



PEFC
PEFC/05-01-01

PEFC SWE 003:5

Forestry Contractor Standard



**SWEDISH
PEFC STANDARD**
IN ENGLISH

Copyright notice

© PEFC Sweden

This standard is protected by copyright owned by PEFC Sweden. The document and its translations are freely available from PEFC Sweden's website www.pefc.se or upon request.

No part of the document covered by the copyright may be changed or amended, reproduced or copied, in any form or by any means for commercial purposes without the permission of PEFC Sweden.

The official language of this is Swedish. If there are any inconsistencies between the Swedish version and the endorsed version in English the English version is the reference.

SUBMITTED FOR ENDORSEMENT 2023-01-24

Document name: PEFC SWE 003:5 Forestry Contractor Standard

Approved by: PEFC Sweden **Date:** 2022-12-05

Approved by: PEFC International **Date:**

Published: **Date:** 2023-01-16

Transition period: One year from **Date:**

Next periodic review: **Date:** 2027-12-05

Contents

1. Introduction	4
2. Scope	4
3. Contractor certification	4
4. PEFC's requirements on contractors	5
4.1 Applicable requirements of PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard, chapter 4.....	5
4.2 Family businesses	5
4.3 PEFC-certification	5
4.4 Forest management planning.....	6
4.5 Site-specific work instruction	6
4.6 Sub-contractors	6
4.7 Preventive environmental requirements	6
4.8 Dangerous goods	7
4.9 Hazardous waste	7
4.10 Emergency preparedness and preventive measures	8

1. Introduction

The aim of the Swedish PEFC certification system is to develop an active and responsible forestry in which production, environment, climate benefit, and social interests are properly balanced.

It is key to PEFC that the responsibility for complying with the forestry standard falls upon the forest owner. However, the degree to which forest owners themselves perform forest operations is quite low, especially regarding operations at the final stages of the stand treatment. It is in the final stages of the stand treatment that the majority of certification requirements are expressed. The greater part of these operations is carried out by contractors, which means that these play a key-role in meeting the requirements of the forestry standard. This is the background to the requirement for certification of contractors within the framework of the Swedish system for PEFC-certification. The requirement to hire certified contractors implies that the execution of individual forestry operations may easily be delegated to certified operators (contractors) through documented contracts.

2. Scope

The Swedish PEFC-system (TD V) concerns forest land, forestry business, and forestry contract in Sweden. The standard consists of six parts which describe the system for PEFC-certification of forestry:

- PEFC SWE 001 PEFC's Certification System for Sustainable Forest Management in Sweden
- PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard
- PEFC SWE 003 Forestry Contractor Standard
- PEFC SWE 004 Direct Certification and Group certification
- PEFC SWE 005 Certification Bodies
- PEFC SWE 006 Notification of Certification Bodies

Terms and definitions are available in Appendix B in *PEFC SWE 001 001 PEFC's Certification System for Sustainable Forest Management in Sweden*.

The present document, *PEFC SWE 003 Forestry Contractor Standard*, describes the requirements that must be met in order for a certificate of direct certification or proof of group-certification for contractors to be issued. In addition, applicable parts of chapter 4 *Social requirements* in *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard* must be complied with.

3. Contractor certification

Contractor that is hired by directly certified or group-certified wood procurement organization, by contractor or by forest owner, shall be in possession of a contractor certificate or proof of group certification. Direct certification or group certification of forestry contractors is made in accordance with *PEFC SWE 004 Direct Certification and Group Certification*. For contractor certification applies that all employees and/or machinery in the forest-related business form the basis for certification. In the PEFC-system, contractors are divided into the categories:

1. **Felling operations contractor**, registered company which performs forest-related felling operations, e.g., thinning, regeneration felling, and extraction of forest fuel, on forest land.
2. **Silvicultural contractor**, registered company that performs silvicultural commissions, e.g., soil scarification, planting, pre-commercial thinning, or ditching, on forest land.

- 3. Forest management planning contractor**, registered company that performs forest management planning, planning, inventories, advisory services and/or other forestry measures of significance for compliance with the PEFC requirements.

