

PEFC Checklist - Sustainable Forest Management (PEFC ST 1003:2018)

1 Scope

This checklist covers requirements for sustainable forest management as defined in PEFC ST 1003:2018, *Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements*. Any inconsistencies between this text and the original referred to document will be overruled by the content and wording of the technical document.

2 Checklist

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
Context of the national standard and the organisations applying a PEFC endorsed standard		
4.1 General		
The requirements for sustainable forest management defined by regional, national or sub-national forest management standards shall:		
a) include management and performance requirements that are applicable at the forest management unit level, or at another level as appropriate, to ensure that the intent of all requirements is achieved at the forest management unit level; Note: An example of a situation where a requirement can be defined as being at another level (e.g. group/regional) is monitoring of forest health. Through monitoring of forest health at regional level, and communicating of results at the FMU level, the objective of the requirement is met without the necessity to		<i>All requirements are applicable at participant/management unit level.</i>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
carry out the individual monitoring of each forest management unit.		
b) be clear, performance based and auditable;		<i>The auditability has been a strong focus and target for the WG</i>
c) apply to activities of all forest operators in the defined forest area who have an impact on achieving compliance with the requirements;		<i>The Swedish systems covers all activities and all actors involved and which operations affect the compliance of the standard. As an overview best outlined in document 002 chapter 8 and more formally in document 004.</i>
d) require record-keeping that provides evidence of compliance with the requirements of the forest management standards;		Document 004 Appendix 2: "Document management The organization shall maintain routines for identification, maintenance, filing, confidentiality, and usage of the governing and reporting documents that are necessary to the certified business." <i>As well as several specific documentation requirements throughout the standards 001 – 004.</i>
e) specify "100% PEFC certified", or another system specific claim, as claim to be used to communicate the origin of products in an area covered by the standard to customers with a PEFC chain of custody; Note: System specific claims of PEFC endorsed standards and PEFC Council approved abbreviations of such claims and the claim "100% PEFC certified", and their translations into languages other than English, are published online on the PEFC website www.pefc.org .		Document 001 "8.2.1.2 Forestry certification of wood procurement organizations PEFC Sweden requires forestry certification of companies that, within the PEFC-system, are planning, leading, and implementing forestry measures, establishing forest management plans, and trading wood. <u>For the trading of wood, a chain of custody certificate is also required.</u> "

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
f) require that where owners/managers of forests are selling products from areas other than covered by the standard, only products from areas covered by the standard are sold with the claim "100% PEFC-certified" or a system specific claim;		<p>Document 001</p> <p>"8.2.1.2 Forestry certification of wood procurement organizations</p> <p>PEFC Sweden requires forestry certification of companies that, within the PEFC-system, are planning, leading, and implementing forestry measures, establishing forest management plans, and trading wood. <u>For the trading of wood, a chain of custody certificate is also required.</u>"</p>
g) require that claims on the origin of products in an area covered by the standard are only made by forest owners/managers covered by a PEFC recognised certificate issued against the standard;		<p>Document 001</p> <p>"8.2.1.2 Forestry certification of wood procurement organizations</p> <p>PEFC Sweden requires forestry certification of companies that, within the PEFC-system, are planning, leading, and implementing forestry measures, establishing forest management plans, and trading wood. <u>For the trading of wood, a chain of custody certificate is also required.</u>"</p>
h) specify requirements concerning the information which need to be provided to a PEFC chain of custody certified customer;		<p>Document 001</p> <p>"8.2.1.2 Forestry certification of wood procurement organizations</p> <p>PEFC Sweden requires forestry certification of companies that, within the PEFC-system, are planning, leading, and implementing forestry measures, establishing forest management plans, and trading wood. <u>For the trading of wood, a chain of custody certificate is also required.</u>"</p> <p><i>This requirement ensures CoC certification of all parties trading wood and they should follow the CoC standard regarding information to be provided.</i></p>
i) include an overview of applicable legislation, if requirements of this benchmark are not reflected in the regional, national or sub-national standard, because they are already addressed		<p><i>An overview of applicable legislation is provided in document 001 chapter 7.4</i></p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
through the legislation.		
4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of affected stakeholders		
The standard requires that the organisation shall determine:.		
a) the affected stakeholders that are relevant to the sustainable forest management;		Document 004 “3.2.1.11 The organization shall identify what interested stakeholders that are relevant to the business and determine the interested stakeholders’ relevant expectations on the business.”
b) the relevant needs and expectations of these stakeholders.		- “ -
4.3 Determining the scope of the management system		
4.3.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall determine the boundaries and applicability of the management system to establish its scope.		Document 004 Appendix 2 “ Scope Applicability for and delimitations of the umbrella organization’s/organization’s management system shall be determined. Group certification and its conditions are described in <i>PEFC SWE 004</i> , chapter 4, and definitions in <i>PEFC SWE 001</i> , Appendix B. Requirements for direct certification in <i>PEFC SWE 004 Direct Certification and Group Certification</i> , chapter 3, and definitions in <i>PEFC SWE 001</i> , Appendix B”
4.3.2 The standard requires that forest management shall comprise the cycle of inventory and planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and shall include an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts of forest management practices. This shall form a basis for a cycle of		Document 002 chapter 3: “Forest management comprises the cycle of inventory, planning, implementation, monitoring, and follow-up, and shall include an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental, and economic effects of both planned and completed forest management operations. In addition to own results, data, and results from the National Forest Inventory and from The Forest Agency’s monitoring of environmental consideration may be used. “

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
continuous improvement.		<i>Requirements for management system elements including management review and continuous improvement in document 004 Appendix 2</i>
5. Leadership		
5.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall provide a commitment:		
a) to comply with the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the certification system;		Document 004 “3.1.3 For own forestry business/contract business, commit to conform to applicable parts of the PEFC-standard and continuously work for a sustainable forest management. The commitment shall be public on the website of the certificate holder. <i>(direct/individual certification)</i> 4.2.1.7 Commitment to comply with applicable parts of the PEFC-standard, to comply with 4.2.1.6, as well as that the umbrella organization and its members continuously work for a sustainable forest management. The umbrella organization shall, upon request, provide this commitment.”
b) to continuously improve the sustainable forest management system.		-''-
5.2 The standard requires that this commitment shall be publicly available.		-''-
5.3 The standard requires that responsibilities for sustainable forest management shall be clearly defined and assigned.		Document 004 Appendix 2 “The organization shall define the roles and responsibilities that are of relevance for the business compliance with the PEFC-standard.” <i>For group entities and participants the roles and responsibilities are specified in document 004, chapters 4.1 – 4.6</i>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
6. Planning		
6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities		
6.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall consider risks and opportunities concerning compliance with the requirements for sustainable forest management. Size and scale of the operations of the organisation shall be considered.		<p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>“Risks and opportunities</p> <p>The organization shall, in relation to frequency and scope of the measures, consider risks and opportunities for compliance with the PEFC-standard.”</p> <p><i>Applies to direct (individual) certification as well as group certification.</i></p>
6.1.2 The standard requires that inventory and mapping of forest resources shall be established and maintained, adequate to local and national conditions and in correspondence with the requirements described in this international benchmark standard.		<p><i>A forest management plan shall be in place based on inventories and assessments (Document 002 Appendix 1) .Forest owners with less than 20 ha shall have a map with set-asides, registered key habitats sites with conservations valuers formally protected areas, ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites that are registered by the competent authority. .). In addition all forest owners have access to high resolution laser data (volume, basal area, biomass, average tree height, average diameter at breast height, soil moisture class, terrain) and other information at the Forest Agency web site (“Mina sidor” i.e. “My pages”).</i></p>
6.2 Management plan		
6.2.1 The standard requires that management plans shall be:		
a) elaborated and periodically updated or continually adjusted;		<p><i>A note on operations, planning and management plans: In the Swedish system the plan is a collection of data on the FMU and provides recommendations for forest operations. The operative planning and implementation of the forest management is based on the plan but not a part of it. The PEFC system requests a forest management plan which is adapted to the FM standard which is why some of the requirements are not necessarily found in Appendix 1 but in the standard itself.</i></p> <p><i>Document 002 Appendix 1. The plan must either be continuously updated or a new plan must be put in place</i></p>

