

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND STUMP-TO-FOREST GATE CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY SURVEILLANCE EVALUATION REPORT

Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB

SCS-FM/COC- 00153G

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CERTIFIED	EXPIRATION
21 October 2021	20 October 2026

DATE OF FIELD EVALUATION
21 March - 6 September 2022
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Foreword

Cycle in annual surveillance evaluations				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 st annual evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd annual evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd annual evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 th annual evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (expansion of scope, Major CAR audit, special audit, etc.):
Name of Forest Management Enterprise (FME) and abbreviation used in this report:				

All certificates issued by SCS under the aegis of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) require annual evaluations to ascertain ongoing conformance with the requirements and standards of certification. A public summary of the initial evaluation is available on the FSC Certificate Database <http://info.fsc.org/>.

Pursuant to FSC and SCS guidelines, annual / surveillance evaluations are not intended to comprehensively examine the full scope of the certified forest operations, as the cost of a full-scope evaluation would be prohibitive and it is not mandated by FSC evaluation protocols. Rather, annual evaluations are comprised of three main components:

- A focused assessment of the status of any outstanding conditions or Corrective Action Requests (CARs; see discussion in section 4.0 for those CARs and their disposition as a result of this annual evaluation);
- Follow-up inquiry into any issues that may have arisen since the award of certification or prior to this evaluation; and
- As necessary given the breadth of coverage associated with the first two components, an additional focus on selected topics or issues, the selection of which is not known to the certificate holder prior to the evaluation.

Organization of the Report

This report of the results of our evaluation is divided into two sections. Section A provides the public summary and background information that is required by the Forest Stewardship Council. This section is made available to the public and is intended to provide an overview of the evaluation process, the management programs and policies applied to the forest, and the results of the evaluation. Section A will be posted on the FSC Certificate Database (<http://info.fsc.org/>) no less than 90 days after completion of the on-site evaluation. Section B contains more detailed results and information for required FSC record-keeping or the use by the FME.

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SECTION A – PUBLIC SUMMARY

1. General Information

1.1 Evaluation Team

Auditor name:	Patrik Vendel	Auditor role:	Audit Team Leader
Qualifications:	Master’s Degree in Biology, Bachelor’s Degree in Forestry. 12 years’ experience with FSC Forest Management of which 6 years’ experience of group certification. Qualified as Lead Auditor for FSC FM in 2021		
Auditor name:	Tony Axelsson	Auditor role:	Trainee Auditor
Qualifications:	Forester with 13 years experience of FSC Forest Management in leading positions with forestry companies, managing forestry and group certificates.		

1.2 Total Time Spent on Evaluation

A. Number of days spent on-site for evaluation	44,5
B. Number of auditors participating in on-site evaluation	1
C. Number of days spent by any technical experts (in addition to amount in line A)	0
D. Additional days spent on preparation, stakeholder consultation, and follow-up	7
E. Total number of person days used in evaluation	51,5

1.3 Applicable Standards

All applicable FSC standards are available on the websites of FSC International (www.fsc.org) or SCS Global Services (www.SCSglobalServices.com). All standards are available on request from SCS Global Services via the comment form on our website. When no national standard exists for the country/region, SCS Interim Standards are developed by modifying SCS’s Generic Interim Standard to reflect forest management in the region and by incorporating relevant components of any Draft Regional/National Standard and comments from stakeholders. More than one month prior to the start of the field evaluation, SCS Draft Interim Standards are provided to stakeholders identified by FSC International, SCS, forest managers under evaluation, and the FSC National or Regional Office for comment. SCS’s COC indicators for FMEs are based on the most current versions of the FSC Chain of Custody Standard, FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups (FSC-STD-30-005), and FSC Accreditation Requirements. “Applicable standards” are all FSC standards with which the certified entity must comply, not just the standards selected for evaluation this year.

Standards applicable <i>NOTE: Please include the full standard name and Version number and check all that apply based on type of certificate.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Stewardship Standard(s), including version: SWE-03-2019
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FSC Trademark Standard (FSC-STD-50-001 V2-0)
	<input type="checkbox"/> SCS COC indicators for FMEs, V8-0
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FSC standard for group entities in forest management groups (FSC-STD-30-005), V1-1
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

1.4 Conversion Table English Units to Metric Units

Length Conversion Factors		
To convert from	To	multiply by
Mile (US Statute)	Kilometer (km)	1.609347

Foot (ft.)	Meter (m)	0.3048
Yard (yd.)	Meter (m)	0.9144
Area Conversion Factors		
To convert from	To	multiply by
Square foot (sq. ft.)	Square meter (m ²)	0.09290304
Acre (ac)	Hectare (ha)	0.4047
Volume Conversion Factors		
To convert from	To	multiply by
Cubic foot (cu ft.)	Cubic meter (m ³)	0.02831685
Gallon (gal)	Liter (l)	4.546
Quick reference		
1 acre	= 0.404686 ha	
1,000 acres	= 404.686 ha	
1 board foot	= 0.00348 cubic meters	
1,000 board feet	= 3.48 cubic meters	
1 cubic foot	= 0.028317 cubic meters	

2. Certification Evaluation Process

2.1 Evaluation Itinerary, Activities, and Site Notes

Date: 2022-03-21	
FMU / location / sites visited	Activities / notes
Remote Opening meeting	<p>Opening Meeting: Introductions; client summary of land sales/acquisitions, annual management activities, and stakeholder issues; review scope of evaluation; finalize audit plan; intro/update to FSC and SCS standards; confidentiality and public summary; conformance evaluation methods and review of open CARs/OBS; emergency and security procedures for evaluation team; final site selection.</p> <p>2 stakeholder issues, relayed to the Lead Auditor from both Prosilva and directly from respective stakeholder, was raised during the opening meeting. Management of these was reviewed in the following first part of the CO audit and is described below.</p>
Remote Review of processes for Stakeholder management, complaints, internal audit and changes to the Management System.	<p>Review of the stakeholder process, including the identification process. A Stakeholder overview is available and stakeholders are divided into groups depending on type of stakeholder. ENGOs and the union(s) etc. are placed in the group “the general public”. This is documented in “1.1 Beskrivning av Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB” pages 1-2.</p> <p>Complaints procedure “7.01 Avvikelser och förbättringsarbete” and “9.05 Hantering av externa synpunkter och klagomål” reviewed. These govern Each group member is informed upon joining the Group Certificate on their respective responsibilities as demonstrated for member S-8046, signed 2022-03-18, where</p>

	<p>bullet points 33-36 govern the members responsibilities in relation to complaints.</p> <p>2 external complaints were reviewed, one directed to the group function and one directed to a group member, the latter had been forwarded to the group function as per the agreement. The first complaint regarded information of the complaint management process on Prosilvas webpage and an OBS (2022.14) was raised because of this. For the second complaint, the management was reviewed including the documentation relating to it. Planning was also done to visit the concerned area on site during the sample visits. The management documents included verification that all applicable indicators had been met. Field visit at the concerned site did not indicate a reason to raise a CAR.</p>
<p>Date: April FMU: S-3208, S-6419, S-5903, S-7913, S-4060, S-6133, S-6294, S-7890, S-7767, S-7793, S-2541, S-5814, S-1235, S-5908</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Interview with group members, review of management plan, set aside areas, hired contractors, overall planning activities and planned and closed silvicultural operations, pre-dominantly pre-commercial thinnings and final fellings. Review of monitoring activities in accordance with scale, intensity and risk.</p> <p>S-6419 and S-1235 could not demonstrate how indicators 2.3 - 2.6 had been met. For S-2541, management plan did not include areas sufficient to meet indicator 6.5.2. S-5903, S-6133, S-6294, S-6419 and S-1235 had not signed a contract (indicator 2.1.5) with a hired contractor. S-6294 had not ensured a conservation felling had taken place in a set aside area (indicator 6.5.5).</p>
<p>Field audits Karlstad, Sunne, Mellerud, Färgelanda, Uddevalla</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned operations, monitored operations, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with group member and/or representative and onsite visits.</p> <p>S-3208 Planting activity Pine stand. Chemically treated seedlings, planted in an area with left seed trees. Several examples of failed plantings and subsequently dead seedlings. Seedlings have also been planted in adjacent farm land and within a riparian zone.</p> <p>Final felling Manually felled trees near a creek to avoid damaging it, however failure to create/leave a buffer zone.</p>

	<p>Group member was excluded from the group by Prosilva in connection with the audit.</p> <p>S-7913 Final felling Final felling from March 2022. Pine dominated stand, adjacent to a mire, a set aside area and an area planned to meet indicator 6.5.2. Felling done to further favour pine, with a high amount of conservation/retention trees left as seed trees. One crossing over a wetter area identified, no damages identified.</p> <p>S-4060 Avd 44&45 Ongoing pre-commercial thinnings, pine dominated, containing ancient remains. Very low amounts of deciduous trees.</p> <p>S-7890 Avd 23 & 25 Conservation felling in an older, mixed, stand (50/50 pine/spruce) with a minor amount of deciduous trees. Average age, 130-140 years, 2,9 ha. A fair amount of existing dead wood, predominately of the same age. Buffer zone left next to an adjacent conservation area, all spruce has been felled and all pine left. Per interview with group member, the aim was to premier the pine and promote a natural regeneration to establish a 2-layered pine forest. If successful, this would be a very suitable stand for meeting indicator 6.5.2 which was intended.</p> <p>Avd 22 Conservation area. Mixed stand (pine/spruce) in seasonally flooded area, in a step slope. Very old pine and late grown spruce, at least 120-130 years and very suitable as a set aside area. Well suited buffer area as a reinforcement.</p> <p>Avd 30 Pre-commercial thinning. Mixed stand, about 70% birch and 30% spruce. Per interview with the group member, the aim is to create a stand dominated by deciduous trees.</p> <p>S-7767 1:133, avd 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 Final felling. Spruce dominated stand, 130-150 years old. Mostly flat terrain but on the far end with a steep slope. Minor occurrence of pine, around 150 years. Several examples of existing dead wood, no evidence to suggest any has been felled or removed. Two wetter areas cutting through the stands, both needing crossings. At one passing, soil damages was identified, however with no visible water run off and no leakage of soil or mud. One of</p>
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	<p>the wetter areas had been marked as a conservation area (separate stand for 6.5.1) but treated as a consideration area and not a separate stand, observations during the field visit deemed the latter more appropriate. This will need to be adjusted in the management plan.</p> <p>Conservation area - no ID Woodland Key Habitat. Set aside area, very old spruce with great spread in diameter and with clear signs of natural succession.</p> <p>S-7793 Avd 18 Conservation area, without conservation felling need, 1,1 ha. Older pine forest on rocky ground, several very old pines and signs of natural succession and spread in tree diameter. Minor amounts of dead wood, very suitable conservation area.</p> <p>S-2541 Avd 20 Pre-commercial thinning, 1,8 ha. Operation by the group member themselves. Wetter area in the middle, features of older trees. Mixed stand, dominated by spruce. After thinning, estimated 15% deciduous trees. Good quality, some variation in tree diameter and several identified favoured deciduous trees.</p> <p>Avd 36 Potential set aside area, 1,7ha, adjacent to the group members home. Presently defined as a production stand but per interview with the group member never planned to be felled. Previously all spruce had been taken out, leaving 50-60% of the volume (older pine trees). Sparse pine forest on rocky ground , suitable as a set aside area or continuity forestry to meet indicator 6.5.1 or 6.5.2.</p> <p>S-5814 ID 1 Pre-commercial thinning, about 5 ha, done by the group member themselves. Spruce planting on abandoned farmland. After operation, estimated 15-20% deciduous trees of which several have been favoured.</p> <p>ID 2 Thinning operation. Pine dominated stand on mixed soil conditions, wetter areas and outcrops. Previously minor fellings has been done with minor outtakes of timber. Per interview with the group member the intent is to keep this operation pattern.</p> <p>ID 3</p>
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	<p>Very late pre-commercial thinning. After thinning operation, a mixed stand has been created consisting of spruce, pine, birch and alden.</p> <p>S-1235 Avd 21 Tinning, pine dominated stand adjacent to a conservation area (set aside) with need for conservation thinning operations. No such thinning has taken place. Stand adjacent to a lake where beavers have felled the majority of all deciduous trees nearest the water. Stand not managed previously, no large features of deciduous trees.</p> <p>Avd 39 Thinning. Mixed stand with large amounts of deciduous trees. After thinning operation, an estimated amount of 10%. A large creek dividing the stand, measures has been taken to prepare for a sufficient future buffer zone.</p> <p>Avd 42 Conservation area. 2-layered pine stand. Very suitable set aside area with an estimated average age of 150 years.</p> <p>Avd 47 Pre-commercial thinning, birch dominated production stand, near a residential area. Good quality operation but needs to be monitored to ensure production values and avoid self thinning.</p> <p>Skalåsen: Avd 47 & 49 Final felling done 2018/2019, after this planted with spruce and pre-commercially thinned. Stand dominated with spruce but with large amounts of birch, aspen, oak and ash. Birch and aspen has been thinned but no evidence to suggest oak or ash have been felled. No operations in consideration areas.</p>
<p>Date: May 2022 & June 28th S-4384, S-7636, S-7277, S-7549, S-5339, S-2372, S-7745, S-7922, S-6870, S-6927, S-6838, S-7800, S-2139, S-8161, S-2140, S-5532 & S-6804</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Interview with group members, review of management plan, set aside areas, hired contractors, overall planning activities and planned and closed silvicultural operations, pre-dominantly pre-commercial thinnings and final fellings. Review of monitoring activities in accordance with scale, intensity and risk.</p> <p>Member S-7549 could not demonstrate that a Management Plan had been commissioned.</p>

	<p>Members S-2139, S-8161, S-2372, S-5339, S-2140, S-7549 and S-5532 could not demonstrate that sufficient areas had been identified to meet indicator 6.5.2. All FMUs however had identified well over 5% set aside areas as per indicator 6.5.1.</p> <p>S-5339 could not produce evidence to demonstrate a contract had been signed with a hired contractor.</p> <p>S-5532 was not deemed to meet indicator 2.5.1 as a forest owner conducting smaller forestry operations by themselves.</p>
<p>Field Audit Karlstad, Hedemora</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned operations, monitored operations, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with group member and/or representative and onsite visits.</p> <p>S-4384 Avd 19 Final felling, 4,96ha. Spruce dominated stand, 100 - 110 years old, with clear signs of damages by Ips Typographus. Several wetter areas, all identified and left, and high numbers of young standing dead wood. No evidence to suggest existing dead wood being removed och conservation trees being felled. Minor soil damages in connection with scarification. Alders, aspen, birch and pine left as consideration trees as well as groups of dead spruce.</p> <p>Avd 15 Pre-commercial thinning, 16,87ha. 2 separate stands, 15 + 1,9 ha. Planted spruce with a very large number of birch. Several examples of birch and willow trees being favoured. The aim is a spruce dominated stand but currently it is about 50/50. Previous consideration areas not thinned. Good quality.</p> <p>S-7636 Avd 68 Late managed stand with evidence of self thinning process starting. Likely never or only once pre-commercially thinned. Very demanding operation. Stand composed of 2 parts, partly divided by a mire in one end and a ditch (straightened creek) in the other. No evidence of soil damages and very few felling damages on remaining stand. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out.</p> <p>Avd 69 Final felling, 1,4 ha. Somewhat sparse stand, spruce dominated, on mesic/moist soil. Large amounts of pine and deciduous trees. Adjacent to a creek which runs along the stand, cutting through it and mostly dividing it. Crossing done with no visible damages. 2 consideration areas identified, in one of which, spruce has been taken out. Sufficient amounts of conservation trees. No evidence</p>

	<p>to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out. Timber still at the road side during field visit and was subject to review with no remarks.</p> <p>S-7277 ID 124299 GA Thinning, pine dominated stand. A smaller portion of the stand is cut off by a road on one end and adjacent to a lake on the other. Thinning in the Eastern part of the stand and final felling in the Western part. A well used path crosses the thinned part, crossing has been done with no identified damages. Very few deciduous trees in the stand, the majority of which is found in the border between the thinning and final felling. Most of these have been left/favoured.</p> <p>ID 124299 FA Final felling, 1,5 ha. Mixed stand with a majority of pine, in a steep slope. Small amounts of deciduous trees. Small amounts of existing dead wood, however several examples of these being left. Sufficient amounts of high stumps of good quality and a large amount of consideration trees left. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out.</p> <p>S-7549 Avd 47 Final felling, 4,1 ha, where seed trees has been taken out. Originalfinal felling done by previous forest owner. A large amount of existing dead wood left with no evidence to suggest any has been taken out. 2 consideration areas identified and left, both of good quality and with these the stand meets indicator 6.6.2. No evidence to suggest conservation trees has been felled.</p> <p>S-5339 Avd 22 Second pre-commercial thinning. Spruce dominated stand on old farmland with an originally large amount of deciduous trees. A large portion of these has been felled so that they account for well under 10%. Good potential for meeting the requirement however, if left deciduous trees are favoured in coming forestry operations.</p> <p>Avd 28 Regeneration, spruce. Initial planting done 2018 with two consecutive supportive plantings due to primarily drought. Additional plants have been ordered and will be planted 2022. Continual monitoring of the development.</p> <p>Avd 29</p>
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	<p>Final felling, 0,8 ha. Felling of wind thrown trees, almost exclusively spruce. Presence of oak, aspen and dead wood. No evidence to suggest these elements have been felled or taken out. Several high stumps created, no identified soil damages.</p> <p>S-2372 AVD 36 &38 Final felling, about 6 ha. Mixed stand, predominately spruce. A wetter area in a dip in the terrain in the stand, with no undergrowth had been cleared, all deciduous trees left. A creek located in the East of the stand with a well adapted buffer zone. Few retention trees left on the felling site but at least 200 - 300 consideration trees was identified in the buffer zone. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out. No identified soil damages.</p> <p>Avd 74 Second pre-commercial thinning. Large stand, pine dominated but with large occasional elements of deciduous trees. Parts of the stand with rugged terrain, these parts have been outsourced to a local contractor (PEFC certified, verified by the group member). Ramnaining parts has been or will be fmanaged by the group member themselves. Several examples of favoured deciduous trees identified. Estimated 10-15% deciduous trees.</p> <p>S-7745 Avd 40 G1, 3,1 ha. Identifierad lämning (hålväg) vid planering. Tydligt utmärkt med hänsynsstubbar lämnade längs med. Ca 10% lövandel efter utförd åtgärd. Flera exempel på friställda lövträd i form av blivande naturvärdesträd (ek och asp).</p> <p>Avd 61, del av G1, totalt 4 ha varav 2,5-3 ha gallrat. Grandominerat bestånd med mindre andel löv. Flera exempel på gynnade och friställda lövträd. Inga markskador.</p> <p>Avd 14 NS, 13,3 ha. Igenväxande betesmark med två mindre avdelningar med produktionsskog i sig, den ena utgörs av gallringsskog (björk). Stort inslag av gamla lövträd och underväxt med trivial- och ädellöv. Mindre skötselåtgärder har genomförts men inget större. Diskussioner med en granne pågår om att ha hästar på bete, i dessa fall behöver åtgärder vidtas för att skydda bärande träd och yngre blivande solitärer.</p> <p>S-7922 Järperyd 1:6: Avd 1, 2 & 8</p>
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	<p>Gallring, Holmen utförare. Likåldriga bestånd som gallrats samtidigt. Grandominerade bestånd med varierade förekomster av tall och björk. Flera exempel på gynnade lövträd och friställda blivande naturvärdesträd.</p> <p>Järperyd 1:8: Avd 8 Röjning. Barrblandskog med övervägande gran. Röjd för 5 år sedan och beståndet har slutit sig väl. Merparten av tallen har stamkvistats med övervägande gott resultat. Ca 10% lövinblandning och flera exempel på friställda lövträd identifierades.</p> <p>S-6870 Avd 31 Pre-commercial thinning, 1,4 ha. Spruce dominated stand on flat terrain, naturally occurring pine and birch. Young oak trees, left in the final felling, saved and premiered now making up a smaller, open area in the middle of the stand. Several examples of favoured younger deciduous trees.</p> <p>Avd 14 Older wooded pasture land, 1,4 ha. Marked as production forest in the Management Plan but the group member has no plans on felling operations. As per communications during the audit, the stand will be revised to qualify for an area to meet indicator 6.5.2. Deemed as a very suitable stand for this.</p> <p>Avd 11 Conservation area, 0,6 ha. Aspen dominated stand with great age variation where spruce has been felled. Old pasture land with an ancient remain in it, no damages. A very suitable conservation area.</p> <p>S-6927 Avd 19 Thinning operation by the GM themselves. Pine dominated stand with very few deciduous trees. Well executed with existing dead wood left. No fresh dead wood created. See finding 2022.5.</p> <p>Avd 46 Pre-commercial thinning, 1,4 ha. Mixed stand, good quality and kept distribution between spruce, pine and deciduous trees.</p> <p>Avd 67 Thinning. Larger, pine dominated, stand around and on a hill/mountain running across the landscape North to South.</p>
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	<p>Several examples of oak trees being favoured. Felling by Holmen Skog, dead wood created.</p> <p>Avd 45 Final felling, by the GM themselves. Part of the stand felled 2021 (0,6 of 1,4 ha). Spruce dominated with deciduous trees and pine in the outskirts. Very well executed with all conservation trees identified and left based on observation during the audit. No standing dead wood created. See finding 2022.5.</p> <p>S-6838 Avd 10 Set aside area with management need. Wooded pasture land, estimated approved canopy coverage. Currently grazed area. Large number of solitary trees with very high conservation values as well as some younger individuals.</p> <p>Avd 8 Final felling, 0,7ha. Spruce dominated stand with a large number of ancient remains, no evidence to suggest any remain has been overseen. All remains surrounded by consideration stumps, large number of conservation - and retention trees left along with a high amount of high stumps. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out.</p> <p>S-7800 Group member excluded from the group in connection with the audit.</p> <p>S-2139, S-8161, S-2140 3:25 & 3:39 Planned thinning. Mixed stand with varied topography, a high amount of deciduous trees. Review of felling instructions where division on species and amount of deciduous trees are planned to be unaltered after thinning.</p> <p>ID 60,517426 13,016772 Area adapted to meet indicator 6.5.2. Long and broad buffer zone between a road and a river. Somewhat patchy stand with large diameter spread between the trees and signs of natural succession taking place. Deemed appropriate to meet indicator 6.5.2.</p> <p>Avd 103 - 106 Planned thinning, oblong stand, opposite sides of ID 60,517426 13,016772. Larger thinning operation where previous pre-commercial thinning was done late, leading to a stand with thinner trees than normal. Estimated 5-10% deciduous trees.</p>
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	<p>ID 60, 623081 13,0180109</p> <p>Potential set aside area, identified by the group member themselves. Older, mixed stand dominated by pine but where a natural succession of spruce has started. Patchy with plenty of existing dead wood in various stages of decay. Smaller glades. Large diameter spread between the trees. Previously set as a normal production stand. Very suitable as a set aside area.</p> <p>Avd 111:24 & 111:25</p> <p>Final felling from 2020, regeneration 2021 by seeding with equal parts pine and spruce. Stand in minor slope towards a road with a wetter area in the middle, dividing it. A creak runs through North/South. Buffer zones left along the wetter parts. All passings well done with great effort taken to avoid soil and water damages. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out.</p> <p>Branäs 1:13</p> <p>Current production stand, considered as a stand to meet indicator 6.5.2. Mixed stand with a high amount of deciduous trees. Moist soil conditions and signs of seasonal floodings. Larger open glade in the middle, planned to be converted to a grazing area for wild game. Suitable as a set aside area or continuity forestry.</p> <p>S-5532</p> <p>Final felling. Ongoing manual fellings of a large aspen tree top, done by a contractor commissioned by the group member. After information on the importance of rough tops from deciduous trees, the top was left as consideration. Most deciduous trees left in a thin buffer zone next to a creak along with high stumps of very high quality. No identified soil - or water damages. All undergrowth nearest the water has also been left. Large spruce trees, adjacent to the creak has been felled and in connection to these, there is no buffer zone.</p> <p>S-6804</p> <p>Skårsjö 1:1</p> <p>Avd 400</p> <p>Final felling, 5,4 ha. Pine dominated stand on a small peninsula, surrounded by water on three sides. 2 consideration areas identified, one of which an alden dominated swamp forest in direct connection with open water. An additional 2 tree groups left. Good buffer zone along the entire waterway, varied in width. Outside of this, solitary trees and tree groups constitute sufficient amounts of retention trees. Indicator 6.6.3 is deemed to be met. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or dead wood has been felled or taken out.</p>
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	<p>Avd 419 Pre-commercial thinning. Mixed stand with a large amount of deciduous trees, situated between a road and open water in a steep slope. Good quality thinning with maintained deciduous amount. One older oak identified and favoured, good prepared for creating a sufficient buffer zone towards the water.</p> <p>Avd 402 Pre-commercial thinning. Spruce dominated forest in plain terrain with low amounts of deciduous trees. Well done thinning operation, however despite a low count of deciduous trees, some were found to have been cleared.</p> <p>Svenserum 1:10 Avd 18 & 16:1 Final felling, 6,5ha. Spruce dominated stands, one larger and one smaller. The larger stand with an oblong part north/south and a larger more square part in an angle northeast. In this larger area, old farmland with stone walls and old hand dug ditches. No damages identified. Requirement for felling limitations is deemed to be met as is requirements for retention trees and existing dead wood. Up a small hill and through a younger stand is 16:1, a spruce dominated stand adjacent to a set aside area. Large number of retention trees and fresh high stumps. No evidence to suggest the felling of conservation trees or existing dead wood.</p> <p>Avd 138 Pre-commercial thinning. Mixed stand with a low amount of deciduous trees, about 5%. despite a low count of deciduous trees, some were found to have been cleared.</p>
<p>Date: May 12th - 13th Group member: Hällefors-Tierp Skogar</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Document review of management plan and procedures, guidelines, policies, agreements and relations to identified stakeholders. Auditor conducted interviews with several members of company staff. Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations including the planning procedure and monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) and continuous adaptation to FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019 SW.</p> <p>Annual harvesting levels are calculated using the program HEUREKA. All thinning operations and final fellings are done via two larger PEFC/FSC-certified forest companies (StoraEnso Skog on the western landholdings and BillerudKorsnäs in the eastern</p>

	<p>landholdings) including planning. Interviews with personnel demonstrated good knowledge on respective responsibilities/work assignments. Regular training on conservation, effective planning, etc. is planned for but not executed to date. Template for training ledger reviewed. Monitoring activities is planned to be conducted yearly using a sample-based approach. Identification of need for pre-commercial thinnings demonstrated by personnel and done regularly.</p> <p>Thinning operations have been further incorporated in the company and by 2023 will be managed completely by the group member.</p> <p>Management system is available for all personnel in a SharePoint, demonstrated during the audit. Work instructions for all staff was reviewed, these are collected in a large procedure called “Befattningsbeskrivningar”. Instructions for the newest member of staff was reviewed (“page 2, “Skogvaktare”). Review of training ledger for the two latest employees and training plan for all personnel with no remarks. Risk assessment has been done and regular Safety Rounds has been held. Review of Safety Round 2021, including all personnel. A safety procedure for non-chain saw related work has not been created. Review of Safety Meeting Protocol 2020-01-13 and 2022-04-06 where the matter was discussed.</p> <p>The safety procedure was found not to include all types of alone work and should be completed.</p> <p>Annual harvesting levels are calculated using HEUREKA For own management operations PEFC-certified contractors are hired to verify that applicable FSC indicators are met. Collaboration with the hunting associations to keep grazing effects in young stands at an acceptable level. Procedure regarding regeneration method states that diggers shall be used when scarification is needed and that Scots pine shall be planted when conditions are suitable, regardless of risk for grazing.</p> <p>9,6 % of productive the forest land is set aside for conservation purposes, meaning the company is not meeting indicator 6.5.2. Work has been initiated to meet the requirement. Primarily various types of continuity forestry is being discussed and work has begun to find suitable areas. A consultancy firm has made an inventory of several areas to decide if they should be production areas or not. Agreement (signed 2021-08-24) and review of evaluation “Naturvärdesbedömning Hällefors Tierp skogar_2021_Leverans” demonstrated. 12 areas reviewed, area 11 was, for example, classified from production forest to a set aside area in need of management. Information on WKH:s and set aside areas are available on the website.</p>
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	<p>Review of compliance on indicator 7.5.1 Guidelines c. and d. demonstrated that information on the Group Entity’s Complain Procedure had not been specified, see finding 2022.6.</p> <p>No procedure is explicitly written to meet 7.6.1, rather, working with stakeholders is more part of other procedures regarding normal operations. Preventive work is integrated in the normal work descriptions. In the agreements with companies managing felling operations a section explicitly states that the responsibility for local stakeholder communications is on these parties. Review of agreement with one of these parties for the period 2023-2025.</p> <p>All regeneration is monitored, a sampling of all other operations is done yearly and comprised. Review of document “Grönt Bokslut 2021” where results of all monitored activities are outlined.</p>
<p>Field Audit</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits. Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways, consideration areas and known ancient remains. In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>ID 100056 Final fellings with 5 stands, 2 of which are connected (5400 & 5698). Four of the stands spruce and pine dominated, with the fifth having a higher number of deciduous trees. The two connected stands are on the east side of a mire with the third stand (5697) on the west side. One smaller stand (5898 - 0,8 ha) north of the two connected stands. These four stands are located near each other, the fifth (5491) 500 m at the west.</p> <p>5400 & 5698 are in a large slope, divided lengthwise by a road. Pine dominated with a high spruce count and several birch trees. A mire in the west with a functional buffer zone left with several consideration trees in it. In total 9,5 ha with over 150 conservation/development trees of good quality, both in the buffer zone and as solitary trees. Several examples of existing dead wood being retained. No soil damages identified. At least 15 created high stumps. No evidence of trees with high conservation values being cut.</p> <p>5697, 2,1 ha, placed on the west side of the mire. Flat terrain with a steep slope nearest to the mire. A thin buffer zone left, but still with a demonstrated shading effect, deemed OK. At least 50</p>

