Type of document:	RA Standard
Scope:	Estonia
Status of document:	Approved
Date of this version:	21 June 2010
Version Number:	06-10
Consultation period:	OPEN
Approval body:	RA SW
Contact person:	Roman Polyachenko
Contact email:	rp@nepcon.net

Title:	**Rainforest Alliance/SmartWood Interim Standard for Assessing Forest Management in Estonia Applicable only for forest holdings less than 100 ha**
SW document code:	**FM-32 - Estonia**

Table of contents

Introduction

The purpose of the Rainforest Alliance's SmartWood Program is to recognize good forest managers through credible independent certification of forestry practices. The Rainforest Alliance SmartWood Program (hereafter referred to as SmartWood) is a certification body accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council. The purpose of these standards is to provide forest managers, landowners, forest industry, scientists, environmentalists and the general public with information on the aspects of forest management operations that SmartWood evaluates to make certification decisions in the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification system. These standards have been developed for Estonia based upon the Rainforest Alliance/SmartWood Generic standards

which have been approved by the FSC (through the Accreditation Services International). The scope of the current standard is Estonia (all forests types and geographic areas). The current interim standards have been specifically adapted by SmartWood to apply to Estonia and will be continuously up-dated based on stakeholder input and field trials to this version. The principles, criteria and indicator in this document are applicable for assessing all forest management operations (FMEs) with wood production as a major (though not exclusive) objective.

Background

Forests can be managed for many different objectives and products. Such management can occur in natural forests or plantations, for timber or non-timber forest products, include mechanized or manual harvesting, and managed by a large industrial operation or a local community or landowner cooperative. Many combinations are possible. A critical question has been - how to evaluate the wide range of ecological, socioeconomic and silviculture impacts of forest management activities in a clear and consistent fashion, based on a combination of scientific research and practical experience?

In 1991, the SmartWood Program put forth the *first* set of global standards for forest management certification, entitled "Generic Guidelines for Assessing Natural Forest Management" applicable at the forest or operational level for forest operations. In 1991, SmartWood also distributed the first region-specific guidelines for management of natural forests in Indonesia. In 1993, SmartWood distributed the draft "Generic Guidelines for Assessing Forest Plantations" and revised guidelines for natural forest management. The initial Working Group for developing the first FSC Principles and Criteria in 1991-1993 was co-chaired by the SmartWood Director. In 1998, after seven years of application and "learning by doing" through forest assessments and audits, SmartWood conducted a major revision of its standard for assessing forest management in both natural forests and tree plantations. Revisions since then have occurred in 2000 and 2004. Since 1993, each set of our standards has been reviewed by FSC staff, the international body that has accredited SmartWood as a forest management and chain of custody certifier.

These SmartWood standards were developed in consultation with our staff and representatives of the SmartWood Program worldwide, as well as other professional foresters, ecologists, social scientists and forest practitioners. SmartWood representatives have in-depth field experience developing region-specific forest certification standards, some going back as far as 1989 (Indonesia, California). We developed these standards to be in accord with FSC requirements as well as other forest management and biological conservation guidelines issued by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). We have also drawn on work of our SmartWood Network partners (Imaflora in Brazil and NEPCon in Denmark, Scandinavia, Russia and Eastern Europe), Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), International Labor Organization (ILO), many scientists, forest industry, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and FSC regional standards working groups. We would like to acknowledge the significant contributions made by these and other international, national and local organizations, and the many forestry operations (certified and uncertified), foresters, loggers, and local stakeholders who have critiqued past versions of the SmartWood standards and provided suggestions for improvement.

Regional Standards Development

FSC working groups around the world are developing country- or region-specific forest certification standards. SmartWood fully supports, encourages and participates wherever possible in such processes. Our experience is that the regional standard setting process is vital. Regional standard setting is an excellent way of engaging the public in important, broad

ranging discussions on the future of forests and human communities. In other words, the regional standards setting process should not be seen just as a technical standards setting process, but also as a process of outreach on the topic of sustainable forest management.
As part of the FSC process, regional standards are developed by a regional working group, field-tested, revised and approved by the regional working group, and then submitted to the FSC's international headquarters for approval. The final product, if approved, is an "FSC accredited standard". Once accredited, all FSC-approved certifiers (like SmartWood) must use the endorsed regional standard as the fundamental starting point for FSC certification in that country/region. Certifiers may choose to be more rigorous than the regional standard, but they cannot be less rigorous.

In all countries or regions not covered by an FSC accredited forest stewardship standard, SmartWood will develop a locally adapted or interim standard for use in evaluating forest management operations in that designated geographic area. The adapted standard is developed from the SW generic standard with modification to certification indicators to take into account the national context (e.g. legal requirements, environmental, social and economic perspectives). This draft will be translated to the official language of the country in which the FME to be evaluated is located and is be submitted for consultation at least 30 days prior to the start of fieldwork for a full assessment. Distribution to key stakeholders occurs via the Internet (email and posted on the SW website), mailings and face to face meetings.

Operations certified under a previous FSC or SmartWood standard have a minimum of one year to meet any newly endorsed FSC regional standard.

SmartWood have also used other sources as basis for and inspiration for developing the indicators and verifiers of the Interim Standard. Among the documents that have been reviewed and considered in developing this Interim Standard are:

- FSC-STD-01-001 (version 4-0) FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship
- FSC-STD-20-003 (version 2-1) Local adaptation of certification body generic Forest Stewardship Standards.
- FSC-STD-20-002 (version 2-1) Structure and Content of Forest Stewardship Standards
- FSC-POL-30-401 FSC certification and ILO conventions.
- FSC-STD-01-003 SLIMF Eligibility Criteria
- RA/SmartWood Generic Standards for Assessing Forest Management", Rainforest Alliance, January 2008
- SmartWood Generic Guidelines for Assessing the Management of Non-Timber Forest Products, Rainforest Alliance, January 2000.
- SmartWood Non-Timber Forest Products Certification Standards Addendum, Rainforest Alliance, November 2002.

SmartWood Standards Structure

The SmartWood generic standards are based directly on the FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship (**FSC-STD-01-001)** and include specific generic indicators for each criterion to create a global SmartWood standard. These indicators are the starting point from which region-specific "SmartWood Interim Standards" are developed for use in the forest by forest

assessors to evaluate the sustainability of forest management practices and impacts of candidate FME.

The standards are divided into the following ten principles:
1.0 Compliance with Laws and FSC Principles
2.0 Tenure and Use Rights & Responsibilities
3.0 Indigenous Peoples' Rights
4.0 Community Relations and Workers' Rights
5.0 Benefits from the Forest
6.0 Environmental Impact
7.0 Management Plan
8.0 Monitoring and Assessment
9.0 Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests
10.0 Plantations

In the standard, each FSC principle and its associated criteria is stated, along with the SmartWood indicators. All criteria in all principles must be evaluated in every assessment; unless certain principles are deemed not applicable by SmartWood auditors (e.g. Principle 10 will not be applicable if there are no plantations).

