

FSC Forest Management Certification Services

Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) awards Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-endorsed certification to forest management operations that are well-managed in accordance with environmentally responsible, socially equitable, and economically viable guidelines as elaborated by the FSC Principles and Criteria of Forest Stewardship. An expert team of certification professionals conducts a field audit to determine if there is conformance with the FSC certification standard. Following the assessment, and if adequate conformity to the certification standard is confirmed, a five-year certificate is issued. During the five-year period, subsequent annual audits are required to verify continued conformance.



Benefits of Certification

Third-party certification from SCS, whether for FSC-endorsed forest management or chain-of-custody, SCS-Independent, or another of our programs, is a quality assurance to your customers and stakeholders that your wood products come from forests managed in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. Such claims abound in the forest and wood products sector, but only those claims based upon rigorous criteria and independent verification hold up to the scrutiny and garner credibility. Certification offered by SCS provides that rigorous and credible verification and enables businesses and retail customers alike to make informed purchasing decisions that reward, through the wood products markets, sound forest management.

- Respond to growing demand for FSC products
- Be recognized for your forest stewardship
- Become eligible for selling carbon credits



for information about becoming certified or locating certified products:

[SCScertified.com/nrc](https://www.scscertified.com/nrc)

tel +1.510.452.8000

forestryinfo@scscertified.com



SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS | *Setting the standard for sustainability™*

Providing global leadership in independent, third-party certification, auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years.



Certification Process

The assessment process includes the following steps:

Step 1. Application

Representatives of the forest management operation fill out an application to undergo the certification evaluation process.

Step 2. Project Proposal

SCS evaluates the application and prepares an audit plan and proposal, including the costs and a timeline for the evaluation process. The applicant then authorizes a work order and the certification process begins.

Step 3. Stakeholder Consultation

The SCS assessment team, consisting of experts in the relevant fields of forestry, social science, and economics, conducts stakeholder consultations to acquire outside input regarding the applicant's management performance in relation to the FSC Principles and Criteria.

Step 4. On-Site Audit

The assessment team conducts an on-site audit to determine if the applicant's management system is being implemented in conformance with the FSC standards. Forest conditions are also assessed. A report is produced that details the results of the evaluation.

Step 5. Peer Review

The assessment report is reviewed by the applicant for factual accuracy, then submitted to independent peer review to validate the appropriateness of the team's analytical methodology and conclusions.

Step 6. Certification

Following peer review, the SCS certification committee reviews the report and decides whether or not to approve certification. If granted, a certificate is issued for a five-year period, subject to annual surveillance audits.

SCS Forest Conservation Program

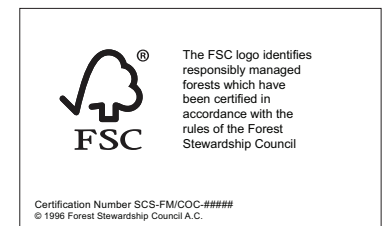
SCS established its Forest Conservation Program (FCP) in 1991 to provide certification services for forest managers the forest products industry, making it one of the first certification programs to recognize responsible forest management practices.

Subsequently, the SCS- FCP was among the first certification programs to become duly accredited to conduct independent, third-party Forest Management and Chain-of-Custody certification evaluations worldwide under the FSC umbrella.

To date, SCS has certified over 25 million acres of forests in Central, South and North America, Europe, Asia, and New Zealand; SCS has also issued more than 1000 FSC-endorsed chain-of- custody certificates. Our experience and market activity is truly international and our institutional resources and capacity reflect this global outlook.

Certification Assessment Option

An applicant may prefer to undergo a pre-assessment or "scoping visit" to provide insight regarding its strengths and weaknesses relative to the certification standards. The results of a pre-assessment may enable forest managers to better prepare for the FSC-endorsed certification process. Per FSC policy, larger or controversial operations are required to undergo pre-assessments prior to the certification evaluation.



SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

2000 Powell St., Suite 600, Emeryville, CA 94608 USA
tel +1.510.452.8000 fax +1.510.4520.6882.
SCScertified.com