



**SGS QUALIFOR**  
(Associated Documents)

Doc. Number: **AD 36A-12**

Doc. Version date: **21 Sept. 2010**

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Approved by: **Gerrit Marais**

## FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION REPORT

### SECTION A: PUBLIC SUMMARY

<b>Project Nr:</b>	<b>12576-GB</b>		
<b>Client:</b>	<b>Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company Limited</b>		
<b>Web Page:</b>	-		
<b>Address:</b>	Cornharrow, Dalry, Castle Douglas, DG7 3UG, Scotland.		
<b>Country:</b>	U.K.		
<b>Certificate Nr.</b>	SGS-FM/COC-009066	<b>Certificate Type:</b>	Forest Management
<b>Date of Issue</b>	14 Oct 2011	<b>Date of expiry:</b>	13 Oct 2016
<b>Evaluation Standard</b>	FSC-UK Standard (FSCUK-FS-106 : v1-2) - UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition.		
<b>Forest Zone:</b>	Temperate		
<b>Total Certified Area</b>	3549 ha		
<b>Scope:</b>	Forest Management of the Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company group of forests in the Dumfries & Galloway region of Scotland for the production of softwood/hardwood timber.		
<b>Location of the FMUs included in the scope</b>	Dalry, Castle Douglas, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland, UK.		
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<b>Dates:</b>			
<b>Main Evaluation</b>	June 14-15 2011		
<b>Surveillance 1</b>			
<b>Surveillance 2</b>			
<b>Surveillance 3</b>			

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**Surveillance 4**

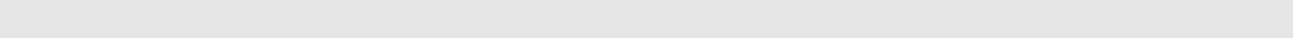
**Date this version of report was finalised:**

14/10/2011

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AD 38:	Peer Review Report
AD 40:	Stakeholder Reports
	Evaluation team CV's
	List of stakeholders contacted



## Complaints and Disputes

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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the evaluation was to evaluate the operations of Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company Limited against the requirements of the QUALIFOR Programme, the SGS Group's forest certification programme accredited by Forest Stewardship Council.

### 1. SCOPE OF CERTIFICATE

The scope of the certificate falls within the Temperate Forest Zone and includes six Forest Management Units (FMUs) as described below.

<b>Description of FMUs:</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Longitude E/W</b>	<b>Latitude N/S</b>
Cornharrow – Predominantly Sitka spruce plus mixed forest. Established 1997.	Private	458	-4'5"	55'12"
Manquhill - Predominantly Sitka spruce plus mixed forest. Established 1988.	Private	681	-4'5"	55'13"
Margree - Predominantly Sitka spruce plus mixed forest. Established 1973.	Private	881	-4'5"	55'9"
Halfmark - Predominantly Sitka spruce plus mixed forest. Established 1968.	Private	402	-4'5"	55'7"
Auchenvey & Garcrogo - Predominantly Sitka spruce plus mixed forest. Established 1968.	Private	1077	-4'5"	55'5"
Corse, Cassenvey & Thorniehill – Established mixed woodland.	Private	50	-4.4"	55'4"

<b>Size of FMUs:</b>		
	<b>Nr of FMUs</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>
<b>Less than 100ha</b>	0	
<b>100 to 1000 ha in area</b>	5	2472
<b>1001 to 10000 ha in area</b>	1	1077
<b>More than 10000 ha in area</b>	0	
<b>Total</b>	6	3549

Total Area in the Scope of the Certificate that is:	
	Area (ha)
Privately managed	3549.
State Managed	0
Community Managed	0

Composition of the Certified Forest(s)	
	Area (ha)
Area of forest protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for conservation objectives	729
Area of forest protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for production of NTFPs or services	0
Area of forest classified as "high conservation value forest"	0
Area of non-forest managed primarily for conservation objectives	0
Total area of production forest (i.e. forest from which timber may be harvested)	2820
Area of production forest classified as "plantation"	2820
Area of production forest regenerated primarily by replanting or coppicing	2820
Area of production forest regenerate primarily by natural regeneration	0

List of High Conservation Values	
Description	Notes
None	

List of Timber Product Categories				
Product Class	Product Type	Trade Name	Category	Species
Wood in the rough	Logs of coniferous wood	Sawlogs	Conifer	<i>Larix europaea</i> , <i>Larix leptolepis</i> , <i>Larix x eurolepis</i> , <i>Picea abies</i> , <i>Picea sitchensis</i> , <i>Pinus contorta</i> , <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> , <i>Pinus nigra var. maritima</i> , <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> , <i>Taxus baccata</i> , <i>Thuja plicata</i> , <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i> .
Wood in the rough	Logs of coniferous wood	Fencing logs	Conifer	<i>Larix europaea</i> , <i>Larix leptolepis</i> , <i>Larix x eurolepis</i> , <i>Picea abies</i> , <i>Picea sitchensis</i> , <i>Pinus contorta</i> , <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> , <i>Pinus nigra</i>





## 2. COMPANY BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Ownership

The company is owned by Count Czernin-Kinsky of Rosenhof, Sandl, Upper Austria.

### 2.2 Company Key Objectives

Objective	Notes
<b>Commercial</b>	
Timber harvesting and sales have not yet started, but are expected to do so within the period of certification. Primarily, profitable timber sales, cost effective restocking and increase in capital value of forest properties managed by the company.	
<b>Social</b>	
Support an employee and contractor skill base to facilitate the primary commercial objective. Achieve legal requirements on access and adhere to best practice.	
<b>Environmental</b>	
Legal and FSC compliance to facilitate the primary commercial objective, plus reinforce the company's reputation and credentials.	

### 2.3 Company History

Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company Limited (CKSCL) is a forestry company based in Dumfries and Galloway, South Scotland and established in 1991.

### 2.4 Organisational Structure

The Company has two additional directors, a Financial director and an Operations director. CKSCL permanently employ two staff members, a Forest manager and an Office manager, based at Cornharrow, Dalry, Castle Douglas. CKSCL forests are all plantation forests comprising of predominantly Sitka Spruce, with some mixed conifers and broadleaf areas.

### 2.5 Ownership and Use Rights

Czernin-Kinsky own the land. The general public have access rights consistent with owner's discretion, but underpinned by statute law and access codes, eg the Land Reform (Scotland) Act, 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, 2004.

### 2.6 Other Land Uses

Other than recreational use, the only permitted use is for deer management and hunting by lessees authorised by CKSCL.

### 2.7 Non-certified Forests

There are no uncertified forests. Auchrae FMU (399 ha) is certified under another certification scheme. Auchrae FMU lies adjacent to the Manquhill FMU. CKSCL now owns the land, but the first rotation forest, which currently occupies the land is owned by the previous owner and managed under another FSC (UKWAS) certification scheme. The intention is to bring this FMU into CKSCL certification when the first rotation has been felled.

## 3. FOREST MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

### 3.1 Bio-physical setting

Britain has a relatively poor native tree flora of 32 species, including only 3 conifers. In addition, many exotic species have been introduced since Roman times, with large numbers of exotic conifer species introduced for commercial forestry purposes during the twentieth century.

Approximately 10% of Britain's land area carries tree cover (15% of Scotland). This is an increase since the beginning of the 20th century, when forest cover stood at approximately 5%. However, this increase is composed predominantly of recent plantation forests, largely with exotic species. The UK has no remaining natural forests, but ancient semi-natural woodlands (ASNW) make up approximately 1% of land area. Since 1945 almost 50% of ancient semi-natural woodland has disappeared.

Large areas of degraded upland areas have been established during the last 50 years as even aged plantations of exotic species such as Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), Lodgepole Pine (*Pinus contorta*) and Larch (*Larix* spp). Other exotics managed are Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), true firs (*Abies* spp.), Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). The only timber producing native species conifer, Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), has also been extensively planted as part of the same re-forestation programme.

### **Geology and Geography:**

Czernin-Kinsky forest are concentrated in a relatively small area of south Scotland. The geology is varied with mainly igneous and metamorphosed sedimentary bedrock of the ancient, primary and tertiary periods overlain by mainly thin or poorly drained soils. The topography is predominantly upland with minor proportions of lowland. Scotland is subject to north Atlantic depressions and the climate tends predominantly to be wet and windy.

