



Forest Stewardship Council®



Forest Management Certification Audit Report FSC-FM-V1-0 - EN

Certificate holder

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Former certificate code (if any)	DNV-FM/COC-000048
Certificate code	BV-FM/COC-015573
FSC license code	FSC-C015573
Audit type	Surveillance
Audit start date	Aug 30, 2021
Date of report	Nov 10, 2021
Certification date	Jul 24, 2008

Certification body

Certification body name	Bureau Veritas Certification Holding SAS
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Figure 1 Forest Map of the MU	Błąd! Nie zdefiniowano zakładki.
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Introduction

SLIMFs: The elements marked with an asterisk (*) in this report are NOT required in the case of certificates issued to single SLIMF MU but are required for all other certificates.

Voluntary fields: The elements marked with hashtag (#) in this report are NOT mandatory but can be completed voluntarily.

Non-public fields: The elements marked with dollar symbol (\$) in this report will NOT be reproduced in the FM public summary, e.g. personal information.

Unit: Data presented in the report will be provided in metric system units. If nonmetric units are used, conversion rates will be indicated below, and an automatic conversion into metric units will be performed and stored in the cloud.

The entire report is based on the same units for one type of measure, which are selected from unit drop-down lists and the selections are synchronous across the document.

Unit of **area:** 1 **ha** equals 1 **ha**, e.g. forest area, HCV area.

Unit of **volume:** 1 **m3** equals 1 **m³**, used for wood related product.

Unit of **weight:** 1 **Choose an item.** equals **Click or tap here to enter text.** **metric ton**, used for non-timber products i.e. bamboo, rubber and resin.

Unit of **pesticide:** **kg**, kg of dry mass is preferred rather than litres, due to unknown concentrations.

Repeating section:

This report contains many repeating sections e.g. species, MU/RMU, non-conformities etc., please add more tables by clicking **plus (+)** button.

1. Description of forest management

Forest management enterprise (FME) information	
1.1 Type of FM certificate	Group Certificate
1.2 Total area under evaluation	235 000 ha
1.3 Dual-certified area certified both as FSC and another scheme*	233 000 ha
1.4 Forest zone	Boreal
1.5 Male forest workers	71
1.6 Female forest workers	7
1.7 Third parties related/impacted by forest management activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local communities <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional peoples <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Peoples
1.8 Third party description (existence, interests or activities etc.)*	This is limited to the traditional use of forestlands by the local people, mainly use for recreation, berries and mushroom picking. Tourism and hunting also have to be considered. There are no forests critical for the existence of the local communities.
1.9 Area of forest owned/managed but excluded from MUs in the scope of certification	0 ha
1.10 Total growing stock of broadleaves #	Click or tap here to enter text. m3
1.11 Total growing stock of conifers #	Click or tap here to enter text. m3

1.12 Ecosystem services(ES) in the scope	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (annex B to be completed)
1.13 Change of scope since previous audit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, the scope has changed as described below: Increase in members and hectares as follwing: Growth from 1 853 to 2 240 members and 1 235 000 hectares.

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Picea_abies</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Spruce</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	609644 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	609644 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Pinus_sylvestris</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Pine</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	856744 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	856744 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Betula_pendula</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
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	a space for spelling check and validation purposes.		
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Birch</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	135992 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	135992 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Fagus_sylvatica</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Beech</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	57 848 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	57 848 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Populus tremula</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Aspen</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	19 157 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	19 157 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Quercus_robur</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Oak</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	12 128 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	12 128 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Larix spp</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Larch</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	2 083 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	2 083 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Alnus_glutinosa</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Alder</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	367 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	367 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Fraxinus_excelsior</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The “_” symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Ash	1.17 Current annual harvest	78 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	78 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Acer_platanoides</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The “_” symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Maple	1.17 Current annual harvest	<100 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	0 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Pseudotsuga_menziesii</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The “_” symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Douglas fir	1.17 Current annual harvest	<100 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	0 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Tilia cordata Mill.</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Linden</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	<100 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	0 m3

i. Main commercial timber species included in scope of certificate (botanical name and common trade name)

1.14 Species	<i>Ulmus glabra</i> Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.1 Roundwood (logs) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.2 Fuel wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W1.3 Twigs <input type="checkbox"/> W3.1 Wood chips <input type="checkbox"/> N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	<i>Elm</i>	1.17 Current annual harvest	<100 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	0 m3

i. NTFP - non-timber forest product included in scope of certificate

1.20 Species #	<i>None</i> (No species validation for NTFP, can be null here)	1.21 Product code of NTFP	Choose an item.
1.22 Trade name#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.23 Current annual harvest	Click or tap here to enter text. Choose an item.

i. Pesticide use since previous audit/year

1.24 Active ingredient	----	1.25 Applied area	0 ha
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1.26 Reason for use	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.27 Quantity of ingredient	0 kg
1.28 Summary of ESRA (If applicable)	----	1.29 Environmental and social risk assessment (ESRA)	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicable

2. Summary of forest context and management plan

Definition for MU and RMU:

Management Unit (MU): A spatial area or areas submitted for FSC certification with clearly defined boundaries managed to a set of explicit long-term management objectives which are expressed in a management plan. This area or areas include(s):

- all facilities and area(s) within or adjacent to this spatial area or areas under legal title or Management control of, or operated by or on behalf of The Organization, for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives; and
- all facilities and area(s) outside, and not adjacent to this spatial area or areas and operated by or on behalf of The Organization, solely for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives.

(Source: FSC 2011).

Resource Management Unit (RMU): the management units within a group managed by the same Resource Manager. The management units within an RMU do not need to belong to the same forest owner, they can belong to many different owners.

Note: The total area of MU/RMU shall be consistent with total area under evaluation. In case of a large number of small group members, they shall be sub-grouped to RMU(s) by geographical location or tenure, and inserted in to the MU/RMU tables one by one.

