified to optimize the conservation of biodiversity across the given FMU. It includes especially protected areas, ÚSES (Territorial System of Ecological Stability), reference site according to the 6.4 criterion, HCV 1-4 according to 9.1 criterion and

possibly other areas in accordance with the mentioned characteristics.

### **FSC Criterion 6.3**

Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:

- a) Forest regeneration and succession.
- b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity.
- c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.

### **Indicators**

#### **A. Forest regeneration and succession.**

6.3.1. Forest management strives for close-to-nature forest areas with site appropriate species composition, and age structure and spatial layout close to the dynamics and structure of local natural forest communities.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspections

6.3.2: The natural regeneration of forest stands of site and regionally appropriate tree species\* shall be given priority and conditions for this regeneration are developed.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation (management plan\*)

6.3.3 In pursuit of forest regeneration, small area\* regeneration components shall be given priority.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation (management plan\*, plan of regeneration)

6.3.4 In cases where clearings are created by salvage felling, the occurring naturally seeding tree species shall be used as a preliminary (protective) stand.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.5 Shelter wood and selection system, or possibly a system using selection methods, is given priority.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspection

6.3.6 The mechanical cultivation of soil shall be permitted solely in well documented and substantiated cases. Even then it shall be carried out only in small areas\* and without the overall removal of top soil horizons. In exceptional cases when the afforestation would otherwise be impossible, large scale mechanical cultivation is allowed in maximum 50 cm wide strips and uncultivated strips at least 70 cm wide

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*, field inspection

6.3.7 The *forest manger*\* shall avoid using clear-cuttings\*. In substantiated cases clear-cuttings\* are permissible up to one half of deliberate principle felling according to the forest management plan. In such cases, the maximum average area of the clear-cuttings\* shall be 0.3 ha and the maximum area of a single clear-cutting shall be 0.9 ha.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*, field inspection

**B. Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity.**

6.3.8 In every regenerated stand it is necessary to employ - with respect to the specific conditions of a given site - a minimum proportion of ecologically stabilizing tree species\* (EsD) according to the table in annex F.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation

6.3.9 The owner increases the proportion of EsD when tending or renewing the forest stand with the goal to achieve at least the minimum target proportion of EsD as defined in the annex F.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation

6.3.10 If, for operational or economic reasons, the owner\* cannot meet the requirements of annex 6, he/she shall present a schedule ensuring the requirements shall have been met before the validity of the certificate expires, and shall gradually fulfil the schedule in respective years.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation

6.3.11 When renewing or tending the forest, the owner shall not decrease the existing proportion of EsD below the minimum target proportion as defined in annex F.

6.3.12 In stands established before the effective certification date, the percentage of EsD shall be increased through tending, or beating up, if their character (especially their age, closeness, species composition) enables the employment of such an approach.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation (management plan\*)

6.3.13 On afforestation sites, clump\* or group\* mixture shall be preferred to integral wide-ranging blocks of EsD.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.14 Forest margins bordering non-forestland are regenerated predominantly through individual selection; deciduous tree species and shrubby ecotones enhancing stability of the stand and the ecotone effect are promoted. It does not apply to unstable margins, e.g. spruce growths.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.15 Larch (*Larix decidua*) can be cultivated solely in individual or group distribution not exceeding 30% of the forest group.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review documentation (management plan\*)

6.3.16 Interventions into riparian stands\* shall be carried out only as necessary resulting from the duties of the river administrator.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.17 In alluvial plains of permanent watercourses\* and ponds\* no clear cuttings shall be carried out in associated vegetation within a distance equal to its height.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

**C. Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.**

6.3.18 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall work out a directive for the identification and leaving of fractures, snags, wind throws, lying trunks, trees with cavities, and selected full-grown trees to age and decay in maturity-approaching and mature stands\*, and shall adhere to this directive. The volume of the wood left to decay is at least 5 trees from the maturity-approaching and mature storey per hectare in a sub compartment

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.19 The owner\* of a forest area up to 500 ha shall leave fractures, snags, wind throws, lying trunks, trees with cavities, and selected full-grown trees to age and decay in maturity-approaching and mature stands\*. The volume of the wood left in the future to decay is at least 5 trees from the maturity-approaching and mature storey per hectare in a sub compartment.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.20 When the trees left are not in compliance with health and safety regulations and forest preservation, the forest manager\* shall select alternate trees immediately fulfilling in a similar way the ecological functions of the removed trees.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.3.21 The burning of felling debris shall not be allowed. The exceptional utilization of this method is possible in cases of the disastrous occurrence of pests living under the bark.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspection, interviews

6.3.22 Slash and falling debris shall be left on site or piled. Mechanical treatment of slash and falling debris is permissible only in justified cases.

6.3.23 Slash and falling debris disposal is permissible only within forest type groups (SLT) listed in appendix H. Validity of contracts on debris disposal concluded before signing of the contract about certification by an accredited certification body is not affected with this provision.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.3.24 Utilization of stumps shall not be allowed.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with workers

6.3.25 Disposal of assimilative organs is permissible only in justified cases.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.3.26 The owner\* shall not employ the tree felling method, the only exception applies to clearing due to salvage felling.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with workers\*

**FSC Criterion 6.4**

Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.

**Indicators**

6.4.1 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 1,000 ha shall define at least 2 % of the forest as reference sites\*. In case of state or municipal forest owners, these sites shall increase to 3% of the FMU within 5 years and to 5% of the FMU within 10 years.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.4.2 Larger areas shall be preferred for definition as reference sites\*.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.4.3 Reference sites shall be represented on maps and if possible demarcated in the field as well.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interview with workers\*

6.4.4 Reference sites\* shall be monitored at least once a decade, and the owner\* utilizes the results of the monitoring in the introduction of new procedures for forest management.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interview with workers\*

6.4.5 The reference sites\* shall be permanently removed from intensive forest use and serve as examples of forest ecosystems with natural dynamics of development. Only interventions leading to the enhancement of the natural state are carried out.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation, interview with workers\*

6.4.6 Stands or their parts in natural condition that are included in reference sites\* shall be kept up in a non-intervention management.

**Verifiers:** fields inspection, review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.4.7 The owner\* of a forest area up to 500 ha shall record in map specially protected areas, ÚSES (*Territorial System of Ecological Stability*), proposed Sites of Community Importance and Special Protection Areas, natural forest-free area, protective forests located within a forest property.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

6.4.8 The Owner\* of a forest area up to 500 ha manages the areas listed under 6.4.7 in compliance with relevant expert and strategic document on management of natural conditions development in a given territory, if such a document exists.

**Verifiers:** fields inspection, review of documentation

### **FSC Criterion 6.5**

Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.

#### **Indicators**

6.5.1 The owner\* shall prepare a guideline, which includes provisions mentioned in Appendix G, to control erosion, minimize vegetation damage during harvesting, transportation of wood, construction of roads, and to control other mechanical disruptions of the soil and to conserve water resources, or shall use this Appendix as the guideline.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

6.5.2: The provisions of the guideline shall be respected and utilized when formulating the management plan and when executing forest operations.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, filed inspections

### **FSC Criterion 6.6**

Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimize health and environmental risks.