### **Ecology:**

The climatic biome is moist and temperate reflecting the UK's location on the western seaboard of Europe. Vegetation types range from low altitude rough grassland to mixed woodland and upland heather moorland. Apart from relatively small areas of indigenous forest habitat, woods and forests are derived from plantations created on previously grazed heathlands and grasslands that have remained free of natural forests for several centuries.

### **Soils:**

Soil types are acidic brown earths, podsoles, gleys, peaty gleys and peats.

## **3.2 History of use**

Britain's forests have been steadily denuded since the Bronze Age through both clearance and use of timber. As a result, by the beginning of the twentieth century very little forest remained. In response to this, the Forestry Commission was established in 1919 with the aims of establishing and maintaining adequate reserves of trees and production of timber, and of promoting the interests of British forestry.

The Forestry Commission had an active policy of reforestation, particularly from 1945 onwards, acquiring land and planting it mainly with exotic plantation species. In addition, it was also responsible for providing incentives for private forestry, aided in the 1970s and 80s by tax advantages. This resulted in the planting of predominantly exotic plantations in both the public and private sector.

By the 1980s there was increasing concern about wider forest goods and services, in particular landscape, recreation and biodiversity. As a result, incentives have been increasingly slanted towards encouraging multiple use forestry and increasing use of native species.

The Forestry Commission is represented by a Policy and Practice unit (previously the Forestry Authority) covering Great Britain with three national organisations in Scotland, Wales and England that are responsible for regulating forestry and providing grant aid to private owners.

Approximately two-thirds of the UK's woodland resource is privately owned, often as part of mixed estates or farms. Few private ownerships exceed 1,000 ha. Most commercial private forestry is based on plantations. In recent decades, plantation crops of broadleaves or conifers have been established on many ancient woodland sites.

Management for timber production is not always the main objective of privately owned woodlands: management for game is common on mixed estates, and an increasing number of woods are managed specifically for recreation and conservation. Timber production is considered important in larger estates and company owned forests. Biodiversity and landscape conservation and recreational use are now almost always included as multiple objectives in management planning.

Timber production and financial profit are important objectives of CKSCL, but the conservation of rare species and habitats and recreation are also important.

Adjacent land uses primarily include adjacent forests and upland sheep farms.

### 3.3 Planning process

The company's policies are developed, reviewed and revised as necessary by the owner and his Directors. Achievements are monitored against annual budgets, forecasts and operational plans within the management planning procedures. Management Plans for all properties will be reviewed and updated every five years. In addition, progress against FC approved plans and grant claims will be monitored. All FMUs are expected to be managed through Forestry Commission/ Scottish Government Grant Schemes, contracts or approved long-term forest design plans for larger forests., which will give an outline of planned management operations for a 5 or 10 / 20 year period (including felling, thinning, new planting and restocking by replanting or by natural regeneration).

Forestry Commission/ Scottish Government Grant Schemes, contracts or approved long-term forest design plans identify overall management objectives and include a basic schedule of operations, describing the management activities planned over a 5-year period. Prescriptions are described in general terms for compartments. These documents often form the basis for the management plan. Environmental Appraisals or formal Environmental Impact Assessments are used to assess large scale (+100 hectares) afforestation proposals where required by the Forestry Commission. Thinning is regulated by either a Felling Licence (subject to the Forestry Act 1967) or a Forestry Commission/ Scottish Government Grant Scheme, contract or approved long-term forest design plan. All FMUs have management plans that are reviewed every five years and most are or will be the subject of Forestry Commission/ Scottish Government Grant Schemes, contracts or approved long-term forest design plans Forestry Commission WGS contracts, which may give an outline of planned management operations for a 5 year period (including felling, thinning, new planting and restocking by replanting or by natural regeneration). Increasing use is made of 'Long Term Forest Plans' which are FC contracts to give longer approval for felling and restocking operations, giving 10 years in detail and a further 10 years in outline approval. Yield class surveys have been conducted for woodlands approaching harvesting, which will form the basis for planning thinning and felling. .

### 3.4 Harvesting and regeneration

Currently, CKSCL are not harvesting timber, but are preparing to do so within the period of this certificate. The strategic (long term: rotation or harvest cycle length) and medium term (3-5 years) planning, including long-term financial planning, is being developed and documented for each FMU within its individual Management Plan. Budgets will be developed and approved annually.

Permission from the Forestry Commission is required for the felling of all trees in Great Britain (with certain limited exceptions). The FC regulates felling in private woodlands by granting a licence, approving a plan associated with Forestry Commission/ Scottish Government Grant Schemes, contracts or approved long-term forest design plans. Most planting (and re-establishment through natural regeneration) on private land takes place with the assistance of grants made by the Forestry Commission

Clear felling followed by restocking by planting is the method generally employed for upland plantation management in Great Britain. Felling coupe size and shape are expected to comply with Forest Landscape Design Guidelines. Irregular systems and natural regeneration are increasingly used in ASNWs.

Motor-manual and mechanical whole tree, tree length and short wood harvesting systems with a variety of extraction methods including skidding, forwarding and cable crane may be utilised depending on site conditions and topography. Mechanical harvester felling followed by mechanical forwarder extraction is now the norm for most UK conditions.

In general, the aim, for commercial areas, is to grow crops to age of Maximum Mean Annual Increment (Max MAI) and then to fell. However, restructuring and the establishment of retentions as part of an agreed forest design plan or WGS contract may involve felling at ages other than Max MAI. CKSCL will use local experience or mensuration techniques to assess yield forecast of thinning or felling before harvesting.

CKSCL will employ a range of silvicultural practices, including clearfelling, group felling and retention of trees beyond economic rotation age. Continuous cover forestry systems are being tried in some windfirm conifer plantations.

Restocking and afforestation in the UK is generally by planting. Natural regeneration is employed where realistic and is used more frequently for semi-natural woodland. Ground preparation is often carried out using mounding or scarification. Insect attack and weed competition are mitigated by such ground preparation techniques and choice of plant size. Use of chemical insecticides and herbicides are used when required if there is no realistic alternative not entailing excessive cost. CKSCL has a general policy aim to reduce chemical use in this context. Burning of lop and top following felling is much less common but may be justified on some sites, e.g. for rabbit control.

In the UK the building of new forest roads and quarrying for such roads is governed by Environmental Impact Assessment regulations. This process is administered by the Forestry Commission and it is a process with which the company is familiar.

Fencing is sometimes necessary to protect against stock, deer and rabbits, coupled with control of game and pest species by shooting.

Afforestation of new native woodlands on semi-natural degraded sites usually involves direct notch planting with minimum ground preparation and maintenance.

### 3.5 Monitoring processes

Where a woodland is subject to a Forestry Commission/Scottish Government contract, implementation of the prescribed management is checked by the Forestry Commission at a sample of sites. Other monitoring may be carried out on an *ad hoc* basis by statutory bodies or conservation NGOs where there are particular features of interest.

Regular visits are made to all properties and to vulnerable, sensitive and working sites by the CKSCL manager and by the Operations Director. Records are maintained of site visits, operations undertaken and production. Monitoring results are fed into Management Plan revisions, which will normally take place every 5 years.

## 4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

### 4.1 Social aspects

	Male	Female
<b>Number of own workers</b>	1	1
<b>Number of contract workers</b>	One male at audit. Will vary according to work programmes and will increase when production begins.	
<b>Minimum daily wage for agricultural/forestry workers</b>	>UK Legally defined minimum wage	
<b>Infant mortality rates (under 5 years)</b>	Very low	
<b>Proportion of workers employed from the local population (%)</b>	Variable & low. Local people are mainly occupied in agriculture and service industries. Local employment is appropriate for scale and intensity of operations.	

The area is rural and dominated by sheep farms, with some upland forestry. Tourism is particularly important and landscape values are correspondingly high.

The UK now has a minimum wage structure and health and education standards are relatively high and comparable with the rest of Western Europe. Infant mortality is very low and literacy rates are very high.