Indicators for Small and Large FMEs

As required under FSC policy SmartWood has developed indicators for certain criteria[1] that are specific to certain sizes of operations. Clear quantitative definitions for small versus large FMEs are included in regionalized SmartWood Interim Standards. Where these SmartWood regional thresholds are not established, large FME should be considered those larger than 50,000 ha. Small FME definition is determined by FSC regional thresholds set for small and low intensity managed forests (SLIMF) which have been set either globally by FSC (100 ha) or by FSC National Initiatives.

Public Input and Comment on SmartWood Standard and Certification Processes

The certification process has both public and private aspects. Certification assessments are not public documents unless specifically required by law (e.g. for some public forests) or approved for public distribution by the certified operation. However, three public documents are available for each and every certified FME:

1. A public stakeholder consultation document that announces each certification assessment at least 30 days prior to field work;
2. The certification standard used; and,
3. A public certification summary that is produced with the results of each separate forest certification.

The public stakeholder consultation document informs the public about the assessment at least 30 days prior to it taking place. This document is distributed publicly prior to or during an assessment. The document is typically distributed by hand delivery, FAX, mail, or email. The specific SmartWood standard for each assessment is also publicly available before and during the assessment and is a part of the public record for every forest certification. The public certification summary is produced as a final step of the certification process and is available only after an operation has been approved for certification. For copies of any of the above

[1] Criteria 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5. 9.1, 10.5 and 10.8.

documents, visit our website at www.smartwood.org. or contact SmartWood [NEPCon is representative of SmartWood in Scandinavia, Europe and Russia; address: Filosoofi 31, Tartu, Estonia; phone: +372 7 380 723; fax: +372 7 380 724; email: estonia@nepcon.net]. **We strongly encourage you to give us your input, either positive or negative, on our candidate or certified operations, certification standards, or certification procedures.**

Contents

A Scope

This standard may be applied within all forests and forest types located in Estonia for properties with a total forest area less then 100 ha. This standard is applicable only for individual forest owners whose total forest property area is less then 100 ha. For other forest owners see SW standard SW-STD-EST-2010-09.

B Standard effective date

This standard shall be effective from 21 June 2010.

C References

- FSC-STD-01-001 v. 4.0 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship
- FSC-STD-01-002 (draft 1-0) FSC Glossary of Terms

D Terms and definitions

See annex A for glossary.
Acronyms**:**
FME: Forest management enterprise
FSC: Forest Stewardship Council
HCVF: High conservation value forests
RA: Rainforest Alliance
SLIMF: Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests
SW: SmartWood

Rainforest Alliance/SmartWood Interim Standard for Assessing Forest Management in Estonia

Standard scope

This standard may be applied within all forests and forest types located in Estonia for properties with a total forest area less then 100 ha. This standard is applicable only for individual forestowners whose total forest property area is less then 100 ha. For other forestowners see SW standard SW-STD-EST-2010-09.

Basis for the standard

This standard has been prepared by a WWF/StoraEnso project aiming at test a new approach to address certification among small forest holdings. This standard has been compiled by the project management team with representative of StoraEnso, NEPCon and WWF. This standard passed public consultation prior to a pilot test in 2008 and it was discussed in public meeting on 30. October, 2008 in Tallinn.

As a result of the public consultation and pilot test Rainforest Alliance SmartWood program (herein as SW) has adopted this standard as interim standard for forest holdings less than 100 ha. SW is an FSC

accredited certification program of Rainforest Alliance and NEPCon is partner of Rainforest Alliance representing the SW program in Europe and Russia.

The standard is based on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) general requirements detailed in *FSC-STD-01-001 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*. The wording of FSC principles and criteria has been included in the standard unchanged. During the adaptation process NEPCon/SW has developed indicators for each applicable criterion that detail the requirements considering local Estonia context for small forest holdings. Some of the criteria are considered unapplicable for Estonia and for properties less than 100 ha – these have not been included in the standard.

The indicators in this standard are partly based on the Draft Estonian National FSC Standard, which has been prepared by Estonian FSC Working Group. FSC requirements for standards as described in *FSC-STD-20-003 Local adaptation of certification body generic forest stewardship standards* (ver 1-0) and *FSC-STD-20-002 Structure and Content of Forest Stewardship Standards* (ver 1-0) have been fully followed during preparation of this standard.

Furthermore, the several indicators from the SmartLogging standard have been included. The SmartLogging standard has been developed by SmartWood and is used for a standalone certification of timber harvesters.

The forest owner or manager (holder of the certificate) is responsible for observing all the indicators in this standard in order to obtain a FSC certificate by SmartWood. In case the owner uses a logging company holding a SmartLogging certificate issued by SmartWood based on the indicators marked with "1" in the "logger" column, the owner will have assurance that these requirements are met by the logging company. In all cases the owner needs to ensure that all indicators marked with "1" in the owner column are observed.

Public input

This standard is a public document and can be freely distributed to all interested parties, provided that the standard is distributed without any modifications. This standard is publicly available in Estonian and English language and is available for download or printout on www.rainforest-alliance.org and www.nepcon.net. This standard is subject to consultation and comments from all interested stakeholders. Based on stakeholder comments SW can implement changes in the indicators of this standard. Please note that the principles and criteria can not be modified since they are defined by FSC. All stakeholders who have comments regarding this standard or have suggestions for improving the indicators are strongly encouraged to contact NEPCon/SW (www.nepcon.net; +372 7 380 723). You can send your comments by any means suitable for you (mail, email, fax) or contact NEPCon or SW to agree personal meeting or have a phone discussion. More information about FSC certification background, certification process and certified entities in Estonia or any other aspect related to FSC certification can be obtained from NEPCon/SW (www.nepcon.net/www.smartwood.org).

		Owner	Logger
PRINCIPLE 1. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES **Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.**		1	1
1.1	Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.	1	1
1.1.1	The staff shall be aware of relevant requirements of legislation and their responsibilities	0	1
1.1.2	Discovered non compliances with legislation shall be recorded in written.	0	1
1.1.3	Corrective actions shall be implemented in case non-compliances are identified.	1	1
1.1.4	Forest Owner and Logging Company shall meet all national, state/provincial and local environmental, labor and forestry laws.	1	1
1.2	All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.	1	1
1.2.1	Forest Owner shall pay applicable fees and taxes.	1	1
1.3	In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.	0	1
1.3.1	No workers under the age of 15 shall be employed in the forest unless for training or educational purposes.	0	1
1.3.2	No workers under the age of 18 shall be employed for operations when it is likely to jeopardize health, and safety.	0	1
1.4	Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification, on a case by case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties.	1	1
1.4.1	Any conflicts identified shall be resolved by working in conjunction with appropriate regulatory bodies and other parties (including FSC National representatives).	0	1
1.5	Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	1	1
1.5.1	Appropriate authorities (e.g. environmental inspection and police) shall be informed in written about all discovered illegal activities .	1	1
1.6	Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.	1	1
1.6.1	Forest Owner shall clearly demonstrate long-term support for the FSC P&C by signing and following agreement which include relevant certification requirements.	1	0
1.6.2	Logging Company should express long-term support to FSC Principles and Criteria in written.	0	1
1.6.3	Forest Owner shall disclose information on all forest areas over which Forest Owner has some degree of management responsibility to demonstrate compliance with current FSC policies on partial certification and on excision of areas from the scope of certification.	1	0
2.	**TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES** **Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall**	1	1