#### **Indicators**

6.6.1 Chemical biocides\* shall not be employed. The utilization of herbicides for pest control is only permissible in exceptional cases when ordered by national authorities.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.6.2 Exceptions are also granted in cases when the owner\* substantiates the claim that the relief cannot be achieved through alternate methods (particularly in the case of the necessary elimination of invasive species). Such cases must be documented by the owner\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews, field inspection

6.6.3 Non-degradable biocides\* shall not be used, especially World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B biocides\*, substances mentioned in FSC policy on chemical pesticides, chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides, pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreements.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

6.6.4 Fertilization of timber land to increase yield shall not be applied.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.6.5. The owner\* shall keep records of synthetic chemicals applications. Verifiers: review of documentation (documentation of chemicals utilization)

6.6.6. The records must include at least the name of the product, the location of its application, the extent of the treated area, the application method, the date of commencement and finalization of the application, the total amount of the chemical utilized, and the rationale for the utilization of the synthetic chemical.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation (documentation of chemicals utilization)

6.6.7 When biocides\* are utilized, the owner\* shall provide training for workers\* to eliminate health and environmental risks. The owner\* shall keep training records.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.6.8 The owner\* shall keep training records of biocides use.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

6.6.9 Liming shall not be permitted.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\* and interested groups\*, possibly field inspection

6.6.10 The enterprise shall have an up to date copy of FSC's list of „highly hazardous“ pesticides. In case the owner\* is for operational reasons forced to use any of the banned agents (as the agent has no alternative) he/she shall apply for „derogation“ for the use of pesticides within this category in accordance with the current FSC Pesticides policy and obtain a temporary derogation. Only then can he/she use the pesticides.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with workers\*

#### **FSC Criterion 6.7**

Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.

#### **Indicators**

6.7.1 Chemicals, containers, fluid and solid non-organic wastes shall be chosen and handled in a manner to prevent possible damage to the environment.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.7.2 Chemicals, containers, fluid and solid non-organic wastes shall be carried out in an environmentally considerate manner on sites designated for this purpose, outside the forest.

**Verifiers:** field inspection

6.7.3 Dumping grounds shall not be established and tolerated in the forest.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, possibly review of contracts with suppliers of work and provided services, interviews with workers\*

6.7.4 Wastes (except for biomass) associated with forest operations (e. g. wrappings) shall be carried away from the forest on the acceptance of the work at the latest.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, possibly review of contracts with suppliers of work and provided services, interviews with workers\*

6.7.5 In compliance with legal regulations, the owner\* shall keep documentation of waste.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation of wastes, possibly review of contract with suppliers of work and provided services

6.7.6 : If forest operations are carried out on contract, the contract shall unequivocally specify the responsibility for keeping records of waste

**Verifiers:** review of documentation of wastes, possibly review of contract with suppliers of work and provided services

### **FSC Criterion 6.8**

Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.

#### **Indicators**

6.8.1 Neither genetically modified organisms, nor products made of such organisms shall be used.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, statement of the forest manager

6.8.2 If biological control\* agents are employed to regulate forest weed or pests, the owner\* or supplier of works shall conform to all applicable laws and regulations as well as internationally accepted protocols. The owner\* consistently and regularly controls and documents the employment of such agents and monitors their impact on the ecosystem.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interview with workers\*, possibly field inspection

6.8.3 The employment of exotic\* (non-autochthonous) biological control\* agents shall not be permitted.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

### **FSC Criterion 6.9**

The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.

#### **Indicators**

6.9.1 The owner\* shall control and monitor the incidence of exotic\* plant and animal species to avoid adverse ecological impacts.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with workers\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*

6.9.2 Species which behave invasively in the environment shall be gradually eliminated from

the stands.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with workers\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*

6.9.3 When restocking stands, it is permissible to plant exotic\* tree species to a maximum proportion of 5 %. The evaluation concerns the whole property and the whole term of the FMP.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation (management plan\*)

6.9.4 Continuous area in the sub compartment shall not be larger than 0,05 ha for a single exotic\* tree species.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, review of documentation (management plan\*)

6.9.5: The natural regeneration of exotic\* tree species is tolerable when its proportion does not exceed 10 %. The evaluation concerns the whole property and the whole term of the FMP.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interview with workers\* and representatives of local stakeholders\*

6.9.6 The Owner\* shall not use species that that can behave invasively in given environment.

**Verifiers:** field inspections

#### **FSC Criterion 6.10**

Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:

- a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and
- b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and
- c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.

#### **Indicators**

##### **A. entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit**

6.10.1 The Owner\* shall keep a record of all areas that are scheduled for conversion from natural or semi-natural forests to plantations or non-forest use.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

6.10.2 The owner\* may approve the temporary or permanent claim of forest land only if it is in the public interest associated with public constructions, and if this resolution is well substantiated as the most appropriate alternative, as far as environmental impacts are concerned.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders

6.10.3. Claim of forest land shall not affect more than 0.5% of the total area of the Management Unit in the current or any future year and does not result in a cumulative total

area converted in excess of 5% of the Management Unit.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspections

**B. does not occur on high conservation value forest areas**

6.10.4 Forest conversion to non-forest land shall not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders

**C. will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.**

6.10.5 The owner\* may approve the temporary or permanent claim of forest land when it will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

**FSC Principle 7: A management plan**

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

**FSC Criterion 7.1**

The management plan and supporting documents shall provide:

- a. Management objectives.
- b. Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands.
- c. Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.
- d. Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.
- e. Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.
- f. Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.
- g. Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.
- h. Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership.
- i. Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.

## **Indicators**

### **A. Management objectives.**

7.1.1 The management plan\* shall define management objectives including long-term objectives the fulfilment of which goes beyond the validity of the management plan\*.

**Verifiers:** review of the forest management general section

### **B. Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions and a profile of adjacent lands.**

7.1.2 The management plan\* shall include a description of natural conditions, and forest resources\* in the possession of the owner\*.

**Verifiers:** review of management plan and other documentation (e. g. OPRL – Regional Plan of Forest Development)

7.1.3 Land register documents that serve as a means of identification of forest property shall be included in the management plan\*.

**Verifiers:** review of management plan and other documentation

### **C. Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.**

7.1.4. The owner\* of a forest area of over 50 ha incorporates an ecologically substantiated description of management system.

**Verifiers:** management regulations, OPRL (Local Plan of Forest Development), data in the general section of the FMP, attitude of national authorities

7.1.5. The owner\* of a forest area up to 50 ha shall be able to describe the employed management system from perspective of the forest ecology.

**Verifiers:** interview

### **D. Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.**

7.1.6 The owners\* of a forest area of over 50 ha shall incorporate information on the definite maximum volume of harvested timber and on the extent of tending into the management plan\*.

**Verifiers:** review of management plan\*

7.1.7 The owners\* of a forest area of over 50 ha shall incorporate information on medium-term management provisions that are based on the identified conditions of forest ecosystems.

**Verifiers:** review of the management plan

### **E. Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.**

7.1.8 The management plan\* of the owners\* of forest areas over 50 ha shall be based on regularly identified data on forest conditions.

**Verifiers:** general section of the FMP, information from interested parties

**F. Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.**

7.1.9 The owner\* of a forest area of over 50 ha shall respect the statements of environment conservation bodies and other participants in the primary examination of the conception of the management plan\*.

**Verifiers:** documentation of development of the FMP

7.1.10 When developing the FMP, the owner\* shall respect justified requirements of other affected stakeholders

**Verifiers:** documentation of development of the FMP

7.1.11 When using the FMP, the Owner fulfils the requirements that it implies.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

**G. Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.**

7.1.12 When monitoring and identifying the stands of highly-protected and endangered plant and animal species\*, the owner\* shall co-operate with expert bodies, environment conservation bodies, and stakeholders\*.

**Verifiers:** interviews with representatives of local stakeholders\* and national authorities

**H. Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership.**

7.1.13 The owner\* shall provide stand and profile maps for the period of the management plan\* applicability. The owner\* shall prepares the map of intended management interventions proportionately to the extent of the works and with regard to the annual harvest plan and silvicultural operations.

**Verifiers:** review of maps

7.1.14 The owner\* of forest land of over 50 ha shall provide an ecological map showing the location of high conservation value areas and their protective zones, designated natural monuments, reference sites, elements of the territorial system of ecological stability, forests with a high conservation value, and other ecologically vulnerable localities, such as bodies of water, wetlands, spring areas, outcrops, and slide rocks.

**Verifiers:** review of maps

**I. Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.**

7.1.15 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall specify harvesting technologies and techniques of skidding.

**Verifiers:** management guidelines

### **FSC Criterion 7.2**

The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.

