

PEFC N 05:2022

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Preface

Revision of PEFC Norway's forest certification system

The PEFC forest certification system is revised every 5 years and PEFC Norway started the revision process February 14th 2020 with an open invitation for input to the process and participation in the working committee.

In the period June 2020 to June 2022, the working committee has revised the Norwegian PEFC Forest Standard and other standards included in the system.

The working committee has consisted of representatives from the following organizations:

- The United Federation of Trade Unions
- National Association of Outdoor Recreation Councils
- Women in forestry
- Norwegian Association of Heavy Equipment Contractors
- Nature and Youth - Young Friends of the Earth Norway
- Norwegian Forest Owners' Federation
- NORSKOG – forest owner member organization
- The Norwegian Association for Outdoor Organisations
- Statskog SF
- Sabima - umbrella organization for the biological associations in Norway
- Skognæringa Kyst
- Norwegian Pulp and Paper Association
- Norwegian Wood Industry Federation
- WWF Norway
- ZERO - Zero Emission Resource Organisation

In addition, the following have been represented as observers in the working committee:

- The Norwegian Environment Agency
- The Norwegian Agriculture Agency
- NIBIO - Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research
- NINA - Norwegian Institute for Nature Research
- The Forestry Extension Institute
- Statsbygg

Oslo, 30 June 2022

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The official version of the document is Norwegian but is also translated into English. In case of doubt, the Norwegian version takes precedence.

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1 Introduction

This document is part of the Norwegian PEFC certification system for sustainable forestry. The document contains a glossary explaining and defining some of the terms and words used in the other documents.

The definitions are chiefly Norwegian translations of English definitions in PEFC Council's Technical Document, Annex 1 "PEFC Terms and definition". These definitions are mainly based on existing references within the international work on standardization and certification. Added to these are several Norwegian definitions of words and terms used in the certification system.

2 Glossary and definitions

Accreditation is a procedure for approval of an authorized certification body and procedures for verification whether an organ or person is qualified to carry out specific tasks.

Accreditation body is an organ which carries out and administers an accreditation system and issues accreditation. Norwegian Accreditation is the accreditation body in Norway.

Species Map is in the map service belonging to Artsdatabanken ("Species Database"), which is the national knowledge base for nature diversity in Norway. The object of Artsdatabanken is to supply the society with updated and easily available knowledge on nature types, species and populations (genetic variation).

Non-conformity are circumstances that are not in compliance with specified requirements. In certification non-conformities are errors leading to a report of the reason for it and measures to avoid further errors. Serious non-conformities may bring on the situation that the certified timber buyer does not buy the timber from the forest owner or that the certified timber buyer is suspended or has his certificate withdrawn.

Harvesting is a term for the felling/logging of trees or forest stands.

Stand is a forest area of at least 0,2 hectares with a certain equality in origin, age, density, site quality and tree species/composition of tree species.

Biological diversity or **biodiversity** is the sum of nature types, species diversity og genetic diversity within a forest area.

Biologically important areas (BIA) is a collective term for key habitats and other areas that may be included in the 5 % area set aside for preservation of biologically important areas in the forest landscape over time.

Site index is the same as production capability, a term for the soil's capability of producing trees with a tree species suitable for the growth conditions on the site in question.

Diameter at breast height is the diameter of a tree measured 1,3 metres above average ground level. Also written DBH eller $D_{1,3}$. Used in all practical forest measurement to avoid that the great diameter increase near the root affects the result of the volume calculation.

Rich deciduous trees are thermophilic deciduous trees such as wych elm, ash, beech, oak, small-leaved lime, Norway maple and alder.

Self-inspection is inspection routines carried out by the individual forest owner, forest worker or contractor to determine whether there are errors in relation to a standard requirement.

Older forest is forest in development class 4 and 5.

One-layered forests are forests where almost all the trees are in the same height stratum, and where the felling of mature trees is followed by the establishment of a clear cut area or a seed tree stand.

Erosion is the constant degradation taking place on the earth surface, i.e. when outer geological powers such as rivers and flowing waters drag along and fret stone particles and move matter from one location to another.

Mountain forest is higher situated forest where the temperature is a strongly restricting factor of growth and seed maturation. The border between mountain forest and other forest is not distinctly defined, but the protection forest border may be used as a basis for determining where it is locally.

Mountain forest harvesting is a combination of small-scale clear-cutting and selection cutting which may be used in mountain forests in order to maintain old forest character and observe the rules for felling in protection forest.

Clear-cutting is the most common harvesting method in spruce forest. It means that all the trees within a felling area are harvested, with the exception of the retention trees.