be clearly defined, documented and legally established.			
2.1	Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.	1	1
2.1.1	Forest Owner shall possess legal documents proving its legal rights of ownership or long-term rights to manage the forest area.	1	0
2.1.2	Prior to purchase standing stock the Logging Company shall verify that the seller has the right to sell the standing stock.	0	1
2.1.3	Logging Company shall have documents (or copies of those documents) that demonstrate that legal permits from the applicable government agency, where needed, are in place to harvest.	0	1
2.2	Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	0	1
2.2.1	Forest Owner shall ensure that local communities have access to the forest for collection of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) such as berries and mushrooms for own consumption.	1	1
2.3	Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified.	1	1
2.3.1	There shall be no outstanding disputes of substantial magnitude in relation to the certified forest area, involving a significant number of interest groups..	1	1
3.	**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS** **Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.**	1	1
Principle 3 is evaluated as non-applicable since Estonians are indigenous peoples in Estonia.			
4.	**COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKERS' RIGHTS** **Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.**	1	1
4.1	The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services.	1	1
4.2	Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.	1	1
4.2.1	Logging Company, employees and contractors, shall receive occupational safety training and shall be aware of and shall implement safe working practices.	0	1
4.2.2	A written safety & health plan shall as minimum include following points: a) An emergency response plan; b) Requirements for personal safety equipment; c) Policies for forest workers when working alone, including strategies for making their whereabouts known to others at	0	1

	prescribed times each day, which is verified as a daily procedure when in the forest; d) Periodic safety inspection of equipment.		
4.2.3	Logging Company, employees and sub-contractors shall demonstrate safe harvesting techniques in the field.	0	1
4.2.4	Logging Company shall evaluate employee and sub-contractor safety performance.	0	1
4.2.5	Logging Company's written safety plan shall be accessible to employees.	0	1
4.2.6	Where available, communications equipment for emergencies shall be on-site.	0	1
4.2.7	Worker and harvester occupational health and safety and labor laws shall be met.	0	1
4.2.8	Harvester shall be a legally licensed professional, with required permits and license kept current.	0	1
4.2.9	Logging equipment used by the harvester shall meet government safety requirements.	0	1
4.2.10	Appropriate health and safety equipment including helmet, high visibility vest/jacket, safety boots and safety trousers should be used in the field and first aid kit shall be available onsite if forest management activities are carried out by Forest Owner.	1	0
4.2.11	Appropriate health and safety equipment including helmet, high visibility vest/jacket, safety boots and safety trousers shall be used in the field and first aid kit shall be available onsite for chain saw operators, harvesting companies and contractors.	0	1
4.2.12	Any person entering an ongoing logging site shall wear a helmet and high visibility vest.	0	1
4.2.13	Workers involved in dangerous work such as storm damage removal, felling large trees and tree climbing shall never works alone.	0	1
4.2.14	Warning signs shall be posted at access roads to sites with ongoing logging operation.	0	1
4.2.15	Forest machinery shall be equipped with fire extinguishers.	0	1
4.2.16	Chain saws shall be kept in good condition and safety equipment shall not be defect.	0	1
4.2.17	Logging Company shall have a designated person or persons responsible for compliance with work safety regulation and using of health and safety equipment. All staff shall know this person.	0	1
4.2.18	Indicators under criterion 4.2 are also applicable for workers family members in case they are present at the operational sites.	0	1
4.3	The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labor Organization (ILO).	0	1
4.3.1	All workers shall be able to form and join a trade union of their choice without fear of intimidation or reprisal.	0	1
4.4	Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations.	0	1
4.4.1	Logging Company shall have a system in place to document stakeholder concerns and request and Logging Company's	0	1

	response.		
4.4.2	Cultural features of historic and/or archaeological value shall be protected in the field as identified in the harvest prescription.	0	1
4.4.3	Logging Company and harvester shall be a good neighbor when operating in an urban interface, including: a) Being mindful of working hours; b) Taking precautions to keep children and adults out of work area; c) Reminding operators periodically of the possibility of children in the area and to maintain constant vigilance for them; d) Using extra precautions when operating near property lines or houses to avoid accidental damage to neighboring property; e) Avoid damage to roads and places of importance to local communities.	0	1
4.5	Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.	1	1
4.5.1	Logging Company shall make an effort to avoid disputes.	0	1
4.5.2	Logging Company shall work in a systematic and fair way to resolve disputes.	0	1
4.5.3	Logging Company shall respect any agreed dispute resolution processes and outcomes.	0	1
5.	**BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST** **Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.**	1	1
5.1	Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.	0	1
5.1.1	Logging Company shall maintain ethical business practices.	0	1
5.1.2	Logging Company when signing the contract with Forest Owner ensure Forest Owner understand its contents.	0	1
5.1.3	Logging Company shall provide fair value for timber purchased including correct classification and volume measurements.	0	1
5.2	Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.	0	1
5.2.1	Grading and sorting of harvested products shall be conducted to add or maintain commercial value.	0	1
5.2.2	Harvested products shall be transported from harvest site to markets on a timely basis to minimize product degrade and loss.	0	1
5.3	Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.	0	1
5.3.1	The layout of existing and planned forest roads, bridges, and harvesting tracks should be appropriate to the scale and intensity of management operations.	0	1
5.3.2	Harvesting techniques shall be designed to avoid losses of merchantable volumes and damage to remaining trees.	0	1

5.3.3	Damage to residual trees and other resources shall be minimized, as specified in the harvest contract: a) Residual trees are not scarred on the boles from being rubbed by skidded logs; b) Dead wood is left on site (see also 6.3.3.); c) Understory vegetation is left in good condition.	0	1
5.3.4	Waste generated through harvesting operations and on-site processing shall be minimized.	0	1
5.4	Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.	0	0
In consideration of application field of this standard (forest holdings less then 100 ha) this criteria is not considered as applicable.			
5.5	Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.	0	0
5.5.1	Any noteworthy natural objects and structures shall be identified befor any forest management activities and preserved.	1	1
5.6	The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.	1	1
5.6.1	Actual annual harvest shall be strictly documented, including site, species, quantities, assortments, date and terms documentation.	1	1
5.6.2	Minimum recommended rotation age or average diameter for final felling shall be observed.	0	1
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.**	1	1
6.1	Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed (appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources) and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations.	1	1
6.1.1	On-site pre-harvest inspections shall be done by the Logging Company, preferably with the forest owner in order to avoid negative environmental impacts.	0	1
6.1.2	Pre-harvest inspections shall review property boundaries, harvest area boundaries, water course, buffer zone, protected or valuable objects and harvesting restrictions, and harvest “close out” procedures.	0	1
6.1.3	Borders of the harvest area shall be marked or clearly distinguishable in nature.	0	1
6.1.4	Harvesting infrastructure (e.g. existing roads, log landings, skid trails, stream crossings) shall be included in technological maps and necessary improvements shall be included in the sale/service agreement.	0	1
6.1.5	Measures to minimize negative environmental impacts of forest operations shall be followed in the field, e.g. wet soil types shall be	0	1