Forest inventories of elementary character, such as e.g., follow-up of forest management measures, are exempt from the requirement for PEFC contractor certification. The exemption does however not apply to follow-up of nature conservation measures or conservation value assessments.

4. PEFC's requirements on contractors

Contractor is responsible for complying with Swedish legislation and the requirements of this standard.

4.1 Applicable requirements of PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard, chapter 4

PEFC-certified contractor shall, in addition to the requirements of this standard, comply with the following parts of *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard*:

- 4.4 Company responsibilities
- 4.5 Employer responsibilities
- 4.6 Insurances
- 4.7 Work organization
- 4.8 Work environment
- 4.9 Equal rights and opportunities
- 4.10 Competence in forestry
- 4.11 Skills development

4.2 Family businesses

- 4.2.1** Family businesses that have employees for which *LAS* (Employment Protection Act) is not applicable (family members) need not comply with 4.5.1-4.5.3, 4.7 and 4.9 of *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard* (besides legislative requirements).

4.3 PEFC-certification

- 4.3.1** At work on forest land of certified forest owners, applicable parts of *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard* shall be complied with.
- 4.3.2** At work for non-certified forest owners, applicable parts of *PEFC SWE 003 Forestry Contractor Standard* and *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard* chapter 4 for the own company, shall be complied with.
- 4.3.3** Group-certified contractors shall apply routines in accordance with instructions from the umbrella organization.
- 4.3.4** Group-certified contractors shall by means of self-assessment report annually to the umbrella organization that applicable PEFC requirements are observed in the business in question.
- 4.3.5** Group-certified contractors shall inform the umbrella organization about changes in the business that are of relevance for the certification.

4.3.6 Accept that the umbrella organization and the certification body conduct controls of compliance with the requirements of the PEFC-standard. The umbrella organization, the certification body, and where applicable, the PEFC Sweden or PEFC International, shall be given access to relevant documentation and information, as well as access to relevant facilities (for example financial statement that is not public or verification on purchase of chemicals).

4.3.7 Group-certified contractors shall handle nonconformities and take corrective action in accordance with instructions from the umbrella organization (*PEFC SWE 004 Direct Certification and Group Certification, Appendix 1*).

4.4 Forest management planning

4.4.1 A plan-producing company shall establish and document routines for the production of forest management plans which comply with the requirements of *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard, Appendix 1*. The documentation shall include field-work and quality assurance.

4.4.2 Regarding forest management planners, the company shall document that the qualifications of planners meet the requirements of *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard*.

4.5 Site-specific work instruction

4.5.1 The client's site-specific work instruction (including map) concerning agreed operation shall be observed.

Unforeseen events of significance in connection with the operation shall be communicated to the client. If a need for significant adjustments arises in connection with the operation, these shall be agreed with the client.

4.5.2 In the absence of, or in case of deficiencies in, the client's site-specific work instruction, a nonconformity report shall be made in accordance with the client's routines for nonconformities. What shall be included in a site-specific work instruction is described in *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard, Appendix 2*.

4.5.3 In the case of repeated nonconformities according to 4.5.2, or if no action is taken, the nonconformity shall be notified to the client's certification body or conveyed via the contractor's umbrella for group-certification.

4.6 Sub-contractors

4.6.1 Hired sub-contractors shall be PEFC-certified or affiliated to certified umbrella organization.

Main contractor is responsible for verifying that hired sub-contractor is PEFC-certified.

4.6.2 Contractor may only have sub-contractor in one step, unless a written agreement is made with the client.

4.7 Preventive environmental requirements

Environmental awareness shall permeate the whole business. At the procurement of equipment and supplies, environmentally labelled products shall be chosen when this is practically and economically feasible.

