



Forestry Standards

Woodmark Generic Forestry Standard

What is a forestry standard ?

How does it work ?

FSC Accredited - FSC-SECR-0040
FSC Trademark © 1996 Forest Stewardship Council AC



World Bank/WWF criteria for certification schemes



- Open access and no discrimination
- Credible
- Transparent
- No conflict of interest
- Participation and acceptance by interested parties
- Honest and without deception
- Assessment must be reliable and independent
- Criteria should be objective and measurable
- International SFM principles should be met with Nationally developed performance standards
- Adapted to local conditions
- Cost effective





Some definitions

Forest Stewardship
Standard (FSC)



- ‘specifies the **requirements with which a forest management enterprise must conform in order to obtain certification**’
- The **FSC Principles and Criteria** are **not a standard**: require further interpretation to be implemented at the forest management unit level



Uses of standards



- Essential tool for performance based certification
- Own use – a tool for analysis of current performance
- As a body of knowledge and information on current best practice



Objectives of a forest standard



- Locally applicable
- Applicable at forest management unit level
- Identifies major failures, but does not require perfection
- Defines and supports the certification decision



Hierarchical framework



- Principles
- Criteria
- Indicators (Woodmark Norm)
- Means of verification (Verifier)



A group boat trip



International Principle	→	Everyone travels on water
International Criteria	→	Everyone is in a boat with friends
Indicator / Norm	→	Everyone sees some beautiful coastline (Sweden?)
Verifier	→	boat tickets, photos taken, lifejackets worn, visitors seasick?



Example FSC Principle 6



PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.

CRITERION 6.2

- Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g. nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.



Definitions



- Indicator
should convey a single meaningful message
- verifier
the source of information for the indicator



Example FSC Principle 6



PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

CRITERION 6.2 Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats

Woodmark Indicator or Norm

- The likely presence of rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g. nesting and feeding areas) has been assessed on the basis of the best available information.

Verifiers

- Discussion with forest managers
- Survey Records
- Consultation with local biologists
- Management plan details



Adaptation of Standards



- In absence of FSC -endorsed national or regional standard
- Consultation process based on Woodmark Generic Forestry Standard
- Adapt on regional or national basis
- Results in further verifiers, comments and regional guidance



Use of standard



- Identifies major failures, but **does not require perfection**
- It relies heavily on professional judgement and interpretation by the inspector
- Defines and supports the certification decision and the basis for any corrective actions



Is this really
objective?



- However, the decision is highly transparent and open to review by:
 - Client
 - Woodmark Forest Certification Manager
 - Peer reviewers
 - FSC
 - Public (summary)