

Forest management certification/monitoring audit/re-certification report

Title of the forest management organization:	MTÜ Eesti Erametsaliit
Address:	Toompuiestee 24, Tallinn, 10149, Eesti
Contact person:	Kristel Pern
Audit report date:	01.03.2019
Certificate date:	19.02.2015
Certificate expiry date:	18.02.2020
Certificate number:	<i>TT-PEFC-FM006</i>
Audit type:	Surveillance
Used standards:	PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard (PEFC Eesti Rahvuslik Metsamajandamise Standard, 10.08.2015)

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1. Audit team description

Lead auditor (Name, Surname):	Björn Sild
Brief description of experience, compliance with the status	M.Sc in Forest Management from the Estonian University of Life and Sciences. Main field of expertise forest management operations and tracking of wood flow. ISO 9001 certification, CoC lead auditor certification & FM auditor.
Auditor (Name, Surname):	
Brief description of experience, compliance with the status	

2. Description of the certification candidate's activity

Title of the forest management organization, legal status, contact information
MTÜ Eesti Erametsaliit Toompuiestee 24, Tallinn, 10149, Eesti Kristel Pern - kristel.pern@erametsaliit.ee
Management objectives defined in Forest managements plan
<p>Forest management certification according to the PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard for Group Certification.</p> <p>Each member of the group defines the objectives of the forest management. For most members of the group the aim of forest management is to earn income. Forest management is planned and carried out based on the current legislation (in particular the Forest Act) and PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard. According to the PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard every organization (member) has to have valid forest management plans, which describe the condition of the forest and planned work (according to the Forest Act, the works described in the forest management plans are not mandatory, rather recommended).</p>
Description of the organisational structure of forest management implementation
<p>Group certificate, with certificate holder as MTÜ Eesti Erametsaliit (EEML). EEML performs the reception of the members, management of the membership and related information, annual reporting, assessment of the members and suspension of the membership. Inspection and monitoring of the following of certificate scope and requirements are managed according to the established procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - agreement between the members of the group and EEML - instructions for completing the checklist - work arrangements of the EEML's PEFC group-certificate control group and control unit - internal control and work arrangements of EEML's PEFC group-certificate members - evaluation of non-compliances and weaknesses of EEML's PEFC group-certificate members - corrective actions for the non-conformities and weaknesses found at internal audit - internal audit plan - conduction of first internal control of EEML's PEFC group-certificate members - relevant documentation list for internal control of EEML's PEFC group-certificate members

EEML group-certificate members at January 2019 - 99 members (202482,5 ha).

The forest area covered with the scope of the certificate is located across Estonia (distributed according to the areas managed by the members). EEML has an overview of the managed forest lands, member based register (property, county, municipality, number of the cadastral, ha).

Minimum once a year each member has to update the information.

Managed area distribution by species and age groups

In relation to the group-certificate the distribution of managed land by the group members might vary of species and age groups for every group member. Exact information of the group member is gathered and recorded into tables of which summarized tables are created and hold up to date.

Group members forest land proportion by tree species is following:

Pine - 20%

Spruce - 15%

Birch - 40%

Aspen - 8%

Grey alder - 11%

Black alder - 4%

Others-2%

Proportion by species by age group are following:

Treeless areas – 0%

Undetermined areas – 0%

Young stands – 4%

Pole stands – 7%

Middle age stands – 37%

Premature stands – 17%

Mature stands – 35%

Final felling performance

The main felling type is regeneration cutting, which forms 86% of the total conducted cuttings. The rest is improvement cuttings.

Most of the main cuttings (regeneration and improvement) are carried out using harvester type machines. Depending on the situation timber jacks are used for improvement cuttings.

Period 2018			
Regeneration cuttings		Improvement cuttings	
1084571 cbm	88%	153329 cbm	12%

Forest non-timber products and services

For non-wood forest products and -services collaboration with hunting clubs can be brought out, with whom the group-certificate members have concluded agreements accordingly. Reporting is not kept for other non-wood forest products and these are not used directly for earning income.