Please click the add button for more MU/RMUs to be added, the total area of all MU/RMU shall be consistent with area under evaluation on page 3. In the scenario of a large number of group members, the total area can be reported at group entity level with total area of members.

i. MU/RMU					
2.37 MU/RMU name	Sydved FSC FM Group	2.38 Tenure-ownership	Private	2.39 Tenure-management	Private
2.40 Centroid Longitude*	57.7826° N	2.41 Centroid Latitude*	14.1618° E	2.42 SLIMF type	Both SLIMF Types
2.43 Plantation area	0 ha	2.44 Replanted forest area	2000 ha	2.45 Natural regenerated forest area	200 ha
2.46 Conservation area	28000 ha	2.47 Strictly protected area	2000 ha	2.48 NTFP area	0 ha

2.49 Total area of MU/RMU (automated)	235000 ha	2.50 Annual allowable cut (AAC)	App. 1500000 m ³	2.51 Area with ecosystem services claim#	0 ha
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HCV list			
2.52 Main HCV attribute	2.53 Secondary HCV attribute #	2.54 HCV area	2.55 HCV description
HCV3 Ecosystems and habitats	HCV1 Species diversity	28000 ha	Indicator 6.5-areas and Woodland Key Habitats. Management is regulated based on the habitat description. In some cases management is needed but normally they are left untouched.
HCV4 Critical ecosystem services	Choose an item.	Click or tap here to enter text. ha	Water catchments areas. There are no restriction of harvesting. Only restriction is that it is not allowed to keep the fuel depot inside the area during harvesting.

The water catchment areas are not always inserted in the management planning system and area is not calculated.

Forest management group			
Total number of group members	2240	Maximum manageable number of group members	5000
Number of members sampled annually by group entity	230	Sampling system implemented by the group entity	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 stratified sampling <input type="checkbox"/> 2 cluster sampling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 random sampling <input type="checkbox"/> 4 systematic sampling

Group entity's sampling system employed to select MUs for evaluation, and its implementation

There is a schedule for surveillance of group members implemented by internal auditors. The number of members visited is determined according to size and activities performed in the group member's forests.

There is also a general control of all activities performed by contractors who perform a post harvesting control of each activity.

Responsibilities for implementation of the applicable standard(s) by the group entity	Responsibilities for implementation of the applicable standard(s) by the group member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Management planning <input type="checkbox"/> Forest protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silviculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Sales & marketing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of trademark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem services impacts <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Management planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest protection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silviculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sales & marketing <input type="checkbox"/> Use of trademark <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem services impacts <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Elaboration of responsibilities of group entity, members and contractors, include ecosystem services if applicable:

Sydved is an independent legal entity. All members are legal entities, official estate registry checked for each new member
 The forest owner commits to comply with the national FSC standard. This also apply when other wood procurement companies perform activities on the certified estate.
 Responsibilities for implementation of the applicable standard(s) are defined at the group entity level (e.g. management planning, inventory, monitoring).
 Each member is responsible for all activities performed at their forest area.
 Sydved has established, implemented and is maintaining written procedures for Group membership covering establishing contract, forestry planning, operational planning, work order preparation, transportation order and follow up.
 There is a schedule for surveillance of group members implemented by internal auditors. The number of members visited is determined according to size and activities performed in the group member's forests.

Group member list					
Group member Name	public contact	address	Email (if available)	sub-code (if applicable)	forest area
Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text. ha

Separate list available

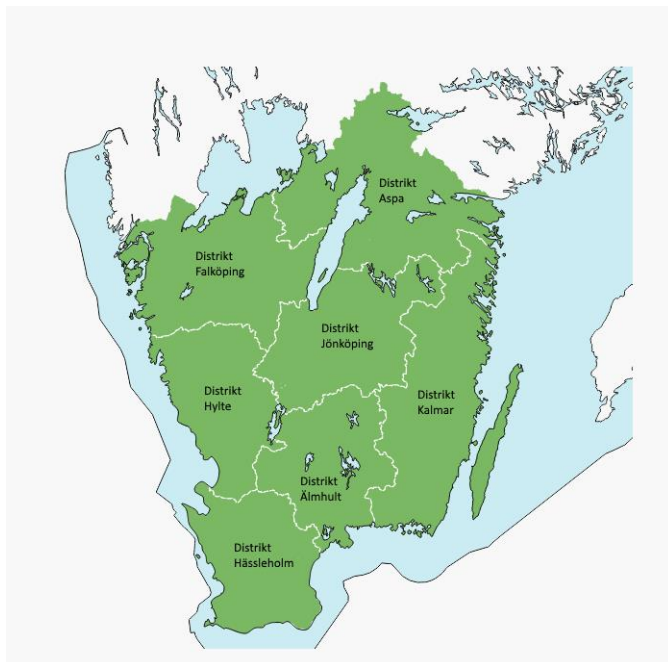


Figure 1 Forest Map of the MU

Additional flexible rich text including pictures and tables can be inserted below:

#Please copy or elaborate here:

3. Standard(s)

3.1 Standard(s) used for evaluation	FM standard type: National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS) based on V5 Related standards: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trademark standard FSC-STD-50-001 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group standard FSC-STD-30-005 <input type="checkbox"/> ES procedure FSC-PRO-30-006
3.2 Reference to FM standard used	FSC-STD-SWE-03-2019 EN
3.3 http link to the standard used	https://se.fsc.org/download-box.1373.htm
3.4 If applicable, the adaptation process of CB interim standard*	n/a

4. The evaluation process

The evaluation dates

4.1 Audit start date	Aug 30, 2021
4.2 Audit finish date	Sep 9, 2021
4.3 Total person days	9

Note: The total person days spent on the evaluation including time spent on remote work and time spent carrying out on-site work (incl. review of documents and records, interviewing stakeholders), but excluding travel to and from the region in which the certified forest is located.