	<p>consideration trees left, and 10 high stumps/recently dead standing trees. Several examples of existing dead wood being retained. No soil damages identified. No evidence of trees with high conservation values being cut.</p> <p>5401, 4,3 ha. Spruce dominated stand with a high number of birch and alder, with some large willow trees as well. In the west, the stand is divided by a marked path and is adjacent to a small lake. The part between the path and the road mainly consists of deciduous trees.</p> <p>The final felling has been subject to complaints from a local NGO due to an expected drop in social value (experiencing a forest feeling) from walking on the path. Two meetings were held with the stakeholders and group member not being able to agree on a compromise.</p> <p>The area between the path and the road has been left all together in the Northeast, and in the Northwest all spruce has been cut, to create a connected area, dominated by deciduous trees. In the larger area at the South side of the road, all spruce has been cut, leaving a very high number of deciduous trees. Good quality final felling, no damages on or near the path.</p> <p>ID 66E2J5002 Thinning, 12 ha. Mixed stand, predominately with pine and spruce. Varying topography and a mire adjacent in the West, nearest this a buffer zone left in the final felling. This has been reinforced appropriately with wider consideration or thinner stems favoured in it. According to self assessment in April 2022, deciduous trees amounts to 11% in the stand. As per ocular assessment during the audit, this seems reasonable. Several examples of favoured birch trees.</p> <p>ID 100114 Thinning, 25,9 + 6,9 ha. Recently thinned stand adjacent to a mire and open water in the West and South. Predominately pine dominated stand with only a few deciduous trees observed, no evidence of felling observed. A path and several ancient remains identified, no identified damages in or near these. A well sized buffer zone created nearest the mire/open water. Several high stumps created and over 30 was identified. Several examples of future conservation trees being favoured and/or left. Very few felling, or other, damages to remaining stand was identified.</p> <p>ID 500838 Planting, 2,7 ha. Spruce dominated stand, in steep slope, adjacent to open water and divided by a forest road. A thin buffer zone left nearest to the water and 4 ancient remains identified. Planted with spruce, and with a few pine seedlings naturally rejuvenating.</p>
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	<p>Some damages on the seedlings but overall a good result. No planting or soil preparation in or near the remains or the buffer zone. Appropriate method for soil preparation used.</p> <p>ID 266218104 Planned final felling, 4,6 ha. Spruce dominated stand, with two larger areas affected by ancient remains (old railway banks) running along the stand lengthwise. First generation spruce on old farmland otherwise. The South part (ca 2 ha) planned to be left intact, partly as general consideration and partly to extend a nearby bufferzone to form a larger “set aside” area. Meeting with stakeholders planned, confirmed by contacting Hjulsjö Byförening No evidence to suggest high conservation values.</p> <p>ID 100093 Thinning, 6,1 ha, adjacent to open water in the North West. Mixed stand, after the thinning dominated by birch with the northern part to 100%. Prior to the operation, local stakeholders were contacted. Another meeting after the thinning was held to discuss the result with, as per communication by the Group Member, good result. One very old pine tree identified and clearly favoured.</p>
<p>Date: May 17th</p>	
<p>Group member: Örebro Kommun</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Document review of management plan and procedures, guidelines, policies, agreements and relations to identified stakeholders. Auditor conducted interviews with several members of company staff. Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations including the planning procedure and monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) and continuous adaptation to FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019 SW.</p> <p>Community forests, FMU is governed according the various views of the citizens. Over 28% set aside areas including own reserves (7,9% excluding these) and 39% recreational forests.</p> <p>Management goal for the landholdings are defined in “Naturplan Örebro kommun”. This includes strategies to reach these goals with emphasis on environmental parts and a policy for Örebro kommuns forestry (page 24). New manager, yet to receive an introduction from his predecessor, however with a thorough forest/biology related background.</p> <p>Per interview the group member manager acknowledged receiving information on FSC from the Group Certificate but could not recall</p>

	<p>specifics. Manager supported by a forestry co-ordinator who is also responsible for communication with stakeholders.</p> <p>A 4-year contract is signed with a large forestry company for overall management. They also provide contractors for manual felling of specific trees. A Microsoft Teams-group has been set up to provide the forestry company, including involved contractors and County Biologists, with information on coming management needs. The group member also have an agreement with a local contractor (forwarder), review of felling instruction (Ånnaboda huggning anläggningen), deemed to meet minimum requirements and consistent with information given in the forestry management plan. Manager has access to the forestry company’s planning tools for easier communication and better coarse planning.</p> <p>Review of procedures for work environment “Rutin för ensamarbete i fält” and “Rutiner för arbete med motorsåg och röjsåg”. The latter one needs updating because of new personnel and procedure specifies that certain chainsaw felling can be done after 2021 (meaning senior staff as per interview). Need was known but</p> <p>Prior to the planning process, community ecologists have been involved to assess conservation values. Proximity to populated areas is also part of the overview planning. Prior to planning, GM always reviews the function “Skogens Pärlor” where common and threatened species can be registered. Review of planning material “Täby avd 130 FA”. Communications with local ENGO demonstrated for a larger forest area (Sörbyskogen) with both production stands and set aside areas.</p> <p>Continous monitoring of the landholdings, follow-ups regularly by the manager, forestry co-ordinator and/or the representatives for the forestry company.</p> <p>Work instructions for “Skogsförvaltare” reviewed. “Skogssamordnare” is starting in August 2022 and an instruction has been initiated.</p> <p>Group member could not demonstrate how indicator 7.5.1 was complied with. See finding 2022.6.</p> <p>No approval could be demonstrated for use of FSC trademarks in official documents or on the webpage. See finding 2022.12.</p>
<p>Field Audit Örebro</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and</p>

	<p>onsite visits. Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas. In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>Avd 158 Final felling, 4,7 ha. Spruce dominated stand, cut because of Ips Typographus. Several ancient remains identified prior to planning and one during planning. 2 large consideration areas with a high number of aspen left. Ancient remains along a stream/ditch also clearly marked with consideration stumps, no damages identified. Over 300 trees left, both conservation trees and future conservation trees. Large amount of high stumps created. No evidence to suggest consideration trees or existing dead wood has been taken out.</p> <p>Avd 284, part of. Final felling, 7,9 ha of which 2,8 has been cut. Spruce dominated stand adjacent to a large wet forest area. In connection to planning, a goshawk (Accipiter gentilis) nest was identified. Felling was delayed until after breeding season and a large consideration area was left around the nest during the felling. The nest was occupied during the audit. Several consideration trees of very high quality left as well as high stumps. Certain places with poor soil conditions have been thoroughly prepared. No evidence to suggest consideration trees or existing dead wood has been taken out.</p> <p>Avd 289 Pre-commercial thinning, 11,7 ha. Planted spruce with naturally rejuvenated birch. A very high stem number prior to the thinning, also some damages because of a late snow fall. A larger wetter area left in the prior final felling. In parts of this area, thinning has been done to favour a few alder trees. About 20 - 30% deciduous trees overall in the stand.</p>
<p>Date: May 24th</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>S-7800</p>	
	<p>FMU did not meet the revised requirements in FSC-STD-SWE 03-2019 and had no intention on meeting them and was subsequently removed from the Group Certificate in connection with the audit.</p> <p>Internal auditor present during the audit, review of written confirmation to end membership in connection with the closing meeting.</p>
<p>Date: May 25th , May 31st & June 1st</p>	
<p>Group member: Lima Besparingskog & Transtrands Besparingskog</p>	

FMU / location / sites visited	Activities / notes
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) was especially targeted.</p> <p>Both forest owners’ forest holdings are managed by the same personnel operating under the same procedures. The aim is to deepen that cooperation. Previously, management plan data has been filed in the rudimentary system SOL but all data has recently been transferred to BESK and VSOP, offering greater possibilities for the planning process as well as of monitoring activities as it enables more detailed overviews of the FMU. The program BESK is utilized stands are identified based on forest age and sets a gross area to start planning forestry operations. During planning, each area is further classified with a more detailed nature value assessment.</p> <p>Forest workers, hired by Lima Besparingsskog for pre-commercial thinning and planting are hired a new for each year. Review of contract for worker ID 136 reviewed, signed 2022-05-02. All applicable requirements met.</p> <p>Transtrand Besparingsskog does not have any employees related to forestry operations, instead all active personnel is hired from Lima Besparingsskog. An agreement has not yet been signed but interviews with Forest Trustee at Lima confirmed this will be done in connection with Lima Besparingsskog joining Prosilvas PEFC Group Certificate for forest contractors. Start date is September 5th 2022.</p> <p>Measurable goals, other than annual felling volumes, could not be demonstrated. Aside from an ELP with a very broad description, no policies are in place. The ELP contain all applicable information but for several requirements (burning, set aside areas etc.) the information is not explicit or not up to date. See finding 2022.6.</p> <p>Lima Besparingsskog has hired personnel with the sole purpose of revising the management plan and make an inventory of the forest. Review of re-classification of areas 67E5a8875 from production forest area to “Bufferzone” and set aside area, made 2021-07-08.</p> <p>Transtrand Besparingsskog will be outsourcing 50% of planning and execution of final felling operations to one of four timber purchasing companies. All thinning operation by Transtrand and Lima respectively. Will be transitioning to a situation where Lima is</p>

	<p>contracted for all forestry operations as soon as they obtain their PEFC Forest Contract certification.</p> <p>Planning personnel could not demonstrate official training in the Nature Value Assessment method used. See finding 2022.8.</p> <p>Forest health is being monitored very closely since 2021 with a complete overview currently being done. Previously no feedback has been sent by pre-commercial thinning operations but this has now started. Requirements for monitoring is known and will take start 2022/2023.</p> <p>Difficulties to account for percentage of set aside areas, most areas are classified as “consideration in connection with felling” but are in fact set aside areas. Several larger areas are classified as “Old unspecified set aside area” which was done in the migration to a new system. Work is in progress to review all classifications.</p> <p>Planning of sustainable harvesting levels calculated in HEUREKA. Inventory was demonstrated to be underway to make better predictions.</p> <p>Lima: 4 forest contractors are hired, all returning with continuous agreements Review agreement for JMB Skogsentreprenad AB (PEFC certification being a specified requirement) signed 2022-05-01. PEFC certification no 1281 (SE Certifiering). Jan Perssons Skogstransporter AB, E-4115 (EC Skog), agreement signed 2021-08-26. Transtrand: One contractor for a few more months, then the same contractor will have a new agreement with Lima Besparingsskog who will in turn outsource them to Transtrand.</p> <p>No need for stakeholder communication identified. No stakeholders have been in contact with the FMU for explicit forestry operations. Yearly meetings with forest owners who own part of the organization, no stakeholders are invited and has not shown any interest. Several examples of stakeholder communications concerning other parts of the businesses (exploitation area with <i>Riparia riparia</i> where a compensation area was created in a more suitable area).</p>
<p>Field Audit Lima, Transtrand</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits. Planning was well executed for all operations with all</p>

	<p>required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas. In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>During interviews, Lima Besparingsskog could not demonstrate how they ensured that sufficient amounts of high stumps or retention trees were being left/created. Field visits and interview with forest contractors confirmed there was no function in place as the contractors could not demonstrate how they ensured sufficient amounts either. See finding 2022.5.</p> <p>LIMA: ID 700955 Pre-commercial thinnings, 24,7 & 34,7 ha. Larger stands planned simultaneously. Pine dominated stands with a very low amount of deciduous trees. Hilly terrain and several seasonally waterfilled creeks on both stands. Management directives include information on desired amount of deciduous trees (10%), however several examples was identified where birch (the only deciduous species) had been cleared to favour pine trees, including a few examples of larger birch being felled to favour weak pine stems. Several examples were identified where birch had been favoured to allow for growth, however only by cutting other birch trees. Consideration to wetter areas sufficient. Minor: Deciduous trees has not been favoured sufficiently.</p> <p>ID 100402 Ongoing final felling. 45,6 ha, 160 years old. Pine dominated stand, divided into three parts due to the stand surrounding a mire and a small forest lake. The western part is adjacent to a larger lake. One larger consideration area (1,69 ha) created after information from the Forestry Administration Board on a rare species of fungi. Sufficient buffer zones to the mire and the open water. A large amount of existing dead wood after a storm in the 90s, most of it in the consideration area. No evidence to suggest existing dead wood has been taken out. 2 examples found of very old trees, 170-200 years old with signs of surviving a fire, being felled. Several examples of this type of tree was found in the wood pile, however no clear indication been of this seem to have was visible prior to the felling. No identified soil damages. OBS: The amount of retention trees (> 455 required) was close to the target but it is unclear if the site meet the requirement. If the consideration areas or buffer zones could be counted the felling would pass.</p>
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	<p>OBS: Insufficient amount of high stumps created, several examples was also identified where the high stumps was not 3 metres in height. See finding 2022.5.</p> <p>Interview with contractor on site, could not account for how many high stumps or retention trees had been left or were to be left going forward.</p> <p>ID 100403</p> <p>Ongoing final felling, 22,8 & 15,2 ha. Pine dominated stand, divided into 2 parts because of a road. Two larger areas, in the east and in the west clearly identified as set aside areas. On two occations, wetter areas has been passed with no identified soil damages. In the east, for a short distance, a steep drop down towards a mire constitutes the buffer zone. No evidence to suggest existing dead wood or consideration trees has been taken out. No identified soil damages.</p> <p>OBS: At the field visit, an insufficient amout of high stumps and retention trees had been created. Interview with contractor on site, could not account for how many high stumps or retention trees had been left or were to be left going forward. See finding 2022.5.</p> <p>Interview with contractor on site, could not account for how many high stumps or retention trees had been left or were to be left going forward. The felling instructions had, as per interview with the contractor, previously been produced late and with little information but was now found to be very good.</p> <p>TRANSTRAND</p> <p>ID 1013432</p> <p>Final felling, 52 ha. Pine dominated stand, about 160 years, divided on 4 different areas. The largest area intermixed with smaller mires. The two eastern areas divided from the rest by a large mire. These areas are planned for burning prior to planting. Good buffer zones created to the mire for all applicable stands, the zone was clearly marked with the contractor leaving a broader zone than minimum required.</p> <p>No evidence to suggest existing dead wood has been removed. Retention trees well over minimum levels. No soil damages.</p> <p>OBS: At one location, requirement 6.6.3 was not met and a potential conservation tree had been felled.</p> <p>ID 1012792</p> <p>Thinning, 60 ha. Pine dominated, very trivial, younger stand. Thinning due to a larger amount of broken trees (because of heavy snow fall). Scattered stand adjacent to several mires and and other</p>
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	<p>production stands. In connection to the East, a set aside is located. No felling has been undertaken in this area. No soil damages in the stand identified. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or existing dead wood has been harvested.</p> <p>ID 1011831 Final felling, 5,5ha. Pine dominated stand divided by a road. Very flat terrain, mire adjacent in the East and West with a good to sufficient buffer zone along in. No identified soil damages. Retention trees and high stumps OK. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or existing dead wood has been harvested.</p> <p>ID 1012791 Thinning, 18 ha. Pine dominated, oblong stand in hilly terrain. First thinning, a few years late. Good buffer zone to a small creek. Large soil damages leading up to the stand, no identified damages in the stand itself. Damages of minor importance because they do not affect water ways.</p> <p>ID 5723 Pre-commercial thinning, 51 ha. Pine dominated stand with a very low amount of deciduous trees. Stand has been selected for monitoring activities showing 2,8% of deciduous trees. Wetter consideration area in the center of the stand, dividing it in two parts. Deciduous trees present in the western part, none identified in the eastern. Deciduous trees cleared despite an overall amount less than 10%. See finding 2022.11.</p> <p>ID Klockaråsen X: 413900 Y: 6785190 Soil preparation. Harrow. Sufficient number of planting points. A great effort has been made to avoid damaging existing dead wood, several examples identified of this.</p>
<p>Date: May 19th Group member: Slottstornet</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) was especially targeted.</p> <p>Slottstornet AB is the actual forest owner and privately owned by Stjärorps Egendom. Manager is hired from the company Linköpings Skogstjänst. Main responsibility for forest management activities is divided by Slottstornet and Linköpings Skogstjänst whose CEO is the same person.</p>

	<p>Forest Trustee, hired by Linköpings Skogstjänst, is responsible for planning of the felling operations along with a contractor (Stjärnorps Skog & Trädgård), is responsible for most of the planning. Management directives is sent to the Forest Trustee who verifies the preliminary planning.</p> <p>Management plan is said to be revised every 5 years, has not been done last few years due to Ips Typographus and smaller fellings. Current plan was created/revised 2016.</p> <p>Areas dominated by deciduous trees could not be demonstrated fully as the function for compilation of tree species had not been activated in the management plan program. As per interview it will be operational by August 15th. Interviews with Forest Manager and Forest Trustee demonstrated awareness of the requirements. Review of procedure “Skogsskötselpolicy 2020” confirmed that the group member had taken a stand to increased amounts of deciduous trees. However it was noted in the document that 5-10% deciduous trees was specified, instead of > 10%. Furthermore the use of arches (“Valvbågar”), when restoring roads over waterways, was not mentioned. Interviews and review during field visits demonstrated these types of roads had not been restored lately.</p> <p>Certain information, as per indicator 7.5.1, was demonstrated to be available upon request, however no clear procedure (oral or written) for what information shall be passed on (complaints procedure, corruption policy etc.) could be shown. See finding 2022.6.</p> <p>Information is gathered by all contractors and comprised yearly. No compilation of internal audit result is done however. See findings 2022.7.</p> <p>Contractor list with certification status available. Review of signed agreement with contractor “Kenneth Skog och Trädgård”, however name of contractor does not match information at affiliated group certificate (SE Certifiering) and extent of services has not been defined. Furthermore, Linköpings Skogstjänst AB, a contractor regularly used was not on it and no agreement had been signed. See finding 2022.13.</p>
<p>Field Audit</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits.</p>

	<p>Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas. In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>ID 846 Pre-commercial thinning, 5,5 ha. Spruce dominated stand in two parts divided by an old road. The upper, larger, area hilly and in rough terrain. Good conditions for deciduous trees. No connection to waterways but a few smaller wetter areas and an older ditch at the edge of the smaller stand. Several examples of birch and oak of representative size being cut to favour spruce. Deciduous stem number is low, however likely amounts to about 10%, and remaining trees are significantly thinner than the spruce. Birch might catch up given it's more rapid growth but the quality of left stems might not be in the best condition. Production wise good quality.</p> <p>ID 8 WKH, 1,6 ha of which 1,24 ha has been planned for felling. Older deciduous trees on wetter, lower area, adjacent to a steep and very rocky terrain with mixed, very old, oak, aspen and pine trees. 2 very large spruce trees with clear indications of damages by Ips Typographus motivated the felling and removal of all spruce. Review of consultation with the Swedish Forestry Administration Board prior to felling (Case no 551-2020). Felling done correctly with a very good result, leaving a stand dominated by older deciduous trees with light reaching the ground, already favouring vascular plants.</p> <p>ID 203 Final felling, over a long period and in sections. In total over 20 ha from four different fellings. Undulating terrain, cut off by younger production stands. Felling due to Ips Typographus. All spruce removed, leaving a mixed stand of pine and deciduous trees. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or existing dead wood has been taken out. Stand was subject to a Nature Value Assessment prior to felling, indicating only minor values. During the field audit, several conservation trees of good quality was identified, however no indication of these was made in the Assessment Form. The planning contractor had, however, identified the trees and made marking to signal the values to the felling contractor. The follow-up by the contractor was deemed sufficient and reasonable. All seed trees will preliminary be left along the conservation trees creating a good opportunity for continuous forestry.</p>
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Date: June

Group members: Kopparfors Skogar	
FMU / location / sites visited	Activities / notes
Interviews and document/management plan review	<p>Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) was especially targeted.</p> <p>Document review of management plan and procedures, guidelines, policies, agreements and relations to identified stakeholders. Auditors conducted interviews with company personnel and external stakeholders where identified. Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring and procedures concerning these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) and adaptation to FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019 SW.</p> <p>Annual harvesting levels are calculated using the program HEUREKA. All final fellings via a larger PEFC/FSC-certified forest company but planning via own personnel/hired planner. Interviews with personnel demonstrated good knowledge on respective responsibilities/work assignments. Regular training on conservation, effective planning, etc. is logged in a training ledger and the training database Skötselskolan. Monitoring activities are planned to be conducted yearly using a sample-based approach. Identification of need for pre-commercial thinnings demonstrated by personnel and done regularly. For own management operations, PEFC-certified contractors are hired to verify that applicable FSC indicators are met. Interview with affected Sami community and one contractor on site with only positive feedback.</p> <p>Review of personnel training showed that the obligatory course Skyddsdikning/Dikesrensning needs to be taken again. However trainings had been cancelled due to Covid-19 until further notice. Review of training ledger and interviews with personnel demonstrated that upcoming trainings were monitored.</p> <p>The company is working to identify areas to meet indicator 6.5.2. A first selection of all potentially suitable areas have been done, resulting in 10,18% set aside areas. All stands are to be identified by 2031 and quality assured by 2051 in accordance with action plan.</p> <p>Safety Officer interviewed. Safety Rounds has been held and Work Place meetings incl risk assessments. One Safety Round per employee and type of work situation, review of protocols for</p>

	<p>Forestry Manager and driving situations (2022-02-15). Review of compilation of all rounds “Skyddsronder resultat 2022”.</p> <p>Review of FSC/PEFC trademark use in yearly Sustainability Report, logo approval could not be demonstrated by the FMU but had been received and filed by the Group Certificate which was demonstrated during the closing meeting.</p> <p>Review of complaints management. Number 2022-4 is ongoing. Number 2022-12, concerning forest road management, has been closed after investigation, but no written feedback could be demonstrated to have been given to the complainant.</p> <p>Cooperation planning document for one of the concerned Sami Communities reviewed (2020-2021).</p> <p>Local contractors are prioritized, exclusively PEFC certified. Control of salaries, certification status. Review of Outsourcer list. Group Certificate CO has made available a checklist to use prior to signing agreements ensuring applicable indicators are met.</p> <p>Planning operations be personnel receives a gross list of stands to be subjected to felling operations. Detail planning is done using a nature value assessment method and reviewing the database “Artportalen”. Regular calibration meetings are held each year with planning personnel and contractors during the planning process. A site is then visited after the felling operation to evaluate the process.</p> <p>Review Planning Instructions “Planeringshandledning”, version 2022-05-06, and instruction on environmental consideration “Miljöhänsyn vid avverkning”. All applicable requirements deemed to be included and correct.</p>
<p>Field Audit Falun, various sites</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits.</p> <p>Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas.</p> <p>In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>ID 262214148 Final felling, 13,5 ha. Mixed stand, divided into three connected parts. Several consideration areas and cultural remains identified.</p>

	<p>One larger, wetter, consideration area enhanced with a buffer zone. One remain, very difficult to identify, was driven through. No identified damages to it. One passage over a wetter area, no identified damages. A great number of retention trees left. One example of existing dead wood being felled and used to drive on during the passage.</p> <p>ID 502282 Thinning, 9,6 ha. Mixed stand with about 20% deciduous trees. A creek divides the stand in northern and southern part. A buffer zone was created during the final felling, some trees in the zone has been felled but with no visible purpose. Several examples of favoured deciduous trees.</p> <p>ID 262182381 Late thinning operation, not previously thinned. Mixed stand with a minor amount of deciduous trees, estimated by the GM to 10%. No evidence to suggest felling of these trees. Several mining shafts, fenced off, with conservation stumps created around them as well. No soil damages. Several examples of created high stumps.</p> <p>ID 6674548 - 544939 Planned pre-commercial thinning/thinning operation. Young stand, likely natural regeneration, left untouched after final felling. Planned operation during field audit, stand registered as production stand but will most likely be conversed to a set aside area with management needs. Preliminary all spruce will be removed and certain deciduous stems will be cut free to allow for growth.</p> <p>ID 262189479 Final felling, 7,6 ha. Spruce dominated stand in very hilly terrain, adjacent to a lake in the Southeast. Several ancient remains identified and consideration stumps created on a suitable distance from them. Plenty of fresh dead wood and conservation/retention trees. Sufficient buffer zone left. One creek crossing prior to entering the stand, no identified damages. A suitable tree group has been left adjacent to an identified consideration area, a part of the trees in this is counted to meet standard requirements on retention trees.</p> <p>ID 262210239 Final felling, 9,7 ha. Mixed stand, spruce dominated. Very low amount of deciduous trees. Oblong stand, adjacent to a lake in the South. Ancient farmland identified in the southern part along with other remains. The area has been felled with no identified</p>
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	<p>damages to the ground or the remains. Consideration stumps left, no scarification planned.</p> <p>Minimum requirements for high stumps and retention trees well met. Sufficient buffer zone to the lake. Good planning, no soil damages identified. No evidence to suggest retention trees or existing dead wood has been harvested.</p> <p>ID 262218825 Final felling, 4,9 ha. Mixed stand, adjacent to a lake in the North and divided by a road. Very good buffer zone left, connected to a consideration area. One remain identified with no visible damages to it, well placed consideration stumps. No soil damages. No evidence to suggest retention trees or existing dead wood has been harvested.</p> <p>ID 262208697 Thinning, 18,1 ha, planned for a follow-up calibration. Pine dominated stand, in the northeast a wetter consideration area has been identified and clearly marked. In the east, a small lake is adjacent. At the consideration area, the harvester has driven too close with some damages as a result, however not major, see observations 2022.3 and 2022.4. A passage has also been made to reach a smaller part (0,2-0,3 ha) at the far north side. No soil damages but most of the wood has been used to drive upon to avoid damages. Several examples of high stumps of good quality. Multiple examples of favoured/left existing dead wood. A higher than normal amount of damages on remaining trees in the production stand.</p> <p>ID 262196500 Final felling, 2,7 ha, followed up by an external consultant. Spruce dominated stand, with a wetter consideration area in the middle and a red listed species (<i>Ramaria sp</i>) identified in the southwest. Planned 2020, felled wintertime. Planted 2022. Soil preparation by harrow. Monitoring activity showed the harvester had driven too close to the consideration area, and subsequently the soil preparation has followed. Good regeneration, seedlings with mechanical protection. Planted to near the consideration area. No evidence to suggest retention trees or existing dead wood has been harvested. Good consideration to ancient remains.</p> <p>ID 502264 Late pre-commercial thinning, 6,4 ha. Mixed stand with large elements of deciduous trees. After management about 30% of the stand consists of birch. Several stems with grazing damages left.</p>
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	<p>Consideration areas along the sides of the stand, no damages identified.</p> <p>ID 262134531 Planned final felling. 3 stands, adjacent to each other and 18,4 ha in total. South and West also adjacent to open water. Ancient remains affected by the felling operations in the south as well. Clear instructions regarding the remains, there has also been identified a large consideration area in the middle of the stands which has been marked as off limits. Several wetter areas and buffer zones has also been clearly marked with instructions on how to manage each zone. In total 34 other remains identified, no evidence to suggest any has been missed.</p> <p>ID 502278 Pre-commercial thinning, 5,6 ha. Pine dominated stand with a large amount of deciduous trees. In the West and Southeast part, the stand is divided by a creek. Planting has, on occasion, been done to close to the creek. Thinning has subsequently on the same spots been equally close, however without negative impacts identified.</p> <p>ID 502269 First pre-commercial thinning, 2,3 ha. Pine dominated stand, according to monitoring activity 10% deciduous trees. During field visit, this was deemed to be an overestimation. However, regeneration of mainly birch was substantial and per interview with the group member a enough deciduous trees will be left in the next thinning phase. A few pine stem showed traces of grazing, all of these had been left. Several examples of favoured deciduous trees found as well.</p> <p>ID 502263 Pre-commercial thinning, 2,6 ha. Mixed stand, with a large amount of deciduous trees, in the Northeast adjacent to a large riparian zone (set aside area). 2 smaller consideration areas identified and left. Deciduous trees deemed to amount to 20% after thinning operations. A few smaller wet areas not marked on the thinning instruction map had been identified and left. Monitoring report deemed correct.</p> <p>ID 503980 Soil preparation, 3,2 ha. Smaller stand with a few remains and 5 consideration areas, one of which very large. Overall good soil preparation using harrow, with several good planting points. On a few occasions however, there have been smaller soil damages near the smaller wetter areas.</p>
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	<p>One remain found during soil preparation, however in the follow up report from the contractor there was no information of this despite there being a question on this. The remain was identified when already damaged but clear signs demonstrated that efforts had been taken after this to avoid further damaging it.</p> <p>ID 503586 Planting, spruce, with mechanical protection. 3,2 ha. Smaller stand with a few remains and 5 consideration areas, one of which very large. Overall good result with only a few seedlings not having survived. No identification of planting in not suitable areas.</p> <p>ID 503967 Soli preparation with harrow and planting, 6,2 ha, hilly terrain. In the middle, a large ancient farmland was identified and no soil preparation was done. Consideration stumps clearly marking the edges. Further North, several cultivation mounds found with consideration stumps clearly marking them. All remains marked in the directives given to the contractors. One of the mounds was found to have been driven across during the soil preparation and subsequently damaged. Planting had also been done in/on the remain as a result. In the far North, a small seasonally water driving area had been passed to reach the other side. Insufficient means had been used to avoid damaging this area. No run off however as the wetter area ended in a wet forest area. See observations 2022.3 and 2022.4.</p>
<p>Date: June Group members: Boxholm Skogar</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review Remote</p>	<p>Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) was especially targeted.</p> <p>The GM has recently hired an additional 3 personnel to strengthen the company on planning and environment related issues. Review document "Befattningsbeskrivning 2022" for two new positions "Ekologi och skogsvårdsledare" and "Drivning & logistikledare" with clear job descriptions. Review of training ledger and introduction plan for newest employee, containing introduction to certification related issues on separate briefings on each work area.</p> <p>Safety Committee meetings 2 times/year. Regular Safety Rounds Review latest Safety Committee meeting protocol, 2022-06-16.</p>