Issues relating to amenity, specifically access and recreation are of major importance in the overall context of rural land management in the UK.

Where Forest Plans are prepared, a "scoping" meeting may be held with statutory consultees and local representatives to discuss proposals and exchange information prior to the preparation of the plan.

In Scotland the general public is at liberty to walk over any land provided he or she does so without causing damage to crops, fences and wildlife. This applies to the whole country with the exception of private gardens or grounds that form the curtilage of a dwelling house or other private residence.

The UK population includes large numbers of different nationalities and cultural groups, many of which the UK economy is dependent upon. Generally they are closely and intimately integrated into British society and many families have spent several generations in the UK.

The UK timber production and processing industry is under economic pressure from the relatively high currency value of UK sterling and the impact of timber imports. The increase in UK landfill tax has meant that recycling of paper and card waste products has greatly increased, resulting in less demand for raw timber for these products. To an extent, this is now being offset by an increase in demand for small round-wood for wood-fuel. Similarly, market pressure from imports has reduced on a relative basis due to changes

in supply conditions within Russia and Scandinavia. However, the overall economic situation referred to as the 'global credit crunch' is affecting the UK economy like others and this is having a serious impact upon UK demand and with a consequent downturn in prices. The UK timber market is still heavily affected by the building trade and any global economic downward pressure which affects building activity translates to the same pressure on timber prices. Whilst the medium to long term outlook is modestly optimistic, such current fluctuations are all representative of the fragility of the UK rural economy where farming is also under serious economic pressure.

## 4.2 Environmental aspects

The UK has approximately 2 million hectares of forest of which 575,000 hectares are estimated to be on Ancient woodland sites. Approximately 300,000 hectares of this can be described as Ancient and Semi Natural (ASNW) woodland, the balance having been converted into plantation.

Ancient woodlands are those that have had continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD in England and Wales, and since 1750 AD in Scotland. The term ASNW covers all stands of ancient origins that do not obviously originate from planting. This may include stands with naturalised alien species such as sycamore or beech.

ASNW represent the least modified semi-natural woodlands in Britain; they represent an unbroken link with the natural forests that developed after the end of the last glaciation, some 8,000 years ago. For example, native pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), or Caledonian pine forests as they are often called have been shown to contain several sub-populations of Scots pine that collectively form a genetically and biologically distinct western outlier of the natural distribution of this species. The pine-dominated Caledonian forest may once have covered more than 1.5 million hectares of the Highlands but the present area of native pinewood is now thought to be only 16,000 hectares of which more than half is scattered pine.

Areas within woodlands of particular significance for biological or geological reasons are given statutory designations as areas of special scientific interest (SSSIs) and have statutory protection.

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) includes specific guidance and costed targets for a wide range of species and habitats that are the subject of Species Action Plans (SAPs) and Habitat Action Plans (HAPs). Individual local authorities have developed their own Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs).

The Forestry Commission has developed the UK Forestry Standard and has published 'Guidelines' for Nature Conservation, Archaeology, Recreation, Landscape Soil and Water.

Forest management is expected to meet the requirements of these guidelines and standards. There are also complex laws relating to the conservation of many species and habitats in the UK (eg The Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981) and Scotland (eg Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004).

## 4.3 Administration, Legislation and Guidelines

The Forestry Commission separately in Scotland, Wales and England implements forestry regulation in Great Britain. (Regulation in Northern Ireland is controlled separately through the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland (DARDNI)).

The primary piece of legislation relating to forest management is the Forestry Act 1967. With certain exceptions, mainly relating to non-commercial situations, it is illegal to fell trees in Great Britain without the prior approval of the Forestry Commission. Permission is granted through a felling licence, normally conditional on regeneration or replanting, or through approval of a plan of operations for the site. The latter is an integral component of grant aid provided under the Forestry Commission's Woodland Grant Scheme (WGS).

Following recent political devolution in the UK the Forestry Commission has similarly devolved its structure and operations. Its role as a regulatory authority remains very similar in each of Scotland, England and Wales.

Approval of grant aid under the WGS is also conditional upon compliance with a range of Forestry Commission environmental guidelines, which aim to ensure that forestry operations are conducted in a manner consistent with the maintenance, protection and/or enhancement of soil, water, landscape, biodiversity and heritage values.

Where felling licences or plans of operations affect areas designated for nature conservation or landscape value, there is an obligation to consult the relevant statutory bodies prior to approval.

The other major aspect of legal control is health and safety. The Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974, and the Management of Health and Safety at work Regulations, 1992, enforced in Great Britain by the Health and Safety Executive, regulate this. The required safety standards for forestry operations are contained in a

number of Safety Guides, produced by the Forestry and Arboricultural Safety and Training Council and its successor, the Arboriculture & Forestry Advisory Group.

The local standard used for this assessment was the FSC endorsed UK Woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS) standard which was first approved in 1999 and its revised 2<sup>nd</sup> edition in 2006. The UKWAS reflects the FSC GB standard and is now accepted as *the* forest management 'standard' in the UK. The UKWAS was used in conjunction with the SGS QUALIFOR Programme. In addition, the requirements of the UK Forestry Standard were also taken into account.

The UK Forestry Standard, developed by the UK Forestry Commission, is underpinned by a series of 'Guidelines' covering Archaeology, Landscape, Nature Conservation, Recreation, Soils and Water. Forest Practice Guides Nos. 1-8 also covers guidance for the management of semi-natural woodlands in the UK. It is a requirement of UKWAS that this guidance is adhered to.

Following the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the UK government became a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Statement on Climatic Change, and adopted the declaration on Sustainable Development and the Statement of Forest Principles. This led to the publication of Sustainable Forestry: the UK Programme and Biodiversity: the UK Action Plan, which committed the UK to the pursuit of sustainable forestry and the conservation of biological diversity.

The UK programme on forestry evolved as European countries signed the resolutions proposed by the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe at Helsinki in 1993 (the Helsinki Resolutions). These resolutions provided guidance for countries on sustainable forestry management, conserving biodiversity, co-operating with countries with transitional economies and managing forests in relation to climatic change. The UKWAS adopts the principles and requirements laid down in these international agreements.

The Habitats and Birds Directives provide for a network of protected areas (Natura 2000) in the European Union and require member states to establish such sites and to develop systems to prevent damage to certain endangered species. This legislation is translated into GB law in the 'Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994'. The process of selection and approval of Natura 2000 sites in the UK is almost complete. Preceding Natura 2000, the UK Government's policies on nature conservation have been largely implemented through the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, which established a system of designated sites known as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and provided for the protection and conservation of many UK species and habitats. The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 provided for increased requirements to improve biodiversity in Scotland. The UKWAS requires participants to meet all of these requirements.

There are many other laws relating to the protection and welfare of animals. Those of most importance to forest certification concern anti-poaching legislation and close seasons for hunting game species, including the Deer Act Scotland 1996 and the Deer Act England and Wales 1963. Environmental Impact Assessment legislation covers all deforestation, afforestation and road building proposals that might have a significant environmental impact.

The following table lists the key national legislation, regulations, guidelines and codes of best practice that are relevant to forestry in the commercial, environmental and social sectors. This list does not purport to be comprehensive, but indicates information that is key to the forestry sector.

Legislation and regulation	Notes
Forestry Act, 1967	
Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974	
Management of Health and Safety at work Regulations, 1992,	
Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994	UK interpretation of the Habitats and Birds Directives, which provide for a network of protected areas (Natura 2000) in the European Union and require member states to establish such sites and to develop systems to prevent damage to certain endangered species.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981,	This established a system of designated sites known as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and

	provided for the protection and conservation of many UK species and habitats. The UKWAS requires participants to meet all of these requirements.
Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	Provision to further the conservation of biodiversity.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	In essence, every public authority must conserve biodiversity, as per the UN environmental programme on Biological Diversity of 1992.
Deer Act Scotland 1996	
Deer Act England and Wales 1963	
Environmental Impact Assessment	This legislation covers all deforestation, afforestation and road building proposals that might have a significant environmental impact.
<b>Guidelines and Codes of Best Practice</b>	<b>Notes</b>
UK Forestry Standard	Developed by the GB Forestry Commission and the Forest Service of Northern Ireland
Forestry Commission / Forest Service Guidelines covering Archaeology, Landscape, Nature Conservation, Recreation, Soils and Water.	It is a requirement of UKWAS that this guidance is adhered to.
Forest Practice Guides Nos. 1-8 for the management of semi-natural woodlands in the UK.	It is a requirement of UKWAS that this guidance is adhered to.
Safety Guides	Produced by the Arboricultural and Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG) to the Health & Safety Executive.
FSC endorsed UK Woodland Assurance Scheme (UKWAS)	UKWAS standard was approved in 1999 and revised in 2006.

