
Criteria for PEFC Forest Certification

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1. Introduction

This standard is part of a series of five Finnish PEFC forest certification standards. The series follows the SMS standard series elaborated in 1997 and 1998 and FFCS standard series elaborated in 2002 and 2003 as well as the PEFC FI standards elaborated in 2008 and 2009. The revised PEFC FI standard series will become into force after the PEFC Council's re-endorsement taking into account the transition period.

Standards of the Finnish PEFC standard series cover forest certification vocabulary, implementation and criteria, certification procedures and standard setting.

PEFC Finland manages the Finnish PEFC FI standard series and owns the standards.

2. Purpose and Scope of Application

This English translation is based on the original Finnish standard PEFC FI 1002:2014 that was approved by PEFC Finland on 27.10.2014. The translated standard versions are informal and the Finnish original standard applies also to the interpretation of their content.

The original Finnish standard and its English and Swedish translations are available from PEFC Finland website or upon request.

This standard includes Criteria for Forest Certification.

3. References

Finnish PEFC forest certification system includes five updated standards:

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

4. Terms and definitions

The terms and definitions on PEFC certification in Finland are included in standard PEFC FI 1000:2014; PEFC Forest Certification Vocabulary.

5. Introduction to Finnish Forests and Forest Management

Three quarters, or nearly 23 million hectares, of the Finnish territory is covered with forests. In addition, there are over three million hectares of territories which have a sparse tree cover such as treeless peatlands and rocky terrain. Majority of Finland belongs to the boreal zone or the northern coniferous forest belt. There are four coniferous tree species as well as 30 broadleaves species and woody shrubs which are native in Finland. Finnish forests are dominated with coniferous forests, which are often mixed with broadleaved species.

The total growing stock of Finnish forests is around 2 300 million cubic meters and the annual increment is more than 100 million cubic meters. Since 1970s, the volume of the standing stock has increased by 60 percent, because timber growth has increased more than harvested volumes. The state forest inventory started in Finland in 1920s. Today there is more wood in forests than ever in the history of forest inventories. In Finland, the carbon storages in forest vegetation and forest soil have increased or, i.e., forests are carbon sinks. In 2012 the carbon dioxide sink of forest trees was 38 million tons of carbon dioxide.

The long-term sustainable use of forests has been targeted in Finland since the 1940s. State authorities, legislation, national and regional forest programmes as well as the activities and cooperation of private forest owners have all supported sustainable forestry. Due to the long history of forest use, hardly any pristine forests remain in Finland. Pristine forests exist only in some nature conservation areas in Lapland and Eastern Finland. Finnish forests are regenerated with natural, domestic tree species and the development of mixed stands is promoted in forest management operations. In Finland, there are no intensively managed one-species tree plantations.

The majority of Finnish forests are mainly owned by private persons and families. Privately owned forest holdings are mainly small-sized. There are 346 000 private forest holdings with an area exceeding two hectares. The number of forest owners is higher than the number of forest holdings, because often several family members own a forest holding together. The estimate for the number of people owning two hectares of forest land, at the minimum, is 737 000 persons. The average size of their forest holdings is 30 hectares.

Table 1. Ownership of Forests and Growing Stock in Finland 2012

Group of forest owners	Forest land (%)	Growing stock (%)	Annual growth (%)	Harvest (%)
Private	52	64	73	79
Government	35	21	27	11
Companies	8	9		10
Other (municipalities, parishes, societies, jointly owned forests)	5	6	(share included into private lands)	(share included into private lands)

(source: The Finnish Forest Research Institute, the National Forest Inventory)

In Finland forestry and forest industry employ directly nearly 75 000 people, nearly two thirds of whom work for forest industry. Forestry and related businesses employ indirectly approximately 25 000 people out of which a considerable proportion work for small forest contracting and

transporting companies. In addition, forest owners and their family members carry out forest management works in their own forests.

The objective of forest management in Finland is to secure the production of high quality wood raw material, the biological diversity of forests and possibilities for the multiple use of forests.

5.1 Legislation and Political Guidance

The Forest Act has been effective in Finland since 1886 which has guaranteed a long-term sustainable wood production. In addition, several other laws i.e., the Nature Conservation Act and the Water Act regulate the sustainable forest management and use of forests. The legislation relevant to forestry is described more in detail in the Annex 1.

The state authorities encourage forest owners to good forest management practices. State subsidies are available for securing sustainable wood production, for maintaining biological diversity and improving forest health. In addition, sustainable forest management is promoted with national forest management recommendations, forest certification, as well as with education and training.

Forest programs have had an important role in Finland in implementation of forest policy and in organizing financing for forestry. National forest program 2015 (KFOC 2015) has been prepared in an open process in cooperation with different bodies related to, and interested in, forests. The aim of the program is to ensure work and income depending on forests, forest biodiversity and vitality, as well as recreational opportunities for citizens provided by forests. In 2014 the Finnish government adopted a forest policy report, which guides the use of forests until 2050. The forest policy report aims to look for new growth opportunities for the forest sector. The report has been also used for formulating a shorter-term Forest Strategy 2025, which updates the national forest program.

First regional indicative forestry programs consistent with the Forest Act (regional forest programs) were prepared in 1998. Since then they have been revised nearly every five years. The programs are giving a general overview of forests situated at the area of each regional unit of a forest center, state of forestry and needs for development. Regional forest councils compiled from different stakeholder groups support regional units of the forest center in formulation and monitoring of forest programs.

The aim of the strategy for sustainable development adopted by the Finnish Government in 2006 is creation of ecological sustainability and economic, social and cultural prerequisites promoting it. The National Strategy for Sustainable Development was updated in 2013. The updated strategy for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity “Saving Nature for People” was adopted by the governmental decision in principle in December 2012. The main aim of the strategy is to stop the loss of biodiversity in Finland by 2020.

Finland is actively participating in international forest policy processes and cooperation and has committed to implement international obligations. International commitments have been implemented through legislation and guidance.

5.2 Guaranteeing forest biodiversity

A special attention is paid to guaranteeing forest conservation and biodiversity of commercial forests. Protected forests amount altogether to 2.2 million hectares, or 9.6% of the forest area. All in all protected forests and forests with restricted use cover 3.0 million hectares or 13.0% of the forest area.

In Finland European Union's Natura 2000 network includes 1 860 protected sites the combined surface of which is 4.9 million hectares. The land area they cover is 3.6 million hectares or three quarters.

In 2008 the Finnish government adopted the Forest biodiversity program for Southern Finland (METSO). The aim of the program is to safeguard important habitats and structural characteristics of forests for forest natural habitats and endangered species.

The nature conservation act includes nine protected natural habitats, three of which are present in forests. In its own turn the Forest Act determines habitats of special importance characteristics of which shall be preserved.

From nearly 45 000 species known in Finland nearly half are living in forests. The occurrence of endangered species is being monitored regularly. An endangered status of Finnish species is assessed with the help of the international set of criteria of the IUCN.

5.3 Multiple use of forests

Forests are important environment for recreation of Finnish people and an important part of nature tourism. Nearly all Finnish people enjoy outdoor activities and a great deal of these activities take place in forest areas. The Everyman's right allows moving freely in forests, what means a possibility to walk, ski, cycle or ride a horse without a special permission without causing any disturbance or inconvenience on privately owned land. In addition to that according to the Everyman's right one can freely collect berries and mushrooms in forests. However, moving on a motor vehicle or making a fire on the ground requires permission from the landowner.

Hunting is especially important in the Finnish society. There are around 300 000 hunters and the amount is growing further. In Finland hunters carry out much volunteer work for the society also by counting game population as well as providing administrative assistance for game propagation. A hunting right is connected to the land ownership and thus hunting is a subject for authorization.

In Northern Finland reindeer husbandry is an important part of multiple use of forests. The population of reindeers is being actively taken care of and reindeers can graze freely. The right of free grazing is secured by law.

5.4 Forest and environmental organizations

The highest forest authority is the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry whose task is to create conditions for sustainable and diverse use of natural resources, as well as secure quality of products manufactured from them. State forestry organization Metsähallitus and the Finnish Forest Center are administered by the Ministry. Metsähallitus manages, uses and protects natural resources and other property on state land that is under its authority. The task of the Finnish Forest Center is to monitor implementation of the Forest act and promote sustainable

management and use of forests, conservation of their biodiversity and other forest management activities.

The scope of activities of the Ministry of Environment also includes tasks related to forests including conservation of biodiversity, prevention of environmental pollution and harmful changes to the atmosphere, as well as performance management and financing of nature conservation sites.

The Centers for Regional Economic Development, Transport and Environment are responsible for environmental protection, conservation of cultural environment, protection of natural biodiversity, as well as the use and management of water resources and in these tasks they are administered by the Ministry of Environment.

Forest management associations support profitability of forest management of private forest owners and implementation of other targets set for their forest holdings.

5.5 Forest research and inventory

Nearly 650 forest researchers are specializing in forests and forest management in universities and research institutions. Since 1920s the Finnish Forest Research Institute has been regularly carrying out the state forest inventory. Every year the results of the inventory provide up-to-date and diverse regional information on the Finnish forests. In addition to information concerning wood resources the state forest inventory collects comprehensive information on forest health, vegetation and also the amount of decayed wood.

Especially since 1990s the research of forest biodiversity and species has been highly supported in the framework of many large research programs carried out by the Finnish Forest Research Institute, universities, The Finnish Environmental Center and other research institutions. Owing to these programs the knowledge of Finnish forest species is high on the international level.

