

FSC PRINCIPLES

Principle 1. Compliance with laws and FSC principles

Principle 2. Tenure and use rights and responsibilities

Principle 3. Indigenous people's rights

Principle 4. Community relations and workers' rights

Principle 5. Benefits from the forest

Principle 6. Environmental impact

Principle 7. Management plan

Principle 8. Monitoring and assessment

Principle 9. Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

Principle 10. Plantations

Principle 1. Compliance with laws and FSC principles

- Forest management areas should be protected from ... unauthorized activities
 - Prove it:
 - Paint and post boundaries
 - Use gates
 - Make periodic inspections

Principle 1. Compliance with laws and FSC principles

- Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria
 - Prove it
 - State commitment in management plan
 - Document the reason for seeking partial certification

Principle 2. Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities

- Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.
 - Prove it: Deed, Plat,

Principle 3. Indigenous people's rights

- Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers
 - Prove it
 - Ceremonial, burial or village sites
 - Unique historical, or archeological sites
 - Consultation with tribal representatives, cultural historians

Principle 4: Community Relations and Workers' Rights

- Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.
 - Prove it: Product flow form the forest.
 - Ecosystem services
 - Commercial and Non-commercial products
 - Hunting , recreation, fishing, hiking

Principle 5. Benefits from the forest

- Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product
 - Prove it
 - Management objectives include a list of forest products and services (e.g. timber, hunting leases, recreation, watershed protection, pine straw)

Principle 6. Environmental Impact

- FM shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes,
- Maintain ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.
 - Prove it: Native Species, Age-Class-Type Diversity, HVCF, site-species match, fire, BMP's, harvest restrictions, etc

Principle 7. Management Plan

- Management plan and supporting documents shall provide:
 1. Management objectives
 2. Description of the forest resources to be managed
 3. Description of silvicultural system
 4. Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection
 5. Provisions for monitoring forest growth
 6. Environmental safeguards based on env. assmnt.
 7. Plans for identifying rre species
 8. Maps describing the forest resource base
 9. Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used

Principle 7. Management Plan

- Prove it
 - Short and long term objectives
 - Description of acreage, timber inventory, soils, water resources, neighboring lands...
 - Silviculture based on integration of ecological and economic characteristics
 - Reliable data on growth, yield, stocking and regeneration
 - Residual damage is minimized
 - RTE species / habitat are inventoried
 - Detailed maps are provided

Principle 8. Monitoring and Assessment

- Monitor FM - at the appropriate scale and intensity for your operation
- Assess forest condition, product yields, chain of custody, **management activities** and their social and environmental impacts.
 - Prove it: Annual health monitoring, sales tickets, post-burn reports, recreational usage, deer/fish harvests, BMP audits (NCDFR will do these for free)

Principle 9. Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

- High Conservation Value Forests:
(have one or more of the following attributes)
 - Contain globally, regionally or nationally significant biodiversity values
 - Are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered *ecosystems*
 - Provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g., watershed protection, erosion control)
 - Are fundamental to meeting basic needs of community (e.g. subsistence/health)
 - Forests that fall under the definition of primary and natural forests (see glossary)

Principle 9. Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

- **Primary forest:** contains the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems, such as complexity, structure, diversity, an abundance of mature trees, and relatively undisturbed by human activity
- **Natural forest:** as above but may lack the abundance of mature trees and freedom from human disturbance

Principle 9. Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

- Assessment to determine the presence of attributes consistent with HCVF will be completed, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management
- *Applicability note: Small landowners who practice low intensity forestry may meet this requirement with brief, informal assessments*

Principle 10. Plantations

- Plantations shall be managed in accordance with FSC Principles and Criteria 1 – 9
- Plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits,
- They should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.
 - Prove it: Sensitive area and wetland exclusions of plantations, Revenues finance non-commercial management/conservation, WON- 38.

Friendly Pine-Plantation Mgmt.

- Site Prep – Band vs. Broadcast
- Spacing- Wider 10' +
- Frequent and aggressive thinning
- Prescribed Burn

Friendly Pine-Plantation Mgmt.

- Mid-rotational herbicides
- Snag retention and management
- Irregular-shaped harvest units
- Varied Management Intensity
 - esp. Pine Landscapes
 - ↑ Rotation age along water courses

Clearcut Size

- Limited to 40 acres for plantations
- Up to 80 acres allowed where a 40-acre stand would not provide enough timber volume for an economically operable timber sale
- Up to 80 acres allowed where cutting 40 acres would unnecessary environmental disturbance to surrounding area
- No limit in cases of ecological necessity

Herbicide Use

- Management shall promote the development and adoption of non-chemical methods of pest management
- Chlorinated hydrocarbons are prohibited
- If pesticides are used: justify use, provide training, follow label, dispose of waste in environmentally friendly manner