**5. CHANGES IN MANAGEMENT, HARVESTING, SILVICULTURE AND MONITORING**

The following table shows significant changes that took place in the management, monitoring, harvesting and regeneration practices of the certificate holder over the certificate period.

Description of Change	Notes
<b>SURVEILLANCE 1</b>	
<b>SURVEILLANCE 2</b>	
<b>SURVEILLANCE 3</b>	
<b>SURVEILLANCE 4</b>	

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Description of Change	Notes



## 6. PREPARATION FOR THE EVALUATION

### 6.1 Schedule

The Evaluation was preceded by a pre-evaluation by SGS QUALIFOR during May 9, 2011. This examined the management systems and identified any gaps that might preclude certification. Information gathered was used to plan the main evaluation. Key stakeholders were identified.

### 6.2 Team

The table below shows the team that conducted the main evaluation and the independent specialist(s) that were selected to review the main evaluation report before certification is considered.

Evaluation Team	Notes
Team Leader	Has a Foresters Certificate issued by the Forestry Commission, a B.Sc. First Class Honours degree in Ecology and a Ph.D. in the ecology and management of red deer, 50 years experience in forestry, ecology and wildlife management, 256 days FSC auditing, speaks local language (English).
Local Specialist	Has a BSc degree in forestry and other land management qualifications, over 30 years experience in forestry, mainly in the UK. Has over 400 days FSC auditing experience including overseas. UK & Eire programme manager for SGS forest management certification.
Peer Reviewers	Notes
Peer Reviewer 1	Has a <b>BSc in Environmental Sciences and a MSc in Environmental Policy &amp; Management</b> , 17 years experience in forestry inc internationally and as a previous lead auditor (both forest management & chain of custody), currently works in forest management in the UK.
Peer Reviewer 2	
Peer Reviewer 3	

### 6.3 Checklist Preparation

A checklist was prepared that consisted of the documents listed below. This checklist was prepared using the FSC-endorsed national or regional standard.

Standard Used in Evaluation	Effective Date	Version Nr	Changes to Standard
FSC Accredited National Standard for the United Kingdom – the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)	1 November 2006	2	1 <sup>st</sup> edition published 1999. This revised 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition published 1 Nov 2006.
SGS Qualifor: Group Management Checklist (AD34)	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2005	1	

### 6.4 Stakeholder notification

A wide range of stakeholders were contacted 6 weeks before the planned evaluation to inform them of the evaluation and ask for their views on relevant forest management issues, These included environmental interest groups, local government agencies and forestry authorities, forest

user groups, and workers' unions. Responses received and comments from interviews are recorded at the end of this Public Summary.

## 7. THE EVALUATION

The Main Evaluation was conducted in the steps outlined below.

### 7.1 Opening meeting

An opening meeting was held at CKSCL Office, Cornharrow. The scope of the evaluation was explained and schedules were determined. Record was kept of all persons that attended this meeting.

### 7.2 Document review

A review of the main forest management documentation was conducted to evaluate the adequacy of coverage of the QUALIFOR Programme requirements. This involved examination of policies, management plans, systems, procedures, instructions and controls.

### 7.3 Sampling and Evaluation Approach

A detailed record of the following is available in section B of the evaluation report. This section does not form part of the public summary, but includes information on:

- Sampling methodology and rationale;
- FMUs included in the sample;
- Sites visited during the field evaluation; and
- Man-day allocation.

Czernin-Kinsky (Scottish) Ltd Resource Managed properties are closely distributed in one geographic area of South-West Scotland, all near the town of Castle Douglas in Dumfries & Galloway region. No other properties are located elsewhere in the UK.

Sampling was arrived at by application of Qualifor Work Instruction 12 (WI 12-03 of 9 Apr 2010) applied for multiple FMUs. All properties are plantations with little variation in nature and no HC VF (ref. PA) Size classes include <100 ha and 100 – 1,000 ha with none above 1,000 ha. Determined that there are two sets of 'like' FMUs based only on size class within only one RMU (all same Type 2 Resource Manager).

At time of audit there were 6 existing FMUs, all within the one RMU managed by a single forest manager, of which 5 are > 100 ha and 1 < 100 ha. This is a multiple FMU with one owner and one manager, covering 6 individual FMUs with separate individual forest plans but very similar objectives.

Taking into account – the very modest number of FMUs, plus the homogeneity of management and forest type (all plantation) – the sampling of 2 FMUs out of 6 in total within the one RMU was deemed adequate, provided the sample selected took account of any minor variations between properties. Sampling both size classes was not deemed worthwhile, given the same owner and manager, it was thought better to visit two of the larger sites at MA, allowing the 50 ha property to be visited at surveillance, as it was previously covered within the relative context of the Pre-Assessment.

To meet FSC sampling requirements, this methodology relates to Qualifor's sampling formula for multiple FMUs.

MA : sample = square root of number of FMUs x 0.8 ; square root of 6 x 0.8 = 1.96, rounded to 2 FMUs.

Surveillances : half the number of FMUs at MA = 1 FMU.

The selection of the 2 FMUs was checked to take account of the very limited range of geographical distribution.

Sites selected were also assessed taking operational activity and practical logistics into consideration. One active site and one recently active site were included. This allowed the coverage of a wide range of forest management operations and issues and included a complete assessment of all the requirements of the FSC-UK standard (UKWAS) for both properties.

Czernin-Kinsky (Scottish) Ltd's office near Castle Douglas was visited. The forest manager and supporting certification consultant were interviewed. This covered everyone in the company who is actively involved in forest management and timber sales.

Excluding planning, preparation, stakeholder consultation, travelling and report writing, 2.5 auditor days were involved for the MA evaluation including field assessment and office based evaluation.

#### 7.4 Field assessments

Field assessments aimed to determine how closely activities in the field complied with documented management systems and QUALIFOR Programme requirements. Interviews with staff, operators and contractors were conducted to determine their familiarity with and their application of policies, procedures and practices that are relevant to their activities. A carefully selected sample of sites was visited to evaluate whether practices met the required performance levels.

#### 7.5 Stakeholder interviews

Meetings or telephone interviews were held with stakeholders as determined by the responses to notification letters and SGS discretion as to key stakeholders that should be interviewed. These aimed to:

- clarify any issues raised and the company's responses to them;
- obtain additional information where necessary; and
- obtain the views of key stakeholders that did not respond to the written invitation sent out before the evaluation.

Nr of Stakeholders contacted	Nr of Interviews with		
	NGOs	Government	Other
<b>MAIN EVALUATION</b>			
21	1	3	5
<b>SURVEILLANCE 1</b>			
<b>SURVEILLANCE 2</b>			
<b>SURVEILLANCE 3</b>			
<b>SURVEILLANCE 4</b>			

Responses received and comments from interviews are recorded under paragraph 13 of this Public Summary.

#### 7.6 Summing up and closing meeting

At the conclusion of the field evaluation, findings were presented to company management at a closing meeting. Any areas of non-conformance with the QUALIFOR Programme were raised as one of two types of Corrective Action Request (CAR):

- Major CARs - which must be addressed and re-assessed before certification can proceed
- Minor CARs - which do not preclude certification, but must be addressed within an agreed time frame, and will be checked at the first surveillance visit

A record was kept of persons that attended this meeting.

## 8. EVALUATION RESULTS

Detailed evaluation findings are included in Section B of the evaluation report. This does not form part of the public summary. For each QUALIFOR requirement, these show the related findings, and any observations or corrective actions raised. The main issues are discussed below.