Personnel/audit team\$

4.4 Name	4.5 Role	4.6 Person days	4.7 Expertise	4.8 Auditor UAN	4.9 Profile (brief introduction of the person)
Kjell-Owe Ahlskog	Team leader	4,5	Forestry	Click or tap here to enter text.	FSC FM qualified lead auditor on behalf of Bureau Veritas Certification, independent consultant. Working with forest certification for over 20 years.
Julia Lenkkeri	Team member	4,5	Forestry	Click or tap here to enter text.	FSC FM qualified lead auditor of Bureau Veritas Certification. Master of science in Forest ecology working with forest certification for over 10 years.

Sampling and documents

4.10 Sampling system employed for the audit	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 stratified sampling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 cluster sampling
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 random sampling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 systematic sampling
4.11 Rationale for selection of MU/ members	Three out of seven districts (RMU) were selected for this year's audit. The districts were selected based on what districts that had been audited during the last years audits. The Districts visited are Jönköping, Aspa and Falköping. Within each district a sufficient number of forest owners were selected randomly. The non-slimf forest owners are sampled separately and 4 such were audited on-site. Please, see separate list with members and sampling.
4.12 Documentation reviewed during this audit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 copies of applicable laws <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 long term management plan(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 technical management guides relating to operations <input type="checkbox"/> 4 concession agreements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 documentation showing tenure or land-use rights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6 up to date maps of roads, management sites, etc <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7 inventory records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8 work instructions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9 contractor contracts <input type="checkbox"/> 10 agreements with affected local communities <input type="checkbox"/> 11 agreements with affected Indigenous Peoples, etc <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 records of payments of royalties, fees, or taxes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13 records of complaints/disputes and resolution <input type="checkbox"/> 14 records of payments to workers <input type="checkbox"/> 15 wildlife evaluation records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 16 environmental impacts monitoring records <input type="checkbox"/> 17 social impact survey results <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18 results of monitoring forest growth and health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19 harvesting and production records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20 chemical use records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 21 communications with stakeholders <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 22 purchasing and sales documentation
4.13 Additional techniques employed for evaluation*	N/A
4.14 Number of accidents since previous audit	None
4.15 Average wage for male workers including contractors \$#	Click or tap here to enter text. USD
4.16 Average wage for female workers including contractors \$#	Click or tap here to enter text. USD
4.17 Total local employment since previous audit (persons year) \$#	Click or tap here to enter text.

4.18 Indirect surcharge for FSC certification since previous audit \$#	Click or tap here to enter text. USD
4.19 Number of Stakeholders affected by operations since previous audit/year \$#	1
4.20 List of compensation provided to local communities with regard to the impacts of management activities \$#	N/A

4.21 Document name and date reviewed during this audit (Free text) \$

1. Forest Management plans for all visited Group members.
2. Authority decisions and acts concerning potentially illegal activities and management on- or close to areas with defined conservation values.
3. Internal audit reports
4. Monitoring reports
5. Corrective Action Plans
6. Signed membership agreement including FSC commitment of forest owners
7. Group management procedure
8. Data on red-listed species and culturally valuable sites in management planning system
9. Contractor agreements
10. Operational plans for harvesting and silvicultural operations
11. Meeting minutes from Group management meeting
12. Complaints
13. Incidents/accident records
14. Skogens pärlor
15. Regelrätt skogsbruk
16. GIS forest database including examples of monitoring/remote sensing results.

Audit itinerary					
4.22 Audit date	4.23 Hours	4.24 MUs or members	4.25 Activities	4.26 Site detail	4.27 Site type
Aug 30, 2021	4	HQ	Opening meeting; Interviews, documents review. Stakeholders consultations.	HQ activities, group management, monitoring, steering, mgt review. Internal audit reports, Action plans, Management review reports, Monitoring results, procedures, agreements, Forest Management plans, HCVF	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office

Aug 30, 2021	4	RMU Jönköping	Field visit, meeting with forest owner	Finalised final felling, biofuel, bark beetle, soil scarification. broad leaf dominated stands.	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Aug 31, 2021	8	RMU Aspa	Field visit	Set aside areas, Precommercial thinning, Thinning, Planned thinning, Final felling, Broadleaf dominated stands, Thinning, soil scarification, neighbour relations, buffer zones, planting,	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Aug 31, 2021	8	RMU Jönköping	Field visit, meeting with forest owner	Final felling, Broadleaf dominated stands, Thinning, soil scarification, neighbour relations, roads, planting,	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Sep 1, 2021	8	RMU Aspa	Field visit and meeting with forest owner	Set aside areas, cultural remains, Final felling, Broadleaf dominated stands, Thinning, soil scarification, hunting, buffer zones, planting, landscape management, Water courses and dams	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water courses

					<input type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Sep 1, 2021	8	RMU Jönköping	Field visit	Set aside areas, Final felling, Bark beetles, Broadleaf dominated stands, soil scarification, hunting, cultural remains, Biofuels	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Sep 2, 2021	8	RMU Aspa	Field visit and meeting with harvesting company	Set aside areas, Landscape protection, final felling, Bark beetles, Broadleaf dominated stands, soil scarification, hunting, roads, training, health care, soil protection, Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Sep 2, 2021	8	RMU Jönköping	Field visit	Final felling, Bark beetles, Broadleaf dominated stands, soil scarification, pre-commercial thinning, planting, set aside areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Sep 3, 2021	8	RMU Jönköping	Document review		<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protected area

					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input type="checkbox"/> Office
Sep 9, 2021	8	HO	Office	<p>Follow up of open issues, Document Review, Prepare final conclusions</p> <p>Closing meeting of the audit</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Seed orchards <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Protected area <input type="checkbox"/> Production forest area <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' amenities <input type="checkbox"/> Areas used by local communities and IP <input type="checkbox"/> Water courses <input type="checkbox"/> Forest roads <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical storage sites <input type="checkbox"/> HCVs <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring sites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office

