

# FOREST MANAGEMENT AND STUMP-TO-FOREST GATE CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY SURVEILLANCE EVALUATION REPORT

## *Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB*

### **SCS-FM/COC-00153G**

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CERTIFIED	EXPIRATION
21 October 2016	20 October 2021

DATE OF FIELD AUDIT
2-26 October, 14 November 2017
DATE OF LAST UPDATE
28 January 2018

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## Foreword

Cycle in annual surveillance audits				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> annual audit	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> annual audit	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> annual audit	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> annual audit	<input type="checkbox"/> Other <i>(expansion of scope, Major CAR audit, special audit, etc.):</i>
Name of Forest Management Enterprise (FME) and abbreviation used in this report:				
Prosilva Skogscertifiering, Group Entity (GE)				

All certificates issued by SCS under the aegis of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) require annual audits to ascertain ongoing conformance with the requirements and standards of certification. A public summary of the initial evaluation is available on the FSC Certificate Database <http://info.fsc.org/>.

Pursuant to FSC and SCS guidelines, annual / surveillance audits are not intended to comprehensively examine the full scope of the certified forest operations, as the cost of a full-scope audit would be prohibitive and it is not mandated by FSC audit protocols. Rather, annual audits are comprised of three main components:

- A focused assessment of the status of any outstanding conditions or Corrective Action Requests (CARs; see discussion in section 4.0 for those CARs and their disposition as a result of this annual audit);
- Follow-up inquiry into any issues that may have arisen since the award of certification or prior to this audit; and
- As necessary given the breadth of coverage associated with the first two components, an additional focus on selected topics or issues, the selection of which is not known to the certificate holder prior to the audit.

### Organization of the Report

This report of the results of our evaluation is divided into two sections. Section A provides the public summary and background information that is required by the Forest Stewardship Council. This section is made available to the general public and is intended to provide an overview of the evaluation process, the management programs and policies applied to the forest, and the results of the evaluation. Section A will be posted on the FSC Certificate Database (<http://info.fsc.org/>) no less than 90 days after completion of the on-site audit. Section B contains more detailed results and information for the use by the FME.

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## SECTION A – PUBLIC SUMMARY

### 1. General Information

#### 1.1 Annual Audit Team

<b>Auditor Name:</b>	Jan Attebring	<b>Auditor role:</b>	Lead Auditor
<b>Qualifications:</b>	PhD Forest Management, 15 years' experience in Forest management audits. 35 years' experience in forest inventory, management and AAC calculations.		

#### 1.2 Total Time Spent on Evaluation

A. Number of days spent on-site assessing the applicant:	5+1+2+1
B. Number of auditors participating in on-site evaluation:	1
C. Additional days spent on preparation, stakeholder consultation, and post-site follow-up:	1
<b>D. Total number of person days used in evaluation:</b>	<b>10</b>

#### 1.3 Standards Employed

##### 1.3.1. Applicable FSC-Accredited Standards

Title	Version	Date of Finalization
FSC FM National Standard for Sweden	V2-2	May 05, 2010
FSC-STD-30-005	V1-0	August 31, 2009
All standards employed are available on the websites of FSC International ( <a href="http://www.fsc.org">www.fsc.org</a> ), the FSC-US ( <a href="http://www.fscus.org">www.fscus.org</a> ) or the SCS Standards page ( <a href="http://www.scsglobalservices.com/certification-standards-and-program-documents">www.scsglobalservices.com/certification-standards-and-program-documents</a> ). Standards are also available, upon request, from SCS Global Services ( <a href="http://www.SCSGlobalServices.com">www.SCSGlobalServices.com</a> ).		

### 2 Annual Audit Dates and Activities

#### 2.1 Annual Audit Itinerary and Activities

Date: October 2	
FMU / Location / sites visited	Activities / notes
Lima Besparingskog (special community forest in this part of the country). 36.056 ha productive area	Office interview with manager Ola Mattsson. The community has 1,100 members in the Lima area. The community forest does not provide any financial dividend to the members but instead contribute financially to silviculture operations and road building and maintenance. The Lima besparingskog also gives contribution to several sport clubs in the area. The productive area is about 36,000 ha and annual cuttings is about 58,000 cubic meters. Lima has their own organization for silviculture and roadbuilding. Harvest operation are mostly done by contractors. Field visits to final fellings, burnings and thinnings.
Transtrands Besparingskog (special community forest in this	Office interview with manager Börje Cedeskog. Transtrand has 450 members in the Transtrand area. The office has 4 employee who

part of the country). 20.521 ha productive area	work with planning of operations. Contractors are used for all silviculture and harvest operations. The community provides financial assistance to members silviculture operations and the local sport clubs. Field visit to clear-felled area with mosaic of retention areas for wildlife conservation.
<b>Date:</b> October 3	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
Malung-Sätters kommun. 14.550 ha productive area	Office interview with manager Mats Larsson. Review of management plan and documents related to contractors and GE. Field check at Främssjöarna, Tandberget. Clear-felled area with regeneration.
<del>Siv LövnäsS-3586</del> in Lima. 97.6 ha productive area. SLIMF	Meeting with <del>Siv LövnäsS-3586</del> and Siljanskog contractor Marcus Hebert. Review of management plan and documents related to Prosilva and Siljanskog. Field check at clear-felled area.
<del>Anita Ås ErikssonS-3656</del> in Sörsjön. 52 ha productive area. SLIMF	Meeting with <del>Anita Ås ErikssonS-3656</del> and Siljanskog contractor Stefan Eriksson. Review of management plan and documents related to Prosilva. Field visit to final felling area in Långtjärn.
<b>Date:</b> October 4	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
<del>Jan Olof LarssonS-3433</del> in Älvdalen. 445 ha productive area. SLIMF	Meeting with <del>Jan Olof LarssonS-3433</del> in Älvdalen at Siljanskog office together with Siljanskog manager Johan Sjöblom and Certification coordinator Torbjörn Andersson. Review of management plan and documents related to Prosilva and Siljanskog (contractor). Field check in first thinnings.
Älvdalen Kommun. 1.026 ha productive area.	Office interview with Lars Åkerman Mellanskog who is contracted to manage the forest for Älvdalen kommun. Review of management plan and policy in areas close to recreational sites. Stop at Dysdalens nature reserve.
<b>Date:</b> October 5	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
<del>Gunnar JoonsS-2571</del> , Ullvi, Leksand. 208 ha productive area. SLIMF	Meeting with <del>Gunnar JoonsS-2571</del> and Olle Bergkvist Weda (contractor). Review of management plan and documents related to Prosilva and the contractor. Field checks in clear-felled area, first thinning in spruce stand and thinning in deciduous stand.
<b>Date:</b> October 6	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
<del>Elisabet and Anders BjörklundS-2962</del> , Bjursås. 450 ha productive area. SLIMF	Meeting with <del>Anders BjörklundS-2962</del> and review of management plan and documents related to Prosilva and Siljanskog (contractor). Field check in clear-felled area and first thinnings.
<del>S-Hans-Erik MurmesterS-2169</del> , Svärdsjö. 336 ha productive area. SLIMF	Meeting with <del>Hans-Erik MurmesterS-2169</del> and review of management plan and documents related to Prosilva and Weda (contractor). Field check in thinnings.
<b>Date:</b> October 19	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
Anders Egonsson, Tanumshede, Tågeröd 1:5. 4.258 ha productive area.	Meeting with Anders Egonsson and review of management plans (2 FMU in Bohuslän) and documents related to wood buyer and contractors. Field check at clear-felled area, groups of retention

Formaterat: Engelska (USA)

Formaterat: Engelska (USA)

	<p>trees on lower parts and along small stream. Edge zone at lake side with large Pine trees. Birch and Larch planted along-side public road to promote light and visibility.</p> <p>Field check at first thinning in spruce stand. Well performed with no damages on soil and trees.</p>
<b>Date November 7</b>	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
<u>Daniel EggertzS-2536</u> , Falun, 499 ha prod. SLIMF. Stands: 9.1 final felling, 17 thinning, 5 clearing before cutting, 47 first thinning, 46.2 seed-tree regeneration	<p>Meeting with <u>Daniel Eggertz2536</u> and review of management plan and documents related to GE, wood buyer and contractors.</p> <p>Field check in regeneration felling, first thinning, seed-tree regeneration.</p>
<b>Date November 8</b>	
<b>FMU / Location / sites visited</b>	<b>Activities / notes</b>
<u>Sven-Erik StrömerS-1959</u> , Sundborn, 425 ha prod. SLIMF, Blix 119:1, Grops, final felling, pre-commercial thinning, regeneration	<p>Meeting with <u>Sven-Erik Strömer1959</u> and review of management plan and documents related to GE, wood buyer and contractors.</p> <p>Field check in final felling, regenerations and thinnings.</p>
<u>Anders AggeS-1953</u> , Siljansnäs, 175 ha, SLIMF, Stands. Östanhol, final felling, pre-commercial thinning	<p>Meeting with <u>1953Anders Agge</u> and review of management plans and documents related to GE, wood buyer and contractors.</p> <p>Field check in final felling and pre-commercial thinning</p>
<b>Prosilva office (GE), Uppsala.</b>	<p>Meeting with Magnus Norrby, Anneli Sandström and Gabriella Bodegård. Review of management system and record database. Full interview on FSC Group standard.</p>

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## 2.2 Evaluation of Management Systems

SCS deploys interdisciplinary teams with expertise in forestry, social sciences, natural resource economics, and other relevant fields to assess an FME's conformance to FSC standards and policies. Evaluation methods include document and record review, implementing sampling strategies to visit a broad number of forest cover and harvest prescription types, observation of implementation of management plans and policies in the field, and stakeholder analysis. When there is more than one team member, team members may review parts of the standards based on their background and expertise. On the final day of an evaluation, team members convene to deliberate the findings of the assessment jointly. This involves an analysis of all relevant field observations, stakeholder comments, and reviewed documents and records. Where consensus between team members cannot be achieved due to lack of evidence, conflicting evidence or differences of interpretation of the standards, the team is instructed to report these in the certification decision section and/or in observations.

### 3. Changes in Management Practices

There were no significant changes in the management and/or harvesting methods that affect the FME's conformance to the FSC standards and policies.

Significant changes occurred since the last evaluation that may affect the FME's conformance to FSC standards and policies (*describe*):

### 4. Results of the Evaluation

#### 4.1 Existing Corrective Action Requests and Observations

<b>Finding Number: 2016.1</b>	
<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
<b>FMU CAR/OBS issued to</b> (when more than one FMU): FMU 1: Group member: 2706 FMU 2: Group member: 1163	
<b>Deadline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify): None
<b>FSC Indicator:</b>	FSC-STD-SWE-02-02-2010 SW, 4.4.6, 4.4.7, 4.4.8
<b>Non-Conformity</b> (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Awareness of requirements regarding communication and consultation. Consultation is carried out, but documentations and procedures could be improved.	
<b>Corrective Action Request</b> (or Observation): Update procedures regarding documentation of consultation processes. Detailed information to GM from Group Entity regarding the documentation requirements.	
<b>FME response</b> (including any evidence submitted)	
<b>SCS review</b>	
<b>Status of CAR:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above): Carried to next audit

<b>Finding Number: 2016.2</b>	
<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
<b>FMU CAR/OBS issued to</b> (when more than one FMU): FMU 1: Group member: 2706 FMU 2: Group member: 1163	
<b>Deadline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify): None
<b>FSC Indicator:</b>	FSC-STD-SWE-02-02-2010 SW, 4.5.2
<b>Non-Conformity</b> (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Awareness of requirements regarding communication and consultation. Consultation is carried out, but documentations and procedures could be improved.	
<b>Corrective Action Request</b> (or Observation): Update procedures regarding documentation of consultation processes. Detailed information to GM from Group Entity regarding the documentation requirements.	
<b>FME response</b> (including any evidence submitted)	
<b>SCS review</b>	
<b>Status of CAR:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

<b>Finding Number: 2016.3</b>	
<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
<b>FMU CAR/OBS issued to</b> (when more than one FMU): FMU 1: Group member: 1163	
<b>Deadline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
<b>FSC Indicator:</b>	FSC-STD-SWE-02-02-2010 SW, 7.1h,
<b>Non-Conformity</b> (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Forestry carried out with a landscape perspective, but no documented landscape plan could be shown.	
<b>Corrective Action Request</b> (or Observation): Managers shall document their landholdings in accordance with Annex 3A and 3B. Managers of major holdings shall make publicly available ecological landscape plans, or equivalent documentation, with accompanying rationales.	