	handled with precaution to avoid soil damages, sensitive bird habitats shall not be intervened in birds nesting period.		
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.	1	1
6.2.1	Logging Company shall have procedures which requires informing Environmental Board of discovered or suspicion of discovering of rare and endangered species or community in provable way. Logging Company shall implement activities to avoid damages until formal expertise is received or protective measures are enforced.	0	1
6.2.2	Conservation zones shall be demarcated on maps.	0	1
6.2.3	Logging Company and Forest Owner shall be aware of and respect any protection regulation applied to the property included areas in the process of being protected.	1	1
6.2.4	Felling operations shall not be conducted in the nesting places and during the nesting period of rare, endangered or threatened species.	0	1
6.2.5	Known habitats of rare and endangered species shall be mapped and taken into consideration in planning and implementing forest management activities.	1	1
6.2.6	Sites and habitats of threatened, rare and endangered species shall be protected and saved during all forest activities.	1	1
6.2.7	Undergrowth shall be protected around entrances to den/burrow of fox and badger.	1	1
6.2.8	During bird nesting period in the spring (from 15th of March to 1st of June) forest management activities shall be avoided in young stands (5 to 10 years old pine stands, up to 20 years old deciduous stands and 5 to 30 years old spruce stands).	1	1
6.3	Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including: a) Forest regeneration and succession, b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity, c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.	1	1
6.3.1	The share of native noble hardwoods should be try to maintain.	1	1
6.3.2	Thinning and harvesting operations shall favor development of mixed stands.	1	1
6.3.3	Forest areas not affected by existing drainage ditches shall not be drained.	1	1
6.3.4	Old and hollow standing trees, snags (standing dead trees) and dead wood shall be preserved in the forest, with consideration of national requirements on work safety.	0	1
6.3.5	Dead wood with diameter more than 25 cm shall be preserved in the forest.	0	1
6.3.6	Trees with bird nests with diameter more than 50 cm shall be preserved in the forest.	0	1
6.3.7	At least 15 living biodiversity trees per hectare shall be left in final felling considering valid occupational safety rules. Trees shall be left	0	1

	in groups if possible. Biodiversity trees shall never be harvested or gathered from site. Choosing biodiversity trees should prefer trees corresponding to following criteria: 1. trees which have survived previous harvest period; 2. following species (elm, European elm, linden, oak, ash, maple, aspen, pine, alder); 3. trees with largest diameter and old trees, trees with large crown; 4. trees with cavities and fire scars.		
6.3.8	Specific wildlife habitat (like specific wet lowlands within harvesting site) shall be protected as marked or designated in the technological map.	0	1
6.3.9	Areas designated for strict conservation by the Forest Owner (i.e. no harvesting or other activities) shall be protected.	1	1
6.3.10	Rare, threatened or endangered species that are discovered during harvest operations shall be protected and reported to the landowner.	0	1
6.3.11	Logging Company shall preserve existing buffer zones along forest edges and the development and conservation of wind resistant and viable forest edges (buffer zones) along open landscapes shall be favored.		
6.4	Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.	1	1
6.4.1	No timber harvesting shall take place in areas protected, unless specified by written protection rules for the protected area.	1	1
6.5	Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.	1	1
6.5.1	Logging Company shall be aware of soil types appropriate for logging only with frozen soil and also with dry weather.	0	1
6.5.2	Measures shall be taken to minimize soil damage and erosion during harvesting operations.	0	1
6.5.3	A written technological map shall be in place prior to harvest, based on site-specific conditions, and in agreement with the forest owner's harvest objectives.	0	1
6.5.4	Technological map shall include: a) Forest owner's harvest prescriptions; b) Harvest area; c) Harvesting restrictions; d) Protection of wildlife habitat, unique plant communities, stream and other riparian zones, historical or personal sites and other critical environmental or cultural features; e) Compensation clauses for unauthorized cutting, excessive damage to residual stand, roads, bridges or other infrastructure; f) Infrastructure improvements/construction (e.g., roads, skid trails, landings); g) Harvesting close-out measures (e.g., waterbars, stream crossing	0	1

	rehabilitation, mulching and seeding, etc.); and, h) A clause to allow forest to be audited for conformance with this standard.		
6.5.5	Temporary crossings shall be built when skid trails cross streams, small rivers and brooks.	0	1
6.5.6	Stream crossing places shall be restored after completion of wood extraction operations from the logging site.	0	1
6.5.7	Extraction trail stream crossings for all streams shall be minimized.	0	1
6.5.8	Harvesting shall be conducted when risk is lowest (i.e., on dry or frozen ground).	0	1
6.5.9	Appropriate equipment (e.g. low impact tires, mats) shall be used in wet (swamp) areas.	0	1
6.5.10	Riparian buffer zones and streamside management zones shall be protected.	0	1
6.5.11	Use of heavy machinery in water course buffer zones and wetlands shall be minimized.	0	1
6.5.12	Layout extraction trails and landings shall consider conservation values, soil, slope stability, gradient, and water regime.	0	1
6.5.13	Areas with deep tracks shall be restored after logging.	0	1
6.5.14	A reasonable effort shall be made to minimize disruption of soil organic layers during harvest operations including: a) Minimal skidder rutting; b) Minimal machinery use off skid trails.	0	1
6.5.15	Extraction trails on soft soil types shall be stabilized during and following harvesting activities, including: a) Using slash; b) Using branches; c) Freeze the trail.	0	1
6.5.16	Extraction trails shall avoid sensitive sites, such as wet areas and unstable soils.	0	1
6.5.17	Forest growing on slope of over 20 degrees shall not be harvested.	0	1
6.6	Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimize health and environmental risks.	1	1
6.6.1	Chemicals shall not be used outside nurseries, except in cases of extensive weevil outbreaks or for protection of forest regeneration and only if it is prescribed by authorities.	1	1
6.6.2	As a rule Fertilizers and pesticides shall not be used in forest management. Use of pesticides by way of exception (e.g., afforestation of quarries, elimination of lesions) shall be justified and recorded.	1	1
6.6.3	Chemicals banned according to FSC's pesticides policy shall never be used, unless derogation has been granted by FSC.	1	1