Stakeholder consultation process

4.28 First stakeholder consultation date for this audit	August 31, 2021
4.29 Means of engagement	<input type="checkbox"/> Face to face meetings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contacted by phone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email, or letter <input type="checkbox"/> Notice published in the national and/or local press <input type="checkbox"/> Notice published on relevant websites <input type="checkbox"/> Local radio announcements <input type="checkbox"/> Local customary notice boards <input type="checkbox"/> Social media broadcast
4.30 Engaged stakeholder groups	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic interests <input type="checkbox"/> Social interests <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental interests <input type="checkbox"/> FSC-accredited certification bodies active in the country <input type="checkbox"/> National and state forest agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Experts with expertise in controlled wood categories <input type="checkbox"/> Research institutions and universities <input type="checkbox"/> FSC regional offices, FSC network partners, registered standard development groups and NRA working groups in the region

- Forest workers, contractors
- Local communities, residents

Stakeholder comment(s)

4.31 Stakeholder group	4.32 Stakeholder description	4.33 Stakeholder's comment	4.34 Notified before audit?	4.35 Interviewed during this audit?	4.36 CB's follow up
Forest workers, contractors	Contractor and employees	The co-operation with Sydved is good. All workers are trained in FSC FM requirements. All interviewees were well aware of relevant procedures and requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive feedback forwarded to Sydved
Social interests	Neighbour	The neighbour had complained about a culture remain (old stonewall bordering the two estates) that had been partly damaged in a logging operation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Phone discussions with the complainant confirmed that he is satisfied with the corrective actions implemented by the company.
Environmental interests	County administrative board	The county administrative board representative is contacted by auditor to know how the cooperation within protection of species and habitats is going with the non-slimf land owner selected for audit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive comments concerning cooperation. Measures to protect nesting areas of birds. e.g. is on-going

Complaint(s) received\$

4.37 Received date	4.38 First received by	4.39 Complainant	4.40 Complaint detail	4.41 Open/ Closed	4.42 Actions	4.43 Close date
Apr 23, 2021	CH	Neighbouring forest owner to one of the group	The complaint concerns a cultural remain that has been partly broken during the harvesting operations.	Closed	Sydved has repaired the damage (an old stonewall) and held additional training with the concerned harvesting team.	Sep 9, 2021

	members		Phone discussions with the complainant confirmed that he is satisfied with the corrective actions implemented by the company.
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5. Corrective actions from previous audit

Non-conformity / gap raised from previous audit			
5.1 Finding No.	1.	5.2 Due date	Sep 16, 2021
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open / closed	Closed
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	1.1.2S
5.7 Requirement			
Managers shall comply with all applicable national laws, local regulations and other contracts and agreements.			
5.8 Description of audit finding			
Consultations with the forest agency have not been carried out prior to action in a key habitat where management activities to enhance the nature values had taken place.			
5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee			
Responsible officials at municipality concerned have been well informed about the requirement to communicate with the Swedish Forest Agency (consultation) for measures in areas with high nature values.			
Affected employees in this municipality have completed PanCert's training in Natural Value Assessment in November 2020. A new forestry plan is being developed (from the summer of 2020) and all concerned parties will have access to it and are now aware that areas with high natural values require consultation. In Sydved's brochure General Nature Conservation, it is clear that consultations must take place for measures in Nyckelbiotop. This brochure has now been distributed to all members of Sydved's umbrella.			
5.10 CB's review to corrective actions			

Reviewed the new instructions. Interview with FM group coordinator. Interview with the Swedish Forest Agency. Field visit including interview with Sydved's field staff

Non-conformity / gap raised from previous audit

5.1 Finding No.	2.	5.2 Due date	Sep 16, 2021
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open / closed	Closed
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	7.1h

5.7 Requirement

Management Plan with supporting documents shall contain: a) The objectives of forestry; b) description of the forest assets to be used, environmental restrictions, land use and property rights, socio-economic conditions and a general description of adjacent areas.

5.8 Description of audit finding

Managers do not comply with all the requirements for documentation listed in Annex 3A and 3B of the FM standard for Sweden.

There were found instances of not valid management plan, with goals and descriptions for all forest assets, at one group member. Only old plans (older than 10 years) were found for the properties. There are four more properties that are either nature reserves or have a management plan from the county administrative board but are not part of the overall management plan. Review of old plans. This is a minor deviation because attention has been paid to the situation during internal audit already. Properties with significant forest holdings that are actively managed have updated management plans. The areas without plans represented mainly reserves or nature parks where management is less active.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

The forest manager has update the forestry plans and included all land owned by concerned municipality.

Updating the plan is a major investment that requires a decision from municipal politicians. The responsible official had to carry out a number of draws for the presidium and politicians in the Technical Committee and has now obtained a decision that says that one must work for the municipality's forests to be certified according to FSC (previous decision was made, a long time ago, by a former official and lacked political grounding). This will lead to funds being set aside in next year's budget for, among other things, continued work with forestry planning.

Forestry planning for just over 950 Ha has been procured during the spring. The work will be carried out by a subcontractor to Sydved and is expected to be completed in the autumn of 2021. As the plan was not completed in 20210916, municipality's forestry certificate is inactivated until a new plan can be presented and a renewed agreement on certification can be written. The municipality has been notified via the responsible purchaser. The deviation has been mentioned in the membership letter in May 2021 to remind other group members of the requirement.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Checked the member register, Interview with FM Group coordinator. Interview with Sydved's field staff

Non-conformity / gap raised from previous audit

5.1 Finding No.	3.	5.2 Due date	Sep 16, 2021
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open / closed	Closed
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	1.6.1

5.7 Requirement

Foresters must demonstrate their long-term commitment to FSC's Principles and Criteria by, in accordance with the Swedish FSC standard, managing all land holdings where they have full ownership, regardless of whether the holding consists of one or more properties.

5.8 Description of audit finding

There is no evidence that all land holdings are managed in accordance with the FSC's principles. Several of the properties on holdings in one Municipality are not FSC certified. An interview with forest manager at the municipality confirms this. Information on this can be found in certification agreement 2020 1/1 with Sydved. Within the nature park, there is anyhow a registered key biotope that should have been protected.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

A new plan with all land holdings and subsequently a renewed certification agreement is required.