5.6 Forest education and guidance for forest owners

The forest education is offered by the University of Helsinki and the University of Eastern Finland, as well as several universities of applied sciences and secondary schools in various parts of the country. The education for forest owners is also organized in organizations of private forestry, forest educational centers and adult education centers.

Forest management associations, the Finnish Forest Center, companies providing forest services, buying wood and other actors in the forest sector give advice to forest owners and offer services connected to silviculture and forest use. Such guidance for forest owners can be personal or carried out in groups or collective during different exhibitions, competitions and trips.

The statutory task of the Finnish forest center is to collect information on privately-owned forest resources and update it. The information on forest resources supports long-term forest management. Such information includes detailed data on forest resources of a holding, valuable sites of the forest environment, proposed necessary silvicultural work, opportunities for harvesting and other uses of forests. This information is needed for creating a basis for decision-making of a forest owner.

6. Criteria for forest management

Abbreviations related to application of criteria and indicators (measures):

- (rc) regional group certification
- (gc) other group certification
- (foc) certification at the level of a forest owner.

Title	Criterion 1: Requirements enacted by legislation shall be complied with
Criterion	<p>Forestry activities shall comply with the forest, environmental and labor legislation in force and with the related international agreements that Finland has ratified.</p> <p>However, in Åland Province the legislation of Åland and decrees of respective authorities shall be applied when under the jurisdiction of the autonomy of Åland Province.</p>
Indicators	<p>Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities¹⁾ by which activities of a forest owner/holder or a forest organization²⁾ are proven to be non-compliant with forest, environmental and labor legislation on the certified area during the period of validity of the certificate.</p>
Definitions	<p>1) <u>Court or competent authority has found in its resolution with a right to appeal</u> that forest owner/holder or forest organization has acted contrary to the forest, environmental and labor legislation or to those relevant international agreements that Finland has ratified. The authority decisions contain, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agency for Rural Affairs' resolution on establishing new tree stand enacted by Section 20, subsection 2 of the Forest Act (1093/1996) -Agency for Rural Affairs' resolution on the claim for recovery by Section 15, subsection 3 of the Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1094/1996); -Regional environmental authority's order enacted by Section 57, subsection 1 of the Nature Conservation Act (1096/1996) -Order of the authority on occupational safety enacted by Section 15 of the Act on Occupational Safety and Health Enforcement and Cooperation on Occupational Safety and Health at Workplaces (44/2006) or prohibition notice enacted by Section 16 of the Act. <p>2) <u>Forest organizations</u> consist of the Finnish Forestry Centre, forest management associations, forest industry enterprises, Metsähallitus (Forest and Park Service), and other organizations committed to forest certification.</p>

Title	Criterion 2: Forest stand shall be preserved as a carbon sink
Criterion	<p>(rc) The level of sustainable allowable cut³⁾ shall not be exceeded in the (certified) area during the five-year cycle⁴⁾ preceding the audit</p> <p>The timber volume cut⁵⁾ during the five-year cycle can, as a consequence of natural damage, exceed the sustainable allowable cut. The criteria is applied when the certified area is at least 700 000 ha.</p> <p>(gc + foc) The amount and quality of forest resources is ensured by taking necessary action to ensure forest regeneration in regeneration felling.</p>
Indicators	<p>(rc) The timber volume cut during the five-year cycle shall be compared to the maximum sustainable allowable cut calculated for the area.</p> <p>(gc + foc) Court resolutions and decisions of administrative authorities¹⁾ in which it has been proved that a forest owner/holder has breached his/her obligation for regeneration.</p>
Definitions	<p>3) <u>The maximum regional sustainable harvesting volume</u> is considered to be a proportionate average for a five-year cycle calculated for the regional forest program.</p> <p>4) During this period the amount of carbon accumulated in tree stand (stem) is higher than the amount of carbon removed in timber harvests. Forest stands stay a carbon sink during a certain period of time when the growth of trees is higher than the loss.</p> <p>5) <u>The actual cut</u> includes the annual cut of <u>roundwood</u> i.e. logs, pulpwood and the fuel wood used by small properties. (<i>Finnish Statistical Yearbook of Forestry</i> 2013, p. 186, table 5.9 Harvesting amounts by regions).</p>

Title	Criterion 3: Forest use declaration shall demonstrate legality of harvesting and determine environmental concerns
Criterion	<p>In order to comply with legal obligations regarding harvesting, and criteria for forest certification prior to harvesting, a declaration of forest use shall be established for an area of planned harvesting, and in case the declaration of forest use is not statutory and has not been done, a separate environmental report⁶⁾ shall be established.</p> <p>This criterion does not apply to harvesting for household use.</p>
Indicators	A declaration of forest use or a separate environmental report has been established for the area of the planned harvesting.
Definitions	<p>6) <u>An environmental report</u> includes an estimation of impacts caused by an activity in order to protect characteristics of the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - protected areas (criterion 9) - valuable forest habitats (criterion 10) - habitats of endangered species (criterion 12) - archeological sites (criterion 30) - sites restricted by a decision of the forest owner or sites restricted by planning for the purpose of game propagation, recreational use or other such sites. <p>An environmental report established in the framework of a local master plan, local detailed plan or a local detailed shore plan fulfills the requirement of this criterion.</p>

Title	Criterion 4: Silviculture and forest use shall be based on the effective use of up-to-date information on forest resources.
Criterion	To support decision-making a forest owner shall have up-to-date information ⁷⁾ about the holding's forest resources, natural and archeological sites along with an estimate of harvesting possibilities and need of silvicultural treatment. (rc) A regional forest plan promotes sustainable management and use of
Indicators	(rc) A plan ⁸⁾ describing state of forests and resource use is established for the region. In determining the aims of forest management, together with planning and implementation of management measures, a forest owner should possess stand-level information about forest resources on the certified area. The requirement is not applied if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 50 ha.
Definitions	7) <u>The information</u> should cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stand-level information about trees and soils - need for silvicultural treatment of each stand - harvesting opportunities - Natura 2000 - sites - valuable natural forest habitats determined in the Criterion 10 - known habitats of endangered species determined in the Criterion 12 - nature management and environmental sites funded by the State and sites of continuous protection - monuments of antiquity registered in the respective register that have reliable site specific data on their location. The accuracy of the data shall be checked minimum ten-year intervals. 8) Such <u>plan</u> is considered to be for example a regional forest program.

Title	Criterion 5: The quality of forestry operations shall be ensured
Criterion	Parties providing services for forest owners ⁹⁾ shall have quality monitoring system ¹⁰⁾ for controlling the quality of work for forest regeneration and silvicultural treatment of young stands ¹¹⁾ .
Indicators	(rc + gc) Those implementing silvicultural treatment shall have quality monitoring system for ensuring quality of silvicultural treatment. An agreement between a forest owner and a service provider requires that the latter has a quality monitoring system for ensuring the quality of works carried out.
Definitions	9) <u>A party</u> refers to companies providing forest services to forest owners such as forest management associations, forest companies and forest service entrepreneurs. 10) <u>Quality monitoring</u> of work refers to practices demonstrating the quality of the completed work regarding to the imposed requirements. Quality monitoring can be carried out by the party doing work and/or an external party. 11) <u>Silvicultural treatment</u> includes the following types of work: soil preparation, sowing, planting, early tending and clearing of young stands.

Title	Criterion 6: Health of the stand shall be attended
Criterion	The spreading of the infection of root rot (<i>Heterobasidion parviporum</i> attacking spruce and <i>Heterobasidion annosum</i> attacking pine) shall be prevented during the harvest of risk sites ¹²⁾ . The control of root rot shall be done with user-safe methods ¹³⁾ . During forest harvest, damages to remaining trees and soil that may deteriorate the growing conditions of the remaining stand shall be avoided. Control measures shall be taken to prevent insect damages in the storage of timber.

