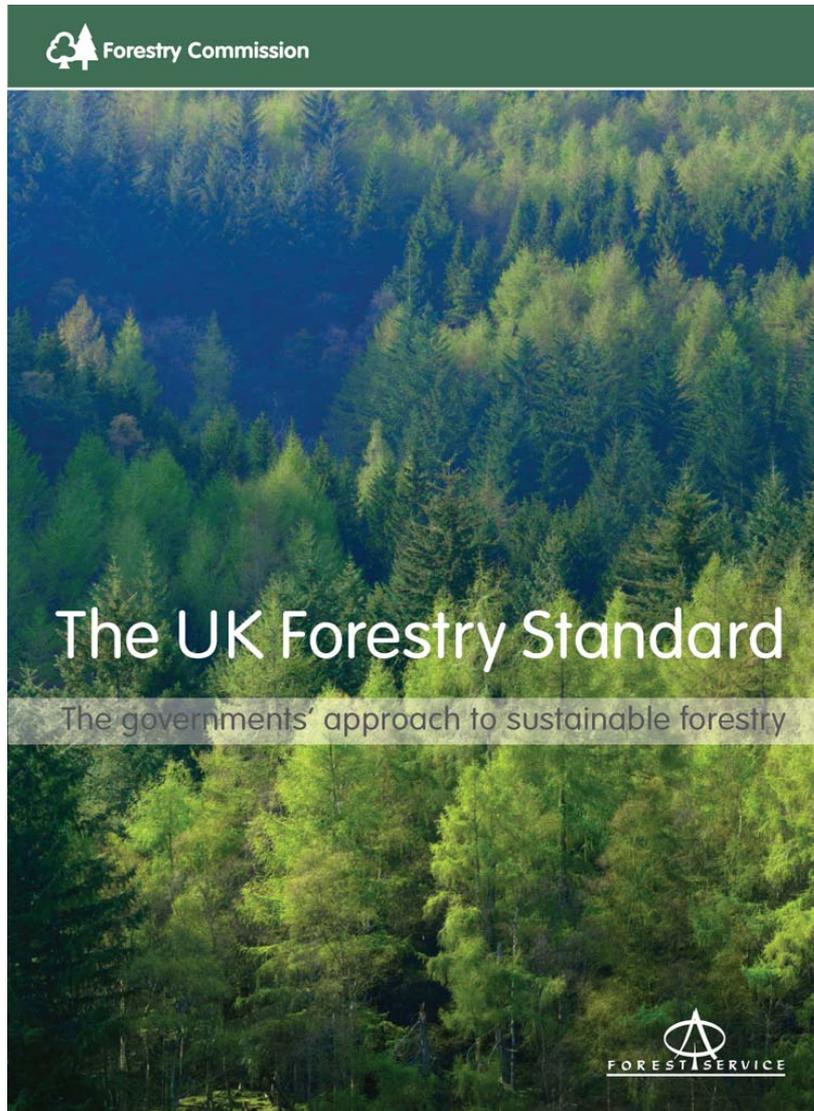


The UK approach to implementing Forest Europe C&I; The UK Forestry Standard and Guidelines

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- Forestry is a very small part of GDP and its importance lies in its environmental and social contribution
- Only 13% forest cover – most of which was (re) created
- C 70% of forest area privately owned with a large proportion of small woods, under-managed woods, ad-hoc forest management.
- The UK does not have the forest laws and forest codes that exist in some other European countries
- Does have some basic Acts of Parliament on forestry and other environmental legislation
- The implications of the third biggest net importer of timber mean that the UK is keen to promote concepts of SFM -- and to set an example with its domestic practice

- Report on the Forest Europe C&I (Globally and Forest Europe)
- National Forest Inventory (NFI) and annual statistics – report at UK level
- **UK Forestry Standard and Guidelines** which cover the FE C&I in the UK context and specify at operational level:
 - Legal requirements
 - Good forest practice requirements
 - Guidelines
- Independent forest certification



- UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) and Guidelines are the foundation for forestry practice in the UK
- Fundamental to the delivery of sustainable forest management in the UK.
- Basis for the implementation of the UK's international obligations (UNFF, Forest Europe / MCPFE C&I, PELOG)
- Statement of what UK governments require:
 - in implementing their regulatory powers, (forestry and non-forestry)
 - as a condition of providing incentives.

