

ANNEX 2: EU RED SBE Findings

Country: Spain

Area/sub-scope: Galicia, Asturias, Andalusia, Castilla y León

(i) The legality of harvesting operations

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level B – management system at forest sourcing area level

Finding:

The FSC National Risk Assessment for Spain: FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 ES_2018-09-11 establishes that: “Land tenure and use rights are covered by Spanish legislation and the authorities have implemented tools to record and monitor land tenure and use rights. Since ancient times, these rights have had great social and economic relevance, which is why they are widely developed and recognized. Examples of land tenure and use rights relevant to the Spanish context include, but are not limited to surveying and marking of public forests, property registration and cadastre, boundaries (as property markers) on small private property, etc.”

Spain presents a value greater than 50 in the Transparency International corruption perception index, a value of 60 in 2023, same as in 2022. Although the value has decreased since 2012 (65), there are no reports that significantly link corruption with the forestry sector. The level of governance can be classified as robust, both with respect to the accreditation of the property and the use of the land.

The Cadastre (*Catastro*), and the Real Estate Registry (*Registro de la Propiedad*) constitute the basis of the property management and of the rural and urban buildings, as well as of the acts practiced on them (building refers to any real estate property being that rural or urban, agricultural or forest, comprising edification or not). The Cadastre strictly defines the characteristics of each rustic parcel, namely the location, configuration, limits and areas of the property and its built-up parts, being based on orthophoto maps with official validity. The Cadastre comprises other complementary information such as easements and restrictions, use and occupation, encumbrances or charges, urban parameter value, licenses, etc. The Real Estate Registry, which takes place in the land registry office, is the official archive where all property rights and other rights as well as charges on the real estate are registered and confirmed, without updated knowledge of which no legal act (purchase, sale, Mortgage, etc.) can be carried out on a rustic or urban building, or on a part or fraction of such. The most part of forest area is not registered, but

when it is, it always prevails over cadastre. Differences between both records are quite common in rural plots, especially the geometry and the ownership. At the present, any change of ownership in Real Estate Registry requires previously the review of the cadastre record. It is common knowledge that rustic and urban buildings are inscribed in the cadastre, above all, because these services send, to the owner, a list of the respective articles each year (with the exception of properties not quoted in less value, as is often the case of rural properties), indicating the value of the property, the tax on the properties to be paid, called Property Municipal Tax (IBI). It is also considered among the stakeholders that there are a very reduced number of cases related to theft of timber and illegal use of land. The purchase documents (invoice, buyer-seller contract, previous agreement, among others listed here) are considered to be sufficient for the confirmation of legality of the feedstock considering that they provide all the relevant information of the seller, namely, name, fiscal number, address and identification number, most of the times more reliable information than the one found in the land registry permit. All the relevant information is disclosed by the seller of the wood and this sale is declared to the fiscal authorities through invoicing, assuring the legality of ownership. There is no evidence of significant conflicts related to the ownership of forest land or the legitimacy of its use. Some small issues or conflicts have been identified, mostly at the local level, which are known and can be addressed through legal channels. Examples of these are:

- Conflicts with easements or roads for public use.
- Abandoned land not claimed by descendants (linked to emigration).
- Documentation accrediting unregistered ownership, old documents or accreditation for immemorial use. Specially linked to small property.
- Different levels of knowledge of property boundaries.
- Conflicts with consortiums.

There is, in turn, legislation that protects the use of land. Forest lands are classified as rustic within the Urban Plans and there is legislation that protects them from change of use.

Andalusia:

The private forest clearly predominates, representing 73.4% of the surface, while public forests represent 26.6% of the surface. The public area is practically divided in half between that which belongs to the Junta de Andalucía or to the State and to the Local Entities. Regarding private forests, the IFN3 classifies most of them (3,140,386 hectares) as being of doubtful or unknown ownership. However, no reports or news of problems derived from this classification have been found.