6.7	Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.	1	1
6.7.1	Chemical, container, liquid and solid non-organic waste shall be disposed of in an environmentally sound and legal manner.	0	1
6.7.2	Chemical containers shall be properly labeled and data safety sheets are available.	0	1
6.7.3	Appropriate oil absorbent kit shall be available in forest machinery.	0	1
6.7.4	Appropriate oil absorbent kit or spill proof tanks shall be used at chain saws filling points.	0	1
6.7.5	Chemical and petroleum product waste from equipment maintenance procedures shall be captured and not allowed to flow on the ground or in watercourses.	0	1
6.7.6	Forest machinery shall be well maintained to avoid oil leakages.	0	1
6.7.7	Biodegradable oil should be used for chainsaws and hydraulic oil in forest machinery.	0	1
6.8	Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.	1	1
6.8.1	Biological control agents may only be used in exceptional and justified cases..	1	1
6.8.2	Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) shall not be used.	1	1
6.9	The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.	1	1
6.9.1	Exotic species shall not be introduced and cultivated in the forest.	1	1
6.10	Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion: a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.	1	1
6.10.1	Conversion of forestland to other land uses shall not be done unless resulting from legally established procedures and supported by cultural, landscape, recreational or national interests.	1	1
7.	**MANAGEMENT PLAN** **A management plan (appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations) shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.**	1	1
7.1	The management plan and supporting documents shall provide: a) Management objectives; b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands; c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories; d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection; e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics;	1	1

	f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments; g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species; h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership; i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used;		
7.1.1	Forest holding shall have a valid management plan together with written description of the management objectives; detailed description of the forest stands and data of taxation; information of planned felling and other forestry activities; information of known protection values; protection measures of all protection values and HCV forest areas.	1	1
7.1.2	Maps should be of sufficient quality to effectively guide field activities.	1	1
7.1.3	Management objectives and harvesting objectives shall be discussed with the landowner prior to harvest.	0	1
7.2	The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.	1	1
7.2.1	Management plan (and/or annual operating plan) revision or adjustments shall occur in timely manner (length of period of revision shall not exceed 10 years.	1	1
7.2.2	Management plan revisions shall follow valid national legislation and be conducted by licensed experts.	1	1
7.3	Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.	1	1
7.3.1	For harvesting activities, workers shall have received instructions on proper and safe felling techniques.	0	1
7.4	While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.	1	0
7.4.1	At minimum Forest Owner shall be willing to provide access to relevant parts of the management plan to stakeholders who have justified interest in the forest management activities (e.g. neighboring landowners and local inhabitants).	1	0
8.	**MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT** **Monitoring shall be conducted (appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management) to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.**	1	1
8.1	The frequency and intensity of monitoring shall be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.	0	1
8.1.1	Logging Company shall conduct monitoring of harvesting operation and regeneration.	0	1
8.1.2	The frequency and intensity of private forest owners monitoring by	0	1

	logging company shall be defined.		
8.1.3	Logging Company shall establish and implement necessary amendments in forestry practices based on monitoring reports.	0	1
8.2	Forest management shall include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators: a) Yield of all forest products harvested; b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest; c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna; d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations: e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.	1	1
8.2.1	A post-harvest evaluation (i.e., checklist or close-out document) shall be completed by the Logging Company and follow-up actions shall be identified and conducted as necessary.	0	1
8.2.2	Forest Owner shall at minimum have records of commercially harvested products and regenerated area and species.	1	1
8.2.3	Forest Owner shall ensure that inventory data is updated with periodic management plan revision (typically done during the standard management plan preparation according to national legislation).	1	1
8.3	Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the "chain of custody."	1	1
8.3.1	A Waybill accompanies each load of forest products (e.g., logs, chips, and biomass) delivered to the purchaser.	1	1
8.3.2	In case Logging Company is also handling non-certified timber or products, Logging Company shall clearly distinguish certified products from non-certified products through marks or labels, separate documented storage, and accompanying invoices or waybills.	1	1
8.3.3	Logging Company shall ensure that the certification status (FSC Pure) of sold products is clearly included on invoices and waybills between the forest owner and logging company.	0	1
8.3.4	Waybills and invoices shall contain the Forest Owners certification code.	0	1
8.3.5	A summary of forest products, which includes at a minimum, delivery dates, destinations volumes and species shall be provided to the certification body during the annual audit.	0	1
8.3.6	Procedures shall be established and implemented to ensure that all use of the FSC/Rainforest Alliance/SW trademarks is submitted to SmartWood for review and approval prior to use.	1	1
8.3.7	All records shall be maintained for at least five years.	0	1
8.4	The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.	1	1
8.4.1	Forest Owner shall ensure that the management plan is reviewed periodically according to national legislation.	1	0
8.4.2	Logging Company shall continually learn from experience to improve practices.	0	1
8.4.3	Data from post-harvest assessments shall be used to improve harvesting practices.	0	1

8.5	While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.	1	1
8.5.1	Forest Owner shall be willing to provide access to relevant parts of the management plan to stakeholders who have justified interest in the forest management activities of FMO (e.g. neighboring landowners and local inhabitants)	1	0
9.	**MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS** **Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.**	0	1
9.1	Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests shall be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management.	0	1
9.1.1	Logging Company shall carry out self evaluation of HCV forest areas (nature value assessment).	0	1
9.1.2	In case if Logging Company discovers potentially new conservation values, inventory of HCV forests is conducted together state organizations and environmental NGOs prior to logging operations.	0	1
9.1.3	Logging Company shall be open and willing to cooperate with state organizations, environmental NGOs and environmental specialists for inventories and protection of HCV forest areas.	0	1
9.2	The consultative portion of the certification process shall place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.	0	1
9.2.1	Logging Company shall consult with stakeholders including environmental NGOs on methods to identify and manage HCVF.	0	1
9.3	The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.	0	1
9.3.1	Forest Owner shall be willing to provide access to the information on protection measures of HCV forest areas or objects in the FMO forests upon request.	1	1
9.4	Efficiency of implemented measures of maintaining and increasing forest protection values will be evaluated during annual monitoring.	1	1
In consideration of application field of this standard (forest holdings less then 100 ha) this criteria is not considered as applicable.			
10.	**PLANTATIONS** **Plantations are planned and managed according to principles and criteria submitted in this point and points 1-9. Since plantations may offer a board range of social and economic benefits and satisfy the world's wood needs, founding of plantations should relieve pressure to natural forests and support the renewal and protection of these forest.**		
In consideration of application field of this standard (forest holdings less then 100 ha) this principle is not considered as applicable.			

Annex 1: List of national and local forest and related laws and administrative requirements which apply in Estonia

The table below lists acts and other regulations that are most relevant in forestry context. Constantly updated full list of all legal documents, which are relevant within area of forestry is available at the homepage of Environmental Ministry (http://www.envir.ee/2393). All legal documents can be freely downloaded from www.riigiteataja.ee.