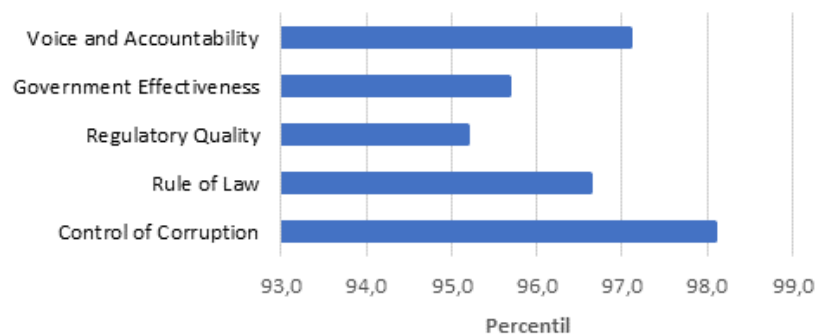
PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<i>every 10 years (15 years for FMU's with lower class sites)</i>
b) appropriate to the size and use of the forest area;		<p>Document 002 Appendix 1</p> <p>"A forest management plan shall contain a detailed description of the forest holding as a whole. Each compartment shall be assigned a forestry objective that indicates the long-term management objective. The area set aside for nature- and/or social consideration shall be indicated in the forest management plan.</p> <p>"_"</p> <p>The forest owner's objective for the forest holding shall be considered in the forest management plan. When the forest management plan is established, consideration shall be given to regional objectives for handling of nature consideration and/or a landscape-ecological perspective."</p>
c) based on applicable local, national and international legislation as well as existing land-use or other official plans; and		<p>Document 002 chapter 1.</p> <p>"---In addition, the principles, rules, and guidelines prescribed by the Swedish forestry legislation and other applicable national legislation constitute a platform for the standard."</p> <p>"---When the forest management plan is established, consideration shall be given to regional objectives for handling of nature consideration and/or a landscape-ecological perspective---"</p> <p>Document 004</p> <p>"3.1.2 Comply with Swedish legislation relevant to forestry. Have access to relevant legislation, e.g., through "Regelrätt skogsbruk"."</p> <p>"4.2.1.5 Comply with Swedish legislation of relevance to forestry. Have access to relevant legislation, e.g., through "Regelrätt skogsbruk"."</p> <p>"4.4.1.1 Complying with Swedish legislation of relevance to the forestry sector."</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
d) adequately covering forest resources.		Document 002 Appendix 1 “---A forest management plan shall contain a detailed description of the forest holding as a whole”-
6.2.2 The standard requires that management plans shall take into account the different uses or functions of the managed forest area.		Document 002 Appendix 1. “---Each compartment shall be assigned a forestry objective that indicates the long-term management objective. The area set aside for nature- and/or social consideration shall be indicated in the forest management plan. The forest owner’s objective for the forest holding shall be considered in the forest management plan. When the forest management plan is established, consideration shall be given to regional objectives for handling of nature consideration and/or a landscape-ecological perspective.---”
6.2.3 The standard requires that management plans shall include at least a description of the current forest management unit, long-term objectives, and the average annual allowable cut, including its justification.		<i>Please refer to the full content of Appendix 1 (document 002) which contains requirements on information about the whole FMU as well as on each compartment.</i> <i>The concept of annual allowable cut does not exist in Sweden which is why this was removed in this revision as it was deemed misleading. Instead a requirement to include growth and proposed harvesting level was added.</i> <i>Please see a description of legislation regarding allowable cuts in document 001 chapter 7.4.1.2:</i> “---The Forestry Act regulates minimum age for regeneration felling. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after harvesting (§5 Forestry Act) and to establish and manage new forest (§8). For management units larger than 50 ha, the regeneration felling must not be made to such an extent that more than half of the unit’s productive forest land will consist of bare forest land and forest younger than 20 years. For management units larger than 1000 and 5000 ha there are further regulations. ---”
6.2.4 The standard requires that the annually allowable use of non-wood forest products shall be included in the management plan where forest	N	<i>Not applicable</i>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
management covers commercial use of non-wood forest products at a level which can have an impact on their long-term sustainability.		
6.2.5 The standard requires that management plans specify ways and means to minimise the risk of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.		<p><i>The PEFC standard requirements are implemented in the forest management plan according to document 002 Appendix 1. A key concept is the forestry objective (bullet 3 in the list of compartment specific parameters). The forestry objective is defined in document 001 Appendix B:</i></p> <p>"Forestry objective - Concept used in forest management planning. For each forest compartment, a forestry objective is assigned to guide the future development of that compartment. The following forestry objectives are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PG – production with general consideration • K/PF – multiple objectives, production with enhanced consideration • NS –area set aside for nature conservation where management is needed to preserve conservation values • NO – area set aside for nature conservation where no interventions are made" <p><i>In addition please see document 002 chapter 3.</i></p>
6.2.6 The standard requires that management plans shall take into account the results of scientific research.		<p>The PEFC standard and hence the management plans are based on scientific results</p> <p>Document 002 chapter 3</p> <p>"---Forestry shall be sustainable and based on scientifically tested and site-adapted methods and principles. ---"</p>
6.2.7 The standard requires that a summary of the management plan, appropriate to the scope and scale of forest management, shall be publicly available and shall include information on the general objectives and forest management principles.		<p>Document 004</p> <p>"4.4.1.14 In the case of external request about the certification, information on nature conservation set-asides/implemented nature conservation measures within the holding or requested local geographic area, shall be made available either directly or via the umbrella organization. Information on the economic conditions of the holding, such as growth and timber volumes, is not public, neither are results from conservation value assessments or information on vulnerable species.</p> <p>4.4.1.15 Forest owners with ≥ 5 000 hectares of productive forest land shall at external request make available</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>information within requested local geographic area concerning the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of current situation, objectives and management including a map/register • Areas with special conservation values • Excerpt from current record on ancient remains for the holding • Sites of special significance for reindeer herding that have been identified in collaboration with concerned Sami community • Areas that have been subject to burning and areas where burning is planned • Areas where forest fertilization is planned • Areas on the forest holding that are of great significance for recreation and outdoor life according to 4.1.1. in <i>PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard</i>. “
6.2.8 The standard requires that the publicly available summary of the management plan may exclude confidential business and personal information and other information made confidential by applicable legislation or for the protection of cultural sites or sensitive natural resource features.		<p>Document 004</p> <p>“4.4.1.14 In the case of external request about the certification, information on nature conservation set-asides/implemented nature conservation measures within the holding or requested local geographic area, shall be made available either directly or via the umbrella organization. Information on the economic conditions of the holding, such as growth and timber volumes, is not public, neither are results from conservation value assessments or information on vulnerable species.”</p>
6.3 Compliance requirements		
6.3.1 Legal compliance		
6.3.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall identify and have access to the legislation applicable to its		<p>Document 004</p> <p>“3.1.2 Comply with Swedish legislation relevant to forestry. Have access to relevant legislation, e.g., through</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>forest management and determine how these compliance obligations apply to the organisation.</p> <p>Note: For a country which has signed a FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union and the producing country, the "legislation applicable to forest management" is defined by the VPA agreement.</p>		<p><i>"Regelrätt skogsbruk". (direct certification forest owners, procurement organisations and contractors)"</i></p> <p>"4.2.1.5 Comply with Swedish legislation of relevance to forestry. Have access to relevant legislation, e.g., through <i>"Regelrätt skogsbruk".</i>"</p> <p>"4.4.1.1 Complying with Swedish legislation of relevance to the forestry sector."</p> <p>Document 003 Chapter 4</p> <p><i>"Contractor is responsible for complying with Swedish legislation and the requirements of this standard."</i></p> <p><i>"Regelrätt skogsbruk" is a web based and widely used service for applicable legislation in the forest sector.</i></p>
<p>6.3.1.2 The standard requires that the organisation shall comply with applicable local, national and international legislation on forest management, including but not limited to forest management practices; nature and environmental protection; protected and endangered species; property, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders; health, labour and safety issues; anti-corruption and the payment of applicable royalties and taxes.</p>		<p><i>Please refer to 6.3.1.1.</i></p> <p>Document 001 chapter 7.4.</p> <p>"7.6 Quality of governance</p> <p>One measure of the quality of governance is shown in the graphics below from the World Bank which is based on information and experiences from citizens, entrepreneurs, and experts within the public and private sectors as well as non-governmental organizations all over the world. "Percentile" shows Sweden's ranking among all countries in the world. 0 means lowest ranking and 100 is the highest ranking.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)												
		<div><p style="text-align: center;">Sweden's ranking as regards governance (2020)</p><table><caption>Data for Figure 5: Sweden's ranking as regards governance (2020)</caption><thead><tr><th>Category</th><th>Percentil</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Voice and Accountability</td><td>97,0</td></tr><tr><td>Government Effectiveness</td><td>95,5</td></tr><tr><td>Regulatory Quality</td><td>95,0</td></tr><tr><td>Rule of Law</td><td>96,5</td></tr><tr><td>Control of Corruption</td><td>98,0</td></tr></tbody></table><p style="text-align: center;">Percentil</p><p>Figure 5. Sweden's ranking as regards governance. Source: www.govindicators.org ---</p></div>	Category	Percentil	Voice and Accountability	97,0	Government Effectiveness	95,5	Regulatory Quality	95,0	Rule of Law	96,5	Control of Corruption	98,0
Category	Percentil													
Voice and Accountability	97,0													
Government Effectiveness	95,5													
Regulatory Quality	95,0													
Rule of Law	96,5													
Control of Corruption	98,0													
6.3.1.3 The standard requires that where no anti-corruption legislation exists, the organisation must take alternative anti-corruption measures appropriate to the risk of corruption.		Please see 6.3.1.2 above												
6.3.1.4 The standard requires that measures shall be implemented to address protection of the forest from unauthorised activities such as illegal logging, illegal land use, illegally initiated fires, and other illegal activities.		<p>Document 002 chapter 3:</p> <p>“</p> <p>Forest management shall prevent undesired forest fires and unlawful activities like illegal logging and illegal land-use.</p> <p>“</p>												

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
6.3.2 Legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land		
<p>6.3.2.1 The standard requires that property rights, tree ownership and land tenure arrangements shall be clearly defined, documented and established for the relevant management unit. Likewise, legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land shall be clarified, recognised and respected.</p> <p>Note: Guidance for the handling of tenure arrangements can be obtained from the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security.</p>		<p>Document 001 chapter 7.4</p> <p>“---7.4.8 The Reindeer Husbandry Act – a right of the Sami, Sweden’s indigenous people</p> <p>The Sami have been assigned the status of indigenous people in Sweden through parliamentary decision. The constitution states that the Sami right to pursue reindeer herding is regulated by law. The Reindeer Husbandry Act gives the Sami population the right to use land and water for personal maintenance as well as maintenance of their reindeers – the right of reindeer husbandry. The Reindeer Husbandry Act also stipulates in what areas reindeer husbandry may be pursued, that is, within the area for reindeer husbandry divided into year-round pasture and winter pastureland.</p> <p>7.4.9 The Code of Land Laws in the forest</p> <p>The Land Code (1970:994) lays down provisions for real property. According to the Land Code, land is considered real property and is divided into real property units.</p> <p><i>Lantmäteriet</i> (Land Registration Division) is a public agency belonging to the Ministry of Rural Affairs and Infrastructure as of 1st of January 2023. <i>Lantmäteriet</i> is responsible for division of, registration of, and changes to real property in Sweden. <i>Lantmäteriets</i> Real Property Register contains information about Sweden’s real property which is fundamental to society and the market economy. –”</p> <p>“7.4.11 The Hunting Act and forestry</p> <p>The Hunting Act (1987:259) lays down provisions regarding wildlife management, hunting rights, and in what way hunting shall be carried out within Swedish territory. The Hunting Act stipulates that hunting rights holders and landowners have a common responsibility to support the game through active measures. In addition to this act, provisions of other acts are applicable as regards protection and management of the game. According to the Act on wildlife management areas (2000:592), two or more holdings may be joined into one wildlife management area for the purpose of promoting wildlife management through coordination of hunting and measures to protect and support wildlife.”</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>Document 004</p> <p>“4.3.1.1 Handling applications from forest owners/wood procurement organizations regarding forest certification in accordance with PEFC Sweden. The applications shall be examined and approved, and affiliation shall be confirmed by means of a signed agreement between the umbrella organization and the forest owner/wood procurement organization. <u>All part-owners, or qualified representative with authorization or other verification, shall sign the agreement.”</u></p>
<p>6.3.2.2 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall be conducted in recognition of the established framework of legal, customary and traditional rights such as outlined in ILO 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which shall not be infringed upon without the free, prior and informed consent of the holders of the rights, including the provision of compensation where applicable. Where the extent of rights is not yet resolved, or is in dispute, there are processes for just and fair resolution. In such cases forest managers shall, in the interim, provide meaningful opportunities for parties to be engaged in forest management decisions whilst respecting the processes and roles and responsibilities laid out in the policies and laws where the certification takes place.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“--3.8 Reindeer husbandry</p> <p>3.8.1 Consultation within the year-round pastureland for reindeer husbandry shall be practiced in accordance with the forestry legislation.</p> <p>3.8.2 In areas with verified or probable right of reindeer herding (in accordance with SOU 2006:14), the following consideration shall be shown, object by object:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On lichen type and lichen-rich vegetation type, gentle soil scarification techniques shall be carried out in such a way that forest regeneration is secured while soil impact is minimized. • In stands with important occurrence of hanging lichens, site adapted regeneration felling shall be practiced and lichen rich edge zones be preserved along water courses and mires, as well as groups of trees with hanging lichens. • Forest fertilization shall not be carried out in stands of lichen type, if not otherwise agreed in connection with consultation in according to §20 and §31 of the Forestry Act. • Prescribed burning shall not be carried out on land of the types lichen and lichen-rich, and which are important to reindeer herding, if not otherwise agreed in connection with consultation

