

FSC™ CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION SURVEILLANCE AUDIT n°2 Public REPORT

Report finalisation date: 30 December 2020

SVEASKOG FÖRVALTNINGS AB

Torsgatan 4, SE 105 22, Stockholm,
SWEDEN

Fredrik.klang@sveaskog.se

Forest location(s): Forests in south, mid and northern Sweden

Certificate registration code: BV-FM/COC-008344

Date of issue: 31.07.2020

Date of expiry: 26.01.2024

Main Evaluation :	17 09 2018 to 09 10 2018
Surveillance 1	02 09 2019 to 10 09 2019
Surveillance 2	21 09 2020 to 09 10 2020 (transfer from DNV, previous certificate DNV-FM/COC-000739)
Surveillance 3	
Surveillance 4	

BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION

<https://certification.bureauveritas.com>

Contact person: krzysztof.wypij@bureauveritas.com

Management office
Bureau Veritas Sweden

Fabriksgatan 13

41250 Göteborg, SWEDEN

Contact person: Julia.lenkkeri@bureauveritas.com

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1 - Description and background of the applicant forest entity

Forest Management company			
Name	SVEASKOG FÖRVALTNINGS AB		
Address	Torsgatan 4, SE 105 22, Stockholm		
Telephone	+46 0771-787 000		
E-mail	Fredrik.klang@sveaskog.se		
Web site	www.sveaskog.se		
CEO of the company	Ms Hannele Arvonen		
Contact person (responsible) for FSC certification	Mr Fredrik Klang		
FSC trademark responsible	Mr Fredrik Klang		
Activity	Forest management		
Category of forest management	Non SLIMF/Natural forest/ /State forestry/ Boreal		
Number of forest workers and contractors:	Forest field activity	2800*	200*
	Administrative/office activity		
	Industrial and transformation process (if relevant)	NA	NA

*Number of contractors involved varies depending from the seasonal character of the operations and results of forest service's procurement processes.

Scope of certificate

1.1 - Certification application type and description of FMU(s)

1.1.1 - Certificate

	Single FMU	Multiple FMU	Group
Normal Certificate	NO	YES	NO
Small SLIMF Certificate	NO	NO	NO
Low intensity SLIMF Certificate	NO	NO	NO

1.1.2 - Description of FMUs

Classification	Number of FMUs	Total forest area (ha ¹)			
		Privately managed	State managed	Community managed	Total
Less than 100 ha in area	0	0	0	0	0
100 – 1000 ha in area	0	0	0	0	0
1000 – 10 000 ha in area	0	0	0	0	0
More than 10 000 ha	5	0	3 903 000	0	
Meeting the eligibility criteria as SLIMF	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Forest area	0	0	3 903 000	0	
TOTAL landholding area			3 903 000		3 903 000

The total area has changed since last audit due to the fact that only productive forest has been reported previously and now the entire ownership is included.

¹ 1 inch = 2,54 centimeters ; 1 foot = 0,3048 meters ; 1 yard = 0,9144 meters and 1 mile = 1,609344 kilometers

1.2 - Product categories and main commercial timber:

List of Timber Product Categories available for sale as FSC-certified products				
Trade Name	Species (botanical name)	Product Type FSC	Selling mode	FSC product claim
Roundwood	Abies alba; Acer platanoides; Alnus glutinosa; Betula spp.; Fagus sylvatica L.; Fraxinus excelsior; Larix spp.; Picea abies; Pinus contorta; Pinus strobus; Pinus sylvestris; Populus tremula; Prunus avium; Pseudotsuga menziesii; Quercus robur; Tilia spp.; Ulmus glabra	W 1.1	Sale at delivered price	FSC 100%
Fuelwood	Abies alba; Acer platanoides; Alnus glutinosa; Betula spp.; Fagus sylvatica L.; Fraxinus excelsior; Larix spp.; Picea abies; Pinus contorta; Pinus strobus; Pinus sylvestris; Populus tremula; Prunus avium; Pseudotsuga menziesii; Quercus robur; Tilia spp.; Ulmus glabra	W1.2	Sale at delivered price	FSC 100%

1.3 - In case of Group certification

N/A

2 - Description of evaluation

2.1 - Composition of the audit team

Evaluation Team	Notes. CV is obtained on request form the certification body	MA	AS1	AS2	AS3	AS4
Team Leader	Fredrik Cederquist, FSC FM lead auditor in training on behalf of Bureau Veritas Certification; under witness			x		
Auditor 1	Tomas Einarsson, FSC FM qualified auditor on behalf of Bureau Veritas Certification			x		
Auditor 2	Julia Lenkkeri, FSC FM qualified lead auditor of Bureau Veritas Certification			x		
Witnessor	Julia Lenkkeri, FSC FM qualified lead auditor of Bureau Veritas Certification			x		

2.2 - Description of the audit program

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Date & time	Activity
Management at Head Office	
21.9.2020 09:00 - 0930	JÖNKÖPING + Head Office remote Opening Meeting, confirmation of audit scope & approach,
1000 - 1100	Management Stakeholder needs, External analysis Environmental policy Management review
1100- 1200	Environmental objectives and action plans
1400 - 1500	Internal audit Corrective actions Documentation management system Statistics workplace accidents/Incidents
1300 - 1400	Objectives and action plans Nature conservation
1500 - 1530	Logo type handling
1630- 1700	Daily Debrief
MO SYD – RO (FMU) GÖTALAND	
22.9.2020 0800 - 0900	JÖNKÖPING Local opening meeting Planning field visits
0930 - 1030	RO Götaland Management Organization Goals, Communication Training
1030-1200	RO Götaland Instructions and procedures, protection of species. Provision of conservation areas and protected areas Monitoring and evaluation of conservation values
1300 - 1700	FIELD VISIT Planned harvesting objects Provisions
22.9.2020 0800 - 0900	VÄXJÖ Local opening meeting Planning field visits
0930 - 1100	Silviculture Routines, planning, follow-up
1100 - 1700	FIELD VISIT Tingsryd Silviculture Maskinbesök Sunnebo
1700	Daily Debrief

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23.9.2020 0800- 1700	FIELD VISIT Felling /planned felling between Växjö and Hornsö Braås and the surrounding area Åseda wind power plant HORNSÖ Ecopark Planning, Management Follow-up Hornsö external stakeholder issue Complaint to Sveaskog follow up
24.9.2020 0800- 1700	FIELD VISIT Misterhult/ Västervik Final felling, Thinning Visit machine groups Misterhult external stakeholder issue Complaint to Sveaskog follow up Vimmerby Forest management Visit sub contractor
24.9.2020 0800-1700	FIELD VISIT Soil preparation and planting. Field visits Oskarshamn Sub Contractor Requirements
MO NORR – RO (FMU) NORRBOTTEN	
28.9.2020 0800 - 0900	PITEÅ Local opening meeting Planning field visits
0930 – 1200	Handling of complaints and external comments , Corrective actions Follow-up of previous deviations
1300 - 1630	HCV Forests Planning, Procedures Follow up
0930 - 1200	Silviculture Planning, Procedures Follow up
1300- 1700	Field site inspections Silviculture
29.9.2020 0800-0900	ARVIDSJAUR Local opening meeting Planning field visits
0900- 1000	Social consultation Abraure Complaint to Sveaskog, follow up

