

# Forestry Standard



**SWEDISH  
PEFC STANDARD**  
**IN ENGLISH**

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# 1. Introduction

The aim of the Swedish PEFC certification system is to develop an active and responsible forestry in which timber production, environment, climate benefit, and social interests are properly balanced. The standard is based on the “Lisbon Declaration” which was adopted at the third Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (now Forest Europe) in June 1998. The criteria, indicators, and operative guidelines outlined in the Lisbon resolutions L1 and L2 have been applied after evaluation. In addition, the principles, rules, and guidelines prescribed by the Swedish forestry legislation and other applicable national legislation constitute a platform for the standard.

# 2. Scope

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

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

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

The present document, *PEFC SWE 002 Forestry Standard*, consists of two chapters:

## **Chapter 3 Environment and production**

Lays down objectives, fundamental guidelines, and requirements for an economically sustainable and site-adapted forest production with consideration to natural- and cultural environments as well as recreation and outdoor life.

## **Chapter 4 Social requirements**

Lays down objectives, fundamental guidelines, and requirements for terms of employment, work environment, organization of work, competence, relations to the reindeer husbandry sector, the right of public access, and rural development.

A fundamental principle to PEFC is that the responsibility to comply with the forestry standard falls upon the forest owner.

## 2.1 Facilities and further information

Information on current legislation applicable to forestry and advice on forest management may be obtained e.g., from the web-based services *Regelrätt Skogsbruk* [[www.regelratt.se](http://www.regelratt.se)], the Government Office’s legal

databases [<https://rkrattsbaser.gov.se/sfsr>], *Skogskunskap* [[www.skogskunskap.se/](http://www.skogskunskap.se/)], and the Forestry Research Institute of Sweden's body of knowledge [<https://www.skogforsk.se/kunskap/kunskapsbanken>]. On the Forest Agency's website there is information on the forestry legislation, reports, and general information regarding forest management and information on damages from game and bark beetles. There is also laser data, and, for forest owners, "*Mina sidor*" ("My pages"), with information that may be used in the context of planning. Forest owners and contractors may also obtain information via the websites and apps of forest owners associations and forest companies.

The forest sector's target scenarios for conservation actions in forest management are available at [www.skogsstyrelsen.se](http://www.skogsstyrelsen.se). PEFC regards the target scenarios and the PEFC-standard as two different tools in a sustainable forest management. The target scenarios for conservation actions in forest management provide valuable knowledge and guidance for planning and implementation of forestry measures, but they are not designed as requirements that may be subject to audit and shall only be seen as guidance and as a knowledge base.

## 2.2 Research

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.

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.

## 3. Environment and production

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.

Forest management shall prevent undesired forest fires and unlawful activities like illegal logging and illegal land-use.

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.

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.

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.

### **3.1 Conversion of forest land**

The PEFC-system works for preservation of forest land and a long-term management of the entire range of forest values.

**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.

### **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. 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.

**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.

### **3.3 Forest management plan**

The Swedish PEFC-system is based on forest owners having a forest management plan adapted to certification. The forest management plan is a basis for planning the management of the forest holding.

**3.1.1** For forest holdings of 20 ha productive forest land or more, there shall be a forest management plan adapted to certification in accordance with Appendix 1. An evaluated and described method for conservation value assessment shall form the basis for the forestry objectives.

**3.1.2** For forest holdings with less than 20 ha productive forest land, there shall be a map showing voluntary set-asides, registered key-habitats, sites with conservation values, formally protected areas, ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites that are registered by concerned authority.

### **3.4 Forest management**

#### **3.4.1 Choice of forest management system**

The clear-felling system is the most common and most evaluated forest management system in Sweden. Other forest management systems, such as continuous cover forestry, may be relevant in relation to the individual forest owner's goals and conditions. These methods shall be tested and aim for an active, long term, and sustainable forestry.

**3.4.1.1** Other management methods, such as continuous cover forestry methods, may be applied provided that the methods in question are site-adapted and provide conditions for long term management, sustainable production, as well as consider nature-, cultural-, and social values of the forest. Completed measures shall be documented in the forest management plan. The requirements of the Forestry Standard shall be observed also when the forest is managed with other management systems than the clear-felling system.

#### **3.4.2 Regeneration**

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.