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>according to §20 and §31 of the Forestry Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special consideration at felling shall be shown for reindeer migration tracks, sites for rounding up and sorting of reindeers, and sites used for grazing during reindeer migration, so that the function of these sites is not unnecessarily impaired.--- <p>Document 001 Appendix C Policy for balancing the interests of forestry and reindeer husbandry</p> <p>“---This policy defines how dialogue and collaboration between the parties involved shall take place, according to the PEFC Sweden, to maintain a sound balance between forestry and reindeer husbandry. The different considerations made in Sweden regarding the legal, customary, and traditional rights, as specified in ILO 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, have guided the elaboration of this policy. The purpose is to develop procedures for appropriate consideration in sustainable forest management to meet the interests of reindeer husbandry, including free and informed consent through regional and local dialogue and collaboration based on mutual respect. This policy does not deal with issues relating to hunting and fishing rights on the forest property. All forest owners who are certified in accordance with the Swedish PEFC system shall observe this policy.---</p>
6.3.2.3 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall respect human rights as defined by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.		<p>Document 001</p> <p>“7.4.15 Human rights</p> <p>In Sweden human rights are protected via the constitution and other laws and regulations. In addition, the European convention on protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms are implemented as law since 1995.”</p>
6.3.3 Fundamental ILO conventions		
6.3.3.1 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall comply with fundamental ILO conventions.		<p>PEFC SWE 001 chapter 4-</p> <p>“The Swedish PEFC-system for sustainable forest management is based on requirements and guidelines laid down by</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
Note: In countries where the fundamental ILO conventions have been ratified, the requirements of 6.3.3.1 apply. In countries where a fundamental convention has not been ratified and its content is not covered by applicable legislation, specific requirements shall be included in the forest management standard.		<p>PEFC International, as shown by current technical documents on: www.pefc.org. Certification of forestry in the PEFC system takes as its point of departure, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lisbon Declaration: The Lisbon Resolution (L2): Pan-European Criteria, Indicators and Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management (http://www.foresteurope.org). • ILO core conventions (www.ilo.org, Appendix A)."
6.3.4 Health, safety and working conditions		
6.3.4.1 The standard requires that forest operations shall be planned, organised and performed in a manner that enables health and accident risks to be identified and all reasonable measures to be applied to protect workers from work-related risks. Workers shall be informed about the risks involved with their work and about preventive measures.		<p>Document 002 chapter 4.8 work environment</p> <p>"PEFC-certified companies shall work for a good and secure work environment within the framework of current legislation and good industry practice. A reasonable time of transition shall be allowed for measures requiring larger economic investments, for example rebuilding and replacement of machinery. Work environment- and health care work shall have a preventive purpose to remove health risks.</p> <p>4.8.1 Employer and employees shall collaborate and systematically work to improve the work environment (SAM) in a way that encompasses all employees of the forest-related business.</p> <p>4.8.2 Safety- and emergency routines shall be in place at the workplace and be established in a way ensuring that they are known and understood by everyone concerned.</p> <p>4.8.3 Staff shall have access to staff facilities in accordance with Swedish legislation on work environment and applicable collective agreement.</p> <p>4.8.4 A safety committee shall be in place at any workplace where at least 50 workers are employed on a regular basis, or if the employees so require. A local agreement may be reached which allows these issues to be handled by a body that also handles other issues.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>4.8.5 Companies with five or more employees shall have a safety representative. Regional safety representatives and/or the occupational health service are appropriate partners in safety work.</p> <p>4.8.6 The employer is responsible for seeing to it that appropriate occupational health services regarding work conditions are at hand. Occupational health service refers to an independent expert resource within the field of work environment and rehabilitation. The occupational health service shall particularly work to prevent and set aside health risks at workplaces as well as be competent to identify and describe the relations between work environment, organization, productivity, and health. The occupational health service shall also be able to provide support in crisis management.</p> <p>4.8.7 If the work entails the use of chemicals, routines shall be in place to ensure that these are used in accordance with laws and ordinances and follow the instructions given by the producer. A list of chemicals and safety data sheets shall be available. Staff shall have the necessary competence, training, and equipment.”</p>
<p>6.3.4.2 The standard requires that working conditions shall be safe, and guidance and training in safe working practices shall be provided to all those assigned to a task in forest operations. Working hours and leave shall comply with national laws or applicable collective agreements.</p> <p>Note: Guidance for specifying national standards can be obtained from the ILO Code of Good Practice: Safety and Health in Forestry Work.</p>		<p>See above +</p> <p>Document 002</p> <p>“4.5.2 Employment- and work conditions shall, for all employees, be in accordance with current legislation. In addition, the provisions of the Swedish collective agreement shall form the basis for contracts between employers and employees. In those cases an employee demands a collective agreement to be in place, such an agreement shall be signed. “</p>
6.3.4.3 The standard requires that wages of local and migrant forest workers as well as of contractors and other operators		<p>See above +</p> <p>Document 002</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>operating in PEFC-certified areas shall meet or exceed at least legal, industry minimum standards or, where applicable, collective bargaining agreements.</p> <p>Note: Where wages are below the living wage of a country, steps should be taken to attain increased wages towards a living wage level over time in addition to increases for inflation.</p>		<p>“4.5.2 Employment- and work conditions shall, for all employees, be in accordance with current legislation. In addition, the provisions of the Swedish collective agreement shall form the basis for contracts between employers and employees. In those cases an employee demands a collective agreement to be in place, such an agreement shall be signed. “</p>
<p>6.3.4.4 The standard requires that the organisation is committed to equal opportunities, non-discrimination and freedom from workplace harassment. Gender equality shall be promoted.</p>		<p>“4. Social requirements</p> <p>The business that are of importance to Swedish PEFC-certification shall be practiced so that current laws, Swedish collective agreements, and practice of the labour market are observed. PEFC-certified forest owners, wood procurement organizations, and contractors shall work for a forestry-related community of values based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ... • A forestry sector with equal rights and opportunities and gender equality ---" <p>“4.9 Equal rights and opportunities</p> <p>PEFC wants to promote equal rights and opportunities and counteract every form of discrimination so that everyone feels welcome in the forestry sector. It shall be possible to combine employment and parenthood.</p> <p>4.9.1 Employer and employee shall collaborate to achieve equal rights and opportunities in working life. The work shall be based on the Discrimination Act and the employer shall be able to demonstrate how this is done. “</p> <p>Document 001</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>“7.4.5 The Discrimination Act</p> <p>The purpose of this act is to combat discrimination and in other ways promote equal rights and opportunities regardless of sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual orientation, or age. The Equality Ombudsman is assigned the task of supervising compliance with this law.”</p>
7. Support		
7.1 Resources		
7.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall determine and provide the resources needed for the establishment, implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the sustainable forest management system.		<p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>“Resources</p> <p>The organization shall determine and allocate the resources needed to introduce, maintain, and continuously improve the certified business.”</p>
7.2 Competence		
7.2.1 The standard requires that forest managers, contractors, employees and forest owners shall be provided with sufficient information and kept up-to-date through continuous training in relation to sustainable forest management, as a precondition for all management planning and practices described in this benchmark.		<p><i>Document 002 Chapters 4.10 and 4.11 specifies the required education and continuous training for all activities and all staff with an impact on standard compliance.</i></p> <p><i>Document 002 Appendix 2 specified which information a work instruction shall contain and document 004 3.4.1.2 and 4.4.1.8 regulates the responsibility for providing work instructions”</i></p>
7.3 Communication		
7.3.1 The standard requires that effective communication and consultation with local		Document 001 chapter 13 External views, complaints and disputes

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
communities, indigenous peoples and other stakeholders relating to sustainable forest management shall be provided.		<p>"Improvements and identification of nonconformities to current requirements are two cornerstones of the Swedish PEFC-standard.</p> <p>Certified companies/organizations, certification bodies and the accreditation body (Swedac) have routines in place to receive and handle external feedback and complaints. The PEFC Sweden economic association has the overall responsibility for correct and impartial handling of matters of dispute in connection with certification according to the Swedish PEFC-standard. Disputes that cannot be settled by the certification body or by Swedac are addressed to PEFC Sweden. "</p> <p>Document 002</p> <p>4.1.2 In the cases an area in line with 4.4.1 has been identified, the forest owner or representative of the forest owner shall, based on local conditions and when it is warranted by the situation, take appropriate information- and dialogue measures prior to any forestry operations are started."</p> <p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>"External communication</p> <p>The organization shall have routines for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information on certified status, • trademark usage, • public summary of issued audit reports, and • handling of feedback/complaints."
7.4 Complaints		
7.4.1 The standard requires that appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving complaints and disputes relating to forest management operations, land		<p>Document 001 Chapter 13. External views, complaints, and disputes</p> <p>"Improvements and identification of nonconformities to current requirements are two cornerstones of the Swedish PEFC-standard.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
use rights and work conditions.		<p>Certified companies/organizations, certification bodies and the accreditation body (Swedac) have routines in place to receive and handle external feedback and complaints. The PEFC Sweden economic association has the overall responsibility for correct and impartial handling of matters of dispute in connection with certification according to the Swedish PEFC-standard. Disputes that cannot be settled by the certification body or by Swedac are addressed to PEFC Sweden.</p> <p>13.1 – 13.3.3.</p> <p>“</p> <p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>“External communication</p> <p>The organization shall have routines for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information on certified status, • trademark usage, • public summary of issued audit reports, and • handling of feedback/complaints.”
7.5 Documented Information		
7.5.1 The standard requires that the organisation’s management system shall include documented information required by the standard and determined by the organisation as being necessary for the effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system.		<p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>“Document management</p> <p>The organization shall maintain routines for identification, maintenance, filing, secrecy, and usage of the governing and reporting documents that are necessary to the certified business.”</p>
7.5.2 The standard requires that the documented information is relevant, and		Document 004 Appendix 2

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
updated as appropriate, to the activities of the organisation.		<p>“Document management</p> <p>The organization shall maintain routines for identification, <u>maintenance</u>, filing, secrecy, and usage of the governing and reporting documents that are necessary to the certified business.”</p>
8. Operation		
8.1 Criterion 1: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of forest resources and their contribution to the global carbon cycle		
8.1.1 The standard requires that management shall aim to maintain or increase forests and their ecosystem services and maintain or enhance the economic, ecological, cultural and social values of forest resources.		<p>Document 002 Chapter 3</p> <p>“Forestry shall be sustainable and based on scientifically tested and site-adapted methods and principles. Sustainable forest management refers to long-term management with the aim of preserving or enhancing the values of the forest holding in the form of forest production, climate benefit, conservation values, and social values. Forestry shall have a market perspective and make use of available market information and studies.</p> <p>Forest management shall prevent undesired forest fires and unlawful activities like illegal logging and illegal land-use.</p> <p>Forest management comprises the cycle of inventory, planning, implementation, monitoring, and follow-up, and shall include an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental, and economic effects of both planned and completed forest management operations. In addition to own results, data, and results from the National Forest Inventory and from The Forest Agency’s monitoring of environmental consideration may be used.</p> <p>One of PEFC’s cornerstones for a sustainable forest management is to safeguard and promote the environmental values of the forest. Flora, fauna, soil, and water shall be taken into consideration at every forestry operation. As a complement to adjusted forestry measures, areas shall also be completely set aside for environmental purposes.</p> <p>Forest owners shall strive to maintain or enhance the biological diversity in the landscape through good environmental consideration at forestry operations and set-asides for nature conservation in line with this standard. Nature conservation set-asides in excess of the requirements of this standard can be regarded as society’s responsibility where the forest owner, in dialogue with public agencies, should seek a long-term solution.”</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>“3.2 Productive capacity of the forest land</p> <p>An important component in a sustainable forestry is the long-term productive capacity of the forest land, which shall be made use of and managed at forestry operations. Measures to increase productivity should be considered if it is deemed to have a positive impact on the climate benefit. Use of improved forest reproductive material and fertilization are examples of such measures to increase production.</p> <p>3.2.1 To prevent soil compaction and to ensure the productive capacity of the forest land, soil conservation measures shall be implemented when needed. Examples of such measures are reinforcement of tracks with logging debris and use of soil relieves. Alternatively, felling and timber extraction are performed when the ground is frozen.”</p>
<p>8.1.2 The standard requires that the quantity and quality of the forest resources and the capacity of the forest to store and sequester carbon shall be safeguarded in the medium and long term by balancing harvesting and growth rates, using appropriate silvicultural measures and preferring techniques that minimise adverse impacts on forest resources.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.2 Productive capacity of the forest land</p> <p>An important component in a sustainable forestry is the long-term productive capacity of the forest land, which shall be made use of and managed at forestry operations. Measures to increase productivity should be considered if it is deemed to have a positive impact on the climate benefit. Use of improved forest reproductive material and fertilization are examples of such measures to increase production. “</p> <p>“3.4.8 Forest health</p> <p>---</p> <p>“3.4.2 Regeneration</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>To establish suitable conditions for an economically viable forest production, reliable regeneration methods shall be used. The choice of plant material shall be based on research and available tools should be used to ensure good survival and growth for a future climate.”</p> <p><i>Growth and proposed harvesting level shall be included in the forest management plan (Appendix 1)</i></p> <p>PEFC SWE 002:4 – 3 Forest management standard</p> <p>“3.2 Productive capacity of the forest land An important component in a sustainable forestry is the long-term productive capacity of the forest land, which shall be made use of and managed at forestry operations. 3.2.1 In order to prevent soil compaction and to ensure the productive capacity of the forest land, soil conservation measures shall be undertaken when needed. 3.2.2 Sustainable annual allowable cut shall be documented in the forest management plan.</p> <p>3.3 Regeneration In order to establish suitable conditions for an economically viable timber production, reliable regeneration methods shall be used.</p> <p>3.4 Silvicultural measures Pre-commercial thinning and thinning shall be undertaken in order to produce forests with high production- and nature values in accordance with established objectives.</p> <p>3.6 Forest fuel Extraction of timber and forest fuel is a natural part of an active forestry and shall be carried out in a manner ensuring that the long-term productivity of the forest land is preserved.”</p> <p>3.9 Forest health Forest owners shall, by means of appropriate silvicultural methods, work for the creation of vital forests by preventing damages to forests caused by climatic factors such as frost, wind and snow.”</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>PEFC SWE 002:4 – 5 Environmental standard</p> <p>“5.7.1 Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.”</p>
<p>8.1.3 The standard requires that climate positive practices in management operations, such as greenhouse gas emission reductions and efficient use of resources shall be encouraged.</p>		<p>Document 004</p> <p>“3.2.1.10 A basis for a systematic work to reduce fossil carbon dioxide emissions is knowledge about current state. Wood procurement organizations shall therefore establish goals and action plan for the reduction of climate impact and establish a yearly calculation of fossil carbon dioxide emissions from completed harvesting. The calculation shall cover the total fossil emissions from harvester and skidder from own machinery and from contractors hired by the organization. The organization shall establish its own routine for the emissions calculation. The routine shall include the calculation model, as well as any templates and assumptions.”</p> <p>(For procurement organisations in groups 4.4.1.16)</p> <p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.10.5 Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.</p> <p>4.10.6 Staff operating a forestry harvester or skidder shall have qualifications in efficient driving techniques, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimization of fuel consumption, and • minimization of soil damages.”