#### **Indicators**

7.2.1 L During the periodical redevelopment (every ten years) of the management plan\* of owners of a forest area of over 500 ha the following information will be utilized and taken into account:

- a) The results of forest condition assessment, monitoring of reference sites, and monitoring of highly-protected or endangered plant and animal species.
- b) New technical and scientific information, land planning documentation documents of land use planning.
- c) Up-to-date information on social and economic circumstances acquired through consultation and through the process of public consultations (see indicators 4.4, 9.2.3).

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews.

7.2.2 During the periodical redevelopment (every ten years) of the management plan\* of owners of a forest area of under 500 ha the following information will be utilized and taken into account:

- a) The results of forest condition assessment, and monitoring of highly-protected or endangered plant and animal species.
- b) land planning documentation documents of land use planning.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

### **FSC Criterion 7.3**

Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.

#### **Indicators**

7.3.1 The workers\* shall receive training to ensure the proper implementation of intended management measures.

**Verifiers:** review of the training records, interviews with the workers\*

7.3.2 A person shall always be designated responsible for the supervision of the conformance to the management measures, and the monitoring of operations.

**Verifiers:** interviews with workers\*

7.3.3 The owner\* shall strive to achieve high quality performance of the employees through the utilization of a system of corrective and preventive measures.

**Verifiers:** interviews with employees\*, review of documentation (agreements)

#### **FSC Criterion 7.4**

While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.

#### **Indicators**

7.4.1 The management plan\* for forest in public ownership shall be available to the public. For other forest areas over 50 ha, a summary of the management plan\*, including requirements listed in criterion 7.1 A-1, is made publicly available.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders\*

7.4.2 The owner\* of forest area over 50 ha shall allow all known local stakeholders to participate in the revision of the management plan\*, if they explicitly show their interest participating in this process.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

#### **FSC Principle 8: Monitoring and Assessment**

Monitoring shall be conducted -- appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management -- to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.

#### **FSC Criterion 8.1**

The frequency and intensity of monitoring should be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.

#### **Indicators**

8.1.1 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall introduce a system of internal controls, whereby he/she regularly checks all aspects of forest management.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with management\*, as well as with forest workers

8.1.2 The owner\* of a forest area up to 500 ha shall introduce a system of controls appropriate to the size of the property, intensity of management, and silvicultural system.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with management\*, as well as with forest workers

8.1.3 The owner\* shall introduced a system that enables him to archive the results of the monitoring chronologically, and to keep them available for further utilization.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

## **FSC Criterion 8.2**

Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators:

- a) Yield of all forest products harvested.
- b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest.
- c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna.
- d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations.
- e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.

### **Indicators**

#### **A. Yield of all forest products harvested.**

8.2.1 The owner\* shall observe the forest management documentation to get information on yield of all forest products harvested.

**Verifiers:** review of forest management documentation

#### **B. Growth rates, regeneration, and condition of the forest**

8.2.2 The redevelopment of the management plan\* shall be based on the evaluation of regularly identified data on forest growth rates, regeneration and condition (in accordance with criterion 6.3, 7.1).

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, general section of the FMP

#### **C. Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna**

8.2.3 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall continuously monitors the impact of the management on the incidence of highly-protected plant and animal species (see 7.1 G).

**Verifiers:** interviews with the owner\*, review of documentation

8.2.4 The owner\* of a forest area up to 500 ha shall record occurrence of specially protected plant and animal species (see 7.1 G) for the purpose of identification of long-term trends in their occurrence.

**Verifiers:** interviews with the owner\*, review of documentation

8.2.5 The owner\* shall allow research institutes to conduct a non-destructive forest research.

**Verifiers:** interviews with research institutes

#### **D. Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations.**

8.2.6 For the purpose of monitoring social impact, the owner\* has knowledge at least of abodes and validity of employment agreements of the workers\* operating in the forest

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

8.2.7 The owner\* shall regularly meets representatives of stakeholders for collective negotiations on the social and environmental impact of the forest management.

**Verifiers:** the minutes of the meetings

8.2.8 In co-operation with local authorities and stakeholders, monitoring programmes shall focus on common problems (e.g. conservation of water resources) are prepared.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders

**E. Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.**

8.2.9 The owner\* shall keep accounts which provide an overview of the amount of the costs and incomes of the forest management. The owner\* has processed basic information on the economy of the enterprise.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation – accounting books or audit

**FSC Criterion 8.3**

Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the "chain of custody."

**Indicators**

8.3.1 The owner\* shall employ a functioning system to ensure that the certified products sold are clearly and unequivocally labelled.

**Verifiers:** interviews with workers\*, review of documentation and field inspection

8.3.2 The owner\* shall keep unequivocal and non-interchangeable documentation of products, which includes at least date, origin of the product, type of product, amount of products, tree species of the product, and the registration code of the valid FSC certificate.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation of products selling

8.3.3 As long as the certified forest products remain the property of the owner\*, they shall be clearly identified with non-interchangeable labels or logos or/and are stored separately from non-certified products.

**Verifiers:** interviews with workers\*, field inspection

8.3.4 The owner\* shall designate a person responsible for adherence to the requirements of the FSC Chain of Custody.

**Verifiers:** interviews with workers\*

**FSC Criterion 8.4**

**The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.**

**Indicators**

8.4.1 The owner\* of a forest, with a worked out FMP shall document the results of monitoring and check-ups and when developing a new management plan\* he utilizes them as one of the basic sources of documentation.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews, documentation of results of control operations

**FSC Criterion 8.5**

While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.

**Indicators**

8.5.1 The results of monitoring, especially when it is carried out in compliance with Criterion 8.2, are available to the public, e.g. as a part of publicly accessible summary of FMP, with the exception of confidential information (see also 7.1).

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders\*

**FSC Principle 9: Maintenance of high conservation value forests**

Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes, which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.

**FSC Criterion 9.1**

Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management.

**High conservation value forest (HCVF):** are forests that possess one or more of the following attributes:

HCV1. Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia).

HCV2. Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, where viable populations of most naturally occurring species exist.

HCV3. Forest areas containing rare or endangered ecosystems

HCV4. Forest areas that provide increased protective functions (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control)

HCV5. Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. suburban, recreational, curative, etc.)

HCV6. Forest areas with significant link to traditional cultural identity of local communities.

**Indicators**

9.1.1 The owner\* of a forest area up to 500 ha Shall identify characteristic attributes of high conservation value forests\* and selects all significant growths with these attributes.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspection

9.1.2 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall identify characteristic attributes of high conservation value forests\*, selects all significant growths with these attributes and has got a list of them that includes respective high conservation values.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

**FSC Criterion 9.2**

The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.

**Indicators**

9.2.1 L The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall make the document mentioned under 9.1.2 public.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

9.2.2 The owner\* shall consult on the list of identified characteristic attributes and the list of significant growths with a high conservation value with representatives of local stakeholders and other partners.

**Verifiers:** interviews with representatives of local stakeholders, review of documentation

9.2.3 The owner\* shall document all remarks resulting from discussion with stakeholders and other partners. Also, it must be clear whether these remarks influenced the inclusion of the stands among forests with a high conservation value\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews

**FSC Criterion 9.3**

The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.

**Indicators**

9.3.1 In forests with a high conservation value\* only management measures maintaining or enhancing the applicable characteristic conservation attributes of these forests may be carried out.

**Verifiers:** filed inspection (management plan\*)

9.3.2. These management measures shall be incorporated in the management plan\* on the basis of conservation attributes.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, interviews with representatives of local stakeholders\*

9.3.3. Management measures in forests with a high conservation value\* shall respect the precautionary approach in order to maintain the characteristic conservation attributes of these forests.

**Verifiers:** field inspection, interviews with management\*

**FSC Criterion 9.4**

Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.

**Indicators**

**9.4.1 L** The owner\* of a forest area of over 500 ha shall have developed and utilized programmes for the annual monitoring of the condition of forest with a high conservation value\*, including assessment of the effectiveness of the measures employed in these forests.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

**FSC Principle 10: Plantations**

Plantations shall be planned and managed in accordance with Principles and Criteria 1 - 9 and Principle 10 and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.