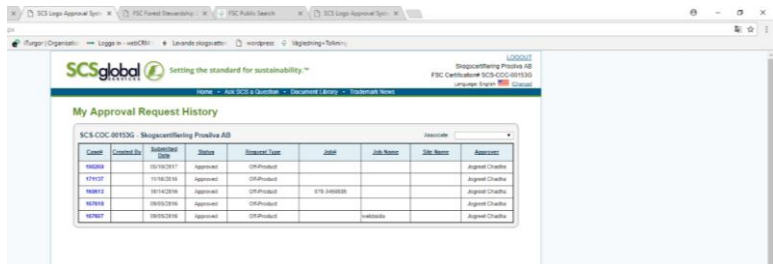


<b>FME response</b> <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	The specific group member has been contacted regarding the missing document. After contact, the group member has established a document which will be revised by our staff at a meeting with representatives for the group member in August 2017.  Also, since the inclusion of group member 1163 to our FME we have changed our routines regarding inclusion of managers of major holdings. The new routines assure that managers of major holdings fulfil certification requirements regarding documentations to a higher extent than before.
<b>SCS review</b>	The FME has responded according to the request. During 2017 field audit, Transtrand Besparingskog (member 1163) was audited and the Landscape plan was reviewed by the audit team. "The Landscape plan for Transtrands besparingskog" included all required elements such as description of the land with maps, areas for protection, distribution of felling areas, road network etc. CAR Closed, Jan Attebring, 18 October 2017.
<b>Status of CAR:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

<b>Finding Number: 2016.4</b>	
<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
<b>FMU CAR/OBS issued to</b> (when more than one FMU): FMU 1: Group member: 2706	
<b>Deadline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
<b>FSC Indicator:</b>	FSC-STD-SWE-02-02-2010 SW, 7.3.1
<b>Non-Conformity</b> (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Evidence of enough knowledge for carrying out assessed environmental values as well as updating forest management plan could not be shown.	
<b>Corrective Action Request</b> (or Observation): Managers shall have education required to implement the forest management plan for example assess environmental values at stand level prior to any major forest management activities.	
<b>FME response</b> <i>(including any evidence submitted)</i>	The FME has responded according to the request. An invoice was presented to the audit team with name (Bernt Nilsson) of participants and date (30-31 of May) as well as the content of the course.
<b>SCS review</b>	The group member completed an education in assessing environmental values and certification knowledge in May 2017. The education was held by us and conducted according to the methodology of Skogsbiologerna AB. CAR Closed, Jan Attebring, 18 October 2017.
<b>Status of CAR:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

<b>Finding Number: 2016.5</b>	
<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation	
<b>FMU CAR/OBS issued to</b> (when more than one FMU):	
<b>Deadline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input type="checkbox"/> Next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify): None
<b>FSC Indicator:</b>	FSC-STD-SWE-02-02-2010 SW, 6.3.8, 6.3.9
<b>Non-Conformity</b> (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Interview with group members, GM, shows that the awareness of the requirements regarding broad leaved trees can be improved.	
<b>Corrective Action Request</b> (or Observation): Managers shall plan and manage the landholdings so that, over time, an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the total area of mesic and moist forest land, suitable for natural regeneration and growth of broadleaf trees, carry deciduous rich stands dominated by broadleaf trees during the major part of the rotation period. The stands shall be managed in order to promote favorable conditions for biodiversity associated with broadleaf trees. The requirement regarding amount of deciduous rich stands dominated by broadleaf trees as well as the requirement regarding volume of broadleaf trees in older stands needs to be discussed continuously. Prosilva should follow the trends regarding any CARS towards the requirements issued during internal audit as new members join the group and new forest management plans are developed.	
<b>FME response</b> (including any evidence submitted)	
<b>SCS review</b>	
<b>Status of CAR:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

<b>Finding Number: 2016.6</b>	
<b>Select one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Major CAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor CAR <input type="checkbox"/> Observation	
<b>FMU CAR/OBS issued to</b> (when more than one FMU): Group Entity, Skogscertifiering Prosilva	
<b>Deadline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-condition to certification <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months from Issuance of Final Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Next audit (surveillance or re-evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> Other deadline (specify):
<b>FSC Indicator:</b>	FSC-STD-30-005 (V1-0) EN 9.4

<b>Non-Conformity</b> (or Background/ Justification in the case of Observations): Use of the FSC logo on information sheets and contract templates without approval from SCS.	
<b>Corrective Action Request</b> (or Observation): The Group entity shall ensure that all uses of the FSC Trademark are approved by the responsible certification body in advance.	
<b>FME response</b> (including any evidence submitted)	Information sheets and contract templates have been submitted to the SCS Logo Approval System. Also new routines have been added to our management system, clarifying the procedure of logo approval. Submitted is a screen copy of our approval request history. 
<b>SCS review</b>	The FME has responded according to the request. The document “Off-Product FSC Logo-Other Industry” was presented to the audit team. The request by Magnus Norrby, Prosilva was approved by Jogreet Chadha, SCS on 9 of May 2016. CAR Closed, Jan Attebring, 18 October 2017.
<b>Status of CAR:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded to Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other decision (refer to description above)

## 4.2 New Corrective Action Requests and Observations

No CAR or Observation was issued this year

## 5. Stakeholder Comments

In accordance with SCS protocols, consultation with key stakeholders is an integral component of the evaluation process. Stakeholder consultation takes place prior to, concurrent with, and following field evaluations. Distinct purposes of such consultation include:

- To solicit input from affected parties as to the strengths and weaknesses of the FME’s management, relative to the standard, and the nature of the interaction between the company and the surrounding communities.
- To solicit input on whether the forest management operation has consulted with stakeholders regarding identifying any high conservation value forests (HCVFs).

Principal stakeholder groups are identified based upon results from past evaluations, lists of stakeholders from the FME under evaluation, and additional stakeholder contacts from other sources (e.g., chair of the regional FSC working group). The following types of groups and individuals were determined to be principal stakeholders in this evaluation:

### 5.1 Stakeholder Groups Consulted

Nature conservation Association (SNF)	
Reindeer husbandry Association (Samernas riksförbund)	

Stakeholder consultation activities are organized to give participants the opportunity to provide comments according to general categories of interest based on the three FSC chambers, as well as the SCS Interim Standard, if one was used. The table below summarizes the major comments received from stakeholders and the assessment team’s response. Where a stakeholder comment has triggered a subsequent investigation during the evaluation, the corresponding follow-up action and conclusions from SCS are noted below.

### 5.2 Summary of Stakeholder Comments and Responses from the Team, Where Applicable

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FME has not received any stakeholder comments from interested parties as a result of stakeholder outreach activities during this annual audit.	
Stakeholder comments	SCS Response
<b>Economic concerns</b>	
<b>Social concerns</b>	
<b>Environmental concerns</b>	

## 6. Certification Decision

The certificate holder has demonstrated continued overall conformance to the applicable Forest Stewardship Council standards. The SCS annual audit team recommends that the certificate be sustained, subject to subsequent annual audits and the FME’s response to any open CARs.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Comments:</b>	

## 7. Changes in Certification Scope

Any changes in the scope of the certification since the previous audit are highlighted in **yellow** in the tables below.

### Name and Contact Information

<b>Organization name</b>	Skogscertifiering Prosilva AB		
<b>Contact person</b>	Anne-Li Sandström		
<b>Address</b>	Klostergatan 2, Box 26055, S-750 26 Uppsala, Sweden	<b>Telephone</b>	+ 46 (0)18-46 06 60
		<b>Fax</b>	
		<b>e-mail</b>	info@skogscertifiering.se
		<b>Website</b>	www.prosilva.se

### FSC Sales Information

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FSC Sales contact information same as above.			
<b>FSC salesperson</b>			
<b>Address</b>		<b>Telephone</b>	
		<b>Fax</b>	
		<b>e-mail</b>	
		<b>Website</b>	

### Scope of Certificate

<b>Certificate Type</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Single FMU	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple FMU	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group		
<b>SLIMF (if applicable)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Small SLIMF certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Low intensity SLIMF certificate	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group SLIMF certificate		
<b># Group Members (if applicable)</b>	588		
<b>Number of FMUs in scope of certificate</b>	588		
<b>Geographic location of non-SLIMF FMU(s)</b>	<i>Latitude &amp; Longitude:</i>		
<b>Forest zone</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boreal	<input type="checkbox"/> Temperate	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Subtropical	<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical	
<b>Total forest area in scope of certificate which is:</b>	<b>Units:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac		
privately managed	80 835		
state managed	0		
community managed	80 648		
<b>Number of FMUs in scope that are:</b>			
less than 100 ha in area	376	100 - 1000 ha in area	203
1000 - 10 000 ha in area	6	more than 10 000 ha in area	3

<b>Total forest area in scope of certificate which is included in FMUs that:</b>		<b>Units:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac
are less than 100 ha in area	Prosilva has records of every property and the total areas. However, the organization does not have a system to (easily) aggregate the numbers for this question.	
are between 100 ha and 1000 ha in area	See above	
meet the eligibility criteria as <i>low intensity</i> SLIMF FMUs	See above	
<b>Division of FMUs into manageable units:</b>		
n/a		

**Production Forests**

<b>Timber Forest Products</b>	<b>Units:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac
Total area of production forest (i.e. forest from which timber may be harvested)	161 483
Area of production forest classified as 'plantation'	0
Area of production forest regenerated primarily by replanting or by a combination of replanting and coppicing of the planted stems	There is much variation within the group; replanting and natural regeneration are used. Some areas are suitable for natural regeneration of Pine and in some mostly planting of pine is done. Spruce are regenerated by planting.
Area of production forest regenerated primarily by natural regeneration, or by a combination of natural regeneration and coppicing of the naturally regenerated stems	See above
<b>Silvicultural system(s)</b>	<b>Area under type of management</b>
Even-aged management	
Clearcut (clearcut size range 1-5 ha)	161 483
Shelterwood	0
Other:	0
Uneven-aged management	
Individual tree selection	0
Group selection	0
Other:	0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (e.g. nursery, recreation area, windbreak, bamboo, silvi-pastoral system, agro-forestry system, etc.)	Management by clearcut is by far the predominant management scheme within the group. However, alternative methods in terms of shelterwood and uneven-

	aged management do occur within the group but only to a low extent.
The sustainable rate of harvest (usually Annual Allowable Harvest or AAH where available) of commercial timber (m <sup>3</sup> of round wood)	Approximately 580 000 m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Non-timber Forest Products (NTFPs)</b>	
Area of forest protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for the production of NTFPs or services	0 ha
Other areas managed for NTFPs or services	0 ha
Approximate annual commercial production of non-timber forest products included in the scope of the certificate, by product type	
<b>Explanation of the assumptions and reference to the data source upon which AAH and NTFP harvest rates estimates are based:</b>	
<p><b>AAH</b> Average growth rate of about 4 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare/year. Usually only 90% of the growth rate can be accessed due to age structure constraints. Thus it is assumed that 3,6 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare/year can be harvested at a sustainable rate, which is the figure that was used for the AAH calculation above. General data on silvicultural systems in Sweden may be available from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (<a href="http://www.slu.se/sv/webbtjanster-miljoanalys/statistik-om-skog/avverkning/">http://www.slu.se/sv/webbtjanster-miljoanalys/statistik-om-skog/avverkning/</a>) or from the Swedish Forest Agency (<a href="http://www.skogsstyrelsen.se/en/">http://www.skogsstyrelsen.se/en/</a>, last accessed 9 September 2016).</p> <p>AAH is seldom mentioned explicitly in Swedish FMPs. Forest growth rate and total harvest volume derived from individual stand management suggestions can be compared. For SLIMF as well as non-SLIMF forest owners there are constraints in the Forestry Act on lowest final harvest age for different tree species and &lt;50% of the productive forest area should be in the age range 0-20 years. For non-SLIMF forest owners additional constraints apply that regulate annual harvest areas in order to even out harvest levels over time.</p>	
<p><b>NTFP</b> Commercial production of non-timber forest products is unusual in Sweden. Audited group members are not involved in any such business, as confirmed in interviews and the group manager is not aware of any NTFP operations among its group members. Berry and mushroom picking is free on any forest land holdings and owners are not able to collect any fees etc.</p>	
<b>Species in scope of joint FM/COC certificate: (Scientific / Latin Name and Common / Trade Name)</b>	
<i>Picea abies</i> /Spruce, <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> /Pine, <i>Betula pendula</i> /Betula <i>pubescens</i> /Birch, <i>Populus tremula</i> /Aspen	

### FSC Product Classification

Timber products		
Product Level 1	Product Level 2	Species
W1 Logs	W1.1 Roundwood	All
	W1.2 Fuel Wood W1.3 Twigs	All
Non-Timber Forest Products		
Product Level 1	Product Level 2	Product Level 3 and Species
n/a	n/a	n/a

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**Conservation Areas**

<b>Total area</b> of forest and non-forest land protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for conservation objectives:		ha	
<b>High Conservation Value Forest / Areas</b>			
<b>High Conservation Values present and respective areas:</b> ac		Units: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/>	
Code	HCV Type	Description & Location	Area
HCV1	Forests or areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia).		
HCV2	Forests or areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.		
HCV3	Forests or areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.	Each of the 555 FMUs has at least 5% of the production forest set aside. This area can often be classified as HCV3. But HCV3-areas vary in sizes and figures are constantly updated by the Swedish Forest Agency.	8 074 in total. Figures included in each group member's FMP
HCV4	Forests or areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).		
HCV5	Forests or areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).		
HCV6	Forests or areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).		
<b>Total Area of forest classified as 'High Conservation Value Forest / Area'</b>			



**Areas Outside of the Scope of Certification (Partial Certification and Excision)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A – All forestland owned or managed by the applicant is included in the scope.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant owns and/or manages other FMUs not under evaluation.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant wishes to excise portions of the FMU(s) under evaluation from the scope of certification.		
<b>Explanation for exclusion of FMUs and/or excision:</b>		
<b>Control measures to prevent mixing of certified and non-certified product (C8.3):</b>		
<b>Description of FMUs excluded from, or forested area excised from, the scope of certification:</b>		
<b>Name of FMU or Stand</b>	<b>Location (city, state, country)</b>	<b>Size (<input type="checkbox"/> ha or <input type="checkbox"/> ac)</b>

**8. Annual Data Update**

**8.1 Social Information**

<b>Number of forest workers (including contractors) working in forest within scope of certificate (differentiated by gender):</b>		
# of male workers	# of female workers	
<b>Number of accidents in forest work since last audit:</b>	<b>Serious: #</b>	<b>Fatal: #</b>

**8.2 Annual Summary of Pesticide and Other Chemical Use**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FME does not use pesticides.				
Commercial name of pesticide / herbicide	Active ingredient	Quantity applied annually (kg or lbs)	Size of area treated during previous year	Reason for use

## SECTION B – APPENDICES (CONFIDENTIAL)

### Appendix 1 – List of FMUs Selected For Evaluation

FME consists of a single FMU

FME consists of multiple FMUs or is a Group

SCS staff establishes the design and level of sampling prior to each group or multiple FMU evaluation according to FSC-STD-20-007. A list of the FMUs sampled and the rationale behind their selection is listed below.