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>Document 003</p> <p>“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 <i>PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard</i>, paragraph 3.10.</p> <p>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.”</p> <p>Moreover harvesting and crosscutting is in Sweden conducted by well-calibrated harvesters of which many are also certified according to sector standards for accurate timber measurement which forms the basis for an efficient use of the wood resource. (Was discussed to include in the standard by the WG but was deemed unnecessary)</p>
8.1.4 The standard requires that forest conversion shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion:		
a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority including consultation with affected stakeholders; and		<p>Document 001</p> <p>“7.4.1 The Forestry Act</p> <p>7.4.1.2 Notification of regeneration felling</p> <p>Regeneration felling of areas larger than 0,5 hectares shall be notified to the Forest Agency six weeks in advance at the latest. As regeneration felling does not count thinning and pre-commercial thinning which promotes forest development.</p> <p>“—”</p> <p>Notification of regeneration felling shall include: the size of the area to be felled, description of actions planned to secure regeneration, a map and description of planned measures to show consideration for natural- and cultural environments as well as to reindeer husbandry, where relevant. A notification must also be submitted where felling of an area larger than 0,5 ha is planned to convert forest land to other land use. The same is valid at extraction of forest fuels after regeneration felling, when regeneration is made with exotic tree species on an area larger than 0,5</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>ha, at planting with vegetative propagation material on an area larger than 0,5 ha, as well as at precautionary ditching.</p> <p>The Forestry Act regulates minimum age for regeneration felling. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after harvesting (§5 Forestry Act) and to establish and manage new forest (§8). For management units larger than 50 ha, the regeneration felling must not be made to such an extent that more than half of the unit's productive forest land will consist of bare forest land and forest younger than 20 years. For management units larger than 1000 and 5000 ha there are further regulations. "</p> <p><i>This means that any conversion is prohibited unless done with permission from the authorities so any regulations via the PEFC standard is on top of that prohibition.</i></p> <p>Document 002</p> <p>"3.1 Conversion of forest land</p> <p>The PEFC-system works for preservation of forest land and a long-term management of the entire range of forest values.</p> <p>3.1.1 Conversion of forest land to other land use shall only be made to a limited extent and where such conversion is consistent with current legislation, and after all necessary permissions have been obtained/consultation carried out. Examples of this are when conversion aims at development of infrastructure related to forestry or society at large (roads, wind power etc.), research, improvement of conditions for outdoor life, or preservation or development of cultural values or biological diversity. When forest land that has previously been under agriculture is again converted to agricultural use, this is considered to meet the criteria described above."</p> <p><i>The forest area in Sweden is 27,9 million hectares which is a fairly steady number during the last century</i></p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
b) entails a small proportion (no greater than 5 %) of forest type within the certified area; and		8.1.4 a
c) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and		8.1.4 a
d) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and		8.1.4 a
e) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.		8.1.4 a
8.1.5 The standard requires that afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion:		
a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority; and		<p><i>Changes in land use like afforestation of pastures and agricultural land must be notified for consultation to the County Administrative Board. The ecological value of the land is taken into account by the authorities</i> https://www.naturvardsverket.se/vagledning-och-stod/samhallsplanering/samrad-vid-andring-av-markanvandning-pa-jordbruksmark/#E-1850713083</p> <p><i>Generally no large-scale afforestation programmes are relevant in Sweden with an already high degree of forest cover (>70 %) which remains unaltered over time. The WG however included an opportunity to benefit from preservation for ecologically important graze land with a sparse tree cover in the PEFC system to encourage the preservation of these areas.</i></p> <p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.7.5 Other tree-covered land with at least 10% crown density, and where grazing or mowing is practiced to an extent sufficient to provide good living conditions for flora/fauna dependent on this, may be set aside</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		according to forestry objective NS. “
b) is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and		8.1.5 a
c) does not have negative impacts on threatened (including vulnerable, rare or endangered) nonforest ecosystems, culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and		8.1.5 a
d) entails a small proportion of the ecologically important non-forest ecosystem managed by an organisation; and		8.1.5 a
e) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and		8.1.5 a
f) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.		8.1.5 a
8.1.6 The standard requires that if conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations is being considered, it must add economic, ecological, social and/or cultural value. Precondition of adding such value are circumstances where the conversion:		
a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and		Not applicable. The PEFC standard entire range of requirements are applicable to all types of forest stands. (as is legislation/the Forestry Act)

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority; and		
b) is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and		8.1.6 a
c) has a positive impact on long-term carbon sequestration capacity of forest vegetation; and		8.1.6 a
d) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and		8.1.6 a
e) safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services; and		8.1.6 a
f) safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services; and		8.1.6 a
g) has a land history providing evidence that the degradation is not the consequence of deliberate poor forest management practices; and		8.1.6 a
h) is based on credible evidence		8.1.6 a

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery.		
8.2 Criterion 2: Maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality		
8.2.1 The standard requires that health and vitality of forest ecosystems shall be maintained or enhanced and degraded forest ecosystems shall be rehabilitated wherever and as far as economically feasible, by making best use of natural structures and processes and using preventive biological measures.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.4.8 Forest health</p> <p>Forest owners shall, by means of appropriate silvicultural methods, work for the creation of vital forests by preventing damages to forests caused by factors such as frost, snow, wind, drought, and flooding. The risk of damages by pests such as fungi and insects shall be minimized through application of the provisions and general advice of the Forestry Act.</p> <p>3.4.8.1 Variation in stand age and tree species shall be aimed at, at forest holding level.</p> <p>3.4.8.2 Risk-preventive measures and active forest protection shall be carried out in accordance with the forestry legislation.”</p> <p>“3.9 Landscape ecology</p> <p>The landscape ecological perspective is important in all forest management planning. There may be different elements that contribute to the landscape-ecological values at the forest holding. It can e.g., be set-asides for nature conservation, edge zones towards water, and towards bare or tree-covered low-productive land. These values are considered at forestry operations, and when so is reasonable, measures are taken to actively improve those values.”</p> <p>“3.12 Burning</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>Historically, especially dry soils have been burning at regular intervals, which has resulted in a specific flora and fauna. Since today's forests seldom burn, such species are rare. To increase the area of burnt forest is therefore an important nature conservation measure.</p> <p>The requirements concerning burning apply to forest holdings of at least 5 000 hectares of continuous productive forest land. "</p>
<p>8.2.2 The standard requires that adequate genetic, species and structural diversity shall be encouraged or maintained to enhance the stability, vitality and resilience of the forests to adverse environmental factors and strengthen natural regulation mechanisms.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>"3.4.8.1 Variation in stand age and tree species shall be aimed at, at forest holding level."</p> <p>"3.4.5 Deciduous trees</p> <p>Deciduous trees in the forest stands are important both to biological diversity, for cultural heritage sites, and for the forest's aesthetic values. PEFC strives to increase the proportion of older and thicker deciduous trees as well as the area dominated by deciduous trees."</p> <p>"3.4.4.1 At thinning and regeneration felling, all conservation trees shall be retained to live, die, decompose, and decay."</p> <p>"3.4.2 Regeneration</p> <p>To establish suitable conditions for an economically viable forest production, reliable regeneration methods shall be used. The choice of plant material shall be based on research and available tools should be used to ensure good survival and growth for a future climate.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.4.2.1 Plant- and seed material shall be adequate for the site in question and have a documented origin.</p> <p>“</p>
<p>8.2.3 The standard requires that use of fire shall be limited to regions where fire is an essential tool in forest management for regeneration, wildfire protection and habitat management or a recognized practice of indigenous peoples. In these cases adequate management and control measures shall be taken.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.12 Burning</p> <p>Historically, especially dry soils have been burning at regular intervals, which has resulted in a specific flora and fauna. Since today's forests seldom burn, such species are rare. To increase the area of burnt forest is therefore an important nature conservation measure.</p> <p>The requirements concerning burning apply to forest holdings of at least 5 000 hectares of continuous productive forest land.</p> <p>3.12.1 Where the terrain is suitable, conservation- and controlled burning shall, during a five-year-period, be implemented on an area equivalent to at least 5% of the regeneration area on dry and mesic soils that are suitable for burning.</p> <p>Exemptions are made for regions where natural fires have been of subordinate significance. This includes forests in the sub-alpine region, western parts of Västergötland, western parts of Småland, Bohuslän, Halland, Skåne, southern parts of Blekinge as well as Öland and Gotland. Exemptions are also made for urban woodlands and areas adjacent to buildings. Burning shall not be implemented on lichen-rich soils of significance to reindeer husbandry.</p> <p>3.12.8 Before burning is begun, local provisions regarding notification must have been fulfilled and necessary permissions must have been obtained. The forest owner has the sole responsibility for fire breakouts that do not meet the criteria for the concept of “<i>räddningstjänst</i>” (rescue services) according to <i>Lagen om skydd mot olyckor</i> (the Act on protection against accidents).”</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>Document 003</p> <p>“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.”</p>
<p>8.2.4 The standard requires that appropriate forest management practices such as reforestation and afforestation with tree species and provenances that are suited to the site conditions or the use of tending, harvesting and transport techniques that minimise tree and/or soil damages shall be applied.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>3”.4.2 Regeneration</p> <p>To establish suitable conditions for an economically viable forest production, reliable regeneration methods shall be used. The choice of plant material shall be based on research and available tools should be used to ensure good survival and growth for a future climate.</p> <p>3.4.2.1 Plant- and seed material shall be adequate for the site in question and have a documented origin.”</p> <p>“3.10 Methods for protection of soil and water</p> <p>Forestry may affect soil and water in different ways. Extraction of timber and forest fuel decreases the amount of available nutrients, and soil damages may imply that nutrient turn-over in the soil is negatively affected, that the soil is compacted, as well as that ground- and surface water is affected through transport of sludge or soluble nutrients and heavy metals. Felling- and silvicultural work need to be performed throughout the year, which places stringent demands on planning and implementation. The construction of forest roads should be coordinated across property boundaries when this is possible and not be placed directly adjacent to lakes, wetlands, sensitive habitats, other cultural heritage sites or frequently used trails. Water protection areas should be protected against present and future risks.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.10.1 Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.</p> <p>3.10.5 Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.</p> <p>3.11.3 Rutting at edge- and buffer zones shall be avoided.”</p> <p>Document 004</p> <p>“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 <i>PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard</i>, paragraph 3.10.”</p>
8.2.5 The standard requires that the indiscriminate disposal of waste on forest land shall be strictly avoided. Non-organic waste and litter shall be collected, stored in designated areas and removed in an environmentally-responsible manner. The spillage of oil or fuel during forest management operations shall be prevented. Emergency procedures for the minimisation of risk of environmental harm arising from the accidental spillage shall be in place.		<p>Document 003</p> <p><i>Hazardous waste is regulated in 4.9.1 – 4.9.5</i></p> <p>“4.9.6 Other residual products shall be brought out of the forest and be handled in an appropriate way.”</p> <p>“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.”</p> <p>“4.10.3 At service and maintenance work, equipment for collection of spillage shall be used. “</p>
8.2.6 The standard requires that integrated pest management, appropriate silviculture alternatives and other biological measures shall be preferred to minimise the use of		<p>Document 002</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
pesticides.		<p>“3.4.8 Forest health</p> <p>Forest owners shall, by means of appropriate silvicultural methods, work for the creation of vital forests by preventing damages to forests caused by factors such as frost, snow, wind, drought, and flooding. The risk of damages by pests such as fungi and insects shall be minimized through application of the provisions and general advice of the Forestry Act. “</p>
8.2.7 The standard requires that any use of pesticides is documented.		<p>“3.4.11 Pest control methods</p> <p>PEFC’s aim is a forestry free of chemical pest control products.</p> <p>3.4.11.1 Chemical products for pest control may only be used in exceptional cases when other suitable methods are not at hand. The usage shall follow the regulations by Swedish authorities. Any usage of chemical pest control products shall be possible to motivate.</p> <p>3.4.11.2 The use of plants treated with chemical pesticides or use of chemical pesticides in connection with planting is not permitted in the PEFC-certified forestry.”</p>
8.2.8 The standard requires that the WHO Class 1A and 1B pesticides and other highly toxic pesticides shall be prohibited, except where no other viable alternative is available. Any exception to the usage of WHO Class 1A and 1B pesticides shall be defined in the national/regional standard.		See 3.4.11
8.2.9 The standard requires that pesticides, such as chlorinated hydrocarbons whose derivatives remain		See 3.4.11