	<p>Review of procedures for OHAS “Rutiner”, under folder “Sammanställning, Information”, 2019-02-19. All field personell shall contact the Office. Control of risk review protocol “Riskbedömning, Skogsvårds- och planeringsarbete”.</p> <p>Management Plan via BESK and VSOP. All stands are monitored and management needs are sorted yearly. All stands subject to management activities are given a preliminary year for next action</p> <p>All stands are assessed during the planning management and “new” areas has been found for set aside areas. The area Vivåsen, field audited 2021, has been identified as an area to meet 6.5.2 is close to finished. New ELP will be produced 2022/2023 and 6.5.2 will be a result from this. Information on set aside areas etc. is available in BESK.</p> <p>Fellings in direct connections with villages or summer houses etc. is preceded by information meetings or placed signs along paths in concerned areas. Stakeholder list reviewed.</p> <p>Review of policys for forest management activities, environmental consideration and stakeholder contacts (“Skogsskötselpolicy för Boxholm Skogar AB”, “Röjningspolicy”, “Natur- och kulturhänsyn vid avverkningsåtgärder”, ”Bristanalys” and “Rutin för information och samråd med berörda intressenter 1.3”).</p> <p>Annual meetings with contractors to identify weaknesses at the contractor/GM interface, this is part of the monitoring process. This also include field visits of finished sites.</p>
<p>Field Audit Boxholm, various sites</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits.</p> <p>Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas. In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>ID 803341 Thinning, late. Spruce dominated stand with a large amount of connected stone walls (younger remains). Several wind fallen trees in the northern part, removed. The most northern and northwestern part dominated by deciduous trees. This part has also been thinned. Good quality thinning, no soil damages identified. Several examples of favoured deciduous trees. On three</p>

	<p>occasions, the wall(s) has been driven over with minor damages as a result. The passages were deemed necessary and a pre-requisite for management activities.</p> <p>ID 201131 Pre-commercial thinning, situated along a road. Pine dominated stand with a large amount of deciduous trees. Failed spruce regeneration due to grazing, supplemented with pine sowing 2015. Initially thinned 2018, after this divided into 3 parts, 2 of them thinned 2020 and 2021 with the middle part planned for 2023-2025. A very high amount of birch in all stands, but mostly cleared in the most recent thinning. In the middle part, several birch trees have outgrown the pines, damaging many of them. The aim is to identify the most suitable time for pre-commercial thinnings in deciduous tree rich stands. Good quality thinning operations, the first part (cleared 2020) has already about 40% of the stems made up of deciduous trees.</p> <p>ID 200504 Final felling, 8,4 ha. Pine dominated stand, divided into two parts because the northern part already been self-regenerated. In connection with removing the wind felled trees the rest of the stand was managed. Several seed trees left. Several high stumps identified, no evidence to suggest existing dead wood or consideration trees has been felled. No soil damages identified. Nature Value Assessment reviewed, demonstrating low conservation values. Deemed accurate during field visit.</p> <p>ID 200506 Final felling, 1,5ha, due to Ips Typographus. Adjacent to ID 200504. All spruce in the stand dead, all other tree species in left amounting to 13. Several dead spruce trees left.</p> <p>ID 502803 Pre-commercial thinning, 8ha. Pine dominated stand with very large grazing damages which has created a stand with several gaps. Several examples of cleared deciduous trees but also of favoured ones, and 10% is deemed to be met.</p> <p>V. 200504 Potential stand to meet requirement 6.5.2, continuity forestry planned. Mixed stand, predominately with pine and spruce, 80-100 years old. Ground to large part covered by Sphagnum mosses. Several smaller and larger gaps with a younger generation in them, in the larger gaps the next generation is older. Preliminary plan is to remove 50% of the oldest trees to create more gaps to allow for natural regeneration. Deemed very suitable for continuity forestry</p>
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	<p>as long as felling is done in dry or freezing conditions as to avoid soil damages.</p> <p>ID 200500 Set aside area, management for conservation purposes planned. Old grazing areas with elements of very old deciduous trees. In the middle a large glade. The stand is at risk of overgrowing with spruce and management suggestion is to remove close to all spruce and leave a few younger ones with potential to grow storm resistant and develop high conservation values. Deemed very suitable.</p> <p>ID 200501 Production stand in connection with ID 200500. Smaller, pure spruce stand, exclusively with dead spruces due to Ips Typographus. Preliminary management plan is to remove a portion of the dead trees and replant and leave the rest of the stand to widen the set aside area ID 200500.</p>
<p>Date: June 29th & September 23rd</p>	
<p>Group members: Silvestica Green Forest AB - Sweden</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review Remote</p>	<p>Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) was especially targeted.</p> <p>The FMU is owned by a company started to manage pension funds by owning forest land. SEB, Folksam, FPK, KLP are owners. The company have no employees and are using consultants. Ca 80% of the forest holdings are in Northern Sweden and in this region a forestry organization (Skogsägarna Norra Skog) is responsible for forest management.</p> <p>Management plan in various programs as well as traditional paper plans. Review the management program DISA, for Kärrnäset 1:61, avd 59 without identifying NC:s.</p> <p>10,4% of the productive forest land has been set aside. All set aside areas are subject to monitoring and evaluation. The aim is to evaluate the quality of these areas and some of them might be lifted from protected status to adapted management (6.5.2). Evaluations will be finished prior to 2023. Monitoring is also done to identify amount of stands dominated by deciduous trees.</p> <p>ELP has been produced as a basic template, aimed is to be finished before 2023. The draft ELP was demonstrated during the audit.</p>

	<p>General and regular planning meetings are held with the Sami communities. Other stakeholders have been identified and are being contacted when they are deemed to be affected by felling operations. Manager joins yearly meetings between indigenous people, ENGOs, Forestry Sector to discuss forestry operations on a landscape level.</p> <p>Only contractors and consultants are used for management, no employees. Review of management agreement with Norra Skog, signed 2022-04-08. A new paragraph has been included governing net emissions to be zero from 2023. This goal will not take in to account the effects of forest growth.</p> <p>Regular monitoring activities reviewed for Kärrnäset 1:61, 4:54. Upcoming forestry activity, age, volumes, trees species etc. are reported in the system, however a procedure for this is missing. For the Northern landholdings, all silviculture operations are monitored by the contractors and information reported back to the manager. These reports are quality reviewed, and information passed on to the management plan program.</p> <p>Manager does an internal audit each year for their own operations, results are compiled but not separate for the GM. The GM have a procedure for evaluations of monitoring activities “Rutin för kontroll och uppföljning”.</p> <p>Complaints procedure is available in a shared Teams folder. “Rutindokument vid avvikelser eller klagomål” reviewed, Excel sheet to document issues. Does not report complaints regularly but is subject to yearly internal audits.</p> <p>No procedure to direct complainants to the Group Certificate, see finding 2022.6.</p>
<p>Field Audit</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits.</p> <p>Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas.</p> <p>In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>ID 243187</p>

	<p>Final felling, 17,6 ha. Mixed stand, pine and spruce, with longer, and wetter, areas cutting through in the West and Southwest. Somewhat hilly terrain leaning South, down towards a lake. Several solitary trees left dispersed over the area and several examples identified of existing dead wood being favoured and warded off, by using consideration stumps. No identified soil damages.</p> <p>The two oblong wetter areas difficult to define as either consideration areas or tree groups but rather deemed as a mix of the two. Depending on where the borders between these types of consideration was placed, the stand was deemed to meet requirements on conservation/retention trees.</p> <p>ID 261772 Pre-commercial thinning, 8,7ha. Brush cutting. Mixed stand, initially with a very high count of deciduous trees. Clear instructions to the contractor on required division between tree species. Despite this, close to all deciduous trees have been cut with several examples of cut willow identified. See finding 2022.11</p> <p>ID 221883 Thinning, 33,5 ha. Pine dominated stand, suffering from <i>Cronartium flaccidum</i>. Brush cutting done prior to felling. Area stretched out along a road who splits West and North. A few streams/wetter areas, one crossing needed. Soil damages through a wetter area in the middle part, also identified while passing through a similar area in the northern part. See finding 2022.3. No evidence to suggest felling of deciduous trees. Three identified willows favoured.</p> <p>ID 258149 Pre-commercial thinning, 38,2 ha. Pine dominated stand with birch amounting to 5-10% after operation, not yet of representative size but will be. No identified grazing damages. Stand deemed to be thinned to specification, production wise.</p> <p>ID 243396 Final felling, 12,7 ha. <i>Buteo lagopus</i> identified during planning, potential nest site noted in the felling instructions, the nest itself identified by the contractor during felling in the northern part. Nest site warded off, in total about 0,4 ha. A spontaneously burnt area left (0,2ha) and will not be subjected to soil preparation or planting. Crossing over a wetter area barely sufficient, could have been better done to avoid soil damages. Otherwise sufficient buffer zones. 2 large tree groups left as well, completed by several solitary retention trees.</p>
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	<p>A few of the created high stumps deemed a bit low and of a thinner character. One larger, more open, area identified, one retention tree left resulted in the stand meeting FSC indicator 6.6.3.</p>
<p>Date: June 7th & 9th Group members: Gysinge Skogsfastigheter</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review</p>	<p>Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring of these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) was especially targeted. Complaints and stakeholder feedback was also reviewed.</p> <p>Have clarified procedures and hired additional staff (managing regeneration to pre-commercial thinning) to ensure these questions are managed according to standards.</p> <p>Review training ledger for the Planning Manager. Training ledger is not complete. A competence overview has not been made and because of Covid, one employee had not undergone required training in “Natur- och kulturhänsyn”. Requirement was known and training need identified prior to the audit.</p> <p>Work environment meeting held 2021-12-09. Safety Round held 2022-05-31.</p> <p>Information sign used in connection with all felling operations demonstrated, including information on coming operations as well as contact information to Gysinge Skogsfastigheter.</p> <p>A map of landscapes, including set aside areas and Woodland Key Habitats has not been made publically available by the group member. A description of how the landscape division is done is also not publically available. See finding 2022.6.</p> <p>Review complaints and stakeholder ledger. Review of management for complaints/comments no 61-63, deemed to have been managed sufficiently.</p> <p>Review of procedure (Gysinge Ramnäs Samråd - powerpoint template) for pro-active stakeholder communication. The procedure is applied for a specific geographical area (Ramnäs) after an arising need due to continuous complaints from a local ENGO. Additional NGOs and local communities are included. Sufficient procedure but could be applied on a broader spectrum.</p> <p>Common planning with affected Sami village (2021-06-08), all documented. Interviews with FMU representatives demonstrated</p>

	<p>that some affected stakeholders might not have been identified or defined, the stakeholder list should subsequently be revised after further analysis. Interview with affected Sami communities with only positive feedback. No felling operations in the area until an agreement has been met.</p> <p>For own management operations PEFC-certified contractors are hired to verify that applicable FSC indicators are met. Review of Outsourcer list for hired contractors, 3 main contractors, one of which has several sub-contractors. All parties PEFC-certified, verified for Contractor 5120 and 5347.</p> <p>Knowledge of threatened species is managed via public databases (for example Skogens Pärlor), the group member is, however, working on gaining access to information on species not listed in these databases.</p> <p>Document review of management plan and procedures, guidelines, policies, agreements and relations to identified stakeholders. Auditors conducted interviews with elected representatives. Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring and procedures concerning these activities. Review of set aside areas (10,5%, 6261 ha), areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) and adaptation to FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019 SW. Action plan to meet indicator 6.8.5 is to be produced Q3/Q4 2021. During 2022, instructions will be produced and/or revised to favour deciduous trees.</p> <p>Annual harvesting levels are calculated using the program HEUREKA. All thinning operations and final fellings are done via two larger PEFC/FSC-certified forest companies, planning is done via 3 forest planning contractors. Interviews with personnel demonstrated good knowledge on respective responsibilities/work assignments. Regular training on conservation, effective planning, etc. is logged in a training ledger, reviewed for one employee. Monitoring activities is planned to be conducted yearly using a sample-based approach. Identification of need for pre-commercial thinnings demonstrated by personnel and done regularly.</p> <p>The group member produces a batch of stands, appropriate for thinning or final felling, each year which are planned and sent to managing companies. Information on need of pre-commercial thinning is gained through helicopter inventories.</p>
<p>Field Audit Gysinge, various locations</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits.</p>

	<p>Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas.</p> <p>In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>On fellings in areas set aside as conservation for <i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>, there has on occasions been soil damages and a severe risk of soil damages due to a risky behavior from the contractors. This has been identified by the Group Entity and is known by the group member as well.</p> <p>FA/MB/PL 640 Valmbäcken Final felling, soil preparation and planting adjacent to an area set aside to favour <i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>. Flat area with wet soil conditions, great efforts has been taken to avoid soil damages. Large efforts has also been made to avoid damaging existing dead wood be the soil preparation contractor. High stumps of deciduous trees has been created near the set aside area and all spruce removed. The plan has been to allow for a buffer zone where deciduous trees will be favoured. However soil preparation has been done in direct connection with planting of spruce there as a consequence. During the field visit decisions where made to uproot the spruce plants immediately. Good quality high stumps, no evidence to suggest conservation trees or existing trees has been removed.</p> <p>Good quality soil preparation, although done in the buffer zone, with subsequent planting, it has not damaged the actual set aside area but created good condition for natural regeneration. Planting well done although also done in the buffer zone. No negative impact was identified and the error will be managed.</p> <p>ID Slutröj 3136 Tången Pre-commercial thinning, 2,2 ha. Pine dominated stand with a high amount of deciduous trees. Clear instructions on management of <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> and <i>Salix caprea</i>, despite this several examples of <i>Salix</i> was identified to have been felled in favour of pine stems. However no evidence to suggest felling of <i>Sorbus</i> or Oak and a sustained high amount of deciduous trees was identified during the audit. Several examples of favoured stems of deciduous trees. Estimated increase from 10% deciduous trees to 15%. One consideration area identified and a buffer zone has been left around this.</p> <p>GA 6842 Stigsbo Bäver First thinning, 11,7ha. Spruce dominated stand, adjacent to a final felling site who in turn is adjacent to a mire and a wetter, wider</p>
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	<p>zone transitioning into a mire. Between the thinning stand and the final felling, a wide ditch is located. Well executed thinning with several examples of favoured deciduous trees. No identified soil damages. Three passings has been made over the ditch with no identified damages, very well executed by the contractor. Final felling, pine dominated stand, wet soil conditions, with no identified soil damages. Sufficient number of retention trees and high stumps although the latter ones are a bit low. Interview with the GM verified that this had already been communicated with the contractor. 2 tree groups and 1 consideration area identified/left.</p> <p>ID GA 7016 Militärvägen Vitrygg Thinning operations, 9,7 ha. Production thinning adjacent to a set aside area to favour <i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>. Good quality production thinning with several examples of favoured deciduous trees. No soil damages. The set aside area dominated by birch and large elements of spruce taking over. All spruce except storm solid solitaries has been felled. Several birch groups could have been cut harder to increase the number of trees with a greater diameter. Slutröj Flygsträckan 6957 Pre-commercial thinning, 19,6 ha. Pine dominated stand with several examples of favoured deciduous trees. No evidence to suggest <i>Sorbus</i> spp, including grazed stems, has been felled. Young oak left in great quantities.</p> <p>ID FA 4897 57, 4898 57, 5197 61 Final felling, 7,54ha. With consideration areas removed 4,5 ha is the net area. Oblong stand, pine dominated, with a low amount of deciduous trees. Stand located between a road and a large trail. Primarily social values identified with several stakeholder contacts made prior to the felling. During the field visit, three local stakeholders were interviewed with mixed results. All stated to have been consulted with the group member listening to them, however all felt that the felling should not have taken place at all given the experienced social values. All were thankful that much effort had been taken to minimize the effect of the felling. Upon reviewing the felling operation, one larger area was found to have been left as consideration to the stakeholders, no identified damages on or near the trail. No evidence to suggest consideration trees or existing dead wood had been removed.</p> <p>Koversta 5:2 Thinning, 15 ha. Large thinning operation in an area set aside for <i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>. Adjacent to a final felling, ID 5007, and a National Park. Consultation with the Swedish Forestry Agency, done prior to the operation, reviewed. No special information was given by the Agency.</p>
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	<p>Main objective to favour deciduous trees by felling mainly spruce. Overall good quality but a bit generic, with the felling more similar to a regular thinning. Efforts could be made to create larger gaps and more dead wood to further favour establishments of birch seedlings and landing zones for larger birds. Throughout the stand, however, natural gaps (grass covered) was identified. Overall a good amount of dead wood was identified but could also be in a higher quantity. 2 areas found with smaller soil damages. One part of the stand cut off by two ditches, the contractor had in this case chosen to make the felling from two different ways.</p> <p>ID FA 5007 Final felling, 2 ha, spruce dominated. No evidence to suggest consideration trees or existing dead wood has been removed. No soil damages identified.</p>
<p>Date: June 30th Linköpings kommun</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
<p>Interviews and document/management plan review,</p>	<p>Document review of management plan and procedures, guidelines, policies, agreements and relations to identified stakeholders. Auditor conducted interviews with elected representatives. Review of planned and closed silviculture operations, foremost pre-commercial thinning and final felling operations and the monitoring and procedures concerning these activities. Review of set aside areas, areas dominated by deciduous trees (or planned to) and adaptation to FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019 SW.</p> <p>Set aside areas amount to 29% of total productive forest area. Additional 50% is managed according with 6.5.2. An additional 700 ha is set aside as Community Nature reserves and not taken into account.</p> <p>New guidelines for forestry in December 2020. Most of the land holdings are close to the city and managed with great care to social values. Since 2018, large damages by Ips Typographus has led to several final fellings of spruce stands, depending on the goal with minor or major management activities. Guidelines are publically available.</p> <p>Continuously informing the public of ongoing forestry activities.</p> <p>Regular monitoring activities, predominately of Ips Typographus.</p> <p>Has general agreements with two local contractors, Markskoningsgruppen and Svensk Trädvård. Prior to each activity, a meeting is held with the contractor to discuss details. All felling operations are reviewed after management as well. Both contractors PEFC-certified via EC Skog. Checklists are used</p>

	<p>outlining special requirements to be met prior to signing agreements.</p> <p>Management plan equivalent via several programs, mainly PC Skog, for forest data and LinGIS, which is a local GIS program, for data and overview on species, set aside area etc. Several connections are made to other databases to load and identify presence of ancient remains, threatened species etc. management is continuously updated by förvaltare.</p> <p>Long term planning is applied, using the councils detail planning (coming development areas for housing etc.), to manage stands in accordance with these plans. Forest ecologists are involved in the production of these plans, as per interview with förvaltare and forest ecologist. Planned management activities near the city has separate management plans who are communicated via the webpage. GM has a list over all NGOs/ENGOS in the area, stakeholders are contacted prior to felling operations.</p> <p>Management plans are reviewed regularly and stand data is updated after each activity and regular sampled field visits.</p> <p>Personnel responsible for planning or manual felling do not have required competence (Natur- och kulturmiljövård and Naturvärdesbedömning). Evidence for training could not be demonstrated by the GM during the audit. See finding 2022.8.</p>
<p>Field Audit</p>	<p>Evaluation of sites: active operations, recently closed units, planned harvests, riparian buffer, species protection areas, HCV areas, public recreation access points, etc. Review of operational site directives, interview with forest operations managers and onsite visits.</p> <p>Planning was well executed for all operations with all required information available and several maps, including waterways and wetter consideration areas.</p> <p>In all applicable cases, the monitoring activities was reviewed and compared to results from the surveillance audits field visits.</p> <p>ID 1532 Final felling, soil preparation and planting. Spruce dominated stand, felled because of Ips Typographus. Conservation trees left, predominately pine, complemented with a few free standing, older spruces. A great amount of high stumps created. Soil preparation using a digger, good quality. Initially planted with pine, oak and linden. Good planting, however failed as the large oak plants used had a major die off and re-planting was needed. During field visit, the regeneration was successful.</p>

	<p>ID 206 Thinning. Spruce dominated stand with a high amount of birch, after thinning deemed 50/50. Thinned to achieve conditions for continuity forestry. Risk of wind felling created a need of smaller gaps, evidence of some natural regeneration was found but larger gaps will likely be needed. Good approach to make the transition in smaller steps initially. High stumps created. Ditches passed, no identified damages.</p> <p>ID 200 Pre-commercial thinning. Mixed stand with a large number of oak trees, every one left and favoured. Several examples of other deciduous trees being favoured as well.</p> <p>ID 204 Planned continuity forest. Spruce dominated stand, one layer, with elements of older pines. Aim is to fell a smaller amount of spruce trees to create gaps and allow for natural regeneration. Because of <i>Ips Typographus</i> there is great need to closely monitor these activities during the transition phase.</p>
<p>Date: Sept 8th Group member S-6800</p>	
<p>FMU / location / sites visited</p>	<p>Activities / notes</p>
	<p>Current forest owner and group member has recently inherited the landholdings by this father who was also certified with membership number S-6800. During the audit it was identified that the new owner had signed an agreement with the Group Certificate, a matter that was resolved in connection with the audit.</p> <p>Part active group member as chips and wood particles are used in the heating system for the farm. A forestry company is contracted regularly for larger operations. A local contractor is also used regularly, review of agreement from 2012, revised in 2016. IN connection with the audit, the group member obtained a business agreement template for use next time the contractor were to be hired. Contractor deemed to meet applicable requirements.</p> <p>In total 6,3% of productive forest land set aside. There are additional suitable sites to use for meeting indicator 6.5.2 and the management plan is being revised to ensure sufficient areas are identified.</p> <p>Field audit Thinning operation. Small stand, pine dominated with a large amount of deciduous trees as well. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or existing trees has been taken out.</p>

	Final felling Larger stand cut off by tree groups and consideration areas dominated by broadleaf trees. Several solitary trees also identified. No evidence to suggest conservation trees or existing trees has been taken out.
Date: September 6 th	
Group function	
FMU / location / sites visited	Activities / notes
Uppsala	
Auditor preparation	Closing Meeting Preparation: Auditor(s) consolidate notes, deliberate, and confirm evaluation findings.
Closing meeting	Closing Meeting: Review preliminary findings (potential non-conformities and observations) and discuss next steps.

2.2 Evaluation of Management Systems

SCS deploys interdisciplinary teams with expertise in forestry, social sciences, natural resource economics, and other relevant fields to assess an FME’s conformance to FSC standards and policies. Evaluation methods include reviewing documents and records, interviewing FME personnel and contractors, implementing sampling strategies to visit a broad number of forest cover and harvest prescription types, observing implementation of management plans and policies in the field, and collecting and analyzing stakeholder input. When there is more than one team member, each member may review parts of the standards based on their background and expertise. On the final day of an evaluation, team members convene to deliberate the findings of the assessment jointly. This involves an analysis of all relevant field observations, interviews, stakeholder comments, and reviewed documents and records. Where consensus among team members cannot be achieved due to lack of evidence, conflicting evidence or differences of interpretation of the standards, the team is instructed to report these in the certification decision section and/or in observations.

3. Changes in Management Practices

There were no significant changes in the management and/or harvesting methods that affect the FME’s conformance to the FSC standards and policies.

Significant changes occurred since the last evaluation that may affect the FME’s conformance to FSC standards and policies (*describe*):

4. Results of Evaluation

4.1 Definitions of Major CARs, Minor CARs and Observations

Major CARs: Major nonconformances, either alone or in combination with nonconformances of all other applicable indicators, result (or are likely to result) in a fundamental failure to achieve the objectives of the relevant FSC Criterion given the uniqueness and fragility of each forest resource. These are corrective actions that must be resolved or closed out before a certificate can be awarded. If Major CARs arise after an operation is certified, the

timeframe for correcting these nonconformances is typically shorter than for Minor CARs. Certification is contingent on the certified FME’s response to the CAR within the stipulated time frame.

Minor CARs: These are corrective action requests in response to minor nonconformances, which are typically limited in scale or can be characterized as an unusual lapse in the system. Most Minor CARs are the result of nonconformance at the indicator-level. Corrective actions must be closed out within a specified time period of award of the certificate.

Observations: These are subject areas where the evaluation team concludes that there is conformance, but either future nonconformance may result due to inaction or the FME could achieve exemplary status through further refinement. Action on observations is voluntary and does not affect the maintenance of the certificate. However, observations can become CARs if performance with respect to the indicator(s) triggering the observation falls into nonconformance.