<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Both on certified areas and per holder of the harvesting right¹⁴⁾ the proportion of control measures of root rot on certified areas shall be at least 85 % of the harvesting area of risk sites¹⁵⁾.</p> <p>The average share of damaged trees in the intermediate felling shall not exceed five percent of remaining growing trees. The share of damaged trees is annually calculated as a five-year period moving average of harvesting trace review results.</p> <p>In intermediate felling on mineral soils¹⁶⁾ an average share of skidding track ruts caused by forest machinery is at maximum five percent of the length of the track. The share of track ruts is calculated annually as a five-year period moving average of harvesting trace review results^{17), 18)}</p> <p>Prior to harvesting the issuer of the contract⁵⁷⁾ shall obtain recommendations for clearing undergrowth hindering harvesting operations.</p> <p>Storing timber should comply with the Forest Damages Prevention Act (1087/2013). A competent authority has not imposed a conditional fine defined in Section 24 nor has pronounced a sentence defined in Section 25 of the Act related to the neglect of control of insects in the interval storage of timber.</p>
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<p>Definitions</p>	<p>12) <u>Risk sites</u> refer to coniferous-dominated harvesting areas in Southern and Central Finland, where according to the Forest Act, harvesting has to be carried out between May, 1 and November, 30.</p> <p>13) <u>User-safe methods</u> refer to treating coniferous stumps with liquid <i>Phanerochaete gigantea</i> or urea solution and the removal of coniferous stumps causing the spreading of infection of fungal diseases from regeneration area. Regeneration areas from where stumps have been removed in order to prevent the spread of root rot are included in the area under control measures.</p> <p>14) In this criterion holder of the harvesting right refers to any stakeholder with the right to harvest.</p> <p>15) <u>The share of control measures</u> is calculated as a proportion of treated area to the total logged area in areas at risk. The calculation is based on the information collected from forest organizations active on the certified area.</p> <p>16) Harvesting areas are divided into areas of mineral soils and peatlands. <u>A mineral soil</u> is considered to be a site where the thickness of the peat layer is less than 30 cm.</p> <p>17) <u>Intermediate felling, damaged tree, growing tree and track ruts</u> as well as other terms used in determining harvesting trails are defined in the Forest Act (1092/1996) and the Decree of the Commission on Sustainable Management and Use of Forests (1308/2013). Inspection of the harvesting site has to comply with the guidelines for site inspections of the Finnish Forest Center.</p> <p>18) <u>Harvesting site inspections</u> produce separate estimates for the proportions of tree damages and vehicle trails for intermediate felling of even- and uneven-aged stands. The share of stand damages and vehicle trails referred to in the criterion, is calculated based on the weighted average of</p>
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Title	Criterion 7: Sustainable methods shall be used in energy wood harvesting
Criterion	When removing canopy biomass and stumps from harvested sites the applied methods shall take into consideration the wood production capacity of the site, its biodiversity as well as the aspects related to water protection.
	<p>If possible, harvesting of energy wood during intermediate felling should protect thickets for game.</p> <p>Peatlands in their natural state shall not be transferred into energy wood cultivations.</p> <p>After regeneration felling a certain amount of biomass should be left on these areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - around 30% of canopy mass¹⁹⁾ as evenly as possible - at least 25 pieces/ha of stumps²⁰⁾, and on clay and silt soils at least 50 pieces/ha - in addition to that stumps left in previous felling and stumps which are less than 15 cm in diameter. <p>From areas contaminated with root rot all coniferous stumps can be extracted.</p> <p>In energy wood harvesting, growing retention trees determined in the Criterion 14 shall not be harvested and robust decaying wood shall not be damaged.</p> <p>The following criteria should be applied in energy wood harvesting.</p> <p>a) suitable sites for canopy biomass extraction from clear-cut areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - barren forest heaths and more fertile mineral soils and corresponding peatlands. <p>b) suitable sites for stump extraction from clear-cut areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - barren forest heaths and more fertile mineral soils and corresponding peatlands - if there is pine root rot in the area of a clear-cut, all sites of moorlands with an exception of nutrient-poor heathland forests <p>c) suitable sites for whole-tree harvesting in intermediate felling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - barren forest heaths and more fertile mineral soils and corresponding peatlands. However, if a share of spruce from the total number of stems exceeds 75% a whole-tree harvesting should not be applied. <p>d) in spruce stands suffering from shortage of boron, canopy biomass can be extracted or a whole-tree harvesting can be performed if nutrient balance of trees is secured with boron fertilization.</p> <p>In areas covered by a local master plan and a local detailed plan, requirements for leaving biomass do not apply to the areas which the Forest Act is not applicable to.</p>

Indicators	<p>The harvest of energy wood has been done according to the criterion when</p> <p>a) the proportion of sites considered as excellent or good in relation to the above-mentioned evaluation criteria (selection of harvest sites, minimum amount of biomass left in final harvest areas, securing retention trees and decaying wood and water protection measures) shall be at least 90 % of the total harvest area based on the results of monitoring²¹⁾</p> <p>b) peatlands that are in their natural state have not been drained for energy wood cultivations.</p>
Definitions	<p>19) <u>Canopy wood</u> refers to canopies, branches, needles and leaves. A client⁵⁷⁾ shall have guidelines for fulfilling the requirement concerning canopy cover left on the area.</p> <p>20) <u>Stumps left on the site</u> are considered to be stumps left as the result of the latest harvesting with a diameter over 15 cm.</p> <p>21) <u>Monitoring</u> can be based on own certification system of a certificate holder or subcontractor or, for example, a quality monitoring system of nature management carried out by the Finnish Forest Center.</p>

Title	Criterion 8: Seedling stands shall be timely tended
Criterion	<p>(rc + gc)²²⁾ Annually at least 60% of the annual tending need of seedling stands²²⁾ is completed on the certified area.</p> <p>(foc) In forest owner's forests minimum 60% of tending needs for seedling stands for a 5-year-period has to be fulfilled²³⁾.</p>
Indicators	<p>(rc) Natural Resources Institute's statistics on tended areas of seedling stands²⁴⁾ are compared with the estimated tending needs of a similar area as defined in National Forest Inventory (NFI)²²⁾.</p> <p>(gc + foc) The amount of work of required tending of seedling stands²⁴⁾ shall be monitored annually and the outcome shall be compared to the recommendations established based on the forest resource data²³⁾.</p> <p>(foc) The implementation is estimated as a moving 5-year average.</p>
Definitions	<p>22) In regional group certification the area of <u>seedling stands needing tending</u> is the area defined and proposed in NFI (areas where seedling stands require tending in the following 5-year period) for a forestry center and valid in the beginning of the certification period.</p> <p>23) The area of the required tending of seedling stands includes those forest compartments which have in the forest resource data been marked to require tending of seedling stands during the next five years.</p> <p>24) Tending of seedling stand includes the following types of work: sapling stand tending and thinning of seedling stands.</p>

Title	Criterion 9: Conservation values of protected areas shall be safeguarded
Criterion	Conservation value of protected areas ²⁵⁾ or areas belonging to Natura 2000 network shall not be deteriorated by forestry measures.
Indicators	<p>(rc) Forest authorities and forest organizations operating in the area are aware of the locations of protected areas and areas belonging to Natura 2000 network. Other actors committed to forest certification have the site information as deemed relevant.</p> <p>A forest owner shall possess the data on location of protected areas and areas belonging to Natura 2000-network situated in his/her forests.</p> <p>Regional environmental authorities have not discovered significant deterioration of conservation values of protected areas originating from forestry operations on protected areas or outside of them.</p> <p>Regional environmental authorities have not discovered significant deterioration originating from forestry operations of conservation values of Natura 2000 areas. Forestry operations in Natura areas are bound by the law under which the Natura area is established. In addition, the use and management plan, or equivalent, prepared by an environmental authority together with land owner shall be complied with.</p>
Definitions	25) <u>Protected areas</u> referred to in the criterion are the nature conservation areas established according to the Nature Conservation Act.

Title	Criterion 10: Typical features of valuable habitats shall be preserved
Criterion	<p>Forest management measures shall be planned and carried out respecting the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The forest-covered natural habitat types defined in Section 29 of the Nature Conservation Act (1096/1996) being in their natural state or equivalent to natural state, of which forest owner has been informed of by an environmental authority according to Section 30 of the Nature Conservation Act, shall not be altered in such a way that the preservation of their characteristic features is endangered. b) The management measures on sites in their natural state or equivalent to natural state as well as habitats of special importance and easily recognizable from their surroundings – sites defined in Section 10 of the Forest Act (1093/1996) – shall be carried out in such a way that preserves or strengthens the typical features of these sites. The measures on sites, for which a forest authority has given a permit based on Section 11 of the Forest Act, are allowed. c) In addition, the most important features of the biological diversity in the habitats with high conservation value, listed below, shall be preserved in forest management operations in the majority of the habitat area. Regarding the most typical features, the habitats shall be in their natural state or resembling a natural state and be distinctly observable and recognizable in the field. <p>The habitats of high conservation value listed in point c), their most important typical features and the measures to be taken for preserving these features are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Kettle holes and treeless or sparsely treed sunny eskers</i> The kettle holes referred to in the criterion shall be at least 10 meters in depth and the micro climate in the lower parts shall be distinctly moist and cool (cellar microclimate). Vegetation typical to the special micro climate and distinct from the surrounding vegetation is the most important feature to be preserved. Logging shall be limited only to the uppermost part of the edges of the kettle hole. 2. <i>Un-drained hardwood-spruce swamp</i> The habitats set in this Criterion include undrained spruce-dominant dense forests which are not listed as a habitat of special importance of the section 10 § of the Forest Act and have at least 20 m³/ha of decaying wood. On the area of less than half a hectare there should be at least 10 m³ of decaying wood. The most significant feature of these forests to be preserved is a high level of ground water, which is maintained by restraining from any ditching/drainage on these sites. Allowed harvesting methods in these areas include intermediate felling and removal of individual trees.

3. *Un-drained eutrophic fens*

In un-drained eutrophic fens the typical features to be preserved include alteration of flark and hummock formations as well as the rich nutrient content of peat. These are maintained by restraining from ditching and forestry activities on eutrophic fens.

4. *Broad-leaf dominated herb-rich forests*

Diversity of hardwood species is the most important typical feature to protect in the broad-leaf dominated herb-rich forests²⁷⁾ exceeding the age of a sapling stands. The hardwood dominance shall be maintained through the intermediate harvesting.

5. *Old-growth forests*

An old-growth forest is a forest that has the following characteristics:

- I. The dominant age of trees in Southern Finland is over 160 years and more than 200 years in Northern Finland²⁸⁾
- II. The tree stand is composed of trees of different size or of several canopy layers and tree species, or it is a spruce stand of a late succession stage;
- III. The tree stand has not been treated with selective cutting, intermediate thinning or preparatory felling for the past 60 years. Earlier, selective cutting, intermediate thinning or preparatory felling have not changed the natural stand structure and the number of stumps originating from these felling operations do not exceed 20 stumps per hectare;
- IV. The stand is composed of old broad-leaved species and includes also decaying wood, dead wood and ground wood at least 15% of the stand volume in Southern Finland and 20% in Northern Finland.

Restraining from forestry operations on these sites preserves the typical features.