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use, and any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited.</p> <p>Note: "Pesticides banned by international agreements" are defined in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.</p>		
<p>8.2.10 The standard requires that the use of pesticides shall follow the instructions given by the pesticide producer and be implemented with proper equipment by trained personnel.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>3.4.11.1 Chemical products for pest control may only be used in exceptional cases when other suitable methods are not at hand. The usage shall follow the regulations by Swedish authorities. Any usage of chemical pest control products shall be possible to motivate.</p> <p>4.8.7 If the work entails the use of chemicals, routines shall be in place to ensure that these are used in accordance with laws and ordinances and follow the instructions given by the producer. A list of chemicals and safety data sheets shall be available. Staff shall have the necessary competence, training, and equipment."</p>
<p>8.2.11 The standard requires that where fertilisers are used, they shall be applied in a controlled manner and with due consideration for the environment. Fertilizer use shall not be an alternative to appropriate soil nutrient management.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>"3.6 Forest fuel</p> <p>Extraction of timber and forest fuel is a natural part of an active forestry and shall be carried out in a manner ensuring that the long-term productivity of the land is preserved.</p> <p>3.6.1 Extraction of forest fuel shall only be made on land that is suitable for this, and where there is no risk of soil damages.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.6.2 In connection with extraction of forest fuel, the landowner shall obtain information, e.g., via scientific findings or the Forest Agency, on the need for, and benefits of, ash restoration to the site or other part of the forest holding. The need and benefit may refer to the land's productive capacity or to water quality. If needed, and where practical and economic prerequisites for ash restoration prevail, ash shall be restored to suitable land within the forest holding. Fertilization may be an appropriate measure to maintain productive capacity of the land."</p> <p>Document 001 Chapter 7.4</p> <p>"Any forestry operation that may affect the natural environment in a significant way shall, according to law (chapter 12, §6 the Environmental Code), be notified to the Forest Agency for consultation at least six weeks in advance of the operation. See the Forest Agency's website for forestry operations that must be notified. "</p> <p><i>Note: Forest fertilization is one such operation.</i></p> <p><i>The Forest Agency has also assembled legislation and general advice in a handbook to be consulted at fertilization.</i></p>
8.3 Criterion 3: Maintenance and encouragement of productive functions of forests (wood and non-wood)		
8.3.1 The standard requires that the capability of forests to produce a range of wood and non-wood forest products and services on a sustainable basis shall be maintained.		<p>Document 002 Chapter 3</p> <p>"Forestry shall be practiced in a way that complies with applicable legislation and industry practice. Forestry shall be sustainable and based on scientifically tested and site-adapted methods and principles. Sustainable forest management refers to long-term management with the aim of preserving or enhancing the values of the forest holding in the form of forest production, climate benefit, conservation values, and social values. Forestry shall have a market perspective and make use of available market information and studies."</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
8.3.2 The standard requires that sound economic performance shall be pursued, taking into account possibilities for new markets and economic activities in connection with all relevant goods and services of forests.		<p>Document 002 chapter 3</p> <p>“Forestry shall have a market perspective and make use of available market information and studies.”</p>
8.3.3 The standard requires that management, harvesting and regeneration operations shall be carried out at a time, and in a way, that does not reduce the productive capacity of the site, for example by avoiding damage to soil and retained stands and trees.		<p>“3.2 Productive capacity of the forest land</p> <p>An important component in a sustainable forestry is the long-term productive capacity of the forest land, which shall be made use of and managed at forestry operations. Measures to increase productivity should be considered if it is deemed to have a positive impact on the climate benefit. Use of improved forest reproductive material and fertilization are examples of such measures to increase production.</p> <p>3.2.1 To prevent soil compaction and to ensure the productive capacity of the forest land, soil conservation measures shall be implemented when needed. Examples of such measures are reinforcement of tracks with logging debris and use of soil relievers. Alternatively, felling and timber extraction are performed when the ground is frozen.”</p>
8.3.4 The standard requires that harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood forest products shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested products.		<p><i>The harvesting is less than the growth in Sweden which means that the standing volume has been increasing since 1920 (document 001 Figure 1).</i></p> <p>Document 001 7.4 The Forestry Act regulates minimum age for regeneration felling. A forest owner is obliged to regenerate the forest after harvesting (§5 Forestry Act) and to establish and manage new forest (§8). For management units larger than 50 ha, the regeneration felling must not be made to such an extent that more than half of the unit’s productive forest land will consist of bare forest land and forest younger than 20 years. For management units larger than 1000 and 5000 ha there are further regulations.</p> <p><i>Harvesting and crosscutting is in Sweden conducted by well-calibrated harvesters of which many are also certified according to sector standards for accurate timber measurement which forms the basis for an</i></p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p><i>efficient use of the wood resource. (Was discussed to include in the standard by the WG but was deemed unnecessary)</i></p> <p><i>Non-wood forest products like mushrooms and berries are included in the right of common access and can not be over-harvested.</i></p>
8.3.5 The standard requires that adequate infrastructure such as roads, skid tracks or bridges shall be planned, established and maintained to ensure efficient delivery of goods and services while minimising negative impacts on the environment.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.10 “The construction of forest roads should be coordinated across property boundaries when this is possible and not be placed directly adjacent to lakes, wetlands, sensitive habitats, other cultural heritage sites or frequently used trails”</p> <p>“3.2.1 To prevent soil compaction and to ensure the productive capacity of the forest land, soil conservation measures shall be implemented when needed. Examples of such measures are reinforcement of tracks with logging debris and use of soil relieves. Alternatively, felling and timber extraction are performed when the ground is frozen.”</p>
8.4 Criterion 4: Maintenance, conservation and appropriate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems		
8.4.1 The standard requires that management planning shall aim to maintain, conserve or enhance biodiversity on landscape, ecosystem, species and genetic levels.		<p>Document 002 chapter 3</p> <p>“One of PEFC’s cornerstones for a sustainable forest management is to safeguard and promote the environmental values of the forest. Flora, fauna, soil, and water shall be taken into consideration at every forestry operation. As a complement to adjusted forestry measures, areas shall also be completely set aside for environmental purposes.”</p>
8.4.2 The standard requires that inventory, mapping and planning of forest resources shall identify, protect, conserve or set aside ecologically important forest areas.		<p>Document 002 Appendix 1</p> <p>At the establishment of the forest management plan, the classification into forestry objectives shall be based on conservation value assessment in the field. The forest management plan shall be developed with consideration to a</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>Note: This does not prohibit forest management activities that do not damage the important ecologic values of those biotopes.</p>		<p>landscape-ecological perspective. The information in the plan shall be quality assured.</p> <p>Document 001 Appendix B “Conservation value assessment. Methodology to assess the area’s prerequisites for biological diversity, as it is reflected in the occurrence of habitat characteristics and habitats important to the organisms.”</p> <p><i>Each compartment is assigned a forestry objective based on the inventory:</i></p> <p>Document 001 Appendix B</p> <p>“Forestry objective Concept used in forest management planning. For each forest compartment, a forestry objective is assigned to guide the future development of that compartment. The following forestry objectives are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PG</i> – production with general consideration • <i>K/PF</i> – multiple objectives, production with enhanced consideration • <i>NS</i> –area set aside for nature conservation where management is needed to preserve conservation values • <i>NO</i> – area set aside for nature conservation where no interventions are made” <p>Document 002:</p> <p>“4.10.4 Staff responsible for planning and/or classification of an area into forestry objectives prior to an operation shall have qualifications in forest-related conservation value assessment in accordance with SYN or equivalent.</p> <p>4.10.5 Forest management planners shall have qualifications equivalent to higher education in forest management planning, in forest-related conservation value assessment in accordance with SYN or equivalent, and according to requirements established by the plan producer.”</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<i>Refresher courses are required every five years (4.11.5, 4.11.6)</i>
<p>8.4.3 The standard requires that protected, threatened and endangered plant and animal species shall not be exploited for commercial purposes. Where necessary, measures shall be taken for their protection and, where relevant, to increase their population.</p> <p>Note: The requirement does not preclude trade according to CITES requirements.</p>		<p>Document 001</p> <p>“7.4.2.3 Ordinance on species protection</p> <p>The Government may decide on legal protection of a certain species of flora or fauna if there is a risk of the species going extinct or becoming subject to plundering. The Government’s decision on protection of a species of flora or fauna may apply throughout the country, in a single county, or part of a county. The provisions on protection of species are laid down in chapter 8 of the Environmental Code. The EU’s Habitats Directive (92/43 EEG) and the Birds Directive are incorporated into the species protection ordinance, which is divided into species protected according to EU-legislation and nationally protected species. More than 300 species of flora and fauna are under legal protection nationally. In addition, there are around 50 species under legal protection in one or several counties. Legal protection most often means that the species is totally protected – it is forbidden to pick, catch, kill or in any other way collect or damage any specimen of the protected species. It is also forbidden to remove or damage any seeds, eggs, roe, or nests of the species. “</p>
<p>8.4.4 The standard requires that successful regeneration shall be ensured through natural regeneration or planting that is adequate to ensure the quantity and quality of the forest resources.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.4.2 Regeneration</p> <p>To establish suitable conditions for an economically viable forest production, reliable regeneration methods shall be used. The choice of plant material shall be based on research and available tools should be used to ensure good survival and growth for a future climate.</p> <p>3.4.2.1 Plant- and seed material shall be adequate for the site in question and have a documented origin.</p> <p>3.4.2.2 Regeneration measure shall have been implemented within three years from the time of regeneration felling. Control of regeneration shall be implemented within three years after planting at the latest, and five years at the latest after seeding or natural regeneration.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.4.2.3 Soil scarification shall be site-adapted.</p> <p>3.4.2.4 Reproductive material with genetically modified reproductive material, GMO, may not be used.”</p>
<p>8.4.5 The standard requires that for reforestation and afforestation origins of native species that are well-adapted to site conditions shall be preferred. Only those introduced species, provenances or varieties shall be used whose impacts on the ecosystem and on the genetic integrity of native species and local provenances have been scientifically evaluated, and if negative impacts can be avoided or minimised.</p> <p>Note: CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) Guiding Principles for the Prevention, Introduction, and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats or Species are recognised as guidance for avoidance of invasive species.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.4.2.1 Plant- and seed material shall be adequate for the site in question and have a documented origin”</p> <p><i>The use of non-native species is restricted in 3.4.9:</i></p> <p>3.4.9 Exotic tree species</p> <p>As exotic tree species count species which do not naturally grow in Sweden. Some of these may have advantages such as higher growth, advantageous wood qualities, better adaptation to damage from game or a changing climate. When exotic tree species are used, risks such as forest infestations, effects on biological diversity, and self-propagation shall be taken into account. Native species shall always be considered.</p> <p>3.4.9.1 Presence of exotic tree species shall be documented in the forest management plan.</p> <p>3.4.9.2 Larger forest owners (forest holdings ≥ 5000 ha productive forest land) shall limit the use of exotic tree species so that the total area of stands dominated by exotic tree species does not exceed 20% of the productive forest land area.</p> <p>3.4.9.3 Forest owners that have exotic tree species on their forest land shall limit and remove any propagation into existing formal and voluntary set-asides on own forest land.</p> <p>3.4.9.4 Larger forest owners shall have programs in place for the control of propagation into formally protected and voluntarily set-aside forest land. Larger forest owners shall also show consideration at stand- and landscape level when exotic tree species are used. This shall be clear from the forest management plan or other documentation.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		3.4.9.5 Larger forest owners, with land holdings situated within the area of reindeer husbandry (3§ The Reindeer Husbandry Act (1971:437)) shall not establish stands with exotic species on sites that are of special importance to reindeer herding, unless otherwise is agreed during consultation. Such sites shall be documented in connection to consultations or through the Sami communities' land use accounts, reindeer management plans, or national accounts on reindeer herding."
8.4.6 The standard requires that afforestation, reforestation and other tree planting activities that contribute to the improvement and restoration of ecological connectivity shall be promoted.		Document 002 Chapter 3 "Forest owners shall strive to maintain or enhance the biological diversity in the landscape through good environmental consideration at forestry operations and set-asides for nature conservation in line with this standard. - --" "---
8.4.7 The standard requires that genetically-modified trees shall not be used. Note: The restriction on the usage of genetically-modified trees has been adopted by the PEFC General Assembly based on the Precautionary Principle. Until enough scientific data on genetically modified trees indicates that impacts on human and animal health and the environment are equivalent to, or more positive than, those presented by trees genetically improved by traditional methods, no genetically-modified trees will be used.		Document 002 "3.4.2.4 Reproductive material with genetically modified reproductive material, GMO, may not be used."