1. Provide an **explicit statement** of UK Requirements for SFM and meeting international agreements - in line with other land uses supported by the EU;
2. Clarify the the **assurances provided** by meeting the UKFS Requirements
3. Strengthen the role of **forest planning**;

5. Incorporate **legislation** (e.g. Water Framework Directive, Equality Act), & international agreements (EU Landscape Convention)
6. Explain how forestry is **monitored and reported;**
7. Incorporate latest advances in the **scientific understanding** of forestry, (e.g. forests and acidification, role of deadwood)
8. Include national and international initiatives on **climate change** and the role forests can play in mitigation and adaptation

- 1 Introduction to the 3rd Edition
- 2 Overview
- 3 International Context – Forest Europe C&I and the PELOG in the appendix
- 4 Forestry in the UK

5 UKFS Requirements

Legal Requirements + Good Forest Practice Requirements

6 UKFS Guidelines

General forestry practice guidelines in full -- the other elements summary form - i.e. guideline bullet points

7 Implementation & Monitoring

Reporting, Forest regulation, felling licences, EIAs, forest plans, incentives, monitoring, reporting and evidence requirements

8 Annexe etc

- **Legal Requirement**



- Sites scheduled as ancient monuments **must not** be damaged and consent **must** be obtained for any works that have the potential to damage the monument or its setting

- **Good Forest Practice Requirement**



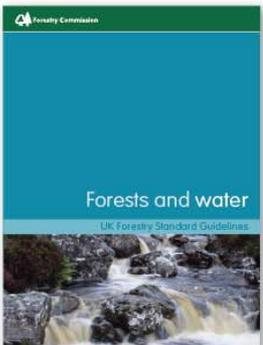
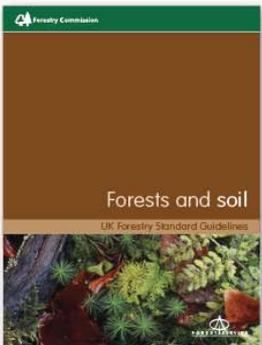
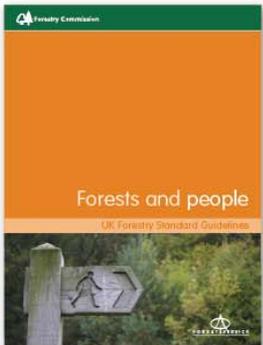
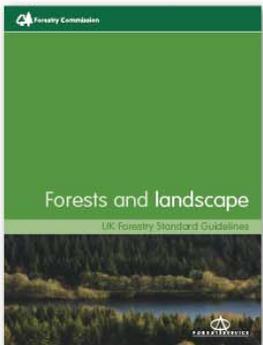
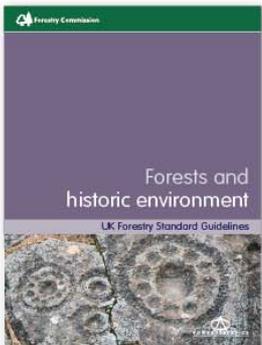
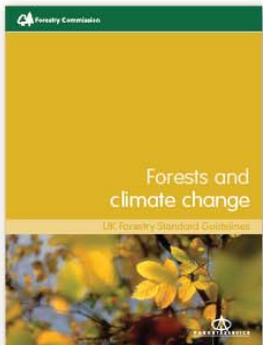
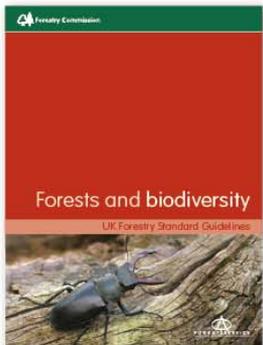
- Forest plans **should** show how important features are to be protected and integrated with the management of the forest environment

- **Guideline**

- Allow an appropriate area of open space around features of historic interest, for Scheduled Monuments this will normally be a minimum of 20m; consider the setting as well as individual features.

Requirements are arranged under “Elements of SFM” as suits the UK context i.e.