FMU Name	FMU Size Category: - SLIMF - non-SLIMF - Large > 10,000 ha	Forest Type: - Plantation - Natural Forest	Rationale for Selection: - Random Sample - Stakeholder issue - Ease of access - Other – please describe
Lima Besparingskog		Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
Transtrand besparingskog		Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
Malung-Säter kommun		Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>S-Siv Lövnäs</del> 3586, Transtrand	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>S-Anita Ås-Eriksson</del> 3656, Sörsjön	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>Gunilla &amp; Jan-Olof Larsson</del> S-3433, Älvdalen	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
Älvdalens kommun		Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>Gunnar Joons</del> S-2571, Leksand	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>Elisabeth och Anders Björklund</del> S-2962, Bjursås	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>Hans Erik Murmester</del> S-2169, Svärdsjö	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
Per Och Anders Egonsson Tanumshede	<del>SLIMF</del>	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>Daniel Eggertz</del> S-2536, Falun	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>Sven Erik Strömer</del> S-1959, Sundborn	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata
<del>S-1953</del> Anders Agge, Siljansnäs	SLIMF	Natural Forest	Random Sample within strata

Formaterat: Teckensnitt: Inte Fet

## Appendix 2 – List of Stakeholders Consulted

### List of FME Staff Consulted

Name	Title	Contact Information	Consultation method
Anne-Li Sandström	Manager forest owners	info@skogscertifiering.se	Face-to-face
Gabriella Bodegård	Manager contractors	info@skogscertifiering.se	Face-to-face
Magnus Norrby	Director	info@skogscertifiering.se	Face-to-face

### List of other Stakeholders Consulted

Name	Organization	Contact Information	Consultation method	Requests Cert. Notf.
Stefan Eriksson, Jan Eriksson, Torbjörn Andersson, Markus Hebert	Siljanskog		Face to face interview	
Lars Åkerman	Mellanskog		Face to face interview	
Olle Bergkvist	Weda skog		Face to face interview	
SNF Dalarna	Nature Conservation Association		email	
Samernas riksförbund	Reindeer husbandry association		email	

## Appendix 3 – Additional Audit Techniques Employed

None.

Additional techniques employed (*describe*):

## Appendix 4 – Pesticide Derogations

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There are no active pesticide derogations for this FME.		
Name of pesticide / herbicide (active ingredient)		Date derogation approved
Condition		Conformance (C / NC)
		Evidence of progress

## Appendix 5 – Detailed Observations

Criteria required by FSC at every surveillance audit ( <i>check all situations that apply</i> )	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA – all FMUs are exempt from these requirements. <input type="checkbox"/> Plantations > 10,000 ha (24,710 ac): 2.3, 4.2, 4.4, 6.7, 6.9, 10.6, 10.7, and 10.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Natural forests > 50,000 ha (123,553 ac) ('low intensity' SLIMFs exempt): 1.5, 2.3, 3.2, 4.2, 4.4, 5.6, 6.2, 6.3, 8.2, and 9.4 <input type="checkbox"/> FMUs containing High Conservation Values ( 'small forest' SLIMFs exempt): 6.2, 6.3, 6.9 and 9.4
Documents and records reviewed for FMUs/ sites sampled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All applicable documents and records as required in section 7 of audit plan were reviewed; or <input type="checkbox"/> The following documents and records as required in section 7 of the audit plan were NOT reviewed ( <i>provide explanation</i> ):

Evaluation Year	FSC P&C Reviewed
2016	All – (Re)certification Evaluation
2017	P4 and P6
20XX	
20XX	
20XX	

C= Conformance with Criterion or Indicator  
 NC= Nonconformance with Criterion or Indicator  
 NA = Not Applicable  
 NE = Not Evaluated

PRINCIPLE 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS		
Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.		
<b>4.1 The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>4.1.1. Equivalent to 5.1.1.</b> <b>4.1.1SA. Equivalent to 5.1.1SA.</b>	C	All GM have a management plan which has been followed.  2017. All visited GM have updated management plans.
<b>4.1.2. Managers shall plan and manage the forest in ways that contribute to the long-term social and economic well-being of forest</b>	C	This is included in the agreement for joining the group for those GM having employees.

<p><b>workers as well as of people living in areas nearby.</b></p>		<p>2017. Lima, Transtrand have good records on employment and support to the local community. Malung and Älvdalen also have a record of supporting local sports clubs.</p>
<p><b>4.1.3. Managers with landholdings in subalpine areas<sup>12</sup> shall plan and manage the forest in ways that promote employment and the economy of local communities, while considering the needs of reindeer husbandry and avoiding jeopardizing high natural values.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>GM normally use local contractors, provided by local wood buyer, for logging and silviculture. Some GM do part of silviculture work themselves. Review of management plans.</p> <p>2017. Lima, Transtrand and Älvdalen use local contractors for both silviculture and harvesting operations. No reindeer husbandry in the area. High awareness of nature values.</p>
<p><b>4.1.4. Managers shall strive to, taking account of market conditions, use local services providers in forest management and to employ local people and/or hire local contractors.</b>  <b>4.1.5. 4.1.4SA. Managers shall strive to, taking account of market conditions, use locally employed people and/or local services providers in their forest management.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>GM normally use local contractors, provided by local wood buyer, for logging and silviculture. Some GM do part of silviculture work themselves.</p> <p>2017. Several GM demonstrate that only local contractors are used. Silviculture contractors often use foreign sub-contractors for plantation work as no local workers are available.</p>
<p><b>4.1.5. Managers of major holdings shall take demonstrable measures aiming at long-term, stable and beneficial relationships with contracting businesses.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>GM normally use local contractors, provided by local wood buyer, for logging and silviculture.</p> <p>2017. All the major GM have long term relations with contractors and wood buyers. These contractors participate in trainings on a regular basis. Wood buyers provide much assistance in terms of field planning and annual training.</p>
<p><b>4.1.6 Managers shall ensure and document that employees possess the required competence for their specific tasks as regards both production and the natural and cultural environment.</b>  <b>4.1.6SA. Managers with employees shall ensure and document that employees possess the required competence for their specific tasks as regards both production and the natural and cultural environment.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>4.1.6 This is included in the agreement for joining the group for those GM having employees.</p> <p>2017. Those GM that have their own operation team (Lima) provide the required training for the employees.</p> <p>4.1.5SA No SLIMF GM have employees.</p>
<p><b>4.1.7S. Managers with employees shall implement staff development programs to strengthen the professional identity and</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM shows on compliance.</p>

<b>branch competence of employees.</b>		2017. GM Lima provides continuous training for the employees.
<b>4.1.8S. Managers shall document measures in 4.1.7S in individual professional development plans that shall be prepared and implemented.</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM shows on compliance.  2017. GM Lima has records of training for their employees.
<b>4.1.9S. Management shall annually evaluate measures according to 4.1.7-4.1.8S in co-operation with the employee.</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM shows on compliance.
<b>4.1.10S. If any of the parties so wishes, a trade-union representative shall take part in the implementation of 4.1.7-4.1.9S.</b>	C	No such wishes have been formulated.
<b>4.1.11. Managers shall ensure, through written agreement or documentation that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholding comply with the requirements for managers with employees outlined in Indicators 4.1.6.-4.1.10.</b> <b>4.1.11SA. Managers shall ensure that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholding comply with the requirements for managers with employees outlined in Indicators 4.1.6SA - 4.1.10S.</b>	C	The requirement is included in the contract signed to join the group. Mainly third-part-certified entrepreneurs are used.  2017. Training provided by GE ais also open for contractors and their employees.
<b>4.2 Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>4.2.1S. Managers shall ensure that the employees have a good working environment to prevent any physical, mental or social ailment.</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM and GE and audit on site shows on compliance.  2017. GM and contractors have annual check-up of the working environment.
<b>4.2.2S. Managers shall ensure that the employees are informed of and comply with current regulations for systematic management of the working environment (The Swedish Work Environment Authority Provision AFS 2001:1).</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM and GE shows on compliance
<b>4.2.3S. Managers with more than ten employees shall report basic social information</b>	NA	No GM with more than 10 employees.

related to their staff in the annual report or other documentation.		
<b>4.2.4S. Managers with employees shall ensure that the best overall solution is selected when deciding upon methods and organisation of work, as well as when equipment is procured, taking into account the working environment, natural environment and economy. The natural environment shall not be prioritised at the expense of the working environment.</b>	C	Interview with GM and GE shows this awareness
<b>4.2.5S. Managers with employees shall ensure that these are provided with occupational health service offering wide-ranging competence, when available with experience from the forestry sector. The enterprise shall provide properly organized adaptation and rehabilitation services.</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM and GE shows on awareness.  2017. Large GM (Lima, Transtrand) have agreement with workers health service for check-up and rehabilitation.
<b>4.2.6S. Managers shall ensure, by written agreement or documentation that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholdings comply with the requirements in Indicators 4.2.1-4.2.5S.</b>	C	The requirement is a part of the contract signed to join the group. Mainly third-part-certified entrepreneurs used.
<b>4.2.7S. Managers shall ensure that the contractors commissioned and the manager agree upon consultation responsibility relating to working environment issues (The Working Environment Act, 6-7§ Chap 3,).</b>	C	Included in the agreement for joining the group. Interview with GM shows on awareness.
<b>4.3 The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labours Organisation (ILO).</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>4.3.1S. Managers shall guarantee the rights of workers to organize and negotiate as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labor Organization (ILO).</b>	C	This is part of Swedish legislation. Interview with GE shows compliance.
<b>4.3.2S. Managers shall comply with current legislation, shall be bound by collective agreements for their employees, and shall implement good labor market practices</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM shows awareness.
<b>4.3.3. Managers shall ensure that wages and conditions for employees within forest management conform to applicable Swedish central and local collective agreements.</b> <b>4.3.3SA. Managers with employees shall ensure that wages and conditions for employees within</b>	C	4.3.3 For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM shows awareness 4.3.3SA No SLIMF GM has employees.

forest management conform to applicable Swedish central and local collective agreements.		
<b>4.3.4S. Managers with employees shall offer lasting and secure conditions of employment, in the form of permanent tenure unless otherwise agreed upon. Priority shall be given to this form of employment. Duration of the assignment shall be taken into consideration.</b>	C	For GM with employees, this is a requirement included in the contract signed to join the group. Interview with GM shows awareness.
<b>4.3.5. In case of shortage of work<sup>13</sup>, managers shall promote, to the extent of their capacity, negotiations as stipulated in §§ 11 and 19 MBL (the law concerning right of participation in decision-making) with relevant trade-unions to reach agreement on mitigation measures for redundant staff.</b> <b>4.3.5SA. In case of shortage of work<sup>13</sup>, managers with employees shall promote, to the extent of their capacity, negotiations as stipulated in § 11 and 19 MBL (the law concerning right of participation in decision-making) with relevant trade-unions to reach agreement on mitigation measures for redundant staff.</b>	C	Interview with GM shows awareness  4.3.5SA No SLIMF GM has employees.
<b>4.3.6. In case of shortage of work due to operational changes, managers with employees shall set up programmes, appropriate to the magnitude of change, that outline how these changes will be implemented.</b>	C	Interview with GM shows awareness
<b>4.3.7. Managers shall ensure, by written agreement or documentation that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholdings comply with the requirements in Indicators 4.3.1-4.3.4.</b> <b>4.3.7SA. Managers shall ensure that contractors or other assignees with employees commissioned for forestry activities on the landholdings comply with the requirements in Indicators 4.3.1-4.3.3S, 4.3.3SA and 4.3.4S.</b>	C	The requirement is a part of the contract signed to join the group. Mainly third-part-certified entrepreneurs used, where the requirements also are included.
<b>4.4 Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.