	<p>6. <i>Alluvial forests and flood meadows in their natural state</i></p> <p>The most important characteristic of alluvial forest stands of mineral soils and flood meadows of peat lands caused by natural flooding and variation of surface water level of sea, lakes, rivers, and streams is the natural variation of surface water level, which is protected by restraining from ditching and soil scarification on these areas. Wood stand can be harvested by thinning and shelter wood harvesting and by removing individual stems while safeguarding the presence of decaying wood.</p> <p>If the share of the valuable habitats specified in this criterion covers over 5 percent of the total area of forest and scrub land of the certified area owned by the forest owner, the above mentioned operational restrictions do not apply on the area exceeding minimum surface areas on sites specified in the point c) with an exception of the section five (old-growth forest).</p>
<p>Indicators</p>	<p>The preservation of valuable habitats in forestry operations:</p> <p>a) Court decisions on cases where the preservation of the characteristic features of the sites (based on the Nature Conservation Act, Section ²⁹⁾ has been endangered.</p> <p>b) Court decisions on cases where the typical features of the habitats of special importance (based on the Forest Act, Section 10) have not been preserved.</p> <p>In points a) and b) the characteristic features are not preserved according to the criterion if operations carried out violate either on purpose or by negligence the Nature Conservation Act or the Forest Act.</p> <p>Habitats of high conservation value specified in point c) have remained unchanged or nearly unchanged based on the results of the quality control of nature management. “Nearly unchanged” means that the most important features to be preserved in the habitats listed in point c) have been preserved in more than 90% of the total area of sites.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>26) The criterion covers <u>un-drained spruce mires</u> and those ditched spruce mires where no draining effect prevails any force.</p> <p>27) <u>Broad-leaf dominated herb rich forest</u> is a forest where the share of broad- leaved species exceeds 50% of the stand volume.</p> <p>28) Northern Finland covers areas of regional units of the forest centers of Kainuu, North Ostrobothnia and the operational areas of forestry centers in Lapland. Southern Finland covers other regional units.</p>

Title	Criterion 11: Biodiversity of peatlands shall be preserved
Criterion	The survival of peatland types in their natural state ²⁹⁾ and rare peatland types ³⁰⁾ shall be safeguarded.
Indicators	<p>First-time ditching³¹⁾ is not carried out on peatlands in their natural state.</p> <p>Drainage maintenance is implemented only in the areas where ditching has increased significantly the tree growth³²⁾.</p> <p>Rare peatland types and the possibility of their restoration into natural state are especially taken into consideration in drainage maintenance as well as in other arrangements related to water management.</p> <p>Natural open bogs and peatlands with low-productive forest³²⁾ left for restoration should have a 5–10 meter wide side buffer for game propagation where neither soil preparation activities nor stump extraction should take place and a bush layer and small trees³³⁾ shall be preserved.</p>

<p>Definitions</p>	<p>29) <u>A peatland type in its natural state</u> is a peat accumulating ecosystem, where there are no human induced changes on the natural water balance or any other significant traces of human activity. The site is peatland if the ground is covered with a peat layer, or if over 75% of the ground vegetation consists of peatland vegetation. Forests with a regular intermediate felling and not included in the habitats of special importance (as defined in Criterion 2.10) are not considered as natural peatlands as defined in this criterion.</p> <p>30) <u>Rare peatland types</u> refer to peatland types classified according to the Red List (LuTu 2008) as critically endangered or endangered (EN- and CR-categories) peatlands of Southern and Northern Finland. The sites are listed in the Annex 2 of the standard.</p> <p>31) <u>Ditching of new (first-time ditching) areas</u> does not include opening of isolated main drainage ditch on peatlands in their natural state due to reasons related to drainage techniques. Sections of un-drained peatlands can be drained if it is essential for organizing the water level management in the drained area and if it does not hamper significantly the biodiversity of peatlands and forests. The criterion does not restrict the organization of water management if required under the Forest Act to ensure good forest regeneration on peatland sites. It does not either restrict the ditching needs identified according to the law on support to land restitution (24/1981).</p> <p>32) Drainage maintenance must be economically efficient and take into consideration the nutrient content, heat sum (number of growing degree days) and the volume of tree stand. <u>An appropriate site for maintenance drainage does not include peatlands with low productivity of wood</u>, where annual growth of stem is less than one cubic meter per hectare and in which the regeneration requirement set in the Section 5a § of the Forest Act is not applied to.</p> <p>33) <u>Small trees</u> are considered to have less than 7 cm of the diameter at the breast height.</p>
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Title	Criterion 12: The known habitats of endangered species shall be safeguarded
Criterion	<p>Forest management procedures shall safeguard,</p> <p>a) the previously known habitats of the strictly protected endangered species³⁴⁾ that are demarcated and informed to the land owner/ manager by the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment</p> <p>b) area of breeding and resting of animal species³⁵⁾ of the Annex IV (a) of the Directive on the Conservation of <i>Natural</i> Habitats and of Wild Fauna</p> <p>c) the previously known habitats of other endangered species³⁴⁾ according to the approach set in the “Protection of Endangered Species in Forest Management”³⁶⁾.</p>
Indicators	<p>(rc) Forest organizations²⁾ have started to use the approach³⁶⁾ concerning the use of data on occurrence of endangered species prepared in collaboration of the forest and environmental authorities.</p> <p>The habitats of species under strict protection that the Centers for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment have demarcated and informed to the land owner and/or manager according to Section 47 of the Nature Conservation Act, and the related management guidelines or recommendations provided to the land owner/holder.</p> <p>Breeding and resting areas of species set in the Section 49 of the Nature Conservation Act and the Annex 5 of the Nature Conservation Directive.</p> <p>Habitats of other endangered species which a forest owner is informed about in accordance with the approach set for the “Protection of Endangered Species in Forest Management”.</p>
Definitions	<p>34) A list of <u>strictly protected and other endangered species</u> is specified in Annex 4 of the Council of State decree (913/2005) on changing the nature protection decree.</p> <p>35) <u>Animal species</u> of the <u>Annex IV (a) of the Directive on the Conservation of <i>Natural</i> Habitats and of Wild Fauna</u> present in Finland are listed in the Annex 5 of the Nature Protection Directive.</p> <p>36) <u>Approach</u> refers to the approach prepared in the framework of the project “Protection of Endangered Species in Forest Management” and published in 2010.</p> <p>37) Site specific <u>guidelines</u> that the regional environmental authority has given to the information of the owner and/or manager of the site.</p>

Title	Criterion 13: Biodiversity of forest species dependent of forest fires shall be promoted with prescribed burning
Criterion	The habitats of species dependent on forest fires and fire induced wood damaged shall be maintained and increased through prescribed burnings. This criterion shall not be applied in the Åland Province or if the area of the certified forest holding is less than 200 000 ha.
Indicators	The annual number ³⁸⁾ of prescribed rehabilitation burnings in the area is at least 1 burning/year/200 000 hectares ³⁹⁾ . In case the weather conditions for prescribed rehabilitation burning have been unexceptionally unfavorable, this will be taken into consideration when estimating the conformity to the required level of prescribed rehabilitation burnings.
Definitions	38) <u>Prescribed rehabilitation burning</u> of sunny eskers, regeneration and retention tree groups as well as slash and burn, forest fires of over five hectares and rehabilitation burnings on protected areas are included in the area managed with prescribed rehabilitation burning. 39) <u>The amount of hectares</u> is determined according to the area of the certified forest holding.

Title	Criterion 14: Retention trees and decaying tree stems shall be left on site in forestry operations
Criterion	Retention trees ⁴⁰⁾ and large trees with decaying stems ⁴¹⁾ shall be permanently left on site in intermediate felling and clear-cuts to safeguard the biodiversity of forest nature.
Indicators	The average minimum number of retention and decaying trees left on forest regeneration sites in harvesting is 10 trees per hectare at the compartment level ⁴²⁾ . Retention trees can be grouped at the compartment level.

<p>Definitions</p>	<p>40) <u>Retention trees</u> are growing trees which belong to natural species of our country.</p> <p>Retention trees can be divided into</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nest trees of raptorial birds, - large junipers - old trees with fire scarring - larger trees from previous tree generation - trees with unexpected form - broad-leaved woods - large aspens - tree-like willows, cherries and sorbuses - alders - trees with holes created by birds and animals. <p>If above mentioned trees and robust trees with decaying stems are not found on site, retention trees may include trees with biodiversity values that exceed 10 cm in diameter at breast height and have a good potential to develop into old trees.</p> <p>Retention trees are primarily left in groups, in close vicinity to the habitats of special importance listed in the Criterion 10, protection belts left on edges of open peatlands determined in the Criterion 11 and on buffer-zones of water basins and small water bodies determined in the Criterion 17. Soil where retention trees left after clear-cuts are growing shall not be scarified, neither should be cleared their bases. For safety reasons retention trees must not be left in close vicinity to important constructions, such as traffic lanes or electric and telephone lines or on monuments of antiquity. A share of retention trees can be made into man-made snags.</p> <p>The trees left on buffer-zones defined in Criterion 11 and 17 are counted to the total number of retention trees when they fulfill the diameter requirement set for retention trees.</p> <p>41) <u>Trees with decaying stems</u> include snags with a diameter at a breast height exceeding 20cm and other dead standing trees, hollow trees and ground wood. The decaying wood under this criterion does not include standing snags that are dried for commercial purposes or dead conifer trees that should be harvested based on the Forest Damages Prevention Act (1087/2013).</p> <p>42) <u>Compartment</u> refers to forest areas belonging to a forest owner confined or marked for wood harvesting and which can be composed from several different forest sub-compartments with different harvesting time and regime.</p>
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Title	Criterion 15: Finnish native tree species shall be used in forest regeneration
Criterion	Forest regeneration shall be done with tree species native to Finland ⁴³⁾ except for special cases ⁴⁴⁾ .
Indicators	A summary of the area regenerated with species other than those native to Finland is calculated annually.
Definitions	43) Siberian larch (<i>Larix sibirica</i>) is considered equal to <u>tree species native to Finland</u> . 44) Special cases include the establishment of parks and urban forests, growing Christmas trees, production of conifer branches, as well as forest stands and trees planted for landscape purposes or conservation of cultural environment as well as cultivation of hybrid aspen (<i>Populus tremula</i>).