**3.4.2.1** Plant- and seed material shall be adequate for the site in question and have a documented origin.

**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.

**3.4.2.3** Soil scarification shall be site-adapted.

**3.4.2.4** Reproductive material with genetically modified reproductive material, GMO, may not be used.

#### **3.4.3 Pre-commercial thinning and thinning**

Pre-commercial thinning and thinning shall be performed so that forests with high production- and natural values, in accordance with established objectives, are created.

**3.4.3.1** Pre-commercial and thinning forests (*R1, R2, G1 and G2*) shall preferably be managed in accordance with forest management plan. Measures should be implemented +/- 5 years from proposed point in time. Reasons for any deviation from the forest management plan must be able to be specified.

#### **3.4.4 Conservation trees/potential conservation trees**

All forestry operations are of importance for the creation of future conservation values. Conservation trees are valuable to biological diversity and may contribute to the forest's aesthetical values.

PEFC takes a positive view on the possibility to apply longer rotation periods also in production stands, e.g., for the purpose of producing special timber qualities, for social reasons, or according to the forest owner's wishes.



3.4.4.1 At thinning and regeneration felling, all conservation trees shall be retained to live, die, decompose, and decay. If the total number of conservation trees at regeneration felling amounts to less than 10 per hectare on average, these shall be complemented with potential conservation trees so that 10 trees on average per hectare are always retained.

In stands where it is difficult to distinguish conservation trees, all deciduous conservation trees are retained, and at least 10 coniferous conservation trees/potential conservation trees on average per hectare.

For trees and groups of trees in production stands that have obtained the characteristics of conservation trees, but for which felling has been postponed for a specific purpose, for example for special timber qualities or social values, objective and purpose shall be described in the forest management plan.

3.4.4.2 Felling of a stand of seed trees is in this context considered part of regeneration felling. Provided that enough conservation trees and potential conservation trees have been retained at regeneration felling, additional potential conservation trees need not be retained when seed trees are felled.

3.4.4.3 Felling of a conservation tree is only allowed:

- if the operation favours another conservation tree, deemed to have higher conservation values
- in the case of road construction, risk of damages to humans or buildings, as well as for trees in the vicinity of overhead wires
- if they risk damaging ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites
- if silvicultural measure is significantly impeded.

The harvested tree is retained as fresh dead wood.

A conservation tree may be in a stage of dying or alive. A conservation tree must have special conservation values and differ from the stand that is to be harvested.

Examples of conservation trees:

- trees that are different from the rest of the stand, especially thick and/or old trees
- thick trees with manifest wide and thick branched/flat crown
- thick spruces that have previously grown without competition, so called “enclosed pasture spruces”
- thick aspens and alders, unless they appear in abundance
- the following trees when they occur in stands dominated by conifers: tree-like willow, rowan, Swedish whitebeam, maple, linden, bird cherry, wild cherry, or thick common hazel
- solitary or smaller groups of valuable deciduous trees in the boreal forest landscape
- thick common junipers
- trees with manifest open fire scars
- trees with hollows and trees with nests of dry twigs

- trees with evident traces of cultural activity.

Trees that are part of the ordinary management program, e.g., seed trees, shelterwood trees, and saw timber stands do not count as conservation trees.

Potential conservation trees are living ordinary trees, representative of the stand, that are retained to develop into conservation trees during the following rotation period. As potential conservation trees are chosen those trees deemed to have the best possibility to develop conservation values. Potential conservation trees are preferably retained in or adjacent to consideration patches (e.g., groups of trees and edge zones).

### 3.4.5 Deciduous trees

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.

- 3.4.5.1 Where conditions exist for deciduous trees on the forest holding, an area equivalent to at least 5% of the area of mesic and moist forest soils shall be managed to become dominated by deciduous trees. Stands dominated by deciduous trees in all soil moisture classes may be included. It shall be indicated in the forest management plan which compartments that have been identified.

On forest holdings where conditions for at least 5% of stands dominated by deciduous trees are lacking, and where rational deciduous forest management cannot be practiced due to browsing, soil conditions, climatic conditions, or where it conflicts with the Forestry Act, forest management shall be practiced for an increased volume of deciduous timber at the level of the forest holding. Existing occurrence of deciduous trees and objective for increased deciduous timber volume shall be described in the forest management plan.