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1300 - 1700	Field site inspections Complaints and Major NC Follow up LILL SKARJAK, MASKAURE
0800-0900	ÄLVSBY Local opening meeting Planning field visits
0900 - 1000	ÄLVSBY Sustainable harvesting levels Planning, follow-up
1000-1700	Field site inspections Harvesting, Soil preparation Visit harvesting team
30.9.2020 0800-1700	ARVIDSJAUR Sami reindeer herding Planning, Procedures Follow up Complaint to Sveaskog, follow up Luokta-Mavas Sami village Field site inspections and stakeholder consultation
0800-1700	ÄLVSBY Field site inspections Thinnings and contractor interviews
1700	Debrief
1.10.2020 0800-1700	PITEÅ Field site inspections Planned and implemented Harvesting Complaint to Sveaskog, field check: Sillre, Materialvägen
9.10.2020 1000-1200	CLOSING MEEETING Remote meeting - audit findings, NCs, confidentiality

Activity	Number of man-days
Audit activity on field	10
Stakeholder consultation	1
TOTAL	11

2.2.1 - Clear description of the sampling system employed to select FMUs or sites for evaluation and rationale for their selection

Determined in compliance with FSC-STD-20-007 v3.0 .
2 out of 5 FMUs were visited.

The selected FMU:s (RO Norrbotten and RO Götaland) were not visited during the last surveillance audit other than in complaint related issues.

Sites related to complaints received by certificate holder and negative comments directed to Bureau Veritas concerning the certificate holder were emphasized for field visits.

Sites were chosen to reflect different aspects such as silviculture, thinning and harvesting. Planned, on-going and finished operations were selected.

2.3 - Interview and stakeholders input and treatment.

2.3.1 - Interview(s) of involved people met during audit.

All together 10 directors and managers, 30 employees, 7 forest workers and 7 contractors as well as 7 stakeholder representatives were directly interviewed during the audit.

2.3.2 - Stakeholders identification and consultation process

Stakeholders were first identified and consulted prior to and during the initial audit by preceding certification body (on 5.7.2019)

Key stakeholders were also consulted with a general e-mail prior to this surveillance audit. During the audit certain stakeholders were consulted and met. Below are listed the comments and negative feedback that Bureau Veritas has received since last surveillance audit and up to the last day of annual audit 2020.

2.3.3 - Record of stakeholder received comments or complaints

Stakeholders reference (name / type) and date	Received comment or complaints	Theme (social, economy, environment)	Checked on-site	Answer from the certificate holder	Answer from Bureau Veritas
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) Issue raised since 2016, by E-NGO and Sami village	Lill-Skarjak, Arjeplog municipality. The forest is located in Maskaure Sami village's year - round grazing lands. The forest is in natural state with continuity structures over decades and it maintains natural values of key biotope class in addition to being important low-hanging lichen rich reindeer grazing land. Maskaure Sami village wants to keep the forest.	ENV, SOC	YES	<i>This area can be considered a difficult area to assess that was partly subject to differing nature value assessment (NVA) results by Sveaskog compared to E-NGO:s and Swedish Forest Agency. Mainly the differing opinions concerned number of nature value trees and amount of dead wood. The case has been raised to the central level of North West Sweden in SFA. Sveaskog sees that there is a need for calibration regarding the criteria what is to be classified as nature value trees in particular as there are differing opinions even inside SFA about this. Sveaskog has withdrawn the logging plans and will continue calibrations</i>	This comment relates to a major NC raised by previous certification body (NENA-0001-2314436). The site was visited in field by BV audit team. The area is 110-220 year old pine dominated forest of 40 hectares next to lake where selective logging has taken place in history. The area is heterogenous regarding structures. At some parts there are plenty of structures in places that make it possible for the forest to house RTE species. Parts of the object give the impression of ordinary pine forest at about 110 years of age with pine trees that do not demonstrate nature value characters (several trees drilled). 40% of the area has been delineated by Sveaskog as nature consideration areas. The major NC was closed during this audit following the actions taken and reported in point 5.3. in this report.

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				<i>with SFA in this geographical region.</i>	Please also see below interview with the Forest Agency concerning this site.
<p>Swedish Forest Agency of Northern Västerbotten</p> <p>28.9.2020</p>	<p>Interview with the forest consultant that performed the most recent NVA on Lill-Skarjak. Discussion regarding the conclusions in the report.</p>	ENV	YES	Not relevant.	<p>Key Habitat concept is not used by Forest Agency in NW Sweden anymore. The conclusion of Forest Agency's last NVA report regarding this site states that the area is a mosaic and nature values differ but overall there are high nature values in the area. There is also an indication that the delineations are well done, if nature consideration is to be prioritized, the later indicating that part of the compartment could be considered production forest. Anyhow the consultant confirms the high values in the area and this is an indication of WKH status as per the current FSC STD definition.</p> <p>Please, see also the Observation raised on that subject.</p>
<p>WWF</p> <p>6.10.2020</p>	<p>General concern and question regarding the level of Woodland Key Habitat inventory at the certificate holders in North-Western Sweden after Skogsstyrelsen changed their WKH inventory methodology</p> <p>https://www.skogsstyrelsen.se/globalassets/om-oss/publikationer/2019/rappport-2019-12-utveckling-avmetod-for-nyckelbiotopsinventering-i-nordvastra-sverige.pdf</p>	ENV	YES	Not relevant	<p>Separate answer sent to stakeholder on 11.11.2020. The question has been dealt with in the calibration group for certification bodies in FSC Sweden and the problematics with differing requirements concerning WKH inventory from Forest Agency and FSC has been raised to FSC Sweden to deal with. Requirement to use the old WKH methodology from 1995 is also creating confusion as Forest Agency uses and calibrates forest specialists towards newer NVA methodologies.</p> <p>Please, see also the Observation raised on that subject.</p>
<p>Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)</p>	<p>Road building has been undertaken in a Woodland Key Biotope in Gijmiesgielas. Maskaure Sami village, Arjeplog municipality.</p>	ENV, SOC	YES	<p><i>Forest road approved by the Swedish Forest Agency 2016 in November, notification A 44703-2016. The road was</i></p>	<p>Part of the area was visited in field by auditor but basing on the auditor's view the part visited could not be confirmed as having WKH character. The Swedish</p>