- Forest Act
- Forest management regulations
- Forest Inventory Guidelines
- Form and submission of felling declaration
- Maintenance felling and border clearing rules for unlawfully expropriated forest land
- Compensation of expenses caused by extraordinary transportation or vehicle to the owner of road; the rates of compensation fees and order for issuing special permits
- Prescriptions for transportation of oversized or heavy loads
- Statutes of State Forest Management Center
- Sales of assortments and standing stock in State forest
- Requirements for the test works and examination of forest taxators; the rules for evaluating the results of test works and exams and the working procedure of expert board
- Transportation rules for forest material; handover-reception form of forest material; template of the declaration to be presented to Tax and Customs department for sold or purchased forest material.
- Rules for applying, issuing and extension of forest inventory and taxation license; the form of forest inventory and technical requirements for forest inventory tools and the procedures for evaluation compliance of the tools
- Origin regions of regeneration material allowed to be used for regenerating Estonian forests
- List of exotic species allowed to be grown in Estonian forest land
- Methods for roundwood measurement and volume calculations, requirements for measurement accuracy and documentation of measurement results
- Classification of key habitats and key habitat inventory form
- Designation of counties with high, medium and low risk of fires
- Assignment of optimal felling in state forest for the manager of state forest allowed to be felled by final felling in year 2009.
- Statutes of the Center of Forest Protection and Silviculture
- Methodological guidelines for forest evaluation
- Hunting Act

Annex 2: List of the multilateral environmental agreements and ILO Conventions that Estonia has ratified

Conventions ratified by Estonia

Name and year of the convention	*Time ratified by Estonia*
Ramsar (1971) Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat	October 1993
Washington (1973) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	October 1993
Rio de Janeiro (1992) Convention on Biodiversity	May 1993
Århus (1998) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters	June 2001
Berne (1979) Conservation on Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	August 1992

Environmental agreements signed by Estonia

Name of the agreement	*Place and time of signing*
1. Agreement on cooperation between the State Committee of Environmental Protection of Latvia, the Environmental Protection Department of Lithuania and the Ministry of Environment of Estonia in environmental protection and regulation of the use of natural resources	December, 10.Tallinn, 17. Riga, 19. Vilnius 1990
2. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and RSFSR on the use and protection of natural resources of the lake Peipsi from 1991 to 1995	August 01, 1991 (Moscow)
3. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Kingdom of Denmark on cooperation in the field of environmental protection	September 2, 1991 (Copenhagen)
4. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Finland on environmental cooperation	November 7, 1991 (Helsinki)
5. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the Kingdom of Sweden on cooperation in the field of environment	March 30, 1992 (Stockholm)
6. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia from the one side and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark and Faeroe Islands from the other side concerning the bilateral relations in the field of fisheries	May 01,1992 (Copenhagen)
7. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment Nature Protection and Reactor Safety of the German Federal Republic on cooperation on environmental protection,	May 25, 1992 (Düsseldorf)
8. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the United States of America concerning fisheries off the coasts of the United States	June 01, 1992 (Washington)
9. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the European Communities in the field of Fisheries	July 17, 1992 (Tallinn)
10. Memorandum of understanding between the Government of	September 23, 1992

Canada and the Government of Estonia on mutual fisheries relations	(Ottawa)
11. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden on fisheries	February 24, 1993 (Tallinn)
12. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on air protection	July 02, 1993 (Tallinn)
13. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on water protection	July 02, 1993 (Tallinn)
14. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on Cooperation in the field of Combating Oil Spills	December 8, 1993 (Helsinki)
15. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on fisheries	January 21, 1994 (Tallinn)
16. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on cooperation in the field of environmental protection	February 18, 1994 (Riga)
17. Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on the conservation and use of fishing stocks in Lake Peipsi, Lake Lämmi and Lake Pihkva	May 04, 1994 (Moscow)
18. Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation in the field of fisheries	May 04, 1994 (Moscow)
19. Agreement between the ministry of Environment of Estonia and the Minister of Environmental Protection, National Resources and Forestry of Poland on cooperation in the field of environment protection	June 28, 1995 (Warsaw)
20. Agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in Finland and the Ministry of Environment in Estonia on the Coordination of the Forestry Sector Development Program - Project in Estonia	July 8, 1995 (Tallinn)
21. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia, the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on cooperation in the field of environmental protection	July 21, 1995 (Tallinn)
22. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia and the Ministry of Interior of Denmark on Co-operation and Technical Assistance in the field of Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response including Radiation Protection	November 03, 1995
23. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Environment	January 11, 1996 (Pihkva)
24. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes between Estonia and Lithuania	March 22, 1996 (Tallinn)
25. Programme Agreement between the Estonian Ministry of Environment and the Danish Ministry of Housing and Building	May 06, 1996 (Tallinn)
26. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the European Union on Relations in the field of Fisheries	December 19, 1996 (Brussels)
27. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia	February 1997 (Tallinn)

and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on Mutual Relations in the Field of Fisheries	
28. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	March 14, 1997 (Pärnu)
29. Programme Agreement between the Estonian Ministry of Environment and the Danish Ministry of Housing and Building	May 09, 1997 (Tallinn)
30. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Protection and Sustainable Use of Transboundary Watercourses	August 20, 1997 (Moscow)
31. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	November 18 (24), 1997 (Vienna/Tallinn)
32. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia and the Ministry of Interior of Denmark on Co-operation and Technical Assistance in the field of Nuclear Safety, Radiation Protection and Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response	January 14, 1998 (Tallinn)
33. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden on cooperation on activities implemented join exchange of notes	March 16, 1998/June 10, 1998
34. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on water protection	February 12, 1999 (Tallinn)
35. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Finland (Activities Implemented Jointly)	February 12, 1999 (Tallinn)
36. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia on Management of Nature Conservation in Transboundary Context	January 27, 2000 (Tallinn)
37. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Hungary on Environmental and Nature Protection	June 19, 2000 (Szentendre)
38. Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Estonia concerning the participation of the Republic of Estonia to the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network	October 9, 2000 (Brussels)
39. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	February 21, 2002 (Helsinki)
40. Declaration by the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Land of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern on Co-operation in the fields of Environmental and Nature Protection	March 12, 2002 (Castle Granitz/Binz)
41. Memorandum between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Finland, the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia on the Provision of Support to the Project for Water and Waste Accession Program for 17 Small Municipalities in Estonia	September 30, 2002 (Tallinn)

42. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Ukraine on Cooperation in the field of Environmental Protection	October 14, 2002 (Kiev)
43. Memorandum of understanding between the European Community and the Republic of Estonia on Estonia's participation in the Community action programme promoting non-governmental organizations primarily active in the field of environmental protection	September 27, 2002 (Tallinn)
44. Agreed record of conclusions of fisheries consultations between delegations of the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Estonia	November 1, 2002 (Riga)
45. Agreement on joint implementation of emission reductions of greenhouse gases between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland	December 17, 2002 (Tallinn)
46. Memorandum of understanding on co-operation between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Netherlands in reducing emissions of greenhouse gases under article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol	September 9, 2003 (Tallinn)
47. Memorandum of understanding between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark on co-operation for the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	September 25, 2003 (Tallinn)
48. Project agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland concerning Paide Bioenergy JI project	October 10, 2003 (Tallinn)
49. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Latvia on co-operation in protection and sustainable use of trans-boundary water courses	October 24, 2003 (Palanga)
50. Memorandum of Understanding between the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom, Environment Protection Agency of Denmark, Energy Market Authority of Finland, Ministry of Environment and Territory of Italy, Ministry of Climate Change and Industry of Netherlands, Norwegian Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy of Slovenia, Lithuanian Environmental Investment Fund, the Swedish Energy Agency, Environment Protection Agency – Ireland and Ministry of Environment – Republic of Estonia concerning a Generic and UN/EU Compatible Registry System	November 15, 2004 (Tallinn)
51. Joint Implementation agreement between the Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Minister for the Environment of the Kingdom of Denmark concerning Türisalu Wind Farm project	December 14, 2004 (Buenos Aires)

	ILO conventions ratified by Estonia during 1922-2002		
Nr	Name	Adopted	Ratified by Estonia
C2	Unemployment Convention, 1919	1919	1922
C5	Minimum Age (Industry) Convention, 1919	1919	1922
C6	Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919	1919	1922
C7	Minimum Age (Sea) Convention, 1920	1920	1922
C8	Unemployment Indemnity (Shipwreck) Convention, 1920	1920	1923
C9	Placing of Seamen Convention, 1920	1921	1923
C10	Minimum Age (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C11	Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C12	Workmen's Compensation (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C13	White Lead (Painting) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C14	Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921	1921	1923
(C15)	Minimum Age (Trimmers and Stokers) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C16	Medical Examination of Young Persons (Sea) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C19	Equality of Treatment (Accident Compensation) Convention, 1925	1925	1930
(C20)	Night Work (Bakeries) Convention, 1925	1925	1929
C22	Seamen's Articles of Agreement Convention, 1926	1926	1929
C23	Repatriation of Seamen Convention, 1926	1926	1929
C27	Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929	1929	1932
C29	Forced Labor Convention, 1930	1930	1995
C41	Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1934	1934	1935
C45	Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935	1925	1937
C53	Officers' Competency Certificates Convention, 1936	1936	1938
C87	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948	1948	1993
C98	Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949	1949	1993
C100	Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951	1951	1996
C105	Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, 1957	1957	1995
C108	Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention, 1958	1958	1996
C122	Employment Policy Convention, 1964	1964	2002
C135	Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971	1971	1995
C144	Tripartite Consultation (International Labor Standards) Convention, 1976	1976	1993
C174	Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention, 1993	1993	2000
C182	Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999	1999	2001

Annex 3: List of officially endangered species in Estonia.

Species protection is regulated in Estonia by Nature Conservation Act (in Estonian *Looduskaitseseadus*, available at www.riigiteataja.ee). According to the Nature Conservation Act protected species are divided into I, II and III category protected species, according to the status of their endangerment, with category I as the most endangered and strictly protected species. Protection rules for all protected species are described in the Nature Conservation Act and special protection plans prepared for some species.

The official lists of I and II category species is available in a regulation document issued by Government of Estonian Republic. The document is called „List of I and II protection category species to be protected" (I ja II kaitsekategooriana kaitse alla võetavate liikide loetelu) and it is available for download at www.riigiteataja.ee.

The official lists of III category species is available in a regulation document issued by Estonian Minister of Environment. The document is called „Protection of III protection category species" (III kaitsekategooria liikide kaitse alla võtmine) and it is available for download at www.riigiteataja.ee.

Annex 4: Glossary of terms2

Biological diversity: The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. (see Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

Biological control agents: Living organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other living organisms.

Biological diversity values: The intrinsic, ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components. (see Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

Chain of custody: The channel through which products are distributed from their origin in the forest to their end-use.

Chemicals: The range of fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, and hormones which are used in forest management.

Criterion (pl. Criteria): A means of judging whether or not a Principle (of forest stewardship) has been fulfilled.

Customary rights: Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit.

Ecosystem: A community of all plants and animals and their physical environment, functioning together as an interdependent unit.

Endangered species: Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Exotic species: An introduced species not native or endemic to the area in question.

Forest integrity: The composition, dynamics, functions and structural attributes of a natural forest.

Forest management/manager: The people responsible for the operational management of the forest resource and of the enterprise, as well as the management system and structure, and the planning and field operations.

Forest management unit (FMU): a clearly defined forest area with mapped boundaries, managed by a single managerial body to a set of explicit objectives which are expressed in a self-contained multi-year management plan.

[2] from FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship FSC-STD-0120-0015 (February 2000(draft 2-0) and FSC glossary of terms, FSC-STD-01-002 (draft 1-0)

Forest stewardship: forest management which, in conformity with the FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship, is environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable.

Genetically modified organisms: Biological organisms which have been induced by various means to consist of genetic structural changes.

Indicator: a quantitative or qualitative variable which can be measured or described, and which provides a means of judging whether a forest management unit complies with the requirements of an FSC Criterion. Indicators and the associated thresholds thereby define the requirements for responsible forest management at the level of the forest management unit and are the primary basis of forest evaluation.

Indigenous lands and territories: The total environment of the lands, air, water, sea, sea-ice, flora and fauna, and other resources which indigenous peoples have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. (Draft Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Part VI)

Indigenous peoples: "The existing descendants of the peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country wholly or partially at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world, overcame them and, by conquest, settlement, or other means reduced them to a non-dominant or colonial situation; who today live more in conformity with their particular social, economic and cultural customs and traditions than with the institutions of the country of which they now form a part, under State structure which incorporates mainly the national, social and cultural characteristics of other segments of the population which are predominant." (Working definition adopted by the UN Working Group on Indigenous Peoples).

High Conservation Value Forests: High Conservation Value Forests are those that possess one or more of the following attributes:

a) forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant: concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia); and/or large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance

b) forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems

c) forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control)

d) forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health) and/or critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

Landscape: A geographical mosaic composed of interacting ecosystems resulting from the influence of geological, topographical, soil, climatic, biotic and human interactions in a given area.

Local laws: Includes all legal norms given by organisms of government whose jurisdiction is less than the national level, such as departmental, municipal and customary norms.

Long term: The time-scale of the forest owner or manager as manifested by the objectives of the management plan, the rate of harvesting, and the commitment to maintain permanent forest cover. The length of time involved will vary according to the context and ecological conditions, and will be a function of how long it takes a given ecosystem to recover its natural structure and composition following harvesting or disturbance, or to produce mature or primary conditions.

Native species: A species that occurs naturally in the region; endemic to the area.

Natural cycles: Nutrient and mineral cycling as a result of interactions between soils, water, plants, and animals in forest environments that affect the ecological productivity of a given site.

Natural Forest: Forest areas where many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems such as complexity, structure and diversity are present, as defined by FSC approved national and regional standards of forest management.

Non-timber forest products: All forest products except timber, including other materials obtained from trees such as resins and leaves, as well as any other plant and animal products.