### 8.1 Findings related to the general QUALIFOR Programme

<b>PRINCIPLE 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND FSC PRINCIPLES</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 1.1 Respect for national and local laws and administrative requirements</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	Day to day management by forest and office managers was exemplary. The attention and hard work devoted to addressing pre-assessment issues and the appointment of a certification consultant provided for a smooth and successful main assessment.
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Policy statements (eg. Deadwood, Deer, Chemical use) are clear and concise and fully reflect FSC principles. Correspondence within files demonstrated a pro-active approach to satisfying a request for access under the Scottish Access legislation at Garcrogo. No issues of legal non-compliance.
<b><i>Criterion 1.2 Payment of legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No evidence was detected showing non-compliance. Correspondence demonstrated a pro-active approach to satisfying a request for access under the Scottish Access legislation at Garcrogo. No issues of non-compliance.
<b><i>Criterion 1.3 Respect for provisions of international agreements</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	C-K policy statements reflect National and International laws and agreements. No issues of non-compliance.
<b><i>Criterion 1.4 Conflicts between laws and regulations, and the FSC P&amp;C</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No issues of non-compliance. The UKWAS Steering Group has appointed an Interpretation Panel, to whom queries are addressed on the interpretation of the standard, including conflicts between UK laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria.
<b><i>Criterion 1.5 Protection of forests from illegal activities</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	The manager was strongly pro-active of potential and actual problems. A recent case of poaching was seen through to prosecution, demonstrating a strong commitment and effective collaboration with police. Fly tipping close to a neighbours cottage (Garcrogo) was prevented by erecting a fence on their behalf.
<b><i>Criterion 1.6 Demonstration of a long-term commitment to the FSC P&amp;C</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	A signed commitment by a company director to conformation with the standard was available at evaluation.
<b>PRINCIPLE 2: TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	

<b><i>Criterion 2.1 Demonstration of land tenure and forest use rights</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	A solicitor's letter was seen as proof of ownership. There are no current disputes.
<b><i>Criterion 2.2 Local communities' legal or customary tenure or use rights</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Maps for all FMUs showing access routes were available and there has been extensive contact with a range of stakeholders.
<b><i>Criterion 2.3 Disputes over tenure claims and use rights</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No current disputes.
<b>PRINCIPLE 3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 3.1 Indigenous peoples' control of forest management</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Within the international context of FSC, Indigenous Peoples, as defined, are not considered to be present in the UK.
<b><i>Criterion 3.2 Maintenance of indigenous peoples' resources or tenure rights</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Within the international context of FSC, Indigenous Peoples, as defined, are not considered to be present in the UK.
<b><i>Criterion 3.3 Protection of sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Within the international context of FSC, Indigenous Peoples, as defined, are not considered to be present in the UK.
<b><i>Criterion 3.4 Compensation of indigenous peoples for the application of their traditional knowledge</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Within the international context of FSC, Indigenous Peoples, as defined, are not considered to be present in the UK.
<b>PRINCIPLE 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKERS RIGHTS</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 4.1 Employment, training, and other services for local communities</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	The forest and office managers are provided with opportunities for a wide range of relevant training, which

	demonstrates a strong commitment to staff development.
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	There is little work going on at present. A drainage contractor worked for a locally based company.
<b><i>Criterion 4.2 Compliance with health and safety regulations</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Staff have a thorough knowledge and awareness of safety, environmental protection and emergency procedures and contracts demonstrate a high requirement from contractors. There is a strong ethos in the company on Health and Safety. The CKSCL manager had a thorough knowledge of H&S requirements and H&S features very strongly in contracts. A drainage contractor at Manquill demonstrated a thorough knowledge and awareness of H&S requirements and was working to a high standard. The two permanent CKSCL staff have up to date first aid qualifications.
<b><i>Criterion 4.3 Workers' rights to organise and negotiate with employers</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Individual confidential interviews indicated no discouragement placed on staff to join a trades union and staff indicated a strong support for their individual treatment and conditions of service.
<b><i>Criterion 4.4 Social impact evaluations and consultation</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Stakeholder consultation files indicate that a wide range of stakeholders have been contacted. Searches have been conducted and HS and local archaeologist contacted. No important historical or cultural sites have been identified.
<b><i>Criterion 4.5 Resolution of grievances and settlement of compensation claims</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No evidence of any non-compliance was seen. Stakeholder engagement suggests that there is an efficient mechanism for people to contact the company if problems arise. Fly tipping close to a neighbours cottage (Garcrogo) was prevented by CKSCL erecting a fence on their behalf.
<b>PRINCIPLE 5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 5.1 Economic viability taking full environmental, social, and operational costs into account</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Management planning appears to be effective but see Minor CAR 01. No harvesting is underway at present, but there appears to be a sound basis to planning for future coupes, which assesses the environmental, social and economic impacts of proposed operations.
<b><i>Criterion 5.2 Optimal use and local processing of forest products</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No harvesting or processing is underway.
<b><i>Criterion 5.3 Waste minimisation and avoidance of damage to forest resources</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	

<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No harvesting is underway at present, but there appears to be a sound basis to planning for future coupes, which assesses the environmental, social and economic impacts of proposed operations, minimises waste and avoids damage to forest resources.
<b><i>Criterion 5.4 Forest management and the local economy</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	There is little work going on at present. A drainage contractor worked for a locally based company.
<b><i>Criterion 5.5 Maintenance of the value of forest services and resources</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	There are no timber harvesting operations underway. Contracts and management planning documents indicate a thorough approach to an awareness of potential impacts and their avoidance or mitigation. A drainage contractor at Manqhill had effective documentation and a map with him and was aware of the potential of run off and sedimentation into water courses and was making use of effective sediment traps.
<b><i>Criterion 5.6 Harvest levels</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Some anomalies exist between felling maps and forecasts. At Auchenvy and Garcrogo FMU a re-appraisal of felling forecasts is underway. Felling maps should reflect this when completed.  Observation 01.
<b>Compliance</b>	Harvesting plans are based on good quality compartment records and estimates of yield. Yield class surveys have been conducted for woodlands approaching harvesting.
<b>PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 6.1 Environmental impacts evaluation</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	No new planting is being carried out at present. However, consideration is underway for some new planting and currently there are no design plans for these areas.  Future planting under consideration for Corse, Thorniehill & Cassenvy and Auchenvy & Garcrogo FMUs will require designs that are compliant with UKWAS/FSC.  Observation 02.
<b>Compliance</b>	Currently available plans and maps demonstrate compliance. Management Plans will be subject to FC approval and therefore must comply with this requirement.  Staff have a thorough knowledge and awareness of safety, environmental protection and emergency procedures and contracts demonstrate a high requirement from contractors. A drainage machine operator (contractor) at Manquill had a sound knowledge of these requirements.
<b><i>Criterion 6.2 Protection of rare, threatened and endangered species</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	The identification of Natural Reserves and Long Term Retentions at Margree FMU was confused and clarification is required on the identification and boundaries of NRs and LTRs.  Observation 07.  At Margree an opportunity to conserve a valuable area of deadwood (a potential NR containing good quality standing deadwood) has not been designated.  Observation 08.
<b>Compliance</b>	There are no designated sites or ASNW on CKSCL properties. There is a small area of PAWS (see FSC 6.4). CKSCL has been in contact with statutory agencies and LBAP officer with regard to any important species and nothing requiring special attention has been identified. However, there is a strong awareness of biodiversity