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21.10.2019	The forest is a full-layered, over 200-year-old coniferous mixed forest with a few old willows. Plenty of dead wood. Numerous old pines. The spruce forest, which is the original, is rich in dark hanging lichens and important reindeer grazing forest. The forest has burned far back and forest continuity is intact. The forest is of key biotope class.			<i>re-planned and built in autumn 2017 to avoid going through a key biotope and the Swedish Forest Agency approved the plan. Sveaskog and the Sami village have visited the planned logging department and the outcome was a differing opinion. There are no current felling plans in the area.</i>	Forest Agency has been asked to perform a NVA in upcoming bare soil period in 2021 in order to have the expert opinion of the site's nature values.
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) 15.6.2020	Planned logging in Maskaure Sami village, Bjellovare and eastern shore of lake Siebdnjesjavrrie, Arjeplog municipality. The compartment is 105 hectares, old-age, multi-layered, low-hanging lichen rich coniferous forest with plenty of dead wood. The forest is important reindeer grazing land and also maintains high natural values, VU and NT species are noted.	ENV, SOC	NO	<i>The logging plans have been subject to consultation with the Sami village in 2018 and 2019. The Sami village first said yes in the consultation but then changed their mind and since then nothing has been done. The field work has not started, no new natural value assessment or planning actions have yet been carried out.</i>	Swedish Forest Agency has been asked to perform a NVA in the upcoming bare soil period in 2021. This will be further scrutinized by Bureau Veritas in the course of next assessments.
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) since 2018	Bientiejaure, Norrbotten. Sveaskog has made a logging notification including logging of a base road to transport wood through a registered WKH to road side.	ENV	NO	<i>We are waiting for interpretation from FSC International if it is allowed to drive through a key biotope in the situation when there is no other good alternatives.</i>	The place was visited at the external audit in 2019. No remarks on the logging site itself. Waiting for answer for interpretation from FSC.
Luokta-Mávas Sami village since 2019	Luokta-Mávas Sami village opposes loggings in their area of reindeer husbandry. L-M has filed a complaint to Swedish Forest Agency on 9.6.2020 after SFA came with the decision to allow Sveaskog's loggings after a FSC-consultation process stranded. The objective is to safeguard the Sami village's civil law founding right to	SOC	YES	<i>36,000 ha of Sveaskogs holdings are located in this Sami village. The average logging activity has been 65 ha of final fellings per year since 2008. Sveaskog has reduced the AAC in this area by 30 % during this period. Final fellings are not done in lichen-type</i>	Auditor reviewed the notes from cooperation meetings between the parties since two years back. A meeting was held with Luokta-Mávas Sami village representatives in field. Discussion about the Sami village's activities and the impact of forestry on it. Inspection of planned loggings in Lill-Varjisträsk-area that is the area most used by Sveaskog and an

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	<p>reindeer herding. According to section 31 of the Forest Act, forest management must be adapted if it is clearly required with regard to reindeer husbandry. The problem is that, according to the complainant Sveaskog usually interprets this only on the basis of single loggings, without putting it in a landscape perspective where land types, altitude, location, etc. must be seen as an integral part to allow reindeer husbandry. The forestry over the past 50 years has partly reduced lichen through various types of forestry measures and a large area of the pastures has been reforested with Contorta pine that steers reindeers in the wrong direction. Basic requirement: stop all fellings within a 30-year period and harvest all Contorta stands.</p>			<p><i>forest but mainly in vaccinium-myrtillus-type forest, soil scarification is developed to be careful and loggings are scattered in the landscape. After several rounds of consultations that did not succeed, a mediation- process was undertaken and concluded on 18.2.2019. As a result, an action plan was approved by both parties which states that the goal should be that the Sami village should have functional winter grazing areas and the landowner should be able to conduct forestry. After this, the implementation of the action plan failed at the second consultation meeting when the Sami village significantly backed down on the amount of fellings. In the mediation phase discussion was of 200 hectares, while at the end the L-M representative informed that only one felling is possible to accept out of 50 fellings. Sveaskog has after this invited the Sami to continue consultation. Logging plans were put on hold after the stakeholders' media-campaign in 11/2020.</i></p>	<p>important winter pasture for the reindeers. The auditor asked to see the reindeer husbandry plan, but the Sami village does not have one yet. The representatives explained that it is not possible to point out individual fellings that are problematic as it is the landscape perspective that matters. The BV audit team concludes that the positions of the parties are far from each other but the land owner has taken appropriate actions on each requirement in the Principle 3 of the FM standard, including appropriate consultation measures, taking part in a mediation process, performing thinnings on young stands, adapted soil scarification measures and logging out parts of the Contorta stands. No deviation against standard requirements was found.</p>
<p>Private person</p> <p>24.1.2020</p>	<p>Gäddtjärn/ Fäbodsjön/ Hosjön. Sandvik municipality.</p> <p>Already in 2015 I have pointed out that problems will arise if you do not show better care before the fellings in</p>	ENV	NO	<p><i>Harvesting is paused when the complaint is received. We had a meeting with the stakeholders where SFA also participates on 28 / 11-19. It is decided that 4 fellings</i></p>	<p>The CH visited the object with stakeholders and the plans were accepted by stakeholders. Case closed.</p>

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	these areas due to the presence of ground-water. Due to the final fellings in the area, Granstandaberget and the areas below have become wetter. There are four known cases where houses have moved due to water in the ground. The land's ability to bind water is decreased when the forest is gone.			<i>are paused until field visits have been made. On 23 / 4-2020 we have a field meeting with SFA, SLU and the complainants. SFA informs it is ok to continue plans in the areas. Everyone involved leaves the meeting unanimously after the plans for management had been presented. Sites were harvested in August 2020.</i>	
Stöttingfjäll ets miljöskydds förening 24.1.2020	We request that Sveaskog check if reported final felling along Svanamyran in Nyby 30 km south of Lycksele is illegal. Measurements show that the area is an impediment where forestry may not be conducted. Pine tree measured was 12 m high and 250 years old.	ENV	NO	<i>The same complaint was received in 2017 and it was handled at that time. On 17.9.2020 answer is sent to stakeholder: in this case it was ensured at an early stage that no impediment was included in the planned felling. The felling has been done.</i>	The Swedish Forest Agency has allowed the felling and the complainant has filed a complaint to SFA on their decision. Consultation records with the Sami village seen and they have given permission to the logging.
Private person, 30.9.2020	Materialvägen, Jokkmokk municipality Sandy pine forest which has been designated by the County Administrative Board in Norrbotten as a forest worthy of protection. A few years ago, Sveaskog had reported felling the forest north of the road, but received support from the Swedish Forest Agency for the forest's high natural values of key biotope class. Now Sveaskog has reported a similar forest just south of the road and since the Swedish Forest Agency then, a few years ago, only looked at the felling report that was classified as WKH, the similar forest south of the road was not classified as	ENV	YES	<i>The logging has been consulted with the Sami village and the nature value assessment was carried out on 6.5.2020. The County Administrative Board sent a new surveillance layer (shape file) to Sveaskog where the area is specified after the logging notification was received. Sveaskog's natural value assessment states that the stand practically lacks valuable trees but contains plenty of dead wood in the form of dry standing wood, high stumps and old dead wood. Also abundant silver- and fire stumps occur.</i>	Since the site has been logged, it was not possible to perform a control of nature value assessment. <u>Non-conformities have been issued on 6.2.4. (dead wood run over), 6.4.1. (felling in NS areas) and 7.2.1. (information from authorities shall be taken into account).</u> It is remarkable that the complainant has made the species inventory two weeks before felling, without neither contacting Sveaskog nor posting the findings in the official Species Portal. The complainant has openly admitted that he does not want to notify species findings to the certificate holder because it only leads to smaller set aside areas, not that entire sites are saved. The audit team sees the need of more