The politicians have now added funds for the procurement of plans and decided that the municipality's land must be certified. When the new plan is ready, a renewed and correct agreement must be written. As this has not been done yet, the municipality's membership in Sydved's forest certification umbrella has been deactivated from 2021-09-16. The deviation has been mentioned in the membership letter in May 2021 to remind other group members of the requirement.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Checked the member register, Interview with FM Group coordinator. Interview with Sydved's field staff

Non-conformity / gap raised from previous audit

5.1 Finding No.	4.	5.2 Due date	Sep 16, 2021
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open / closed	Closed
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	6.4.1

5.7 Requirement

6.4.1S. Managers shall exempt a minimum of 5 % of the productive forest land area 31 (in accordance with Annex 8) from measures other than management required to maintain or promote biodiversity conditioned by natural processes or traditional land use practices.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The exempted area in forestry plan for member does not amount to 5%. Forestry plan Sandåkra 1:22 prepared 2018-12-13: information on allocation 4.4%

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Forestry management plan for the subject member now contains 6.8% NS (protected with nature care) and 1.9% NO (strictly protected)

Corrective Action: The management plan has now been reviewed and an approved and renewed agreement with the new plan as a basis has been written. The deviation has been mentioned in the membership letter in May 2021 to remind other group members of the requirement.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Reviewed plan and new membership agreement.

Non-conformity / gap raised from previous audit

5.1 Finding No.	5.	5.2 Due date	Sep 16, 2021
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open / closed	Closed
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	6.2.4

5.7 Requirement

Managers shall take demonstrable measures to protect occurrences of red-listed species (in accordance with 6.2.2) outside delimited woodland key habitats. These can be generic, including detailed consideration or care-demanding patches at felling, or specific such as small-scale measures or setting aside forest land for nature conservation purposes.

5.8 Description of audit finding

There is not clear evidence that demonstrable measures to secure the presence of red-listed species (according to 6.2.3.) outside of delimited woodland key habitats are made in planning phase. There is no single case that would show that red-listed species would have been harmed. This is a general consideration connected to the lack of knowledge at some interviewed staff members and partly unclear instructions in the organization. The non-conformity is considered minor as the concern relates to how species data is retrieved by the purchasers and how the system is working in general. It cannot be demonstrated that there is a lack of system and there is a large gap in the system but it seems that it is not fully working. Evidence: Interviews and email exchange with staff. Mail exchange with Skogsstyrelsen. Instructions for species consideration at Sydved.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Sydved has created a formal procedure ensure that the requirement is met.

The planners have access to the species data portal and can use it as a basis to approve or reject the planned measure and / or propose alternative measures. The deviation has been mentioned in the membership letter in May 2021 to remind other group members of the requirement.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Reviewed procedures, reviewed membership letter, Interview with FM group coordinator. Interview with Sydved's field staff

Non-conformity / gap raised from previous audit

5.1 Finding No.	6.	5.2 Due date	Sep 16, 2021
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open / closed	Closed
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	4.4.10

5.7 Requirement

Managers shall plan, implement and monitor forest management so that archaeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding are maintained.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The logging was not implemented so that cultural remnants in form of stone quarries would have been fully protected in terms of leaving high stumps around it to protect from any future damage. Noticed at one landowner 4, dept 87.88. The NC is considered minor as this is on single case and the cultural remnant has not been damaged.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

The instruction in the organization has been to set culture stumps if no remnants are visible. Now it is changed and emphasized that culture stumps need to be placed in dubious cases also, when the remnant is visible but can be missed by a machine operator.

The deviation has been mentioned in the membership letter in May 2021 to remind other group members of the requirement.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Corrective actions are sufficient. The new FSC standard does not explicitly require that cultural stumps to be saved. No damage to ancient and cultural relics observed during field visits 2021.

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6. Observations \$

Clear and systematic presentation of the observations and considerations on which the certification decision is based at criterion **OR** indicator level, including findings of both conformities and nonconformities.

6.1 No.	6.2 Clause	6.3 Summary of findings
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1.2	The Organization shall demonstrate that the legal status of the Management Unit, including tenure and use rights, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.	There are contracts between group members and company New members are controlled, the cadastral registry is checked every time there is any change to properties. Boundaries towards neighbouring estates checked in field at members #643 and 265
1.4	The Organization shall develop and implement measures, and/or shall engage with regulatory agencies, to systematically protect the Management Unit from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities.	Interviews with forest owners and field observations confirmed that the requirement is met. Member #2066 has once reported to the police of illegal garbage dumping.
1.6	The Organization shall identify, prevent and resolve disputes over issues of statutory or customary law, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner, through engagement with affected stakeholders.	The handling of legal disputes is covered in the procedures. No illegal disputes have occurred nor noted at the visited members.
1.8	The Organization shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria in the Management Unit, and to related FSC Policies and Standards. A statement of this commitment shall be contained in a publicly available document made freely available.	The commitment to FSC is expressed through the environmental policy of the company and it is available on request. All checked forest owners have all their forest estates covered by the certificate. The official part of the forest management plan include a forest owners commitment to live up to the FSC requirements.
2.3	The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.	The Swedish Work Environment Authority's provisions on Systematic Work Environment Management is required. Interviews with Sydved staff and contractors' employees confirmed that the requirements are applied. All employees have access to healthcare through occupational health service according to contracts. Verified through document review and interview with workers. There have not been any comments from the unions regarding health and safety issues. All employees have the right to organize. The employment form in general is permanent employment unless otherwise agreed upon. Negotiations on salary and work conditions are made according to collective agreements. Interview with logging machine drivers. Social requirements in order. Health and safety equipment well in place. Occupational health service is in place. Discussion on the requirement to have a "staff cabin". The worker considers this totally non relevant in this geography and only a burden as it can be stolen or vandalized. This is not needed as the home of workers is not far away in this geography. Auditor checked his latest salary payment ticket from 1.9.2021 and the compensation corresponds to the level as per the applicable collective agreement.
2.4	The Organization shall pay wages that meet or exceed minimum forest industry standards or other recognized forest industry wage agreements or living wages, where these are higher than the legal minimum wages. When none of these exist, The Organization shall through engagement with workers develop mechanisms for determining living wages.	The employment form in general is permanent employment unless otherwise agreed upon. Negotiations on salary and work conditions are made according to collective agreements. Workers are aware of their rights and obligations that apply for the work.
4.4	The Organization shall implement additional activities, through engagement with local communities, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale, intensity and socio-economic impact of its management activities.	In Sweden there is a custom right called "Everyman's rights" common use right for all people. Granting right of access and permission to pick berries and mushrooms, as long as one does not cause any damage on the ground or living plants and trees. Group members usually rent out hunting rights to local hunting associations. Both forest owners and company staffs are well aware of the potential of the forests to produce benefits and resources such as outdoors recreation, hunting and fishing. Recreational values are taken into account in the forest management plans. There is a general instruction implemented to maintain accessibility and avoid damage to frequently used paths. Forest roads are kept open and accessible