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
8.4.8 The standard requires that a diversity of both horizontal and vertical structures and the diversity of species such as mixed stands shall be promoted, where appropriate. The practices shall also aim to maintain or restore landscape diversity.		Document 002 <i>Requirements on landscape ecology (3.9), deciduous trees (3.4.5), the retention of conservation and potential conservation trees (3.4.4) set-asides (3.7) and edge- and buffer zones (3.11) all contribute to a diversity in structure, species composition and bio-diversity at a site, FMU and landscape level.</i>
8.4.9 The standard requires that traditional management practices that create valuable ecosystems on appropriate sites shall be supported, where appropriate.		Document 002 <p>“3.7.1 At least 5% of the productive forest land shall be set aside for environmental consideration (forestry objective <i>NO</i> or <i>NS</i>). Set-aside areas shall be indicated in a forest management plan. Exempted are forest holdings with less than 20 hectares of productive forest land where areas with conservation values are lacking.”</p> <p>“3.7.4 In areas set aside for nature conservation purposes, where management is needed to preserve or enhance conservation values, measures shall be taken. Only measures that aim to preserve or enhance biological diversity are allowed. In areas set aside for recreation and outdoor life or cultural environments, only measures that aim to preserve or enhance social values and, conservation values, and/or cultural heritage values are allowed.”</p> <p>“3.7.5 Other tree-covered land with at least 10% crown density, and where grazing or mowing is practiced to an extent sufficient to provide good living conditions for flora/fauna dependent on this, may be set aside according to forestry objective <i>NS</i>. “</p>
8.4.10 The standard requires that tending and harvesting operations shall be conducted in a way that does not cause lasting damage to ecosystems. Wherever possible, practical measures shall be taken to maintain or improve biological diversity.		Document 002 <i>The system covers a range of focus areas for enhancement of eco-systems and biodiversity through the management regime 3.6 restrictions for extracting forest fuels (3.6), set-asides (3.7) landscape ecology (3.9), methods for protecting soil and water (3.10), edge and buffer zones (3.11), burning (3.12), regeneration (3.4.2), pre-commercial thinning and thinning (3.4.3) conservation trees/potential conservation trees (3.4.4) deciduous trees (3.4.5) dead wood (3.4.6)....</i>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
8.4.11 The standard requires that infrastructure shall be planned and constructed in a way that minimizes damage to ecosystems, especially to rare, sensitive or representative ecosystems and genetic reserves, and that takes threatened or other key species – in particular their migration patterns – into consideration.		<p>Document 001</p> <p>“7.4.2.2 Notification of consultation</p> <p>Any forestry operation that may affect the natural environment in a significant way shall, according to law (chapter 12, §6 the Environmental Code), be notified to the Forest Agency for consultation at least six weeks in advance of the operation. See the Forest Agency’s website for forestry operations that must be notified. “</p> <p><i>Note: construction of forest roads, construction of tractor roads that involve digging and excavation on a larger scale and construction of base roads across valuable wetlands and valuable watercourses are operations that must be notified for consultation with the Forest Agency.</i></p>
8.4.12 The standard requires that, with due regard to management objectives, measures shall be taken to control the pressure of animal populations on forest regeneration and growth as well as on biodiversity.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>3.5 Game</p> <p>Forest owners shall aim for adaptation of the size of ungulate populations so that the long-term societal objectives regarding forest management and nature conservation may be obtained. A close cooperation between the forestry sector and hunters is a prerequisite for obtaining the objective of vital game populations which is on balance with the fodder supply. The forest owner shall have general knowledge about how the management of ungulate that he or she is affected by works, and how one as a landowner may cooperate in the management.</p> <p>3.5.1 The forest owner shall be aware of the basis of Swedish wildlife management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the societal objectives regarding damages to forests from ungulates are not achieved, ungulate populations shall be adjusted accordingly. • To assess whether societal objectives regarding forest damages of ungulates are achieved, moose-grazing-inventory (<i>ÄBIN</i>) shall be used as an objective and quality assured method.