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	<p>WKH. However, the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten has pointed out the area as an intended nature reserve, which Sveaskog is aware of because this information has been passed on to the company. Despite this, the company has begun to harvest it.</p>			<p><i>However, the overall assessment of structures and history does not point to classification as key biotope status. The object has 20% consideration areas that are outside felling. The Sami village's desire to leave larger open areas and concentrate consideration areas in larger cohesive groups was respected.</i></p>	<p>constructive and open dialogue in order to avoid situations where a logged forest is under complaint. The standard requirement is that known species findings are taken into account in planning. The 1995 methodology for key biotope inventory is based on recognizing structures that point to high natural values.</p>
<p>Private person 30.9.2020</p>	<p>Tellejokk/ Silre Lilla, Piellojaure Jokkmokk municipality</p> <p>Recently logged sand pine forest. Attached a map with all red-listed species findings in the forest during the inventory (VU and NT species). Sand pine forests with such high biological values are a priority habitat type and holds key biotope class with species finds such as these.</p>	ENV	YES	<p><i>NVA performed and logging planning includes set aside areas for dead wood concentration and nature value trees. The County Administrative Board has not communicated with us specifically about this object before. They sent an updated surveillance layer in March, but this area was not one of the areas we agreed to prioritize (status in Layer 0 =not inventoried, no remarks).</i></p>	<p>Logging was started and County Administrative Board stopped the logging after they got the knowledge of red-listed species. <u>Non-conformities have been issued on 6.2.4. (dead wood run over), 6.4.1. (felling in NS areas) and 7.2.1. (information from authorities shall be taken into account).</u> Swedish Forest Agency has been asked to perform a NVA in upcoming bare soil period in 2021.</p>
<p>County Administrative Board in Norrbotten 13.10.2020</p>	<p>Related to the two comments above. BV audit team contacted County Administrative Board (CAB) with questions regarding cooperation between Sveaskog and CAB regarding logging planning in CAB:s Surveillance Layers.</p> <p>No official rules exist for for loggings in the Surveillance Layers.</p> <p>The CAB is monitoring incoming logging notifications and will react on case-to-case</p>	ENV	NO	<p><i>Lack of clear instructions for cooperation. Sveaskog expects County Administrative Board to react in case a logging notification is threatening nature values in a designated Layer. Layers are increasing constantly and includes areas that are not inventoried. When Sveaskog performs a NVA and delineates set aside areas, it is seen as a more detailed</i></p>	<p>Status clarified and taken in account.</p>

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	<p>basis. Sveaskog has access to the monitoring layer and the goal is for all planned fellings that affect the designated areas to be preceded by a consultation. In February 2019 a new model for consultations was launched. However, it has not worked as intended. There are plans to agree on better procedures for co-operation.</p>			<p><i>planning then the general Surveillance Layer.</i></p>	
<p>E-NGO Skydda Skogen 15.10.2020</p>	<p>Sweden's last remaining old-growth forests are under immediate pressure due to the government's poor management of the state-owned forests. habitats, which are crucial for red-listed forest species and biodiversity as a whole</p> <p>https://storage.googleapis.com/planet4-sweden-stateless/2019/04/ddf20f4d-rapport_greenpeace_skydda_skogen_english_english_sidor.pdf</p>	ENV	NO	<p><i>Each case quoted in the report has been dealt with at a meeting between Sveaskog and stakeholder in Jan 2020 and detailed explanation to all specific cases quoted in report has been given by Sveaskog.</i></p> <p><i>Seventeen out of nineteen cases are change of status to another protection status. Two cases were wrong classification of site as WHK and has been changed to production forest.</i></p>	<p>The comment came to BV right after audit and was not dealt with as part of the audit. The material with maps and status for each case has been received by CB.</p> <p>The issue has been raised as a complaint to ASI from the stakeholder during ASI's audit of previous CB in 2020, but no issues related to this report has been raised or reported.</p> <p>It is recognized that, there is a possibility of "non-complying deregistration" of WKHs. The situation needs further research and will be addressed in next audit more thoroughly.</p> <p>The issue of deregistration of WKH:s in Sweden in general raised by stakeholders in media, will be addressed in the frames of FSC Sweden's working groups. The observation is raised in order to further investigate the developments.</p>

2.4 - Other evaluation techniques

Not applied

3 - Update about any changes to the scope of the certificate

3.1 - If changes about legal and administrative context

See public reports from previous certification body initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a0240000005sSRBAA2&type=certificate>

There are no major changes changes in legislative, administrative and statutory context.

3.2 - If changes about the other land use or activity in the forest included in the audit scope

See public reports from initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/>

There are no changes in other land use or activity in the forest included in the audit scope

3.3 - If changes about the ownership and use rights

See public reports from initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/>

There are no changes in ownership and use rights

3.4 - If changes about forest composition (e.g. added or excised FMUs)

There are no changes in ownership and use rights See public reports from initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/>

The total area is updated in order to follow the reporting requirement of FSC where the entire area of the ownership is reported. The previously reported 3,056 million hectares is production forest while the entire area is 3,9 million hectares.

3.5 - If changes about HCVF and endemic, rare, threatened or endangered species

The type HCV forests are the same as in previous audit. A NC was raised concerning classification of HCVF. Rare and treated species are checked in the Species Database and species findings from stakeholders is added to the management planning system.

See public reports from initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a0240000005sSRBAA2&type=certificate>

Change in Woodland Key Habitats, hectares between 2018-03-07 and 2020-01-17:

Norrbotten + 793
Västerbotten +227
Södra Norrland +387
Norra Bergslagen +35
Södra Bergslagen -54
Götaland -28
Total sum +1 360

The negative figures are due to the detailed planning work i.e. some key biotopes that have been set aside as entire compartments in history, before year 2000 mostly, and based on planning in office. As a consequence of recent more detailed planning in field, it has been noticed that the values are not present or only present in certain parts and the update might include changing the status.

WKHs on Sveaskog's land, total:

Date	Ha, productive forest land	Number of WKH
2018-03-07	114 162	14 597
2020-01-17	115 523	14 701
2020-10-08	116 302	14 840

So far in 2020 in total 139 new key biotopes have been registered

3.6 - Use of chemicals

Commercial name of the pesticide	Active ingredient of the chemical product	Reason for use	Approximate quantity used / year	Size of area treated annually
Trinet P	Alfa-cypermethrin	Insect nets whose thread contains long-acting insecticides. To be used for protection of coniferous forest against infestation by spruce bark beetle (<i>Ips typographus</i>).	30 nets used. 1,57 g /kg of net.	n/a

There are two derogations in force from FSC Sweden for the use of Alfa-Cypermethrin in cacher nets and as spray on log piles for the protection against bark beetle infestation. No log piles have been treated.

Only mechanically treated seedlings are allowed to be planted according to FSC Sweden's pesticide policy.

3.7 - If changes about commercial timber- and non-commercial timber products produced

See public reports from previous certification body initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/> -

There are no changes in overall amounts or assortments of commercial- or non-commercial timber products.

3.8 - If changes about forest management practices

See public reports from initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/>

There are no major changes in forest management practices.