Foraging (mushrooms, berries etc.) is not limited.

General description of the forest management system

The system and control of the forest management according to PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard is performed through EEML (procedures - see above the description of organizational structure for execution of forest management).

For each group-certificate member is given the access to the relevant documents (PEFC Estonia

National Forest Standard, the Forest Act, Nature Conservation act etc.), which is the basis for performing forest management and related operations (forest regeneration, cutting, maintenance and protection etc).

EEML collects and maintains summary information on executed cuttings, re-forestation, forest area, protected species etc. by each member. Every year the internal control (internal audits) of the randomly selected members is conducted by EEML, it includes the evaluation of the management system, documentation and field audits. The purpose of the internal audits is to evaluate member's compliance to the currently valid legislation and documents (including subcontractors control by the members). EEML has developed and documented relevant procedures for execution of the internal audit, recording the results and further improvements. All members are checked at least once within the 5 year validity period of the certificate.

EEML informs, trains (if necessary & possible) and provides additional information (seminars, brochures) regarding the various aspects of forest management.

Forest management limitations 2018	
Springs, groundwater areas	12,74 ha
Beach and bank areas	4003,07 ha
Strict nature protection and conservation areas	1990,278 ha
Nature reserve areas	7485,431 ha
Limited nature protection areas	4833,217 ha
Key Habitat areas and buffer zones	429,24 ha
Potential key habitat areas	0 ha

3. Management structure description

- Single Certificate
- Multiple FMU Certificate

Table No. 1

Size class	Time needed per sample in working days	Count of forest management units
> 10.000 ha	2.5	0
1.000 - 10.000 ha	1.5	0
101 - 1.000 ha	1	0
0 - 100 ha	0.5	0

Note: One individual/legal entity might have several management units.

- Group Certificate

Table No. 2

Size class	Time needed per sample in working days	Count of sample who need to be visited	Time needed in working days
> 10.000 ha	2.5	X	2.5*X
1.000 - 10.000 ha	1.5	X	1.5*X
101 - 1.000 ha	1	X	1*X
0 - 100 ha	0.5	X	0.5*X

4. Annual audit route and events

Date: 11.01.2019		
Forest management unit / Location / objects	Activities / comments	Participants
Imarumäe (87401:001:0006)	Compartment 2 – clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability. Compartment 5 – Sanitary cut in 2018 + planting with spruce in 2018.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Peep Tambets
Imaru (87401:001:0080)	Compartment 1 and 2 – clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Peep Tambets
Date: 15.01.2019		
Forest management unit / Location / objects	Activities / comments	Participants
Liiva (56501:003:0229)	Compartments 1 – clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Kristel Pern (EEML)
Liiva (56701:001:0061)	Compartment 2 – Sanitary cut in 2018. Field visits did not evidence any non-conformities.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Kristel Pern (EEML)
Date: 16.01.2019		
Forest management unit / Location / objects	Activities / comments	Participants
Järve 3 (20801:004:1450)	Compartments 2,4 – clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability. Compartments 1,9,24 – Sanitary cut in 2018. Compartments 13,17 and 29 – ongoing Thinnings, no damaged trees. Harvester operator Martin Muttik interviewed and occupational health and safety requirements controlled. He has experience in forestry work + finished Luua Forestry school. First aid kit, helmet, mobilephone charged and available. Fire extinguishers valid til 06.2019. Field visits did not evidence any non-	Björn Sild – Auditor; Jüri Tambets (Valga Puu OÜ, Pikre OÜ, Järve Varahalduse OÜ)