<p><b>4.4.1. Managers shall make available, through procedures adapted to the size and scale of forest management operations, information to directly affected groups and individuals on how to access information about planned forest activities<sup>14</sup>.</b>  <b>4.4.1SA. Managers shall consider comments from affected individuals and other local stakeholders related to forest management operations<sup>14</sup>.</b></p>	C	<p>4.4.1. Such information is made available on request.</p> <p>4.4.1SA: No comments received by sampled GM.</p>
<p><b>4.4.2. Managers shall implement systematic procedures, adapted to the size of landholding, for handling comments on their forest management.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM shows compliance.</p>
<p><b>4.4.3. Managers shall provide affected stakeholders with an opportunity for consultation prior to final felling that affect sites of special importance in terms of recreation, culture and economy of the local population.</b></p>	C	<p>Information given as in 4.4.1 includes contact information to enable consultation.</p> <p>2017. Several GM reports on contacts with stakeholders that have resulted in modification of cutting plans, such as for biking tracks, cultural tracks and skiing areas.</p>
<p><b>4.4.4. Managers shall summon identified stakeholders, local development groups and others with a stated interest in the site to a consultation meeting by written notification stating time and place. A map outlining planned forest management shall be distributed to all identified stakeholders prior to the meeting.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM shows compliance.</p>
<p><b>4.4.4SA. Managers shall ensure that consultations aiming for consensus occur in cases where stakeholders have provided comments on the forest management.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM and GE shows compliance.</p>
<p><b>4.4.5. Managers shall seek assistance from a neutral party to resolve difficult disputes</b></p>	C	<p>No difficult disputes have occurred.</p> <p>2017. No disputes reported.</p>
<p><b>4.4.6. Managers shall document the consultation, including comments received, and specify where and when minutes from the meeting are available for comments. Meeting participants shall be given the opportunity to comment on the minutes and these comments shall be incorporated.</b></p>	C	<p>Consultation occurs, but the documentation can be improved. See <b>OBS 2016.1</b>.</p>
<p><b>4.4.7. Managers shall prepare final documentation of the consultation, including minutes from the meeting, that explains how</b></p>	C	<p>Consultation occurs, but the documentation can be improved. See <b>OBS 2016.1</b>.</p>

<p>concerns have been addressed and provides rationale for decisions. Decision on measures shall be taken by the manager, after consultation has been finalized.</p>		
<p><b>4.4.8. Managers shall communicate the documentation to the consultation participants prior to commencing forest management activities on the site.</b></p>	C	<p>Consultation occurs, but the documentation can be improved. See <b>OBS 2016.1</b>.</p>
<p><b>4.4.9. Managers shall document and compile information on archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding.</b>  <i>4.4.9SA. Managers shall ensure that there is documentation on known archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding.</i></p>	C	<p>This is included in the management plan preparation. Review of FMP shows on compliance.</p> <p>2017. Cultural sites are included in the digital maps connected to the management plan.</p>
<p><b>4.4.10. Managers shall plan, implement and monitor forest management so that archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding are maintained.</b>  <i>4.4.10SA. Managers shall ensure that forest management is implemented so that archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites on the landholding are maintained.</i></p>	C	<p>The FMP includes suggested management activities where consideration to archeological monument and sites and valuable cultural sites are defined. Interview with GM and GE and filed visits shows on compliance.</p>
<p><b>4.5 Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.</p>
<p><b>4.5.1. Managers shall be aware of legal and customary tenure and use rights related to forest management on the landholding. Managers shall take account of these rights in planning so as to avoid loss or damage related to rights, property, resources, or livelihood of the local population.</b>  <i>4.5.1SA. Managers shall manage their forests so that legal or customary tenure or use rights are not lost or damaged.</i></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM and GE and filed visits shows on compliance.</p>
<p><b>4.5.2. Managers shall have clarified procedures and responsibility for handling and investigating complaints related to damage affecting the legal or customary rights,</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM and GE and field visits shows on awareness. Documented procedures can be improved. See <b>OBS 2016.2</b></p>

property, resources, or livelihood of the local population.		2017. No complaints have been reported.
<b>4.5.3. Managers shall provide reasonable compensation for any loss or damage related to legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihood of the local population.</b>	C	No loss or damage has occurred at the sample of GM
<b>4.5.3SA. Managers shall provide reasonable compensation for any loss or damage related to legal or customary tenure or use rights.</b>	C	No loss or damage has occurred at the sample of GM.

<b>PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT</b> Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.		
<b>6.1 Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed -- appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources -- and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>6.1.1. Managers shall document their landholdings in accordance with Annex 3A and 3B.</b> <b>6.1.1SA. Equivalent to 7.1.a-bS, 7.1.fS, 7.1.gSA.</b>	C	All group members provided access to management plans addressing this requirement. Environmental values are assessed and documented in the planning. Site-specific management instructions are used for all forest management activities.  2017. All GM had maps showing their forest area.
<b>6.1.2. Managers of major holdings shall apply a landscape ecology perspective in their planning, taking account of the spatial configuration of the landholding and other local circumstances.</b>	C	Interview with GM and field visits shows on compliance.  2017. Lima and Transtrand have prepared landscape plans for their land holdings.
<b>6.1.3. Managers of major holdings shall plan forest management with the aim of achieving an ecologically balanced age distribution in the landscape, with special attention to the proportion of older forest in landscapes where there is a deficit of such forest.</b>	C	Interview with GM and field visits shows on compliance.  2017. Both Lima and Transtrand have an unbalanced age structure due to history. Managers are aware of this and plan for restrictions on harvest of old forest.
<b>6.1.4. Managers of major holdings shall make publicly available ecological landscape plans, or equivalent documentation, with accompanying rationales.</b>	C	No landscape plan in place for the GM sampled, but other relevant documentation is made publicly available on request. CAR/OBS 2.

		2017. The newly produced landscape plans are available to the public.
<p><b>6.1.5. Other managers shall ensure that regional biodiversity action plans or equivalent are taken into account when planning the forest management.</b></p> <p>6.1.5SA. Development of forest management plans shall take account of regional biodiversity action plans<sup>15</sup> or equivalent, to the extent possible and in accordance with the character of the property.</p>	C	<p>6.1.5 The sampled non-SLIMF GM have management plans produced by planning contractors that produces FMPs in line with certification standards. This includes regional biodiversity action plans are taken into account when planning the forest management. Interviews with GM, field visits and review of FMP shows on compliance.</p> <p>6.1.5SA Group members utilize certified planning contractors for forest management planning generally sourced by the wood procurement organization they sell their wood to. The organizations handle planning contractor quality control. By utilizing certified contractors that produce FMPs in line with certification standards, the managers are ensured that regional biodiversity action plans or equivalent are taken into account when planning the forest management</p> <p>2017. The Forest Agency make contact with forest owners when planning for nature protection activities in the area.</p>
<p><b>6.1.6S. Managers shall not use untested forest management methods or materials with potentially serious adverse impacts on people or nature unless approved by FSC Sweden.</b></p>	C	<p>No evidence of non-conformance with the requirement found during interviews with GM or field visits; group members only use tested methods.</p>
<p><b>6.1.7. Managers shall assess environmental values<sup>16</sup> at stand level prior to any major forest management activities, document the results, and plan and implement forest management so as to minimize adverse impacts.</b></p> <p>6.1.7SA. Managers shall assess and document environmental values<sup>16</sup> at stand level prior to any major forest management activities in areas where such values have not already been assessed in the development of forest management plans.</p>	NC	<p>6.1.7 One GM does have a management plan, but could not show documentation of assessed environmental values. CAR/OBS 3</p> <p>6.1.7SA All GM provided access to forest management plans. Environmental values are assessed and documented in the FMP.</p> <p>2017. All GM or their agent performs a nature value assessment prior to any operation in the forest stand.</p>
<p><b>6.2 Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.</p> <p>2017. Protected species are mapped by the Forest Agency and marked on the map and the management plan.</p>

<p><b><i>Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.</i></b></p>		
<p><b>6.2.1S. Managers shall exempt the following habitats from measures other than management required to maintain or promote natural biodiversity or biodiversity generated by traditional practices<sup>17</sup>.</b>  <b>a) Natural, conspicuously un-even-aged and stratified forests with an abundance of old/large trees and a high frequency of coarse dead woody debris in different stages of decomposition<sup>18</sup>.</b>  <b>b) Woodland key habitats according to the definitions and methodology of the Swedish Forest Agency, 1995.</b>  <b>c) Low/non-productive forest land (land with a total annual volume increment less than 1 cubic meter per hectare).</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interviews with GM, assessment of forest management plans and field visits shows on conformance with requirement. These areas are documented in the FMP and maps and not included in areas for felling operations. Low/non-productive forest land was not managed on any of the visited FMUs in line with Swedish forest legislation.</p> <p>2017. These types of areas are well mapped in all GM management plans.</p>
<p><b>6.2.2S. Managers shall ensure that woodland key habitats requiring active interventions are managed in accordance with defined and documented management objectives.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>No key habitats requiring active interventions were found during audit.</p> <p>2017. One of the GM this year has a key habitat. The management in the surrounding area has been discussed with the Forest Agency.</p>
<p><b>6.2.3. Managers shall evaluate and document information about occurrences of red-listed species (Annex 5) outside delimited woodland key habitats, and about consideration measures to be taken as regards such occurrences.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Preparing the forest management plan includes evaluation of occurrences of red-listed species for all forest land. Detection of red-listed species are documented in the FMP in connection to any measures needed to be taken. Review of FMPs.</p> <p>2017. No new occurrences of red-listed species have been reported to any GM or to GE.</p>
<p><b>6.2.4. 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.</b>  <b>6.2.4SA. Managers shall consider known occurrences of red-listed species (Annex 5) outside delimited woodland key habitats and take demonstrable measures to protect them. Such measures 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</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>6.2.4 Contractors used for forest management activities are well trained to handle this (as part of their certification), as confirmed during field visits where many examples of detailed considerations were found, e.g. along streams or wetlands.</p> <p>6.2.4 SA Contractors used for forest management activities are well trained to handle this (as part of their certification), as confirmed via interviews of staff at different agents, but also confirmed during site visits in the field where examples of detailed considerations were found, e.g. along streams or wetlands.</p> <p>2017. Several agents have attended this year's</p>

conservation purposes.		training in nature value assessment. These agents do the actual planning of any operation.
<p><b>6.2.5. Managers shall document known raptors’ nests and capercaillie leks and take demonstrable measures to protect them.</b>  <b>6.2.5SA. Managers shall consider known raptors’ nests and capercaillie leks and take demonstrable measures to protect them.</b></p>	C	<p>6.2.5 GM shows awareness of the documentation requirement in interview. No known raptors’ nests and capercaillie leks were at sampled GM sites.</p> <p>6.2.5SA The GM showed awareness of the requirement in interviews. No known raptors’ nests and capercaillie leks were at sampled GM sites.</p> <p>2017. There is good awareness of this issue, but none of this year’s GM knows about any raptor’s nest or capercaillie lek place.</p>
<p><b>6.2.6S. Managers shall avoid harvesting operations in stratified forests dominated by broad-leaf trees during the breeding season of birds.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM shows awareness of the requirement. No signs of harvesting operations in forests dominated by broad-leaf trees during the breeding season of birds were detected during filed visits.</p> <p>2017. There has been no operation in any broad-leaf forest this year.</p>
<p><b>6.2.7. Managers shall not establish forests on:</b>  <b>a) delimited patches of open or spontaneously overgrowing cultural land less than 0.5 hectare in the forest landscape;</b>  <b>b) open and spontaneously overgrowing cultural land where the species composition is still conditioned by former traditional management practises (crofters’ holdings, old cultivations).</b></p>	C	<p>The manager showed awareness of the requirement in interviews. However, no cultural land patches were found in field to confirm compliance.</p> <p>2017. No establishment of forest on such land has occurred.</p>
<p><b>6.2.7SA. Managers shall not establish forests on:</b>  <b>a) delimited patches of open or spontaneously overgrowing cultural land less than 0.5 hectare<sup>19</sup> in the forest landscape;</b>  <b>b) open and spontaneously overgrowing cultural land where the species composition is still conditioned by former traditional management practises (crofters’ holdings, old cultivations).</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement. No forest established on cultural land was detected during field visits.</p> <p>2017. No establishment of forest on such land has occurred.</p>
<p><b>6.2.8S. Managers shall maintain or create, preferably traditionally managed, open forest edge zones as part of the regular management of the stand.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement and during field visits conformance with the requirement was confirmed.</p>

		2017. Several examples of this was verified in the field.
<b>6.2.9S. Managers shall plan their forest management so as to avoid future shading of sun-exposed forest edges, forest islets on arable land and other small habitats.</b>	C	Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement and during field visits conformance with the requirement was confirmed.  2017. Examples of this was verified in the field.
<b>6.2.10S. Managers shall strive to maintain the biological diversity of uncultivated meadows and pastureland where the species composition is still conditioned by former traditional management practises. Biodiversity values associated with large previously solitary trees and with tree and shrub species characteristic of traditionally managed areas shall be promoted.</b>	C	Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement.  2017. Example if the field how old meadows along a river now is managed in accordance with old practice, including solitary shade trees and pasture.
<b>6.2.11S. Managers shall manage, where possible, any other afforested, previously open, cultural areas so that deciduous trees dominate throughout the rotation period in areas immediately adjacent to non-forested cultural land.</b>	C	Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement. However, no afforested, previously open, cultural areas immediately adjacent to non-forested cultural land found in field visits.  2017. See example in 6.2.10
<b>6.2.12. Managers shall monitor their landholding for signs of illegal hunting and fishing and take corrective and preventive measures as required.</b>	C	No illegal activities on any of the GM ownings.  2017. Some fishing activities have been reported to the police, but no charges have been issued yet.
<b>6.2.12SA. Equivalent to 1.5.1SA.</b>	C	No illegal activities on any of the GM ownings.
<b>6.3 Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:</b> <i>a) Forest regeneration and succession.</i> <i>b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity.</i> <b>Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>6.3.1. Managers shall adapt forest management measures to site conditions and document the measures.</b>	C	Interview with GM and review of forest management plan shows compliance. All audited GM provided access to management plans, which address this requirement.  2017. This is central in all forest operation and also regulated in the Forest Act.
<b>6.3.1SA. Managers shall adapt forest management measures to site conditions.</b>	C	Interview with GM and review of forest management plan shows compliance. All audited GM provided access to management plans, which address this requirement.