**Notes:**

Planted even-aged monocultures are not the goal of the close-to-nature forest management in the Czech Republic. Their environmental impact is often negative. The existing planted even-aged monocultures are managed considerably in compliance with Principle 6.

According to the Czech FSC Standard, plantations and their management is limited on production of Christmas trees and ornamental branches/twigs. Tree nursery, seed orchards and other areas providing material for forest renewal are not deemed plantations, but forest management supporting areas.

According to the international FSC requirements, relevant indicators shall be created for each criterion.

10.1.1 Plantations can be managed only off the forest areas for production of Christmas trees and other products.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspections

10.1.2 Management targets in plantations of Christmas trees and other products are added into the Forest Management Plan\*.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation

**FSC Criterion 10.2**

The design and layout of plantations should promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests, and not increase pressures on natural forests. Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The

scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape.

10.2.1 L Christmas tree plantations in a forest are over 500 ha shall not exceed 5% of the overall managed areas. The size of a single area of Christmas trees shall not exceed 5 ha.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspections

10.2.2 Christmas trees plantations in a forest area up to 500 ha shall not exceed 30% of the overall managed area. The size of a single area shall not exceed 5 ha.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspections

### **FSC Criterion 10.3**

Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.

10.3.1 Christmas trees plantations and plantations managed for other products are ideally composed of several species mixture.

**Verifiers:** field inspections

10.3.2 If more areas are considered suitable for establishing plantations, the owner\* shall choose those with the least impact on the landscape character.

**Verifiers:** field inspections

### **FSC Criterion 10.4**

The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity, native species are preferred over exotic species in the establishment of plantations and the restoration of degraded ecosystems. Exotic species, which shall be used only when their performance is greater than that of native species, shall be carefully monitored to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts.

10.4.1 Species meeting the requirement on the natural species composition shall be given preference to exotic \* species.

10.4.2 Christmas trees plantations and plantations managed for other products shall be prevented from spreading into the surrounding stands.

**Verifiers:** field inspections

10.4.3 L The Owner\* of forest area over 500 ha shall monitor the exotic\* species to prevent adverse impact on surrounding forests ecosystem. The Owner\* shall prevent negative impacts through implementation of appropriate measures.

**Verifiers:** review of documentation, field inspection

<p>10.4.4 The Owner* of forest area of up to 500 ha shall prevent negative impacts of exotic* species through implementation of appropriate measures.</p> <p><b>Verifiers:</b> field inspection</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 10.5</b></p> <p>A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.</p>
<p>See 6.3.1, 10.2.1 and 10.2.2</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 10.6</b></p> <p>Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility, and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns.</p>
<p>See 6.5.1 and 6.5.2</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 10.7</b></p> <p>Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimize outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Plantation management should make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.</p>
<p>See indicators 6.6.1 to 6.6.IX</p>
<p><b>FSC Criterion 10.8</b></p> <p>Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts, (e.g. natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social well-being), in addition to those elements addressed in principles 8, 6 and 4. No species should be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or experience have shown that they are ecologically well-adapted to the site, are not invasive, and do not have significant negative ecological impacts on other ecosystems. Special attention will be paid to social issues of land acquisition for plantations, especially the protection of local rights of ownership, use or access.</p>
<p>See 10.4.2, 10.4.3 and 10.4.4.</p>

**FSC Criterion 10.9**

Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or indirectly of such conversion.

10.9.1 No Christmas tree plantations and plantations managed for other products shall not cover areas where there were close-to-nature\* forests before 1994. Exception is possible in case that:

There is clear evidence supported by social, environmental and economic stakeholders that the current owner\* was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion.

## **Terms and definitions**

(those which are crucial to the standard and are not defined in the FSC principles and criteria)

**Appropriate provenance:** growths with good genetic classification.

Associated stands of watercourses and ponds: a stand in floodplain of a watercourse directly connected to riparian stand.

**Biocides:** Collective name for chemical and organic compounds used in the control of harmful agents.

**Biological control:** deliberate use of living organisms, 'bioagents' (especially certain species of insect, mites, helminths, fungi, bacteria or viruses) intentionally employed in the elimination of forest weeds or pests. Biological agents according to the articulation of Lists of admissible preparations of forest protection. The organisms employed in biological control, so called bioagents, may become spontaneously spreading invasive species, or may be affecting non-target organisms for as long as they remain in the ecosystem. Therefore, only use of autochthonous bioagent species is allowed, and their usage must be monitored and their cohabitation with autochthonous species evaluated to prevent negative impacts on the ecosystem.

**Biological evaluation:** biological survey of affected territories, and written assessment of impacts of the intended interventions on plants and animals in compliance with §18 of Directive no. 395/1992 of the Coll., through which some provisions of the the law No. 114/1992 of the Coll. are applied.

**Certification body:** an organisation that conducts, control and certify in compliance with FSC Standards and is accredited by FSC A. C.

**Clear cutting:** a type of large area (see definition 'small scale') regeneration felling, when all trees are cut at once and the width of the cutting exceeds one half of the mean height of the stand.

**Clump mixture:** a spatial layout of tree species, where a continuous area consists of several trees of one species.

**Dispute resolution committee:** elected three-man commission of the FSC Czech Republic (FSC CR – civil association). Among other activities, it resolves complaints and disputes that emerge during the development and modification of Czech FSC Standards. The dispute resolution committee acts in compliance with the applicable Protocol on complaints and disputes resolution. Suggestions will be delivered to the Dispute Resolution Committee by the Office of the FSC ČR Civil Association, Kounicova 42, Brno 602 00, e-mail: info@czechfsc.cz.

**Ecologically stabilizing tree species:** All native and site-appropriate deciduous tree species and white fir (*Abies alba*) out of coniferous tree species. Species appropriate for individual sets of forest types are listed in Appendix F.

**Employees:** workers with valid employment contract with owner.

**Erosion rill:** rill in the topsoil as a result of erosive wash.

**Even-aged monocultures:** forest growths where due to forest operations (sowing, planting or other regeneration methods) only one tree species is represented (i.e. more than 90 %), despite bigger potential of the site, and that are structurally uniform due to lack of age differentiation.

**Expert assessment:** In accordance with legal provisions an expert assessment is considered to be: EIA documentation, biological evaluation, expert survey, statement of national authorities, assessment of qualified natural person or legal entity

**Floodplain forest management:** Management of site with in floodplain forest tree plants, especially oak on sites (SLT) of management set 19 (hardwood floodplain) and 29 (alder stands)

**Forest stand:** forest stand is a basic unit of forest spatial division that can be identified in field and represented in forest map (Act No. 289/1995 of the Coll. on forests, § 2).

**Forest growth margins:** a forest strip two or three rows of trees wide along the border, outside the stand area.

**Forest manager:** a person who owns, manages, or has the exclusive right to manage a forest property that is subject to FSC certification.

**Forest resources:** all benefits of forest, timber and non-timber products of forest.

**Group mixture:** a spatial layout of tree species, where continuous area of trees of one species does not exceed 0,1 ha.

**High conservation value forest (HCVF):** are those forests that possess one or more of the following attributes:

HCV1. Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia).

HCV2. Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.

HCV3. Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems

HCV4. Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control)

HCV5. Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health)

HCV6. Forest areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities)

**Highly protected and endangered species:** highly protected and endangered plant and animal species under the Nature and Landscape Conservation Law that are specified in the directives on the implementation of this law (see Appendix E). The term 'endangered species' relates to: internationally protected animal and plant species mentioned in international conventions, on the national level red-listed animal and tree species or, on the regional level, species mentioned in local lists of endangered species, or species justifiably specified as such after consultations with stakeholders, national nature conservation authorities or the Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic.

**Exotic species:** exotic species, which are not autochthonous in the Czech Republic. The owner should avoid continuous planting and exotic tree plants should be employed only as a single admixture. Larch (*Larix decidua*) is not considered an exotic tree plant here.

