

## 16.4 Summary sheet of fourth audit (2002)

Since the last audit the total number of group members group has not increased. The total number of members within the scope of the Skal International group certification is 44.

The audit is performed within the scope of the monitoring of the group entity and the conformity with the Skal standards and group certification and the FSC P&C.

### 1 Process

#### 1.1 Schedule

December 9 2002	Head office Mainz	Evaluation of the outstanding CAR's and the performance of the group entity within the scope of the standards.
December 10 2002	FA Schneifel FA Neuerburg	Field visits in the forests of the municipalities Wallensheim and Dasburg. Assessment of the forest management and the conformity with the FSC P&C. Main issues; forest regeneration, timber quality versus Game damage. Forest exploitation and the impact on the forest.
December 11 2002	FA Quint FA Bitburg	Field visits in the forests of the municipalities Speicher and Spangdahlem. Assessment of the forest management and the conformity with the FSC P&C. Main issues; Impact of the surrounding environment on the forest management (airstrip Spangdahlem), The process of transforming the monoculture pine stands into multi aged and mixed stands. The impact of the wild game damage on the regeneration of oak. Transformation of even aged stands in uneven aged. The impact of the new highway construction through the forest unit Spangdahlem. Inspection of an old broadleaved stand.

#### 1.2 Audit team

Mr. Mark Vonk, BSc Forestry and Mr. Dr. Klaus Schriewer MSc social studies and anthropology

## 1.3 Sampling and field visits

During the fourth audit some new members and some old members are visited. The sampling was based on the audit schedule introduced by the group entity. Approximately 10% of the total number of members was visited.

## 2 Results

### 2.1 Changes of management system and relevant normative documents

A few new documents are reported during the audit. The introduction of the deadwood policy as part of the group certification scheme. The deadwood policy is incorporated in the guide for group certification (Leitraden 'FSC-Gruppen-zertifizierung' für die Forstämter. -neufassung 2003- issued November 2002)

Also the hunting contracts are changed. In the new hunting contracts the hunter is obliged to shoot the prescribed number and as proof he has to have the shot animals checked by the game managers. (Wildbewirtschaftung und Jagdverpachtung - anforderungen de FSC-Zertifizierung- issued June 2002)

### 2.2 Progress of national and regional FSC standard

The local German FSC standard (28 November 2001) is used for the assessment.

### 2.3 Harvest

The total amount of timber sold with an FSC claim is about 20,000 m<sup>3</sup> the total amount of timber harvested is about 280,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

The timber is sold through the central timber bank of the forest management (forstamt). The so-called Forst amt is also responsible for the control of the realization of the harvest. Realized harvested volumes may not exceed planned volumes without a motivated reason

### 2.4 Outcome of monitoring procedures and inventories

The outcome of the monitoring of the impact of the wild game damage to the stands and the possibilities of natural regeneration has resulted in the introduction of a more strict and severe game management. As the threat of the loss of value of timber is not in balance with the income from the hunting contracts.

## 2.5 Environmental aspects

No changes found

## 2.6 Social aspects

No changes found

## 2.7 Complaints received

The new group members have consulted their stakeholders. No complaints received. Also no complaints have been received about the existing members.

## 3 Implementation of CAR's

CAR # 12	The use of fertilizers to increase <b>productivity</b> .
Unit	Niederscheidweiler
Non-conformity	The use of fertilizer to increase the quality of christmas trees colour is not allowed.
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.6.1
Elucidation	The use of fertilizers not allowed.
Status	Condition
Instruction	Inform all parties involved in writing and instruct them accordingly .
Deadline	<u>Vor Aufnahme in die Gruppe</u>
Implementation	This aspect has been solved by a declaration from the member in case. This aspect in general is dealt with in the agreement the individual members have signed. This CAR is settled.

CAR # 14	Wild Game and hunting
Units	New members: Berndorf, Ellscheid, Alte Gemeinden: Ormont, Wallesheim, <u>Oberscheidweiler</u> , Niederscheidweiler, Hasborn
Non-conformity	Game population is high with the result that natural regeneration does not occur without fencing .
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.1
Erläuterung	Without artificial help the natural regeneration does not take off. <b>Natural processes do not get the optimal opportunities.</b>
Status	Condition
Instruction	Use for the new hunting contracts the <b>GStB contract format</b> .
Deadline	All new contracts that are made before the end of 2003
Implementation	All members are through the general agreement obliged to use the <b>GStG contract format</b> for all new hunting contracts. In the new format all problems mentioned in former audits will be solved in time. This implicates that within 9 years from 2002 all hunting contracts are revised. This CAR is <b>settled</b> .