3.9 - If changes about traceability

See public reports from initial assessment and surveillance 1 presented on <https://info.fsc.org/>

There are no changes in traceability procedures

3.10 - Number of accidents in forest work (serious/fatal) since the last audit

There are no fatal accidents during 2019 and since last audit. In total there were 98 days of absence because of work related injury in 2019

Number of reported occupational injuries among own employees, has increased from 3.5/1,000 work year in 2015 to 9.1/ 1,000 work year in 2019. The increase is mainly due to an increase in reporting of accidents occurring, and not an increase in the number of accidents

4 - Standard

	Ref / n° management FSC national standard	Other relevant standards and documents
Main assessment	FSC FM Standard for Sweden including SLIMF indicators v2-1 FSC-STDSWE-02-04-2010 www.se.fsc.org	FSC-STD-50-001 V2-0 FSC Trademark Requirements
Surveillance 1	FSC FM Standard for Sweden including SLIMF indicators v2-1 FSC-STDSWE-02-04-2010 www.se.fsc.org	FSC-STD-50-001 V2-0 FSC Trademark Requirements
Surveillance 2	FSC FM Standard for Sweden including SLIMF indicators v2-1 FSC-STDSWE-02-04-2010 www.se.fsc.org	FSC-STD-50-001 V2-0 FSC Trademark Requirements
Surveillance 3		
Surveillance 4		

5 - Observation

5.1 - Documents review

Examples of documents studied per category.

Administrative and legality (taxes, land use rights, etc.)

- Harvesting permits
- Consultation Records with Forest Agency
- Decisions documents from Forest Agency
- Beslut: A36526- 2020 från Skogsstyrelsen Girjas sameby
- A244471, A244207 Records of consultations Skogsstyrelsen 2016 i november. Ärendenummer A 44703-2016 Gijmiesgielas,

Intern social issues (accident records, safe and safety policies, trainings records, etc.)

- Accident register in the "IA" application
- Safety policies and procedures in H&S System
- Training records

- Insurance contracts
- Documented training in HR Plus
- Training Matrix 2020-02-17

Extern social issues (complaints or conflict records, stakeholder consultation process etc.)

- Records regarding stakeholder consultations
- Complaint records
- External stakeholder comment FURA 22896 är SNF Ombergkopark 22987 Inlagd 2020-09
- Complaint 22648. Synpunkter på Sveaskog inkom 2020-08-18
- Complaint 22327 Nattberget. 2020-07-07
- Complaint 21210 Avverkningar kring Purnuvara. 2020-05-08
- Piteälvens Ekopark 2020-04-03 Stakeholder records, plans
- A244471, A244206 Sveaskog och samebyn 1.10.2019 records of stakeholder consultation
- D311029 Borfors Records of stakeholder consultations Sami Village
- Management meeting med LS och SKS 2017. Ekopark

Environmental and HFCV (chemicals records, HCVF records, etc.)

- HCVF assessments records
- Management meeting med LS och SKS 2017. Ekopark
- Lill-Skarjak 29.9.2020 Maps, Nature value Assessment
- Objekt ID 4096753 records of protected species
- Plan "Tjäder på Lönhult". 2020-02-06 capercaillie
- "Instruktion insect inventory 110411 with SLU
- Nature Valueassessment 2020-05-19 Helgabo
- GISS documentation of HCV forests
- Records of conservation value increasing actions
- A578541 Lill-Skarjak Nature Value Assessments by Forest Agency and Sveaskog
- AE5003 Nature Value Assessment
- AE5255 Nature Value Assessment
- Nature Value Assessment Rävamyrvägen
- Nature Value Assessment Spångkojan

Management and harvesting operation (management plans, inventory records, harvesting records, etc.)

- Forest Management plans
- Planning documents for each site
- Maps
- Work instructions, Maps 2020-04-06 till 21.Älgåsen
- A533577 Maps Lill-Varjsträsket
- A620474 Maps Lill-Varjsträsket
- AB4500 Work instruction, Maps Kisträsk

- AC0989 Work instruction, Maps Varvliden
- AE3306 Work instruction, Maps Testbanan
- AB8557 Work instruction, Maps
- AE6237 Work instruction, Maps Björkholmsbergsv
- AC0588 Work instruction, Maps Kullnäsvägen
- AC1382 Work instruction, Maps Flyggebergsvägen
- D475860 Work instruction, Maps, Final report Borgfors
- AE3976 Work instruction, Maps Sellerydsvägen
- 101-115 Work instruction, Maps
- DO13196 Work instruction, Maps
- 101-106 Work instruction, Maps
- AC 9717 Work instruction, Maps, Training records, Non conformity handling reports
- ID D399570 Work instruction, Maps. Stensfors Sjävägen Final report
- ID D375592 Work instruction, Maps
- AE 5255 Work instruction, Maps

Monitoring process (FMU composition/ modification records, invoices and other sales records, environmental KPI records, sub-contractor contracts and KPI, records of member monitoring for group certificate etc.)

- Contractor employment contracts
- Internal audit reports
- Harvesting data and reports
- VIOL System (records of sales), Invoices, volume summaries
- Bark Beetle Info meeting juni 2020.
- Sustainability report 2019
- Sub Contractor Agreement– WNK PEFC EC 2153/SLA12,
- Sub Contractor Agreement TB Skog AB SE 1730
- Records of growth Norrbotten 2020-09-29
- Records on forest composition

Documented procedures related to FM

- Instruction management planning
- Instruction for consultation with the reindeer herding
- Instruction for managing contorta stands 20180714
- Windthrow and damaged forest – instruktion 20200316
- Bark beetle instruction 2020-06-23
- Procedures for nature value assessment
- Instruction 2020.08-23 NS Conservation measures
- "Instruktion Sveaskog och artskyddsförordning (species protection)
- "Instruktion Tjäderspel
- Avgränsning och målklassning" capercaillie
- "Skötselsholan miljöhänsyn I "Praktiken" Environmental considerations - Video online Forest Management School"
- Instruction –managing incoming stakeholder comments

- Instruction for social consultation 16.7.2018

5.2 - Evaluation results with reference to the FSC referential / standard criteria which are compulsory to be evaluated in a surveillance audit

PRINCIPLE 1: Compliance with law and FSC Principles

Criterion 1.1

National and local laws and administrative requirements related to the audit were met. Interviewed staff have knowledge of forestry law and agreements forest management legislation related to protected species

Criterion 1.5:

Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities. Potential illegal activities include illegal timber cutting, poaching, dumping of rubbish, use of off-road vehicles in unauthorised locations. Employees and contractors work in the areas and are continuously monitoring the property. No illegal or unauthorized activities were identified during the audit

PRINCIPLE 2: Tenure and use rights and responsibilities

Criterion 2.3 Disputes over tenure claims and use rights

There are appropriate mechanisms employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights.

There is an ongoing dispute with the Sami village Luokta-Mavas. The dispute resolution process has been conducted by third party and is very well documented. At the time of the audit Sveaskog and the Luokta-Mavas Sami village were not in agreement. The magnitude of the conflict does not disqualify the operation from being certified.

PRINCIPLE 3: Indigenous Peoples' Rights

Criterion 3.1

The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to use and manage their territories is recognized and respected.

This is done by consultations yearly with totally 44 Sami villages on Sveaskog (incl 8 concession Sami villages). There are several evidences that Sveaskog comply with documented consultation agreements. No loggings have been done without the prior consent of the Sami village. There are Sami villages where Sveaskog has not received permit to loggings, in Norrbotten, Västerbotten, Södra Norrland.