**Level of landscape:** in an agricultural landscape, any forest area is of fundamental functional significance. Assessing the impact of suggested measures at the landscape level can be carried out only in the case of operations the impact of which is supposed to be extensive. Forest planning is also supposed to be such an operation according to the national legislation (formulation of FMP) and fulfilling this indicator can take place at the same level as demanded by effective legislation (Act No. 114/1992 of the Coll. on nature conservation and landscape protection, as amended by later regulations).

**Management plan:** forest management plan (FMP) and forest management guidelines (FMG).

**Mature and maturity approaching stands:** stands older than 80% of rotation age, and forests of rich structure.

**Monitoring:** monitoring is repetitive surveillance. In practice, it is regular surveillance of wildy growing plants and the incidence of feral animals, the populations of which are supposed to be affected by management measures. The forest manager shall make sure the methodology of the surveys is compatible, so that the outcomes of the surveys would be comparable.

In compliance with the wording of individual criteria and indicators it is also understood as a means of evaluating results or changes. The results of the monitoring show the effect of management interventions. The results of national authorities' surveys may be utilised, as well as studies of some stakeholders.

**Natural composition of species:** species composition quantitatively and qualitatively corresponding to the natural condition of the site.

**Natural forest (forest in natural condition):** forest communities of age, species and spatial structure and dynamics not influenced by human activities (formed and developing without human intervention) and corresponding to the site conditions.

**Natural forest-free areas:** forest-free areas due to specific habitats, e. g. wetlands, peat bogs, rock outcrops, societies of grasses and herbs. In case it is necessary, the owner may obtain exception from national authorities allowing him to leave the forest-free areas in their natural condition.

**Natural regeneration:** formation of a new growth of tree species via natural processes (natural seeding, regeneration). Artificial regeneration (planting of seedlings, sowing) is employed:

- in transformation of monocultures
- in increasing of natural species diversity (especially through introducing of site appropriate ecostabilizing tree species – EsD)
- in underplanting and undersowing
- afforestation of clearings due to salvage felling
- afforestation of non-forest lands
- improving and topping up the regeneration.

Artificial regeneration as mentioned above fulfils all desirable aims of regeneration, which cannot be accomplished through natural regeneration.

**Near-natural forest:** a forest whose tree species composition mostly corresponds to habitat conditions, while in comparison with natural forest its spatial structure is more modest. The development of these habitats has been influenced by human activities, or they have been intentionally produced.

**Non-destructive survey:** this kind of survey does not lead to global liquidation of soil cover and vegetation, to utilisation of biocidal substances and other forms of unethical treatment of biological species. Should such a survey be part of planned management measures, it can be permitted.

**Owner:** A forest owner or a forest management body authorized by the owner, or, in the case of a forest owner of an area exceeding 10.000 ha an administrative body managing a single forest management unit.

**Pinewood forest management:** forest management in stands with predominance of Scotch pine on sites (SLT) of management sets 13 (natural pinewood) and 23, 27 and 39 (secondary pinewood).

**Plantation:** planting of appropriate species, sorts or race of trees serving for industrial (agrocultural) production of special forest products (assortment of wood) on a site which, due to its natural production potential or its artificial maintenance at a high level, can provide

peak yield of appropriate volume and quality in a short time, as the rotation period of forest plantations is relatively short.

**Predominant tree species:** a tree species representation higher than 30% in a given stand.

**Preparatory growth:** a growth of a pioneer species (especially birch, rowan, common alder, grey alder, aspen, European larch) that reached such a degree of ecological effect that it markedly changed the nature of the herb layer and the closeness of its treetops reached at least 70%. The utilisation of natural succession processes on clearings due to salvage felling serves to create appropriate conditions for climax tree species and supports the genetically more suitable part of their populations. In case it is necessary, required exceptions may be obtained from national authorities. The artificial introduction of preparatory tree species is required.

**Reference sites:** representative samples of landscape ecosystems – growths or their parts whose species composition and spatial and age structure correspond to or come close to natural condition.

Existing special protected areas, territorial system of ecological stability, high conservation value forests (according to Principle 9), demarcated natural biotopes of Natura 2000, hard to reach localities, protected forests and the like, are preferentially introduced among reference sites. The reference sites serve as examples of forest ecosystems with natural dynamics of development. Therefore, it is appropriate to try to change their classification from 'production forests' to 'special purpose forests'. The area of individual reference sites must be as large as possible, so that desirable natural processes can be in progress. It is preferable to demarcate a larger continuous area of not fully optimal parameters instead of several small areas, even though they may be in better condition. Demarcation of the reference site in the field is not necessary, but it is convenient. It is convenient to associate the monitoring of reference sites with the renewal of FMP. However, it is necessary to extend it also on non-mesurational variables. Reference sites must be permanently removed from intensive forest use. Conceivable management interventions within the area of the demarcated reference sites shall lead only to the attainment of natural conditions of the forest ecosystem. Therefore, these interventions must lead to the renewal of potential species composition and approach to natural forest structure. Growths whose species composition and structure are similar to presumed natural condition are kept in non-intervention management. Any intervention in these growths is possible only within the bounds of legal measures for pest control.

**Riparian stands:** stands of tree species directly bordering a watercourse or a pond (usually covers one to two rows of trees – depending on slope of the banks).

**Shelterwood and selection management system:** forest management without clear cutting in the area of the renewal element. The choice of the management system shall be made with respect to the condition of the present growths and the condition of the ecosystem. If conditions are appropriate, group selection should also not be omitted. The selection management system is perceived as a condition. At present, there is no example in CR of larger forest areas in this condition. The aim of selection methods is to achieve selection condition. However, the use of single elements of the selection management system is also perceived as convenient.

**Site appropriate tree species:** tree species of existing natural forest societies and tree species that show satisfactory increment on the sites where they are grown. They are also sufficiently immune to various noxious abiotic and biotic factors, and have no negative impact on the given site (see Appendix F).

**Small area:** with average dimension (length of the biggest dimension) not exceeding the mean growth height. Preference of small area renewal elements relates to the clear cutting management method. In the case of shelterwood or selection management method the expanse of the area is fully dependent on the owner's decision.

**Stakeholder/local stakeholder:** corporate bodies or individuals the interests of which are related in any way (especially due to geographical location, expertise or competences) with forest property. This refers to municipalities, local citizens and fellowships, neighbouring/affected owners, non-governmental organisations, etc.

**Trees left to age and decay:** establishing so-called "pools" of dying and dead trees left in the forest ecosystem should be the aim of the practice of leaving dead wood in growths. These "pools" can constitute a significant source of niches important for preservation of natural processes converting organic matter. It is at the owner's decision whether the timber of dead trees will be left in the growth standing (which is the more appropriate option), or in the form of trees cut down to fulfil the intended purpose. However, with existing den trees the protection of breeding places and endangered mammal species (e.g. *Miniapterinae*, dormice, or beasts) must be ensured. Lying wood should not be a major obstacle for carrying out any manipulations in the growths.

Trees left to decay are in principle trees of larger dimensions (large timber). Trees of potentially low value are preferred, e.g. fungous trees, hard to reach trees, fractures, snags, grown-up trees within the reference sites, deciduous trees, firs, trees in riparian stands and aesthetically noteworthy trees. Trunks in the final phase of decay, i.e. when losing the wood structure, are put out of the records and can be slightly preferred. Except for 5 trees for 1 ha, all matter designated to be left in the forest – felling remains, den trees, trees left for their aesthetic value, growth margins, trees from reference sites and other non-intervention management localities – is included in the prescribed amount of 30 m<sup>3</sup> for 1 ha.

The average number is calculated on the whole forest property area. The average of the 5 trees left in 1 ha is calculated on the area of sub compartment.

**Water course:** drainage channel that in the common course of the weather has a permanent stream of water

**Water reservoir:** permanent water area for Standards purposes, with natural banks and growths of site appropriate tree species.

