

From: [Peters, Leigh](#)
To: [Ben Gunneberg](#)
Cc: [Michael Berger](#); [Hubert Inhaizer](#); [Ilaria Zorzi](#); [Marta Martinezpardo](#)
Subject: Application for Endorsement - American Tree Farm System/American Forest Foundation
Date: Friday, 19 March 2021 14:24:51
Attachments: [AFF Application to PEFC -Checklist Chapter 8 \(3.18.21b\).docx](#)
[ATFS IMG Standards Jan12015 redline to 2021.docx](#)
[ATFS Standards and Guidance 2015_2020 redline 2021 version.docx](#)
[Final Eligibility Guidance Jan12015_redline 2021 version.docx](#)
[PEFC endorsement request cover letter.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Gunneberg,

The American Forest Foundation (AFF) is seeking re-endorsement of three of its American Tree Farm System (ATFS) Standards of Sustainability (the "Standards") to the following three standards:

1. American Tree Farm System® Eligibility Requirements and Guidance for Certification 2021
2. American Tree Farm System® Standards of Sustainability 2021
3. American Tree Farm System® Independently Managed Group (IMG) Certification Standards 2021

The ATFS is a program of the AFF representing a network of 74,000 family forest owners sustainably managing 19 million acres of forestland. ATFS is the largest and oldest sustainable woodland system in the United States.

AFF initiated a normal review of the Standards in 2020. The AFF Board of Trustees approved the new Standards in November of 2020, and subsequently enacted them January 1, 2021.

AFF is seeking endorsement and mutual recognition by PEFC of the new ATFS Standards.

AFF has elected to follow the assessment process described in chapter 6.3.2 of PEFC GD 1007 – Endorsement and Mutual Recognition of Certification Systems and their Revisions; and more specifically to limit the scope of the review for re-endorsement of changes made since the last endorsement by PEFC.

Given that, I believe that it is appropriate to complete sections 8.1 through 8.5.4, under Paragraph 2 named Checklist in the document "PEFC Checklist - Standard Setting Procedures and Process (PEFC ST 1001:2017)". The completed checklist, **AFF Application to PEFC - Checklist Chapter 8.docx** is attached. The source documents cited in the checklist exist as a combination documents posted on our website at <https://www.treefarmssystem.org>, and on our private server. Citations are noted accordingly in checklist. Should you wish to see any of the original documents cited in the application, please feel free to contact me.

Attached also, please find the three new versions of the standards referenced above with changes to the previously endorsed three ATFS standards highlighted in yellow. File names are as follows:

1. **Final Eligibility Guidance Jan12015_redline 2021 version.docx**
2. **ATFS Standards and Guidance 2015_2020 redline 2021 version.docx**
3. **ATFS IMG Standards Jan 12015 redline to 2021.docx**

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to continuing our endorsement by PEFC.

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American Forest Foundation

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The [American Tree Farm System](#)® is a program of the [American Forest Foundation](#).

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