- 3.4.5.2 In stands where natural conditions permit, deciduous trees shall be safeguarded in pre-commercial thinning and thinning operations, so that they constitute at least 10% of the number of stems until last thinning. Until regeneration felling, there shall be at least 20 deciduous trees per hectare on average. Exempted are mixed stands of pine and aspen where the risk of *Melampsora* rust must be considered.

### 3.4.6 Dead wood

Dead wood is an important element for biological diversity and often in short supply in managed forests. Therefore, a fundamental ambition for PEFC is to increase the amount of standing dead trees, old windthrows, high stumps, etc. The biological value of the dead wood, which depends on thickness, degree of decay, tree species, and location, shall be taken into consideration.

- 3.4.6.1 Older dead wood shall be safeguarded in forestry operations. The dead wood shall if possible be retained intact in its original location.
- 3.4.6.2 In production stands with a large proportion of older dead wood, at least 20 of the biologically most valuable dead trees/old windthrown trees, on average per hectare, shall be retained.

Areas with a larger amount of dead forest, which is not retained for conservation purposes, may be taken care of to make regeneration possible in accordance with the provisions of the forestry legislation, but an increase of the consideration area or set-aside as *NS-*, or *NO-*stands should be considered.

- 3.4.6.3 From second thinning until regeneration felling (except from in stands of valuable broad-leaved trees), thick dead wood consisting of at least three fresh high stumps, logs, lying or ring-barked trees on average per hectare shall be created. Trees that have been purposely damaged for the purpose of creating dead wood may also be counted. If there is already three fresh units of snow-breaks, wind-thrown trees, or equivalent on average per hectare within the area, additional dead wood need not be created.
- 3.4.6.4 Felling of a stand of seed trees is considered part of the regeneration felling. Provided that enough dead wood was retained at regeneration felling, additional amounts of dead wood need not be created when the seed trees are harvested.
- 3.4.6.5 At regeneration felling in stands of oak and beech, dead wood shall be created so that, when it is time for termination of the stand, there are at least two dead trees of the main tree species on average per hectare. From other valuable deciduous trees, single fresh high stumps, logs, lying or ring-barked trees shall be created during the final stage of the thinning phase.
- 3.4.6.6 In connection with felling alongside tracks/hiking trails or where there is a risk of damage to humans or buildings, dead wood that risks being wind-thrown shall be cut and retained in the form of high stumps or left on the ground.
- 3.4.6.7 In connection with extraction of logging residues, consideration shall be shown in the form of retaining thick deciduous- and pine treetops.
- 3.4.6.8 Deviation from creating and retaining fresh dead wood of coniferous trees is allowed:
- when there is a documented risk of mass propagation of noxious insects
  - after larger/extensive infestation in area declared by the Forest Agency as special area for combating of pests.

### **3.4.7 Forests that shall be managed with enhanced consideration**

Individual stands sometimes include areas with higher conservation values than its surroundings, such as water courses, vertical surfaces, and scree slopes. These shall be given special consideration at forestry operations to safeguard biodiversity. Forests containing conservation values, which are not prioritized for set aside, shall be managed with high ambitions as regards nature conservation.

- 3.4.7.1 Guidelines indicated in the forest management plan regarding consideration for existing values shall be observed.

### **3.4.8 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 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.

**3.4.8.1** Variation in stand age and tree species shall be aimed at, at forest holding level.

**3.4.8.2** Risk-preventive measures and active forest protection shall be carried out in accordance with the forestry legislation.

### **3.4.9 Exotic tree species**

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.

**3.4.9.1** Presence of exotic tree species shall be documented in the forest management plan.

**3.4.9.2** Larger forest owners (forest holdings  $\geq 5000$  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.

**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.

**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.

**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 with consultations or through the Sami communities' land use accounts, reindeer management plans, or national accounts on reindeer herding.

### **3.4.10 Ditching**

Ditching is a substantial intervention in the natural environment. To ensure forest regeneration and a good forest production, precautionary ditching as well as maintenance of existing ditches, may be necessary.