Criterion 3.2.

Although there are disputes, in general forest management does not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples when the principle of prior consultation is followed. Examples of considerations are that information in reindeer management plans are included as separate layers in Sveaskogs planning system. Information about key- and core areas for grazing (lichens rich areas) and important transportation zones exist. Sveaskog does not establish stands of exotic tree species within areas of importance to reindeer husbandry. Contorta pine stands are logged out according to agreement with villages as they are not wanted by Sami

PRINCIPLE 4: Community relations and worker's rights

Criterion 4.2 Compliance with health and safety regulations

Forest management meet applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees.

All employees have access to health-care through occupational health service according to contracts. There is an established system for health and safety issues within the company as well as at the sub-contractors used for forestry operations. Contracts with contractors were reviewed during the audit. Written agreements ensures compliance with the requirements.

Criterion 4.4 Social impact evaluations and consultation

Management planning and operations incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations are maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations. Examples of social consultations were reviewed during the audit. An updated procedure for handling external issues is launched.

PRINCIPLE 5: Benefits from the Forest

5.6. The rate of harvest of forest products does not exceed levels that can be permanently sustained. Timber harvesting is sustainable in the long term. Documentation of long-term sustainable harvesting levels is available. Growth in environmental set-offs is not included.

PRINCIPLE 6: Environmental Impact

Criterion 6.1

Environmental values at stand level are assessed prior to major forest management activities and results are documented. Forest management is planned to minimize adverse impacts.

There are updated procedures for nature value assessment where measurement points are systematically placed on the compartment. The raised NC at previous surveillance visit was closed based on the improvements done, including the updated methodology of NVA and a support methodology where a second opinion is consulted for the new NVA in difficult cases.

Criterion 6.2;

In general there are safeguards which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas are established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting is controlled.

A nonconformity was raised where the forest manager had not implemented demonstrable measures to protect the occurrence of red-listed species on two logging sites.

Woodland key habitats are exempted from measures other than management required to maintain or promote natural biodiversity or biodiversity generated by traditional practices. A major NC was raised concerning logging plans of a compartment considered as WKH by stakeholders. The corrective actions are similar as in 6.1. The need for calibration on high nature values in North West Sweden is raised to highest level in Forest Agency.

Updates in GISS are made twice a year from the species database to identify red-listed species (in outside delimited woodland key habitats. Own findings or other people's information is entered in GISS. An observation was raised regarding the frequency of updates

Criterion 6.3;

Ecological functions and values are maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including forest regeneration and succession, Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity and natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem. Forest management measures are adapted to site conditions.

There is knowledge of methods that mimic important aspects of natural and traditional forest dynamics

Examples of observed values are as follows:

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.

Forestry measures are planned and implement so that, wherever natural conditions permit, broad-leaf trees constitute a minimum average of 10% of the stand volume.

In general snags, windthrows and other trees are retained. However one nonconformity was issued regarding the retaining of dead wood on two sites.

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.

Care-demanding patches such as small habitats with specific biodiversity values and buffer zones required adjacent to habitats with specific biodiversity values are demarcated

Criterion 6.7;

There is appropriate handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste. All waste is disposed at waste terminals.

Criterion 6.9:

The use of exotic species is carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts. Currently there is no planting of *Pinus contorta* and there are procedures for managing stands with *P contorta*. All information on the use of exotic species is available in the planning and monitoring system GISS.

Principle 7:

Criteria 7.2

A non-conformity was raised towards the use of systematic procedures to regularly update management planning and documentation based on the results of monitoring, new information (from authorities, research, etc.) and changing environmental conditions. There were examples where the forest owner has not sufficiently taken into account information from the regional authority when planning management operations

PRINCIPLE 8: Monitoring and Assessment

Criteria 8.2;

Sveaskog has the data collection needed to monitor yield of all forest products harvested, growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest. There are examples of monitoring of composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna in the Ecopark management. Also there is cooperation with SLU and WWF for evaluation.

Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations are monitored as well as costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management. The sustainability report officially available on sveaskog.se includes information related to those issues.

PRINCIPLE 9: Maintenance of high conservation value forests

Criteria 9.1

Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests is done appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management. Subalpine forests at altitudes above the nature conservation boundary. Water protection areas and Excluded areas in Ecoparks are defined as HCV. A nonconformity was raised because the landowner has not defined forests of national interest and recognised nation-wide significance, according to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's definition as HCVF.

Criteria 9.3.5 and 9.4

Annual monitoring is conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.

At Sveaskog the measures taken to preserve and / or improve identified conservation values are primarily focused on nature conservation management (NS) conducted in the Ecoparks.

They are officially presented <https://www.sveaskog.se/skog-och-virke/miljo--och-naturvard/vara-ekoparker/naturvardande-skotsel-i-vara-ekoparker/>

PRINCIPLE 10: Plantations

This Principle is not applicable.

In general this principle is not relevant for Swedish forestry and is incorporated in other requirements in the national standard.

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5.3 - Result regarding the correction of Non-Conformities (NC)

Below are presented the findings raised by the preceding certification body (DNV):

n°	Indicator	Status	Date recorded	Text of the NC	Objective evidence	Closure deadline required	Potential new status	Closure evidence or remaining non-conformities	Closure date
1	4.4.2	Closed	2020.05.12	ANDALVE-0001-2094904: Complaints received by the certificate holder were not handled according to their own procedures. An initial response should have been provided within two weeks after receiving the complaint, this was not done.	Two examples were found where the communication with a complainant were lacking the final response which is defined as mandatory in the certificate holders' procedure. Another example of a shortcoming was a response that did not address any of the issues raised by the complainant. Evidence: Instruktion för hantering av externa Synpunkter", last updated on 09.07.2018 Brännvinsberget, Södra Ormtjärn, Norra Brännvinsberget	May 12, 2021		The instruction for handling external views has been updated. New system for registration and documentation of external views (FURA) provides a better overview of the case Instruction for handling external views is updated and communicated on the web 4 September 2020. Evidence of communication seen during the audit gives evidence of timely communication with stakeholders.	2020.10.09
2	6.1.7	Closed	2020.05.12	ANDALVE-0002-2094904 The procedure for natural value assessments at the time of the complaint investigation does not guarantee the deliverance of consistent and replicable results which are required by Annex 4 of the FSC-STD-SWE-02-03-2010. There is only a summarizing record of the conducted	Brännvinsberget, Södra Ormtjärn, Norra Brännvinsberget	May 12, 2021		New support is available in ArcGisonline (Survey123, Collector). It is described in the latest update of the nature value assessment in chapter 1.4 Overall assessment - section Work method assessment, "The natural value assessment is done with the help of evenly distributed measurement surfaces. The « dot-method » is	2020.10.09