**Workers:** employees (both men and women) in an occupational relationship with an owner, or with a company carrying out forest operations on the basis of a contract with the owner, tradesmen or contractual partners directly hired to carry out forest operations or any other persons carrying out forestry work in the owner's forest.

## **Annexes to a Forest Stewardship Standard**

### **Annex A – List of the national and local forest laws and administrative requirements in the Rep of Czech**

#### **Forest management acts and ordinances**

Act No. 289/1995 of the Coll. on forests and amending and changing some related laws, in wording of later directives

Act No. 114/1992 of the Coll. on nature conservation and landscape, in wording of later directives

Act No. 149/2003 Coll., on putting into circulation of reproduction material of forest tree species of species important for forestry and artificial crosses, intended for forest renewal and afforestation, and amending some related laws

Act No. 254/2001 of the Coll. – water act and amending some related laws, in wording of later directives

Act No. 100/2001 of the Coll. on environmental impact assessment and amending some related laws, in wording of later directives

Act No. 477/2001 of the Coll. on packaging and on amending of certain acts, in wording of later directives

Act No. 17/1992 of the Coll. on the environment, in wording of later directives

Act No. 123/1998 of the Coll. on the right for information on environment, in wording of later directives

Act No. 350/2011 on chemicals and chemical compounds and amending some related laws in wording of later directives.

Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. 77/1996 of the Coll. on terms of request of withdrawal or restriction and on details on conservation of property which was designated to fulfil forest functions

Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. 78/1996 of the Coll. on assignment of zones of forests endangered due to air pollution.

Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. 83/1996 of the Coll. on formulation of local plans on forest development and on definition of management sets of stands  
Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. 84/1996 of the Coll. which specifies details on forest conservation measures, and the design of badge and service card of forest guard

Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. 13/1994 of the Coll., which refines some detail on protection of agricultural land resources

Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. . 29/2004 of the Coll. on trade with wood plants reproduction material

Ordinance of the Department of Agriculture of CR No. 139/2004 of the Coll. setting details on transfer of seeds and seedlings of wood plants, on keeping records on reproduction material origin and details on forest stands renewal and on afforestation of areas declared as areas designated to fulfil the function of forest.

### **Acts and ordinances related to save working conditions and occupational safety**

Act No. 309/2006 of the Coll. on stipulating further requirements for health and safety at work in labour relations

Act No. 372/2011 of the Coll. on health services and conditions of their provision

Ordinance 79/2013 of the Coll. on specific healthy services The Labour Code - Act No. 262/2006 of the Coll.,.

Act No. 22/1997 of the Coll., on technical requirements on production.

Act No. 59/2006 of the Coll., on the prevention of serious accidents caused by selected dangerous chemical substances or chemical agents

Act No. 258/2000 of the Coll. on the protection of public health in valid legal regulation

Act No. 102/2001 of the Coll., on the general safety of products.

Act No. 201/2012 of the Coll., on the protection of the atmosphere.

Act No. 350/2011 of the Coll., on chemical substances and chemical agents and on modification of some acts.

Government Decree No. 290/1995 of the Coll., defining list of occupational diseases.

Government Decree No. 352/2000 of the Coll., changing several directives of ministries and other authorities.

Government Decree No. 272/2011 of the Coll., on protection from negative impacts of noise and vibrations.

Government Decree No. 1/2008 of the Coll., on the protection of health from non-ionizing radiation.

Government Decree No. 361/2007 of the Coll. setting the conditions for safety work.

Government Decree No. 378/2001 of the Coll., which sets detailed requirements for safe operation and use of machines, equipment, devices, and tools (effective date - 1.1.2003).

Government Decree No. 201/2010 of the Coll., on the method of evidencing and reporting injuries and filing an injury report. Government Decree No. 495/2001 of the Coll., setting the extent and detailed conditions on providing personal protective equipment and washing, cleaning, and disinfection substances.

Government Decree No. 28/2002 of the Coll., setting the method of work organization and the work procedures employed in forest or on other similar working sites that the employers are obligated to ensure.

Government Decree No. 27/2002 of the Coll., setting the method of work organization and the work procedures, that shall be employed in animal breeding, and that the employers are obligated to ensure.

Government Decree No. 11/2002 of the Coll., setting the appearance and placement of safety marks and introduction of signals.

Government Decree No. 168/2002 of the Coll., setting the method for work organisation and the work procedures associated with transportation, that the employers are obligated to ensure

Ordinance No. 48/1982 of the Coll. of the Czech Bureau of Work Safety (ČÚBP – Český úřad pro bezpečnost práce), setting the basic requirements to ensure work and equipment safety, in wording of subsequent regulations.

Ordinance No. 288/2003 of the Coll. of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic defining works/ working sites that pregnant women, nursing mothers, mothers within the first nine months of the post-partum period, and adolescents are not allowed to carry out/attend; it also sets exceptional conditions under which adolescents can carry out these works and/or attend these workplaces to help them to prepare for their future professions.

## **Annex B - List of the multilateral environmental agreements and ILO Conventions**

**CITES** – [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)

**ILO** – [www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm](http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm)

**ITTA** - [www.itta.com](http://www.itta.com)

**Convention on Biological Diversity** - [www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp](http://www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp)

### **List of ILO Conventions that have an impact on forestry operations and practices:**

29 Forced Labour Convention 1930.

87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Conventions, 1948

97 Migration for Employment (Revised) Convention, 1949.

98 Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949

100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951.

105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957

111 Discrimination (Occupation and Employment) Convention, 1958.

131 Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970.

138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973

141 Rural Workers' Organizations Convention, 1975

142 Human Resources Development Convention, 1975

143 Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention. 1975

155 Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981.

169 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989

182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999

ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work (ILO 1998)

Recommendation 135 Minimum Wage Fixing Recommendation, 1970

Conventions number 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138 and 182 are Core Standards covered by the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its follow-up. ILO member states are expected to promote and realize these principles, even if they have not ratified the Conventions. The ILO Code of Practice is not a legal instrument, but it provides authoritative guidance on forest work.

### **Annex C - Acts and regulations referring to ensuring workers' rights**

Labour Code – Act No. 262/2006 of the Coll. in wording of later directives

The Employment Act No. 435/2004 of the Coll., in wording of later regulations

The Collective Negotiations Act, No. 2/1991 of the Coll., in wording of later regulations

The Constitutional Act - The Declaration of Basic Rights and Freedoms, No. 23/1991 of the Coll., in wording of later regulations

The Act on Assembly, No. 83/1990 of the Coll., in wording of later regulations

Act No. 143/1992 of the Coll., on salaries and compensation for work readiness in budgetary organizations and some other organizations and bodies, in wording of later regulations

Act No. 198/2009 of Coll. on Equal Treatment and Legal Protection against Discrimination and amending some related laws (Anti-discrimination Act)

### **Annex D - International treaties and agreements relevant to nature conservation**

Achieving sustainable development through “The Rio Conventions” endorsed at UN conference on environment in Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992 (also called the Earth Summit)

- a) Convention on Biological Diversity (134/1999 of the Coll.)
- b) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- c) United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

The Ramsar Convention „*On wetlands of international importance primarily as waterfowl biotopes*“ (396/1990 of the Coll.).

The Bern Convention – „*Convention on European Wildlife and Natural Habitats conservation*“ (107/2001 of the Coll.).

The Bonn Convention – „*Convention on the Migratory Species of Wild Animals Conservation*“ (127/1994 of the Coll.).

“*The Convention on Biodiversity*“ CBD (134/1999 of the Coll.).

The Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES, 572/1992 of the Coll.)

The Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians  
(Carpathian Convention – 47/2006 of the Coll.)

### Law of European Communion (Legislation of the EU)

Directive on natural stands and wildlife fauna and flora conservation (92/43/EC)

Directive on conservation of wild birds wildlife waterfowl conservation (2009/147/EC)

Directive 2001/18/EC on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms

Regulation No. 1946/2003 on transboundary movements of genetically modified organisms.

Regulation No. 995/2010, laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market.