- 4.7.1** For two-stroke engines, alkylate gasoline which at least meet the requirements of the Swedish standard SS 155461:2017 shall be used.
- 4.7.2** All machinery performing work on forest land shall use hydraulic fluids which at least meet the requirements for environmentally approved hydraulic fluids according to Swedish standard SS 155434:2020. The fluids are reviewed according to the standard by RISE and listed on the so called "SP-list" which can be accessed via their website <https://www.ri.se/sv>. If the product to be used is not listed there, the contractor shall be able to show, based on information in the safety data sheet, that the hydraulic fluid meets environmental properties according to SS 155434:2020.
- 4.7.3** For lubrication of saw chains, vegetable saw chain oil, other environmentally approved saw chain oil, or other grease for lubrication of saw chains according to SS 155470:2020, environmental class B at the lowest, shall be used. The lubricating greases are reviewed according to the standard by RISE and listed on the so called "SP-list" which can be accessed via their website <https://www.ri.se/sv>. If the lubricating grease to be used is not listed there, the contractor shall be able to show, based on information in the safety data sheet, that it meets environmental properties according to SS 155470:2020.
- 4.7.4** Ethylene glycol may not be used in machine cooling systems in machinery performing work on forest land.
- 4.7.5** The equipment and methodology that is needed in order to prevent soil damages at logging shall be used. Operations shall be planned and executed in accordance with applicable requirements in *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard*, paragraph 3.10.
- 4.7.6** Harvesters and skidders with >100 hours of annual driving time shall have engines that meet at least stage 1 according to EU-directive 97/68/EC and EU-regulation (EU) 2016/1628.

4.8 Dangerous goods

- 4.8.1** Any person carrying dangerous goods, and who is not covered by requirements concerning driver training according to ADR-S chapter 8.2, shall have training in accordance with chapter 1.3 in ADR-S. Any person carrying fuels for vehicles or equipment equivalent to 60 litres per transport unit at the most, shall have adequate competence for the handling, e.g., in the form of an adapted ADR-S 1.3 training course.
- 4.8.2** Dangerous goods may only be carried in type approved packaging.
- 4.8.3** The dangerous goods shall be carried in a ventilated space.
- 4.8.4** Tanks and IBC-containers shall be inspected and this shall be clear from labelling on the tank/IBC-container and from inspection protocol.

4.9 Hazardous waste

Hazardous waste is also dangerous goods. See therefore also 4.8.

- 4.9.1** Any person who has a business in which hazardous waste arises shall, for every sort of waste, keep notes on quantity of waste and where the waste is transported, and where applicable, register this with responsible authority. The notes shall be kept.

- 4.9.2** When hazardous waste is returned to service provider, recycling plant, or other receiver licensed for handling of hazardous waste, control of license (or notification) shall be performed. This is not necessary if the receiver is the municipality, or the person engaged by the municipality.
- 4.9.3** Any person who carries hazardous waste by his-/herself shall notify this and, where applicable, obtain permission from responsible authority.
- 4.9.4** Any person who hands over hazardous waste for carriage or other handling to somebody else (e.g., service provider) shall make sure that this person has the necessary permissions for the handling. This control is not necessary if the receiver is the municipality, or the person engaged by the municipality.
- 4.9.5** Any person who hands over hazardous waste for carriage shall, together with the transporter (the receiver), make sure that a transport document is established which includes information on sort of waste, quantity of waste, and who leaves and receives the waste respectively. The transport document shall be signed by the supplier (the contractor).
- 4.9.6** Other residual products shall be brought out of the forest and be handled in an appropriate way.
- 4.10 Emergency preparedness and preventive measures**
- 4.10.1** The emergency preparedness shall be documented, available, and reviewed annually, in a way ensuring that all persons concerned understands it. It shall include necessary first aid equipment and preparedness for personal injury.
- 4.10.2** Clearing equipment, specifically developed for the purpose, shall always be carried and used when needed. The clearing equipment shall include digging spade, absorbent, drop cloths, and a collection vessel that is adequate for the purpose.
- 4.10.3** At service and maintenance work, equipment for collection of spillage shall be used.
- 4.10.4** The insurance company's requirements on fire preparedness shall be complied with.
- 4.10.5** Preventive measures against forest fire shall be taken when fire risk is at hand, in accordance with documented routines and specified responsibilities that have been established together with the client.