Title	Criterion 16: Genetically modified seed and plant materials shall not be used
Criterion	Gene modified material or other material, which is not approved by the authority ⁴⁵⁾ shall not be used in seeding and planting.
Indicators	Information from the authorities responsible for the enforcement of the Act on Trade of Forest Reproductive Material (241/2002) indicates that gene modified material has not been used in seeding and planting.
Definitions	45) The authority responsible for monitoring the trade of forest reproductive material and for the approval of forest reproductive material in Finland is the Finnish Food Safety Authority (Evira).

Title	Criterion 17: All operations taking place close to watercourses and small water bodies shall safeguard water protection
Criterion	<p>A buffer-zone that preserves layer composition of vegetation is left along watercourses and springs⁴⁶⁾ for capturing solid and nutrient run-off to. Leaving canopy biomass on the buffer zone should be avoided.</p> <p>On buffer zones there should be no</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - soil scarification - fertilization - stump removal - clearing of shrub layer vegetation⁴⁷⁾ - use of chemical pesticides or herbicides⁴⁸⁾. <p>Tree harvesting on buffer zones can focus on other trees than those that are retention and decaying trees mentioned in the Criterion 14, however so that a bush layer and small trees³³⁾ of the buffer zone are preserved.</p>
Indicators	<p>On the area of operations⁵⁰⁾ the buffer zone is considered to be preserved as required by the criterion when, based on monitoring²¹⁾ the soil is undisturbed on over 90 per cent of the length of the buffer-zone and the layer composition of vegetation has been preserved. The width of the buffer zone is at least 5-10 meters taking into account the vegetation of the shore area and shape of the landscape.</p>
Definitions	<p>46) <u>Watercourses</u> include seas, lakes, ponds, rivers and creeks.</p> <p>47) The shrub layer and small trees along water courses may be cleared for reasons related to landscape values and environmental management</p> <p>48) <u>Chemical pesticides and herbicides</u> refer to the definitions of plant protection products defined in the Act on Plant Protection Products 1563/2011 and the Regulation of the European Parliament and Council (EC) N:o 1107/2009.</p> <p>49) <u>Area of operations</u> is an entity composed of one or several forest sub-compartments or an area confined on a map where the same type of harvesting and other silvicultural measures is applied nearly on all of the territory.</p>

Title	Criterion 18: Water protection shall be safeguarded in drainage maintenance sites and drainage mounding sites
Criterion	<p>Forest organizations' plans for drainage maintenance shall include a water protection plan. The planned water protection measures shall be implemented as appropriate.</p> <p>On clear-cut areas where water is lead to outfalls appropriate water management measures shall be applied.</p>
Indicators	<p>The water protection plan contains among other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - impacts of the measures related to drainage maintenance on the water levels of watercourses - consideration of valuable habitats as defined in Criterion 10 and consideration of peatland habitats that are rare and that have become rare as defined in Criterion 11 - risks for erosion in drainage maintenance - slope if the terrain and water conduct away from drainage maintenance area - water protection measures and their extent. <p>Any other than a minor drainage maintenance work shall be reported⁵⁰⁾ to the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment.</p>
Definitions	50) <u>Report</u> refers to the report defined in the Water Act (587/2011, 5 chapter 6 §).

Title	Criterion 19: In forestry operations the quality of groundwater shall be safeguarded
Criterion	<p>Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall not be used⁵²⁾ in groundwater areas⁵¹⁾ that are important (Class 1) or suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>Fertilizers shall not be used in groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) sources of water supply. However, ash fertilization of peatlands is allowed.</p> <p>Stumps shall not be removed in Class I groundwater areas.</p>
Indicators	<p>(rc) The forest organizations²⁾ use or have access to the information on the locations of the groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) and suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>(rc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides as well as fertilizers have been taken into consideration in the working instructions and recommendations of forest organizations²⁾. The monitoring²¹⁾ of nature management has not encountered stump removal areas in Class I groundwater areas.</p> <p>(gc + foc) A forest owner has access to the data concerning the location of groundwater areas that are important (Class 1) and suitable (Class 2) sources of water supply.</p> <p>(gc + foc) The restrictions on the use of pesticides and herbicides are taken into account. No stump removal on Class I groundwater areas has been identified.</p>
Definitions	<p>51) <u>Groundwater</u> in Finland is classified as an important source of water supply (Class 1), suitable source of water supply (Class 2) and other ground water area (Class 3) based on the water's suitability and protection needs.</p> <p>52) Treatment of seedlings in nurseries with pesticides and herbicides against pine weevil is not considered to be the use of pesticides and herbicides as referred to in this criterion. The same also applies to the use of chemical or biological stump treatment to prevent root rot infections. Any treatment shall be done according to the instructions and restrictions⁵³⁾ given by the Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes⁵³⁾) in the Plant Protection Product Register.</p>

Title	Criterion 20: Plant protection products shall be used responsibly
Criterion	<p>Only approved ⁵³⁾ pesticides and herbicides shall be used in forest management and wood harvesting.</p> <p>Broad-leaved coppice shall not be treated in forest regeneration areas or in seedling and sapling stands with chemical foliage sprays, unless it is implied by measures controlling the fungal diseases infecting young Scots pine stands from aspen coppice.</p> <p>No chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used in valuable habitats defined in Criterion 10.</p> <p>Chemical pesticides or herbicides shall be used only when unavoidable. Such cases can be, for instance, the control of ground vegetation on forest regeneration areas; stump treatment of broad-leaved trees; controlling the pine weevil; prevention of damages caused by elk and for treatment of coniferous timber storages in the vicinity of forest areas to prevent spreading of insect damages into the forests.</p> <p>The use of control agents in stump management for prevention the spreading of root rot is allowed in general but not in the valuable habitats specified in Criterion 10.</p>
Indicators	<p>(rc) The guidelines and instructions of forest organizations ²⁾ include the recommended use of chemical pesticides and herbicides in different forestry operations.</p> <p>A forest owner has instructions for the use of plant protection products that are applied.</p>
Definitions	<p>53) The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) <u>approves</u> and registers plant protection products entering the market. Because biological decomposition of products is estimated in context of the approval of the product, there are only those products on the market, of which the biological decomposition is at the acceptable level. Approved plant protection products are listed in the Plant protection product register of Tukes.</p>

Title	Criterion 21: Competence of employees' shall be ensured
Criterion	Employees' adequate professional competence shall be ensured.
Indicators	<p>Employer and <u>issuer of the contract</u>⁵⁴⁾ shall have evidence which indicates that they have been assured of the required professional competence of the employee for each task carried out for accomplishment of work.</p> <p>Employer shall have evidence which indicates that the maintenance and necessary development of professional competence⁵⁵⁾ during the contract of work is ensured.</p> <p>Employees shall have access to the general guidelines needed for conducting work.</p> <p>Employees shall be given site specific work instructions and maps that include a marked worksite, as well as information on the quality, environmental and other requirements⁵⁶⁾. The <u>issuer of the contract</u>⁵⁷⁾ is responsible for marking the site unless otherwise agreed, on sites with of unclear borders of the worksite, unclear area of the activity and natural sites of special importance that are not clearly distinguishable.</p>
Definitions	<p>54) <u>Employer and issuer of the contract</u> refer to, depending on the case, an employer registered in the Trade Register, holder of harvesting contract or employer of a subcontractor. The information on the registered employers is available in Finnish Business Information System (BIS).</p> <p>55) <u>Professional competence</u> can be achieved by either professional education or work experience.</p> <p>56) <u>Other requirement</u> includes, among other, removal of canopy biomass from those hiking paths which are defined in an agreement between land owner and a party maintaining a hiking route.</p> <p>57) <u>Issuer of the contract</u> refers to a natural person or a juridical body which as a buyer of a subcontracting service and as a customer concludes a subcontracting agreement and to whom results of work are presented to.</p>

Title	Criterion 22: Work safety, workplace well-being and equal opportunities at work shall be attended
Criterion	Contractors and employees shall be provided with the conditions for safe and high quality work.
Indicators	<p>An employer or <u>issuer of the contract</u>⁵⁴⁾ has an approach allowing ensuring that subcontracted work does not endanger safety and health of a subcontractor/employee.</p> <p>A subcontractor/employee has general work safety instructions.</p> <p>An employer distinguishes and takes into account hazards and risk factors caused by work, work conditions and working time⁵⁸⁾.</p> <p>An employer has organized provision of occupational health services in accordance with the law⁵⁹⁾.</p> <p>An employer organizes activities appropriate to the conditions of work and also aiming at maintaining the ability to work.</p> <p>An employer whose staff is regularly higher than⁶⁰⁾ 30 people prepares in collaboration with staff representatives an annual equality and equal opportunities plan especially concerning wages and other conditions of services in accordance with the law⁶¹⁾.</p> <p>Previously determined indicators can be considered fulfilled if they are included into work safety action programs of the organization or into a personnel and training plans.</p> <p>A subcontractor/employee has been made aware of the aspects and field sites possibly endangering the work safety during his/her work or at the work site.</p> <p>The working guidelines are given in the language the worker understands⁶²⁾.</p> <p>When needed in work related issues a worker has at disposal a person speaking the same language or an interpreter.</p>
Definitions	<p>58) Recognition of hazards and risk factors caused by <u>working time</u> is based on the Occupational Safety and Health Act (738/2002, 10§).</p> <p>59) Occupational Health Care Act (1383/2001)</p> <p>60) Number of employees on duty on December, 31.</p> <p>61) Act on Equality between Women and Men (609/1986)</p> <p>62) When employer is a public employer or contracting party as defined in the Language Act (423/2003) the Act applies and in the Sámi Homeland, the Sámi Language Act (1086/2003) applies.</p>