<p><b>6.3.2. Managers shall have knowledge about management methods that mimic important aspects of natural and traditional forest dynamics and when such management methods are preferable.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>All GM provided access to management plans, which address this requirement. Interview with GM confirmed knowledge.</p> <p>2017. All GM show good awareness on this subject.</p>
<p><b>6.3.3S. Managers shall make use of stands of seed trees, shelterwoods, group or tree selection systems and exploitation felling, when these methods produce successful regeneration with tree species that are appropriate for the site and for management objectives.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement and during field visits several examples of seed trees were found.</p> <p>2017. Natural regeneration of pine is common in areas which are suitable.</p>
<p><b>6.3.4S. Managers shall retain all snags, windthrows and other trees that have been dead for more than 1 year except when they:</b>  <b>a) constitute a safety risk for forestry workers or for the general public within recreation areas,</b>  <b>b) block up frequently used paths and roads,</b>  <b>c) constitute small-dimension felling residues,</b>  <b>d) constitute breeding substrate for pest insects in case there is a documented risk of mass propagation<sup>20</sup>.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement. Filed visits shows on conformance of the requirement, where examples of snags, wind throws and other trees that have been dead for more than 1 year were found on visited felling areas.</p> <p>2017. Verified during field checks.</p>
<p><b>6.3.5S. Managers shall retain all snags, windthrows and other trees that have been dead less than 1 year<sup>21</sup>:</b>  <b>a) that originate from trees with high biodiversity values (6.3.18) or other trees previously retained for nature conservation purposes</b>  <b>b) in areas set aside for nature conservation including care-demanding patches on low/non -productive forest land with an annual increment less than 1 cubic metre per hectare.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement. During field visits examples of snags, wind throws and other trees in line with the requirement was found at all visited GM forest.</p>
<p><b>6.3.6S. Managers shall retain, on average, at least two coarse new windthrows per hectare when harvesting windthrown stems on final felled areas (in addition to windthrows addressed in 6.3.4S and 6.3.5S).</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement. During field visits, no harvesting of windthrown stems on final felled areas had occurred.</p> <p>2017. No windthrows operation has been performed this year.</p>
<p><b>6.3.7S. Managers shall create, in average, at least three<sup>22</sup> high stumps<sup>23</sup> or girdled trees per hectare of areas harvested through regeneration felling and thick-stem thinning,</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM shows awareness of requirement. No non-conformances were detected during filed visits.</p>



<p>striving to select for this purpose equal numbers of coarse pine, spruce, birch and aspen trees without high biodiversity values.</p>		<p>2017. Several regeneration fellings were visited by the audit team and good conformance was verified.</p>
<p><b>6.3.8. Managers shall plan and implement forestry measures so that, wherever natural conditions permit, broad-leaf trees constitute a minimum average of 10% of the stand volume<sup>24</sup>, including immediately adjacent land, at the time of regeneration felling, (5 % in areas north of the <i>limes norrlandicus</i>). Naturally present broad-leaf tree species shall generally be maintained in the stand.</b>  <b>6.3.8SA. Managers shall plan and implement their management so that, wherever natural conditions permit, general nature consideration measures in pre-commercial thinning, thinning and regeneration felling prioritise broad-leaf trees, with the aim that such trees, together with broad-leaf trees managed for production purposes, constitute 10% of the stand volume prior to regeneration felling (5 % north of <i>limes norrlandicus</i>). Naturally present broad-leaf tree species shall generally be maintained in the stand.</b>                  Lower stand level proportions of broad-leaf trees are acceptable on holdings where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conservation set aside areas (as defined in 6.4.1S) dominated by broad-leaf trees constitute at least 10 % of the productive forest land; or</li> <li>• stands that are, and/or in the near future will be dominated by broad-leaf trees constitute at least 20 % of the productive forest land (10% north of <i>limes norrlandicus</i>).</li> </ul>	<p>C</p>	<p>6.3.8 The audited group member provided access to management plans, which address this requirement. Field visits confirmed this.</p> <p>6.3.8SA The audited GM provided access to management plans, which address this requirement. The awareness of the requirement as well as plans to achieve this was generally good, but could be improved. CAR/OBS 4</p> <p>2017. Several field visits to thinnings shows that GM and agents are well aware of this and promote deciduous trees when possible.</p>
<p><b>6.3.9S. Managers shall plan and manage the landholdings so that, over time, an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the total area of mesic and moist forest land<sup>25</sup>, suitable for natural regeneration and growth of broadleaf trees, carry deciduous rich stands dominated by broadleaf trees during the major part of the rotation period. The stands shall be managed in order to promote favourable conditions for biodiversity associated with broadleaf trees.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The audited GM provided access to management plans, which address this requirement. The awareness of the requirement as well as plans to achieve this was generally good, but documentation could be improved. CAR/OBS 4</p> <p>2017. Visited GM are well aware of this and some examples in the field verified this.</p>
<p><b>6.3.10S. Managers with landholdings in the nemoral zone outside the natural range of spruce shall plan and manage the holdings so</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>All GM landholdings are in the boreal zone.</p>

<p>that, over time, less than 50 % of the productive forest land carries stands dominated by spruce (in addition to any stands dominated by exotic tree species).</p>		
<p>6.3.11. Managers of major holdings shall take demonstrable measures<sup>26</sup> to allow tree species sensitive to browsing by game to develop naturally into normal arborescent individuals.</p>	C	<p>One major GM audited. Hunting is carried out on the holdings, broadleaves are saved during silvicultural activities. Review of management plans and interviews.</p> <p>2017. In areas where severe browsing occur, especially deciduous trees are promoted.</p>
<p>6.3.12. Managers of major holdings shall take all reasonable measures to burn an area equivalent to at least 5 % of the regeneration area<sup>27</sup> on dry and mesic forest land over a five-year period. Felling and burning operations shall be designed to promote fire-dependent species and measures shall be taken to minimize leaching of plant nutrients directly into watercourses. (See also Annex 6 on burning.)</p>	C	<p>Review of management plans regarding burning. The FMP updated regarding burning measures. GM in compliance with requirement.</p> <p>2017. Lima has a record of 5% burning for the period 2011-2016. Well selected areas and well performed verified in the field.</p>
<p>6.3.13. Managers of major holdings shall document all burning measures in planning documentation and forest registers.</p>	C	<p>Review of management plans regarding burning. The FMP updated regarding burning measures. GM in compliance with requirement.</p> <p>2017. All operations are documented in the management plan. Verified by audit team.</p>
<p>6.3.14S. Managers shall demarcate, preferably when the ground is free from snow cover, as care-demanding patches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. small habitats with specific biodiversity values</li> <li>b. any buffer zones required adjacent to habitats with specific biodiversity values</li> </ul>	C	<p>Harvest planning is normally made when the ground is free from snow cover, as confirmed in field observation. Management planning is always made when the ground is free from snow cover.</p> <p>2017. Conformance verified during field visits.</p>
<p>6.3.15S. Managers shall promote continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features adjacent to wetlands and low/non-productive forest land. Demarcation is preferably performed when the ground is free from snow cover.</p>	C	<p>Harvest planning is normally made when the ground is free from snow cover. Management planning is always made when the ground is free from snow cover.</p> <p>2017. Several examples of transition zones were verified during field visits.</p>
<p>6.3.16S. Managers shall retain wind resistant trees of different species with good potentials to develop into large and old trees during the next rotation period, with the aim that the next stand shall contain at least 10 such trees<sup>28</sup></p>	C	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement and this was confirmed in field where examples of trees in line with the requirement were found in all felling areas visited.</p>

<p>(including relevant biodiversity value trees according to 6.3.18S) per hectare (in average for the productive forest land within the unit of operation, including transition zones and care-demanding patches).</p>		<p>2017. Several clear-felled areas were visited during the audit. Good conformance with the retention rules were verified.</p>
<p><b>6.3.17S.</b> Managers shall retain care-demanding patches, edge zones, groups of trees and biodiversity value trees (6.3.18S), so as to avoid large treeless areas.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement, and it could be confirmed in field at all felling areas visited.</p> <p>2017. The retention trees and edge zones are well distributed over the areas. Verified by the audit team on several areas.</p>
<p><b>6.3.18S.</b> Managers shall retain and safeguard as part of all forestry measures all trees with high biodiversity values<sup>29</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. aberrant, particularly large and/or old trees,</li> <li>b. large trees with notably wide girth and thick-branched and/or flat crowns,</li> <li>c. large, previously solitary growing spruces on pasture land,</li> <li>d. large aspen and alders where these do not occur in abundance, in stands dominated by conifers,</li> <li>e. arborescent goat willow, mountain ash, whitebeam, maple, lime, bird-cherry, wild cherry and large hazel in stands dominated by conifers,</li> <li>f. large junipers,</li> <li>g. trees with distinct open bole fire scars,</li> <li>h. hollow trees and trees with stick nests of birds of prey,</li> <li>i. trees with evident features of cultural importance,</li> <li>j. individual or small groups of valuable broad-leaf trees in the boreal forest landscape.</li> </ul>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement, and it could be confirmed in field where trees in line with the requirement could be found at felling areas visited.</p> <p>2017. The selection of retention trees is in conformance with the standard as verified in the field.</p>
<p><b>6.3.19S.</b> Managers shall plan and manage their landholding so as to promote that a significant number of broadleaf trees, and an appropriate number of other trees, develop into trees with high biodiversity values.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The managers showed awareness of the requirement in interviews, which was confirmed in field visits where trees in line with the requirement could be found at felling areas.</p> <p>2017. Managers and contractors have good awareness of the values of broad leaf trees and are promoted in thinnings and regeneration fellings. Verified by the audit team.</p>
<p><b>6.3.20.</b> Managers shall monitor and document</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The monitoring is normally carried out and</p>

<p><b>compliance with Indicators 6.3.14-6.3.19 and take corrective and preventive measures in case of non-compliance.</b></p>		<p>documented by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations, as confirmed in group member records. They also take measures in case of non-compliance (e.g. training of harvesting contractors).</p> <p>2017. GM often do field checks after operations and communicate any deviation from the plan to the manager.</p>
<p><b>6.3.21. Managers shall aim to maintain the natural processes and long-term productivity of soils, and to avoid negative impacts on other ecosystems and biodiversity values. Managers adding or restoring nitrogen/mineral plant nutrients shall demonstrate, with the support of generic documentation<sup>30</sup>, that these measures do not conflict with this aim.</b></p> <p>6.3.21SA. Managers shall aim to maintain the natural processes and long-term productivity of soils, and to avoid negative impacts on other ecosystems and biodiversity values.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>6.3.21 All sampled GM provided access to management plans. Environmental values are assessed and documented in the plans. Forest management planning and implementation consider biodiversity values and maintain the natural processes and long-term productivity of soils, to avoid negative impacts on other ecosystems and biodiversity values. None of the sampled GM adding or restoring nitrogen/mineral plant nutrients.</p> <p>6.3.21SA All sampled GM provided access to management plans. Environmental values are assessed and documented in the plans. Forest management planning and implementation consider biodiversity values and maintain the natural processes and long-term productivity of soils, to avoid negative impacts on other ecosystems and biodiversity values.</p> <p>2017. During interview with GM, the audit team could verify conformance. Examples in the field are soil protection program, water course management and maintenance of old ditches.</p>
<p><b>6.3.22. Managers shall ensure that nitrogen fertilisers are used in accordance with the Swedish Forest Agency’s regulations, general guidelines and recommendations and in accordance with Indicator 6.3.21.</b></p> <p>6.3.22SA. Managers shall ensure that nitrogen fertilisers are used in accordance with the Swedish Forest Agency’s regulations, general guidelines and recommendations and in accordance with the recommendations of Indicator 6.3.21SA<sup>30</sup>.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>6.3.22 None of the sampled GM fertilize their landholdings, as confirmed in interviews with group members</p> <p>6.3.22SA None of the sampled GM fertilize their landholdings, as confirmed in interviews with group members.</p> <p>2017. No reports on the use of fertilizers.</p>
<p><b>6.3.23. Managers shall ensure that extraction of biofuel complies with the recommendations of the Swedish Forest Agency and that such</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Group members utilize certified contractors for biofuel extraction generally sourced by the wood procurement organization they sell their wood to.</p>