**3.4.10.1** Drainage must not be implemented on forest land that has not been ditched before.

- 3.4.10.2 Ditches shall not be maintained on peatland where the effect of ditching has not occurred, is very limited, or where high conservation values may be damaged, except for in cases where the ditch is draining another ditched area.
- 3.4.10.3 Precautionary ditching may be applied when regeneration requirements of the forestry legislation cannot be met in any other way. In previously ditched areas where the frequency of ditches is too sparse or ditches are wrongly constructed, new ditches may be established if permission is obtained from the County Board.
- 3.4.10.4 Consultation with the Forest Agency shall be conducted before cleaning/maintenance of ditches is made if the operation has a clearly negative impact on lakes and water courses or is connected to areas with high conservation values. In connection with cleaning of ditches, ditches that fall directly into water courses and lakes shall be taken care of so that sludge in the water may settle before the water reaches the water course.
- 3.4.10.5 Exemption from the commitment of not establishing new ditches is allowed in the event of floods, threatening the vitality of the forest stand, that are occurring beyond the forest owner's own control. Excluded from this exemption are forests with high conservation values that are naturally and recurrently flooded.

#### **3.4.11 Pest control methods**

PEFC's aim is a forestry free of chemical pest control products.

- 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.
- 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.

### **3.5 Game**

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.

3.5.1 The forest owner shall be aware of the basis of Swedish wildlife management:

- 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 (*ÄBIN*) shall be used as an objective and quality assured method.

## Guidance

The size of ungulate populations may be considered well-balanced when:

- rowan, aspen, sallow, 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.

A prerequisite for achieving the objectives regarding rowan, aspen, sallow, and oak (*RASE*) is that these are retained/promoted to a sufficient extent at pre-commercial thinning.

### 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 land is preserved.

**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.

**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.

### 3.7 Set-asides for environmental purposes

**3.7.1** At least 5% of the productive forest land shall be set aside for environmental consideration (forestry objective *NO* or *NS*). 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.

**3.7.2** The smallest continuous area for set-aside is 0,3 ha. For forest owners with 5 000 ha or more, the smallest continuous area for set-aside is 0,5 ha.

**3.7.3** Set-asides are a means for the forest owner to restore or create conditions to tie together habitats meriting protection where this is appropriate. At selection and demarcation, areas shall be prioritized according to the below:

1. Areas with very high conservation values
2. Areas with high conservation values or areas of great significance for recreation and outdoor life
3. Areas with developable conservation values, other social values, or cultural heritage sites.

When assessing conservation values, a method that is evaluated and described shall be used.

Areas of great significance for recreation and outdoor life may be, for example, school forests or outdoor recreation areas with a high degree of utilization, high experiential qualities, and good accessibility and reachability.

Areas with developable conservation values may be areas that are prioritized in public agencies' regional plans or forests with structures and components of importance to nature conservation, for example dead or dying trees, thick deciduous trees, or old trees.

- 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.
- 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 *NS*.
- 3.7.6** In the voluntary set-aside, the certified forest holding's parts in set-asides on commonly owned forest land may be included, as well as areas under nature conservation agreement. Areas that were set-aside as nature reserves or habitat protection areas before certification of the forest holding, and where full economic compensation has been paid, may not be included.
- 3.7.7** If the State, after certification, decides to form a nature reserve or a habitat protection area of a voluntarily set-aside area, the landowner is not obliged to set-aside equivalent additional land to meet the 5% requirement, provided that the landowner is still the owner of the protected area.
- 3.7.8** If more than 10% of productive forest land has been set-aside for nature conservation purposes, the following relaxations from the standard may be applied:
- For up to 5% of the productive forest land, the standard's requirements regarding creation of dead wood and retaining of potential conservation trees need not be applied. The requirements of the forestry legislation must however always be met.
  - If at least half of the set-aside area is formed by stands dominated by deciduous trees, paragraph 3.4.5.2 does not have to be met. In edge- and buffer zones as well as in consideration-demanding habitats, deciduous trees shall be safeguarded.
  - For larger forest owners, stands dominated by exotic tree species may form up to 25% of the area of productive forest land.

Any relaxations of the rules must be documented in the forest management plan.

### **3.8 Reindeer husbandry**

**3.8.1** Consultation within the year-round pastureland for reindeer husbandry shall be practiced in accordance with the forestry legislation.

**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:

- 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 according to §20 and §31 of the Forestry Act.
- 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.

### **3.9 Landscape ecology**

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 be, e.g., 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.

**3.9.1** Forest owners with  $\geq 5\,000$  ha of continuous productive forest land shall plan from a landscape-ecological perspective, with respect to the consolidation of the forest holding and other local conditions.