	<p>requirements and mapped areas of semi-natural woodlands, NRs and LTRs demonstrate compliance.</p> <p>NRs and LTRs are effectively mapped and many good examples were seen in field visits to Manquhill, Cornharrow, Garcrogo and Margree. However, see Weaknesses above.</p> <p>There is an awareness of deadwood requirements and a deadwood policy and contracts recognise this and a pre-commencement meeting checklist requires contractors to be aware of deadwood policy on the site and to agree volumes. However, see weaknesses above.</p>
<b>Criterion 6.3 Maintenance of ecological functions and values</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No areas of a very high value have been identified. However, CKSCL have, in past management activities and in future plans for restocking taken account of opportunities to increase open areas, extend semi-natural woodland and protect important non-woodland areas.
<b>Criterion 6.4 Protection of representative samples of existing ecosystems</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	<p>All PAWS have not been assessed in order to prioritise work requirements, though plans are in hand to do this work. Areas of PAWS at Garcrogo (Auchenvey &amp; Garcrogo FMU) require inspection to detect remnant vegetation and, if required, to plan consequent restoration work. Plans are in hand to make use of Inspection racks and aerial photographs to detect remnant vegetation.</p> <p>CAR 02 raised.</p>
<b>Compliance</b>	There are no designated sites or ASNWs.
<b>Criterion 6.5 Protection against damage to soils, residual forest and water resources during operations</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	<p>A potential windfarm proposal at Margree FMU will require further appraisal against the UKWAS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition when available.</p> <p>Observation 03.</p>
<b>Compliance</b>	<p>Management planning documentation and discussions with the manager and company director indicate that a wide range of species and silvicultural treatments, including low impact systems, are being considered, and applied.</p> <p>No harvesting is underway. However, in anticipation of beginning harvesting, contracts demand that all relevant guidance is adhered to and the manager has a sound knowledge of the requirements.</p> <p>No new roads are planned. The manager and company director are fully aware of the requirement for consents should the need arise.</p>
<b>Criterion 6.6 Chemical pest management</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	<p>The Chemical Use Strategy contains an ambiguous statement. The statement concerning environmental acceptability and cost-effectiveness requires clarification.</p> <p>Observation 05.</p>
<b>Compliance</b>	Currently no chemicals are used. No fertilizers are used. CKSCL may apply for derogation of cypermethrins in the future. The company is fully aware of the requirements and procedures. There is a sound Chemical Use Policy and Strategy and a Biological Control Policy in place and there is a strong awareness of the need to minimise chemical use. However, see weaknesses above.
<b>Criterion 6.7 Use and disposal of chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	There are effective mechanisms in place for waste disposal and no evidence was seen of non-compliance. The use of biodegradable lubricants is a requirement of CKSCL contracts. Spillage kits are available in vehicles and



	in the chemical store. A drainage contractor had a spillage control kit on his vehicle.
<b>Criterion 6.8 Use of biological control agents and genetically modified organisms</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No BCAs or GMOs are used.
<b>Criterion 6.9 The use of exotic species</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	The normal range of conifer and broadleaves used in UK forestry management was encountered.  For new woodlands, native species are preferred to non-native unless non-native species used can show that they will clearly outperform native species in meeting the objectives. It is a requirement of FC grant schemes that all native species used are locally adapted.  No examples of other non-native plant and animal species being introduced were encountered during the assessment.
<b>Criterion 6.10 Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Potential clearance of forest for non-forest use requires clarification.  A potential windfarm proposal at Margree FMU will require further appraisal against the UKWAS 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition when available.  Observation 03.
<b>Compliance</b>	There are no plans for conversion to non-forest land uses other than consideration of establishing a windfarm (see above).
<b>PRINCIPLE 7: MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>	
<b>Criterion 7.1 Management plan requirements</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Some management plans have not yet been approved by FCS and are awaiting review. CKSCL Management Plans relating to Manqhill, Margree and Halfmark FMUs are awaiting approval from FCS and although no evidence of non-compliance was observed full compliance could not be confirmed.  Minor CAR 01 raised.  Some anomalies exist between felling maps and forecasts. At Auchenvy and Garcrogo FMU a re-appraisal of felling forecasts is underway. Felling maps should reflect this when completed.  Observation 01.
<b>Compliance</b>	Management Plans were available for all FMUs, but see weaknesses above.  Harvesting and restocking plans are based on good quality compartment records and estimates of yield. Yield class surveys have been conducted for woodlands approaching harvesting.
<b>Criterion 7.2 Management plan revision</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	See Minor CAR 01 (UKWAS 2.1.1; FSC Criterion 7.1) above.
<b>Compliance</b>	The manager is aware of this requirement; see weaknesses above.
<b>Criterion 7.3 Training and supervision of forest workers</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	The forest and office managers are provided with opportunities for a wide range of relevant training, which demonstrates a strong commitment to staff development.
<b>Weaknesses</b>	

<b>Compliance</b>	CKSCL is not a large company and opportunities to support new recruits are very limited. However, the existing staff are relatively new appointees who are being provided with thorough and extensive in service training.
<b><i>Criterion 7.4 Public availability of the management plan elements</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Copies of letters to stakeholders informing them that management planning documentation is available were seen.
<b>PRINCIPLE 8: MONITORING AND EVALUATION</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 8.1 Frequency, intensity and consistency of monitoring</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	The CKSCL manager is particularly effective and diligent with regard to supervision and recording of site visits. Much effort has been invested in ground-truthing existing maps and reassessing yield classes. An excellent approach to monitoring has begun. Site records of restocking, plant health inspections and site visits are in place.
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Monitoring records are concise and understandable and in a form that facilitates their application to management.
<b><i>Criterion 8.2 Research and data collection for monitoring</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Being a first certificate Main Assessment, this aspect is limited. However, an effective start has been made and the manager is aware of the need to store data in a useable form that will facilitate analysis and application.
<b><i>Criterion 8.3 Chain of custody</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No timber harvesting is being carried out. However, Chain of Custody requirements are a feature of contracts and associated documentation is being prepared in advance of commencement of harvesting.
<b><i>Criterion 8.4 Incorporation of monitoring results into the management plan</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Being a first certificate Main Assessment, this aspect is limited. However, an effective start has been made and the manager is aware of the need to store data in a useable form that will facilitate analysis and application.
<b><i>Criterion 8.5 Publicly available summary of monitoring</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Copies of letters to stakeholders informing them that management planning documentation is available were seen.
<b>PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS</b>	
<b><i>Criterion 9.1 Evaluation to determine high conservation value attributes</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	Searches of national databases and ASNW Inventory have been used to identify the location of HCVFs. There

	are no designated sites or ASNW on CKSCL properties and therefore no HCVFs. CKSCL has been in contact with statutory agencies and LBAP officer with regard to any important species and nothing requiring special attention has been identified. However, there is a strong awareness of biodiversity requirements and mapped areas of semi-natural woodlands, NRs and LTRs demonstrate compliance.
<b>Criterion 9.2 Consultation process</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	NO HCVFs.
<b>Criterion 9.3 Measures to maintain and enhance high conservation value attributes</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	NO HCVFs.
<b>Criterion 9.4 Monitoring to assess effectiveness</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	NO HCVFs.
<b>PRINCIPLE 10: PLANTATIONS</b>	
<b>Criterion 10.1 Statement of objectives in the management plan</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Some management plans have not yet been approved by FCS and are awaiting review. CKSCL Management Plans relating to Manqhill, Margree and Halfmark FMUs are awaiting approval from FCS and although no evidence of non-compliance was observed full compliance could not be confirmed.  Minor CAR 01 raised.  Some anomalies exist between felling maps and forecasts. At Auchenvy and Garcrogo FMU a re-appraisal of felling forecasts is underway. Felling maps should reflect this when completed.  Observation 01.
<b>Compliance</b>	Management Plans were available for all FMUs, but see weaknesses above.  Harvesting and restocking plans are based on good quality compartment records and estimates of yield. Yield class surveys have been conducted for woodlands approaching harvesting.
<b>Criterion 10.2 Plantation design and layout</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	There are no design plans for potential new planting.  Future planting under consideration for Corse, Thorniehill & Cassenvy and Auchenvy & Garcrogo FMUs will require designs that are compliant with UKWAS/FSC.  Observation 02.
<b>Compliance</b>	No new woodlands are being established at present. CKSCL own and manage the land adjacent to the new planting under consideration and the design of new plantations will be planned to fully reflect the conservation of the wider landscape.
<b>Criterion 10.3 Diversity in composition</b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No new woodlands are being established at present. Restocking proposals within management planning documentation are fully compliant with this requirement. Management planning documentation and discussions with the manager and company director indicate that a wide range of species and silvicultural treatments,