Title	Criterion 23: Statutory obligations of employers shall be adhered to
Criterion	<p>An employer or <u>issuer of contract</u>⁵⁴⁾ shall comply with the labor and social legislation⁶³⁾, collective agreements⁶⁴⁾ and legislation on employment of foreign labor.</p> <p>Employers and contractors shall provide local shop stewards with the information requested in the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability⁶⁵⁾.</p>
Indicators	<p>Employer is aware of the binding regulations in collective agreements, labor and employment legislation and legislation on the use of foreign labor when relevant. Employer has procedures that ensure the conformity to the legislation in force.</p> <p>Employers shall make work agreements in a written form and file them.</p> <p>Recording of actual working hours of workers subject to the Working Hours Act has to be organized and compensations and additional compensations based on actual work hours have to be provided in accordance with procedures required by the Working Hours Act or collective agreements⁶⁶⁾</p> <p>Employee and employer organizations are requested to give statements on possible regional violations of collective labor agreements or on the above mentioned legislation.</p> <p>At the beginning of work an employer or issuer of contract⁵⁷⁾ has to make sure that a foreign contract party (e.g. a foreign contractor or an employee) is informed on the Finnish employee rights and obligations⁶⁷⁾</p>
Definitions	<p>63) Legislation refers to the Finnish legislation.</p> <p>64) Collective labor agreements refer to collective labor agreements effective in Finland.</p> <p>65) <u>Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out</u> (1233/2006)</p> <p>66) According to the Working Hours Act (605/1996) 37§ employer is required to record the working hours and related compensation of each employee. Working hours Act 2 and 39§ lists groups that are excluded from application of the law. Exceptions to working hours can be decided upon with a national collective labor agreement within limits allowed by provisions regulating working time in the Section 40 of the Working Hours Act.</p> <p>67) This requirement can be complemented by providing/presenting an employee e.g. with "Working in Finland" –guide which can be found at www.te-palvelut.fi. The guide is available in the following languages: Swedish, English, Estonian, Russian, French and Polish.</p>

Title	Criterion 24: Good practices shall be adhered to in contracting forest services
Criterion	<p>Employers or <u>issuers of the contract</u>⁵⁴⁾ have paid taxes, social security fees and employment pension fees. They require their subcontractors and their personnel leasing companies to pay taxes, social security fees and employment pension fees and fulfill the labor and social legislation, collective labor agreements⁶⁴⁾ and legislation regarding foreign labor force.</p> <p>Projects concerning forestry operations⁶⁸⁾ undertaken by forest organizations²⁾ have to fulfill good contracting practices.</p>
Indicators	<p>Documents of issuer of the contract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Issuer of the contract has documents reporting compliance with the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out. <p>There is a documentation obligation⁶⁹⁾ required by the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out, when the overall value of compensation exceeds the value⁷⁰⁾ determined in the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out or if the use of services of temporary agency exceeds 10 working days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Participants of a tender competition have to assure that they fulfill the obligations under the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out. c) Documents required by the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out are checked always before concluding a contract regardless of the nature of the contract and at least every year. <p>Good practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) An issuer of the contract has a written description of the tendering procedures which is to be complied with in the tendering process. Participants of tendering negotiations or tendering competitions are informed about the tendering procedures in advance. e) In service procurement an issuer of contract shall be prepared for a possible change of a service provider with an adequately long⁷¹⁾ transition period. f) Subcontract agreements exceeding the threshold value of the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out are done in a written form and archived. g) An issuer of the contract has a list of those subcontractors which have provided him forest subcontracting services during past two years. h) The issuer of the contract informs subcontractors about known significant breakdowns or constraints of subcontracting activities in sufficient time before they start.

	<p>Terms of agreements:</p> <p>i) Subcontract or lease agreements related to a contract have to include the terms mentioned below:</p> <p>I. The agreement shall state a collective agreement or collective agreements applicable to contracted work or task.</p> <p>II. During the validity of contractual relationships a subcontractor or a leasing company is obliged upon request of an issuer of the contract to present a statement on implementation of obligations according to the Act on the Contractor's Obligations and Liability when Work is Contracted Out.</p> <p>III. The agreement shall include a right to terminate the contract if the one of the contract parties does not give an appropriate assurance on the implementation of obligations or has not fulfilled essential obligations nor promptly acted to fulfill them.</p>
Definitions	<p>68) <u>Forestry operations</u> refer to tree harvesting and other work related to silviculture and forest improvement activities.</p> <p>69) <u>The issuer of the contract has to receive documentation on the following:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information whether the company is listed in the Prepayment register in accordance with the Prepayment Act (1118/1996) and the Employer register and registered as VAT-liable in the Value added tax register in compliance with the Value Added Tax Act (1501/1993) - document of registration in the trade register - a certificate of tax paid or tax debt or an account that a payment plan has been made for tax debt - certificates of pension insurances taken and of pension insurance premiums paid, or an account that a payment agreement on outstanding pension insurance premiums has been made - an account of the collective agreement or the principal terms of employment applicable to the work <p>70) 7 500 euro in 2014</p> <p>71) <u>An adequately long transition period</u> refers to a time period between identification of results of negotiations or tender competition and initiation of contractual services. This means that subcontracting negotiations and a tender competition are organized so that there is enough time left for adapting activities and resources between determination of results of negotiations or the tendering competition and implementation of subcontracting services. In subcontract agreements of more than a year an adequately long time can be considered around 2–4 months and in agreements of maximum one year– around 1–2 months before the end of the agreement. During the transitional period subcontracting work continues normally. Timeframes mentioned above cannot be considered as unconditional as situations may change.</p>

Title	Criterion 25: The competences of forest owners shall be diversely promoted
Criterion	The number of persons participating in supplementary training, personal or group information sessions, intended for forest owners belonging to the group certification shall be equivalent to at least 20% of the total number of forest owners in the region ⁷²⁾ . The criterion applies only to regional group certification.
Indicators	Statistics on training sessions, personal ⁷³⁾ and group guidance ⁷⁴⁾ organized for local forest owners by the regional Finnish Forest Center, forest management associations, forest owners' union, forest industry companies and forestry colleges as well as organizations committed to forest certification. The statistics must include the number of participants in trainings and extensions ⁷⁵⁾ . Topics discussed in training sessions can include e.g. economically profitable timber production and harvesting, forest ecology and nature management of commercial forests, multiple use of forests, game management, forest culture, independent forest management, Everyman's rights and PEFC-forest certification.
Definitions	72) <u>The number of forest owners</u> is counted on the basis of forest owners belonging to the group certification. 73) <u>Personal guidance</u> includes, among others, site visits with a forestry professional; a corresponding visit to a forest holding; online consultations; forest management planning; and extension services by a forestry professional in the implementation of forestry works. 74) <u>Group guidance</u> includes training courses, online courses, forest excursions and forest work demonstrations organized for forest owners by the parties listed in the indicator. 75) Forest owners and other persons involved in forestry operations on the holding are counted as <u>participants in the training/extension</u> indicated in this criterion.

Title	Criterion 26: Knowledge of forestry and interaction with nature among children and adolescents shall be promoted
Criterion	<p>There shall be an up-to-date action program to promote the forest based knowledge and strengthen interaction with nature among children and adolescents in the region.</p> <p>The criterion applies only to regional group certification.</p>
Indicators	<p>On the initiative of regional forestry center the significant forestry organizations⁷⁶⁾ in the region review, together with the forestry sector youth and training organizations, the action program within a year from the issuance of the certificate. Active cooperation with other interested and locally operating parties is sought in the implementation of the action program.</p> <p>The action program includes a plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to increase the awareness of forest ecosystem, silviculture and forestry and strengthen interaction with nature among children and adolescents b) of forest visits carried out in cooperation with kindergartens and schools c) to arrange practicing and apprenticeship opportunities for adolescents aiming at a forestry profession or already studying in the field. <p>The targets defined in the action programs are monitored annually.</p> <p>The parties committed to forest certification and the other parties involved in the preparation of the action plan compile and submit the information on the sessions to the certificate holder.</p>
Definitions	<p>76) <u>Significant forestry organizations</u> in the region referred to in the criterion are among others, the Finnish Forest Center, Metsähallitus, forest management associations, forest owners' union and timber harvesting organizations as well as entrepreneur and employee organizations.</p>

Title	Criterion 27: Everyman's rights shall be safeguarded
Criterion	Opportunities for free moving, access and stay in forests as well as for collecting forest products according to Everyman's rights ⁷⁷⁾ shall be safeguarded.
Indicators	There is not a significant amount of verified restrictions to the Everyman's rights.
Definitions	<p>77) <u>Everyman's rights</u> include, among others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - e.g. walking, skiing or bicycling - temporary camping on other person's land - gathering of berries, mushrooms and some other nature products - gathering of dried twigs, brushwood, fallen cones and nuts <p>The following activities are not included in Everyman's rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - setting fire - damaging trees or bushes - driving in motor vehicles on terrain - gathering of protected plants, lichens and mosses - making feeding places for game - damaging seedling stands and cultivated land - littering the environment <p>An opportunity for the use of the Everyman's right and its limitations depend on the dominant type of land use on the area.</p> <p>Additional information about the Everyman's right can be obtained from the guidebook "Everyman's rights – Legislation and practice" (Finnish environment series 30/2012) prepared by the Ministry of Environment.</p>

Title	Criterion 28: No waste or litter shall be left in forests after forestry operations
Criterion	There should not be any plastic, metal or hazardous waste or litter left in the forest as the result of forestry operations ⁷⁸⁾ .
Indicators	During the site inspection there has not been revealed any waste or litter from forestry operations. (rc) The general guidelines of forest organizations ²⁾ include instructions on appropriate processing of waste.
Definitions	78) <u>Hazardous waste</u> refers to categories of waste which are listed in the Annex 4 of the Government Decree on Waste (179/2012).