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				<p>assessments archived. This is based on plots (with a radius of 25 meters) that are randomly sampled throughout the stand. However, there are no records that strengthens the basis for this summarized conclusions such as for instance how many plots that were actually assessed, a defined amount to be done per hectare or the location of the plots taken etc. Thereby it is not possible to check the basis for the summarized results. In addition to this, a site visited in field had been re-planned. This resulted in an increased area of set aside. There was however no updated natural value assessment on which this decision was based.</p>			<p>used in especially difficult-to-assess areas. Attached document Natural value assessment - RO Södra Norrland.</p> <p>2) Update in the nature value assessment instruction, under section 1.2 Upon knowledge of new knowledge or changes in the stand, the existing NVB shall be updated. Where there is a previous nature value assessment, a new nature value assessment must be made during a new planning of the department.</p> <p>Follow up Methodology verified and several NVA seen that were done according to new instructions.</p>	
3	1.1	Closed	2019 11 13	<p>NENA-0002-1305355</p> <p>The expertize at the central office have done an analysis of their compliance with the forestry act related to prioritized birds (according to annex 4 in FA §30). The results gives compliance however, nothing has been forwarded to the employees out in field. Therefore there is an insufficient knowledge in</p>	<p>Therefore there is an insufficient knowledge in the organization of how their work leads to compliance and the necessary measures to attend. The employees are unaware that there is a guidance to be used if questions would arise</p>	2020.11.12	<p>On March 24, 2020</p> <p>Head of Nature Conservation has held a training concerning the analysis to all environmental and nature conservation specialists. On September 4, a new item was published on Intranet where a link to the document with the analysis was published, see attached document "Analysis of the Species Protection Regulation". Via Roten, all employees at Sveaskog can receive important information.</p>	2020.10.09

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				the organization of how their work leads to compliance and the necessary measures to attend. The employees are unaware that there is a guidance to be used if questions would arise. Since this is related to awareness of the procedure it is considered a minor.				The item is available for all employees and knowledge has been confirmed.	
4	8.2.d.5	Closed	2019 11 13	NENA-0003-1305355 During the follow-up of two contractors it was revealed that that some required information (written agreements and health insurance) might be missing. However this information did not result in any corrective actions or report. Minor as this was the only cases of several samples reviewed during audit.	Evidence Företagskontroll Contractor 22/8-2019 Soc kontroll Contractor 1, 15/5-2019 Soc Kontroll Contractor 2, 22/8-2019	2020.11.12		The importance of registering non conformities at follow-up meetings with contractors was raised at several meetings during spring 2020. When updating the contractor's TD app on 23/9, the text field was forced if you tick the box for deviation. Information about the discovered technical error and correction has been done to the system. Purchasing managers perform the more in-depth company checks as they ensure what can sometimes be difficult to secure in fields such as e.g. occupational health care and employment contracts. Action verified 24/9 2020. Checked the app functioning at contractors in the forest. Some fields make it mandatory to register information	2020.10.09
5	3.2.5	Closed	2019 11 13	NENA-0006-1305355 The consultations have stated	No information	2020.11.12		At the forest management network's meeting on 15 May, this	2020.10.09

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				that scarification shall be done with great consideration. Visits in field does however show that the effected ground is greater than the 20 % that is the goal. As this is only found in some areas and not repeated from earlier years it is considered a minor.			discrepancy was raised and the importance of addressing this at the start-up of a soil preparation site. When looking at the results from the samples of this year's gentle soil preparations, it can be seen that the result is good and no systematic errors are available. Soil conditioner equipment in southern Norrland were rebuilt and the result was good At sites inspected during audit 2020 no deviation to the requirement was noted.	
6	1.1.3	Closed	2020 06 30	NENA-0015-130535 Three cases where clear fellings have been conducted without a felling application. Two of them were in areas with registered natural values (natural preservation and WKH). The three cases represent different root causes and the certificate holder has implemented actions to correct these. However, the analyses have not included other potential situations, and thereby root causes, that could lead to other legal violations. A more detailed analysis needs to be done in line with 1.1.3 in order to capture any	Evidence Review of CH documentation, felling directives, felling applications etc.	2021.06.29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in the management planning system have been implemented so that a final felling can never be combined with an NS felling and in other combinations, if so, you receive a warning. • A checklist is prepared for the introduction of new entrepreneurs incl. school law, as one case was connected with students practical training in the forest • An instructional film about the new directives has been produced, and is used both for existing contractors and for new ones. <p>No cases of fellings without felling notifications have been detected in current audit.</p>	2020.10.09

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				other situation that could lead to similar shortages. Corrective actions needs to be implemented for those identified situations. This is noted as a minor NC as the certificate holder has acted and reacted in all the three cases but with the shortages noted in this NC.					
7	1.1.2	Closed	2020/06/30	NENA-0016-1305355 A planned thinning to improve and enhance natural values was instead clear felled. A WKH of 0,8ha was suppose to be thinned but was clear felled. The certificate holder reported this to the Forest Agency upon discovery. This is now sent to the prosecutor. The certificate holder took immediate and extensive corrective actions. As the effect of these corrective actions in relation to 1.1.3 have not yet been able to verify and prosecutors assessment not yet is finalized, this is raised as a minor.	Review of CH documentation, felling directives, felling applications etc.	2021.06.29		Changes in the management planning system have been implemented so that a final felling can never be combined with an NS felling. The NS instruction has been updated and a guide with e.g. description of how to make a good felling directive for NS has been produced. See attached files "Instructions for nature conservation care" and "Create and update NS action in GISS guide" Previously implemented measures: • Adjustment in volume calculation in NS and ÖA • All NS is visible in Pstyr now. Extra calibrations organized. Conclusion: Actions have been taken to avoid similar NCs in the future. Field inspections made by audit team show compliance.	2020.10.09
8	6.2.1S Major NC	Closed	2020.07.27	NENA-0001-2314436 Sveaskog has planned a site for clearfelling. The Forest Agency assessments of the area	Evidence Natural value assessment carried out by Sveaskog, field visits and natural value	2020.10.26		The felling notification is withdrawn. Site verified in field and interviews with Sveaskog staff and Swedish Forest Agency. The site is a difficult boarder case	2020.10.09

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			<p>does however give that there are very high natural values of WKH class. The natural value assessments of Sveaskog identifies values such as natural value trees and dead wood but not to the same extent as the Forest Agency. Thereby the resulting classification of the area as a whole is not in line with the Forest Agency. As this repeated in the same geography previous corrective actions have not had the wanted effect. Therefore, this is classified as a major.</p>	<p>assessments carried out by the Swedish Forest Agency</p>		<p>with varying values. The standard states 6.2.1. <i>Managers shall exempt the following habitats from measures other than management required to maintain or promote natural biodiversity or biodiversity generated by traditional practices.</i></p> <p>BV audit team approached this requirement as follows: loggings or other harming activities are not allowed on such sites. The habitat has not been harmed. Calibration efforts with Forest Agency had already been undertaken when the NC was raised. Several calibrations have been made with management planners in the region to calibrate the assessment of nature values in field that could contribute to WKH status in NW Sweden and calibration work will continue with Swedish Forest Agency.</p> <p>Other corrective actions related to updating the NVA and knowledge of staff are the same as for the NC on indicator 6.1.7.</p>
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5.4 - Result regarding the resolution of complaints. Please, see chapter 2.3.3 in this report for issues related to the certificate holder activities.

No complaints have been received regarding Bureau Veritas' certification process.