Galicia:

The private forest overwhelmingly predominates, which represents 98% of the forest area, where in addition to the micro-forest property (minifundium) typical of Galician property (1,385,550 hectares of private owners, the vast majority of which are micro-properties, 69% of the forests private) includes forests under the

Communal Regime (608,646 hectares, 31% of private forests), both Germanic (Neighbourhood Forests in Common Hand, MVMC) and Roman (Abertales, Fabeo and others). There is 2% of the surface public property.

Asturias:

The private forest predominates, which represents 55% of the surface (421,500 hectares), mostly smallholdings (412,985 hectares), with an average surface area of the properties of 0.6 ha, also appearing forests in Communal Regime (8,471 ha, MVMC). The public forest represents 45% of the surface (343,000 hectares), mostly owned by local entities: Town Halls, Rural Parishes.

Castilla y León:

The Community's Forest area amounts to 4,838,441 hectares. The number of forest owners in Castilla y León amounts to 719,039, with an average area of 6.73 ha per owner. The province with the largest forest area and number of owners is León, with more than 1 million hectares, and the smallest Valladolid with 150,000 ha. 55% of the surface is public property and 45% private. In the north of the Community, public ownership of the land predominates, around 80%, in the case of León. The central provinces of Castilla y León have more balanced ownership percentages and as one advances south, private ownership predominates in the provinces with pastures -Ávila and Salamanca especially- where 82% of the land corresponds to private owners. Town halls, neighbourhood councils, villa and land communities and other public entities are the main forest owners in the Community. In total, there are 5,405 owners who own more than 2.6 million hectares. The average size of these properties is very close to 500 hectares. The largest forests are in the province of Soria and the smallest in Valladolid. The largest owner in Castilla y León is the *Junta* with more than 90,000 hectares.

Also, considering the high level of control of public authorities over forest management and planning, the fact that an individual has authorization to perform forestry operations on a piece of land implies that there is legitimacy over the use of that land.

Regarding EUTR, Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 (RUEM), of 20 October, entered into force in March 2013, and Decree-Law no. 76/2013, for its application in Spain, was published on 5 of June of the same year.

Within the framework of the EUTR, two types of agents are defined:

- Operator, understood as any singular or collective person who places on the market wood or wood products, and
- Trader, understood as any natural or collective person who during a commercial activity sells or purchase on the internal market of the European Union (EU) wood or wood products already placed on the internal market.

Operators must have a due diligence system in place for each wood/timber

acquisition, which includes procedures for access to information, risk assessment and risk mitigation. Furthermore, traders must maintain relevant information about

suppliers and buyers of products as well volumes traded. This information must be kept and be provided to competent authorities upon request. Operators placing timber on the EU market for the first time should provide records of where the timber is originated, species, and quantities.

In Spain operators must submit an annual declaration detailing:

- Species,
- Volumes,
- Certifications and
- Country of origin of all purchased wood

The Competent Authority for ensuring implementation of the EUTR are the

Autonomous Communities. Several complaints from environmental NGOs were reported, because of the lack of control of the Competent Authorities. But all these claims refer to the lack of verification of wood imports and does not affect the exploitation of national forests. The Spanish government report the monitoring of inspections carried out by the competent authorities and their results (LIGNUM program).

Means of verification:

- EUTR declaration.
- Cadastre: <https://www.sedecatastro.gob.es>
- Internal records with information about the origin, species, supplier, carrier.

One of the following documents available:

- . Work/harvesting notification
- . Work/harvesting authorisation
- . Allocation of the public forest works contract
- . Contract/Allocation with the landowner /manager

Evidence reviewed:

- FSC National Risk Assessment for Spain, FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 ES_2018-09-11;
- Royal Decree 1088/2015;
- Study on wood control procedures and risk assessment in each Autonomous Community for the application of the Due Diligence System;
- Competent Authorities, EUTR.