4.2 History of Findings for Certificate Period

FM Principle	Cert/Re-cert Evaluation (year)	1 st Annual Evaluation (year)	2 nd Annual Evaluation (year)	3 rd Annual Evaluation (year)	4 th Annual Evaluation (year)
No findings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P1	0	0			
P2	2	2			
P3	1	0			
P4	0	1			
P5	0	0			
P6	11	4			
P7	0	3			
P8	0	1			
P9	0	0			
P10	0	2			
COC for FM	-	-			
Trademark	0	-			
Group	2	1			
Other	-	-			

4.3 Existing Corrective Action Requests and Observations

Finding Number: 2021.1	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Fagersta kommun, S-6981	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 2.1.5
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations):	

<p>The two members did not have written agreements with contractors/consultants as outlined in indicator 2.1.5.</p> <p>Although the lack of these particular written agreements is a non-conformity for these two FMUs, oral agreements were said to have been used, and the finding is therefore not indicative of a fundamental breakdown of the management system. Additionally, the occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 4% of the sampled FMUs). It was also not identified at new members. Therefore, the CAR is graded as Minor.</p>	
<p>Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Written business agreements with applicable terms shall be established between employers/contract employers.</p>	
<p>FME response (including any evidence submitted)</p>	<p>One of the group members was subject to internal audit in 2021. During the audit same observations were made and the subject was handled. The other group member has been conducted and written agreement has been followed up.</p>
<p>SCS review</p>	<p>Traditionally, oral agreements are used when forest owner and contractor know each other. All members have been informed on the importance of written agreements, both upon joining the Group and again in 2021/2022. The Central Office has produced templates that are handed out during internal audits and available in connection with yearly self evaluations sent to sampled number of group members. Several sampled members were found to have used this template and some could provide evidence that they had received information on the requirement. Because of this, the CAR is recommended to be closed on member level.</p> <p>4 more group members than 2021 did not meet the requirement despite large efforts taken by the CO. For this reason, a CAR was raised group level, see 2022.13.</p>
<p>Status of CAR:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Closed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)</p>

<p>Finding Number: 2021.2</p>	
<p>Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation</p>	
<p>FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Leksands kommun, Malung-Sälens kommun</p>	
<p>Deadline</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):</p>
<p>FSC Indicator:</p>	<p>FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 2.3.9</p>
<p>Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations):</p> <p>Two group members did not have written health and safety instructions, available to field personnel. Interview with managers and personnel demonstrated a lack of awareness of health and safety procedures. No procedure could be presented upon request.</p>	

<p>No one in the staff was worried about health and safety issues when interviewed and had not seen the need for written instructions/procedures. Additionally, the occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 4% of the sampled FMUs). Therefore, the CAR has been graded as a Minor.</p>	
<p>Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Health and safety instructions, together with emergency procedures, shall be:</p> <p>a) available at the workplace, c) known by those affected by the work</p>	
<p>FME response (including any evidence submitted)</p>	<p>Both group members have been contacted and health and safety instructions have been established. The instructions have been reviewed by the FME and the FME has followed up that the instructions have been implemented in the organization.</p>
<p>SCS review</p>	<p>Review of preliminary internal audit result for 2022 and CAR management for Leksands kommun. No consistent findings related to OHAS was identified during the 2022 audit although minor OFI:s and/or Observations for 2 larger FMUs. Because of this the CAR is recommended to be closed.</p>
<p>Status of CAR:</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)</p>

<p>Finding Number: 2021.3</p>	
<p>Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation</p>	
<p>FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Silvestica Green Forest AB</p>	
<p>Deadline</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):</p>
<p>FSC Indicator:</p>	<p>FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 3.2.3</p>
<p>Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): One member had not had a participatory planning process with affected Sami Community. The member had sent out an invitation but not taken steps to make sure it was received. As a consequence no planning meeting was held as the meeting invitation was never responded to. Since the occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 2% of the sampled FMUs), it has been graded as Minor.</p>	
<p>Corrective Action Request (or Observation): The participatory planning process is conducted in good faith with representatives for the Sami reindeer herding in order to secure the rights that are affected by the forest management.</p>	
<p>FME response (including any evidence submitted)</p>	<p>The group member was in 2021 subject to an internal audit. During the audit same observations were made and the subject was handled. Since then, the group member has provided examples of planning processes in accordance with the standard.</p>
<p>SCS review</p>	<p>Review of CAR management for FMU and verified by interviews and field observations in concerned region 2022. No evidence to suggest participatory planning process has not been conducted in good faith. No external complaints has been sent regarding the FMU either. CAR is recommended to be closed.</p>

Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>)
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Finding Number: 2021.4	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-5950, S-6659	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.5.1
Non-Conformity (<i>or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations</i>): Members S-5950 and S-6659 could not provide evidence of set aside areas, such as information on overview maps. Since areas had been set aside and since this only concerned SLIMFs with < 20 ha, this is graded as an observation.	
Corrective Action Request (<i>or Observation</i>): A selection of the productive forest land area is set aside and exempt from measures other than management to maintain and promote natural biodiversity or biodiversity conditioned by traditional land use practice.	
FME response (<i>including any evidence submitted</i>)	Group members of < 20 ha are compiled to set a side areas of high conservation values. If a group member of < 20 ha doesn't have high conservation value areas (or in a close by future) the requirement of indicator 6.5.1 is covered on FME level. The FME keeps records of set aside areas among group members and in total within the FME.
SCS review	Review of CAR management and related calculations for meeting the requirement on FME level. Group Certificate found to be in compliance. CAR recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>)

Finding Number: 2021.5	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Boxholm Skogar AB, Fagersta Kommun, Harpsunds Jord & Skog, S-5129, S-6812, Silvestica Green Forest AB, Transtrands Besparingsskog, S-4036, S-4126, S-4834, S-5672, S-5739, S-5794, S-5821, S-5950, S-6156, S-6303, S-6675, S-6923, S-7036	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.5.2
Non-Conformity (<i>or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations</i>):	

<p>These group members had not yet identified areas according to the new indicator 6.5.2. All non SLIMFs had begun identifying areas. Interview with Group Entity personnel and review of action plan (“Handlingsplan 6.5.2_20210824”) to meet 6.5.2 on member level. Action plan is very comprehensive and includes a timeline for when indicator 6.5.2 is deemed to be met.</p> <p>Information on this requirement has been sent to all members previously. Several of the sampled FMUs were already in compliance and several more had begun working to identify suitable areas. Action plan deemed to be sufficient and according to a potential corrective action request. Therefore, this is graded as an observation.</p>	
<p>Corrective Action Request (or Observation): At least 5 % of the productive forest land area is managed with long-term protection and enhancement of conservation values and/or social values as the primary objective.</p> <p>Areas according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 together comprise at least 10 % of the productive forest land area.</p>	
<p>FME response (including any evidence submitted)</p>	<p>All non-Slimf group members have been contacted and areas in accordance with indicator 6.5.2 have been identified or an individual action plan has been presented. Slimf group members have been contacted or subject for an internal audit. Areas in accordance with 6.5.2 have been documented or is being conducted simultaneously as a new management plan is established.</p> <p>Group members of < 20 ha are compiled to set a side areas of high conservation values. If a group member of < 20 ha doesn't have high conservation value areas (or in a nearby future) the requirement of indicator 6.5.2 is covered on FME level. The FME keeps records of set aside areas corresponding with the required area for group members < 20 ha.</p> <p>Two group members have ended their FSC-certification.</p>
<p>SCS review</p>	<p>Review of CAR management and related calculations for meeting the requirement on FME level. Audit 2022 demonstrated increased knowledge by the group members and the CO could demonstrate a projection on when the indicator should be met by all concerned group members > 20ha. Since the indicator has not yet been met, the Observation is recommended to remain until 2023.</p>
<p>Status of CAR:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Closed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>) : Observation remain.</p>

Finding Number: 2021.6	
<p>Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation</p>	
<p>FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Brevens Bruk</p>	
<p>Deadline</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):</p>
<p>FSC Indicator:</p>	<p>FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.5.4</p>

Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Interview and review of management plan for this group member demonstrated that no long-term nature conservation objectives had been formulated for the set aside areas.	
The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 2% of the sampled FMUs). Therefore, the CAR has been continued as Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Long-term nature conservation objectives are formulated and documented for set aside areas, based on the analysis and assessment as per 6.3.1 and 6.3.2, and with the purpose of maintaining or enhancing biodiversity.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	FMU is no longer part of the Group Certificate.
SCS review	Member status in Group Entity verified, they are now part of another group certificate. Review of overall information sent to members regarding indicator 6.5.4. For sampled, concerned, FMUs, requirement was known and met or was planning to be met. CAR is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.7	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-4126	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.2
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visit at final fellings with these group members showed a lack of retention trees. On final fellings at S-4126 (Site ID: 12), 80-100 retention trees to few had been left. The trees in the consideration patches mustn't be counted as the felling is larger than 4ha.	
The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 2% of the sampled FMUs) and only identified for one stand, the CAR has been graded as Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): During regeneration felling, on average at least 10 trees per hectare are retained on the felled area.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	The group member has ended its FSC-certification.
SCS review	Membership status verified. The NC was only identified in one site at one FMU in 2022. Overall knowledge was deemed sufficient by concerned group members and personnel producing felling instructions. CAR is recommended to be closed.

Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>)
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Finding Number: 2021.8	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-5794, Kopparfors Skogar AB, Gysinge Skogsfastigheter AB, Hällefors-Tierp Skogar AB	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.3
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visit at final fellings with these group members showed that the distance to a consideration object, from any point in the stand, in some cases exceeded 70m. For S-5794, this was found at the latest final felling (ID not available). For Kopparfors Skogar AB, this was identified on site ID: 263195486 11 Persbo SA, for Gysinge Skogsfastigheter AB it was identified on site ID: 8145 and for Hällefors-Tierp Skogar AB on site ID 146301 Hastelbo FA. The occurrences of this non-conformity was limited to 8% of the sampled FMUs and only identified once per FMU. It was also not identified with new members. Therefore, the CAR has been graded as Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Consideration patches, buffer zones, groups of trees and single wind-resistant coarse trees are retained during regeneration felling so as to avoid large treeless areas. On felling areas that are larger than 4 hectares south of Limes Norrlandicus, and on felling areas that are larger than 10 hectares north of Limes Norrlandicus, the distance from any point in the felling area to the nearest consideration, object or clearcut edge shall not exceed 70 meters.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	Each group member has been contacted. The felling at S-5794 was performed the new requirement was introduced to the FSC forest standard, evidence for this was retrieved in contact with the company responsible for the felling. The other group members are non-Slimf with own personnel for monitoring planning operations and activities by contractors and silviculture partners. The non-conformities occurred in stands planned before the new FSC forest standard. Since then contractors/silviculture partners have performed several education activities, instructions have been updated and GIS systems have been enhanced to facilitate the conformity of the requirement.
SCS review	Review of CAR management for Kopparfors Skogar AB, Gysinge Skogsfastigheter AB and Hällefors-Tierp Skogar AB. Overall knowledge was deemed very good by concerned group members and personnel producing felling instructions. The NC was not identified in the 2022 audit. CAR is recommended to be closed
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>)

Finding Number: 2021.9	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Boxholm Skogar AB, Fagersta kommun, Leksands kommun, Gysinge Skogsfastigheter, S-6368	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.6
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visits on pre-commercial thinnings at these group members showed that management activities in conifer-dominated stands had not always been carried out so that deciduous trees constituted at least 10 % of the dominant or co-dominant stems The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited to 10 % of the sampled FMUs, therefore, the CAR has been graded Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Management activities in conifer-dominated stands are carried out so that deciduous trees constitute at least 10 % of the dominant or co-dominant stems in the stand, where conditions allow.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	S-6368 were subject for an internal audit and the requirement was handled during the audit, both by field visits and overview of the management plan. For the non-Slimf the relevant sites have been field visited with the responsible contractor/silviculture partner. Routines have been enhanced regarding instructions to contractors and development of checklists to self-evaluate performed pre-commercial thinning.
SCS review	Review on CAR management for Boxholm Skogar and Gysinge Skogsfastigheter, verified for these members during the 2022 audit. Both members found to be in compliance. NC only identified at 7% of sampled group members on only singular sites. For this reason, CAR is recommended to be closed. Knowledge at group member level deemed higher than 2021 but the NC was still identified at 7% of sampled members. For this reason, a CAR was raised on FSC-STD-30-005, 1,5. See finding 2022.12.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.10	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Boxholm Skogar AB, Fagersta kommun, Leksands kommun, S-6368	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.8
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visits on pre-commercial thinnings at these group members showed that on several occasions, trees favored by game for browsing had not been favored to a great extent. The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 8% of the sampled FMUs), therefore, the CAR has been graded Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Trees favored by game for browsing (aspen, mountain ash, goat willow, willow, noble broad-leaf trees, juniper and wild apple) are retained to a great extent during precommercial thinning.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	S-6368 have been subject for an internal audit and the requirement was handled during the audit, both by field visits and overview of the management plan. For the non-Slimf the relevant sites have been field visited with the responsible contractor/silviculture partner. Routines have been enhanced regarding instructions to contractors and development of checklists to self-evaluate performed pre-commercial thinning.
SCS review	Review on CAR management for Boxholm Skogar and verified on site during the 2022 audit. Member found to be in compliance. Since NC was only identified at one sampled FMU in 2022 (Silvestica Green Forest AB - Sweden) and because of demonstrated knowledge of FMU representative including clear instructions to contractor, the CAR is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.11	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-6303, S-5251	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.11
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visits at final fellings at these group members showed that dead wood and other trees that have been dead for more than one year had not been retained. Interviews with the group members demonstrated a lack of awareness of this requirement.	

The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited 4% of the sampled FMUs. It was also not identified with new members. Therefore, the CAR has been graded Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): High stumps, lying coarse dead wood and other trees that have been dead for more than one year are retained. Forest management is carried out so that damage to dead wood is minimized.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	S-5251 have been subject for an internal audit and the requirement was handled during the audit. S-6303 have been contacted and the group member has implemented a routine where a contractor does follow-ups on performed forestry activities. Thereby monitoring that requirements are fulfilled by contractors.
SCS review	Review of general CAR management. NC only identified in one site at one FMU 2022 with the age of the dead wood being unclear. Therefor CAR is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.12	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-4771	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.12
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visit at a final felling (Site ID: 2) at this group member showed that fresh dead wood, previously retained as nature consideration, had been taken out. The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited to 2% of the sampled FMUs. It was also not identified with new members. Therefore, the CAR has been continued as Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): In conjunction with management activities, fresh dead wood is retained, and considerations are made for fresh dead wood: a) originating from trees with high biodiversity values and other trees previously retained as nature considerations,	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	S-4771 have been subject for an internal audit and the requirement was handled during the audit.
SCS review	Review of general CAR management. NC not identified 2022. Therefor CAR is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.13	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-5129, S-6686	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.13
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visits at final fellings at these group members showed that standing fresh dead wood/high stumps had not been created in sufficient amounts. The occurrence was limited (observed in 4% of the sampled FMUs) and much less common than in 2020 (14%). It was also not identified with new members, indicating information has reached the group members and that the CAR has been managed on Group level Therefore, the CAR has been graded as an Observation.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): The amount of fresh dead wood of different tree species is increased after regeneration fellings and second thinnings by: a) creating, on average, at least three high stumps or girdled trees per hectare on harvested areas	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	Final felling has been performed after the external audit. Contractors have in their feedback confirmed the number of high stumps, to a sufficient extent. Creating fresh dead wood is a mandatory aspect in written instructions composed by responsible companies for these group members.
SCS review	Review of general management by the CO. Occurrence identified in 3 sites at two FMUs in 2022. Therefor OBS is recommended to be closed. A CAR was instead raised to FSC-STD30-005, 1,5. See finding 2022.12
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.14	
Select one: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-5635	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.7.6
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Field visit at a final felling showed soil damages to a creek/stream.	

Effect on waterway deemed serious, therefor NC is graded Major despite only being identified once.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): Soil damage is prevented when management activities are carried out.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	<p>One of the "damages" are old tracks used by the locals and not connected to the final felling. When harvesting the soil was hard and no damages was done to the water way. Field visit confirmed that any attempt to mend the "damage" would increase the risk of mud slides into the water and not create any significant benefits.</p> <p>The damages to the smaller creek has been identified and the contractor should have built a "bridge" (normal procedure when crossing waterways). Interview with the planning officer confirm this. The affiliated agent and planning officer will meet with the contractor to discuss what has happened and how this will be avoided in the future.</p> <p>Field visits confirm that the damage to the smaller creek is not suitable to mend since this will only worsen the effect and not improve it. Photos will be taken and will be available upon request.</p> <p>Prosilva has set together a question battery which needs to be answered by the planning officer to make sure this does not occur again.</p>
SCS review	Interview with the group entity, undertaken actions deemed justified and sufficient. NC only identified once and therefor CAR is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.15	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Hällefors-Tierp Skogar AB, S-4834, S-6923	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.8.5
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations):	
<p>Interviews with these three group members and review of management plans demonstrated that there was no plan to manage the landholdings so that, over time, an area equivalent to at least 5% of the total area of mesic and moist forest land was dominated by broadleaf trees. No future stands were identified in the forest management plans.</p> <p>The occurrence of this non-conformity was limited to 6 % of the sampled FMUs compared to approximately 20% in 2020. Additionally, it was also not identified with new members, indicating information has reached the group members and has been managed on Group level .Therefore, this has been graded as an Observation.</p>	

Corrective Action Request (or Observation): The landholding is planned and managed so that an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the total area of mesic and moist forest land consists of deciduous-rich stands dominated by deciduous trees during most of the rotation period. Those that have not yet reached the target shall establish an action plan to reach the target.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	S-4834 have been subject for an internal audit and the requirement was handled during the audit. S-6923 has ended its FSC-certification. The non-Slimf member has an ongoing work to distinguish stands with broadleaved trees from larger stands with conifers. Separated areas can then be managed according to a silviculture adopted to broadleaf tree management. The field organisation has also changed their routines and from now on separates broadleaved tree dominated stands larger than 0,3 ha.
SCS review	Review of CAR management for Hällefors-Tierp Skogar and verified during field visit 2022. Knowledge on requirement very good and a clear plan has been formed on how and when to meet the requirement. NC only identified at one sampled FMU (2%) where the group member was positive to increase amounts of deciduous trees as per interview. Therefore, OBS is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

Finding Number: 2021.16	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC STD 30-005, 1.5
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Interviews with group members S-4126, S-4834, S-5672, S-5710, S-5794, S-5821, S-5950, S-6156, S-6245, S-6303, S-6650, S-6652, S-6675, S-6686, S-6923, S-7070, S-7071 and S-7281 demonstrated a lack of awareness of the revised Swedish FM standard. Several of the members was found to be in compliance with the new requirements and the Group Entity has produced action plans to address the information gaps. All non SLIMFs had received the information and were in compliance or working on it. Therefore this is graded as an observation.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): The Group Entity shall make sure that all actors in the group demonstrate sufficient knowledge to fulfil their corresponding responsibilities within the group.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	The revised FM standard was effective from october 2020. Prosilva had in the very beginning om 2020 adjusted documents for group certification to comply with the new standard. Forest owners group certified during 2020 were thereby introduced to the revised standard as "the standard", not "the new standard". Approx. two thirds of the members listed are members that were group certified during 2020 or later. The comment from the revisor that several members was found to be in compliance with new requirements strengthen this early work by Prosilva.

SCS review	Review of general CAR management and results from (preliminary) internal and external audits 2021/2022. 4 CARs from 2021 still active and OBS was elevated to Minor status, see finding 2022.16.
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>) Upgraded to Minor. See finding 2022.13

Finding Number: 2021.17	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC STD 30-005, 10.1iii
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations):	
<p>Review of management plans for group members Brevens Bruk, Hällefors-Tierp Skogar, Kopparfors Skogar AB, S-4771, S-5129, S-5156, S-5794, S-5710, S-5821, S-6650, S-6812, S-7281, Silvestica Green Forest AB and Stenhammar. The areas specified there does not match the information the group entity has registered.</p> <p>All FMUs > 10 000ha are subject to annual internal audits where actual forest area is reviewed. FMUs in the category 1000 - 10 000 ha are audited every 5 years on average and forest area reviewed. For all FMUs, including SLIMF FMUs, surveys are sent out yearly to a sample of the group members in which forest area updates are requested. The Group is also surveying management plans' age and notifies members when plans are nearing their expiration date. In connection with this contact, actual forest areas are requested. Areas are also updated in connection with the internal audit, as witnessed for member S-4771.</p> <p>All members except S-5156, S-5821 and S-6650 will be covered by annual/planned actions as per notification by the Group Entity via email September 6th. Therefor, this NC is graded as a Minor.</p>	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): The Group Entity shall maintain up-to-date records covering all applicable requirements of this standard and the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard. These shall include:	
<p>a) A list of the members of the group, including for each member:</p> <p>iii. number and area of management units included in the group</p>	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	Records for non-Slimf members have been updated during 2020-2022 while ensuring the work with the FSC requirement 6.5.2. Also all non-Slimf members are subject to a higher frequency of internal audits then Slimf members. For Slimf members records are updated regularly through surveys, annual fees, management plan follow ups. During 2022 a project to develop a website <i>Mina Sidor</i> for all our group members. Through that website members can upload new information about properties, forest area, management plans etc. For the listed group members in Observation 2021.17 forest area has been checked, or a review of the management plan is in progress (and records will be updated afterwards).

SCS review	Review of general CAR management and results from 2022 audit, verifying activities for non SLIMFs and ensuring progress in the identification of suitable areas. NC only identified for one sampled FMU (2%) and is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>)

Finding Number: 2021.18	
Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Fagersta kommun, Harpsunds Jord & Skog, Hällefors Tierp Skogar AB, S-6686, S-5672	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.7.3
Non-Conformity (<i>or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations</i>): During field visits on final fellings at these group members, soil damages in buffer zones was identified at least once. Effects of damages deemed not severe and were not repeated for those members where more than one felling was audited. Additionally, NC was only identified in 10% of sampled FMUs. Therefor the NC is graded Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (<i>or Observation</i>): Soil damage does not occur in buffer zones.	
FME response (<i>including any evidence submitted</i>)	S-4834 have been subject for an internal audit and the requirement was handled during the audit. S-6686 is active in discussing transport on forest land and the avoidance of soil damages. Smaller machines are often prioritized. The non-Slimf members have organized field visits with responsible contractor/silviculture partner. Education and more clearly instructions is taken in action to prevent future non-conformities.
SCS review	Review of CAR management in general and on Hällefors-Tierp Skogar AB during the 2022 audit where no soil damages were registered. In total soil damages and/or damages in buffer zones were identified half as frequently in 2022 compared to 2021. All group members also demonstrated high awareness of the requirements. Where applicable, planning activities had taken weak soil conditions into consideration and outlined this in the felling instructions. For this reason, CAR is recommended to be closed.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (<i>refer to description above</i>)

Finding Number: 2021.19

Select one: <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Fagersta Kommun	
Deadline	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
FSC Indicator:	FSC STD 50-001, 1.5
Non-Conformity (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Review of trademark use approval showed that approval had not been granted for use of group members’ website: https://nvk.fagersta.se/bygga-bo--miljo/naturvard-och-skogsforvaltning/skogsforvaltning.html . NC only identified in 2% of sampled FMUs. Review of four other group members with approved trademark uses. Therefore, NC is graded as Minor.	
Corrective Action Request (or Observation): The FSC trademark licence code assigned by FSC to the organization shall accompany any use of the FSC trademarks. It is sufficient to show the code once per product or promotional material.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	The group member has been contacted and the trademark licence code is now in place, and approved. During 2021-2022 there has been a wide overview among our trademark users. Also the requirements have been thoroughly repeated/trained with auditors during this overview.
SCS review	Review of CAR management for Fagersta Kommun. NC not identified for previously non-certified members joining the group certificate. However Örebro kommun, joining from another Group Certificate, was not in compliance. Since knowledge was deemed good by the members in direct contact with the CO and no NCs relating to trademark use was identified at these members, along with completed “agent training”, the CAR is recommended to be closed. Because a member joining from another group did not meet the requirement, this was used as evidence in a CAR raised to 30-005, 1,5. See finding 2022.12.
Status of CAR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

4.4 New Corrective Action Requests and Observations

Finding Number: 2022.1
Finding and Deadline

<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 7.2.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation The Organization has no up to date procedure in place to ensure a management plan that reflects the established policies and management objectives is in place and is complied with for all members. According to Prosilvas onboarding procedures, new members have 2 years to produce a management plan starting from the date of joining the Group Certificate. Furthermore, during sample audits, member S-7549 did not have a management plan covering the entire land holdings. The indicator has been subjected to the Swedish FSC FM Standard Committee for interpretation and clarification by the Certificate Holder. Until issued clarification, , the grading has been set as an Observation.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure that a procedure is in place to confirm management plan that reflects the established policies and management objectives is in place for all group members. Ensure that a management plan for all landholdings in established for all group members.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.2	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-6419, S-6294, (S-7890), S-2541, S-1235, S-7549, S-5339, S-2372, S-2139, S-8161, S-5532	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.5.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation These group members had not yet identified areas according to the new indicator 6.5.2. All non SLIMFs had begun identifying areas. Interview with Group Entity personnel and review of action plan (“Handlingsplan 6.5.2_20210824”) to meet 6.5.2 on member level. Action plan is very comprehensive and	

<p>includes a timeline for when indicator 6.5.2 is deemed to be met. For all FMUs < 20 ha, the requirement will be met on group level, calculations for this solution demonstrated during audit of group function.</p> <p>Information on this requirement has been sent to all members previously. Action plan still deemed to be sufficient and according to a potential corrective action request. Therefore, this is graded as a continued observation.</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required</p> <p>At least 5 % of the productive forest land area is managed with long-term protection and enhancement of conservation values and/or social values as the primary objective.</p> <p>Areas according to 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 together comprise at least 10 % of the productive forest land area.</p>	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.3	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Kopparfors Skogar	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.7.6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation Soil damage was not prevented when management activities were carried out. On sites ID 262208697 and ID 503967, soil damages were identified during field visits. Soil damages were only present in 2 out of 10 visited sites (soil preparation, final felling and thinning operations) at one FMU. Clear instructions and markings in available maps, as well as PEFC-certified contractors was utilized, therefor, this is graded as an Minor.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	

Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>
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Finding Number: 2022.4	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Th– response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Kopparfors Skogar	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 10.10.2 a)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation On site ID 503967, damages to ancient remains and consideration areas was identified despite clear markings and information in the felling instructions. Because damages were isolated to singular sites and not frequently recurring, and because the instructions was clear, indicating that representatives at FMU level was aware of the requirement, the grading has been set as an Minor.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.5	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-6927, Lima Besparingsskog	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.13 a)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation	

<p>The amount of fresh dead wood of different tree species has not been increased after regeneration fellings and second thinnings by: a) creating, on average, at least three high stumps or girdled trees per hectare on harvested areas.</p> <p>For FMU Lima Besparingsskogar, high stumps were not created in sufficient amounts on ID 100402 & ID 100403 and for S-6927. For S-6927 dead wood was not created on sites 19 and 45, where fellings were done by the GM themselves, on felling at site 67 (by a forestry company) number of high stumps was sufficient.</p> <p>For Lima Besparingsskog, felling instructions have improved greatly per interview with a contractor during the field audits. Additionally, the occurrence of this non-conformity was limited (observed in 5% of the sampled FMUs). Therefore, the CAR has been graded as a Minor</p>	
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure high stumps are created in sufficient numbers and that the requirement is known.</p>	
<p>FME response (including any evidence submitted)</p>	
<p>SCS review</p>	
<p>Status of CAR:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)</p>

<p>Finding Number: 2022.6</p>	
<p>Finding and Deadline</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):</p>	
<p>FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): HT Skogar, Gysinge Skogsfastigheter, Silvestica Green Forest AB - Sweden, Lima Besparingsskog, Transtrand besparingsskog</p>	
<p>Standard and Indicator</p>	<p>FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 7.5.1</p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation A summary of the management plan, including maps and excluding confidential information, has not been made publicly available in full.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A general description of how The Organization handles opinions and complaints has not been publically available by HT Skogar or Silvestica Green Forest AB - Sweden - A map of landscapes, including set aside areas and Woodland Key Habitats has not been made publically available by Gysinge Skogsfastigheter - A description of how the landscape division is done could not been demonstrated by Gysinge Skogsfastigheter, Örebro Kommun, Slottstornet, Lima Besparingsskog and Transtrands Besparingsskog <p>For group members Örebro Kommun, Slottstornet, Lima Besparingsskog and Transtrands Besparingsskog</p>	

<p>most required information could be accessed, however not easily which could pose a potential future issue.</p> <p>Since all but 3 members were aware of the requirements and only 4 group members were lacking much information, the CAR has been graded as a Minor.</p>	
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required</p> <p>A summary of the management plan, including maps and excluding confidential information, needs to be made publicly available as applicable.</p>	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.7	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Slottstornet, Lima Besparingsskog & Transtrand besparingsskog	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 8.3.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation No evidence could be provided to demonstrate that evaluation/analysis from monitoring activities had been done. Per interview with concerned FMUs, all confirmed that evaluation from monitoring activities was not being done periodically. Because only 3 group members were concerned, and because no consistent NC was identified because of this on respective FMU, the CAR has been graded as a Minor.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure that the results of monitoring and evaluation is be periodically analyzed.	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major