**3.9.2** Forest owners with less than 5 000 hectares of continuous productive forest land shall consider regional plans for nature conservation or the equivalent in connection with forest management planning. This means that adjustment of consideration is made at the level of the forest holding so that the management contributes to conservation values being preserved and, when needed, enhanced in the landscape at hand, e.g., regarding the amount of dead wood, area of older forest rich in deciduous trees, or area of forest with high conservation values.

### **3.10 Methods for protection of soil and water**

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.

- 3.10.1** Measures shall be planned with respect to season and soil stability so that damages to soil and water are avoided.
- 3.10.2** At the planning of forestry operations and road construction, special consideration shall be shown to wetlands and water environments.
- 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.
- 3.10.4** In connection with repair of roads, road drains shall be fixed so that they do not constitute a barrier for migration.
- 3.10.5** Appropriate methodology and technology shall be used to prevent soil damages in harvesting operations, especially where transports intersect watercourses.
- 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.
- 3.10.7** On land where there is risk of erosion, intermittent soil scarification methods shall be used.
- 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.

### **3.11 Edge- and buffer zones**

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.

- 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.
- 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.

**3.11.3** Rutting at edge- and buffer zones shall be avoided.

### **3.12 Burning**

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.

The requirements concerning burning apply to forest holdings of at least 5 000 hectares of continuous productive forest land.

**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.

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.

**3.12.2** Naturally burnt forest may be counted.

**3.12.3** Felling and burning shall be planned based on the prerequisites of the stand, the area, or the landscape so that fire-dependent species are favoured, e.g., by burning the humus layer to a sufficient extent and so that a significant portion of the trees in the stand are killed or damaged.

**3.12.4** Soil scarification shall not be made after burning in the general case, and where the conditions are suitable, natural regeneration shall be applied.

**3.12.5** When burning is implemented in areas classified for production (forestry objective *PG/PF*), the actual burnt area may be multiplied with an adjustment factor according to the table below.

**Table 1. Multiplication factor for burnt area**

<b>Burning in areas classified for production</b>	<b>Factor of multiplication</b>
Retained volume at least 15% of original volume	1,5
Retained volume at least 30% of original volume	2

The volume retained is considered as nature conservation and must not be extracted at a later stage.

**3.12.6** When burning is implemented in areas classified as *NS*, the actual burnt area may be multiplied with a factor 3.

**3.12.7** Decision on setting-aside of burnt or fire-struck stand that is not previously set-aside may be taken after the fire.

- 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 “*räddningstjänst*” (rescue services) according to *Lagen om skydd mot olyckor* (the Act on protection against accidents).

### **3.13 Cultural environment**

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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

## 4. Social requirements

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:

- The right of ownership and the possibility to own and manage forests under reasonable conditions
- A forestry sector with equal rights and opportunities and gender equality
- A safe and healthy work environment
- Adequate qualifications for the work being carried out
- Social and cultural consideration
- Thriving rural areas with viable local businesses
- The right of public access which provides the public with the possibility to visit nature
- Good relations with the surrounding world and other stakeholders being active in the forest
- A business that is regulated in contracts between parties with mutual respect and responsibility

### 4.1 Consideration for social values, recreation, and outdoor life

The social values of forests are all the good from the forest that humans benefit from: experience values, public health, jobs, and rural development. The concept also includes the economic and historical development of how forests have contributed to the country's prosperity and how this has influenced peoples view on the forests. The forest sector's target scenarios for conservation actions in forest management provide guidance for communication and management of forests of significance to recreation and outdoor life. The target scenarios concern different types of areas of importance to recreation and outdoor life. Communication around measures that may affect the social values is important. The communication is adapted to the potential impact of the measures, target group, and the forest owner's pre-conditions.

The forest owner safeguards and pay attention to the right of public access and welcomes the public to the forest in the respectful way described by the right of public access. The right of public access provides the public with the possibility to visit nature for recreation and outdoor life, provided that this does not cause any damage or inconvenience to the forest owner.

The forest owner has a positive attitude towards local outdoor- and sports activities. For a successful cooperation around such activities, a dialogue with mutual responsibility is required.

**4.1.1** Areas on the forest holding that are of great significance for recreation and outdoor life shall be identified and documented prior to any forestry operation, at the latest.