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p><i>Guidance</i></p> <p>The size of ungulate populations may be considered well-balanced when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rowan, aspen, willow, and oak have the possibility to grow into trees in those parts of the country where they occur naturally • it is possible to regenerate the forest land with suitable tree species • at least 7 out of 10 regenerated stems of pine are undamaged at 5 m height <p>A prerequisite for achieving the objectives regarding rowan, aspen, willow, and oak (<i>RASE</i>) is that these are retained/promoted to a sufficient extent at pre-commercial thinning.</p>
8.4.13 The standard requires that standing and fallen dead wood, hollow trees, old groves and rare tree species shall be left in quantities and distribution necessary to safeguard biological diversity, taking into account the potential effect on the health and stability of forests and on surrounding ecosystems.		<p><i>Document 002 3.4.6 Dead wood and 3.4.4 Conservation trees/potential conservation trees.</i></p>
8.5 Criterion 5: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of protective functions in forest management (notably soil and water)		
8.5.1 The standard requires that protective functions of forests for society, such as their potential role in erosion control, flood prevention, water purification, climate regulation, carbon sequestration and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services shall be maintained or enhanced.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.10 Methods for protection of soil and water</p> <p>Forestry may affect soil and water in different ways. Extraction of timber and forest fuel decreases the amount of available nutrients, and soil damages may imply that nutrient turn-over in the soil is negatively affected, that the soil is compacted, as well as that ground- and surface water is affected through transport of sludge or soluble nutrients and heavy metals. Felling- and silvicultural work need to be performed throughout the year, which places stringent</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>demands on planning and implementation. The construction of forest roads should be coordinated across property boundaries when this is possible and not be placed directly adjacent to lakes, wetlands, sensitive habitats, other cultural heritage sites or frequently used trails. Water protection areas should be protected against present and future risks.</p> <p>3.10.1 Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.</p> <p>3.10.2 At the planning of forestry operations and road construction, special consideration shall be shown to wetlands and water environments</p> <p>3.10.3 New roads shall be established in a way that preserves the running of natural watercourses and that minimizes damages to watercourses and hindrance for migration. New road ditches shall not fall directly into watercourses, lakes, or wetlands.</p> <p>3.10.4 In connection with repair of roads, road drains shall be fixed so that they do not constitute a barrier for migration.</p> <p>3.10.5 Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.</p> <p>3.10.6 Soil damages shall be taken care of in case they are causing a direct flux of sludge and humus into a lake or watercourse, or if they constitute a hindrance for accessibility to frequently used roads, tracks, trails, etc. In every other case, restoration risks doing more harm than good.</p> <p>3.10.7 On land where there is risk of erosion, intermittent soil scarification methods shall be used.</p> <p>3.10.8 At harvesting in steep conditions, the risk for avalanches and slides shall be considered and evaluated in</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>relation to possible costs for risk minimization.”</p> <p><i>Climate regulation and carbon sequestration is maintained and enhanced by no conversion and reforestation (3.1 (as well as legislation described in document 001 chapter 7.4), safeguarding the productive capacity of forest land (3.2) ensuring successful regeneration (3.4.2) and vigorous forest via ensuring forest health (3.4.8)</i></p>
<p>8.5.2 The standard requires that areas that fulfil specific and recognised protective functions for society shall be mapped, and forest management plans and operations shall ensure the maintenance or enhancement of these functions.</p>		<p>Document 002 Appendix 1</p> <p><i>General information is required on:</i></p> <p>“</p> <p>5. Commentaries to the holding including information on ancient remains, other cultural heritage sites, registered key-habitats, formally protected areas, and water protection areas “</p> <p><i>And stand specific information on:</i></p> <p>“</p> <p>12 Information on ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites</p> <p>13 Areas of special significance to outdoor life and recreation.”</p> <p>Document 002 appendix 2</p> <p>Work instruction shall contain:</p> <p>“</p> <p>1. Planned consideration for natural and cultural environments</p> <p>2. Planned main hauling roads and landings</p> <p>3. Known cables (water, fiber, telecommunication, electricity)</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Instructions for water passage 5. Forestry objective for the area 6. Known conservation- and cultural values in or close to the working area that may be affected by the operation."
<p>8.5.3 The standard requires that special care shall be given to forestry operations on sensitive soils and erosion-prone areas as well as in areas where operations might lead to excessive erosion of soil into watercourses. Techniques applied and the machinery used shall be suitable for such areas. Special measures shall be taken to minimise the pressure of animal populations on these areas.</p>		<p>Document 002</p> <p>"3.10 Methods for protection of soil and water</p> <p>Forestry may affect soil and water in different ways. Extraction of timber and forest fuel decreases the amount of available nutrients, and soil damages may imply that nutrient turn-over in the soil is negatively affected, that the soil is compacted, as well as that ground- and surface water is affected through transport of sludge or soluble nutrients and heavy metals. Felling- and silvicultural work need to be performed throughout the year, which places stringent demands on planning and implementation. The construction of forest roads should be coordinated across property boundaries when this is possible and not be placed directly adjacent to lakes, wetlands, sensitive habitats, other cultural heritage sites or frequently used trails. Water protection areas should be protected against present and future risks.</p> <p>3.10.1 Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.</p> <p>3.10.2 At the planning of forestry operations and road construction, special consideration shall be shown to wetlands and water environments</p> <p>3.10.3 New roads shall be established in a way that preserves the running of natural watercourses and that minimizes damages to watercourses and hindrance for migration. New road ditches shall not fall directly into watercourses, lakes, or wetlands.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.10.4 In connection with repair of roads, road drains shall be fixed so that they do not constitute a barrier for migration.</p> <p>3.10.5 Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.</p> <p>3.10.6 Soil damages shall be taken care of in case they are causing a direct flux of sludge and humus into a lake or watercourse, or if they constitute a hindrance for accessibility to frequently used roads, tracks, trails, etc. In every other case, restoration risks doing more harm than good.</p> <p>3.10.7 On land where there is risk of erosion, intermittent soil scarification methods shall be used.</p> <p>3.10.8 At harvesting in steep conditions, the risk for avalanches and slides shall be considered and evaluated in relation to possible costs for risk minimization.</p> <p>3.11 Edge- and buffer zones</p> <p>Edge zones and buffer zones are important to biological diversity on forest land as well as to adjacent land use classes. Edge zones and buffer zones are also a means to create the conditions for binding together habitats worthy of protection. Different areas have different prerequisites, and the buffer zones shall be adjusted to the current conditions.</p> <p>3.11.1 In edge zones/forest edges and at lakes and watercourses, deciduous trees and bushes shall be favoured to create a layered and uneven-aged edge zone.</p> <p>3.11.2 On sites where a buffer zone is needed but is lacking, measures shall be taken as soon as possible for the creation of a functional buffer zone, which breadth shall be adjusted to the object to be protected and conditions on the site.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.11.3 Rutting at edge- and buffer zones shall be avoided.”</p> <p><i>Game and erosion is not considered a problem in Sweden.</i></p>
<p>8.5.4 The standard requires that special care shall be given to forestry operations in forest areas with water protection functions to avoid adverse effects on the quality and quantity of water resources. Inappropriate use of chemicals or other harmful substances or inappropriate silvicultural practices influencing water quality in a harmful way shall be avoided. Downstream water balance and water quality shall not be significantly affected by the operations.</p>		<p>3.10 Methods for protection of soil and water</p> <p>Forestry may affect soil and water in different ways. Extraction of timber and forest fuel decreases the amount of available nutrients, and soil damages may imply that nutrient turn-over in the soil is negatively affected, that the soil is compacted, as well as that ground- and surface water is affected through transport of sludge or soluble nutrients and heavy metals. Felling- and silvicultural work need to be performed throughout the year, which places stringent demands on planning and implementation. The construction of forest roads should be coordinated across property boundaries when this is possible and not be placed directly adjacent to lakes, wetlands, sensitive habitats, other cultural heritage sites or frequently used trails. Water protection areas should be protected against present and future risks.</p> <p>3.10.1 Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.</p> <p>3.10.2 At the planning of forestry operations and road construction, special consideration shall be shown to wetlands and water environments</p> <p>3.10.3 New roads shall be established in a way that preserves the running of natural watercourses and that minimizes damages to watercourses and hindrance for migration. New road ditches shall not fall directly into watercourses, lakes, or wetlands.</p> <p>3.10.4 In connection with repair of roads, road drains shall be fixed so that they do not constitute a barrier for migration.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>3.10.5 Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.</p> <p>3.10.6 Soil damages shall be taken care of in case they are causing a direct flux of sludge and humus into a lake or watercourse, or if they constitute a hindrance for accessibility to frequently used roads, tracks, trails, etc. In every other case, restoration risks doing more harm than good.</p> <p>3.10.7 On land where there is risk of erosion, intermittent soil scarification methods shall be used.</p> <p>3.10.8 At harvesting in steep conditions, the risk for avalanches and slides shall be considered and evaluated in relation to possible costs for risk minimization.</p> <p>3.11 Edge- and buffer zones</p> <p>Edge zones and buffer zones are important to biological diversity on forest land as well as to adjacent land use classes. Edge zones and buffer zones are also a means to create the conditions for binding together habitats worthy of protection. Different areas have different prerequisites, and the buffer zones shall be adjusted to the current conditions.</p> <p>3.11.1 In edge zones/forest edges and at lakes and watercourses, deciduous trees and bushes shall be favoured to create a layered and uneven-aged edge zone.</p> <p>3.11.2 On sites where a buffer zone is needed but is lacking, measures shall be taken as soon as possible for the creation of a functional buffer zone, which breadth shall be adjusted to the object to be protected and conditions on the site.</p> <p>3.11.3 Rutting at edge- and buffer zones shall be avoided.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>8.5.5 The standard requires that construction of roads, bridges and other infrastructure shall be carried out in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses and preserves the natural level and function of water courses and river beds. Proper road drainage facilities shall be installed and maintained.</p>		<p>3.10 Methods for protection of soil and water</p> <p>Forestry may affect soil and water in different ways. Extraction of timber and forest fuel decreases the amount of available nutrients, and soil damages may imply that nutrient turn-over in the soil is negatively affected, that the soil is compacted, as well as that ground- and surface water is affected through transport of sludge or soluble nutrients and heavy metals. Felling- and silvicultural work need to be performed throughout the year, which places stringent demands on planning and implementation. The construction of forest roads should be coordinated across property boundaries when this is possible and not be placed directly adjacent to lakes, wetlands, sensitive habitats, other cultural heritage sites or frequently used trails. Water protection areas should be protected against present and future risks.</p> <p>3.10.1 Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.</p> <p>3.10.2 At the planning of forestry operations and road construction, special consideration shall be shown to wetlands and water environments</p> <p>3.10.3 New roads shall be established in a way that preserves the running of natural watercourses and that minimizes damages to watercourses and hindrance for migration. New road ditches shall not fall directly into watercourses, lakes, or wetlands.</p> <p>3.10.4 In connection with repair of roads, road drains shall be fixed so that they do not constitute a barrier for migration.</p> <p>3.10.5 Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.</p> <p>3.10.6 Soil damages shall be taken care of in case they are causing a direct flux of sludge and humus into a lake or</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>watercourse, or if they constitute a hindrance for accessibility to frequently used roads, tracks, trails, etc. In every other case, restoration risks doing more harm than good.</p> <p>3.10.7 On land where there is risk of erosion, intermittent soil scarification methods shall be used.</p> <p>3.10.8 At harvesting in steep conditions, the risk for avalanches and slides shall be considered and evaluated in relation to possible costs for risk minimization.</p> <p>3.11 Edge- and buffer zones</p> <p>Edge zones and buffer zones are important to biological diversity on forest land as well as to adjacent land use classes. Edge zones and buffer zones are also a means to create the conditions for binding together habitats worthy of protection. Different areas have different prerequisites, and the buffer zones shall be adjusted to the current conditions.</p> <p>3.11.1 In edge zones/forest edges and at lakes and watercourses, deciduous trees and bushes shall be favoured to create a layered and uneven-aged edge zone.</p> <p>3.11.2 On sites where a buffer zone is needed but is lacking, measures shall be taken as soon as possible for the creation of a functional buffer zone, which breadth shall be adjusted to the object to be protected and conditions on the site.</p> <p>3.11.3 Rutting at edge- and buffer zones shall be avoided.</p>
8.6 Criterion 6: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of socio-economic functions and conditions		
8.6.1 The standard requires that forest management planning shall aim to respect all socio-economic functions of forests.		Document 002

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>4.2 Rural development</p> <p>PEFC Sweden supports the principle of a sound rural development in all parts of Sweden. Small- and large-scale forestry, including tourism based on natural- and cultural environments, all constitute important platforms for development of the rural economy. Forest owners as well as wood procurement organizations and service organizations shall strive to apply the silvicultural- and forest management methods, as well as the sales and processing of forest products, that are the most appropriate for preserving and developing jobs, competitiveness, and profitability. In addition, forest owners and organizations shall strive to ensure sales of timber, timber deliveries, and service systems in all parts of the country, including in sparsely populated areas where transport distances are long.</p> <p>4.2.1 At tendering processes for forestry services, local contractors shall be included. The size of the contract work should be adjusted so that local contractor businesses may participate on market terms.</p> <p>4.2.2 How the adjustment in line with 4.2.1 is made shall be described in a routine.</p>
8.6.2 The standard requires that adequate public access to forests for the purpose of recreation shall be provided, taking into account respect for ownership rights, safety and the rights of others, the effects on forest resources and ecosystems, as well as compatibility with other functions of the forest.		<p><i>In Sweden the right of common access means that everyone can access any forest for recreation, mushrooming, berry picking as long as no crops, cattle or planted trees are damaged or disturbed.</i></p> <p><i>The PEFC standard does contain additional requirements on consideration for social values, recreation, and outdoor life (document 002 4.1 and appendix 1)</i></p>
8.6.3 The standard requires that sites with recognised specific historical, cultural or spiritual significance and areas fundamental to meeting the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities (e.g. health, subsistence) shall be		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“3.13 Cultural environment</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
protected or managed in a way that takes due regard of the significance of the site.		<p>At forestry operations on land with presence of cultural heritage sites, guidance is provided by the forest sector's target scenarios for conservation actions in forest management. Regarding ancient remains, notice or decision from the County Administrative Board applies at first hand. Remains with extension in the terrain (ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites) demand special planning prior to any operation to avoid damages and special attention shall be paid to communication between client and operator.</p> <p>3.13.1 Forestry operations shall be implemented so that ancient remains and surrounding consideration areas are not damaged, and so that damages to other cultural heritage sites are minimized.</p> <p>3.13.2 In connection with forest management planning and site planning, all known and newly identified ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites shall be marked in the forest management plan and in the site-specific work instruction. A routine for up-dating of information shall be in place.</p> <p>3.13.3 Special conservation values that are part of cultural environments, e.g., species of trees and bushes of the cultural landscape or where the composition of species bears the imprint of earlier usage, shall be considered, and favoured to an appropriate extent.</p> <p>3.13.4 Other trees that are growing on and adjacent to ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites and their visible structures, shall normally be removed.</p> <p>3.13.5 Cultural heritage stumps shall be created to indicate the presence of ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites unless this is clearly apparent in any other way.</p> <p>When it is not possible or may cause danger or does not add any signal value, to create cultural heritage stumps, the remain may be marked out in another way that is clear, e.g., with grade stakes. "</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
8.6.4 The standard requires that management shall promote the long-term health and well-being of communities within or adjacent to the forest management area, where appropriate supported by engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“4.2 Rural development</p> <p>PEFC Sweden supports the principle of a sound rural development in all parts of Sweden. Small- and large-scale forestry, including tourism based on natural- and cultural environments, all constitute important platforms for development of the rural economy. Forest owners as well as wood procurement organizations and service organizations shall strive to apply the silvicultural- and forest management methods, as well as the sales and processing of forest products, that are the most appropriate for preserving and developing jobs, competitiveness, and profitability. In addition, forest owners and organizations shall strive to ensure sales of timber, timber deliveries, and service systems in all parts of the country, including in sparsely populated areas where transport distances are long.</p> <p>4.2.1 At tendering processes for forestry services, local contractors shall be included. The size of the contract work should be adjusted so that local contractor businesses may participate on market terms.</p> <p>4.2.2 How the adjustment in line with 4.2.1 is made shall be described in a routine. “</p> <p>4.3 Forestry and reindeer husbandry</p> <p>The relations between reindeer husbandry and forestry build on mutual respect for, and the balancing of, different land-use needs in the northern parts of Sweden. Collaboration at the local level, and a balancing of different needs adapted to the specific situation, shall be sought for to arrive at solutions that are the most appropriate with respect to the local situation. Regarding family-forest enterprises, agreements between the Swedish Federation of Forest Owners and the Swedish Sami Association serve as a basis for collaboration, together with the policy <i>“Familjeskogsbruk och renskötsel i samverkan för Norrland”</i> (Family forestry and reindeer husbandry in collaboration for the northern parts of Sweden).</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		Consideration for the interests of reindeer husbandry shall be shown in accordance with the Forestry Act, §§ 13b, 14, 18b, 20, and 31. Regarding consultation, provisions, and general advice according to §§ 20 and 31 of the Forestry Act shall be applied, unless otherwise agreed outside the reindeer herding year-round pasture lands. See further "Policy for balancing the interests of Forestry and Reindeer herding", <i>PEFC SWE 001 PEFC's Certification System for Sustainable Forest Management in Sweden, Appendix C.</i> "
8.6.5 The standard requires that the best use shall be made of forest-related experience and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices such as those of forest owners, NGOs, local communities, and indigenous peoples. Equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge shall be encouraged.		<i>Not applicable</i>
8.6.6 The standard requires that management shall give due regard to the role of forestry in local economies. Special consideration shall be given to new opportunities for training and employment of local people, including indigenous peoples.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>"4.2 Rural development</p> <p>PEFC Sweden supports the principle of a sound rural development in all parts of Sweden. Small- and large-scale forestry, including tourism based on natural- and cultural environments, all constitute important platforms for development of the rural economy. Forest owners as well as wood procurement organizations and service organizations shall strive to apply the silvicultural- and forest management methods, as well as the sales and processing of forest products, that are the most appropriate for preserving and developing jobs, competitiveness, and profitability. In addition, forest owners and organizations shall strive to ensure sales of timber, timber deliveries, and service systems in all parts of the country, including in sparsely populated areas where transport distances are long.</p> <p>4.2.1 At tendering processes for forestry services, local contractors shall be included. The size of the contract work</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>should be adjusted so that local contractor businesses may participate on market terms.</p> <p>4.2.2 How the adjustment in line with 4.2.1 is made shall be described in a routine. “</p>
8.6.7 The standard requires that forest management shall contribute to research activities and data collection needed for sustainable forest management or support relevant research activities carried out by other organisations, as appropriate.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“2.2 Research</p> <p>A forestry that is based on science and best practice is fundamental to PEFC. Scientific findings change with new knowledge, and cooperation with research and education is encouraged.</p> <p>In cases where PEFC-certified forestry is included in research connected to university, college, or research institute, or that is performed in line with the model for adaptive forest management, deviations from the standard may be allowed. “</p>
9. Performance evaluation		
9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation		
9.1.1 The standard requires that monitoring of forest resources and evaluation of their management, including ecological, social and economic effects, shall be periodically performed, and results fed back into the planning process.		<p>Document 002 Appendix 1</p> <p>“A forest management plan may be valid over time if it is continuously updated with current information regarding e.g., stand data, ancient remains, and other cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>In case of significantly changed conditions (e.g., storm, fire, insect infestation, changed conservation values), and/or significantly changed management, a new field assessment is required for the plan to be considered valid. In the case of larger additional purchases or division of forest land, a new prioritization of nature conservation set-asides may be required. Changed requirements within the PEFC-standard that affects the forest management plan shall be introduced in the plan at the nearest plan update, and 10 years after the standard has entered into force at the latest.”</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
9.1.2 The standard requires that health and vitality of forests shall be periodically monitored, especially key biotic and abiotic factors that potentially affect health and vitality of forest ecosystems, such as pests, diseases, overgrazing and overstocking, fire, and damage caused by climatic factors, air pollutants or by forest management operations.		<p>Document 002 Appendix 1</p> <p>"A forest management plan may be valid over time if it is continuously updated with current information regarding e.g., stand data, ancient remains, and other cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>In case of significantly changed conditions (e.g., storm, fire, insect infestation, changed conservation values), and/or significantly changed management, a new field assessment is required for the plan to be considered valid. In the case of larger additional purchases or division of forest land, a new prioritization of nature conservation set-asides may be required. Changed requirements within the PEFC-standard that affects the forest management plan shall be introduced in the plan at the nearest plan update, and 10 years after the standard has entered into force at the latest."</p> <p><i>Note:</i></p> <p><i>The monitoring of forest health in Sweden is done in cooperation in the sector e.g. in regional forest health groups (regionala samverkansgrupper) and with the assistance of the university (SLU http://www.slu.se/skogsskada/) and the Forest Agency (http://www.skogsstyrelsen.se/Aga-och-bruka/Skogsbruk/Skador-paskog/).</i></p> <p><i>Forest health monitoring comprises weather (including, storm, snow and fire), game, insect damage, fungi and rutting due to forest operations. The Forest Agency also has regional and national forest healthcoordinators assisting forest owners with these issues. Latest data are available on their webpage and through newsletters and, after larger disturbances, information to forest owners in concerned areas."</i></p>
9.1.3 The standard requires that where it is the responsibility of the forest owner/manager and included in forest management, the use of non-wood forest products, including hunting and fishing, shall be regulated, monitored and		Not applicable