<p><b>practices are documented at stand level.</b></p>		<p>By utilizing certified contractors that extract biofuel in line with certification standards, the managers are ensured that extraction of biofuel complies with the recommendations of the Swedish Forest Agency. Managers are also notifying the Swedish Forest Agency about biofuel extraction (6 weeks in advance of harvest) per the Swedish forest legislation. This allows the authority to provide guidance in cases of uncertainty regarding compliance. This was confirmed in interviews.</p> <p>2017. Managers interviewed during the audit shows good awareness of the Forest Agency recommendations.</p>
<p><b>6.3.23SA. Managers shall ensure that extraction of biofuel complies with the recommendations of the Swedish Forest Agency.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Group members utilize certified contractors for biofuel extraction generally sourced by the wood procurement organization they sell their wood to. By utilizing certified contractors that extract biofuel in line with certification standards, the managers are ensured that extraction of biofuel complies with the recommendations of the Swedish Forest Agency. Managers are also notifying the Swedish Forest Agency about biofuel extraction (6 weeks in advance of harvest) per the Swedish forest legislation. This allows the authority to provide guidance in cases of uncertainty regarding compliance. This was confirmed in interviews.</p> <p>2017. Managers interviewed during the audit shows good awareness of the Forest Agency recommendations.</p>
<p><b>6.3.24S. Managers shall ensure that any spread of ash, lime or nutrients to compensate for biofuel extraction, soil acidity, or nutritional imbalances, complies with the Swedish Forest Agency's regulations and general guidelines.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>None of the sampled GM does spread ash, lime or nutrients on their landholdings, as confirmed in interviews.</p> <p>2017. None of the GM practice any of these measures.</p>
<p><b>6.3.25. Managers shall apply updated research-based knowledge about long-term forest land productivity in planning and implementation of their management activities.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Managers showed awareness in interview and could point out sources of information, e.g. Skogforsk. By utilizing certified contractors for planning and implementation of their management activities in line with certification standards, the managers are ensured that updated research-based knowledge about long-term forest land productivity is applied.</p>

		2017. Many of the agents and GM participate in “forest days” where specialists from the faculty and research institute demonstrate trials and research findings.
<b>6.4 Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>6.4.1S. Managers shall exempt a minimum of 5 % of the productive forest land area <sup>31</sup> (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.</b>	C	Interview with GM shows awareness of the requirement. Review of management plans confirms that at least 5% of the productive forest land area are exempt in line with the requirement.  2017. Review of management plans show that all GM have minimum 5 % set aside of the productive forest area.
<b>6.4.2S. Managers shall select areas according to 6.4.1S, demarcated and prioritized based on their significance for biodiversity and landscape representativeness.</b>	C	The audited group members provided access to the management plans. Environmental values are assessed and documented in the planning. By utilizing certified contractors that produce FMPs in line with certification standards, the managers are ensured that the selected areas are demarcated and prioritized based on their significance for biodiversity and landscape representativeness. This was confirmed in field visits at all sampled GM.  2017. Review of maps shows that the set aside areas are demarcated on the map. The areas are often selected in cooperation with the local government agency.
<b>6.4.3S. Within areas defined according to 6.4.1-6.4.2S, managers may take actions to promote outdoor recreation provided that there is no negative impact on biodiversity.</b>	C	The audited group members hunt themselves or lease out the hunting on their properties. Hunting is not restricted on the areas defined according to 6.4.1-6.4.2, which shows that actions to promote outdoor recreation are taken. This was confirmed in interviews.  2017. Tracks for biking and skiing are often provided in area close to villages and towns. GM have good cooperation with local sports clubs (Gm Lima, Transtrand, Malung, Älvdalesn.
<b>6.5 Written guidelines shall be prepared and</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva

<p><b><i>implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.</i></b></p>		<p>Group is in conformance with this Criterion.</p>
<p><b>6.5.1S. Managers shall restrict site preparation to sites where such measures are necessary to achieve successful regeneration, and adapt techniques and intensities to the conditions of the site.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The audited group members provided access to the management plans where site regeneration is described for each compartment of the FMUs. Regeneration practices are adapted to site conditions, which was confirmed in field visits.</p> <p>2017. Confirmed during field audit that site preparations are carried out with good care of soil and vegetation. The selection of tools are made to minimize soil disturbance.</p>
<p><b>6.5.2S. Managers shall use intermittent site preparation methods on moist soils and on erosion-prone soils, and shall not carry out mechanical site preparation in edge zones along water and wetlands.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The audited group members provided access to the management plans where site regeneration is described for each compartment of the FMUs. Intermittent site preparation methods are used on moist soils and on erosion-prone soils, and are not carried out in edge zones along water and wetlands, which was confirmed in field visits.</p> <p>2017. Intermittent site preparation is used on moist soils and where risk of erosion exists. Wet areas and edge zones are left untouched. Confirmed during field visit.</p>
<p><b>6.5.3. Managers shall implement procedures for avoiding damage caused by heavy machinery, including appropriate methodology and technology for transports across watercourses<sup>32</sup>.</b>  <b>6.5.3SA. Managers shall ensure that damage from heavy machinery is avoided, particularly where timber is transported across watercourses.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>This is handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations; implementation of methods to avoid damage to soil and water observed in field visits. During filed visits measures to avoid damage were taken where necessary.</p> <p>2017. Confirmed during field visit that forest roads are often prepared with tree branches and crossing are temporary prepared with tree logs. Some big contractor (Södra) has developed program for minimizing soil damages in forest operations.</p>
<p><b>6.5.4. Managers shall implement procedures to act on substantial soil damage caused by vehicles.</b>  <b>6.5.4SA. Managers shall repair substantial soil damage caused by vehicles.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>This is handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations; implementation of methods to avoid damage to soil and water and - if needed – repair substantial soil damage. During filed visits, no such substantial soli damage was observed.</p> <p>2017. Contractors have good instructions on repairing of any soil damages.</p>

<p><b>6.5.5. Managers shall implement procedures to ensure that construction of new roads does not change the running of, or cause damage to, natural watercourses.</b>  <b>6.5.5SA. Managers shall ensure that construction of new roads does not change the running of, or cause damage to, natural watercourses.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>This is handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations; new roads are constructed using culverts and other measures to avoid damage to watercourses.</p> <p>2017. Confirmed during field visits that new roads and road renovations are carried out with good care of site and water streams. Design must be approved by Government Agency.</p>
<p><b>6.5.6S. Managers shall remove obstacles to the migration of aquatic organisms when maintaining or reconstructing culverts.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>This is handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations; FME adheres to BMPs for installing culverts.</p> <p>2017. Confirmed during field visits.</p>
<p><b>6.5.7. Managers of major holdings shall develop action plans for removing obstacles caused by road culverts to the migration of aquatic organisms in watercourses with special biodiversity values,</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The only major GM sampled has consultation with Swedish Forest Agency before any new roads are built.</p> <p>2017. No GM was in this years sample.</p>
<p><b>6.5.8S. Managers shall not establish new ditches for soil drainage on land which has not previously been ditched<sup>33</sup>.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Managers showed awareness in interviews and only old ditches for soil drainage were observed in field visits.</p> <p>2017. No new ditches can be established according to government law.</p>
<p><b>6.5.9S. Managers shall apply protective ditching only where such measures are clearly necessary to comply with the regeneration requirements of the Forest Act.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Managers showed awareness in interviews, but no protective ditching had occurred on the FMUs. This was confirmed in field visits.</p> <p>2017. No new protective ditched has been established by any GM in the sample.</p>
<p><b>6.5.10S. Managers shall ensure that ditches and road ditches do not discharge directly into watercourses, lakes or valuable wetlands. Exceptions may be applicable due to adverse topography or other special conditions.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Managers showed awareness in interviews. None of the sampled GM carries out ditching themselves. Field inspection showed that road ditches do not discharge directly into watercourses, lakes or valuable wetlands.</p> <p>2017. Awareness of this restriction among managers confirmed during field visit.</p>
<p><b>6.5.11S. Managers shall not maintain previously established ditches on peat land<sup>34</sup> with low forest production<sup>35</sup>.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM shows awareness, and during field visits no maintained ditches on peat land with low forest production were noticed.</p> <p>2017. No ditches on peatland is maintained.</p>



<p><b>6.5.12. Managers shall be aware of existing local and downstream biodiversity values, and of options for restoration, prior to clearing of ditches. Protective measures shall be applied and consideration shall be documented.</b>  <b>6.5.12SA. Managers shall be aware of existing local and downstream biodiversity values, and of options for restoration, prior to clearing of ditches.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Notification to the Swedish Forest Agency is compulsory 6 weeks in advance of clearing of ditches, which allows the authority to inform the manager about downstream biodiversity values both on and outside of the property/FMU. Managers are aware of the notification requirement as confirmed in interviews.</p> <p>2017. Awareness confirmed on any caution regarding downstream values, when planning of ditches maintenance.</p>
<p><b>6.5.13S. Managers that clear ditches, or apply protective temporary drainage, shall construct functional sedimentation ponds where necessary to minimize negative effects of sedimentation.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Interview with GM shows awareness of the requirement. No clear ditching or protective temporary drainage was noticed during field visits.</p> <p>2017. Awareness confirmed during field visit. No GM has cleared any ditches.</p>
<p><b>6.5.14. Managers shall implement procedures that promote continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features along watercourses and open water areas.</b>  <b>6.5.14SA. Managers shall ensure that management along watercourses and open water areas promotes continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>This is handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations. Management to promote continuously forested, if possible stratified, transition zones conditioned by topographical, hydrological and ecological features along watercourses and open water areas were observed during field visits close to water.</p> <p>2017. Awareness of this confirmed during field visit. Several examples were observed by Audit team for both open water and water streams.</p>
<p><b>6.5.15S. Managers shall plan and manage their landholding so that stands, dominated by broadleaf trees and with high potential for biodiversity, are maintained and/or established:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. on moist sedimentary soils adjacent to watercourses and open water bodies;</b></li> <li><b>b. in sediment ravines;</b></li> <li><b>c. on other moist/wet land that is naturally dominated by broadleaf trees.</b></li> </ul>	<p>C</p>	<p>The sampled GM provided access to their management plans where evidence was found that stands, dominated by broadleaf trees and with high potential for biodiversity, are maintained and/or established on moist sedimentary soils adjacent to watercourses and open water bodies, in sediment ravines or on other moist/wet land that is naturally dominated by broadleaf trees. This was confirmed in field visits.</p> <p>2017. Several examples in the field where broadleaf trees are promoted on sites with moist soil.</p>
<p><b>6.5.16. Managers shall take account of aquatic habitats when forest land is set aside for nature conservation purposes.</b></p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The audited group member provided access to the management plans where evidence was found that the manager takes account of aquatic habitats when forest land is set aside for nature</p>

		<p>conservation purposes. This was confirmed in field visit.</p> <p>2017. Awareness of this confirmed during field visit. Any area set aside for nature conservation is discussed with local government agency.</p>
<p><b>6.5.17. Managers shall consider wetland and aquatic habitats in a watershed perspective beyond the context of the landholding and take specific consideration measures to such habitats with high biodiversity values.</b>  <b>6.5.17SA. Managers shall consider wetland and aquatic habitats in their management, taking specific account of habitats with high biodiversity values, e.g. in setting aside areas for conservation.</b></p>	C	<p>The sampled GM provided access to their management plans where evidence was found that managers consider wetland and aquatic habitats in their management in line with the requirement. This was confirmed during field visits</p> <p>2017. Awareness confirmed during field visit on any protection need of wetlands and valuable habitats.</p>
<p><b>6.5.18. Managers of major holdings shall use procedures to assess the need for, and practical/economic possibilities of, re-creating water environments in their ecological landscape planning.</b></p>	C	<p>Only one major GM sampled. Frequent discussions with Forest Agency regarding environmental issues. No plans for re-creating water environments. See CAR/OBS 2.</p> <p>2017. CAR closed during the audit. 2 GM in the sample now have landscape plans. These 2 GM (Lima and Transtrand) have a program to make the landscape open along the major river in the valley.</p>
<p><b>6.5.19. Managers of major holdings shall monitor and document compliance with Indicators 6.5.1-6.5.18 and shall take corrective and preventive measures in case of non-compliance.</b></p>	C	<p>Only one major GM sampled. The monitoring is normally carried out and documented by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting operations They also take measures in case of non-compliance (e.g. training of harvesting contractors).</p> <p>2017. Any non-compliance is documented in the database and corrective action is taken.</p>
<p><b>6.6 Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion. To be a part of Prosilva group GM are not allowed to use any pesticides on the holdings, regardless of size of the holding.</p>