### Annex E List of or reference to official lists of, endangered species in Republic of Czech

Ordinance No. 395/1992 of the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, implementing some provisions of Act No. 114/1992 of the Czech National Council on nature and landscape protection, in wording of later directives

### Annex F - Species composition of regenerated stands

SLT	Forest Management Set	Minimum Percentage of EsD*	Minimum target percentage of EsD*	Suitable EsD*	Percentage of MZD (in compliance with ordinance)
0C	13 (01)	10	10	db, jd	5
0G	39 (poor in nutrients), 59 (rich in nutrients)	5	5	Bř	5 – 10
0K1, 3, 5, 7	13	25	30	db, bk, bř, jř	5 – 15
0K2, 4, 6	13	15	20	bk, db, jř, jd	5 – 15
0M	13, 01	10	5*	db, bř	5 – 15
0N	13 (01)	15	10*	bř, bk	5
0O	13 (27)	20	20	DB, jd	5 – 15
0P	13 (27)	15	20	DB, jd, bř	5 – 15
0Q	01, 13 (27)	10	20	db, jd, bř	5 – 15
0Q5	01, 13	10	5*	jd, bř	5 – 15
0R	1	5	10	bř	5
0T	39	10	10	bř, db	5 – 15
0X	1	10	10	db, bk, hb, bř	10
0Y	1	10	10	db, bk, bř	5
0Z	1	5	10	bř, db, bk	5
1A	21	70	80	DB, hb, jv, lp, břek	30
1B	25	50	80	DB, hb, bk, lp, břek	20

1C	21 (23)	40	70	DB, hb, lp, bbk, břek	30 (25)
1D	25	50	80	DB, hb, jv, lp, js	20
1G	29	70	70	OL, VR, tp, os	70
1H	25	60	80	DB, hb, lp, břek	20
1I	23	35	60	DB, hb, lp, bř	25
1J	1	95	90*	JV, HB, lp, tř, db, bk, bbk, břek	95
1K	23	40	70	DB, bř, hb	25
1L	19	80	80	TPČ, DBL, jl, lp, jv, js	15
1M	13	25	40	DB, bř, hb, jř	5 – 15
1N	21	30	70	DB, hb, bř, lp	30
1O	25	80	80	DBL, lp, hb, os, bř	20
1P	27	60	70	DBL, bř, os	20
1Q	27	50	60	DBL, bř, os	20
1S	23 (poor in nutrients), 25 (rich in nutrients)	40	70	DBL, hb, lp, bř	20 – 25
1T	29	70	70	OL, břp, vrby	70
1U	19	80	80	TP, dbl, ol, js	15
1V	25	60	80	DBL, hb, lp, jl, jv, js	20
1W	25	60	80	DB, hb, bk, lp, břek	20
1X	1	90	90	DB, dřín, břek, muk, bbk	90
1Z	1	80	80	DB, bř	70
2A	21	70	80	DB, bk, jv, lp, hb, bbk	30
2B	25, 21 (exposed)	60	80	DB, bk, hb, lp, břek	20
2C	21 (23)	50	70	DB, bk, hb	30 (25)
2D	25, 21 (exposed)	60	80	DB, bk, lp, kl, jl, jv, hb	20 – 30
2G	59	50	70	DB, JD, OL, lp, bk, os	5 – 20
2H	25	60	80	DB, BK, hb, lp, jv, břek	20
2I	23	35	60	DB, bk, bř	25
2L	19	80	70*	DBL, js, jv, jl, ol	15
2M	23, 21 (exposed)	30	80	DB, bk, bř	25 – 30
2K	23, 21 (exposed)	35	60	DB, bk, bř	25 – 30
2N	21	40	80	DB, bk, lp, bř	30

SLT	Forest Management Set	Minimum Percentage of EsD*	Minimum target percentage of EsD*	Suitable EsD*	Percentage of MZD (in compliance with ordinance)
2O	25	50	80	DBL, bk, jd, lp, hb	20
2P	27	40	70	DBL, jd, bk, os, bř	20
2Q	27	40	60	DBL, jd, bk, bř,	20
2S	21 (exposed), 23 (poor in nutrients), 25 (rich in nutrients)	40	80	DB, bk, hb, lp, bř	20 – 30
2T	39	20	50	os, ol	5 – 10
2V	25	60	80	DBL, bk, jv, jd, jl, js	20
2W	25	60	80	DB, bk, lp, bbk, jv, js, břek	20
2X	1	90	90	DB, dřín, bk, hb, břek, lp	90
2Z	1	70	70	DB, bk, bř,	60

3A	41 (exposed), 31 (dry)	60	70	BK, db, lp, jv, jd, tis	30
3B	45, 41 (exposed)	60	70	BK, dbz, hb, lp, jd, tis	25 – 30
3C	31 (21, 23)	50	60	BK, db, lp	30 (25)
3D	45, 41 (exposed)	60	70	BK, dbz, lp, jv, tis	25 – 30
3F	41	50	60	BK, db, lp, jd, js, jv, tis	30
3G	59	40	60	DB, jd, ol, bk,	5 – 20
3H	45	50	60	BK, dbz, hb, jv, js, tis	25
3I	43, 23 (poor in nutrients)	35	60	BK, db, jd	25
3J	1	90	80*	JV, LP, bk, jd, jlh, hb, js	90
3K	43, 23 (poor in nutrients), 41 (exposed)	35	60	BK, db, jd	25 – 30
3L	29 (19)	70	70	OL, JS, tp, os	70 (15)
3M	23, 21 (exposed)	35	60	BK, DB, bř	25 – 30
3N	41, 21 (poor in nutrients)	40	60	BK, db, jd, lp,	30
3O	47	50	60	BK, DBL, jd, lp	25
3P	27 (47)	30	50	DBL, jd, bk, bř, os	20 (25)
3Q	27	25	50	DBL, jd, bk, bř	20
3R	39 (59)	10	10	bř	5 – 10
3S	45, 41 (exposed), 43 (poor in nutrients)	50	60	BK, db, lp, jd, hb	25 – 30
3T	39	30	50	DBL, jd, bř, os, vrby	5 – 10
3U	19	60	70	JS, jv, bk, jd, db	15
3V	47, 59 (poor in nutrients)	60	70	BK, DBL, jd, jv, js	25 (5 – 20)
3W	35	70	80	BK, db, lp, tis, jv, hb, jd, js	70
3X	1	80	80	BK, dřín, lp, jv, bbk, břek	80
3Y	1	50	60	BK, db, bř	30
3Z	1	50	60	BK, db, bř	30
4A	31 (dry), 41 (exposed)	60	70	BK, lp, jv, jd, jlh, tis	30
4B	45, 41 (exposed)	50	60	BK, jd, dbz, lp, tis	25 – 30
4C	31	50	60	BK, db, lp, jd, tis	30
4D	45, 41 (exposed)	50	60	BK, kl, lp, jd, tis	25 – 30
4F	41	50	60	BK, kl, lp, jd, tis	30
4G	59	40	50	JD, DB, bk, ol	5 – 20
4H	45	50	60	BK, lp, dbz, kl, tis	25
4I	43	40	50	BK, jd, db	25
4K	43, 41 (exposed)	40	60	BK, dbz, jd, jř, bř	25 – 30
4M	23, 21 (exposed)	40	50	BK, db, bř, jd, jř	25 – 30
4N	41, 21 (poor in nutrients)	40	60	BK, dbz, jd, jř, jv	30

SLT	Forest Management Set	Minimum Percentage of EsD*	Minimum target percentage of EsD*	Suitable EsD*	Percentage of MZD (in compliance with ordinance)
4O	47	40	60	JD, db, bk, os	25
4P	47	40	50	JD, dbl, bk, os, bř	25
4Q	27	30	50	JD, dbl, bk, bř, os	20
4R	59	10	10	bř, jd	5 – 20
4S	45, 41 (exposed), 43 (poor in nutrients)	40	60	BK, jd, bř	25 – 30
4V	47, 59 (waterlogged)	60	60	BK, jv, js, db, jd	5 – 25
4W	35	70	80	BK, kl, lp, js, jd, tis	70