	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>
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Finding Number: 2022.8	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): S-5532 & Linköpings kommun	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 2.5.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation Workers could not demonstrate relevant and up-to-date competence required for the work assignment. For Linköpings kommun, personnel responsible for planning or manual felling do not have required competence (Natur- och kulturmiljövård and Naturvärdesbedömning). For S-5532, as active in forestry operations, had little to no knowledge on applicable standard indicators such as concern for deciduous trees or buffer zones. Planning personnel could not demonstrate official training in the Nature Value Assessment method used As this was only identified for 4 members, and because no consistent NC was identified because of this, the CAR has been graded as a Minor.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Workers need demonstrate relevant and up-to-date competence (Natur- och kulturmiljövård and Naturvärdesbedömning) and sufficient knowledge required for applicable forestry operations.	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.9	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Lima Besparingsskog & Transtrand besparingskog	

Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 7.3.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation Verifiable targets have not been established to evaluate the achievement of the overall management objectives and operational targets. During interview with group members and while reviewing management system, the group members could not demonstrate that verifiable targets had been established. Because this was only identified for 2 group members and because the requirement was known, this was graded as a Minor.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure that verifiable targets is established to evaluate the achievement of the overall management objectives and operational targets.	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.10	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 4.6.2
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation The documented and publicly available general description of how The Organization handles opinions and complaints should be further developed and more specific. Complaints from a stakeholder demonstrated that the complaints management procedure conveyed via the Organization’s website could include additional details. The public information clearly states that complaints are managed “in accordance with FSC requirements” (https://skogscertifiering.se/om-oss/synpunkter-och-klagoma%cc%8al/) with additional information on how to submit and appeal complaints for this reason this has been graded as an Observation.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure that the publicly available general description on how The Organization handles opinions and	

complaints is described sufficiently.	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.11	
Finding and Deadline	
<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Lima Besparingsskog, Transtrand besparingsskog, Silvestica Green Forest - Sweden	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019, indicator 6.6.6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation On sites ID 261772 and ID 258149 (Silvestica), site ID 700955 (Lima) and site ID 5723 (Transtrand), management activities in conifer-dominated stands have not been carried out so that deciduous trees constitute at least 10 % of the dominant or co-dominant stems in the stands. As a consequence, trees favoured by wild game has not been favoured sufficiently. Because this is a repeat finding from 2021, this is graded as a Major CAR.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure that management activities in conifer-dominated stands are carried out so that deciduous trees constitute at least 10 % of the dominant or co-dominant stems in the stand, where conditions allow.	
FME response <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

Finding Number: 2022.12	
Finding and Deadline	

<input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: Pre-condition to certification/recertification <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR: 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR: 12 months or next regularly scheduled audit, whichever comes first (<i>surveillance or re-evaluation</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Observation – response is optional <input type="checkbox"/> Other and deadline (specify):	
FMU CAR/OBS issued to (when more than one FMU): Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB	
Standard and Indicator	FSC-STD-30-005, 1,5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Observation Justification and/or Explanation Group Members did not demonstrate sufficient knowledge to fulfil their corresponding responsibilities within the group. Members S-6419, S-5903, S-6133, S-1235, S-5339 and Slottstornet did not demonstrate sufficient knowledge on requirements to have signed business agreements with hired contractors/consultants. Member Örebro Kommun did not demonstrate sufficient knowledge on requirements for use of FSC trademarks.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Conformity Corrective Action Request <input type="checkbox"/> Observation; no Corrective Action is required Ensure that all actors in the group demonstrate sufficient knowledge to fulfil their corresponding responsibilities within the group, in particular with regards to indicator 2.1.5, 6.6.13 a), FSC STD 50-001, 1.5 and 30-005, 1,5 (Observation raised 2021).	
FME response (including any evidence submitted)	
SCS review	
Status of CAR:	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other decision (refer to description above)</i>

5. Stakeholder Comments

In accordance with SCS protocols, consultation with key stakeholders is an integral component of the evaluation process. Stakeholder consultation takes place prior to, concurrent with, and following field evaluations. Distinct purposes of such consultation include:

- To solicit input from affected parties as to the strengths and weaknesses of the FME's management, relative to the standard, and the nature of the interaction between the FME and the surrounding communities.
- To solicit input on whether the forest management operation has consulted with stakeholders regarding identifying any high conservation value forests (HCVFs).

Stakeholder consultation activities are organized to give participants the opportunity to provide comments according to general categories of interest based on the three FSC chambers, as well as the SCS Interim Standard, if one was used.

5.1 Stakeholder Groups Consulted

Principal stakeholder groups are identified based upon results from past evaluations, lists of stakeholders from the FME under evaluation, and additional stakeholder contacts from other sources. Stakeholder groups who are consulted as part of the evaluation include FME management and staff, consulting foresters, contractors, lease holders, adjacent property owners, local and regionally-based social interest and civic organizations, purchasers of logs harvested on FME forestlands, recreational user groups, tribal members and/or representatives, members of the FSC National Initiative, members of the regional FSC working group, FSC International, local and regionally-based environmental organizations and conservationists, and forest industry groups and organizations, as well as local, state, and federal regulatory agency personnel and other relevant groups.

5.2 Summary of Stakeholder Comments and Evaluation Team Responses

The table below summarizes the comments falling within scope of the standard received from stakeholders and the assessment team’s response. Where a stakeholder comment has triggered a subsequent investigation during the evaluation, the corresponding follow-up action and conclusions from SCS are noted below.

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>FME has not received any stakeholder comments from interested parties (who are not members of the enterprise under evaluation) as a result of stakeholder outreach activities during this annual evaluation.</i>	
Summary of Outreach Activities Conducted (Check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Face to face meetings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phone calls <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email, or letter <input type="checkbox"/> Notice published in the national and/or local press <input type="checkbox"/> Notice published on relevant websites <input type="checkbox"/> Local radio announcements <input type="checkbox"/> Local customary notice boards <input type="checkbox"/> Social media broadcast	
Stakeholder Comment (Negative, positive, and neutral)	SCS Response
Negative - Complaints procedure	Comments made by stakeholders directed focus on the CHs’ communicated Complaints Procedure. It was found to be sufficient but brief and as a result an Observation was raised and the CH recommended to expand their explanation of the approach.
Negative - Group member’s activities	A final felling was conducted on one side of a well established trail, being seasonnaly used. The stakeholders wanted to preserve a “forest feel” along the trail. The stand was first generation spruce, with a high amount of deciduous trees

	(alden, birch and willow). An area of about 0,2ha was been left nearest the trail and all deciduous trees. As per interview with the FMU Manager, the area will be dominated with deciduous trees. The non-SLIMF members (large FMU) activities in question was reviewed and group member found to be in compliance.
Neutral - Group member's activities	Comments regarding a final felling near a well used rural community center. Stakeholders were sad that the stand was felled but appreciated the communications prior to it. The final felling itself was well done with no identified damages to a trail and many considerations taken to the locals, with more trees left than would otherwise be done. The non-SLIMF members (large FMU) activities in question was reviewed and group member found to be in compliance.
Positive - Felling intructions	Review of felling intructions for concerned contractor. Informed the group member of minimum requirements for felling intructions and recommended them to regularly review these

6. Certification Decision

The certificate holder has demonstrated continued overall conformance to the applicable Forest Stewardship Council standards. The SCS annual evaluation team recommends that the certificate be sustained, subject to subsequent annual evaluations and the FME's response to any open CARs.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:	

7. Annual Data Update

<input type="checkbox"/> No changes since previous evaluation.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information in the following sections has changed since previous evaluation.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Name and Contact Information <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Sales Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scope of Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Non-SLIMF FMUs <input type="checkbox"/> Social Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide and Other Chemical Use <input type="checkbox"/> Production Forests <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Product Classification <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation & High Conservation Value Areas <input type="checkbox"/> Areas Outside of the Scope of Certification

Name and Contact Information

Organization name	Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB		
Contact person	Anneli Sandström		
Address	Klostergatan 2B 753 21 Uppsala	Telephone	070-345 08 85
		Fax	
		e-mail	Anneli.sandstrom@skogscertifiering.se
		Website	www.skogscertifiering.se

FSC Sales Information

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FSC Sales contact information same as above.			
FSC salesperson			
Address	Telephone		
	Fax		
	e-mail		
	Website		

Scope of Certificate

Certificate Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Single FMU	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple FMU	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group		
SLIMF (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Small SLIMF certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Low intensity SLIMF certificate	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group SLIMF certificate		
# Group Members (if applicable)	2967		
Number of FMUs in scope of certificate	2967		
Geographic location of non-SLIMF FMU(s)	Latitude & Longitude:		
Forest zone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boreal	<input type="checkbox"/> Temperate	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Subtropical	<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical	
Area in scope of certificate which is: Units: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac			
privately managed	947377		
state managed			
community managed	45919		
Total forest area in scope of certificate <i>(Is also equal to [productive area] + [conservation area])</i>	993296		
Prior year total forest area in scope of certificate <i>(from prior year report)</i>	1005275		
Has Total forest area changed from prior year?	<input type="checkbox"/> No Change from prior year <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, there was a change from prior year. Explain change: Change in the number of group members and associated forest area.		
Number of FMUs in scope that are:			
less than 100 ha in area	2069	100 - 1000 ha in area	857
1000 - 10 000 ha in area	32	more than 10 000 ha in area	8
Total forest area in scope of certificate which is included in FMUs that: Units: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac			
are less than 100 ha in area	94368		

are between 100 ha and 1000 ha in area	231490
meet the eligibility criteria as <i>low intensity</i> SLIMF FMUs	
Division of FMUs into manageable units:	
Each FMU is a management unit defined by the boundaries of the property and forestland for each group member.	

Non-SLIMF FMUs (Group or Multiple FMU Certificates)

Name	Contact information	Latitude/ longitude of Non-SLIMF FMUs	
Additional contact and geographical information is available at Prosilva's office			
Bordsjö Fideikommiss Aktiebolag	Christian Landberg		
Boxholms Skogar AB	Peter Wallin		
Brenäs skogar AB	Ulf Bergkvist		
Erengisle Förvaltning AB	Christian Landberg		
Fredriksnäs Säteri AB	Anna Nilsson		
Gysinge Skog AB (koncern)	Vegard Haanaes		
Harpunds nämnden (SFV)	Christoffer Antonsson		
Hällefors Tierp Skogar AB	Dan Glöde		
Kopparfors Skogar AB	Lars Sängstuvall		
Lima Besparingskog	Fredrik Eriksson		
Oxbergs Gemensamhetskog Samfällighetsförening	Leif Bergman		
Pukabobolagen AB (koncern)	Eva Eriksson Brunius		
Silvestica 2 Green Forest Sverige AB	Roger Johansson		
Silvestica Green Forest Sverige AB	Roger Johansson		
Slottstornet AB	Gabriel Danielsson		
Stenhammars gods förvaltning AB (SFV)	Per Rudengren		
Stiftelsen Danviks Hospital	Henrik Schmitterlöw		
Stockholm Vatten VA AB	Christer Nilsson		
Transtrands Besparingskog	Fredrik Eriksson		
Tretorp Skog AB	John Hamilton		
Åkers Kronopark AB	Henrik Karlsson		
Eda Kommun	Claes Hallgren		
Fagersta kommun	Lisa Ekberg		
Kristinehamns Kommun	Tom Johansson		
Leksands Kommun	Hans Carlström		
Linköpings kommun	Thomas Weissenberg		

Malung-Sälens kommun	Jan-Olof Larsson		
Norrköpings kommun	Henrik Söderberg		
Örebro Kommun	Olle Sjölin		
Östersunds Kommun	Bernt Nilsson		
S-2193			
S-2360			
S-4738			
S-4888			
S-5109			
S-6303			
S-6800			
S-6804			
S-6810			
S-6812			

Social Information

Number of forest workers (including contractors) working in forest within scope of certificate (differentiated by gender):		
Male workers: 1,5	Female workers: 2	
Number of accidents in forest work since previous evaluation:	Serious: 0	Fatal: 0

Pesticide and Other Chemical Use

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A - FME has not used pesticides since last audit.				
Commercial name of pesticide / herbicide	Active ingredient	Quantity applied since previous evaluation (kg or lbs.)	Total area treated since previous evaluation (ha or ac)	Reason for use

Production Forests

Timber Forest Products	Units: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac
Total area of production forest (i.e. forest from which timber may be harvested)	821784
Area of production forest classified as 'plantation'	
Area of production forest regenerated primarily by replanting or by a combination of replanting and coppicing of the planted stems	Most common App. 650 000
Area of production forest regenerated primarily by natural regeneration, or by a combination of natural regeneration and coppicing of the naturally regenerated stems	In suitable areas App. 150 000
Silvicultural system(s)	Area under type of management

Even-aged management	
Clearcut (clearcut size range: 1 - 30 ha)	801183
Shelterwood	
Other:	
Uneven-aged management	
Individual tree selection	
Group selection	
Other:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (e.g. nursery, recreation area, windbreak, bamboo, silvo-pastoral system, agro-forestry system, etc.)	Recreation areas often part of production areas
Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs)	
Area of forest protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for the production of NTFPs or services	
Other areas managed for NTFPs or services	
Approximate annual commercial production of non-timber forest products included in the scope of the certificate, by product type	
Species in scope of joint FM/COC certificate: (Scientific / Latin Name and Common / Trade Name)	
Pinus silvestris (Scots pine), Picea abies (Norway spruce), Betula pendula/ Betula puberschens (birch), Populus tremula (aspen)	

FSC Product Classification*

Timber products		
Product Level 1	Product Level 2	Species
W1 Rough wood	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Pinus silvestris (Scots pine), Picea abies (Norway spruce), Betula pendula/ Betula puberschens (birch), Populus tremula (aspen)
W1 Rough Wood	W1.2 Fuel wood	Pinus silvestris (Scots pine), Picea abies (Norway spruce), Betula pendula/ Betula puberschens (birch), Populus tremula (aspen)
W1 Rough Wood	W1.3 Twigs	Pinus silvestris (Scots pine), Picea abies (Norway spruce), Betula pendula/ Betula puberschens (birch), Populus tremula (aspen)
Non-Timber Forest Products		
Product Level 1	Product Level 2	Product Level 3 and Species

*Note: W1, W2, and W3 product groups usually do not require a separate evaluation to FSC-STD-40-004 (COC) if processing occurs in the field for FM/COC and CW/FM certificate types. N1-N10 (NTFPs) are eligible to be sold with FSC claims under FM/COC certification if reported here. Bamboo and NTFPs derived from trees (e.g. cork, resin, bark) may be eligible for FM/COC and CW/FM certification. NTFPs used for food and medicinal purposes are not eligible for CW/FM certification. Check with SCS if you have any products intended to be sold with an FSC claim outside of any of these categories.

Conservation and High Conservation Value Areas

Conservation Area	Units: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac
Total amount of land in certified area protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for conservation objectives (includes both forested and non-forested lands).*	192111

**Note: Total conservation and HCV areas may differ since these may serve different functions in the FME's management system. Designation as HCV may allow for active management, including commercial harvest. Conservation areas are typically under passive management, but may undergo invasive species control, prescribed burns, non-commercial harvest, and other management activities intended to maintain or enhance their integrity. In all cases, figures are reported by the FME as it pertains local laws & regulations, management objectives, and FSC requirements.*

High Conservation Value Forest / Areas			Units: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac
Code	HCV Type	Description & Location	Area
HCV1	Forests or areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia).	<p>This type of areas are presented in two public databases, https://skyddadnatur.naturvardsverket.se/ and https://kartor.skogsstyrelsen.se/kartor/. The databases are run by the Swedish Forest Agency and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, and provide information (map location and description) about protected areas, nationally and internationally important conservation areas, cultural heritage sites, endangered species etc. The databases combine information from forest companies, authorities, international conventions, local knowledge and performed inventories. The databases are constantly updated as new areas are identified and new information is available.</p> <p>Each of the 2967 FMUs has set aside at least 5% of the production forest area. Set aside areas may consist of HCV.</p>	44000
HCV2	Forests or areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.	Same as above	

HCV3	Forests or areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.	Same as above	
HCV4	Forests or areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).	Same as above	
HCV5	Forests or areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).	Same as above	
HCV6	Forests or areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).	Same as above	
Total area of forest classified as 'High Conservation Value Forest / Area'			45000

Areas Outside of the Scope of Certification (Partial Certification and Excision)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>N/A – All forestland owned or managed by the certificate holder is included in the scope.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Certificate holder owns and/or manages other FMUs not under evaluation.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Certificate holder wishes to excise portions of the FMU(s) under evaluation from the scope of certification.</i>		
Note: <i>Excision cannot be applied to CW/FM certificates.</i>		
Explanation for exclusion of FMUs and/or excision:		
Control measures to prevent mixing of certified and non-certified product (C8.3):		
Description of FMUs excluded from, or forested area excised from, the scope of certification:		
Name of FMU or Stand	Location (city, state, country)	Size (<input type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac)

SECTION B – APPENDICES (CONFIDENTIAL)

Appendix 1 – List of FMUs Selected for Evaluation

- FME consists of a single FMU
 FME consists of multiple FMUs or is a Group

SCS staff establish the design and level of sampling prior to each group or multiple FMU evaluation according to FSC-STD-20-007. A list of the FMUs sampled and the rationale behind their selection is listed below.

FMU Name	FMU Size Category: - SLIMF - non-SLIMF - Large > 10,000 ha	Forest Type: - Plantation - Natural Forest	Rationale for Selection: - Random Sample - Stakeholder issue - Ease of access - Other (please describe)
Kopparfors Skogar AB	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Hällefors Tierp Skogar AB	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Gysinge Skog AB (koncern)	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Boxholms Skogar AB	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Lima Besparingsskog	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Silvestica Green Forest Sverige AB	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Transtrands Besparingsskog	Large > 10,000 ha		Random sample
Örebro Kommun	non-SLIMF		Ease of access
Åkers Kronopark AB	non-SLIMF		Random sample
Östersunds Kommun	non-SLIMF		Random sample
Bordsjö Fideikommiss Aktiebolag	non-SLIMF		Random sample
Slottstornet AB	non-SLIMF		Random sample
S-6800	non-SLIMF		Random sample
S-6804	non-SLIMF		Replacement for S-7800
S-6419	SLIMF		Random sample
S-3208	SLIMF		Random sample
S-5903	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7913,	SLIMF		Random sample
S-4060	SLIMF		Random sample
S-6133	SLIMF		Random sample
S-6294	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7890	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7767	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7793	SLIMF		Random sample
S_2451	SLIMF		Random sample
S-5814	SLIMF		Random sample
S-1235	SLIMF		Random sample
S-5908	SLIMF		Random sample

S-6289	SLIMF		Random sample
S-1604	SLIMF		Random sample
S-1583	SLIMF		Random sample
S-4384	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7636	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7277	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7549	SLIMF		Random sample
S-5339	SLIMF		Random sample
S-2372	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7745	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7922	SLIMF		Random sample
S-6870	SLIMF		Random sample
S-6927	SLIMF		Random sample
S-6838	SLIMF		Random sample
S-7800	SLIMF		Random sample
S-2139	SLIMF		Random sample
S-8161	SLIMF		Random sample
S-2140	SLIMF		Random sample
S-5532	SLIMF		Random sample
S-1713	SLIMF		Random sample
S-6804	SLIMF		Random sample

Appendix 2 – Staff and Stakeholders Consulted

List of FME Staff Consulted

To protect privacy, only FME staff who have expressly provided written permission are listed. **These records are retained by SCS and subject to FSC or ASI examination.**

Name	Title	Contact Information	Consultation method
Anneli Sandström	Group manager FSC	Anneli.sandstrom@skogs certifiering.se	F2F
Helene Larsson	Group manager PEFC	Martin.klenz@skogscertif iering.se	F2F
Martin Klenz-Tornow	Group manager PEFC Contractors	Helene.larsson@skogsce rtifiering.se	F2F
Magnus Norrby	CEO	Magnus.norrby@skogsce rtifiering.se	F2F

List of other Stakeholders Consulted*

To protect privacy, only stakeholders who have expressly provided written permission are listed. **These records are retained by SCS and subject to FSC or ASI examination.**

Name	Title	Contact Information	Consultation method	Requests Stakeholder Notification? (Y/N)
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-	Contractor	-	Conversation F2F	N
-	Contractor	-	Conversation F2F	N
-	Contractor	-	Conversation F2F	N
Österfärnebo Hembygdsförening	Member	-	Conversation F2F	N
Österfärnebo Hembygdsförening	Member	-	Conversation F2F	N
Österfärnebo Hembygdsförening	Chairman	-	Conversation F2F	N
WWF Sweden	Certification rep.	Isak.lodin@wwf.se	E-mail, F2F meeting	Y
Birdlife Sweden	Certification rep.	Dennis.kraft@birdlife.se	E-mail, F2F meeting	Y

* Note: SCS may maintain additional records of stakeholder consultation activities (e.g., email notifications) in its recordkeeping system. Anonymous stakeholders may have provided comments as a part of stakeholder outreach activities, such communications are retained by SCS subject to FSC and ASI examination.

Appendix 3 – Additional Evaluation Techniques Employed

- None.
- Additional techniques employed (*describe*): Co-auditing group members. Auditor joined the internal auditors for the purpose of evaluating the process for internal monitoring.

Appendix 4 – Required Tracking

Pesticide Derogations

- There are no active pesticide derogations for this FME.

Name of pesticide / herbicide (active ingredient)		Date derogation approved
Condition	Conformance (C / NC)	Evidence of progress

Progressive HCVF Assessments

- FME does not use partial or progressive HCVF assessments.*

*Note: In the case the FME is not operating in the entire management unit, it is permissible to only complete an HCVF assessment for the portion of the unit in which they are operating under special conditions. In such cases, the HCVF assessment must be extended if new areas are entered without an existing, appropriate HCVF assessment having been completed. An example includes a large forest concession where harvesting is initially limited to a smaller geographic scope.

Partial or progressive HCV must be noted in SCS tracking system for monitoring. Describe below the FME monitoring plan to ensure additional HCVF assessments are completed as necessary:

Special Instructions or Scoping Notes for Next Regularly Scheduled Annual Audit

<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable; no significant issues identified that may impact the next audit.
Some issues were identified during this audit that the next audit team could consider in the next audit, such as:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scope of certificate:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Audit sampling:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Audit time:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Audit season:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Travel time between sites or FMUs:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Audit frequency:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suggested audit team competency for next audit:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suggested requirements to include during the next audit:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suggested issues investigate during the next audit: Follow up continuous work on indicator 6.5.2.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suggested sites for inspection:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stakeholders to be consulted:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other(s) – please describe:

**Note: information audit team leaders wish to remain confidential may be communicated directly to SCS.*

Appendix 5 – Forest Management Standard Conformance Table

Criteria required by FSC at every surveillance evaluation (<i>check all situations that apply</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> NA – all FMUs are exempt from these requirements. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plantations > 10,000 ha (24,710 ac): 2.3, 4.2, 4.4, 6.7, 6.9, 10.6, 10.7, and 10.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Natural forests > 50,000 ha (123,553 ac) ('low intensity' SLIMFs exempt): 1.5, 2.3, 3.2, 4.2, 4.4, 5.6, 6.2, 6.3, 8.2, and 9.4 <input type="checkbox"/> FMUs containing High Conservation Values ('small forest' SLIMFs exempt): 6.2, 6.3, 6.9 and 9.4
Documents and records reviewed for FMUs/sites sampled	<input type="checkbox"/> All applicable documents and records as required in section 7 of audit plan were reviewed; or <input type="checkbox"/> The following documents and records as required in section 7 of the audit plan were NOT reviewed (<i>provide explanation</i>):

Requirements Reviewed in Annual Evaluation

Evaluation Year	Requirements Reviewed (FSC P&C Reviewed, FM/COC Indicators, Trademark Indicators, Group Standard Indicators, etc.)
2021	All – (Re)certification Evaluation
2022	Principle 7 & 8
2023	Principle 9 & 10
2024	Principle 1 & 3
2025	Principle 5 & 6

C= Conformance with Criterion or Indicator
NC= Nonconformance with Criterion or Indicator
NA = Not Applicable
NE = Not Evaluated

FSC Principles Checklist
FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Sweden

REQUIREMENT	C/NC	COMMENT/CAR
PRINCIPLE 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS The Organization shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements.		
1.4 <i>The Organization shall develop and implement measures, and/or shall engage with regulatory agencies, to systematically protect the Management Unit from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities.</i>	C	
1.4.1 Relevant authorities are notified of illegal activities.	C	Interview with group members and agents during sample audit.
1.4.2 Engagement is conducted with relevant authorities to avoid, prevent and control illegal activities, when necessary based on <i>scale, intensity and risk</i> .	C	Interview with group members and agents and contractors during sample audits, review during field visits.
1.6 <i>The Organization shall identify, prevent and resolve disputes over issues of statutory or customary law, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner, through engagement with affected stakeholders.</i>	C	
1.6.1 Up to date records of <i>legal</i> disputes that relate to management activities, including <i>customary law</i> , are held. The records include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the steps and approaches taken to reach an agreement out of court, b) the outcomes of the process, c) unresolved disputes, with the reasons why they are not resolved. 	C	Interview with Group Entity, review of registered complaints and interview with members during sample audits. No indications of ongoing legal disputes.
1.6.2 Where there are <i>ongoing legal disputes</i> between the forest owner and rights holder relating to management activities, and where continued operations can compromise the rights that the dispute concerns, the disputed operations cease until the dispute is resolved.	N/A	Interview with CO, review of news and forestry press. No indications of legal disputes.
2.1.6 When <i>workers</i> are underage (under 18 years old), the specific rules for working hours and work duties stated in the Swedish Work Environment Authority’s provisions on the working environment of minors are complied with.	C	Review of CO and during sample audits. Common practise in Sweden is for plantation contractors to use childrens football teams etc for planting services. Practise is well regulated and monitored by parents and coaches as well as authorities. No evidence that these types of contractors have been hired 2022.
2.3 <i>The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.</i>	C	

<p>2.3.1 The Swedish Work Environment Authority’s provisions on <i>Systematic Work Environment Management</i> (Sw: Systematisk arbetsmiljöarbete, SAM) are applied.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.3.1: The <i>Systematic Work Environment Management</i> is carried out jointly by <i>employees</i> and employers. Risk assessments and action plans are documented in written form and <i>workers</i> are aware of them. Local agreements about the forms of <i>engagement</i> regarding <i>Systematic Work Environment Management</i> are reached between the employer and the labor organization.</p>	<p>OFI</p>	<p>Review of employment contracts for group members with employees. Interview with employees.</p> <p>The Organisation could incorporate the Systemic Work Environment management into it’s annual reviews of the management System as this would highlight the specific procedure regularly.</p>
<p>2.3.2 Consultations are conducted regarding work environment issues in workplaces where more than one company operates.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.3.2: When necessary, an agreement is reached regarding who is responsible for coordinating safety measures against illnesses and accidents in the shared workplace.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 2.3.2: See the Work Environment Act – shared workplace.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of employment contracts for group members with employees. Interview with employees.</p>
<p>2.3.3 Employers provide safety and healthcare equipment appropriate to assigned tasks as per the law and the applicable <i>collective agreement</i>.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Group members with employees: Review of procedures, interview with employees and review of company car equipment.</p>
<p>2.3.4 Use of appropriate safety and healthcare equipment is enforced.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of procedures and interview with employees and observations during walk through/sample audits.</p>
<p>2.3.5 Accidents and incidents at work are handled and prevented.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.3.5: Accidents and incidents at work are handled and prevented through the presence and documentation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) incident reporting, b) occupational injury reporting, c) registration of sick leave as a result of accidents, d) safety inspections and risk assessments, e) records of overtime where working hours are regulated. <p><i>The Organization</i> is responsible for documentation of the above for their own <i>staff</i>, and that <i>contract workers</i> with employed <i>staff</i> can present such documentation.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of procedures and interview with employees.</p>
<p>2.3.6 The causes of incidents and/or accidents that have occurred are investigated and documented, and procedures for the <i>Systematic Work Environment Management</i> are revised as required.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of procedures and interview with employees.</p>