- General forestry practice (in the UKFS itself)
 - Covers forest protection, health, productivity etc
- Biodiversity
- Climate change
- Historic environment
- Landscape
- People
- Water
- Soils



2. Overview of Forests and Water

Forests and Water is structured in the same way as the other Guidelines that support the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS). This section sets out the purpose of the UKFS Requirements, explains the role of the Guidelines and how they relate to the UKFS, defines the scope of the series and provides explanations of terminology.

UKFS Requirements

The UKFS Requirements for Water are set out in Section 5. There are two levels of compliance: **Legal** and **Good forestry practice**. Guidelines for managers complying with the Requirements for Water are set out in Section 6.

In addition to water, there are UKFS Requirements for six other elements of sustainable forest management, each set out in an individual Guidelines publication, categorised as follows:

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Historic Environment
- Landscape
- People
- Soil

General Forestry Practice is a further element of sustainable forest management that is covered by the UKFS itself, as it is common to water and the other elements of sustainable forest management. Requirements for *General Forestry Practice* apply in most forestry situations, for example planning and operations.

For completeness, and so that these publications stand alone, the UKFS Requirements and Guidelines for General Forestry Practice are set out in Appendix 3 of each of the Guidelines publications.



Common approach across the series using the Guideline publication colours

5. UKFS Requirements: Water

The UKFS Requirements for Water are set out in this section (see Section 2 for further information). The UKFS Requirements for General Forestry Practice are given in the UKFS itself and in Appendix 3 of this publication.

Key to symbols

Requirements



Cross-references

Cross-references may be made to the other elements of sustainable forest management (SFM), where the Requirement is common to more than one subject.



-  General Forestry Practice
-  Forests and Biodiversity
-  Forests and Climate Change
-  Forests and Historic Environment
-  Forests and Landscape
-  Forests and People
-  Forests and Soil
-  Forests and Water

The UKFS Requirements outline the main legislation and are intended as a source of advice. You are advised to consult the relevant statutes for more information and the definitive legal text.

UKFS Requirements: Water



Legal requirements

Statutory requirements of EU and UK legislation, including legislation applicable in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, that has the most direct bearing on the management of forests and woodlands. Contravention of these requirements could lead directly to prosecution.



Good forestry practice requirements

Further requirements of sustainable forest management, linked to internationally agreed criteria and commitments, to meet UK and country policy. They complete the framework for the exercise of the regulatory powers of the forestry authorities in the UK and for the payment of grants.

Guidelines

Guidelines provide more detailed information for forest and woodland owners, managers and practitioners on how to comply with the UKFS Requirements. Some guidelines apply to more than one situation and to more than one element of sustainable forest management. These guidelines are cross-referenced.

- **Guidelines** are specific and context sensitive
- **Guidelines** will be interpreted according to precise circumstances of the site and objectives of the owner
- Assessed on the basis of a forest management unit or FMU



“Retain and manage existing veteran trees and select and manage suitable individuals to eventually take their place”

- UKFS is Government standard that applies to all aspects and stages of forestry.
- SFM is defined through international commitments and the UKFS provides the framework for UK delivery
- By defining forestry practice the UKFS is the primary source of UKWAS; to which FSC and PEFC requirements are then added

- UKWAS is a certification audit protocol
- Certification is a voluntary mechanism - mainly geared to marketing timber and paid for by owner
- Certification scheme requirements may not align with Gov't policies
- Vast majority of woodland owners are NOT certified

- Implementation within existing government resources
- Review & co-ordinate our regulatory activities to present a **risk-based approach** to implementation and providing transparency
- Up to the FC and Forest Service in the 4 countries to strike a **balance between the risk of non-compliance and costs of regulation**
- Implementation needs to be able to provide **reasonable assurances of sustainable management**- as required for Govt timber procurement “Category B”, and to claim incentives for biomass.
- Work is being done on the country approaches within framework of UKFS.

- 1. C&I – expressed in the UK FS define the UK commitment to international agreements on sustainable forest management**
- 2. Defines UK forestry practice**
- 3. Makes forest regulation "work harder and smarter"**
- 4. Provides a "one stop shop" for forest managers**
- 5. Maintains market access**

6. Protects the environment

7. Delivers on climate change

8. Ensures incentives buy public benefits

9. Facilitates forest certification

- We need to be able to provide assurance on UKFS implementation
- We propose to bring this together with
 - International reporting (C&I) etc
 - National Statistics
 - NFI