	including low impact systems, are being considered, and applied.
<b><i>Criterion 10.4 Species selection</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	No new woodlands are being established at present. Restocking proposals within management planning documentation are fully compliant with this requirement. Management planning documentation and discussions with the manager and company director indicate that a wide range of species and silvicultural treatments, including low impact systems, are being considered, and applied.
<b><i>Criterion 10.5 Restoration of natural forest</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	All PAWS have not been assessed in order to prioritise work requirements, though plans are in hand to do this work. Areas of PAWS at Garcrogo (Auchenvey & Garcrogo FMU) require inspection to detect remnant vegetation and, if required, to plan consequent restoration work. Inspection racks and aerial photographs will be used to detect remnant vegetation.  CAR 02 raised.  The identification of Natural Reserves and Long Term Retentions at Margree FMU was confused and clarification is required on the identification and boundaries of NRs and LTRs.  Observation 07.
<b>Compliance</b>	Generally areas managed primarily for biodiversity conservation are effectively mapped and many good examples were seen in field visits to Manquhill, Cornharrow, Garcrogo and Margree. However, see weaknesses above.
<b><i>Criterion 10.6 Impacts on soil and water</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	A potential windfarm proposal at Margree FMU will require an area greater than 25% of the FMU area to be felled and further appraisal against the UKWAS 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition when available is required. See UKWAS 3.5.1 and Observation 03.
<b>Compliance</b>	Management planning documentation and discussions with the manager and company director indicate that a wide range of species and silvicultural treatments, including low impact systems, are being considered, and applied.  No harvesting is underway. However, in anticipation of beginning harvesting, contracts demand that all relevant guidance is adhered to and the manager has a sound knowledge of the requirements.  No new roads are planned. The manager and company director are fully aware of the requirement for consents should the need arise.
<b><i>Criterion 10.7 Pests and diseases</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	Deer management objectives are potentially contradictory. The Deer Management Strategy clearly states the objective of basing deer management on the measure of impacts, but goes on to suggest a requirement for deer cull objectives.  Observation 04.  A small redundant deer fenced enclosure at Margree FMU presents a hazard to wildlife and requires removal.  Observation 06.
<b>Compliance</b>	The normal range of conifer and broadleaves used in UK forestry management was encountered.  For new woodlands, native species are preferred to non-native unless non-native species used can show that they will clearly outperform native species in meeting the objectives. It is a requirement of FC grant schemes that all native species used are locally adapted.  No examples of other non-native plant and animal species being introduced were encountered during the assessment.  No non-native non-tree species will be introduced.  Restructuring and restocking plans are or will be subject to FC approval. There is a strong awareness of the need to minimise the risk from wind, fire, pests and diseases.

	<p>There is a strong ethos and commitment to monitoring and inspections and recording of tree health and grazing impacts are done regularly.</p> <p>Deer management is based on a written strategy. The CKSCL manager is a member of the local Deer Management Group. However, see weaknesses above.</p> <p>MP documentation includes fire planning. Local fire brigades have been contacted with regard to risk and access.</p> <p>Stock fences are in use around most forest areas to exclude sheep and cattle. Deer fences present the largest hazard to woodland grouse and deer fences are not normally used by CKSCL. However, see weaknesses above.</p> <p>Two stalking tenants conduct all wildlife control over the CKSCL FMUs. Relevant licences were inspected. Wildlife control and hunting is limited to the control of deer, foxes and crows. There is a very good working knowledge of codes of practice among managers.</p>
<b><i>Criterion 10.8 Monitoring of impacts, species testing and tenure rights</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	<p>Much effort has been invested in ground-truthing existing maps and reassessing yield classes. An excellent approach to monitoring has begun. Site records of restocking, plant health inspections and site visits are in place.</p> <p>The preparation of generic and FMU related stakeholder lists and the subsequent engagement with a wide range of stakeholders is exemplary.</p>
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	<p>Monitoring records are concise and understandable and in a form that facilitates their application to management. An effective start has been made and the manager is aware of the need to store data in a useable form that will facilitate analysis and application.</p> <p>Maps for all FMUs showing access routes were available and there has been extensive contact with a range of stakeholders.</p>
<b><i>Criterion 10.9 Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994</i></b>	
<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Weaknesses</b>	
<b>Compliance</b>	There are no ASNWs.

## 9. CERTIFICATION DECISION

SGS considers that Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company Limited's forest management of its six FMUs in south Scotland, UK can be certified as:

- i. There are no outstanding Major Corrective Action Requests
- ii. The outstanding Minor Corrective Action Requests do not preclude certification, but Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company Limited is required to take the agreed actions before June 15, 2012. These will be verified by SGS QUALIFOR at the first surveillance to be carried out about 6 months from the date of the issuance of the certificate. If satisfactory actions have been taken, the CARs will be 'closed out'; otherwise, Minor CARs will be raised to Major CARs.
- iii. The management system, if implemented as described, is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standard(s) are met over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the evaluation;
- iv. The certificate holder has demonstrated, subject to the specified corrective actions, that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the certificate.

## 10. MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

During the surveillance evaluation, it is assessed if there is continuing compliance with the requirements of the Qualifor Programme. Any areas of non-conformance with the QUALIFOR Programme are raised as one of two types of Corrective Action Request (CAR):

01. **Major CARs** - which must be addressed and closed out urgently with an agreed short time frame since the organisation is already a QUALIFOR certified organisation. Failure to close out within the agreed time frame can lead to suspension of the certificate.
02. **Minor CARs** - which must be addressed within an agreed time frame, and will normally be checked at the next surveillance visit

The full record of CARs raised over the certification period is listed under section 11 below.

The table below provides a progressive summary of findings for each surveillance. A complete record of observations demonstrating compliance or non-compliance with each criterion of the Forest Stewardship Standard is contained in a separate document that does not form part of the public summary.

<b>MAIN EVALUATION</b>	
<b>Issues that were hard to assess</b>	None.
<b>Number of CARs raised</b>	0 New Major CARs and 2 Minor CARs were raised.
<b>SURVEILLANCE 1</b>	
<b>Issues that were hard to assess</b>	
<b>Number of CARs closed</b>	Outstanding CARs were closed.
<b>Nr of CARs remaining open</b>	Outstanding CARs from previous evaluations were not closed.
<b>New CARs raised</b>	New Major CARs and Minor CARs were raised.
<b>Recommendation</b>	The forest management of the forests of            to remain certified as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The management system is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standard(s) are met over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the evaluation; and</li> <li>▪ The certificate holder has demonstrated, subject to the specified corrective actions, that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the certificate.</li> </ul>
<b>SURVEILLANCE 2</b>	
<b>Issues that were hard to assess</b>	
<b>Number of CARs closed</b>	
<b>Nr of CARs remaining open</b>	
<b>Nr of New CARs raised</b>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	
<b>SURVEILLANCE 3</b>	
<b>Issues that were hard to assess</b>	
<b>Number of CARs closed</b>	
<b>Nr of CARs remaining open</b>	
<b>Nr of New CARs raised</b>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	

SURVEILLANCE 4	
Issues that were hard to assess	
Number of CARs closed	
Nr of CARs remaining open	
Nr of New CARs raised	
Recommendation	

**11. RECORD OF CORRECTIVE ACTION REQUESTS (CARs)**

CAR #	Indicator	CAR Detail					
		Date Recorded>		Due Date>		Date Closed>	
01	UKWAS 2.1.1 (FSC UK 7.1)	15 June 2011		15 June 2012		open	
		<b>Non-Conformance:</b>					
		Some management plans have not been approved by FCS and are awaiting review.					
		<b>Objective Evidence:</b>					
		CKSCL Management Plans relating to Manqhill, Margree and Halfmark FMUs are awaiting approval from FCS and although no evidence of non-compliance was observed full compliance could not be confirmed.					
02	UKWAS 6.3.2 (FSC UK 6.4)	15 June 2011		15 June 2012		open	
		<b>Non-Conformance:</b>					
		All PAWS have not been assessed in order to prioritise work requirements.					
		<b>Objective Evidence:</b>					
		Areas of PAWS at Garcrogo (Auchenvey & Garcrogo FMU) require inspection to detect remnant vegetation and, if required, to plan consequent restoration work. Inspection racks and aerial photographs will be used to detect remnant vegetation.					
		dd mmm yy		dd mmm yy		dd mmm yy	
		<b>Non-Conformance:</b>					
		<b>Objective Evidence:</b>					
<b>Close-out evidence:</b>							