<p>2.3.7 <i>Workers, as employees, have access to occupational health services as required for the working conditions.</i></p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.3.7: The occupational health services as required for the working conditions include competence in preventative work environment management as well as job adaptation and rehabilitation services.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of employment contracts, procedures and interview with employees.</p>
<p>2.3.8 A safety and health representative and a safety and health committee are in place as per the Work Environment Act.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.3.8: Where a local safety and health representative is missing, contact with a regional safety and health representative has been established.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of procedures and interview with employees.</p>
<p>2.3.9 Work and safety instructions, together with emergency procedures, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) available at the workplace, b) understandable to those affected by the work, c) known by those affected by the work. 	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of OHAS procedures for group members and Central Office. Interview with employees.</p>
<p>2.3.10 <i>Staff facilities</i> are available. For silvicultural and regeneration felling work, the <i>staff facilities</i> consist of a staff cabin that is adjacent to the workplace and approved for the work.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 2.3.10: At fixed workplaces, furnished facilities shall be available adjacent to the work premises. Access to <i>staff facilities</i> shall also be made available at non-sedentary workplaces, although in such cases staff cabins positioned at the workplace can be sufficient.</p> <p>“Adjacent to the workplace” means next to the workplace or in its immediate vicinity, within walking distance. In exceptional cases – if work is conducted on sporadic occasions or during a very short time (one workday or less) – the distance to the <i>staff facilities</i> may be longer and require transportation by car.</p> <p>“A staff cabin that is approved for the work” relates to the requirements in the Swedish Work Environment Authority’s provisions on workplace design.</p> <p>To fulfill the requirements for <i>staff facilities</i> for forestry work, a staff cabin shall include: personal hygiene care/possibility to wash hands with warm water,</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of procedures and interview with employees. Facilities reviewed during field office audits for all non SLIMFs with no identified NCs relating to indicator 2.3.10.</p> <p>Forestry workers are normally hired contractors which several field visits and interviews with contractors could confirm.</p>

<p>facilities for heating up and eating food, comfortable seating, in the case of cold weather in a heated space, possibility to change clothing, possibility to dry off, possibility to store personal clothing separately from work clothing, for work near urban areas, access to a toilet shall also be available.</p> <p>Exceptions from the requirement for a staff cabin adjacent to the workplace can occur in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) repair work conducted by ambulatory service mechanics, b) temporary forestry work conducted during one workday or less, c) temporary machine work conducted during one workday or less, d) for sites to which it is not practically possible to transport a staff cabin, e) when the workday begins and ends where <i>staff facilities</i> are available, f) where <i>staff facilities</i> are available at fixed workplaces (for example, for planning/survey/assessment work and for service mechanics), g) where the erection of a staff cabin occurs at a central site within a geographical area, in which several shorter work assignments are intended to be conducted over several days, h) forestry work that is conducted as secondary work by reindeer husbandry businesses, where the businessperson conducts the work alone. <p>The requirements for <i>staff facilities</i> are regulated in the Work Environment Act, the Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions on workplace design, related rules of application, the <i>collective agreement</i> that applies to the work, and the ILO Code of Practice; Safety and health in forestry work.</p>		
<p>2.3.11 Workers that are provided with temporary accommodation have good living conditions during the work period.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 2.3.11: Sometimes, workers are provided with temporary accommodation, either because the work is not carried out near their home or because the contract employer employs foreign workers that only stay in Sweden during the assignment. It is important that the living conditions are reasonable even in temporary accommodation or temporary stays in Sweden.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of procedures and interview with employees. Group members with employees or hired contractors are responsible for meeting requirements on living conditions etc as per interview with CO and each sampled group member. During Internal audits, CO personnel demonstrated that they had good accommodation while travelling.</p> <p>For group members >10 000 ha, sampling of contractors with foreign personnel is common practise to ensure sufficient living</p>

<p><i>When the worker is resident in Sweden, the requirements in 2.3.11 apply to living conditions in the temporary accommodation, which are presumed to be of modern comfort and to comply with the standard that is required for personal hygiene, cooking, storage and drying of clothing. In this respect, the accommodation shall be equivalent to permanent accommodation. The requirements in 2.3.11 are not intended to regulate the terms for when the worker independently chooses their temporary accommodation.</i></p> <p><i>If the worker stays temporarily in Sweden during the assignment, the requirements in 2.3.11 apply to both the accommodation and living conditions. Such cases in forest work rarely relate to single individuals; rather, it is more common that both the assignment and the accommodation is provided for entire work teams. Joint accommodation for several people should thereby include facilities that are well-suited to the number of people staying there, with regards to sleeping areas that allow for privacy, a dining area and kitchen with the possibility to cook, toilets, washing and shower facilities, facilities to wash and dry clothing, as well as lockable lockers for personal effects.</i></p> <p><i>The employer or contract employer is normally responsible for providing accommodation, and thus also for ensuring that the standard of the accommodation fulfills the requirements.</i></p>		<p>conditions. This is combined with only hiring PEFC certified contractors and upholding of Work Environmental laws in Sweden. The latter is regularly reviewed by the government as well as the Union. No indications of non conformities was identified during sampling or stakeholder interviews.</p>
<p>3.4 <i>The Organization shall recognize and uphold the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples as defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989).</i></p> <p>The requirements in <i>Criterion 3.4</i> are fulfilled by following this standard.</p>	C	<p>The requirements in <i>Criterion 3.4</i> are fulfilled by following this standard.</p>
<p>4.4 <i>The Organization shall implement additional activities, through engagement with local communities, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale, intensity and socio-economic impact of its management activities.</i></p>	C	
<p>4.4.1 Measures are implemented, in proportion to the local <i>landholdings</i> of <i>The Organization</i>, to contribute to the social and economic development of <i>local communities</i>.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 4.4.1: Examples of measures include:</i></p>	C	<p>Interviews with group members and review of procedures. Several examples of non-SLIMF group members donating to the local communities and involving local contractors.</p>

<p><i>contributions, in the form of money or benefits in kind, to school forests or local non-profit organizations with activities relating to forests, supporting small-scale local business enterprises, prioritizing local populations in the lease of hunting and fishing rights, possibly at a lower fee, giving local nature tourism businesses priority to leases, granting land for outdoor and sporting establishments, such as nature trails and resting places, a positive approach to local outdoor, sporting and cultural arrangements on the landholdings, keeping roads open to the public, when possible and when taking seasonal variations into account</i></p>		
<p>4.4.2 Large forest owners: <i>Systematic</i> work to contribute to the long-term social and economic development of <i>local communities</i> is conducted.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 4.4.2: In this context, “systematic work” means having procedures to suggest measures that contribute to the long-term social and economic development of local communities, as well as carrying out and evaluating these measures.</i></p>	C	Interviews with group members and reviews of procedures. Review of local engagement with communities and ensuring local contractors are included in contractor procurements
<p>4.5 <i>The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of those activities and negative impacts.</i></p>	C	
<p>4.5.1 Areas of importance to <i>local communities</i> for outdoor recreation, culture, or local economy, that may be negatively impacted by current activities, are documented and <i>affected stakeholders</i> are identified.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 4.5.1: The <i>forest sector goals</i> for social values (Sw: målbilder för sociala värden) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 4.5.1: Areas of importance to local communities can be forests near urban areas, forests used primarily for recreation, resting places, or paths and trails. Areas important for the local economy can be areas utilized for concession reindeer herding.</i></p>	C	Interviews with group members, review of management plans. Review of stakeholder lists.
<p>4.5.2 <i>Engagement</i> is carried out for areas identified in 4.5.1, in a timely manner, before the commencement of planned management activities.</p>	C	Interviews with group members, external stakeholders and review during field visits.

<p>DIRECTIVES 4.5.2: <i>Engagement can be carried out by initiative of The Organization or upon request by an affected stakeholder. The type of engagement is adapted to the situation and based on the opinions of affected stakeholders.</i></p> <p>GUIDANCE 4.5.2: <i>Engagement is an exchange of information to make considerations and adapt management activities to reduce the negative effects on recreational values and values important for the local economy. Engagement can also be used to identify activities that can have a positive effect.</i></p> <p><i>The approach and content of the engagement process is adapted to the participants, as well as the planned management activity. Several different types of engagement can be carried out, such as information, dialogue or consultation. For consultation, see 4.5.3 as well as related directives and guidance.</i></p> <p><i>Engagement can occur as a step in the planning process prior to a management activity in a site or for a larger area, as well as in monitoring and evaluation of implemented activities. If several different management activities are planned within the same area or for the near future, these can all be handled in the same engagement process.</i></p> <p><i>As a first step, The Organization assesses which type of engagement is most suitable for the situation. The contact method, information, and process are adapted to the circumstances of each party and the value of the site for affected stakeholders, with the purpose of ensuring that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the parties are given enough time to acquaint themselves with the planned management activities and their impact,</i> <i>the parties are given the opportunity to receive information adapted to their level of knowledge and areas of interest,</i> <i>the affected parties are represented.</i> <p><i>Engagement should be documented so that the outcomes can be monitored.</i></p> <p><i>The interpretation of what “in a timely manner” means may vary. The exchange of information and dialogue should occur at least two weeks before the management activity, in the form of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>informative signs, including contact details and a description of the management activity,</i> <i>information by mail or posted in a public place,</i> <i>advertisement in the local media,</i> <i>telephone calls.</i> 	<p>All FMUs > 10 000 ha has stakeholder lists or equivalent and regular information meetings. Common practice in Swedish forestry is the use of information notes, posted on site prior to felling activities. Responsibility for posting the notes between between FMU and forestry company (if felling is not done by own personnel) but is regulated in contracts. Verified for all non SLIMF group members sampled 2022.</p>
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<p><i>In more complex situations, the initiative should be taken to conduct individual meetings or briefings at least six weeks before the management activity is planned to be carried out.</i></p>		
<p>4.5.3 Consultations are carried out for areas of special importance to <i>local communities</i>: for outdoor recreation, culture, or local economy.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 4.5.3: <i>Consultation</i> can be carried out by initiative of <i>The Organization</i> or upon request by an <i>affected stakeholder</i>. <i>Consultation</i> is normally not carried out with single individuals or for issues that relate to the <i>Right of Public Access</i> (Sw: Allemansrätten). In such cases, a different type of <i>engagement</i> is chosen. Areas of special importance and the need for <i>consultation</i> are identified through <i>engagement</i> with <i>affected stakeholders</i>.</p> <p><i>The Organization</i> can refrain from conducting <i>consultations</i> for management activities that are considered to have a small-scale impact on areas of special importance. The justification for not conducting a <i>consultation</i> is communicated to the <i>affected stakeholders</i>.</p> <p>A <i>consultation</i> shall meet the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) An invitation for <i>consultation</i>, including the time and place of the meeting, contact details of the inviting party, information about the area, and a map with an overview of the planned activities (in text or visual format), is sent to <i>affected stakeholders</i> at least six weeks before the management activity is planned to commence. b) Minutes from the <i>consultation</i> shall be written that include the opinions received from <i>stakeholders</i>. Participating <i>stakeholders</i> shall be given the opportunity to comment on the minutes. Comments shall be included in the minutes. c) A record of the <i>consultation</i> shall be made, including the minutes from the <i>consultation</i>, how <i>The Organization</i> responds or caters to the opinions received in the <i>consultation</i>, and decisions taken regarding management activities. The decision about management activities is made by <i>The Organization</i> after the <i>consultation</i> has been carried out. The <i>consultation</i> record shall be shared with the participants prior to the commencement of the management activities. 	<p>C</p>	<p>Interviews with group members and external stakeholders, review of conducted consultations for non SLIMFs</p> <p>In situations where stakeholders are known, (for larger, privately owned landholding) the normal approach is to contact stakeholders via phone or face-2-face visits (as per samples during field visits of Gysinge Skogsfastigheter and Hällefors-Tierp Skogar). Other larger group members have composed lists and regularly send out information (as per samples during field visits of for example Örebro Kommun, Boxholm Skogar and Kopparfors Skogar).</p>

<p><i>GUIDANCE 4.5.3: Consultations are carried out to collect opinions from the local community or other stakeholders and constitute a basis for decisions about any management activities. The consultation meeting is primarily intended for communication, not for making decisions. Procedures to identify and receive opinions are adapted to the extent of the forest management locally. The Organization defines the internal distribution of responsibilities for handling and evaluating opinions.</i></p> <p><i>The consultation is characterized by the following: clarity on the process and purpose of the consultation, openness from all parties involved, dialogue that builds trust.</i></p> <p><i>Affected stakeholders are normally primarily impacted by large-scale management activities such as regeneration felling. However, consultation may also be necessary for other large-scale management activities that have a substantial effect, both as a step in the management planning and as a part of monitoring and evaluation of the management activities within an area.</i></p> <p><i>It is often best to meet at the site in the forest, so that the planned management activities and the opinions of stakeholders can be clarified at the site. One meeting is often enough, although two meetings may be necessary in complex cases, such as if multiple sites or stakeholders are affected. Information about the planned management activities should be given at least two weeks before the management activities are commenced (see guidance for 4.5.2).</i></p>		
<p>4.5.4 Management activities are adapted based on the identified values in affected areas and the opinions expressed during <i>engagement</i>.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 4.5.4: Considerations that are made according to 4.5.4 are documented and may be counted in 6.5.2d-e. The extent of considerations shall be proportionate to the values and the extent of forest management. <i>The Organization</i> makes the final decision about the choice of activity.</p>	C	Interviews with group members and verified during field visits to specific areas.
<p>4.5.5 Management activities do not negatively impact the accessibility of publicly used paths, permanent tracks or trails, and paths of cultural and historic interest.</p>	C	Interviews with external stakeholders and reviewed during field visits to specific areas.
<p>4.5.6 Damage to publicly used paths, permanent tracks and trails, and paths of cultural and historic interest is repaired.</p>	C	Interviews with external stakeholders and reviewed during field visits to specific areas. Hired contractors and own forestry operation personnel are trained on how to not damage paths, trails etc. When using operations

		instructions and maps, all trails are clearly marked as reviewed during field visits.
PRINCIPLE 5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST <i>The Organization shall efficiently manage the range of multiple products and services of the Management Unit to maintain or enhance long-term economic viability and the range of social and environmental benefits.</i>		
5.2 <i>The Organization shall normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit at or below a level which can be permanently sustained.</i>	C	
5.2.1 Timber harvesting levels do not exceed the harvest level that can be permanently sustained in the <i>landholding</i> . DIRECTIVES 5.2.1: Large forest owners calculate long-term sustainable harvest levels using the regional divisions of the <i>landholding</i> . Forest owners with <i>landholdings</i> of less than 5 000 hectares of <i>productive forest land</i> base the calculations on their forest management plan.	C	Each sampled FMU have (or have commissioned) a forest management plan, where the sustainable harvest level is identified for a 10 year period. Verified for all FMUs with a Management Plan.
5.2.2 Commercial use of other forest resources occurs at levels that are sustainable in the long term.	N/A	No evidence to suggest NFTP are utilized by FMUs. These products are normally for the gain of all citizens due to Allemansrätten in Sweden.

<p>PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND IMPACTS <i>The Organization shall maintain, conserve and/or restore ecosystem services and environmental values of the Management Unit, and shall avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts.</i></p>		
<p>6.4 <i>The Organization shall protect rare species and threatened species and their habitats in the Management Unit through conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities and to the conservation status and ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species. The Organization shall take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare and threatened species beyond the boundary of the Management Unit, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	
<p>6.4.1 The following <i>habitats</i> are exempt from all management activities other than management required to maintain or promote natural <i>biodiversity</i> or <i>biodiversity</i> conditioned by traditional land use practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) natural, conspicuously uneven-aged and stratified forests with an abundance of old/large trees and a high frequency of coarse dead woody debris in different stages of decomposition, b) Woodland Key Habitats according to the definition and methodology of the Swedish Forest Agency (1995), c) low-productive land (land with a total annual volume increment of less than one cubic meter per hectare). <p>DIRECTIVES 6.4.1: The definition of 6.4.1a is interpreted in a regional perspective, taking into account the preconditions of the site and forest type. See 9.3.4 for the interpretation regarding areas above the <i>nature conservation boundary</i>. Regarding</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of set aside areas documented in management plans and interview with group members. No evidence to suggest WKH:s are not included in set aside areas.</p>

<p>6.4.1b, see directives for 6.2.1 about the identification of <i>Woodland Key Habitats</i> in <i>conservation value assessments</i>, as well as requirements for calibration and training of surveyors.</p>		
<p>6.4.2 Information about occurrences of <i>red-listed species</i> is obtained, evaluated and documented. <i>GUIDANCE 6.4.2: Obtaining information means making use of relevant sources of data regarding the occurrence of red-listed species, in up-to-date GIS-layers, from own inventories, the Swedish Species Observation System (Sw: Artportalen), County Administrative Boards, the Swedish Forest Agency, etc. Information about red-listed species is available on the Swedish Species Information Centre’s website. Quality assurance of the information is part of the evaluation.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Identified occurrences of red listed species are publicly available, Group Entity provides all members with access to the specific instructions on how to identify these. Review of document/instructions and observed during internal audit process. All FMUs have access to “mina Sidor” at the Forestry Agency webpage where information on species is also available.</p>
<p>6.4.3 Conservation measures are carried out for those known occurrences of <i>red-listed species</i> that are impacted by forest management. DIRECTIVES 6.4.3: The extent and focus of the conservation measures shall be adapted to the ecological requirements of the species and to the <i>category of threat</i>. <i>GUIDANCE 6.4.3: The measures can be part of the consideration measures that are taken according to other parts of this standard, or be specific. The measures are documented, for instance in site-specific management instructions.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of set aside areas documented in management plans and interview with group members. Interview with group members demonstrated that management activities are not always prioritized but the need known and planned for. Larger FMUs with ELPs have action plans for threatened or endangered species.</p>
<p>6.4.4 In conjunction with forest management activities, considerations are made for known:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) nests of raptors classed as <i>priority bird species</i> according to the Forestry Act, b) occurrences of territorial bird species with small population sizes, c) capercaillie leks. <p>DIRECTIVES 6.4.4: Use the guidance for considerations for birds (Sw: Vägledning för hänsyn till fåglar) produced by the Swedish Forest Agency and the Swedish</p>		<p>Review of set aside areas documented in management plans and interview with group members. Review of considerations taken during field visits.</p>

<p>Environmental Protection Agency regarding breeding seasons, buffer zones, and other considerations (see the Swedish Forest Agency’s website). The term “territorial bird species with small population sizes” encompasses: red-throated diver, red kite, peregrine falcon, northern hawk-owl, great grey owl, Ural owl, Eurasian eagle-owl, grey-headed woodpecker, greenish warbler, red-breasted flycatcher, Eurasian golden oriole, and little bunting. This list of species may be revised to reflect changes in the Red List. Known occurrences of 6.4.4 a-c are documented in conjunction with management activities.</p>		
<p>6.4.5 When harvesting during the bird breeding season, considerations are made for important breeding habitats for birds. Management activities in stratified forests dominated by deciduous trees are conducted outside of the bird breeding season. DIRECTIVES 6.4.5: The <i>forest sector goals</i> for consideration-demanding habitats (Sw: målbilder för hänsynskrävande biotoper) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities. GUIDANCE 6.4.4 AND 6.4.5: <i>All types of management activities, as well as ditching and road construction, that may affect rare and threatened bird species should be avoided during the breeding season. In addition to the Species fact sheets (Sw: Artfaktabladen), the Swedish Forest Agency/County Administrative Boards can provide further guidance.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>No indications of harvesting in important breeding habitats during the bird breeding season. Field visits indicated no fellings in important breeding habitats.</p>
<p>6.4.6 Considerations are made for known occurrences of forest species listed in the Regulation on the Protection of Species, Annex 1 with the designation N or n. DIRECTIVES 6.4.6: Known occurrences are documented in conjunction with forest management activities. GUIDANCE 6.4.6: <i>Examples of habitats with species designated as N or n in the Regulation on the Protection of Species, Annex 1:</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Review of set aside areas documented in management plans and interview with group members. Review of considerations taken during field visits.</p>

<p><i>buffer zones against water (all bat species N), stratified deciduous forest habitats, for example with hazel (hazel dormouse, northern birch mouse, smooth snake N), pine forests on sandy soils (sand lizard N). Protected species are listed in Annex 2 of the Regulation on the Protection of Species. Species-specific compilations on a county level for N and n species other than birds have been produced by the County Administrative Boards.</i></p>		
<p>6.6 The Organization shall effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and genotypes, and prevent losses of biological diversity, especially through habitat management in the Management Unit. The Organization shall demonstrate that effective measures are in place to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting.</p>	<p>C</p>	
<p>6.6.1 Trees with high biodiversity values are retained and safeguarded in forest management. Trees with high biodiversity values are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) atypical, particularly large and/or old trees, b) large trees with notably wide and thick-branched and/or flat crowns, c) large, previously solitary growing spruces on pasture land, d) large aspens and alders, e) arborescent goat willow, mountain ash, whitebeam, maple, lime, bird cherry, and wild cherry, f) large hazel and junipers, g) trees with open bole fire scars, h) hollow trees and trees with stick nests of birds of prey, i) trees with evident features of cultural importance, j) noble broad-leaf trees in forests north of Limes Norrlandicus. <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.1: <i>Exotic tree species</i> and trees that are part of the regular silvicultural program, such as trees retained for timber, shelter trees, seed trees where regeneration</p>	<p>OBS</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review during field audits. For one FMU, Transtrands Besparingsskog, a potential conservation tree had been felled at site-ID 1013432. Because this was an isolated event at only one site at one FMU, this was graded as an observation.</p>

<p>is younger than 25 years, or main stems in stands of <i>noble broad-leaf trees</i>, are not considered as trees with high biodiversity values.</p> <p>Trees with high biodiversity values may be removed in exceptional cases:</p> <p><i>where there is a risk for harm to people or damage to buildings, in conjunction with road construction or adjacent to electric cables,</i></p> <p><i>where the objective is to promote other prioritized trees with high biodiversity values,</i></p> <p><i>if they risk destroying archaeological monuments and cultural remains,</i></p> <p><i>large aspens and alders where such trees occur in abundance in coniferous stands, provided that sufficient numbers are retained for nature conservation,</i></p> <p><i>if they prevent access in conjunction with felling.</i></p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 6.6.1: The indicator specifies features, tree species and qualities that are associated with high cultural or conservation values, and that characterize trees with high biodiversity values. These trees shall be visually distinguishable from other trees in the forest stand. "Old trees" in 6.6.1a refers to trees that, because of their age, have developed particular conservation values. These may be easily recognizable features such as the size of the stem or branches, the appearance of the tree crown, the structure of the bark, or stem hollows, but also features that can be more difficult to recognize and assess, such as slow growth. Trees with high biodiversity values are normally identified through their appearance, sometimes in combination with age determination. Those that survey and single out trees with high biodiversity values should be calibrated to recognize trees with high biodiversity values in the region in question. In areas with an abundance of trees with high biodiversity values over a larger area, it may be appropriate to delimit the whole or parts of the stand as a</i></p>		
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<p><i>consideration patch as per 6.6.4 or set these aside as per 6.5.1 or 6.5.2a.</i> <i>A practical boundary for what can be considered as “arborescent” has been set at 7 cm DBH (diameter at breast height). An example of a map of an adapted border for Limes Norrlandicus can be found on FSC Sweden’s website.</i></p>		
<p>6.6.2 During regeneration felling, on average at least 10 trees per hectare are retained on the felled area. DIRECTIVES 6.6.2: The purpose of 6.6.2 is that retained trees develop into larger trees with high biodiversity values in the new forest stand. Wind-resistant trees are selected based on their significance for <i>biodiversity</i> at the stand or landscape level. The stem diameter of the retained trees shall be representative of the stand, or larger. The trees are retained as solitary trees or in smaller tree groups. Spruce in pure spruce stands, and pine, birch and spruce with shallow roots on <i>peatlands previously cultivated for agriculture</i> and in managed swamp forests, may be exempted from retention. Trees retained in <i>consideration patches/buffer zones</i> may be included in felling areas that are smaller than 4 hectares south of Limes Norrlandicus, or in felling areas that are smaller than 10 hectares north of Limes Norrlandicus. Trees with high biodiversity values that have been retained may be included.</p>	C	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits.</p> <p>Potential difficulties for larger FMUs without technical support for the contractors to keep track of number of left retention trees on large sites.</p> <p>Interview with a contractor at Transtrands Besparingsskog showed that they had no support in ensuring sufficient retention trees were left.</p>
<p>6.6.3 <i>Consideration patches, buffer zones, groups of trees and single wind-resistant coarse trees</i> are retained during regeneration felling so as to avoid large treeless areas. DIRECTIVES 6.6.3: The trees are placed to lessen the impression of a clearcut. Trees can be retained as single, coarse, wind-resistant trees, or in smaller tree groups. In areas of significance for outdoor recreation, specific adjustments are made to reduce the impression of a clearcut: for example, through the formation and size of the felled</p>	OBS	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits.</p> <p>Field visits at Kopparfors Skogar demonstrated a risk behavior (driving to close to buffer zones, not ensuring sufficient preparations for crossing wetter areas etc.) by the contractors on sites ID 262208697, ID 262196500 and ID 503967. If not managed, this could lead to non conformities.</p>

<p>area and the configuration of nature consideration.</p> <p>Instructions for avoiding large treeless areas shall be available and include the maximum acceptable size of such areas. On felling areas that are larger than 4 hectares south of Limes Norrlandicus, and on felling areas that are larger than 10 hectares north of Limes Norrlandicus, the distance from any point in the felling area to the nearest consideration, object or clearcut edge shall not exceed 70 meters.</p>		
<p>6.6.4 <i>Conservation values in consideration-demanding habitats</i> are maintained or enhanced in conjunction with management activities.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.4: The <i>forest sector goals</i> for consideration-demanding habitats (Sw: målbilder för hänsynskrävande biotoper) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.</p>	C	<p>Interview with group members to verify if management activities has been taking place in consideration-demanding habitats and verified during field visits in set aside areas for group members Gysinge Skogsfastigheter, S-7890, S-7767, S-1235 and S-2451.</p>
<p>16.6.5 <i>Buffer zones and consideration patches</i> are maintained and/or created in conjunction with precommercial and commercial thinning.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.5: <i>Buffer zones and consideration patches</i> are only precommercially thinned with the purpose of promoting <i>conservation values</i>. <i>Buffer zones</i> with an abundance of deciduous trees are <i>restored</i> where possible. The <i>forest sector goals</i> for buffer zones along water bodies, watercourses and wetlands (Sw: målbilder för kantzoner mot sjöar, vattendrag och våtmarker) are implemented in the monitoring, documentation, adaptation and application of forest management activities.</p>	C	<p>Interview with group members to ensure sufficient knowledge of the requirement, where applicable, and verified during field visits for all management activities where buffer zones were deemed to be required.</p>
<p>6.6.6 Management activities in conifer-dominated stands are carried out so that deciduous trees constitute at least 10 % of the dominant or co-dominant stems in the stand, where conditions allow.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.6: All deciduous tree stems are retained if the stems of deciduous trees prior to the management activity are too few to reach the target of 10 % stems after</p>	NC	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits. Field visit at pre-commercial thinnings on Lima Besparingskog and Transtrands Besparingskog and Silvestica Green Forest AB - Sweden demonstrated uncertainties by the contractors to leave a sufficient</p>