**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.

- Any signs or notice sheets shall include contact information. In the cases informative signs/sheets are used, these shall be posted or handed out at least 14 days prior to any operation is started.
- In the case of forestry operations adjacent to schools, other public facilities, or close to residential areas, information shall be provided, or dialogue, e.g., information meeting, be offered.

**4.1.3** The passability on frequently used tracks and trails shall be preserved at forestry operations, meaning among other things that debris from forest felling shall be removed and that soil scarification and soil damages shall be avoided. Tracks and trails that have been damaged shall be repaired so that original passability is restored.

## **4.2 Rural development**

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.

**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.

**4.2.2** How the adjustment in line with 4.2.1 is made shall be described in a routine.

## **4.3 Forestry and reindeer husbandry**

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 "*Familjeskogsbruk och renskötsel i samverkan för Norrland*" (Family forestry and reindeer husbandry in collaboration for the northern parts of Sweden).

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", *PEFC SWE 001 PEFC's Certification System for Sustainable Forest Management in Sweden, Appendix C*.

## **4.4 Company responsibilities**

PEFC Sweden works for a collaboration based on good business practice between business- and contracting parties, characterized by mutual respect and responsibility.

**4.4.1** Commercial contracts shall be concluded and signed between client and contractor. The commercial contract shall specify:

- Scope
- Implementation
- Delivery of the site-specific work instruction to the contractor
- Term of contract (contract period, notice period, and prolongation)
- Compensation levels
- Responsibilities (responsibility period, duty of notification)
- Cancellation and premature termination.

Client that is hiring sub-contractor shall sign a commercial contract with the sub-contractor in line with the specification requirements above.

**4.4.2** Companies shall pay the fees and taxes prescribed by law. Swedish tax on companies and VAT-registration shall be accounted for.

**4.4.3** When the closing account is not available as public document in Sweden, this shall be made available upon request from client, umbrella organization, or certification body.

## **4.5 Employer responsibilities**

PEFC strives for viable companies within the forest sector. Employees at all levels are the organization's principal asset. Commitment and awareness of the company's business concept means that the abilities of the staff may be used for the best of the organization.

**4.5.1** Companies with employees shall formulate objectives and make sure that the staff is familiar with those.

**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.

**4.5.3** An employment contract informing the employee about the conditions for the employment shall be signed in written form. The employer is responsible for this to take place. The contents of the contract shall be in accordance with the Employment Protection Act and current Swedish collective agreement.

**4.5.4** Contractor whose business is geographically dispersed shall, in the cases the commission implies that temporary accommodation is offered/assigned, ensure that the staff enjoy for the season good living conditions during the contract period.

Any agreements beyond collective agreement, regarding reporting for duty, journey home, and journeys at free time, shall be laid down in written form. If the employee is paying for accommodation and journeys via deduction from salary, this shall be reasonable and be accounted for in the employment contract and the salary specification.

- 4.5.5** In the cases a client is engaging a contractor whose business is geographically dispersed, and the commission implies that temporary accommodation is offered/assigned, the client must make sure that the contractor and/or its staff enjoy for the season good living conditions during the contract period.

## **4.6 Insurances**

PEFC is of the opinion that people working in the forestry sector shall have basic insurance cover.

- 4.6.1** Any person performing forestry work, as employee or business owner with employees, shall have insurance cover including:

- Liability insurance
- Occupational injury
- Medical/life insurance
- Occupational pension
- Premium exemption

- 4.6.1.1** Companies without employees shall have insurance cover including liability insurance and occupational injury.

Guidance is provided by Fora's collective insurances. Other insurance solutions may be relevant for business owners.

- 4.6.2** Any person performing forestry work, as employee or business owner, shall have a Swedish tax card or proof of SINK-tax [special income tax for people working in Sweden and residing abroad] and be registered with the Swedish Social Insurance Agency as well as hold a proof of their right to Swedish care benefits. As an alternative to registration with the Swedish Social Insurance Agency, an A1-certificate may be demonstrated. For employees from third country who do not have access to Swedish care benefits, a special insurance shall be in place.

- 4.6.3** In the case a client is hiring a company from abroad, it falls upon the client to make sure the employer and its employees are registered with the Swedish Tax Agency and the Swedish Social Insurance Agency. In addition, the client shall make sure that the employer and its employees have a European Health Insurance Card or the Swedish Social Insurance Agency's "certificate on the right to care benefits in Sweden" and that they are familiar with their rights and benefits according to the Swedish social insurance system. As an alternative to registration with the Swedish Social Insurance Agency, an A1-certificate may be demonstrated. For employees from third country who do not have access to Swedish care benefits, a special insurance shall be in place.