4X	1	80	80	BK, db, jd, jv, jř	80
4Y	1	50	60	BK, db, jd, bř	30
4Z	1	50	60	BK, db, jd, bř, jř	30
5A	51, 31 (dry)	60	70	BK, kl, jd, jlh, js, tis	30
5B	55, 51 (exposed)	50	60	BK, jd, tis	25 – 30
5C	31	40	50	BK, jd, kl, lp, tis	30
5D	55, 51 (exposed)	50	60	BK, jd, kl, tis	25 – 30
5F	51	50	50	BK, jd, kl, tis, jlh, js, lp	30
5G	59	20	30	JD, ol, bk	5 – 20
5H	55	50	50	BK, jd, tis, kl	25
5I	53, 43	40	50	BK, jd	25
5J	1	60	60	KL, js, jlh, bk, jd	60
5K	53, 43, 51 (exposed)	40	50	BK, jd, jv	25 – 30
5L	29 (19)	70	70	OL, js, os	70 (15)
5M	23, 43, 51 (exposed)	40	50	BK, jd, bř	25 – 30
5N	51	50	50	BK, jd, kl	30
5O	57	40	50	JD, bk	25
5P	57	40	40	JD, bk, os, bř	25
5Q	27 (57)	30	40	JD, bk	20 (25)
5R	39 (59)	10	10	bř, ol	5 – 10 (20)
5S	55, 51 (exposed)	40	50	BK, jd, kl, tis	25 – 30
5T	39	30	40	JD, db, bř, ol	5 – 10
5U	51 (53)	50	60	KL, js, bk, jd, jlh, jv	25 – 30
5V	57, 59 (waterlogged)	40	50	BK, jd, kl, js	5 – 25
5W	35, 45 (53)	60	70	BK, jd, kl, tis, jlh, js	25–70
5Y	1	40	50	BK, jd, bř,	30
5Z	1	40	50	BK, jd, bř,	30
6A	51	50	50	BK, kl, jd	30
6B	55, 51 (exposed)	40	50	BK	25 – 30
6D	55, 51 (exposed)	40	50	BK, jd, kl	25 – 30
6F	51	40	40	BK, jd, kl, jlh	30
6G	59 (79)	25	30	JD, bk, ol	5 – 20
6H	55	40	50	BK, jd, kl	25
6I	53	30	40	BK, jd	25
6K	53, 51 (exposed)	30	40	BK, jd, jř	25 – 30
6L	1	70	70	OLŠ, kl, js, jd	70
6M	53, 51 (exposed)	30	40	BK, jd, jř, bř	25 – 30
6N	51	40	40	BK, jd, kl, jř	30
6O	57	30	30	JD, bk, kl	25
6P	57	25	30	JD, bk	25
6Q	57	25	20*	JD, bk, bř	25

SLT	Forest Management Set	Minimum Percentage of EsD*	Minimum target percentage of EsD*	Suitable EsD*	Percentage of MZD (in compliance with ordinance)
6R	79 (59)	5	5	jd, bř	5 – 20
6S	55, 51 (exposed)	30	40	BK, jd, kl	25 – 30
6T	79 (39)	5	20	JD, ol	5 (5 – 10)
6V	57, 59 (waterlogged)	25	40	BK, kl, js, jd	5 – 25
6Y	1	30	50	BK, jd, bř, jř	30
6Z	1	30	50	BK, bř, jř	30
7B	75	20	25	bk, jd, kl	15
7F	71	20	30	bk, jd, kl	15
7G	79	10	10	jd, ol, bř, os, jř	5
7K	73, 71 (exposed)	20	25	bk, jd, jř	15
7M	73, 71 (exposed)	15	20	bk, jd, jř, bř	15
7N	71	20	20	bk, jd, kl, jř	15
7O	77	20	20	jd, bk	5 – 10
7P	77	10	10	jd, bk, bř	5 – 10
7Q	77	10	10	jd, bk, bř	5 – 10
7R	79	5	5	bř, jř	5
7S	75, 71 (exposed)	20	20	bk, jd, kl	15
7T	79	5	10	jd, bř, jř	5
7V	77, 79 (waterlogged)	20	20	bk, kl, jd	5 – 10
7Z	1	10	20	bk, jd, bř, jř	10
7Y	1	10	20	bk, jd, bř, jř	10
8A	71, 02	15	20	kl, bk, jř, jd	15
8F	71, 02	15	15	jd, bk, jř, kl	15
8G	79	5	5	bř, jř	5
8K	71 (exposed), 73, 02	15	5*	jř, bk, kl, jd	15
8M	71 (exposed), 73, 02	15	5*	jř, vrby	15
8N	71, 02	15	5*	jř, bk, kl	15
8Q	79	5	5	jř, bř	5
8R	1	1	0*	Bř	1 – 5
8S	75, 71 (exposed), 02	15	5*	jd, bk, bř, jř	15
8T	79	5	5	bř, jř	5
8V	77, 79 (waterlogged)	10	1*	kl, bk	5 – 15
8Y	1	5	5	bř, jř	5
8Z	2	+	5	Jř	+
9K	2	+	1	Jř	+
9R	1	+	0*	bř, jř	+
9Z	2	+	1	jř, vrby	+

\*the percentage of the minimum target area of EsD\* applies to mature and maturity approaching stands in which some of the tree plant species with a shorter life-span can become extinct. Renewal of such forest stands shall comply with the „Minimum Percentage of EsD“column

## **Annex G - Guidelines**

**For erosion control, minimising vegetation damage during harvesting and transportation of wood and construction of roads, minimising other mechanical disruptions of soil and for conservation of water sources.**

As a minimum, these requirements must be fulfilled:

- a. Forest transport network for close-to-nature forest management is permanent, and it is recorded on the map. The approaching and skidding lines are permanent, too. The system of approaching and skidding lines must be optimally adapted to the character of the terrain, and its density must be set with respect to environmental, economic, and social requirements.
- b. Construction of new roads and lines is minimised. The reconstruction and enhancement of existing roads and lines is preferred, if their location does not represent a significant danger to the environment. New roads and reconstruction of the transport network must be projected and carried out to ensure the least possible disruption of the water regime, and other functions of the neighbouring landscape. Asphalt roads can be constructed only if assessment of various technologies proves, that any other variant of the project does not guarantee functionality.
- c. Redundant roads and links are rehabilitated with regard to the water regime and other functions of the neighbouring landscape and afforested areas; they can also be left to natural succession.
- d. Harvesting operations employ technologies to minimise the use of living trees as much as possible. Damaged trees must be adequately treated.
- e. Technologies and procedures of skidding and transportation of wood must always be carefully chosen and in the case of some technologies restrictions arising from climatic and field peculiarities must be set (relating to term and locality). The selection of technologies must guarantee that no erosion rills, deep ruts in flat ground, global soil compaction or rutted soil will emerge. If, despite all the measures listed above, some of the mentioned phenomena appear, procedures for rehabilitation must be set and responsibility for its implementation must be designated.
- f. List of banned types of operation fillings for machinery are determined (updated according to the changes on the market). Operation fillings with the least damaging environmental impacts are preferred. Rules and rehabilitation

procedures are appointed in case of outflows of operation fillings and to prevent them.

- g. Machinery cross watercourses only in places designated for and tailored to that.

#### **Annex H - Forest type groups with acceptable risk of slash and felling debris disposal**

Stands with acceptable risk of slash and felling debris disposal
SLT (fvb, i.e. forest vegetation belt, edaphic row and category)
○ 1-2 B (nutrient normal), H (nutrient loamy), D (enriched loamy)
○ 3-4 S (nutrient vital), B (nutrient, normal rich), H (nutrient loamy), D (enriched loamy)
○ 5-6 S (nutrient vital), B (nutrient, normal rich), H (nutrient loamy), D (enriched loamy)