<i>be provided to minimize health and environmental risks.</i>		
<b>6.6.1S. Managers shall limit the risks of damage caused by fungi, insects and wind through compliance with § 29 of the Forest Act.</b>	C	Interview with GM showed awareness of the requirement. Confirmed during field visits.  2017. Awareness confirmed during field audit
<b>6.6.2S. Pesticides classified by National Chemicals Inspectorate as ‘very toxic’, ‘toxic’, ‘causing burns’, ‘dangerous to health’, or ‘dangerous for the environment’ (or pesticides classified as “Highly hazardous pesticides” according to FSC-POL-30-001), shall not be used on forest land<sup>36</sup> unless exceptions have been granted by FSC<sup>37</sup>.</b>	NA	As member in the Prosilva group use of pesticides is not allowed. Interview with GM shows awareness.  2017. No chemicals are used by GM
<b>6.6.3S. If pesticides or treated seedlings are used, managers shall take all stipulated protective measures, restrictions and precautions to avoid damage or detriment to human health or to the environment. The best possible technique shall be used.</b>	NA	As member in the Prosilva group use of pesticides is not allowed. Interview with GM shows awareness.  2017. No chemicals are used by GM
<b>6.6.4. Instructions and safety data sheets in relevant languages shall be provided at the location of the activity.</b>	NA	As member in the Prosilva group use of pesticides is not allowed. Interview with GM shows awareness.  2017. No chemicals are used by GM
<b>6.6.5. Managers shall ensure that all employees and contractors that handle or apply pesticides or treated seedlings are adequately trained for their tasks<sup>38</sup>.</b> <b>6.6.5SA. Personnel that apply pesticides or handle treated seedlings shall be adequately trained for their tasks<sup>38</sup>.</b>	NA	As member in the Prosilva group use of pesticides is not allowed. Interview with GM shows awareness.  2017. No chemicals are used by GM
<b>6.6.6. When purchasing seedlings, managers shall require that the plant producer minimize the use of pesticides in the nursery and unwanted impacts of pesticides.</b>	NA	As member in the Prosilva group use of pesticides is not allowed. Interview with GM shows awareness.  2017. No chemicals are used by GM
<b>6.7 Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>6.7.1S. Managers shall implement procedures for legal and environmentally appropriate handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste.</b>	C	This is usually handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting or silvicultural operations; implementation of procedures for legal and environmentally appropriate handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste observed in

		<p>field visits.</p> <p>2017. All contractors for harvest and silviculture operations are certified and have routines and equipment for handling of chemicals etc.</p>
<p><b>6.7.2. Managers shall ensure that all employees and contractors that handle chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste have sufficient competence.</b></p>	C	<p>This is usually handled by the wood procurement organizations that organize the harvesting or silvicultural operations; implementation of procedures for legal and environmentally appropriate handling and disposal of chemicals, fuels, oils and non-organic waste observed in field visits.</p> <p>2017. All contractors for harvest and silviculture operations are certified and have routines and equipment for handling of chemicals etc.</p>
<p><b>6.8 Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.</p>
<p><b>6.8.1. Managers shall ensure that only scientifically proven and effective biological control agents are used.</b></p>	C	<p>No biological control agents used by the group members as confirmed in interviews with GM and GE.</p> <p>2017. No GM use biological control agents.</p>
<p><b>6.8.2. Managers shall use appropriate techniques and methods for any application of biological control agents so as to minimize the use and avoid damage or detriment to human health or to the environment.</b>  <b>6.8.2SA. Managers shall ensure that only biological control agents approved by the Swedish Chemicals Agency are used, and that the application complies with terms stated by the Agency.</b></p>	C	<p>No biological control agents used by the group members as confirmed in interviews with GM and GE.</p> <p>2017. No GM use biological control agents.</p>
<p><b>6.8.3. Instructions and safety data sheets in relevant languages shall be provided at the location of the activity.</b></p>	C	<p>No biological control agents used by the group members as confirmed in interviews with GM and GE.</p> <p>2017. No GM use biological control agents.</p>
<p><b>6.8.4. Managers shall ensure that anyone handling or applying biological control agents is adequately trained for their tasks.</b></p>	C	<p>No biological control agents used by the group members as confirmed in interviews with GM and GE.</p>

		2017. No GM use biological control agents.
<b>6.8.5. Managers may use biological control agents in case of mass propagation of pest insects in accordance with terms stated by the Swedish Chemicals Agency.</b>	C	No biological control agents used by the group members as confirmed in interviews with GM and GE.  2017. No GM use biological control agents.
<b>6.8.6S. Managers shall not use genetically modified organisms.</b>	C	No genetically modified organisms are used by any of the sampled GM.  2017. No GM use GMO.
<b>6.9 The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</b>	C	Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.
<b>6.9.1. Managers who establish and/or manage stands with exotic tree species shall be aware of production and quality advantages compared to native tree species, and of potential negative impacts, through generic documentation, trials and/or experience.</b>	C	Only one of the sampled GM has stands of exotic species. These are documented in the management plan. No new stands planted.  2017. No stand with exotic tree species has been established since last audit.
<b>6.9.2S. Exotic tree species may be used, with considerable restraint, after trials or experience have demonstrated that the species:</b> - provides considerable production benefits or other advantages over native tree species; - is ecologically well adapted to the conditions of the sites where it is used; - is not invasive; - does not cause significant negative impacts on other ecosystems or biodiversity; - does not cause substantial negative impacts on natural soil processes or long-term productivity.	C	None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.  2017. No stand with exotic tree species has been established since last audit.
<b>6.9.3. Managers shall limit any use of exotic tree species so that the total area of newly established stands of such species, as from 2009, does not exceed 5 % of the productive forest area<sup>39</sup>.</b> <b>6.9.3SA. Managers shall limit any use of exotic tree species so that the total area of newly established stands of such species, as from 2009, does not exceed 5 % of the productive forest area<sup>39</sup>. Managers of holdings of less than 50 hectares shall limit any use of exotic tree species so that the total area of newly established stands of such species does not</b>	C	Only one sampled GM have stands with exotic species. The area does not exceed the 5%-requirement. Review of management plans and field visits.  2017. No stand with exotic tree species has been established since last audit.

<b>exceed 2.5 hectare of the productive forest land.</b>		
<b>6.9.4. Managers that establish or manage stands with exotic tree species shall implement procedures for such tree species.</b>	NA	None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.  2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.
<b>6.9.5. Managers who establish new stands with exotic tree species in accordance with 6.9.2S shall take additional and more extensive consideration measures in support of important biodiversity and environmental values. The scope and implementation of the measures shall clearly relate to the area of newly established stands of exotic tree species. Measures shall be selected and implemented based on analyses of important biodiversity and environmental values in need of enhancement in the landscape. Managers shall regularly report on their plans and measures in a publicly available format<sup>40</sup>.</b>	NA	None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.  2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.
<b>6.9.5SA. Managers who establish new stands with exotic tree species in accordance with 6.9.2S shall take additional and more extensive consideration measures in support of important biodiversity and environmental values. The scope and implementation of the measures shall clearly relate to the area of newly established stands of exotic tree species<sup>40</sup>.</b>	NA	None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.  2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.
<b>6.9.6. Managers of major holdings who establish new stands with exotic tree species shall adapt conservation strategies and landscape planning to conform with 6.9.5.</b>	C	Only one sampled major GM. Does not establish new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.  2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.
<b>6.9.7. Managers of major holdings that establish or manage stands with exotic tree species shall plan the use in a landscape perspective so as to avoid and minimise adverse ecological effects, e.g. invasive propagation and negative impacts on areas of high biodiversity value. This shall imply e.g. that exotic tree species are not established in the majority of landscapes that contain less than 2% of such species at the landscape level.</b>	C	None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.  2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.
<b>6.9.8. Managers shall actively monitor their use of exotic tree species, through procedures</b>	C	Only one sampled GM has stands with exotic tree species. These are documented in the

<p>adapted to the extent and intensity of the use, so as to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</p>		<p>management plan and thereby easy to monitor.</p> <p>2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.</p>
<p><b>6.9.9. Managers that use exotic tree species shall have a programme for mitigating potential adverse ecological impacts that include active measures, e.g. limitation and removal of self propagated seedlings.</b>  <b>6.9.9SA. Managers that use exotic tree species shall limit self-propagation and remove unwanted self-propagated seedlings.</b></p>	C	<p>None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.</p> <p>2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.</p>
<p><b>6.9.10. Managers that use exotic tree species shall document and monitor their measures.</b></p>	C	<p>None of the sampled GM establishes new stands with exotic species. Review of management plans and interview shows compliance.</p> <p>2017. None of the GM use exotic tree species.</p>
<p><b>6.10 Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:</b>  <b>a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and</b>  <b>b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and</b>  <b>c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.</b></p>	C	<p>Interview with GE and GM shows that Prosilva Group is in conformance with this Criterion.</p>
<p><b>6.10.1S. Managers shall not convert forest land to other use for other purposes than developing forest management or social-related infrastructure, research, improving conditions for outdoor recreation, or maintaining cultural environments or biodiversity. Rationales for conversion of forest land shall be documented and justified.</b></p>	C	<p>The audited group members provided access to their management plans where evidence was found that any conversion of forest land is in line with the requirement. This was confirmed in interviews with GM and during field visits.</p> <p>2017. No conversion of forest land has occurred.</p>
<p><b>6.10.2S. Conversion of forest land shall only be permitted for:</b>  <b>- important forestry-and social-related infrastructure in accordance with applicable legal requirements, official land-use planning and/or forest-management planning<sup>41</sup></b>  <b>- the consolidation of important cultural and environmental values</b></p>	C	<p>The audited group members provided access to their management plans where evidence was found that any conversion of forest land is in line with the requirement. This was confirmed in interviews with GM and during field visits.</p> <p>2017. No conversion of forest land has occurred.</p>
<p><b>6.10.3S. Managers shall not convert forest land within High Nature Conservation Value forest areas (see 9.1).</b></p>	C	<p>The audited group members provided access to their management plans where evidence was found that any conversion of forest land is in line with the requirement. This was confirmed in interviews with GM and during field visits.</p>

		2017. No conversion of forest land has occurred.
<b>6.10.4S. Where forest conversion does occur the manager shall ensure that this only entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit and is in accordance with relevant legislation.</b>	C	The audited group members provided access to their management plans where evidence was found that any conversion of forest land is in line with the requirement. This was confirmed in interviews with GM and during field visits.  2017. No conversion of forest land has occurred.

## Appendix 6 – Chain of Custody Indicators for FMEs

Chain of Custody indicators were not evaluated during this annual audit.

## Appendix 7 – Group Management Program Members

### Group Management Detailed Observations

Requirement	C/NC	Comment / CAR
<b>PART 1 QUALITY SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS</b>		
<b>C1 General Requirements</b>		
1.1 The Group entity shall be an independent legal entity or an individual acting as a legal entity.	C	Prosilva is a registered stock company.
1.2 The Group entity shall comply with relevant legal obligations, as registration and payment of applicable fees and taxes.	C	The Prosilva annual report is reviewed by third party auditor. No pending claims from tax agency.
1.3 The Group entity shall have a written public policy of commitment to the FSC Principles and Criteria.	C	Prosilva management system is available on the company web site. This system includes commitment to FSC. <a href="http://skogscertifiering.se/">http://skogscertifiering.se/</a>
1.4 The Group entity shall define training needs and implement training activities and/or communication strategies relevant to the implementation of the applicable FSC standards.	C	Prosilva offers training in nature values to all group members. Prosilva has performed trainings for its agents who shall inform the GM about the FSC rules when they shall sign the certification contract.  2017. The audit team reviewed training and info records at Prosilva office. Records include info to agents on internal audit results, info on questionnaire, news on the website, training days for agents on nature evaluation and certification standard.
<b>C2 Responsibilities</b>		