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
controlled.		
9.1.4 The standard requires that working conditions shall be regularly monitored and adapted as necessary.		<p>Document 002</p> <p>“4.7.2 The company shall conduct and document at least two formal workplace meetings a year. Exemptions can be made for companies with three employees or less, where the requirement is one workplace meeting. When the company has only one employee, staff appraisal may be included.</p> <p>Risk assessment and work environment issues shall be included in at least one workplace meeting per year.</p> <p>4.7.3 Staff appraisals, which include needs for skills development, shall be held at least once a year. The employer shall be able to demonstrate how this is done, through appropriate documentation.”</p> <p>“4.8 Work environment</p> <p>PEFC-certified companies shall work for a good and secure work environment within the framework of current corru and good industry practice. A reasonable time of transition shall be allowed for measures requiring larger economic investments, for example rebuilding and replacement of machinery. Work environment- and health care work shall have a preventive purpose to remove health risks.</p> <p>4.8.1 Employer and employees shall collaborate and systematically work to improve the work environment (<i>SAM</i>) in a way that encompasses all employees of the forest-related business.</p> <p>4.8.2 Safety- and emergency routines shall be in place at the workplace and be established in a way ensuring that they are known and understood by everyone concerned.</p> <p>4.8.3 Staff shall have access to staff facilities in accordance with Swedish legislation on work environment and applicable collective agreement.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<p>4.8.4 A safety committee shall be in place at any workplace where at least 50 workers are employed on a regular basis, or if the employees so require. A local agreement may be reached which allows these issues to be handled by a body that also handles other issues.</p> <p>4.8.5 Companies with five or more employees shall have a safety representative. Regional safety representatives and/or the occupational health service are appropriate partners in safety work.</p> <p>4.8.6 The employer is responsible for seeing to it that appropriate occupational health services regarding work conditions are at hand. Occupational health service refers to an independent expert resource within the field of work environment and rehabilitation. The occupational health service shall particularly work to prevent and set aside health risks at workplaces as well as be competent to identify and describe the relations between work environment, organization, productivity, and health. The occupational health service shall also be able to provide support in crisis management.</p> <p>4.8.7 If the work entails the use of chemicals, routines shall be in place to ensure that these are used in accordance with laws and ordinances and follow the instructions given by the producer. A list of chemicals and safety data sheets shall be available. Staff shall have the necessary competence, training, and equipment."</p>
9.2 Internal audit		
9.2.1 Objectives The standard requires that an internal audit programme at planned intervals shall provide information on whether the management system		

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>a) conforms to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the organisation's requirements for its management system; • the requirements of the national sustainable forest management standard 		<p>Document 004</p> <p>“3.1.4 Appoint internal auditors that shall be well versed in the Swedish PEFC certification system for sustainable forest management. The auditors shall conduct an independent and impartial audit of the forestry business/contract business.</p> <p>3.1.5 Annually implement and document the management review. The management's review shall review and ensure the system's continued suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness. “</p> <p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>“The organization shall annually conduct an internal audit of the business and its management system to measure and evaluate compliance with the PEFC-standard, the suitability, sufficiency, and effect of the management system. The umbrella organization shall define the procedure for the internal audit and, where applicable, associated samples. This includes to define how the internal audit is planned, implemented, and evaluated, as well as associated documentation of completed audit. The outcome of the internal audit shall be analysed and evaluated in order to provide a basis for governing of the business.</p> <p><i>Basic requirements for direct certification in PEFC SWE 004, chapter 3.1.”</i></p>
b) is effectively implemented and maintained.		9.2.1
<p>9.2.2 Organisation</p> <p>The standard requires that the organisation shall:</p>		
<p>a) plan, establish, implement and maintain an audit programme(s) including the frequency, methods, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting, which shall take into consideration the importance of the processes concerned and the results of previous audits;</p>		<p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>“The organization shall annually conduct an internal audit of the business and its management system to measure and evaluate compliance with the PEFC-standard, the suitability, sufficiency, and effect of the management system. The umbrella organization shall define the procedure for the internal audit and, where applicable, associated samples. This includes to define how the internal audit is planned, implemented, and evaluated, as well as associated documentation of completed audit. The outcome of the internal audit shall be analysed and evaluated in order to</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		provide a basis for governing of the business. <i>Basic requirements for direct certification in PEFC SWE 004, chapter 3.1."</i>
b) define the audit criteria and scope for each audit;		9.2.2 a
c) select the auditors and conduct audits to ensure objectivity and the impartiality of the audit process;		Document 004 "3.1.4 Appoint internal auditors that shall be well versed in the Swedish PEFC certification system for sustainable forest management. The auditors shall conduct an independent and impartial audit of the forestry business/contract business.
d) ensure that the results of the audits are reported to relevant management;		3.1.5 Annually implement and document the management review. The management's review shall review and ensure the system's continued suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness. "
e) retain documented information as evidence of the implementation of the audit programme and the audit results.		Document 004 Appendix 2 "Performance evaluation "---The umbrella organization shall define the procedure for the internal audit and, where applicable, associated samples. This includes to define how the internal audit is planned, implemented, and evaluated, as well as associated documentation of completed audit---"
9.3 Management review		
9.3.1 The standard requires that an annual management review shall at least include		
a) the status of actions from previous management reviews;		Document 004 Appendix 2 Management review "The management review shall be implemented annually and aims at reviewing and securing the umbrella organization's/organization's work with auditing and continuously improve the business and its management system. At the management review, the following issues shall be covered:

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up of previous year's review • Changes of significance for the business and associated management system • Outcome of internal and external audit as well as associated analysis • Handling of nonconformities within the business • Corrective action for the business to be run in accordance with requirements of the PEFC-standard. <p>At the management review, the management shall ensure the continued suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness of the system. The management review shall be documented"</p>
b) changes in external and internal issues that are relevant to the management system;		9.3.1 a
c) information on the organisation's performance, including trends in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nonconformities and corrective actions; • monitoring and measurement results; • audit results; 		9.3.1 a
d) opportunities for continual improvement		9.3.1 a
9.3.2 The standard requires that the outputs of the management review shall include decisions related to continual improvement opportunities and any need for changes to the management system.		9.3.1 a
9.3.3 The standard requires that documented information as evidence of the results of management reviews shall be retained.		9.3.1 a

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
10. Improvement		
10.1 Nonconformity and corrective action		
10.1.1 The standard requires that when a nonconformity occurs, the organisation shall:		
a) react to the nonconformity and, as applicable: i. take action to control and correct it; ii. deal with the consequences;		<p>Document 004 Appendix 2</p> <p>Management review</p> <p>“The management review shall be implemented annually and aims at reviewing and securing the umbrella organization’s/organization’s work with auditing and continuously improve the business and its management system. At the management review, the following issues shall be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up of previous year’s review • Changes of significance for the business and associated management system • Outcome of internal and external audit as well as associated analysis • Handling of non-conformities within the business • Corrective action for the business to be run in accordance with requirements of the PEFC-standard. <p>At the management review, the management shall ensure the continued suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness of the system. The management review shall be documented.”</p>
b) evaluate the need for action to eliminate the causes of the nonconformity, in order that it does not recur or occur elsewhere, by: i. reviewing the nonconformity; ii. determining the causes of the nonconformity;		<p><i>10.1.1 a</i></p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
iii. determining if similar nonconformities exist, or could potentially occur;		
c) implement any action needed;		10.1.1 a
d) review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken;		10.1.1 a
e) make changes to the management system, if necessary.		10.1.1 a
10.1.2 The standard requires that corrective actions shall be appropriate to the effects of the nonconformities encountered.		10.1.1 a
10.1.3 The standard requires that the organisation shall retain documented information as evidence of:		
a) the nature of the nonconformities and any subsequent actions taken;		10.1.1 a
b) the results of any corrective action.		10.1.1 a
10.2 Continual improvement The standard requires that the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system and the sustainable management of the forest shall be continuously improved.		10.1.1 a

* If the answer to any question is no, the application documentation shall indicate for each element why and what alternative measures have been taken to address the element in question