Title	Criterion 29: Preconditions for multipurpose use of forests shall be promoted
Criterion	Accessibility on recreational trails ⁷⁹⁾ possibilities for hunting and game management and agreement based collection of organic forest products shall be enhanced in order to safeguard the preconditions for the multiple use of forests.
Indicators	<p>No soil scarification or stump removal shall take place on recreational trails. Canopy biomass shall not be left on trails. Any permanent constructions on trails shall be safeguarded in forestry operations. When the monitoring²¹⁾ of nature management indicates that 90 per cent of a trail length is intact (in forestry operations), when the trail has not been made inaccessible or there has been ensured an alternative trail, the accessibility on the trails is taken into consideration as required by the criterion.</p> <p>Forest²⁾ and hunting organizations⁸⁰⁾ collaborate for preventing damages caused to game, promoting game keeping and safeguarding game habitats.</p> <p>In context of collecting organic products, the publicly available information required⁸¹⁾ on the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides is openly accessible⁸²⁾ organized by authorities and if necessary for those estates where forest owner, or a person he/she has authorized, has made an agreement regarding the compliance with the guidelines for production of organic products.</p> <p>In order to safeguard living conditions of game, broadleaved trees are left as supplementary seedlings in seedling stands dominated by coniferous species.</p>

Definitions	<p>79) <u>Recreational trails</u> established and marked by recreational trail planning according to the Act on Recreation (606/1973) or by separate agreements with a land owner.</p> <p>80) <u>Hunting organizations</u> include the Finnish Wildlife Agency as well as the Finnish Hunters' Association.</p> <p>81) <u>The required information</u> refers to location details of such sites where the use of other products rather than fertilizers and soil improvers specified in the Annex 1 and plant protection products specified in the Annex 2 of the EC Directive 889/2008 has been possible. Regarding to forest management activities such information refers to location details of sites which have been treated with fertilizers or plant protection products. The data concerning private forests has to be submitted by the forest owner, a body authorized by the forest owner, or the Finnish Forest Center. Data concerning other forests has to be submitted by forest owner/holder or another entity approved by the body responsible for monitoring organic production at EVIRA (the Finnish Food Safety Authority).</p> <p>82) <u>Open access</u> refers to location data of sites treated with forest fertilizers and root rot control carried out with the governmental support set in the Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1094/1996). Authorities refer, for example, to the Finnish Forest Center and Centers for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment or other entities authorized by them.</p>
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Title	Criterion 30: Archeological sites shall be preserved
Criterion	Measures connected to forest silviculture and use are planned and implemented so that the requirements of the Antiquities Act (295/1963) are fulfilled. Excavating, covering, changing, damaging, removing and other tampering of archeological sites ⁸³⁾ is forbidden without a legal permit.
Indicators	Court rulings which have proven violations of antiquities according to the Sections 1 and 2 of the Antiquities Act.
Definitions	83) Information on the location of <u>archeological sites</u> can be found from the online service of the registry portal of Cultural Environment of the National Board of Antiquities.

Title	Criterion 31: Operating conditions for reindeer herding shall be secured
Criterion	Forest management activities on reindeer herding sites of state forests, under the administration of Metsähallitus, and reindeer herding shall be integrated in a local level cooperation so that the conditions for reindeer husbandry are safeguarded in forest management activities on a broad and long-term basis in the region designated for reindeer herding.
Indicators	To reach this target Metsähallitus shall cooperate with the representatives of relevant reindeer herding cooperatives when carrying out such activities that might have a significant impact on reindeer herding. Significant activities and need for cooperation shall be determined in cooperation so that the target will be achieved. The cooperation observes the Agreement by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders' Association signed on 4.4.2013 ⁸⁴⁾ by Metsähallitus and the Reindeer Herders' Association as well as the sections of Metsähallitus natural resources planning addressing the integration of forestry and reindeer husbandry.
Definitions	84) The certification criterion refers to <u>the agreement</u> valid at the time. The criterion applies to state lands of reindeer herding excluding the Homeland of the Sami people. Metsähallitus follows each agreement which it has concluded with a herding cooperative. Metsähallitus complies with the Reindeer Husbandry Act, the environmental guide of Metsähallitus and aspects of the natural resource planning.

Title	Criterion 32: Preconditions for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods shall be safeguarded in Sámi Homelands in accordance with Sámi definition of sustainable development
Criterion	In the Sámi ⁸⁵⁾ homelands the management and use of areas and natural resources administered by the State shall be organized in such a way that they ensure the facilities for Sámi culture and traditional livelihoods ⁸⁶⁾
Indicators	<p>The management of state forests is carried out in compliance with the international laws, article 8j⁸⁷⁾ in Biodiversity Convention⁶⁹⁾ and the rights of Sámi as defined in the Constitution, as well as in such a manner that the engagement of the Sámi Parliament in preparation and decisions on the issue is secured.</p> <p>Measures required by the traditional reindeer herding belonging to the Sami culture and the necessity for cooperation are defined in the agreement on Reindeer Herding and cooperation and reconciliation of activities of Metsähallitus and reindeer herding activities between herding cooperatives of the Sami homelands, the Finnish Sami Parliament, the Skolt Council and Metsähallitus .</p> <p>The cooperation complies with the previously mentioned agreement, starting from the date of its validity, as well as sections of the Metsähallitus natural resource plans concerning reconciliation of forest management and the Sami culture.</p>
Definitions	<p>85) Sámi people referred to in the criterion mean the persons that comply with the definitions of the Sámi Parliament Act (Section 3). The municipalities belonging to the Sámi Homeland are listed in the Section 4 of the Act, the Skolt area in the Section 2 of the Act on Skolt. Traditional Sámi livelihoods include the livelihoods listed in Section 17, subsection 3 of the Finnish Constitution.</p> <p>86) <u>This criterion refers to state lands of the Sami Homeland.</u> Metsähallitus follows each agreement which it has concluded with a herding cooperative. If a herding cooperative terminates all agreements, Metsähallitus complies with the Reindeer Husbandry Act, the environmental guide of Metsähallitus and provisions of the natural resource planning.</p> <p>87) <u>Biodiversity Convention 8j:</u> ... in conformity to the national legislation respects, protects and maintains such knowledge, inventions and practices of indigenous people and local communities that in the context of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are part of significant traditional ways of living. It also promotes and widens the application of such knowledge, inventions and practices in cooperation with the societies referred to, as well as encourages the fair distribution of benefits gained from them.</p>

Annex 1. The main Finnish forest legislation

This Annex describes the main legislation concerning the Finnish forestry. A special attention has been paid to laws which correspond with the requirements set by the international PEFC-standard (PEFC ST 1003:2010). The Annex is informative.

Law - (Running numbers of laws included in Annex 1)	Description of its content
Forest Act (1093/1996) – (Law1)	<p>The purpose of the Law is to promote economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management and use of forests in order that the forests produce a good output in a sustainable way while their biological biodiversity is being maintained (1 §). A forest owner has to submit to the Finnish Forestry Center a forest use declaration concerning the intention to carry out harvesting and treatment of potential habitats of special importance on the area (7a §).</p> <p>The Law forbids deforestation. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after clearcutting (5a §). An obligation of regeneration also applies to commercial forests which have been declared for other use if the land use has not been changed during four years from the end of harvesting or other activity (3 §). Clearing forest for other use may require permission according to the Land Use and Building Act, the Environmental Protection Act or the Water Act. The Forest Act is applicable until a decision on granting the permission becomes effective.</p> <p>The Law delegates the Finnish forestry center a task to prepare a regional forest program in cooperation with representatives of the forest industry and other stakeholders (26 §). The regional forest program should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a description of forests, forest holding and wood use as well as demand and targets for their development - targets for suitable forest measures - a description of forest biological biodiversity including conservation areas - a description of livelihoods relying on forestry and forests, their impacts on employment and demand and opportunities for their development - an estimation of economic and environmental and other impacts of the program implementation.
Real Estate Register Act (392/1985) – (Law2)	In Finland the National Land Survey is responsible for maintenance of the Real Estate Register which contains general information concerning real estates and indirect information about owners (1 §).
Code of Real Estate (540/1995) – (Law3)	The Law defines the grounds for acquisition of real estates and registration of ownership.
The Law on placing timber and timber products on the market (897/2013) – (Law4)	The Law on placing timber and timber products on the market implements the principles of the EU Timber Regulation (EU N:o 995/2010) and EU acts based on it. Timber Regulation implies that actors shall use a so-called “due diligence system” for ensuring the legality of timber and timber products.