<p>2.1 The Group entity shall clearly define and document the division of responsibilities between the Group entity and the Group members in relation to forest management activities (for example with respect to management planning, monitoring, harvesting, quality control, marketing, timber sale, etc).</p> <p><i>NOTE: The actual division of responsibilities may differ greatly between different group certification schemes. Responsibilities regarding compliance to the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard may be divided between the Group entity and Group members in order to take into account of a landscape approach.</i></p>	C	<p><b>Group Entity responsibilities:</b> The GE is responsible for developing all routines and procedures for the group, legal documents, monitoring, marketing and FSC coordination and training.</p> <p><b>SLIMF and Non SLIMF Group member responsibilities:</b> The GM is responsible for all field operations, contacts with local clients, stakeholders and contractors, internal audit, training and FSC for contractors.</p> <p>The division of responsibilities between the group entity and the group members is described in the agreement signed by the GE and the GM.</p> <p>2017. The agreement was reviewed by the audit team. The agreement includes an appendix with standard details to be reviewed by the agent and GM together.</p>
<p>2.2 The Group entity shall appoint a management representative as having overall responsibility and authority for the Group entity's compliance with all applicable requirements of this standard.</p>	C	<p>Anneli Sandström, a professional forester at Prosilva, is FSC coordinator and responsible for GE compliance with FSC.</p> <p>The FSC coordinator has been replaced since last audit.</p>
<p>2.3 Group entity staff and Group members shall demonstrate knowledge of the Group's procedures and the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard.</p>	C	<p>GE staff has good knowledge in FSC, verified in interviews. GM knows where to find the standard, procedures, etc.</p>
<p><b>C3 Group entity's procedures</b></p>		
<p>3.1 The Group entity shall establish, implement and maintain written procedures for Group membership covering all applicable requirements of this standard, according to scale and complexity of the group including:</p>	C	
<p>I. Organizational structure;</p>	C	<p>In the Prosilva company description (in the management system).</p> <p>2017. The management system was presented to the audit team. It includes details on distribution of responsibilities, records of GM, records of training, records of internal audits, analysis of audit results, accident records, etc.</p>
<p>II. Responsibilities of the Group entity and the Group members</p>	C	<p>In the agreement between GE and GM.</p>

	including main activities to fulfill such responsibilities (i.e. Development of management plans, sales and marketing of FSC products, harvesting, planting, monitoring, etc);		2017. The responsibilities are clearly outlined in the agreement, and reviewed by the audit team.
III.	Rules regarding eligibility for membership to the Group;	C	The rules are included in the contract for the connection in the group. Verified at the audit.
IV.	Rules regarding withdrawal / suspension of members from the Group;	C	In the agreement between GE and GM
V.	Clear description of the process to fulfill any corrective action requests issued internally and by the certification body including timelines and implications if any of the corrective actions are not complied with;	C	Prosilva internal auditors can issue a "receipt" (CAR) with description of the non-conformance and the requested action.  2017. Examples was reviewed by the audit team.
VI.	Documented procedures for the inclusion of new Group members;	C	This is described in the management system and communicated to the agents. Requirements are management plan, nature value assessment and to use certified contractors
VII.	Complaints procedure for Group members.	C	A complaints function is available on the Prosilva web site.  2017. Reviewed by the audit team.
3.2	The Group entity's procedures shall be sufficient to establish an efficient internal control system ensuring that all members are fulfilling applicable requirements.	C	Prosilva has developed a checklist to be used in the internal audits.  2017. Reviewed by the audit team. The checklist covers all relevant elements of the FSC FM standard. Prosilva has developed routines to sample GM for internal audit based on size, needs and risk.
3.3	The Group entity shall define the personnel responsible for each procedure together with the qualifications or training measures required for its implementation.	C	All responsibilities are described in the management system.  2017. Reviewed by the audit team.
3.4	The Group entity or the certification body shall evaluate every applicant for membership of the Group and ensure that there are no major non-conformances with applicable requirements of the Forest Stewardship Standard, and with any additional requirements for membership of	C	There is a checklist to be filled in by the applicant. The checklist covers the FSC P & C. The checklist is signed by the agent and the applicant to concern the knowledge of the agreement and the requirements in the FSC standard.

<p>the Group, prior to being granted membership of the Group.  <i>NOTE: for applicants complying with SLIMF eligibility criteria for size, the initial evaluation may be done through a desk audit.</i></p>		<p>Members with forest above 1000 hectares must sign contract direct with Prosilva, and not through an agent.</p> <p>2017. Verified in the field by the audit team.</p>
<b>C4 Informed consent of Group members</b>		
<p>4.1 The Group entity shall provide each Group member with documentation, or access to documentation, specifying the relevant terms and conditions of Group membership. The documentation shall include:</p>	C	
<p>i. Access to a copy of the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard;</p>	C	There is a link the Swedish FSC website in the agreement app. 1.
<p>ii. Explanation of the certification body's process;</p>	C	The checklist to be filled in by the applicant includes explanation of the certification process.
<p>iii. Explanation of the certification body's, and FSC's rights to access the Group members' forests and documentation for the purposes of evaluation and monitoring;</p>	C	In the agreement between GE and GM.
<p>iv. Explanation of the certification body's, and FSC's requirements with respect to publication of information;</p>	C	Information about Appendix 3A of the Swedish FSC standard regarding public information is included in the agreement between GE and GM.
<p>v. Explanation of any obligations with respect to Group membership, such as:</p> <p><i>NOTE: In some groups, it may be sufficient to provide individual members with a summary of these items, provided that full documentation is readily available on request at the Group entity's offices. The information should be presented in a way adapted to the language and knowledge of the Group members.</i></p>	C	
<p>a. maintenance of information for monitoring purposes;</p>	C	GE keeps records of internal audits and surveys (questionnaires to the GM)
<p>b. use of systems for tracking and tracing of forest products;</p>	C	The log buyers have a system for marking and tracing of log piles
<p>c. requirement to conform with conditions or corrective action requests issued by the certification body and the group entity</p>	C	In the checklist for group applicants

d. any special requirements for Group members related to marketing or sales of products within and outside of the certificate;	C	This information is included in the agreement between GE and GM
e. other obligations of Group membership; and	N/A	There are no other obligations
f. explanation of any costs associated with Group membership.	C	In the agreement between GE and GM
4.2 A consent declaration or equivalent shall be available between the Group Entity and each Group member or the member's representative who voluntarily wishes to participate in the Group. The consent declaration shall:  <i>NOTE: A consent declaration does not have to be an individual document. It can be part of a contract or any other document (e.g. meeting minutes) that specifies the agreed relationship between the Group member and the Group entity.</i>	C	
i. include a commitment to comply with all applicable certification requirements;	C	In the checklist for applicants and the agreement between GE and GM
ii. acknowledge and agree to the obligations and responsibilities of the Group entity;	C	In the checklist for applicants and the agreement between GE and GM
iii. acknowledge and agree to the obligations and responsibilities of Group membership;	C	In the checklist for applicants and the agreement between GE and GM
iv. agree to membership of the scheme, and	C	In the checklist for applicants and the agreement between GE and GM
v. authorize the Group entity to be the primary contact for certification and to apply for certification on the member's behalf.	C	In the checklist for applicants and the agreement between GE and GM
<b>C5 Group Records</b>		
5.1 The group entity shall maintain complete and up-to-date records covering all applicable requirements of this standard. These shall include:  <i>NOTE: The amount of data that is maintained centrally by the Group entity may vary from case to case. In order to reduce costs of evaluation by the certification body, and subsequent monitoring by FSC, data should be stored centrally wherever possible.</i>	C	

i. List of names and contact details of Group members, together with dates of entering and leaving the Group scheme, reason for leaving, and the type of forest ownership per member;	C	<p>Prosilva has a database with all the signed agreements.</p> <p>2017. Reviewed by the audit team. Records were updated till the day of the office review.</p>
ii. Any records of training provided to staff or Group members, relevant to the implementation of this standard or the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard;	C	<p>Prosilva has records of external (Forest Service) and internal training.</p> <p>2017. Records of training and info were presented to the audit team. Courses provided by Skogsbiologerna were attended by Prosilva agents. Info on time place, number of attendants and evaluation of the courses.</p>
iii. A map or supporting documentation describing or showing the location of the member's forest properties;	C	<p>All GM have maps with the location of the forest and stand borders.</p> <p>2017. All GM visited had maps on their holding.</p>
iv. Evidence of consent of all Group members;	C	<p>In the agreements database.</p> <p>2017. A number of agreements were reviewed during office audit.</p>
v. Documentation and records regarding recommended practices for forest management (i.e. silvicultural systems);	C	<p>GM are recommended to follow "regelrätt skogsbruk" (GM gets a login and password to this.), a guide developed by the Forest Research Institute "Skogforsk". The guide covers all aspects of forestry regarding laws and regulations.</p>
vi. Records demonstrating the implementation of any internal control or monitoring systems. Such records shall include records of internal inspections, non-compliances identified in such inspections, actions taken to correct any such non-compliance;	C	<p>Internal audits with checklist well archived.</p> <p>2017. Monitoring is done by Prosilva internal audits and questionnaires to the GM. CAR and observation can be issued. Summary of monitoring was presented to the audit team.</p>
viii. Records of the estimated annual overall FSC production and annual FSC sales of the Group.	C	<p>This is a part of the annual submissions self-inspection from the GEs</p>
5.2 Group records shall be retained for at least five (5) years.	C	<p>GE keeps a database with all GM records.</p> <p>2017. Review of the database showed at least 5 years old records of agreements and monitoring.</p>
5.3 Group entities shall not issue any kind of certificates or declarations to their group members that could be confused with FSC certificates. Group member certificates may	C	<p>GE does not issue any certificates.</p>

however be requested from the certification body.		
<b>PART 2 GROUP FEATURES</b>		
<b>C6 Group Size</b>		
6.1 There is no restriction on the maximum size that a group certificate can cover in terms of number of group members, their individual forest property size or total forest area. The Group entity shall have sufficient human and technical resources to manage and control the Group in line with the requirements of this standard.  <i>NOTE: The number of Group members, their individual size and the total area will however influence the evaluation intensity applied by the certification body in their annual audits.</i>	C	This group contains of both SLIMF and non SLIMF members. The Group Entity has sufficient resources to manage the group and has 2,5 employed persons. Prosilva still has a good potential to grow.  2017. Number of employees updated.
6.2 The Group entity shall specify in their procedures the maximum number of members that can be supported by the management system and the human and technical capacities of the Group entity.	C	The maximum number of GM with present resources is set to 5 000 members.  2017. Number of members updated.
<b>C7 Multinational groups</b>		
7.1 Group schemes shall only be applied to national groups which are covered by the same Forest Stewardship Standard.	N/A	Prosilva is not a multi-national group.
7.2 In cases where homogeneous conditions between countries / regions may allow an effective and credible cross- border or multi-regional monitoring system, the Group entity shall request formal approval by FSC IC through their accredited Certification Body to allow certification of such a group scheme.		
<b>PART 3 INTERNAL MONITORING</b>		
<b>C8 Monitoring requirements</b>		
8.1 The Group entity shall implement a documented monitoring and control system that includes at least the following:		
i. Written description of the monitoring and control system;	C	The internal audit is described in the management system.  2017. The monitoring system was reviewed by the audit team at Prosilva office. The internal audit covers all main aspects of the FSC FM standard.
ii. Regular (at least annual) monitoring visits to a sample of	C	Internal audit is carried out every year on a sample basis.

Group members to confirm continued compliance with all the requirements of the applicable Forest Stewardship Standard, and with any additional requirements for membership of the Group.		2017. This year's internal audit covered 24 GM. Results were presented to the audit team.
8.2 The Group entity shall define criteria to be monitored at each internal audit and according to the group characteristics, risk factors and local circumstances.	C	In the checklist for the internal audit.  2017. Reviewed by the audit team.
8.3. The minimum sample to be visited annually for internal monitoring shall be determined as follows:  <i>NOTE: for the purpose of sampling, FMUs &lt; 1,000 ha and managed by the same managerial body may be combined into a 'resource management unit' (RMU) according to the proposal made in FSC-STD-20-007 Annex 1.</i>	C	Yes, a minimum sample is calculated as described in 8.3 a)
<b>a) Type I Groups with mixed responsibilities (see section D Terms and definitions)</b> Groups or sub-groups with mixed responsibilities shall apply a minimum sampling of $X = \sqrt{y}$ for 'normal' FMUs and $X = 0.6 * \sqrt{y}$ for FMUs < 1,000 ha. Sampling shall be increased if HCVs are threatened or land tenure or use right disputes are pending within the group.	C	Prosilva fulfils this; group members typically receive management plan review and regular inspections in the field from GE. All management activities carried out on the land of group members and reported to the GE.
<b>b) Type II Resource Manager Groups (see section D Terms and definitions)</b> Group entities who also operate as resource managers may define the required internal sampling intensity at their own discretion for the forest properties they are managing, independent of their size and ownership (the minimum numbers as defined above do not apply here).	N/A	Prosilva is not a Type II group.
8.4 For monitoring purposes the Group entity should use the same stratification into sets of 'like' FMUs as defined by the certification body in their evaluation.	C	Stratification is made regarding GM size and location as well as activity and management plan revision period. The audit team used stratification with similar parameters.
8.5 The Group entity should visit different members in their annual monitoring than the ones selected for evaluation by the certification body, unless pending corrective actions, complaints or risk factors are requiring a revisit of the same units.	C	This is planned for when selecting GM to visit by Prosilva and by the CB.  2017. Verified that different GM was visited by GE and audit team, except for GM with more than 10 000 ha.

8.6 In the selection process of members to be visited, the Group entity should include random selection techniques.	C	A random selection within each stratum is made.
8.7 The Group entity shall issue corrective action requests to address non-compliances identified during their visits and monitor their implementation.	C	A system for issuing of CAR is developed as described in group management procedures.  2017. Reviewed by the audit team.
8.8 Additional monitoring visits shall be scheduled when potential problems arise or the Group entity receives information from stakeholders about alleged violations of the FSC requirements by Group members.	C	The GE has resources to follow up on any problems related to FSC compliance.
<b>C9 Sales of forest products and use of the FSC trademark</b>		
9.1 The Group entity shall document and implement a system for tracking and tracing of forest products produced by the Group members which are supposed to be sold as FSC certified.	N/A	Sales of FSC-material is done through FSC-certified agents.
9.2 For the purpose of ensuring that non certified material is not being mixed with FSC certified material, FSC products shall only be sold according to a sales protocol agreed by the Group members and the Group entity.	N/A	Group entity is not responsible for sales of FSC certified material
9.3 The Group entity shall ensure that all invoices for sales of FSC certified material are issued with the required information (see FSC-STD-40-004 V2-0 Clause 6.1.1) and are filed by the group members.	N/A	Group entity is not responsible for sales of FSC certified material
9.4 The Group entity shall ensure that all uses of the FSC Trademark are approved by the responsible certification body in advance.	N/C	Se CAR/OBS 2016:3  2017. The CAR was closed by the audit team.

### Group Management Program Members

Insert Excel, Word or PDF file as an object here