

Revision of the Norwegian PEFC Forest Certification System

Final protocol of the working committee

30 June 2022

The revision process

The working committee that has revised the Norwegian PEFC forest certification system has consisted of the following organisations and representatives:

Organization	Name
Norwegian Forest Owners Federation	Hans Asbjørn Sørli
Norwegian Forest Owners Federation	Simon Thorsdal
NORSKOG – forest owner member organisation	Erling Bergsaker
Statskog - State forest	Monica Grindberg
Sabima – umbrella org. for biological associations in Norway	Christian Steel
WWF – World Wildlife Fund Norway	Marianne Hansen
Nature and Youth – Young Friends of the Earth Norway	Mari Strugstad Qviller
The Norwegian Association for Outdoor Organisations	Hans Erik Lerkelund
National Association of Outdoor Recreation Councils	Morten Dåsnes
ZERO – Zero Emission Resource Organisation	Anne Marit Post-Melbye
Women in forestry	Merete Larsmon
The United Federation of Trade Unions	Endre Lie
Norwegian Association of Heavy Machine Contractors (MEF)	Ivar K Hoff
Norwegian Pulp and Paper Association	Elisabeth Berli
Norwegian Wood Industry Federation	Heidi Finstad
Skognærninga Kyst	Ole Bakke

In addition, the following organizations and representatives have been observers in the working committee:

Organization	Name
Statsbygg	Karin Anton
The Forestry Extension Institute	Trygve Øvergård
NIBIO - Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research	Fride Høistad Schei
NINA - Norwegian Institute for Nature Research	Jenni Norden / Rannveig Margrete Jakobsen/ Ulrika Jansson
The Norwegian Agriculture Agency	Vegard Wist/ Turid Trötscher
Norwegian Environment Agency	Eirin Bjørkvoll

In the period June 2020 to June 2022, the Working Committee participated in the revision of the Norwegian PEFC Certification System for Sustainable Forestry. The process has been carried out in line with the procedures for revising the certification system (PEFC N 06).

The committee has had a total of 34 meetings. In addition, there have been several subgroups that have prepared proposals that in turn have been considered by the committee. For several of the requirements external experts have been invited to give presentations with the goal of obtaining an updated knowledge base. The broad representation of different interest in the committee, together with extensive gathering of knowledge from observers and other experts, has contributed to significant changes in the forest standard.

The committee's proposed draft for the revised forest standard was circulated for consultation on 11 April 2022 with a deadline of 10 June. The committee received a total of 70 consultation responses, from a wide range of interest groups. In general, there have been many good inputs that have contributed to adjustments to several of the requirements. Many inputs are also factors that have been thoroughly discussed by the committee in the revision process and where the result is part of negotiating the compromises.

Follow-up points

Based on the discussions in the working committee and subgroups, the organizations who have been represented have agreed on follow-up points that are added to the protocol:

1. Monitor how the use of "consideration zone" for outdoor activities" meets the intention to identify the most important outdoor areas where there is a need for special consideration when planning forestry activities.
2. Collaborate to increase the use of selective felling including through better incentive schemes, to achieve the intention in a better way than today.
3. Work to finance a program to remove unwanted occurrences of foreign tree species.
4. Work to put in place digital solutions for public access to environmental information, in particular the occurrence of retention trees and establishing solutions for access information about changes in areas set aside as key habitats.
5. Work to establish a support scheme for the development of management plans for capercaillie lek sites with 15 or more active male capercaillies, and for compensation for lost revenues as a result of restrictions on logging.
6. Follow up the implementation and extent of management plans for capercaillie lek sites with 15 or more active capercaillies.
7. Initiate a project to investigate the precision when using helicopters to distribute N fertilizer.
8. Work for a positive attitude among forest owners to fires as measures in protected areas.

The organizations in the Working Committee also agree that various aspects of climate change, climate adaptation and forests as climate measures will be an important starting point for the discussions on foreign tree species and several other requirements for the next revision of the Norwegian PEFC Forest Standard.

Signatures

In the period June 2020 to June 2022, the members of the Working Committee have participated in the revision of the Norwegian PEFC Forest Standard (PEFC N 02), as well as associated documents;

- PEFC N 01 Norwegian PEFC Certification System for Sustainable Forestry
- PEFC N 03 Requirements for direct and group certification
- PEFC N 04 Requirements for certification bodies and accreditation bodies
- PEFC N 05 Glossary and Definitions

The final protocol is digitally signed by the organizations represented in the working committee:

- The United Federation of Trade Unions, Federation Leader Jørn Eggum
- Association of Intermunicipal Outdoor Recreation Boards, CEO Morten Dåsnes
- Women in forestry, General Manager Linn Braseth-Gulliksen
- Norwegian Association of Heavy Equipment Contractors (MEF), Head of Dep. Bjørn Lauritzen
- Nature and Youth – Young Friends of the Earth Norway, leader Therese Hugstmyr Woie
- Norwegian Forest Owners Federation, CEO Per Skorge
- Norwegian Association for Outdoor Organisations, Secretary General Bente Lier
- NORSKOG, CEO Arne Rørå
- Sabima, Secretary General Christian Steel
- Skognæringa Kyst, General Manager Ole H. Bakke
- Statskog, CEO Gunnar Lien
- Norwegian Pulp and Paper Association , CEO Marit Holtermann Foss
- Norwegian Wood Industry Federation , CEO Heidi Finstad
- WWF World Wildlife Fund Norway, Secretary General Karoline Andaur
- ZERO - Zero Emission Resource Organisation, CEO Sigrun Gjerløw Aasland