**12. RECORD OF OBSERVATIONS**

OBS #	Indicator	Observation Detail
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OBS #	Indicator	Observation Detail			
		Date Recorded>		Date Closed>	
01	UKWAS 2.2.2  FSCUK P&C 5.6	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			
		Some anomalies exist between felling maps and forecasts.  At Auchenvy and Garcrogo FMU a re-appraisal of felling forecasts is underway. Felling maps should reflect this.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
02	UKWAS 3.2.2  FSCUK P&C 10.2	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			
		There are no design plans for potential new planting.  Future planting under consideration for Corse, Thorniehill & Cassenvy and Auchenvy & Garcrogo FMUs will require designs that are compliant with UKWAS/FSC.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
03	UKWAS 3.5.1  FSCUK P&C 6.5	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			
		Potential clearance of forest for non-forest use requires clarification.  A potential windfarm proposal at Margree FMU will require further appraisal against the UKWAS 3rd edition when available.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
04	UKWAS 5.1.4  FSCUK P&C 6.2, 6.3, 10.7	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			
		Deer management objectives are potentially contradictory.  The Deer Management Strategy clearly states the objective of basing deer management on the measure of impacts, but goes on to suggest a requirement for deer cull objectives.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
05	UKWAS 5.2.1  FSCUK P&C 6.6	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			
		Chemical Use Strategy contains an ambiguous statement. The statement concerning environmental acceptability and cost-effectiveness requires clarification.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
06	UKWAS 5.4.1  FSCUK P&C 5.1/6.2/10. 7	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			
		A redundant deer fence presents a hazard to wildlife. A small redundant enclosure at Margree FMU requires removal.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
07	UKWAS 6.2.1	Date Recorded>	15 June 2011	Date Closed>	open
		<b>Observation:</b>			



OBS #	Indicator	Observation Detail			
	FSCUK P&C 6.2	The identification of Natural Reserves and Long Term Retentions is confused. At Margree FMU clarification is required on the identification and boundaries of NRs and LTRs.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
08	UKWAS 6.2.2	<b>Date Recorded&gt;</b>	15 June 2011	<b>Date Closed&gt;</b>	open
	FSCUK P&C 6.2	<b>Observation:</b>			
		Opportunities for the conservation of deadwood may be being overlooked. At Margree a potential NR containing good quality standing deadwood has not been designated.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			
09	UKWAS 6.1.1	<b>Date Recorded&gt;</b>	15 June 2011	<b>Date Closed&gt;</b>	open
	FSCUK P&C 6.2	<b>Observation:</b>			
		See Stakeholder comment 01. RSPB has suggested that CKSCL build in black grouse conservation measures into management plans and has offered advice. SGS supports this. Check progress at next surveillance.			
		<b>Follow-up evidence:</b>			

**13. RECORD OF STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS AND INTERVIEWS**

Nr	Comment	Response
	<b>Main Evaluation</b>	

Nr	Comment	Response
<b>Main Evaluation</b>		
1	<p>The RSPB commented as follows, “The forests you mention in your letter are in important areas for black grouse, a Red Listed, UKBAP and local priority species, and there are a number of active leks within, and on land adjacent to, these forests.</p> <p>Therefore we would recommend that black grouse should be taken into consideration during the revision of the forest plans and we would be very pleased to provide advice on how you can improve the forests to benefit this priority species.</p> <p>We note your intention to apply for UKWAS certification to ensure your operations are responsible and sustainable for the future. UKWAS requires that 'a minimum of 15 % of the woodland area shall be managed with conservation and enhancement of biodiversity as a major objective', and we would suggest that by managing the forests for the benefit of black grouse Czernin-Kinsky could fulfil this requirement.</p> <p>We feel that these forest plans could have the potential to greatly enhance and improve the area for black grouse and hope that you will consult RSPB for specific advice on each plan during the revision process.”</p>	<p>SGS supports this approach by RSPB and suggests that CKSCL accept the offer of advice from them and build black grouse conservation into management plans. Check progress at next surveillance. Observation 09 raised.</p>
2	<p>A National forestry management company commented, “Auchrae FMU is owned by CKSCL, but the timber is owned by our client and certified under our Group Scheme. In view of this, I liaise with the CKSCL forest manager with regard to restocking and deer management issues.. I do not have any comments to make with regard to CKSLC certification other than to say that I am sure that this is the right direction for them to be going in and that although the manager has only had limited exposure to the certification process he will soon pick up on what is required and, given the necessary support is certainly capable of managing and maintaining the necessary records.”</p>	Noted.
3	<p>South of Scotland Timber Transport Officer commented, “All the harvesting from Auchrae takes place through third parties. As such I can only comment that there has been no issues from these forest linked to timber haulage routes, from that I can only assume Czernin-Kinsky as a company exercises its industry standards correctly and ensures its sub contractors comply.”</p>	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.

Nr	Comment	Response
<b>Main Evaluation</b>		
4	<p>From SNH (Deer management), "Our records show they manage 2 properties in South Scotland - Halfmark and Manquhill and have submitted cull returns for both. For both properties they took over management from in 2002 and they have submitted cull records for these for each of the last 3 years.</p> <p>I am unable to comment on the management of the company or the woodlands in question and have had no dealings with them in the last 3 years.</p>	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.
5	Historic Scotland are not aware of any issues.	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.
6	A neighbouring farmer reported, "I have a very good relationship with CKSCL. Unlike many companies they are not 'faceless.' A recent discussion over the siting of a march fence was very amicably settled due to a meeting with the manager."	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.
7	A neighbouring farmer commented, "CKSCL are an excellent company. All the staff are very businesslike, helpful and keen to resolve any concerns. I cannot find any fault with them."	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.
8	<p>From a stalking tenant of CKSCL, "This company purchased the forest to which I have leased the stalking on approximately 4 years ago. Prior to this my lease had been with the Forestry Commission for about 10 years. I inevitably had concerns initially as a change of land owner can often be traumatic and many times results in the end of a lease agreement. The handover however proved uneventful and we quickly developed an excellent working relationship which continues to the present day. I have found their representatives and contractors at international, national and local level to be responsive, sympathetic to any of my concerns, professional, courteous and extremely pro active in all their undertakings with myself and shooting colleagues.</p> <p>This would also seem to be the opinion of our shoot neighbours and farmers many of whom I have known for a considerable period of time.</p> <p>The standard of forestry management seems to have improved beyond all recognition and my only wish is that they had purchased the forestry sooner rather than later.</p>	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.

Nr	Comment	Response
<b>Main Evaluation</b>		
9	<p>Walleys Rural Property Services are the managing agent for Blackmark Estate in St Johns Town of Dalry, which neighbours one of Czernin-Kinsky holdings at Cornharrow. During our period of occupancy of Blackmark Estate we note that the adjoining Forestry at Cornharrow has been managed in a sympathetic yet productive way and no problems have been experienced with any boundary or neighbour issues. In actual fact a portion of the boundary fence has just been renewed on a 50/50 basis and Czernin-Kinsky's representatives, Premier Woodlands, organised all works including access etc. and the job was successfully and efficiently completed.</p> <p>Czernin-Kinsky Scottish Company Limited along with Premier Woodlands, who are based at Cornharrow, manage a number of forestry enterprises in the local area and in our opinion all these forestry plantations are farmed with best management practices.</p>	Noted and passed on to CKSCL.
<b>Surveillance 1</b>		
<b>Surveillance 2</b>		
<b>Surveillance 3</b>		
<b>Surveillance 4</b>		

**14. RECORD OF COMPLAINTS**

Nr	Detail		
	Complaint:	Date Recorded >	dd MMM yy
	No complaints received.		
	<b>Objective evidence obtained:</b>		
	<b>Close-out information:</b>	<b>Date Closed &gt;</b>	dd MMM yy

**End of Public Summary**