CAR # 15	<b>Wild game</b>
Units	Ormont, Wallesheim, Oberscheidweiler, Niederscheidweiler, Hasborn, Dermerath, Berndorf, Ellscheid
Non-conformity	Wild game population is high natural regeneration does not take off without fencing .
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.3
Elucidation	Without artificial help natural regeneration does not take off. Natural processes do not get the <u>optimal opportunities</u> .
Status	Condition
Instruction	Hunters have to be obliged to shoot the planned amount of game. As proof the shot game has to be inspected by the game managers. This has to be done until the forest inspection reports improvements of the game damage and recovery of the natural <b>re</b> generation rates.
Deadline	Next audit
Implementation	All members are through the general agreement obliged to use the GStG contract format for all new hunting contracts. In the new format all problems mentioned in former audits will be solved in time. This implicates that within 9 years from 2002 all hunting contracts are revised. This CAR is settled

CAR # 16	<b>Wild Game</b>
Units	Berndorf , Ormont, Wallesheim,
Non-conformity	<b>Game</b> damage is <b>severe</b>
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.3
Elucidation	Also in areas where game is not so-called, 'standwild' damage is severe.
Status	Condition
Instruction	The reduction of the game population must be established in order to tackle the damage problems
Deadline	Fall 2002 for Ormont, Wallesheim, fall 2003 for Berndorf
Implementation	All members are through the general agreement obliged to use the GStB contract format for all new hunting contracts. In the new format all problems mentioned in former audits will be solved in time. This implicates that within 9 years from 2002 all hunting contracts are revised. This CAR is settled.

CAR # 20	<b>Dead wood policy</b>
Units	Ormont, Wallesheim, Oberscheidweiler, Niederscheidweiler, Hasborn, Manderscheid GStG
Non-Conformity	The <b>deadwood policy</b> does not exist in writing .
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.3
Elucidation	In order to increase the ecological value of the forest a certain number of old trees must remain in the stands. How to reach this goal must be stated in a <b>policy</b> document
Status	Condition
Instruction	A dead wood policy must be stated in writing and approved by the

	rou entit .
Deadline	Next audit
Comment of the former auditor	<i>FAL Manderscheid stellt fest, dass Vorschriften für den Staatswald die Förderung eines Totholzmanagementes verlangen, die Erstellung eines Dokumentes speziell für FSC erübrige sich daher. Dies ist nur insoweit richtig, wenn die Gemeinde sich verpflichtet, die Regelungen für den Staatswald zu übernehmen und diese <u>Regelungen</u> den deutschen FSC-Standards entsprechen.</i>
Implementation	The policy an the increment of deadwood in the forest has become part of the so-called „Leitraden FSC-Gruppenzertifizierung“ für forstämter issued in November 2002 " In this regulation the national standard for state forests is used and obli ato

CAR # 21	Reference areas
Units	All visited members
Non-Conformit	Reference areas are not indicated b an member
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.4
Elucidation	Reference areas have to be designated within the <b>certified area</b> (even in areas < 1000 Ha). When not possible, an an other spot within the <b>same rowth area</b>
Status	Condition
Instruction	Reference areas must be indicated and documented
Zeitrahmen	Bis 2002
Comment of the former auditor	<i>Inzwischen sind Gemeinden mit Besitz von &gt; 9000 ha dazu gekommen, so dass die Ausweisung von Referenzflächen zwingend ist. Ausweisung ist in Arbeit aber noch nicht abgeschlossen.</i>
Implementation	Members for which this CAR is stated are contacted and a deadline is set b rou entit . This CAR is settled.

