

DRAFT INTERPRETATION FOR CONSULTATION

Code	<i>INT-FSC-PRO-60-006b_01_EN</i>
Requirement (s)	Management activities as per <FSC-PRO-006b Risk Assessment Framework> under the terms and definitions section (p. 9), are defined as follows: 'Management activities include harvesting, processing and trading'.
Publication date	<i>17 September 2025</i>
Emergency Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
ASI Finding	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<i>If yes, then please provide ASI position or statement on the interpretation.</i>
Background information	<p>Harvesting, as per <FSC-PRO-006b Risk Assessment Framework>, is part of management activities. It is defined in the same Procedure (terms and definitions, p. 9) as: "A general term for the removal of produce from the forest for utilization; often comprising cutting trees; additionally, this may also include initial processing (e.g., tipping and trimming) and/or the removal of forest products from the forest to a loading point for the purposes of transportation elsewhere (including felling, yarding, and decking)".</p> <p>According to this definition harvesting does not include soil scarification, direct seeding, tree planting and precommercial thinning. At the same time soil scarification, direct seeding, tree planting and precommercial thinning do not overlap with processing and trading. Therefore, soil scarification, direct seeding, planting and precommercial thinning are not part of management activities as defined per <FSC-PRO-006b Risk Assessment Framework>.</p>
<p>Are pre-harvesting activities such as soil scarification, direct seeding, planting and precommercial thinning considered within the scope of management activities in <FSC-PRO-006b Risk Assessment Framework> regarding compliance with forestry-related legislation?</p> <p>No, soil scarification, direct seeding, planting and precommercial thinning are not considered within the scope of management activities in <FSC-PRO-006b Risk Assessment Framework> regarding compliance with forestry-related legislation.</p> <p>However, there might still be identified non-negligible risks related to such pre-harvesting activities, for example, where these involve violations of non-forestry-related legislation or causing damage to High Conservation Values.</p>	