	conformities.	
Rehe Talu (20301:002:0121)	Compartments 6,7,8,12,13 – clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Jüri Tambets (Valga Puu OÜ, Pikre OÜ, Järve Varahalduse OÜ)
Pikre (20801:001:0071)	Compartments 1 and 3 – clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability. Compartment 2 – thinning in 2018, no damaged trees.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Jüri Tambets (Valga Puu OÜ, Pikre OÜ, Järve Varahalduse OÜ)
Date: 17.01.2019		
Forest management unit / Location / objects	Activities / comments	Participants
Kriiska (63601:001:0901)	Compartments 4 and 6 – clearcut in 2018 + planting in 2018. Marking of borders, soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Kristel Pern (EEML)
Date: 29.01.2019		
Forest management unit / Location / objects	Activities / comments	Participants
Vähepere (17501:002:0195)	Compartments 2 and 1– clearcut in 2018 decemeber. Marking of borders (with tape), soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Kristel Pern (EEML); Ruudi Kasser (Dagö Trade OÜ)
Vähepere (17501:002:0196)	Compartments 3,4,5,6– clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders (with paint), soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Kristel Pern (EEML); Ruudi Kasser (Dagö Trade OÜ)
Põllumäe (36802:001:0034)	Compartments 7 and 8 –clearcut in 2018. Marking of borders (with paint), soil conditions, ecological and seed trees health and availability.	Björn Sild – Auditor; Kristel Pern (EEML); Ruudi Kasser (Dagö Trade OÜ)

5. Summary of public consultation.

Stakeholders view, objections raised	Audit team response, audit findings
Economic issues	
Non received	No comments
	No finding or comments from any stakeholders or subcontractors. Conformance
Social issues	
Non received	No comments
	No finding or comments from any stakeholders or subcontractors. Conformance
Environmental issues	

Non received	No comments
	No finding or comments from any stakeholders or subcontractors. Conformance

6. Certification applicant eligibility of certification requirements description

This chapter shows all inconsistencies and observations made during the audit of this year and time frame for the implementation of corrective actions

6.1 Existing requests for corrective actions and observations

This chapter shows all inconsistencies and observations made during the audit of this year and time frame for the implementation of corrective actions

NA – No Open CARs. *(Delete table below, if no CARs are issued.)*

6.2 New requests for corrective actions and observations

NA – No CARs issued during the audit. *(Delete table below, if no CARs are issued.)*

6.3 Summary table of audit results

Parameters	Observations, stated violations, inconsistencies
1. Criterion: The forest resource management and taking appropriate measures to increase their contribution to global carbon circulation	No observation, violations or inconsistencies
2. Criterion: The maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality	No observation, violations or inconsistencies
3. Criterion: Maintenance and promotion of forest productive functions (wood and non-wood)	No observation, violations or inconsistencies
4. Criterion: Maintenance, protection and appropriate promotion of forest ecosystem biodiversity	No observation, violations or inconsistencies

5. Criterion: The maintenance and appropriate promotion of protection forest management Forest management protection function maintenance and appropriate promotion (in particular soil and water)	No observation, violations or inconsistencies
6. Criterion: Other social and economic function maintenance	No observation, violations or inconsistencies

6.4 Compliance with the certification requirements

Recommendation	
To recognize that the forest management company carries out forest management operations according to the PEFC Forest management certification standard	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
The conclusion is based upon information acquired during the certification process, certifying that:	
The forest management organisation has ensured the correction of all the significant inconsistencies established above	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
The forest management organization has demonstrated that the forest management system and normative basis ensures compliance with the requirements of the certification standard within certified forest areas	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
The forest management organization has demonstrated that the forest management system and normative basis is applied in practice in the forest management process of certified forest areas	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Commentary	

LEAD AUDITOR'S CONCLUSIONS:

Clear recommendation on whether the organization complies with the standard requirements:

<p>MTÜ Eesti Erametsaliit meets the requirements of PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard and Continued Certification recommended.</p> <p>MTÜ Eesti Erametsaliit has valid PEFC Forest Management certificate. Organization has processes in place, responsible person Kristel Pern has good awareness of the standard</p>
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requirements. During the audit no NCR-s issued. Auditor recommends continued certification of the organization against PEFC Estonia National Forest Standard.

Lead auditor:	Björn Sild
Signature:	B.Sild
Date	01.03.2019

7. Expert's conclusion

Opinion of an external expert (date, expert, expert's conclusion):

8. CERTIFICATION DECISION

(Filled out by the certification manager):

Certification manager:	
Signature:	
Date	