CAR # 27	Wild <b>ame</b> and huntin contracts
Units	GStG and rou members
Non-conformit	Game <b>z. ulation</b> is <b>idic</b> <b>g</b> <b>ura</b> <b>re</b> generation does not take off.
Standard	FSC-D Standards 6.1 , Skal 6.0
Elucidation	Without artificial help the natural regeneration does not take off. <b>Natural</b> <b>rocesses</b> do not et the <b>optimal</b> <b>oportunities</b> .
Status	Condition
Instruction	Hunters have to be obliged to shoot the planned amount of game. As proof the shot game has to be inspected by the game managers. This has to be done until the forest inspection reports improvements of the game damage and recovery of the natural <b>re</b> <b>eneration</b> rates.
Deadline	After the release of the monitoring results from the forest service, and as obligation stated in the new contracts from 2003 on, until the next external monitorin .
Comment of the former auditor	<i>Verstärkter Kontakt mit Jagdpächtern Erhöhte Aufmerksamkeit auf Sommerverbiss Zusätzliche Information für die Gemeinden über die</i>

# Skal International

Forestry Certification

	Gefahrensituation und den neuen <u>Vertrag</u> zu nutzen.
Implementation	All members are through the general agreement obliged to use the GStG contract format for all new <b>hunting</b> contracts. In the new <b>format</b> all problems mentioned in former audits will be solved in time. This implicates that within 9 years from 2002 an all hunting contracts are revised. This CAR is settled.

CAR # 34	Internal Monitoring
Unit	GStB
Non-Conformity	In the handbook of the group entity deadlines are defined for the settlement of non-conformities. Until now this has not been followed <u>u</u> <u>r</u> <u>o</u> <u>e</u> <u>r</u> <u>l</u> <u>b</u> <u>t</u> <u>h</u> <u>e</u> <u>e</u> <u>n</u> <u>t</u> <u>i</u> <u>t</u> <u>.</u>
Standard	Skal standards an group certification 2.2.4, GStG Management- <u>System</u> Handbook 6.4
Status	Condition
Instruction	In case the deadlines are crossed new deadlines shall be defined and the status of the non-conformity <b>adjusted</b> .
Deadline	Next internal audit Sept. 2002
Comment of the former auditor	Verbesserungen des GStB-Monitoring Systems sind laufend festzustellen; Arbeitsaufwand beim GStB wird mit wachsender Mitgliedschaft so gross, dass die Arbeit allein durch Dr.Rätz nicht mehr zu <u>bewältigen</u> ist (siehe <u>Empfehlung unten</u> ).
Implementation	The problem has not been solved yet as the principle issue is lack of capacity as the overall workload is too large were as the benefits are too small. On a part time basis an extra hand is hired and contacts are made with the university to use students to solve part of the extra workload. For the time being this aspect is settled as the audit schedule is <b>complete</b> and all audits are <b>planned</b> .

CAR # 35	<u>Meeting</u> with the hunting lessees
Units	GStB, Gemeinde Berndorf
Non-conformity	Within the scope of the follow up on the internal audit a meeting with the hunting lessee has not taken <b>place</b> .
Standard	GStB-Manual, German FSC-Standards
Elucidation	Deadline was crossed. The game damage is severe and the lessee must be made aware of this <b>problem</b> .
Status	Condition
Instruction	Arrange a meeting before the 15th of March after the inventory of the <b>game damage</b> has been made.
Deadline	March 15th 2002
Implementation	A meeting is arranged and changes will be made with the new contracts. In the mean time the number of game, shot is monitored by the forest service. This CAR is settled.

CAR # 36	Use of fertilizers
Units	GStG (Kiesberg)
Non-conformity	The use of fertilizers to increase production is not allowed within the scope of the FSC P&C DE
Standard	FSC-D standards 6.6
Elucidation	During the audit it was indicated that fertilizers are going to be used in Kiesberg only. According to the standards this is not allowed.
Status	Condition
Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Define the term fertilisation. Demand the German FSC working group for a solution in case of single starter fertilising. Interview with Mr. Dr. Schuler, FVA.</li> <li>- A written statement must be sent to the members and the forest managers that fertilisation is not allowed.</li> </ul>
Deadline	Before the next audit, before the municipality Kiesberg is entering the routine.
Implementation	This aspect has been solved by a declaration from the members in case. This aspect in general is dealt with in the agreement the individual members have signed. This CAR is settled.

#### 4 New/revised CAR's

No new CAR's are found during the fourth audit.