5.5 - Result regarding previous observations

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n°	Date recorded	Text of the OBSERVATION	Status	Evidences for closure
1	2019 11 13	NENA-0007-1305355 According to the requirement the high stumps shall be done at the maximum height considered safe. Visits in field does however show that many are done at a very low height. As the heights still can be considered to be high stumps it is considered an observation.	Closed	Verified during field visits undertaken in the course of surveillance audit 2020. No high stumps at very low height were detected
2	2019 11 13	NENA-0008-1305355 During a visit in field a soil damage was noted. As it did not clearly effect a care demanding biotope it is considered an observation	Closed	Verified during field visits undertaken in the course of surveillance audit 2020. No soil damages were detected
3	2019 11 13	NENA-0012-1305355 In a second thinning (second thinning) a charcoal mound has been negatively affected by the harvesting. It is located close to a remnant of a cottage used by the charcoal workers. As this was harvested during winter and not a very clear remnant it is seen as an observation	Closed	Verified during field visits undertaken in the course of surveillance audit 2020. No identified charcoal mounds were negatively affected

6 - Result of surveillance evaluations

MAIN ASSEMENT	
Number of NC closed	Previous CB
Pending NC	Previous CB
New NC raised	16
Certification Recommendation	Issue recertification
SURVEILLANCE 1	
Number of NC closed	16
Pending NC	0
New NC raised	8
Certification Recommendation	Maintain validity of certificate
SURVEILLANCE 2	
Number of NC closed	8
Pending NC	0
New NC raised	5
Certification Recommendation	Maintain validity of certificate
SURVEILLANCE 3	
Number of NC closed	
Pending NC	
New NC raised	
Certification Recommendation	
SURVEILLANCE 4	
Number of NC closed	
Pending NC	
New NC raised	
Certification Recommendation	

6.1 - Synthesis on the conduct of the audit and closing meeting

The conclusions were shared by the forest entity's staff but at the closing meeting. There was a discussion on whether the Non-conformity "Dead wood has not been retained during final felling" was a non-conformity or not.

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7 - Records of Non-Conformities and observations and new ones raised during the audit

7.1 - Records of Non-Conformities

New Non-Conformities raised during the audit, or pending Non-Conformities:

n°	Indicator	Status	Date recorded	Text of the NC	Objective Opening evidence and justification of their classification of major or minor	Closure deadline required	Potential new status	Closure evidence or remaining non-conformities	Closure date
1	7.2.1	Open	2020.10.08	The forest owner has not sufficiently taken into account information from the regional authority when planning management operations.	<p>Objective evidence: Visit to logging sites: Sillre Materialvägen AE5255 and Sillre lilla AE5003, Jokkmokk municipality</p> <p>AE5255 was felled and felling of AE5003 was started, but the County Administrative Board stopped it. The County Administrative Board of Norrbotten has announced that the logging areas are located in the surveillance layer (Bevakningsskiktet) for areas with potentially high nature values that may be relevant in the formation of natural reserves.</p> <p>This is a minor non-conformity as the felling notifications on both sites were made in the normal order 6 weeks prior to start of the operation and the County Administrative Board has access to theses and an obligation to monitor fellings.</p>	2021.10.07			

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					The procedures for collaboration within the County Administrative Board's surveillance layer in Norrbotten has been well established and partly worked poorly. The procedures for collaboration are being revised in collaboration with the County Administrative Board				
2	6.3.4S	Open	2020.10.08	Dead wood has not been retained during final felling.	Objective evidence: Visit to logging sites: Sillre Materialvägen AE5255 and Sillre lilla AE5003, Jokkmokk municipality Dead wood had been driven over on the harvested sites. This is a minor deviation as the problem has only been discovered on the mentioned sites and there are procedures and good examples of preserving dead wood in fellings has been seen during field audits.	2021.10.07			
3	6.2.4	Open	2020.10.08	The forest manager has not fully implemented demonstrable measures to protect the occurrence of red-listed species.	Objective evidence: Recently felled area and an area that was stopped by the County Administrative Board contained red-listed species. Part of an external complaint; visit to field with the biologist filing the complaint. Communication / e-mail from the County Administrative Board Logging sites: Sillre Materialvägen AE5255 and Sillre lilla AE5003, Jokkmokk municipality Justification for the grade:	2021.10.07			

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					This is a minor non-conformity because the certificate holder received information about the species only after the fellings had been started / finalized and the species were not filed in the Species Data Bank at the time of planning of felling operations.				
4	9.1.1	Open	2020.10.08	The landowner has not defined all forests of national interest and recognised nation-wide significance, according to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's definition, as HCVF.	Objective evidence: List of HCVF categories. Justification for the grade: This is a minor non-conformity as it is a question of classification and does not entail a risk that HCVF values would have been damaged as the forests of national interest and nation-wide significance are all in practice under protected status.	2021.10.07			
5	6.4.1 S	Open	2020.10.08	Selective cutting has been carried out during the breeding season of birds in a NS-stand	Objective evidence: NS stand are designated as protection category where management activities are required to maintain the nature values. In this case spruce was taken out to enhance the growth of oak. Felling performed on 2020-04-21. Felling directive Älgåsen. Object AD1060. Field visit to department 0103. Interviews with planning staff. The issue was also raised by a stakeholder. Justification for the grade: this is a minor non-conformity as the deviation has been observed once.	2021.10.07			

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7.2 - Records of observations

New observations raised during the audit, or pending.

n°	Date recorded	Text of the observation	Objective Opening evidence
1	08.10.2020	The collection of information regarding rare and endangered species from the Species Observation system Artportalen to the management planning system is not done frequently enough when one considers the scale and intensity of forestry of the manager.	This is an observation as information from Artportalen is taken to the management planning system twice a year. In the FSC standard there is no specified intervals that should be followed and there for this requirement is subject to differing interpretations.
2.	19.01.2021	It is to be observed the developments regarding de-registration of WKHs and how this issue will be addressed in the frames of FSC Sweden's working groups. The question of functionality of the WKH concept as it is written in the Swedish FSC standard (version 1995 to be followed) is also raised to FSC Sweden.	Problems to implement and audit the Swedish FSC standard in the situation when Forest Agency has ceased to register WKH:s and has implemented a new nature value assessment model in NW Sweden.

8 - Proposals regarding the certification decision

Proposal of conclusion on whether the candidate entity achieved or not the required level of conformance

The certificate holder is in continued conformity with the certification requirements under the condition that the raised non conformities are addressed.

9 - Certification decision

Bureau Veritas Certification decides that FSC FM certificate of SVEASKOG FÖRVALTNINGS AB, Sweden, maintains valid.

There are no outstanding major non-conformities. The 5 minor non-conformities shall be closed before 07.10.2021.

Total area in the scope is updated in order to follow the reporting requirement of FSC where the entire area of the forest ownership is to be considered and amounts 3 900 000 hectares. Previously reported 3,056 million hectares is the productive forestland (with a total annual volume increment more than 1 cubic meter per hectare).

Issued 2020-12-30, reviewed the 19.01.2021.

FM certification decision maker,

Lead Auditor,

Krzysztof Wypij

Fredrik Cederquist

10 - Appendices

- A. Checklist FM
- B. Checklist FM STD SWE
- C. Field reports