- 4.6.4** In the case an employer hires employees from abroad, it falls on the employer to make sure that the Swedish Tax Agency and the Swedish Social Insurance Agency are notified. In addition, the employer shall make sure that the employer and its employees have a European Health Insurance Card or the Swedish Social Insurance Agency's "certificate on the right to care benefits in Sweden" and that the employees are familiar with their rights and benefits according to the Swedish social insurance system. For employees from third country who do not have access to Swedish care benefits, a special insurance shall be in place.

For EU/EEA-citizens, registration with the Swedish Social Insurance Agency is made by using the form 5456. Some of the certificates according to 4.6.2 – 4.6.4 require contacts between the Swedish Social Insurance Agency and the Social Insurance Agency at home, which means that a certain period for processing may be expected.

## **4.7 Work organization**

PEFC-certified companies strive for continuous improvements which allow employees and the business to develop. The work situation shall be adapted to individual medical and ergonomic premises.

- 4.7.1** A description of responsibilities and duties shall be established which clarifies the role of the individual within the organization.
- 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.

Risk assessment and work environment issues shall be included in at least one workplace meeting per year.

- 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.

## **4.8 Work environment**

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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 4.8.3** Staff shall have access to staff facilities in accordance with Swedish legislation on work environment and applicable collective agreement.



- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

#### **4.9 Equal rights and opportunities**

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.

- 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.

#### **4.10 Competence in forestry**

Staff that are well qualified for the work performed is an important component in implementation of the PEFC-standard. For further definition of the standard's competence requirements, reference is made to SYN (*Skogsbrukets yrkessnämnd*), or another representative of the sector, chosen by the PEFC. SYN is a collaboration body composed of sector stakeholders that promotes provision of competence and skills development within the forestry sector.

Staff that are planning, supervising, or performing forestry work, and in their role have a substantial influence on how measures are implemented in the forest, shall have required qualifications, in accordance with the standard. For any additional professional categories, qualification requirements may be specified by the PEFC Sweden in collaboration with SYN. Staff performing forestry work shall have a good understanding of the PEFC-standard.

Competence can be obtained via courses according to SYN or the equivalent. Courses may include theoretical parts (e.g., web-based courses) as well as/or fieldwork-parts and the standard's competence requirements may be met through several part-courses/courses.

- 4.10.1** Staff that are planning, supervising, or performing forestry work shall have for the purpose adequate competence in nature- and cultural environment conservation in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.10.2** Staff that are planning, supervising, or performing precautionary ditching or cleaning of ditches shall have qualifications in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.10.3** Staff that are planning, supervising, or performing soil scarification shall have qualifications in soil scarification/soil management in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 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.
- 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.
- 4.10.6** Staff operating a forestry harvester or skidder shall have qualifications in efficient driving techniques, including:
- minimization of fuel consumption, and
  - minimization of soil damages.
- 4.10.7** In the case of gaps in the level of education, adequate management and supervision shall be applied during a transition period until competence requirements are met.
- 4.10.8** For staff employed at a seasonal basis that lacks competence in forestry, the quality of the work and compliance with the PEFC-requirements shall be ensured by management, supervision, training, or by other means.
- 4.10.9** When school classes or organizations with youth activities are hired, the competence in forestry, quality of the work, and observance of the PEFC-requirements shall be ensured through management and supervision by a person that meets the PEFC competence requirements for the forestry operation in question.

Conditions for hiring are laid down in *PEFC SWE 004 Direct Certification and Group Certification*, 3.2.1.7 and 4.4.1.7.

- 4.10.10** Recurrent seasonal workers, except from planters, shall after three months meet applicable competence requirements.

#### **4.11 Skills development**

Systematic skills development shall be included as an important component of the certified company's staff policy.

Skills development may be obtained through courses according to SYN or equivalent and shall be made with specified intervals or through running training sessions with equivalent content during the period.

The skills development shall focus on up-dates and news, but also raise topics where shortcomings have been identified, locally or generally, e.g., via an overall assessment of audits or in other ways.