4.5	The Organization, through engagement with local communities, shall take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of those activities and negative impacts.	Recreational values are taken into account in the forest management plans. There is a general instruction implemented to maintain accessibility and avoid damage to frequently used paths. NC: Consultation with neighbor before logging was not done properly and not documented. During the audit also several good examples of consultation with neighbors were noted. Path and recreational values had been well considered at several of audited members
5.2	The Organization shall normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit at or below a level which can be permanently sustained.	Forest management plans are established for the group members at least every 10 years. Forest owners are not required to implement all activities suggested in the plans. All forests visited during the audit have been managed more or less according to the applicable plans. The forests are divided into 10-year age-classes in the plan. The standing volume and growth for the next 10 years are analyzed in the plans The age distribution differs depending of historical use of the forests. Severe damages by bark beetle in spruce forests have forced many forest owners to clear-cut more areas than planned. Levels of timber harvested are long-term sustainable through compliance with the forest management plans of the properties. There are yield calculations in the plans.
6.1	The Organization shall assess environmental values in the Management Unit and those values outside the Management Unit potentially affected by management activities. This assessment shall be undertaken with a level of detail, scale and frequency that is proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary conservation measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities.	Forest management plans take account of regional biodiversity action plans and in accordance with the character of the property in the sense that broadleaved habitats are identified for possible conservation purposes. Environmental values are assessed in the development of forest management plans. If this is not in place there are procedures to identify environmental values at stand level prior to any major forest management activities. The direct impacts of forest operations such as harvesting are checked and mitigated through the pre- and post-operational checks that are in place and implemented.
6.2	Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, The Organization shall identify and assess the scale, intensity and risk of potential impacts of management activities on the identified environmental values.	NC: This is done only in cases where any nature values are expected to be found. There is anyhow an application and a checklist that was available, but most usually the analysis of nature values is done already in connection to the establishment of a management plan.
6.3	The Organization shall identify and implement effective actions to prevent negative impacts of management activities on the environmental values, and to mitigate and repair those that occur, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of these impacts.	Environmental values are assessed in the development of forest management plans. If this is not in place there are procedures to identify environmental values at stand level prior to any major forest management activities. Forest management measures are adapted to site conditions. These measures are presented in the plan. Structures such as older and dead trees are left in both thinning and final harvest and fresh dead wood of all common tree species are created. Conservation areas, edge zones or groups of trees are left to avoid large clean-cut areas. During all harvesting operations trees of high biological importance "nature value trees" are defined and left unmanaged.
6.4	The Organization shall protect rare species and threatened species and their habitats in the Management Unit through conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities and to the conservation status and ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species. The Organization shall take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare and threatened species beyond the boundary of the	Red listed species that are negatively affected by forestry activities are identified mainly in the key habitat inventory. Key habitats are always identified in the forest plan. There is a web-portal (Artportalen) where red-listed species occurring outside the key habitats are registered. When e.g. raptors' nests are identified, measures are taken to protect them. There are generally good nature care and members are well aware of the importance of biodiversity and nature conservation measures done on their estates. Management activities that may affect rare and threatened bird species are avoided during the breeding season. The direct impacts of forest operations such as harvesting are checked and mitigated through the pre- and post-operational checks that are in place and implemented.

	Management Unit, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit.	
6.5	The Organization shall identify and protect representative sample areas of native ecosystems and/or restore them to more natural conditions. Where representative sample areas do not exist or are insufficient, The Organization shall restore a proportion of the Management Unit to more natural conditions. The size of the areas and the measures taken for their protection or restoration, including within plantations, shall be proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, and the scale, intensity and risk of management activities.	In the contract with the group members it is stated the requirement to exempt a minimum of 5 % of the productive forestland area. All properties visited during the audit had set aside areas of more than 5%. Often the purpose is to promote biodiversity linked to broadleaved habitats. Management/protection objectives are formulated and documented in the forest management plan for each set aside area. The implementation of 6.5.2 is in process and will be enforced on member level. New agreements are signed with each member where they commit to the new requirements. The transition period for signing the new agreement ends on 31Dec2021. Those members who have not signed the new agreement by then will be suspended from the group.
6.6	The Organization shall effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and genotypes, and prevent losses of biological diversity, especially through habitat management in the Management Unit. The Organization shall demonstrate that effective measures are in place to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting.	Structures such as older and dead trees are left in both thinning and final harvest and fresh dead wood of all common tree species are created. Conservation areas, edge zones or groups of trees are left to avoid large clean-cut areas. During all harvesting operations trees of high biological importance "nature value trees" are defined and left. Site visits shows that there is old dead wood left on the loggings and no trace in the wood piles show that it would have been harvested. Group members usually rent out hunting rights to local hunting associations who ensure that laws and regulations are followed.
6.7	The Organization shall protect or restore natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity. The Organization shall avoid negative impacts on water quality and quantity and mitigate and remedy those that occur.	Harvesting sites are clearly delineated in field and in GIS, including all the protected areas and buffer zones. Conservation areas, edge zones or groups of trees are left to avoid large clean-cut areas. During all harvesting operations trees of high biological importance "nature value trees" are defined and left. Harvesting and soil scarification is site-adapted and not carried out in buffer zones along water and wetlands. Modern technology and techniques are used to minimise soil damage and negative impact on water. Damage to soil and residual stands from harvest operations is monitored and reported in the post-operational checklist. No substantial soil damage noted at any of the visited sites. New ditches are not being dug on previously un-ditched forestland and other kinds of ditching or maintenance of old ditches is very limited. One ditch-cleaning site was noticed where the depth was kept the same as in the original ditch.
6.10	Management Units containing plantations that were established on areas converted from natural forest after November 1994 shall not qualify for certification, except where: d) clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or e) the conversion affected a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit.	The use of exotic species is rather rare. The requirement is stated in the membership agreement where the forest owner also declare the share of exotic species on the estate. None of the visited forest owners had any exotic species on their holdings.
7.1	The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and objectives for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and objectives shall be incorporated into the management plan, and publicized.	Planning documentation is available on request and kept by the forest owner. The elements in the plan, which are required to be public, are documented as an annex to the contract between the group member and the group entity. They are available from the group manager upon request.