Regeneration area is the felling area that is harvested and where new forest is actively established by planting, or where the establishment is expected to take place by means of natural dispersal of seeds from seed trees or neighbouring stands.

Seed tree stand felling is a harvesting method often applied where the aim is natural regeneration of pine. From 3 to 15 trees per decare are left to supply enough seeds.

Old forest is forest in development class 5.

Old growth forest is forest in development class 5 where few traces of former clear-cutting are distinguishable.

Group organisation: A group of **participants** represented by the **group entity** for the purposes of implementation of the sustainable forest management standard and its certification.

Group members. A forest owner/manager or other entity covered by the **group forest certificate**, who has the legal right to manage the forest in a clearly defined forest area, and the ability to implement the requirements of the sustainable forest management standard in that area

Group forest certificate: A document confirming that the **group organisation** complies with the requirements of the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the forest certification scheme.

Group certificate holder is a company/organisation that administers group certification of forest owners in accordance with the PEFC Norway certification system. Group certificate holders represent all members in the group towards the certification body and are responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements in the Norwegian PEFC scheme.

Certified area: The forest area covered by a **group forest certificate** representing the sum of forest areas of the **participants**.

Clearing of ditches is the maintenance of ditches in the forest to keep up the improved production after the initial draining.

Waste after felling is treetops and branches from cut trees.

Harvesting method is the method by which the harvesting is carried out. The method may be open, such as clear-cutting or seed tree stand felling, or closed, such as selection cutting or mountain forest harvesting where enough trees are left per decade to continue defining it as older forest.

Development class specifies the stand's development stage with regard to age relative to site quality:

Development class 1 – forest under regeneration

Development class 2 – regeneration and young forest

Development class 3 – younger production forest

Development class 4 – older production forest

Development class 5 – forest mature for felling

Internal inspection is inspection routines carried out in one's own organisation by one's own employees in order to determine whether errors in relation to standard requirements are committed.

Internal audit is systematic and documented audits to determine to which degree the company/organisation (certificate holder) comply with the requirements in the certification system.

Cultural monuments are all traces of human activity in our physical environment, including localities linked to historic events, faith or tradition.

Cultural environments are areas where cultural monuments are included as a part of a greater entirety or context.

Landscape plan is a plan in which landscape-ecological and overall landscape considerations are emphasized in the forest management.

Landscape ecology is the study of how the amount and distribution of different habitats in a landscape, both in size, distances between them and existence time, is steering processes for the species' reproduction, dispersal, establishment and predatory activity.

Retention trees are trees left standing during cutting where closed harvesting methods are applied. When they die, they shall remain in the forest until they are totally decomposed.

Closed harvesting method is a collective term for the methods shelterwood felling, weeding, selective felling and mountain forest harvesting, where at least 1,5 trees per hectare are left standing and small area fellings - areas less than 0,2 hectare.

Låg/læger are lying dead trees.

Soil scarification is a mechanical exposing of the mineral soil in order to increase the small plants' capacity of germination and establishment.

Report obligation pursuant to the Forestry Act § 12 is to submit information on the forest owner's plans for harvesting or other forestry measures. The report is to be sent to the local authorities at the latest 3 weeks before the harvesting or measure is implemented. Report obligation applies to protection forest or other areas decided by the authorities.

Environmental databases are in forest certification databases which are to be checked before harvesting or measures are implemented to obtain knowledge of whether special considerations must be taken into account.

Bogs are ecosystems where the transformation of dead organic matter, plant remnants, proceeds so slowly that a layer of peat at least 30 cm thick is developed. Bogs with great humidity are treeless. Where the bog is somewhat drier, sparse birch is present. On the driest part of the bog, pine trees often grow, and form the vegetation type ombrotrophic bog.

Natural regeneration is new forest from seed dispersal of seed trees left standing on the clear-cut area or trees in neighbouring stands.

Nature type in the Norwegian PEFC Forest Standard is mapped areas pursuant to DN Handbook 13.

Degraded forest - Land with long-term significant reduction of the overall potential to supply benefits from the forest, which includes carbon storage, wood, biodiversity and other goods and services (definition based on FAO 2003).

Normative document is a document defining criteria, rules and guidelines for activities or results thereof. This covers documents such as standards, technical specifications, recommended procedures and regulations.

Key habitat is an area in the forest where one or several natural environments important for the conservation of biological diversity, are mapped. These habitats contain, or are expected to contain, rare or threatened species or nature types.

Pesticides are chemical products used against destructive organisms such as fungus diseases or insects and against competing vegetation, e.g. deciduous trees where spruce is more productive.

Priority species are species managed according to a regulation set up pursuant to the Nature Diversity Act § 23.