<p>the activity, unless there are social or nature conservation reasons to remove them.</p>		<p>amount of deciduous trees despite instructions. See finding 2022.11</p>
<p>6.6.7 In conjunction with commercial thinning, at least five existing deciduous trees on average per hectare are given favorable conditions to develop into trees with high biodiversity values in the future. Priority is given to <i>noble broad-leaf trees</i>, aspen, goat willow, and mountain ash. DIRECTIVES 6.6.7: In areas with risk of <i>Melampsora rust</i>, other deciduous trees than aspen may be prioritized.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members to ensure sufficient knowledge where applicable and verified during field visits for among others Kopparfors Skogar, Hällefors-Tierp Skogar, Boxholm Skogar, S-7277 and S-6927.</p>
<p>6.6.8 Trees favored by game for browsing (aspen, mountain ash, goat willow, willow, <i>noble broad-leaf trees</i>, juniper and wild apple) are retained to a great extent during precommercial thinning.</p>	<p>NC</p>	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits for all FMUs where applicable. For group members Lima Besparingsskog and Transtrand Besparingsskog, a CAR was raised to indicator 6.6.6 and supported by 6.6.8. See CAR 2022.11.</p>
<p>6.6.9 Measures are carried out to limit damage to forests caused by game. DIRECTIVES 6.6.9: The measures shall contribute to promoting productive tree species that are <i>adapted to the site</i>, and deciduous trees that are important for nature conservation, such as mountain ash, aspen, goat willow, oak, and other <i>noble broad-leaf trees</i>. The extent of measures is adapted to the size and conditions of the <i>landholding</i>, the extent of damage, and <i>best available information</i>. GUIDANCE 6.6.9: <i>Examples of measures can be active participation in moose management areas (Sw: älgskötselområde), monitoring of browsing damage and game populations over time, facilitating hunting and, when necessary, the active use of open hunting (Sw: avlysningsjakt). Open hunting refers to when all hunting teams in a particular moose management area or license area are given permission to shoot the remaining moose within the shooting quota of the area. When the set number and type of game has been shot, the hunting ceases.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits. Where applicable, all group members have their landholdings as part in game management areas where landowners and hunters define targets for acceptable grazing damages and population size of grazing game. Where large grazing damages do occur, group members are aware of this and hunting is further favoured in these areas as well as the use of “grazing repellents” sprayed on young pine trees (biodegradable) by some.</p>

<p>6.6.10 Engagement is conducted where necessary with relevant authorities to avoid, prevent, and control illegal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) hunting, b) fishing, c) trapping, d) collecting activities. <p><i>GUIDANCE 6.6.10: Illegal hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting activities include hunting and fishing without a permit, activities that are against the terms stated in the permit, disturbing wild birds and mammals, damaging the nests or dens of wild bird and mammals, collecting or destroying bird eggs, and collecting protected plant species.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits and on-site interviews with stakeholders.</p>
<p>6.6.11 High stumps, lying coarse dead wood and other trees that have been dead for more than one year are retained. Forest management is carried out so that damage to dead wood is minimized.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.11: Lying coarse dead wood refers to fallen dead wood with a diameter that exceeds 15 cm at breast height (1.3 meters from the largest end of the tree). Exceptions to 6.6.11 can be made in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if dead wood constitutes a safety hazard for those working in the forest, or to the public using, for instance, demarcated paths or resting areas in forests near urban areas, b) if dead wood is blocking frequently used paths and roads, c) when large wood volumes have been damaged and these have not yet been processed due to a lack of resources, d) to meet the regeneration requirements in the Forestry Act in larger, cohesive areas with dead wood, other than in stands that are prioritized as <i>set aside areas</i> e) according to 6.5.1 or 6.5.2a. 	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members to verify sufficient knowledge where applicable and verified during field visits for all FMUs with commercial thinning and/or final fellings.</p>
<p>6.6.12 In conjunction with management activities, <i>fresh dead wood</i> is retained, and</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members to verify sufficient knowledge where applicable and verified during field</p>

<p>considerations are made for <i>fresh dead wood</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) originating from trees with high biodiversity values and other trees previously retained as nature considerations, b) in areas set aside for nature conservation purposes, including consideration patches, c) on low-productive land with an annual increment of less than one cubic meter per hectare. <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.12: If the requirements in 6.6.12 conflict with the Forestry Act, derogation is sought from the Swedish Forest Agency.</p> <p>Exceptions to 6.6.12 can be made in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if dead wood constitutes a safety hazard for those working in the forest, or for the public using, for instance, demarcated paths or resting areas in forests near urban areas, b) if dead wood is blocking frequently used paths and roads, <p>in areas established for pest control by the Swedish Forest Agency, where special provisions have been issued to prevent the mass propagation of pests and where derogations cannot be obtained to retain <i>fresh dead wood</i> in <i>consideration patches</i> or areas set aside for nature conservation purposes.</p>		<p>visits for all FMUs with commercial thinning and/or final fellings.</p> <p>.</p>
<p>6.6.13 The amount of <i>fresh dead wood</i> of different tree species is increased after regeneration fellings and second thinnings by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) creating, on average, at least three high stumps or girdled trees per hectare on harvested areas, b) cutting the high stumps at the maximum height that is considered as safe, c) selecting the coarseness of high stumps based on what is representative for the stand, striving 	<p>NC</p>	<p>Interview with group members and verified during field visits. Field visit at final felling at two group members showed standing fresh dead wood/high stumps had not been created in sufficient amounts. See finding 2022.5.</p>

<p>for an overrepresentation of high stumps of deciduous trees.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.13: Specific tree species can be prioritized in cases where this is justified from a nature conservation perspective. High stumps of deciduous trees are avoided in areas where such trees occur very sparsely. When harvesting in mature stands of oak and beech, dead wood is created so that on average at least two girdled trees or high stumps of the primary tree species remain per hectare across the managed stand.</p> <p>GUIDANCE 6.6.13: <i>“The maximum height that is considered as safe” for cutting trees to create high stumps is normally above three meters in height.</i></p>		
<p>6.6.14 When harvesting windthrown seed or shelter trees, an average of at least two coarse new windthrows per hectare is retained.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 6.6.14: The requirement does not apply in the case of repeated windthrows within the same stand.</p>	C	Interview with group members to verify sufficient knowledge where applicable and verified during field visits for all FMUs in areas with windthrown trees.
<p>6.6.15 <i>Biodiversity</i> conditioned by former traditional land-use and cultural values associated with trees and shrubs are favored when forest management activities are carried out.</p>	C	Interview with group members to verify if the indicator was applicable and verified during field visits for group member Boxholm Skogar.
<p>6.6.16 <i>Forest edge</i> zones with diverse tree and shrub layers are maintained or <i>restored</i> when forest management activities are carried out adjacent to agricultural land.</p>	NE	Indicator not specifically reviewed or identified during field audits.
<p>6.6.17 Trees with high biodiversity values are favored when forest management activities are carried out in or adjacent to <i>forest edge</i> zones and other, previously sun-exposed, islets and small habitats that originated in the agricultural landscape, but now form part of forest stands that do not connect to arable land.</p>	C	Interview with group members to verify if the indicator was applicable and verified during field visits for all FMUs with commercial thinnings and/or final fellings.
<p>PRINCIPLE 7: MANAGEMENT PLANNING</p> <p><i>The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management. The associated planning and procedural documentation shall be sufficient</i></p>		

to guide staff, inform affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders and to justify management decisions.		
7.1 <i>The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and objectives for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and objectives shall be incorporated into the management plan, and publicized.</i>	C	
7.1.1 <i>The Organization has policies and management objectives that contribute to fulfilling the requirements in this standard.</i>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan.
7.1.2 <i>A summary of the overall policies and management objectives is made publicly available.</i>	C	Interview with Group Entity and review of membership agreement. Each FMU is responsible for management objectives, these are also included in management plans. Larger FMUs have published policies and/or management objectives on their website (verified during sample audits).
7.1.3 <i>Large forest owners: A management system is in place to meet the overall management objectives and operational targets, including the fulfillment of the requirements in this standard. DIRECTIVES 7.1.3: The management system ensures that the organizational structure, governance, planning, monitoring, evaluation and improvement of the operations are in line with the established policies and management objectives, as well as the requirements in this standard. The management system is adapted to scale, intensity and risks associated with management activities, and is used to systematically and continually develop and ensure the quality of the operations and the fulfillment of the requirements. Within the scope of the management system, the top management shall take responsibility for the operation of the system, allocate necessary resources, and lead and support staff within their relevant areas of responsibility so that the requirements in this standard are met. This</i>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan and procedures. For all non SLIMF FMUs, management system was reviewed and demonstrated. For FMUs 1 000 - 5 000 ha, the yearly harvesting rate is presented in the management plan overview, for most other members the basis for calculating sustainable harvesting levels are the program HEUREKA developed by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. From all management system, managers demonstrated how silviculture operations are graded based on urgency and how stands are identified using laser scanning's and/or helicopter inventories.

<p>includes identifying the operations and activities that are affected by the requirements in this standard, and planning these so they occur in accordance with procedures and specified requirements. Procedures that are covered by the <i>management system</i> are documented. The <i>management system</i> shall at least include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) identification of legislation and other requirements that affect the operations, as per 1.3.1 and 1.5, b) communication of the overall policies and management objectives to customers, <i>employees</i> and contractors, c) communication of relevant requirements to suppliers, contractors and other <i>contract workers</i>, d) description of the organizational structure of the operations, including defined roles and responsibilities, e) procedures for competence and training, as per 2.5.1, f) procedures for external communication, including procedures for inquiries and information about the status of certification, <i>engagement with affected stakeholders</i> as per 4.5, and the handling of external opinions and <i>complaints</i> as per 4.6, g) procedures for handling and maintaining documentation, including the time period that documents shall be archived for, h) procedures for regular monitoring and evaluation, as per <i>Principle 8</i>, i) procedures for handling non-conformities and the implementation of corrective actions, j) procedures for annual internal audits of the function of the <i>management system</i>, and for agreements regarding external audits, 		
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<p>k) procedures for regular review and evaluation of the <i>management system</i>.</p> <p><i>GUIDANCE 7.1.3: A management system refers to systematic work to ensure the governance of an operation. A clear management system often requires documentation regarding the vision, policies, strategies, objectives, organizational chart, division of responsibilities, procedures, instructions, etc. The requirement for a management system can be met with the help of an ISO 9001 or 14001 certification.</i></p>		
<p>7.2 <i>The Organization shall have and implement a management plan for the Management Unit which is fully consistent with the policies and management objectives as established according to Criterion 7.1. The management plan shall describe the natural resources that exist in the Management Unit and explain how the plan will meet the FSC certification requirements. The management plan shall cover forest management planning and social management planning proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of the planned activities.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	
<p>7.2.1 <i>A management plan that reflects the established policies and management objectives is in place and is complied with.</i></p>	<p>OBS</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans during sample audits. One of the sampled group members had not ordered a management plan at the time of the sample audit. Because this was an isolated event and because of a misunderstanding as per interview. The Central Office will be contacting the member. The Central Office is tracking each member’s management plan age and when it reaches 8 years, they receive notifications reminding them of revising the plans. Member S-7549 had not informed the agent/CO, and therefore not included, landholdings in the northern part of Sweden.</p>

		Further, the CO has established procedures where new members have 2 years from joining the Group Certificate until a management plan needs to be in place. As per indicator 7.2.1, no such timeline is defined. The CO has sent an Interpretation request to the Swedish Standard Committee. See OBS 2022.1.
<p>7.2.2 The forest natural resources are documented in the <i>management plan</i>. DIRECTIVES 7.2.2 AND 7.2.3: The documentation is adapted to the needs of the forest owner to be able to show that they meet the requirements in this standard. GUIDANCE 7.2.2 AND 7.2.3: <i>The documentation is intended to secure communication and governance of the operations according to the management plan. As such, the documentation can vary with the management objectives of different forest owners, as well as the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities. Certain requirements have to be demonstrated through documented procedures, monitoring, or records; such as agreements reached in consultations and consideration measures planned in conjunction with regeneration felling. Other requirements can be demonstrated in the field, for example that three high stumps are retained per hectare, that planned consideration measures have been carried out, or that the tops of deciduous trees are left when extracting tops and branches.</i></p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans.
<p>7.2.3 Strategies, procedures and measures are documented and implemented in accordance with the <i>management plan</i>. DIRECTIVES 7.2.3: Large forest owners document and implement strategies, procedures and measures in accordance with their <i>management system</i>.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan. Verified during field visits.
<p>7.3 The <i>management plan</i> shall include verifiable targets by which progress</p>	C	

<p>towards each of the prescribed management objectives can be assessed.</p>		
<p>7.3.1 Verifiable targets are established to evaluate the achievement of the overall management objectives and operational targets.</p>	<p>NC</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans. Lima Besparingsskog and Transtrand Besparingsskog could not provide verifiable targets upon request. See finding 2022.9.</p>
<p>7.4 <i>The Organization shall update and revise periodically the management planning and procedural documentation to incorporate the results of monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder engagement or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	
<p>7.4.1 The <i>management plan</i> and instructions are regularly revised and updated to incorporate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) results from monitoring and evaluation, including results from external and internal audits, b) stakeholder engagement results, c) new scientific and technical information, d) changes in environmental, social, or economic circumstances, e) changes in legislation, f) changes in the FSC normative framework. 	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans.</p>
<p>7.5 <i>The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the management plan free of charge. Excluding confidential information, other relevant components of the management plan shall be made available to affected stakeholders on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	
<p>7.5.1 A summary of the <i>management plan</i>, including maps and excluding <i>confidential information</i>, is made <i>publicly available</i> at no cost and in an easily accessible format. DIRECTIVES 7.5.1: 1. For forest owners with landholdings of more than 50 000 hectares of productive</p>	<p>NC</p>	<p>Interview with group members and Group Entity. Upon request, members are required to present required information, either directly or via the Group Entity. Review of larger group members' (></p>

<p>forest land, the following information is made available on a website. For forest owners with landholdings of between 5 000 to 50 000 hectares of productive forest land, the following information can be made available upon request, digitally or as a physical copy.</p> <p>A. An overall description of the <i>Ecologica Landscape Plan</i>, as per 6.8.1, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a map of <i>landscapes</i>, including <i>set aside areas</i> and <i>Woodland Key Habitats</i>, b) a description of how the landscape division is done, c) the size of the landscapes, d) areas prioritized for nature conservation within the landscapes, including considerations taken for High Conservation Values (HCVs). <p>B. Objectives and outcomes within the <i>landholding</i>, regarding areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) enhanced consideration, as per 6.5.2, b) continuous cover forestry, as per 6.5.2, c) proportion of older forest, as per 6.8.3, d) burned forest land, as per 6.8.4, e) forest land that has been converted to another land use, as well as compensatory nature conservation measures for this conversion, as per 6.9.1 and 6.9.2, f) plantations, as per 6.10.1. <p>More detailed information regarding specific <i>Ecological Landscape Plans</i> is provided upon request.</p> <p>C. General information about <i>The Organization</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) policy against corruption, as per 1.7.1, 		<p>50 000 ha) websites during sample audits.</p> <p>HT Skogar, Gysinge Skogsfastigheter, Örebro kommun, Slottstornet, Lima Besparingsskog and Transtrand besparingsskog was found to not be in compliance for some of the outlined requirements. See finding 2022.6.</p>
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<p>b) long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with this standard and related FSC Policies and Standards, as per 1.8.1,</p> <p>c) contact details for The Organization for inquiries, opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.1,</p> <p>d) general description of how The Organization handles opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.2.</p> <p>2. For forest owners with <i>landholdings of less than 5 000 hectares of productive forest land</i>, the following information is made available upon request, digitally or as a physical copy. The information can also be provided through the <i>group entity</i> that the forest owner is a member of.</p> <p>a) policy against corruption, as per 1.7.1,</p> <p>b) long-term commitment to forest management practices consistent with this standard and related FSC Policies and Standards, as per 1.8.1,</p> <p>c) contact details for The Organization for inquiries, opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.1,</p> <p>d) general description of how The Organization handles opinions and complaints, as per 4.6.2,</p> <p>e) Woodland Key Habitats, as per 6.4.1,</p> <p>f) set aside areas, as per 6.5.1 and 6.5.2a, divided into the management classifications “nature conservation, unmanaged” (Sw: naturvård orört, NO) and “nature conservation, managed” (Sw: naturvård skötsel, NS),</p> <p>g) areas with enhanced consideration, as per 6.5.2,</p> <p>h) areas with continuous cover forestry, as per 6.5.2,</p> <p>i) proportion of deciduous-rich stands, as per 6.8.5,</p>		
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<p>j) considerations made for High Conservation Values (HCVs, see Principle 9),</p> <p>k) description of the work to achieve functional nature conservation in relevant landscapes, as per 6.1 and 6.3.</p>		
<p>7.5.2 Relevant components of the <i>management plan</i>, excluding <i>confidential information</i>, are available to <i>affected stakeholders</i> on request at the actual costs of reproduction and handling or through a visit to a relevant office.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 7.5.2: <i>The Organization</i> can refrain from providing information if they find the request not to be relevant, or to protect FSC as a certification system. Refraining from providing information is documented, and justification as to why information is not provided is communicated to the <i>affected stakeholder</i>.</p>	C	Interview with group members to verify if potential requests had been made and with the Group Entity to verify the same. Review of management plans and how potential requests would be managed. For larger FMUs, this was audited in connection with publicly available information.
<p>7.6 <i>The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, proactively and transparently engage affected stakeholders in its management planning and monitoring processes, and shall engage interested stakeholders on request.</i></p>	C	
<p>7.6.1 Procedures are in place for proactive and transparent <i>engagement</i> with <i>affected stakeholders</i>, and for <i>engagement</i> with <i>interested stakeholders</i> on request.</p> <p>DIRECTIVES 7.6.1: <i>Engagement</i> is adapted to the <i>scale, intensity and risk</i> of the management activities. Procedures for <i>engagement</i> with <i>affected stakeholders</i> are designed in accordance with 4.5.2.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of identified stakeholders and procedures for engaging with them.
<p>PRINCIPLE 8: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT</p> <p><i>The Organization shall demonstrate that, progress towards achieving the management objectives, the impacts of management activities and the condition of the Management Unit, are monitored and evaluated proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, in order to implement adaptive management.</i></p>		
<p>8.1 <i>The Organization shall monitor the implementation of its management plan, including its policies and management objectives, its progress</i></p>	C	

with the activities planned, and the achievement of its verifiable targets.		
<p>8.1.1 The <i>management plan</i>, policies and management objectives are monitored and evaluated. DIRECTIVES 8.1.1: Large forest owners monitor and evaluate the <i>management plan</i>, policies and management objectives in accordance with their <i>management system</i>.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan. SLIMF FMUs with management plans could either themselves or via a manager (from a logging company) demonstrate how management activities were planned and executed as well as monitored. Non SLIMF FMUs could demonstrate their management objectives and how monitoring was done.
<p>8.1.2 The extent of monitoring and evaluation is adapted to the <i>scale, intensity</i> and <i>risk</i> of the management activities.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan. SLIMF FMUs could either themselves or via a manager (from a logging company) demonstrate how monitoring activities were done. Non SLIMF FMUs could demonstrate monitoring and evaluation of that data.
<p>8.2 <i>The Organization shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit, and changes in its environmental condition.</i></p>	C	
<p>8.2.1 The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored in proportion to the <i>scale, intensity</i> and <i>risk</i> of the management activities.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan and/or documentation. Review of procedure for monitoring activities and a sample of self-assessments for larger members.
<p>8.2.2 Large forest owners: Strategies, procedures and measures are monitored and evaluated in accordance with the requirements for internal audits in the <i>management system</i>.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management system and compilations/results of monitoring activities.
<p>8.3 <i>The Organization shall analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process.</i></p>	C	
<p>8.3.1 The results of monitoring and evaluation are periodically analyzed. DIRECTIVES 8.3.1: Large forest owners analyze the results of monitoring and</p>	NC	Interview with group members and review of results from internal monitoring activities for larger group members.

evaluation in accordance with their <i>management system</i> .		Lima Besparingsskog, Transtrand besparingsskog and Slottstornet could not provide evidence of performed monitoring activities. See finding 2022.7.
8.3.2 The analysis is used to revise the <i>management plan</i> and instructions, as per 7.4.1.	C	Interview with group members and review of management plan updates and analysis from internal monitoring.
8.4 <i>The Organization shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring free of charge, excluding confidential information.</i>	C	
8.4.1 A summary of the results of monitoring and evaluation, excluding <i>confidential information</i> , is <i>publicly available</i> at no cost and in an easily accessible format.	C	Interview with group members and review of procedures. Information is required to be available either directly or via the Group Entity.
8.5 <i>The Organization shall have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, for demonstrating the source and volume in proportion to projected output for each year, of all products from the Management Unit that are marketed as FSC certified.</i>	C	
8.5.1 A system is in place to demonstrate the source and volume that has been sold as FSC certified for each year.	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans and internal economic systems for larger FMUs. All members are required to retain documentation relating to volumes/economic matters for at least 7 years in accordance with Swedish law.
PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach.		
9.4 <i>The Organization shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of High Conservation Values, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and shall include engagement with</i>	C	

<p>affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and experts.</p>		
<p>9.4.1 Large forest owners: Changes in areas with High Conservation Values and the effects of management activities on High Conservation Values are monitored. The extent of monitoring is adapted to the scale, intensity and risk of the management activities. DIRECTIVES 9.4.1: If necessary, monitoring is conducted through <i>engagement</i> with, or by, relevant authorities, experts, or other <i>stakeholders</i>. The results of monitoring are documented.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans and ELPs. Review of monitoring activities demonstrates compliance to this requirement.</p>
<p>9.4.2 Large forest owners: Strategies for the long-term <i>conservation</i> and enhancement of <i>High Conservation Values</i> are adapted according to the results of the monitoring.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans and ELPs.</p>
<p>10.3 <i>The Organization shall only use alien species when knowledge and/or experience have shown that any invasive impacts can be controlled and effective mitigation measures are in place.</i></p>	<p>C</p>	
<p>10.3.1 An <i>exotic tree species</i> can only be used once it is shown through a <i>systematic</i> review that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the tree species provides considerable advantages, in terms of production or otherwise, in comparison to native tree species, b) the tree species is ecologically well adapted to the sites where it is used, c) the tree species does not cause substantial negative impacts on natural soil processes and long-term productivity, d) the tree species does not cause substantial negative impacts on other ecosystems or biodiversity, e) self-dispersal to the surroundings can be limited and removed. <p>DIRECTIVES 10.3.1: “<i>Systematic review</i>” refers to a <i>systematic</i> analysis of the tree species based on: 1. scientific experiments or 2. proven experience and scientifically documented studies. <i>Exotic tree species</i> that have not undergone a <i>systematic</i> review are</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans. Verified during field visits.</p>

<p>considered as untested and are treated in accordance with 10.5.4. <i>GUIDANCE 10.3.1d: "Other ecosystems" refers to dispersal and impact on, for example, forest wetlands, alpine environments, etc.</i></p>		
<p>10.3.2 Enrichment planting with seedlings from <i>exotic tree species</i> is only carried out in stands already dominated by <i>exotic tree species</i>.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.3 Special considerations, in the form of retained <i>native tree species</i>, are made prior to and during the establishment of new stands of <i>exotic tree species</i>. <i>GUIDANCE 10.3.3: Special considerations in the form of retained native tree species are made to enable future considerations entirely based on native tree species.</i></p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.4 New stands of lodgepole pine are not established within 1 km of nature reserves or national parks. DIRECTIVES 10.3.4: Already established stands within 1 km of nature reserves or national parks are removed no later than by the time of regeneration felling. The requirements in 10.3.4 also apply for other <i>exotic tree species</i> if such species show a significant <i>risk</i> of self- dispersal, according to 10.3.1.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.5 <i>The Organization</i> has a program for removing the self-dispersal of <i>exotic tree species</i> outside of existing and planned stands of <i>exotic tree species</i>. DIRECTIVES 10.3.5: Measures are carried out <i>systematically</i> and in proportion to the assessed negative impacts, with consideration for the <i>risk</i> of continued dispersal from trees originating from self-dispersed seedlings. Measures normally occur in conjunction with the regular management and maintenance, but can, where necessary, comprise additional measures. When stands of <i>exotic tree species</i> are removed to establish new stands of <i>native tree species</i>, measures are carried out to prevent the establishment of seedlings from</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans. Review of procedures at large forest holdings and verified during field visits.

<p>self- dispersal of the previously occurring <i>exotic tree species</i>. <i>Engagement</i> to remove and/or counteract self-dispersal of <i>exotic tree species</i> to areas outside of the <i>property</i> occurs in agreement with the landowner that is affected by the self- dispersal.</p>		
<p>10.3.6 <i>Exotic tree species</i> are not retained as nature consideration during fellings.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.7 <i>Exotic tree species</i> are actively removed from <i>consideration patches</i> and <i>buffer zones</i> in conjunction with management activities.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.8 Large forest owners: The establishment and management of stands with <i>exotic tree species</i> are planned using a landscape perspective so as to avoid negative ecological impacts.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans and ELPs. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.9 Large forest owners: <i>Exotic tree species</i> are not established in the majority of <i>landscapes</i> that contain no or a low proportion of <i>exotic tree species</i>. DIRECTIVES 10.3.9: <i>Landscapes</i> that contain no or a low proportion of <i>exotic tree species</i> are <i>landscapes</i> where less than 2 % of the area in the <i>landscape</i> consists of <i>exotic tree species</i> stands. The <i>landscapes</i> are based on the landscape division in the <i>Ecological Landscape Plan</i>.</p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans and ELPs. Verified during field visits.
<p>10.3.10 Large forest owners: A plan to develop <i>landscapes</i> that contain no or a low proportion of <i>exotic tree species</i> is in place where such <i>landscapes</i> are missing in the <i>landholding</i>. GUIDANCE 10.3.10: <i>The plan to develop landscapes with no or a low proportion of exotic tree species can be a long-term plan for replacing exotic tree species with native tree species during regeneration felling. It can also entail the earlier removal of stands with exotic tree species. When selecting such landscapes, the occurrence of exotic tree species on adjacent properties, as well as preconditions for having a low proportion of exotic tree species in the whole landscape, should be considered.</i></p>	C	Interview with group members and review of management plans and ELPs. Verified during field visits.