7.2	<p>The Organization shall have and implement a management plan for the Management Unit which is fully consistent with the policies and management objectives as established according to Criterion 7.1. The management plan shall describe the natural resources that exist in the Management Unit and explain how the plan will meet the FSC certification requirements. The management plan shall cover forest management planning and social management planning proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of the planned activities</p>	<p>Participation in the group requires the group members to establish a forest management plan within two years. In the contracts with the group members there is a requirement to establish a green forest management plan within two years.</p> <p>The so-called Green Forest management plan contains details concerning each individual stand's production and environmental values and is a fundamental basis for decision making. The plans presented during the audit were in compliance with the requirements. Site-specific management instructions are issued for areas with particularly high cultural and biodiversity values. Information in the forest plan and site visits provides a base for these instructions.</p> <p>The objective of the plan is to describe the forest area and to propose the activities for the next 10 years with a note if it shall be done in the first 5-year period or the next 5-year, or if nothing is needed to be done. All forest is divided into stand with the same stand composition such as age, site description, tree composition and geographical location. Forest owners are not required to implement all activities suggested in the plans.</p>
7.6	<p>7.6 The Organization shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, proactively and transparently engage affected stakeholders in its management planning and monitoring processes, and shall engage interested stakeholders on request.</p>	<p>Included in the procedure for stakeholder consultation. Possible impacts of regular forestry activities are considered during the operational planning process. See also Nonconformity related to 4.5.2.</p>
8.2	<p>The Organization shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit, and changes in its environmental condition.</p>	<p>The certificate holder has a monitoring plan where frequency and intensity of the monitoring of the group members is described. Monitoring of individual members conformity with the FSC requirements is primarily made through the internal audits. The internal audit of forest owners covers i.a. a review of the Forest Management Plan (set aside areas, broadleaf stands, etc), social and environmental impacts of management activities, silviculture, planned harvesting, ongoing harvesting and finalised harvesting.</p> <p>In addition to this each harvesting team makes a self-evaluation of the performance when each logging site is finalised. The results from the self-evaluations are analysed by Sydved and during the internal audits the results are cross-checked with the results from the field visits made on the particular site.</p> <p>Sydved has well developed and thorough monitoring system for ensuring that their own performance is meeting the company's own quality and environmental requirements.</p>
8.5	<p>The Organization shall have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of its management activities, for demonstrating the source and volume in proportion to projected output for each year, of all products from the Management Unit that are marketed as FSC certified.</p>	<p>There are no sales invoices issued by the forest owner but the price, FSC claim is stated in the purchase contracts and in the self-billing issued by Sydved when the contract is finished.</p> <p>Sydved have a separate FSC CoC certificate that cover all sales from the group members as well as raw material sourcing and sales from non-certified forest owners. The CoC certificate is certified by Bureau Veritas and audited in a separate process.</p> <p>Sydved use the FSC credit system, and all products are sold as FSC Mix Credit, FSC Controlled Wood or as non-certified.</p> <p>Examples of purchase contracts and self-billing invoices were checked during this audit.</p>
9.1	<p>The Organization, through engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence and status of the following High Conservation Values in the Management Unit, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values: HCV 1 – Species diversity. Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species, that are significant at global, regional or national levels. HCV 2 – Landscape-level ecosystems</p>	<p>There are generally few areas listed as HCVF at the members. These are mainly Key biotopes which are always protected as nature care areas and exempted from harvesting activities (unless management is made to maintain or enhance the ecological values of the Key habitat. All such areas are listed by the Forest Agency and can be reached through public planning documents and maps. Other often found HCVF are mainly water catchment areas and there are no restriction of harvesting. Only restriction is that it is not allowed to keep the fuel depot inside the area during harvesting.</p> <p>Inventories and available materials from relevant authorities are used when identifying High Conservation Values during the Forest Management planning process. When there is presence of High Conservation Value Forests they are described in the official part of the forest management plan</p> <p>The County Administrative Board and Swedish Forest Agency are relevant stakeholders if there is need of consultation.</p> <p>In general, HCV areas identified have dedicated management instructions described in the planning documentation. Implemented measures would be described in the plan if such HCVF were identified in</p>