- 4.11.1** Training needs for all staff shall be identified through dialogue with the employees.
- 4.11.2** Competence in nature- and cultural environment conservation shall be refreshed at least every fifth year in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.11.3** Competence in precautionary ditching/cleaning of ditches shall be refreshed at least every fifth year in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.11.4** Competence in soil scarification/soil management shall be refreshed at least every fifth year in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.11.5** Competence in forest management planning shall be refreshed at least every fifth year in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.11.6** Competence in conservation value assessment shall be refreshed at least every fifth year in accordance with SYN or equivalent.
- 4.11.7** Completed courses shall be documented.

## **4.12 Family businesses**

In family business on own forest holding (which have no external employees) or in cases where individual landowners are collaborating on any of the landowners' forest holdings, the requirements in 4.5.1 – 4.5.3, and 4.6 – 4.11 (besides legal requirements) need not be applied.

- 4.12.1** Performers of forestry operations shall have a good understanding of applicable PEFC-requirements.
- 4.12.2** Self-employed forest owners shall, for saw chain lubrication, meet the requirement 4.7.3 in *PEFC SWE 003 Forestry Contractor Standard*. Exemption can be made for powered hand tools that are only used a few days a year.

## Appendix 1. PEFC-adapted forest management plan

NOTE: For currently certified forest owners with valid plans, these requirements are applied when the plan is to be renewed.

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.

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.

A certified forest owner shall within 2 years from the date of certification demonstrate or submit to the umbrella organization or the certification body an approved forest management plan encompassing the entire forest holding under the same ownership. In case of any changes in the property under the same ownership, the forest owner shall have revised the plan to accommodate to the new situation within 2 years at the latest.

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 landscape-ecological perspective. The information in the plan shall be quality assured.

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.

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.

A forest management plan that is not continuously updated is not valid if 10 years has passed and updating is not made. For forest holdings with average site class lower than 2,5 m<sup>3</sup> forest cubic metres/ha and year, 15 years apply.

### Requirements for general information in the forest management plan:

1. Plan producer
2. The forest owner's objective for the forest management
3. Information on which forest holdings that are part of the plan
4. Time when the inventory was made
5. Commentaries to the holding including information on ancient remains, other cultural heritage sites, registered key-habitats, formally protected areas, and water protection areas

6. Map showing:
  - a. property- and land use class boundaries
  - b. forestry objectives
7. Distribution of area on land use classes
8. Tree-covered low-productive forest land may be described separately
9. Age class distribution
10. Distribution of tree species
11. Summary of proportion of productive forest land consisting of:
  - a. mesic and moist soil
  - b. current and future stands dominated by deciduous trees, or:  
 In those cases where conditions are lacking for 5% of stands dominated by deciduous trees, current existence of deciduous trees and objective for increased volume of deciduous timber shall be described.
12. Summary of forestry objectives
13. Growth and proposed harvesting level.

**Stand-specific information in the forest management plan:**

The stand-specific information shall be adapted to the prerequisites of the chosen management method. In the case of alternative management methods, other parameters may be relevant.

1. Area
2. Age
3. Forestry objective
4. Distribution of tree species
5. Site index
6. Maturity class
7. Volume
8. Classification of soil moisture
9. Proposals for action
10. Information on measures to preserve or create dominance of deciduous trees in identified stands
11. For stands classified as *NO*, *NS* and *K/PF*:
  - a. Reason behind the classification
  - b. Actions to preserve and reinforce existing values
12. Information on ancient remains and other cultural heritage sites
13. Areas of special significance to outdoor life and recreation.

## Appendix 2. Directions for site-specific work instructions

The site-specific work instruction shall include all information necessary to implement the operation in line with the PEFC-requirements, other applicable requirements, and current contracts. Important map information shall be indicated on the instruction's map. The site-specific work instruction shall be given to the operator in good time for this person to plan and implement agreed measures within the agreed period. The information of the site-specific work instruction may be mediated via different media or techniques.

The points below (of relevance for the operation) shall be included or be ensured according to agreed routine with the contractor:

1. Workplace coordinates
2. Information on PEFC-certification
3. Contact information to the client and the forest owner
4. Map of current area
5. Planned consideration for natural and cultural environments
6. Planned main hauling roads and landings
7. Known cables (water, fiber, telecommunication, electricity)
8. Instructions for water passage
9. Forestry objective for the area
10. Known conservation- and cultural values in or close to the working area that may be affected by the operation.

If working instructions are referred to, these shall be available.