Productive forest area is woodland capable of producing at least one cubic metre wood, including bark, on average per hectare and year (0,1 cubic metre per decare and year.).

Afforestation - Establishment of forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land that, until then, was under a different land use, implies a transformation of land use from non-forest to forest

Audit is a systematic, documented and impartial assessment of how requirements in standards and routines linked to the certification are complied with. The audit is carried out by one or several persons who are independent of the organisation that is audited.

Auditor is a person qualified to carry out audits.

Certificate is a document issued in accordance with the rules and regulations in a certification system. It confirms that a product, a process or a service complies with a standard or a requirement document.

Certification is used in several different contexts, and means that somebody confirms that a product is produced or treated in accordance with a defined standard. Forest certification includes management of the forest and implies a control/inspection of the forest in relation to previously specified requirements in a standard for sustainable forestry, a forestry where balanced considerations for economic, ecological and social conditions are emphasized.

Certification report is a report on observations linked to the certificate holder's compliance with the criteria according to which they are certified. The report is drawn up by a certification body after external audits and emphasizes information on any possible discrepancy.

Shelterwood felling is a closed harvesting method where between 16 and 40 trees per decares are left standing. Shelterwood felling is used in spruce forest. The shelter trees will produce seeds and reduce the competing vegetation so that natural regeneration is established.

Forest roads are roads for trucks and tractors making it possible to transport timber to the industry. Both forest truck roads and tractor roads are built in accordance with standards laid down by the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Basic work roads in the felling area, where the terrain over short distances is modified less than 1 meter from the natural terrain level, is regarded as terrain transport.

Silviculture is the establishment of new forest after felling and young forest treatment.

Afforestation areas are areas in coastal districts where the forest through several hundred years was harvested without measurements for the establishment of new forest. Since the middle of the twentieth century these are areas where spruce has been planted to raise new forest. The areas are situated from the county Vest-Agder along the coast all the way up to Northern Norway.

Forest certification agreement is an agreement concluded by the forest owners with the group certificate holder. The agreement specifies obligations to be fulfilled in order to be a part of group certification. Through the agreement the forest owners undertake to manage their property in accordance with the requirements in PEFC Norway's certification system.

Forest care is a collective term for different types of forest treatment, such as planting, young forest treatment and thinning. Forest care is done in preparation of the forest's future production and quality.

Small-scale clear-cutting is clear-cutting of areas from 2 to 5 decares, with a shaping that makes natural regeneration from the edges possible. Smaller clear-cuts than 2 decares are regarded as clearings in older forest or part of selective felling.

Standard is a technical specification of how different requirements or objects are defined unambiguously to specify working methods or results from a measure, e.g. quality control in a company.

Control system is a system for determining aims and plans in order to achieve the aims.

Supplementary draining is new draining in connection with the clearing of ditches. Supplementary draining must not cause the drying out of previously unaffected bog areas.

Suspension means that a certificate is no longer valid for a definite period of time.

Off-road transport is transport of timber from the forest to a forest truck road or a road where a truck can continue the transport. Generally a forwarder is used when the timber transport goes in the terrain from the felling area to the forest truck road.

Distribution of tree species is the distribution of different tree species or groups of tree species within a specified forest area, usually indicated as a share of the standing volume or as a share of the crown diameter total.

Tree species replacement/introduction is the harvesting of tree species present and the planting of new tree species which are more capable of utilizing the production capability of the soil.

Threatened species is a species which according to the Norwegian Red List for species is placed in one of the following categories: Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically endangered (CR).

Threatened nature type is a nature type which according to the Norwegian Red List for nature types is placed in one of the following categories: Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically endangered (CR).

Juvenile stand tending is a collective term for all forestry measures linked to development class 2, for instance clearing of weeds, regulation between tree species or regulation of distance between trees.

Foreign tree species are species which originally do not occur in the country and which are introduced by planting.

Selected nature types are nature types which are managed through separate regulations set up pursuant to the Nature Diversity Act § 52.

Vegetation type is a specification of plant communities bearing common features and which are characterized through the composition and distribution between the occurring species. The vegetation type lichen forest is for instance characterized by the dominance of reindeer lichens (*Cladonia* sp.).

Protection forest is a forest serving as protection of other forest or as protection against nature damages. Protection forests are also areas bordering to the mountain or areas towards the sea where the forest is vulnerable and can be destroyed by wrong forest management. Protection forest is determined in accordance with § 12 in the Forestry Act.

Open harvesting method is a collective term for the harvesting methods clear-cutting and seed tree stand felling. By clear-cutting retention trees shall be left standing, and by seed tree stand felling up to ca. 15 seed trees and retention trees shall be left standing.