<p>Land use and building act (132/1999) – (Law5)</p>	<p>The land-use shall be guided by a plan (1 §). The plan must be prepared in interaction with such persons and bodies whose circumstances and benefits the plan may have substantial impact on (5 §). When a plan is drawn up, the environmental impact of implementing the plan and its alternatives, including socio-economic, social, cultural and other impacts, must be assessed to the necessary extent for implementing the plan and options.</p> <p>Planning procedures must be organized in such a way that the landowners in the area and those whose living, working or other conditions the plan may have a substantial impact on, as well as the authorities and corporations whose sphere of activity the planning involves, have the opportunity to participate in preparing the plan.</p> <p>The work changing the landscape such as tree felling is the subject for authorization on areas determined by the law (128 §). The landscape work-permit is required for example when carrying out work on areas covered by a local detailed plan and partly on areas of a local master plan.</p>
<p>Act on private roads (358/1962) – (Law6)</p>	<p>The Act implies that building of roads is appropriate and does not cause a significant damage to the environment or decrease of cultural values of the environment or other infringement of a general advantage comparable to them (7 §). Also the Act separately safeguards Natura-sites and their natural values (7a §).</p>
<p>Forest damages prevention act (1087/2013) – (Law7)</p>	<p>The purpose of this Act is to guarantee a good health status of forests and prevent insect and fungi damages of growing trees (1 §). The Law also imposes an obligation of a landowner to reface damaged trees from the forest (6 §). The task of the Finnish Research Institute is to monitor and anticipate the occurrence and spreading of plant diseases and pests causing forest damages and studying the cause-effect relationships of damages and their economic significance (12§).</p>
<p>Act on plant protection products (1563/2011) – (Law8)</p>	<p>The aim of the Act is to ensure appropriate and sustainable use of plant protection material and decrease the risks caused by their use (1 §). The Act implies that plant protection products have to be used appropriately whenever there is a need for it and in compliance with user instructions.</p> <p>The Finnish Safety and Chemical Agency (Tukes) approves and registers plant protection products appearing on the market and monitors the legislation connected to them (5 §). The list of approved products does not include protection products of classes 1A and 1B of the WHO.</p> <p>The Safety and Chemical Agency has to make sure that professional users, distributors and advisors are offered education regarding appropriate and safe processing and use of plant protection products. If plant protection products are used on a professional basis general principles of integrated protection have to be also followed. Plant protection products can be spread only with safe and good quality tools designated to that. Plant protection products can be used professionally only by a person which has obtained a degree on plant protection (10 §).</p>
<p>Act on commerce of material for forest regeneration (242/2002) – (Law9)</p>	<p>The Act implies that seeds and seedlings used for forest regeneration have to have an appropriate origin for this growing site, good quality and health.</p>
<p>Fertilizer product Act (539/2006) – (Law10)</p>	<p>The objective of this Act is that fertilizer products placed on the Finnish market are safe, of good quality and suitable for plant production (1 §).</p>
<p>Nature conservation act (1096/1996) – (Law11)</p>	<p>The Nature Conservation Act safeguards certain types of forest natural habitats (29 §) and important habitats of species under special protection (47 §).</p>

Water act (587/2011) – (Law12)	The Act regulates comprehensively different uses of water resources and its purpose is to ensure the good condition of water resources (1 §). Water resource management projects which may change the state of water resources require a consent of the permit authority (Chapter 2, 2 §). The Act requires a permit in projects which can significantly affect the water system (2 §). Construction of a bridge or a transport device over a public or main channel always requires a permit (3 §).
Environmental protection act (86/2000) – (Law13)	The Act sets obligations and provisions regarding pollution of the environment. The Act defines that a permit has to be obtained for any activity which poses a threat of pollution (28 §). The Act also includes prohibition of groundwater pollution (8 §) and soil contamination (7 §).
Antiquities Act (295/1963) – (Law14)	Financing of archeological sites representing previous dwelling and history of Finland is guaranteed by the law (1 §). The financing of these sites is monitored by the National board of antiquities (3 §).
Hunting Act (615/1993) – (Law15)	The Act applies to hunting and capturing and killing of unprotected animals as well as game management, compensations for damages caused by game animals and keeping dogs (1 §).
Game administration act (158/2011) – (Law16)	The Act determines responsibilities of the Finnish Wildlife agency and game management associations in exercising sustainable game husbandry and hunting (1 §). Regional wildlife councils are operating in connection with the Finnish Wildlife agency (5 §). They increase open and interactive stakeholder cooperation related to the game husbandry and their activities aim at promoting coordination of different interests. In addition to that regional wildlife councils participate in preparing national management plans concerning game species.
Rescue Act (379/2011) – (Law17)	The aim of the Act is to improve the safety of people and reduce the number of accidents (1 §). The Act obliges to being careful with fires and prohibits making an open fire on someone else's land without the landowner's permission (6 §).
Occupational safety and health act (738/2002) – (Law18)	The aim of the Act is to improve the working environment and working conditions (1 §), what includes protection and maintenance of the working capacities of employees.
Act on occupational safety and health enforcement and cooperation on occupational safety and health at workplaces (44/2006) – (Law19)	The aim of the Act is to safeguard compliance with provisions concerning occupational safety and improve the working environment and working conditions with the help of monitoring carried out by occupational safety authorities and cooperation between an employer and employees (1 §).
Act on contractor's obligations (1233/2006) – (Law20)	The Act obliges a contractor to ensure that the other contracting party has fulfilled its legal obligations (5 §). The Act aims at preventing grey economy and its aim is to promote equal competition among companies and compliance with working conditions (1§).
Employment Contracts Act (55/2001) – (Law21)	The Act creates grounds for the work life and is applied in nearly all civil work relationships regardless of the work quality.
Working hours act (605/1996) – (Law22)	The Working Hours Act contains main provisions regarding working hours and its aim is to protect an employee. The Act is general and is usually applicable to all working relationships.

Outdoor recreation act (606/1973) – (Law23)	The aim of the Act is, among others, to determine practices concerning establishment of official outdoor recreation routes (2 §) and wilderness recreation areas (16 §).
Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004)* – (Law24)	The Act determines that Metsähallitus has to manage, use and protect natural resources and other property governed by it in a sustainable and profitable way. Metsähallitus practices businesses within the framework of the obligations to the society laid down in this Act and manages public administration duties (2 §). With participation of stakeholder groups implementation of sustainability on different areas is taken into account (4 §).
Wilderness Act (62/1991) – (Law25)	Wilderness areas are established on governmental lands for conservation of wild nature of these areas, safeguarding the Sami culture and natural means of livelihood, as well as creation of conditions for multiple use of nature in Northern Finland (1 § and 3 §).
Act on Sami Parliament (974/1995)*, Constitution (731/1999) – (Law26)	The rights of the Sami on their homeland as an indigenous people is secured by a separate act. The forest management on the Sami homeland referred to in this Act shall comply with constitutional provisions on Sami cultural and linguistic rights (Const. 17.3 and 121.4 §), the Act on Sami Parliament and the Act on the use of the Sami language and international agreements concerning them ratified by Finland.
Reindeer Husbandry Act (848/1990) – (Law27)	In Northern Finland the Reindeer Husbandry Act guarantees opportunities for practicing reindeer herding and husbandry and guarantees wide rights for reindeer grazing also on state lands.
Scolt Act (253/1995)* – (Law28)	The Act provides Scolts with special rights concerning land-use (9 §).

* The Act on Metsähallitus, the Act on Sami Parliament, the Scolt Act and the criteria 28–29 take into account the requirements of the ILO 169.

Annex 2. Rare peatland types

Regionally endangered or critically endangered peatland types and their conservation status.
EN = endangered, CR = critically endangered

In Northern Finland:

Rich fens	
Rich swamp fen	EN
Rich birch fen	
Rich birch lawn fen	EN
Rich lawn fen	EN

In Southern Finland:

Spruce mires	
Thin-peated spruce mires	
Herb-rich herb spruce mire	EN
Thin-peated <i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i> spruce mire	EN
Thin-peated rich spruce mires	
Thin-peated rich fern spruce mires	EN
Thin-peated rich herb-grass spruce mires	EN
Thin-peated rich fen spruce mires	CR
Ground-water influenced thin-peated rich spruce mires	CR
Herb-rich birch-spruce mire	
Fern spruce mire	EN
Herb and grass birch-spruce mire	EN
Ground-water influenced birch-spruce mire	EN
Herb and <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> birch-spruce mire	EN
Dwarf shrub spruce mires	
<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i> spruce mire	EN
Poor birch fen and birch-spruce mire with rich fen features	
Birch-spruce mire with rich fen features	CR
<i>Carex nigra</i> birch fens	EN
<i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i> birch fens	EN
Poor pine fen and rich pine fen	
Rich pine fen	CR
Herb rich pine fens	CR
Fen	
Herb rich sedge fen	CR
Rich fen	
Rich swamp fen	CR
Rich ground-water influenced fen	CR
Rich birch fen	CR
Rich birch flark fen	CR
Rich birch lawn fen	CR
Rich lawn fen	CR
Rich flark fen	CR
Swamp	
Wooded swamp	
Grey alder swamp	CR
Shrub-covered swamp	
<i>Myrica gale</i> swamp	EN



Classification of threatened habitat types in Finland (2008)

Regional classification in the survey:

Northern Finland

= Northern Boreal Forest Belt

Southern Finland

= Hemi, Southern and Central Boreal Forest Belt