#### 5 Recommendations

Aspect	Safety in the forest and harvesting instructions
Units	GStB
Recommendation	Within the scope of the FSC group certification, the safety in the forest and the execution of the harvesting instructions is the responsibility of the applicant (GStB)
Standard	FSC P&C.DE, Nov 2001, 7.3 and 4.2.1
Elucidation	During the field visit an incident was registered. During the tree harvesting, safety measures were not taken into account and the right felling technique was not used by the operator in case.
Status	Recommendation
	<p>Inform all group members about the responsibilities within the scope of the certification and oblige the forest services that are responsible for the execution of the harvesting, to implement a safety plan and to instruct the employees involved accordingly.</p> <p>An official and formal technical training course for employees must be part of the educational programme of the forest services. This training has to be repeated within a reasonable timeframe.</p>

**6 Certification proposal**

As no aspects of non-conformity with a pre-conditional status are found or not settled within a given timeframe the continuation of the certification of the applicant, according to the Skal standards an group certification and the FSC P&C is proposed.

Above mentioned project is a Skal International inspected & certified project

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# **Forest Management**

# **Certification Report**

## Background Information

Audit 2002

## SECTION 2: FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION REPORT

### 2 Audit process

#### 2.1 Schedule

See public part

##### 2.1.1 Itinerary

Abbreviations:

FA	lower forest district	Forstamt
FAL	head of lower forest district	Forstamtsleiter
RL	ranger	Revierleiter
Bgm	Mayor	Bürgermeister
Abt.	forest site	Abteilung
Elh	ash, maple etc	Edellaubholz

Date	Items/places inspected and names and affiliations of people interviewed
December 9, 2002.	Mr. Rätz GStB Office Mainz. Evaluation of the outstanding NC's, the inspection and discussion of the member files, picked during the sampling. Broader discussion about the GStB entity quality system and the responsibilities of the different parties involved.
December 10, 2002	FA Schneifel, municipality forest Wallesheim. Mr. Penzlin (FAL), Mr. Meier (Foreman), Mr. Dringen (forestworker), Mr. Rucker(operator) Mr. Raetz (GStB). Inspection of the abundant examples of wild game damage throughout the forest unit, forest exploitation in practise, transformation of a river bedding from spruce monoculture in broad leaf species, safety plan for the forest workers, the knowledge about the FSC throughout the organisation.
December 10, 2002	FA Neuerburg, municipality forest Dasburg. Mr. Nuhn (FAL), Mr. Schilling (RL), Mr. Raetz (GStB). inspection of the forest management operations. Almost all forests are situated on steep to moderately steep slopes and are part of a national nature reserve. Hardly any wild game damage to the trees was found and regeneration is abundant in places. Major point of interest is the forest composition whereas about 40% is covered with monoculture Douglas fir.
December 11, 2002	FA Quint, municipality forests of Beilingen, Speicher, Orenhofen Preist and Herforst. Mr. Hilgers (FAL), Mr. Wilwers (municipality Speicher), Mr. Frömsdorf (RL) Evaluation of the ongoing forest management practise at the municipality centre. Field visit. A general overview of the major forest types, the transformation from pine monocultures into more mixed uneven-aged stands.
December 11, 2002	FA Bitburg, municipality forest of Spangdahlem. Mr. Der (FAL) and mr. Wagner RL

# Skal International

Forestry Certification

Inspection of the replanting of storm damage with oak, the impact of wild game damage and regeneration of broad leaf trees. Forest management of the unit in general, harvest, thinning regeneration etc. The impact of the highway construction on the forest and the forest system.

## 2.1.2 Justification for selection

See public part.

## 2.2 Audit team

### Audit team

Name	Qualifications	Affiliations
Mr. Mark Vonk	BSc forestry	Skal International forest certification program
Mr. Dr. Claus Schriewer	MSc anthropology and social studies	Professor at the Hamburg University (Germany) and University UCAM Murcia (Spain)

## 2.3 Process

### 2.3.1 Guidelines and local standards

The inspection is performed according to the Skal forestry standards version 2001. Standards are available at Skal International on request. The FSC Guidelines for Certification Bodies: Group Certification (Doc. 3.6.1, date July 31, 1998) and the Skal document "Group certification Version 1, Dec 1998) were also basics for conducting the audit.

The German FSC Standards (28 November 2001) were taken into account.

### 2.3.2 Evaluation techniques

Evaluation was conducted according to Skal quality manual and Skal field manual. A checklist was used to get sufficient information to evaluate against FSC principles and criteria.

### 2.3.3 Preparation and document review

The 2002 audit was partly prepared in the office of Skal International and partly in the GStB office in Mainz. The 2001 audit was used as basis for the 2002 audit. Documents reviewed were the GStG handbook and member files.