<p>10.3.11 The use and management of <i>exotic tree species</i> is monitored and documented in terms of <i>risks</i> for negative impacts on the surrounding environment, based on scientific appraisal.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with group members and review of management plans and ELPs.</p>

Appendix 6 – Chain of Custody Indicators for FMEs Conformance Table

Chain of Custody indicators were not evaluated during this evaluation. Appendix 7 – Trademark Standard Conformance Table

<p>1. General Requirements for Use of the FSC Trademarks (FSC “checkmark-and-tree” logo, initials “FSC,” and/or name “Forest Stewardship Council”)</p>			
<p>Trademark uses reviewed:</p>			
<p>Trademark Application (on-product/promotional)</p>	<p>Case Approval #, or Email (include approver name & date), or other appropriate documentation</p>	<p>Are all elements correct? (e.g., trademark symbol, color scheme, size, etc.) If not, describe in Nonconformities below.</p>	
<p>Group member website</p>	<p>Case number 258471</p>	<p>Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Group member website</p>	<p>Case number 310288</p>	<p>Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Smallholder group informational material</p>	<p>Case number 309809</p>	<p>Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Group member website</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> All known uses reviewed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample reviewed. Rationale that sample choice is sufficient to confirm requirements are met: Review of trademark use for all audited non SLIMF FMUs, sample of 4 uses during audit of Group Entity Central Office. Approval was identified for all but one FMU who was using FSC trademarks on their website. <input type="checkbox"/> Trademark uses detected include those grandfathered in under prior FSC trademark rules (e.g., FSC-TMK-50-201). Place the initials “GF” by the specific Trademark Applications above. <i>Note: This only applies to printed items or physical promotional materials (e.g., hats, load tickets) in stock. New printings, items, and websites must be updated per FSC-STD-50-001 requirements. If the organization only has GF uses and no new uses, the rest of this checklist is NA.</i></p>			
<p>1.2 Trademark License Agreement and valid certificate In order to use these FSC trademarks, the FME shall have a valid FSC</p>			<p>Maintained on file by SCS Main Office</p>

<p>trademark license agreement and hold a valid certificate. <i>Note: Consultations for certification Organizations applying for forest management certification or conducting activities related to the implementation of controlled wood requirements, may refer to FSC by name and initials for stakeholder consultation.</i></p>	
<p>Evidence 1.2: Maintained on file by SCS Main Office.</p>	
<p>1.6 Product Group List The products intended to be labeled or promoted as FSC certified have been included in the organization’s certified product group list.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS</p>
<p>Evidence 1.6: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to Product Groups List in Public Summary Report; <input type="checkbox"/> The following nonconformance(s) were detected in Product Groups: ; or <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to OBS related to Product Groups:</p>	
<p>1.3 Trademark License Code The FSC trademark license code assigned by FSC to the organization accompanies any use of the FSC trademarks. It is sufficient to show the code once per product or promotional material.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS</p>
<p>1.4 Trademark Symbol The FSC logo and the ‘Forests For All Forever’ marks shall include the trademark symbol ® in the upper right corner when used on products or materials to be distributed in a country where the relevant trademark is registered. For use in a country where the trademark is not yet registered, use of the symbol ™ is recommended. The Trademark Registration List document is available in the FSC trade-mark portal and marketing toolkit. The symbol ® shall also be added to ‘FSC’ and ‘Forest Steward-ship Council’ at the first or most prominent use in any text; one use per material is sufficient (e.g. website or brochure). <i>NOTE: The use of the trademark symbol is not required for FSC claims in sales and delivery documents, or for the disclaimer statement specified in requirement 6.2.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input type="checkbox"/> NA, one or more of noted exceptions applies/ una o más de las exenciones anotadas aplica</p>
<p>2.1 Restrictions on using FSC trademarks The organization has not used the FSC trademarks in the following ways: a) in a way that could cause confusion, misinterpretation, or loss of credibility to the FSC certification scheme; b) in a way that implies that FSC endorses, participates in, or is responsible for activities performed by the organization, outside the scope of certification; c) to promote product quality aspects not covered by FSC certification; d) in product brand or company names, such as ‘FSC Golden Timber’ or website domain names; e) in connection with FSC controlled wood or controlled material – they shall not be used for labelling products or in any promotion of sales or sourcing of controlled material or FSC controlled wood; the initials FSC shall only be used to pass on FSC controlled wood claims in sales and de-livery documentation, in conformity with FSC chain of custody requirements.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS</p>

<p>2.2 Translations The name 'Forest Stewardship Council' has not been replaced with a translation. A translation may be included in brackets after the name, for example: Forest Stewardship Council® (translation)</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, no translations/ no hay traducciones
<p>Evidence 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, and 2.2: <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to Trademark uses reviewed above; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following nonconformance(s) were detected Trademark use on group members website is not accompanied by the FSC license code, see CAR 2021.19; or <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to OBS:</p>	
<p>Sections 8 and 9 Graphic Rules The organization has only used FSC logos that conform to the standard requirements governing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • color and font (8.1-8.3); • format and size (8.4-8.9); • label placement (8.10); and • 'Forests For All Forever' marks (9.1-9.7). 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS
<p>1.5 Trademark Use Approval The organization has submitted all intended uses of the FSC trademarks to SCS for approval. OR The organization has an approved trademark use management system in place. (If the organization has a trademark use management system, complete Annex A.)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS
<p>4.6 FSC trademarks may be used to identify FSC-certified materials in the chain of custody before the products are finished. It is not necessary to submit such segregation marks for approval. All segregation marks shall be removed before the products go to the final point of sale or are delivered to uncertified organizations.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, trademarks no used for segregation marks/ no se usan las marcas registradas en marcas de separación
<p>Evidence Graphic Rules, 1.5, and 4.6: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to Trademark uses reviewed above; <input type="checkbox"/> The following nonconformance(s) were detected ; or <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to OBS:</p>	<p>All Group Members' use of the trademark has not been submitted for approval. See CAR 2021.19.</p>

2. On-Product Use of FSC Trademarks
 NA, no use of on-product trademarks (*on-product checklist may be deleted*)

3. Promotional Use of FSC Trademarks
 NA, no use of promotional trademarks (*promotional checklist may be deleted*)

<p>6.1 Catalogues, Brochures, and Websites When the FSC trademarks have been used in catalogues, brochures, or websites, the following requirements apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is sufficient to present the promotional elements only once in catalogues, brochures, websites, etc. • If both FSC-certified and uncertified products are listed then a text such as "Look for our FSC®-certified products" shall be used next to the promotional elements and the FSC-certified products shall be clearly identified. • If some or all of the products are available as FSC certified on request only, this is be clearly stated. 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input type="checkbox"/> NA, not using trademarks in catalogues/ brochures/websites/ no se usan marcas en catálogos, folletos y páginas web
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<p>6.2 Sales and Delivery Documents When the FSC trademarks are included on sales or delivery document templates that may be used for both FSC and non-FSC products, the following or a similar statement is included: “Only the products that are identified as such on this document are FSC certified”. <i>NOTE: Use of the FSC claim and certificate code on the invoices does not qualify as FSC trademark use.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, not using trademarks on templates for FSC & non-FSC products/ no se usan marcas registradas en plantillas para productos FSC y no FSC</p>
<p>6.3 Promotional Items All promotional items (e.g., mugs, pens, T-shirts, caps, banners, vehicles, etc.) have displayed, at minimum, the FSC logo and FSC trademark license code.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, not labeling promotional items/ no se etiquetan artículos promocionales</p>
<p>6.5 Trade Fairs When the FSC trademarks are used for promotion at trade fairs, the organization has: a) clearly marked which products are FSC certified, or b) add a visible disclaimer stating “Ask for our FSC®-certified products” or similar if no FSC-certified products are displayed. <i>NOTE: Use of text to describe the FSC certification of the organization does not require a disclaimer.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, not using trademarks at trade fairs/ no se usan marcas registradas en ferias comerciales</p>
<p>Section 6.6 and 6.7 Investment/Financial Claims 6.6 When investment companies or others are making financial claims based on the organization’s FSC certified operations, the organization has taken full responsibility for the use of the FSC trademarks. 6.7 Any such claims have been accompanied by the disclaimer, “FSC is not responsible for and does not endorse any financial claims on returns on investments.”</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, not making financial claims about FSC status/ no se hacen declaraciones financieras sobre el estado FSC</p>
<p>7.1 and 7.2 Other Forestry Certification Scheme Logos The FSC trademarks have not been used together with the marks of other forest certification schemes in a way which implies equivalence, or in a way which is disadvantageous to the FSC trademarks in terms of size or placement.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input type="checkbox"/> NA, not using other scheme logos/ no se usan logotipos de otros esquemas</p>
<p>7.3 Business Cards The FSC trademarks have not used on business cards to promote the organization’s certification. The FSC logo or ‘Forests For All Forever’ marks are not used on business cards for promotion. A text reference to the organization’s FSC certification, with license code, is allowed, for example “We are FSC® certified (FSC® C#####)” or “We sell FSC®-certified products (FSC® C#####)”.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input type="checkbox"/> NA, approval granted prior to July 1, 2011/ aprobación otorgada antes de 1/jul/2011</p>
<p>7.4 Promotion with CB Logo FSC certified products have not been promoted using only the SCS Kingfisher and/or SCS Global Services logo.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS</p>
<p>Evidence 6.1-6.3, 6.5-6.7, 7.1-7.4: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refer to Trademark uses reviewed above; <input type="checkbox"/> The following nonconformance(s) were detected ; or <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to OBS:</p>	

Annex A: Trademark use management system
 NA, not using a trademark management system (*Annex A checklist may be deleted*)

Annex B, Additional trademark rules for group FM certificate holders
 NA, not a group FM certificate or group does not use FSC trademarks (*Annex B checklist may be deleted*)

<p>Annex B, 1.1 The group entity (or manager, or central office) shall ensure that all uses of the FSC trademarks by the group entity or its individual members are approved by the certification body prior to use, or that the group and its members have an approved trademark use management system in place. When seeking approval by the certification body, group members shall submit all approvals via the group entity or central office, and keep records of approvals. Alternative submission methods may be approved by the certification body.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS
<p>Evidence 1.1: Interview with Group Entity staff and review of group members trademark use. One group member did not have approval for use of FSC trademark on their website.</p>	
<p>Annex B, 1.2 The group entity shall not produce any document similar to an FSC certificate for its participants. If individual membership documents are issued, these statements shall be included: a) "Managing the FSC® group certification program of SCS Global Services" b) "Group certification by SCS Global Services"</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS <input type="checkbox"/> NA, not issuing individual membership documents/ no se emiten documentos de membresía individual
<p>Annex B, 1.3 No other forest certification schemes' marks or names shall appear on any membership documents (as per clause 1.2) issued by the group in connection with FSC certification. <i>Note: This only applies to documents issued per Annex B, 1.2 and NOT other documents such as group procedures.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS
<p>Annex B, 1.4 Subcodes of members shall not be added to the license code.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> C w/ OBS/ c/ OBS
<p>Evidence 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4: Review of individual member documents, clarifications are made that these are not to be confused with certificates. Documents do not contain any other certification scheme logo/trademark.</p>	

- N/A, does not use/intend to use FSC trademarks for any purposes (finished with this section); or
- N/A, is fully integrated and all trademark uses are treated under the COC Annex to this report that includes a full review of FSC-STD-40-004 and FSC-STD-50-001.

Appendix 8 – Group Management Program

This is not a group certificate, so this appendix is not applicable.

Group Management Conformance Table

REQUIREMENT	C/NC/NA
1. Requirements for Group Entities	
1.1. The Group Entity shall be a person or group of persons registered as one independent legal entity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC

<p>1.2. The Group Entity shall comply with the applicable legal obligations, such as registration and payment of relevant fees and taxes.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>1.3. When a Group Entity manages more than one group, it shall have enough capacity and resources to manage more than one certificate.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Each group will result in one certificate. In any one group, either all members are FSC FM/CoC, or all members are CW/FM; if some members are certified according to FM standards and others according to CW standards, then these would be two different groups.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA; group entity manages a single group/ la entidad de grupo solamente administra un grupo</p>
<p>1.4. The Group Entity shall be responsible for conformance with this standard.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>1.5. The Group Entity shall make sure that all actors in the group demonstrate sufficient knowledge to fulfil their corresponding responsibilities within the group.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>Evidence Section 1: Prosilva is a registered stock company. No pending claims from tax agency. They are certified to ISO 14001 have access to www.regelratt.se which is a website used by the forest industry to have access to relevant laws. Management system is available via AM System and a commitment to following FSC:s intentions is publicized on the company’s web site (https://skogscertifiering.se/om-oss/var-miljopolicy/).</p> <p>Prosilva offers training on PEFC/FSC and Nature Value Assessments to all agents within the group, some of which are mandatory. Prosilva has performed trainings for its agents who shall inform the GM about the FSC rules when they prior to signing the certification agreement (joining the Group).</p> <p>Interviews for group members demonstrated an overall improvement on knowledge of certification requirements since the audit in 2021. Members receive a great deal of information upon joining the group as well as on a regular basis. However some sampled members demonstrated lack of awareness for requirements 2.1.5, 6.6.13 a) and FSC STD 50-001, 1.5. 2021 an Observation was raised on 30-005, 1.5 which has now been upgraded to a Minor CAR.</p>	
<p>2. Requirements for Group Members</p>	
<p>2.1. A declaration of consent shall be signed by each member wishing to join a group. In the declaration, the member shall:</p> <p>a) commit to follow the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard and the Group Rules;</p> <p>b) declare that the management units they are bringing into the group are not included in another FSC certificate;</p> <p>c) agree to allow the Group Entity, the certification body, FSC and ASI to fulfill their responsibilities;</p> <p>d) agree that the Group Entity will be the main contact for certification.</p> <p><i>NOTE: The declaration of consent does not have to be an individual document. It can be part of a contract or any other document (e.g. meeting minutes) that specifies the relationship agreed between the member and the Group Entity.</i></p> <p><i>NOTE 2: For Communities, the declaration may also be some other form of agreement such as assembly minutes, forest management contracts, tribal agreements for Indigenous communities, recordings of interviews in case of oral agreements, etc.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>

<p>2.1.1. The declaration shall be signed either by the group member or by their representative (e.g. Resource Manager or consultant).</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>2.1.2. When the member is represented by another party (e.g. Resource Manager or consultant), the declaration shall also include a verifiable agreement (legal or otherwise) between the member and their representative.</p> <p><i>NOTE: The requirement for the agreement to be verifiable means that the representatives must be able to prove that they have been authorized by the member to act on their behalf.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> NA; this situation does not occur within the group(s) / esta situación no ocurre en el (los) grupo(s)</p>
<p>Group Entity responsibilities: The GE is responsible for developing all procedures for the group, legal documents, monitoring, marketing and FSC coordination and training.</p> <p>SLIMF and Non SLIMF Group member responsibilities: The GM is responsible for all field operations, contacts with local clients, stakeholders and contractors, internal audit, training and FSC for contractors.</p> <p>The division of responsibilities between the group entity and the group members is described in the agreement signed by the GE and the GM.</p>	
<p>3. Division of Responsibilities</p>	
<p>3.1 The Group Entity can divide the responsibilities among the different actors in the group (e.g. Group Entity, members, contractors, etc.).</p> <p><i>NOTE: The Group Entity is free to determine at what level implementation of requirements is carried out as long as conformance is demonstrated for each management unit (as per Clause 4.1).</i></p>	<p><i>This indicator is optional; evaluation of conformity to division of responsibilities occurs under 3.2/ Este indicador es opcional; la evaluación de la división de responsabilidades ocurre bajo 3.2</i></p>
<p>3.2 The Group Entity shall define and document the division of key responsibilities within the group, as described in Clause 3.1.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>3.3. [Resource Manager and Resource Management Unit only] Some or all members of a group may choose to transfer the responsibility to ensure conformance with the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard in their management unit(s) to one Resource Manager, and may be grouped into one Resource Management Unit (RMU).</p>	<p><i>This indicator is optional; evaluation of conformity occurs under 3.3.1/ Este indicador es opcional; su evaluación ocurre bajo 3.3.1</i></p>

<p>3.3.1. [Resource Manager and Resource Management Unit only] The Resource Manager of an RMU shall assume the responsibility to conform with the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard and to follow the Group Rules on behalf of all members within their RMU.</p> <p><i>NOTE: An RMU can include all members of a group or a sub-set of members within a group. There may be more than one RMU within one group.</i></p> <p><i>NOTE 2: Members of an RMU may implement some management activities in their management units, as long as the responsibility to ensure that there is conformance with the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard remains with the Resource Manager.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA; not an RMU/ no es una UMR</p>
<p>Evidence Section 3: The agreement between group entity and each group member and agent govern responsibilities, these are also clearly defined in the management system between employees and the roles they have in the organisation.</p>	
<p>4. Conformance across management units</p>	
<p>4.1. Conformance with all requirements of the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard shall be demonstrated for each management unit within the scope of the FSC FM/CoC or CW/FM group certificate, except as provided for in Clause 4.2.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>4.2. Conformance with area thresholds in the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard with regards to Criterion 6.5, can be demonstrated across management units rather than at the level of the individual management unit for FM/CoC SLIMF management units.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> NA; does not have SLIMF MUs/ no cuenta con UM SLIMF</p>
<p>4.2.1. [Mixed SLIMF and non-SLIMF groups only] In groups with SLIMF and non-SLIMF management units, the non-SLIMF management units may support SLIMF management units to conform with such requirement, partially or fully.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Non-SLIMF management units always need to conform with Criterion 6.5 in each management unit.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> NA; not a mixed SLIMF & non-SLIMF group / no se trata de un grupo mixto de SLIMF y no SLIMF</p>
<p>Evidence Section 4: Review of procedure and interview with the CO. Indicator 6.5.1 and 6.5.2, for SLIMFs with landholdings < 20ha productive forest land, is met on group level using community owned landholdings. Review of calculations demonstrated that all SLIMFs by this are in compliance.</p>	
<p>5. Group Size</p>	
<p>5.1. The Group Entity shall determine, based on its human and technical capacities, the maximum group size that it can manage, in terms of:</p> <p>a) number of group members; b) individual management unit size; and/or c) total forest area and distribution.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>5.2. The Group Entity shall develop a group management system (as per Part II of this standard) that allows the continuous and effective management of all members of the group.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>

<p>Evidence Section 5: The group entity has determined an upper limit of members in the group given existing resources with consideration to an eventual rapid growth in the number of members. There are additional personnel available should the need arise. Review of management system, documented briefings with Management and interview with personnel confirmed this.</p>	
<p>6. Multinational Groups</p>	
<p>6.1. FM/CoC and CW/FM groups shall only be established at a national level, except in the cases described in clause 6.2.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA; not a multinational group / no se trata de un grupo multinacional</p>
<p>6.2. In cases where homogeneous conditions between countries allow for an effective and credible multinational implementation of the group management system, the Group Entity shall request formal approval from FSC International through their certification body to allow certification of such a group.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, not a multinational group / no se trata de un grupo multinacional</p>
<p>Evidence Section 6:</p>	
<p>7. Adding new members to the group</p>	
<p>7.1 The Group Entity shall evaluate every applicant who wishes to join the group and ensure that there are no major non-conformities with the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard, nor with membership requirements, before adding the new member to the group.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>7.1.1. The Group Entity shall conduct a field evaluation to conform with Clause 7.1, except for applicants meeting the SLIMF eligibility criteria or the definition of Communities in this standard, whose evaluation may be done through a desk audit.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> N/A; no non-SLIMF group members added / no se agregó ningún miembro no SLIMF</p>
<p>7.1.2. When a member wants to move from one group to another group managed by the same Group Entity, the Group Entity shall implement this evaluation to allow for the move.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A; no such movements / no hubo ningún movimiento de este tipo</p>
<p>Evidence Section 7: There is a checklist to be filled in by the applicant. The checklist covers the FSC P&C. The checklist is signed by the agent and the applicant to concern the knowledge of the agreement and the requirements in the FSC standard. A checklist is completed by the applicant, and the agent has an introduction to FSC certification. Agents are not allowed to onboard non-SLIMF FMUs, this is done by Prosilvas own personnel and the process include training of relevant staff for the joining group member.</p>	
<p>8. Provision of information to members</p>	

<p>8.1. The Group Entity shall provide each member with information, or access to information, about how the group works. The information shall include:</p> <p>a) The Group Rules and the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard, and an explanation of how to conform with them. The Group Entity shall provide access to other applicable normative documents upon request;</p> <p>b) An explanation of the certification body’s evaluation process;</p> <p>c) An explanation that the certification body, FSC and ASI have the right to access the members' management unit(s) and documentation;</p> <p>d) An explanation that the certification body will publish a public summary of their evaluation report; ASI may publish a public summary of their evaluation; and FSC will include information about the group in its database;</p> <p>e) Explanation of any costs associated with joining the group.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>8.1.1. When the Group Entity provides members with a summary of these items, it shall make available the full documentation upon request from the members.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> NA; only full documentation provided/ solo se proporciona documentación completa</p>
<p>8.1.2. The information shall be presented in a way that is understandable for members.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>Evidence Section 8: Information included in agreements and checklists as summaries. Links to full standards via the group entities website. Several templates are available for members and agents via the Intranet.</p>	
<p>9. Group Rules</p>	

<p>9.1. The Group shall develop, implement and keep updated written rules to manage the group covering all applicable requirements of this standard, according to the scale and complexity of the group, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Rules setting out who can become a member of the group; b) Rules setting out how new members are included in the group; c) Rules setting out when members can be suspended or removed from the group; d) An internal monitoring system for the group; e) A process to resolve corrective action requests issued internally and by the certification body, including timelines and implications if any of the corrective actions are not solved; f) A procedure to solve complaints from stakeholders to group members; g) A system for tracking and tracing the FSC-certified forest products produced by the group members up to the defined 'forest gate', in conformance with Criterion 8.5 of the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard; h) Requirements related to marketing or sales of products; i) Rules setting out how to use the FSC trademarks and the trademark license code. <p><i>NOTE: The reference to the scale and complexity of the group refers to the fact that larger and more complex groups, with higher associated risk, might require more comprehensive procedures to ensure the protection of environmental and social values, such as High Conservation Values, Indigenous Peoples, Rare and Threatened Species, etc. Smaller groups, with less associated risk, may develop simpler procedures, but still need to develop all the mentioned Group Rules.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>Evidence Section 9: Management system includes all required procedures except g) which is governed by wood purchasing companies according to industry standard. Certain information, such as complaints procedure, inclusion/exclusion in the group and standard requirements are also made public via the webpage and/or included in the agreement. Rules for trademark use are stipulated in agreements and included in the onboarding process, demonstrated during the Central Office audit.</p> <p>Group member Örebro Kommun was joining Prosilva from another Group Certificate and using the trademarks already. Review of trademark use demonstrated that approval had not been sought prior, furthermore the use was inadequate (use of TM instead of R and missing logo license code). Additional information on trademark had already been further incorporated in the training of external agents and personnel could demonstrate the onboarding process for Örebro Kommun. 9.1 g) is deemed to be met as a procedure is in place, however there has been an oversight for one FMU as outlined in finding 2022.16.</p>	
<p>10. Group Records</p>	
<p>10.1. The Group Entity shall maintain up-to-date records covering all applicable requirements of this standard and the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard. These shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A list of the members of the group, including for each member: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. name and contact details; ii. the date of entering the group and, where relevant, the date of leaving the group, and the reason for leaving; 	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>

<p>iii. number and area of management units included in the group; iv. geographical location (e.g. coordinates) of each management unit included in the group, supported by a map or documentation; v. type of forest ownership per member (e.g. privately owned; state managed; communal management; etc.); vi. main products; vii. the sub-certificate codes where these have been issued.</p> <p>b) Any records of training provided to staff and/or group members; c) Declaration of consent from all group members, as per Clause 2.2; d) Documentation and records regarding recommended practices for forest management (e.g. silvicultural systems); e) Records demonstrating the implementation of the group management system. These shall include records of internal monitoring, non-conformities identified in such monitoring, actions taken to correct any identified non-conformity, etc.; f) Records of the actual or estimated annual harvesting volume of the group and actual annual FSC sales volume of the group.</p> <p><i>NOTE: The Group Entity must fulfil data protection responsibilities when gathering this information.</i></p> <p><i>NOTE: The amount of records maintained centrally by the Group Entity may vary from case to case. In order to reduce costs and increase the efficiency of evaluations by the certification body, and subsequent monitoring by FSC and/or ASI, records should be stored centrally or be accessible digitally whenever possible.</i></p>	
<p>10.2. The Group Entity shall retain group records for at least five (5) years.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>10.3. In countries where FSC International has determined that there is a high risk of false claims involving material harvested from groups, the Group Entity shall maintain up-to-date records of the harvesting and FSC sales volumes of each management unit in the group.</p> <p><i>NOTE: For management units in the group where the harvesting and sales are carried out by a contractor, the Group Entity should verify that the volumes sold by the contractor correspond to the estimated volumes bought from its group. For this purpose, the contract between the forest owner and the contractor should include a requirement for the contractor to communicate to the forest owner and the Group Entity the actual (measured) volume harvested and sold.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA; FSC has not determined high risk/ el FSC no ha determinado riesgo alto</p>

<p>Evidence Section 10: Prosilva has a database where all members are registered. Physical originals of consent agreements are retained for at least 7 years.</p> <p>Prosilva has records of both external and internal training of personnel, as verified through record review. An updated training ledger could not be provided upon request, however a draft was demonstrated as the CO had also identified a need.</p> <p>All group members have maps with the location of the forest and stand borders on their FMU(s). Maps are included in the management plans (requirement for FMUs > 20 ha) and are available for all forest owners by the Swedish Forestry Agency. Management plans also include annual harvesting volumes.</p> <p>The members primarily use PEFC-certified contractors that are trained in FSC requirements and government regulations.</p>	
<p>11. Internal monitoring</p>	
<p>11.1. The Group Entity shall implement a documented internal monitoring system that includes at least the following:</p> <p>a) A description of the internal monitoring system, sufficient to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. make sure there is continued conformance with the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard in the management units in the group; ii. check the adequacy of the group management system and the Group Entity’s overall performance. <p>b) Regular (at least annual) monitoring visits to a sample of management units within the group;</p> <p>c) Regular (at least annual) analysis of the results of the internal monitoring to improve the group management system.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>11.2 The Group Entity shall select the requirements from the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard to be monitored at each internal evaluation according to the scale, intensity and risk.</p> <p><i>NOTE: The Group Entity may focus their monitoring during a particular internal evaluation on specific elements of the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard, with the provision that all aspects of the Forest Stewardship Standard are evaluated for the group, through the sampled management units, during the period of validity of the certificate.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>11.3 The Group Entity shall specify what constitutes an active management unit for the group and justify the classification of activities as active or inactive management.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>

<p>11.4 The minimum sample of management units to be visited annually for internal monitoring shall be calculated according to this table:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="204 300 831 541"> <thead> <tr> <th>Size Class</th> <th>Internal Monitoring</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Active management units > 1,000 ha</td> <td>$x = \sqrt{y}$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Active management unit \leq 1,000ha; SLIMF management units and Communities</td> <td>$x = 0.6 * \sqrt{y}$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inactive management units</td> <td>$x = 0.1 * \sqrt{y}$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Management units in Resource Management Units</td> <td>At the discretion of the Group Entity</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Where: x = number of management units to be sampled; y = number of active or inactive management units within each category.</p>	Size Class	Internal Monitoring	Active management units > 1,000 ha	$x = \sqrt{y}$	Active management unit \leq 1,000ha; SLIMF management units and Communities	$x = 0.6 * \sqrt{y}$	Inactive management units	$x = 0.1 * \sqrt{y}$	Management units in Resource Management Units	At the discretion of the Group Entity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC
Size Class	Internal Monitoring										
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Inactive management units	$x = 0.1 * \sqrt{y}$										
Management units in Resource Management Units	At the discretion of the Group Entity										
<p>11.5 The number of units calculated (X) using Table 1 shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC										
<p>11.6 Inactive management units may be monitored remotely if the necessary information is available (e.g. remote sensing, digital imagery, phone interviews, documents proving payments/sales/provision of material and training).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> NA; does not use remote monitoring/ no se use el monitoreo remoto										
<p>11.7 The Group Entity may lower the minimum sample defined in Clause 11.4 based on the regular analysis of the results of the monitoring as per Clause 11.1 c).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA; minimum sample not altered/ no se ha modificado el muestreo mínimo										
<p>11.8 The Group Entity shall increase the calculated minimum sample when high risks are identified (e.g. unresolved substantiated land tenure or use rights disputes, High Conservation Values (HCVs) are threatened, substantiated stakeholder complaints, etc.).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA; high risks not identified/ no se han identificado riesgos altos										
<p>11.9 The Group Entity should visit different management units during the internal monitoring from the ones previously visited by the certification body, unless there are pending corrective actions, complaints or risk factors that require a revisit of the same units.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC										
<p>11.10 The Group Entity shall issue corrective action requests to address non-conformities identified during the internal monitoring and follow up their implementation.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Non-conformities identified at the level of a group member may result in non-conformities at the Group Entity level when the non-conformities are determined to be the result of the Group Entity's performance.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC										

<p>Evidence Section 11: Review of procedure for internal auditing and for internal auditor competence. Procedure govern calculations for minimum samples for SLIMF/non-SLIMF members and are in compliance with FSC requirements. All FMUs are deemed “active” with the risk factor higher for larger FMUs with more forestry activities.</p> <p>A long term internal audit plan has been produced to cover all FSC P&Cs over 5 years. The CO has also reviewed the geographical dispersion of members and have started to target certain geographical areas aiming to cover the entire country over time.</p>	
<p>12. Chain of Custody</p>	
<p>12.1. The Group Entity shall implement a tracking and tracing system for FSC-certified products, to ensure that they are not mixed with non-certified material.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, no sales of FSC-certified material/ no se ha vendido material certificado FSC</p>
<p>12.2. The Group Entity shall ensure that all invoices for sales of FSC-certified material include the required information (as per the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard).</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA, no sales of FSC-certified material/ no se ha vendido material certificado FSC</p>
<p>12.3. The Group Entity shall ensure that all uses of the FSC trademarks are approved by their certification body in advance.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NC <input type="checkbox"/> NA; no use of FSC TMs/ no se usan las marcas de FSC</p>
<p>12.4. The Group Entity shall not issue any kind of certificates to their members that could be confused with FSC certificates.</p> <p><i>NOTE: To prove that certain management units are covered by the group certificate, the member can use the list of the members of the group or a member certificate issued by the certification body. It is important that none of these documents are confused with the FSC certificate of the group held by the Group Entity.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> NC</p>
<p>Evidence Section 12:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group entity does not issue any kind of certificates to their members that could be confused with FSC certificates per review of group records cited in this checklist and/or other evidence: membership diplomas are issued to the members upon joining the group. It is clearly stated that the document is a diploma. (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no other evidence)</p>	<p>Observation: See CHK for 50-001, indicator 1,5 and CAR report.</p>

Group Management Program Members

Insert Excel, Word or PDF file as an object here (or use table below)

Public Identifier for Group Member*	Location & Coordinates for Large & Medium FMUs	Forest Area	Area by Management Type (Private, State, Community)	Main Products	Year(s) Evaluated
Large FMUs (>10,000 ha)					
Medium FMUs (>1,000 – 10,000 ha)					
SLIMF FMUs (100 – 1,000 ha)					
SLIMF FMUs (<100 ha)					

**To protect privacy, only group members who have expressly provided written permission are listed.*