	<p>and mosaics. Intact forest landscapes and large landscape-level ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.</p> <p>HCV 3 – Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.</p> <p>HCV 4 – Critical ecosystem services. Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.</p> <p>HCV 5 – Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>HCV 6 – Cultural values. Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or Indigenous Peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p>the forest. No management of HCV areas were observed during the audit.</p>
9.4	<p>The Organization shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of High Conservation Values, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, and shall include engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and experts.</p>	<p>HCV areas are in general left as set aside areas and thus management activities are very rare. In the rare cases when logging takes place in Key habitats these shall always be coordinated with the local Forestry Board and monitored carefully by both the Forestry Board and by Sydved. No management of HCV areas were observed during the audit. Monitoring of implemented management activities in HCVF is included in the internal audit program.</p>
10.3	<p>The Organization shall only use alien species when knowledge and/or experience have shown that any invasive impacts can be controlled and effective mitigation measures are in place.</p>	<p>The use of exotic species is rather rare. The requirement is stated in the membership agreement where the forest owner also declare the share of exotic species on the estate.</p> <p>Lodgepole pine is not planted in Southern Sweden.</p> <p>None of the visited forest owners had any exotic species on their holdings. Exotic tree species are not retained as nature consideration during fellings.</p>
10.7	<p>The Organization shall use integrated pest management and silviculture systems which avoid, or aim at eliminating, the use of chemical pesticides. The Organization shall not use any chemical pesticides prohibited by FSC policy. When pesticides are used, The Organization shall prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values and human health.</p>	<p>No chemical pesticides are used inside the certified area or on seedlings used for reforestation. A small proportion of the plants that Sydved buy from nurseries and sell to forest owners are treated with a mechanical protection layer (Woodcoat) that protects the seedlings against pine weevil (<i>Hylobius abietis</i>).</p> <p>“Rot-Stop” may be used when needed. It is a fungus to prevent root rot and is the only biological control agent used. Official guidelines from authorities are followed for when pest mitigation actions shall be implemented.</p> <p>There is appropriate handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste. All waste is disposed at waste terminals.</p> <p>Interviews with the Group manager and Forest owners confirmed that they were all well aware that chemical pesticides may not be used.</p>

10.8	The Organization shall minimize, monitor and strictly control the use of biological control agents in accordance with internationally accepted scientific protocols. When biological control agents are used, The Organization shall prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values.	“Rot-Stop” may be used when needed. It is a fungus to prevent root rot and is the only biological control agent used. Official guidelines from authorities are followed for when Rot-Stop is used
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7. Audit findings

Nonconformities/Observations raised from this audit

7.1 Finding No.	1.	7.2 Due date	Sep 8, 2022
7.3 Grading	Minor	7.4 Open/closed	Open
7.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	7.6 Clause	10.11.1

7.7 Requirement

Tops and branches of spruce, pine and birch can be extracted where the impacts on the productivity of the soil are limited, provided that at least 20 % of the tops and branches are retained.

7.8 Description of audit finding

On two visited logging sites it was concluded that too much wood residues had been removed.

At member xxx, site Skirö: wood residues carefully taken out to the road in the second thinning of a pine stands, very little or no tops and branches left in the stand.

At member xxx, site Källberg. It is doubtful whether enough tops and branches remained on site in the finalized final felling visited.

7.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Click or tap here to enter text.

7.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Click or tap here to enter text.

Nonconformities/Observations raised from this audit

7.1 Finding No.	2.	7.2 Due date	Sep 8, 2022
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7.3 Grading	Minor	7.4 Open/closed	Open
7.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	7.6 Clause	4.5.2

7.7 Requirement

Engagement is carried out for areas identified in 4.5.1, in a timely manner, before the commencement of planned management activities

7.8 Description of audit finding

The engagements with neighbors and local stakeholders have not been properly documented and communicated within the organization and with the land owners in a couple of examples seen.

Collaboration with a neighbor had been undone in practice before final felling. Attempts to contact had anyhow been made.

- Landowner xxx, estate Ebbarp 1: 5, # 2
- xxx, estate Stora Våring.

Also good examples of consultations with stakeholders and neighbors seen in the audit for other sampled group members and FMUs.

7.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Click or tap here to enter text.

7.10 CB's review to corrective actions

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Nonconformities/Observations raised from this audit

7.1 Finding No.	3.	7.2 Due date	Sep 8, 2022
7.3 Grading	Minor	7.4 Open/closed	Open
7.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	7.6 Clause	6.2.1

7.7 Requirement

A conservation value assessment is conducted and documented as part of the site planning, generally when the ground is free from snow cover, prior to regeneration felling, final thinning and forest road construction

7.8 Description of audit finding

Conservation value assessments are not always done prior to regeneration felling, final thinning and forest road construction. There is a possibility to perform it and a tool in place but in practice if there are clear values or the forest is very trivial, the CVA documentation is not always found.

This is considered a minor nonconformity because the standard is still under implementation in the organization and there are no evident cases where this lack would have lead to logging of valuable habitats. The question is more about lacking formal procedure in those cases where the organization has not identified the need for conservation value assessment.

Evidence of site visited in audit where values were not documented but values also were not found:
- xxx 1:4 # 105, Aminne 3:2 # 214

Evidence of protected sites where values were present but CVA had not been made:
- xxx 2:8, # 92, 94

7.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Click or tap here to enter text.

7.10 CB's review to corrective actions

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8. Certification decision

Peer review(s)\$			
8.1 Review date	8.2 Peer reviewer	8.3 Peer reviewer expertise	8.4 Peer reviewer's comment
Click or tap to enter a date.			

Note: Peer review is only applicable for main evaluation.

Certification decision	
8.5 Difficulties identified during the evaluation	None
8.6 Conditions (corrections of minor non-conformities) or	The minor NC:s need to be corrected within 12 months of issuance date.

pre-conditions (corrections of major non-conformities) associated with the certification decision	
8.7 Auditor recommendation for the certificate holder's management system and performance	The group management system and system for internal compliance control is sufficient to allow for a positive certification decision.
8.8 Certification decision	Maintain
8.9 Decision detail	The Bureau Veritas Certification decides that the FSC FM group certificate of the Sydved AB remains valid. The 3 minor non-conformities shall be closed by 08.09.2022.
8.10 Decision date	Mar 29, 2022
8.11 Decision making entity	FSC FM HUB of Bureau Veritas Certification