Other forest types: Forest areas that do not fit the criteria for plantation or natural forests and which are defined more specifically by FSC-approved national and regional standards of forest stewardship.

Plantation: Forest areas lacking most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems as defined by FSC-approved national and regional standards of forest stewardship, which result from the human activities of either planting, sowing or intensive silvicultural treatments.

Precautionary approach: Tool for the implementation of the precautionary principle.

Principle: An essential rule or element; in FSC's case, of forest stewardship.

Silviculture: The art of producing and tending a forest by manipulating its establishment, composition and growth to best fulfil the objectives of the owner. This may, or may not, include timber production.

SLIMF (small or low intensity managed forest): a forest management unit which meets specific FSC requirements related to size and/or intensity of timber harvesting, and can therefore be evaluated by certification bodies using streamlined evaluation procedures. The applicable FSC requirements are defined in *FSC-STD-01-003 SLIMF Eligibility Criteria*.

Stakeholder: individuals and organizations with a legitimate interest in the goods and services provided by an FMU; and those with an interest in the environmental and social effects of an FMU's activities, products and services. They include: those individuals and organizations which exercise statutory environmental control over the FMU; local people; employees; investors and insurers; customers and consumers; environmental interest and consumer groups and the general public [modified from Upton and Bass, 1995].

Succession: Progressive changes in species composition and forest community structure caused by natural processes (nonhuman) over time.

Tenure: Socially defined agreements held by individuals or groups, recognized by legal statutes or customary practice, regarding the "bundle of rights and duties" of ownership, holding, access and/or usage of a particular land unit or the associated resources there within (such as individual trees, plant species, water, minerals, etc).

Threatened species: Any species which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Use rights: Rights for the use of forest resources that can be defined by local custom, mutual agreements, or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific levels of consumption or particular harvesting techniques

Annex 5: Summary of the SmartWood Certification Assessment Process3

The certification assessment process begins with a candidate operation submitting an application to SmartWood. Based upon a review of the application, the scope of the area to be certified and discussions with the candidate, SmartWood will propose a certification process that includes either a preassessment followed by a main assessment, or goes directly to a main assessment. Every candidate operation is assigned a SmartWood task manager who will liaise with the assessment lead auditor and the candidate to schedule and perform the evaluations.

SmartWood assessors are provided with detailed guidance on the certification process, including pre-assessment briefings (either in person or by telephone) and access to a written SmartWood handbook for forest assessment. The purpose of these briefings and the manual is to ensure that a consistent and thorough certification process is followed.

In addition to following the SmartWood procedures outlined in our forest evaluation handbook, there are three other ways in which we ensure accuracy and fairness in our certifications:

1. The assessment must involve individuals who are familiar with the particular region and type of forest management operation under evaluation. It is SmartWood policy to involve local specialists in all assessments.
2. Team members must be familiar with SmartWood certification procedures. Each SmartWood certification assessment has a designated lead auditor who must have participated in a formal SmartWood assessor-training course or previously participated in other SmartWood forest management assessments or audits.
3. The assessment must use region-specific standards (i.e. accredited FSC standard or a "regionalized" SmartWood Interim Standard, based on this SmartWood Generic Standard).

Team Selection and Planning – SmartWood selects a qualified lead auditor and other team members to participate in the assessment. The lead auditor's first task is to ensure that all team members understand the scope and intent of the assessment process. Responsibility for evaluation of different sections (i.e. specific criteria and indicators) of the standard are assigned to different team members, depending on their particular training and expertise. All team members can provide input into any principle, but lead responsibility is assigned for data collection, analysis and writing for each criterion and indicator.

Stakeholder notification: At least 30 days prior to forest evaluation, SmartWood notifies stakeholders of the pending assessment and requests stakeholders' observations or comments with regard to the operations compliance with the certification standard.

Fieldwork and Data Collection – Evaluation of conformance with the standard is based upon data collection by the auditors through review of FME management documentation, interviews with staff and stakeholders, and field observations and measurements. The team organizes opening meetings with the FME staff to review the assessment scope and procedures and certification standards. Documentation review and interview with FME staff begin immediately. The assessment process then moves quickly to the field phase. Inspections are made to sites chosen by SmartWood assessors based on a comprehensive review of the candidate FME's forest holdings and management activities, discussions with interested/affected parties, and

[3] For detailed information about procedures, contact our headquarters or regional offices through www.smartwood.org.

identification of critical issues or challenging sites. Site visits occur in the forest, at processing facilities, and in surrounding communities. Visits emphasize management activities of all types and phases and different biological or physical conditions.

Team members meet independently with stakeholders. All assessments solicit and incorporate input (confidential and/or open) from directly affected and/or knowledgeable stakeholders, including local communities, adjoining landowners, local forest industry, environmental organizations, government agencies, and scientific researchers. During these consultations, assessment team members explain the assessment process, solicit opinions, and gather impressions about the field performance of the operation being assessed.

Data Analysis and Decision making – Throughout the assessment the team meets independently to discuss progress in gathering information, and discuss preliminary findings. The assessment team works in a consensus fashion to analyze information and evidence gathered, evaluate conformance and reach agreement on their findings as to the certification of the candidate operation.

The assessment team evaluates performance by the FME at the indicator level of the standard. Any non-conformances are analyzed and classified as either minor or major. A noncompliance is considered major if it results in a fundamental failure to achieve the objective of the relevant criterion in the standard. Conversely, a nonconformance is considered minor if the impacts are limited in scale, prompt corrective action has been taken to ensure it will not be repeated and it does not result in a fundamental failure to achieve the objective of the relevant criterion. For each area of nonconformance identified, the assessment team develops corrective actions which are classified as follows:

- **Major Corrective Action Request (CAR)** is an improvement addressing major nonconformance that candidate FME must implement before SmartWood certification is granted;
- **Corrective action request (CAR)** is an improvement addressing a minor nonconformance that candidate FME must implement by a specific deadline (i.e. short term - usually within one year) during the renewable five-year certification period (which is the standard FSC certification contract period); and,
- **Observation** is a very minor problem or the early stages of a problem which do not of itself constitute a non-conformance, but which the auditor considers may lead to a future non-conformance if not addressed by the client. An observation may be a warning signal on a particular issue that, if not addressed, could turn into a nonconformance in the future.

Report Write-up – following the forest evaluation, the team prepares the certification assessment report. This report follows a standardized format and includes detailed findings of performance and proposes pre-conditions, CARs or observations.

Review of Assessment Report by Candidate Operation, Independent Peer Reviewers and SmartWood Report Review – the candidate operation, at least one peer reviewer, and SmartWood regional staff, review each certification assessment report.

Certification Decision – Once the above steps are completed, SmartWood headquarters coordinates a certification decision process. If a certification decision is to approve certification, a five-year certification contract will be executed which requires annual on-site audits. If an operation is not approved, the certification decision will establish what must be done in order for the operation to achieve certified status in the future.