Andalusia:

- Authorization request model. cut trees and/or reeds:

http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal_web/administracion_electronica/Tramites/Agua/Autorizaciones/Autorizaciones/Modelos/corte_arboles_canas.pdf

- EUTR Responsible Statement:

https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal/web/cae/detalle/asset_publisher/S16tVNj0etAT/content/declaracion-c3-b3n-responsable-para-agentes-quecomercializan-con-madera-y-derivatives-in-the-EU-for-the-purposes-of-regulation-eutr/20151

Galicia:

- CORWEB system, presentation of responsible declarations and authorization requests for timber and woody uses:

<https://ovmediorural.xunta.gal/es/tramites/corweb>

- CORWEB access: <https://sedegl-idbrokerext.xunta.gal/cas/login?service=https%3A%2F%2Fcorweb2020.xunta.gal%2Fcorweb2020%2Flogin%2Fcas>

- RESPOR: <https://ovmediorural.xunta.gal/es/tramites/resfor-comunicacion-anual-de-datosempresas-forestales>

- MR617E - Annual communication of data to the register of companies in the forestry sector of Galicia:

<https://sede.xunta.gal/detalleprocedemento?codtram=MR617E&ano=2014&numpub=1&lang=gl>

Asturias:

- Authorization of timber harvesting in privately owned forests:

<https://sede.asturias.es/-/dboid-6269000001646390899500>

- Wood Cut License, model:

<https://www.google.com/urlsa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwiDn5i1g39AhXSVAQEHTWCmgQFnoECBIQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsede.asturias.es%2Fo%2Fsede%2Fserviciosyprocedures%2Fdownload%2F13065474333765622554&usg=AOvVaw14qUmhelhd7FtxipE64oP0>

- Communication of commercialization of wood and wood products:

<https://sede.asturias.es/-/dboid-62690000010887465507573>

Castilla y León:

- Processing procedure for the use of b les and ligneous wood:

<https://www.tramitacastillayleon.jcyl.es/web/jcyl/AdministracionElectronica/es/Plantilla100Detalle/1251181050732/formularios/1284385153587/Tramite>

- EUTR: <https://medioambiente.jcyl.es/web/es/medio-natural/comercio-legal-maderaproductos.html>

- EUTR Responsible Declaration:
<https://economia.jcyl.es/web/es/industria/declaracionresponsable-comercializacion-productos.html>

Risk designation:

Low risk.

BSL and its suppliers are FSC and PEFC certified.

There are appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that:

- legality of ownership and land use can be demonstrated for the Supply Base, and
- feedstock is legally harvested and supplied, and follows EUTR legality requirements.

Level B management system at the level of the forest sourcing area:

(ii) Forest regeneration of harvested areas

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level B – management system at forest sourcing area level

Level B management system at the level of the forest sourcing area:

Finding:

Silviculture purposes in Mediterranean forests include the maintenance of ecosystems and the improvement of their natural functions, and so the encouraging of natural regeneration is always one of the main objectives in any of the forest operations.

Article 50 of Law 21/2015 on Forestry stipulates that the autonomous communities must guarantee the conditions for the restoration of forest land burned, and the following shall be prohibited:

- Change in forest use for at least 30 years.
- Any activity inconsistent with the regeneration of the forest cover during the period determined by regional legislation.

Conversion of natural forests to plantations or other land uses is generally not allowed under the Spanish law, except in the following circumstances:

- The change in use of a forest when it is not motivated by reasons of general interest, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 18.4 of Law 21/2015 on Forestry (regarding records of forests catalogued with public declarations other than forest use) and applicable environmental regulations, will be exceptional and require a favourable report of the competent forestry body and, where appropriate, the owner of the forest.
- The competent forestry body shall regulate cases in which, without a change in forest use, authorization is required for the substantial change of the forest cover.

Galicia:

With the data on the increase in the eucalyptus surface in the last 25 years, there have been both legal and illegal changes of this species. It does not seem, however, that the area that comes from cutting native hardwoods, even if it exists, is relevant. All the surface data consulted on a Galician scale indicate that the surfaces of autochthonous hardwoods are also increasing in Galicia. The legislation (Galician Forestry Law) establishes in its article 67 that " reforestation and new plantations interspersed with the genus Eucalyptus are prohibited in those areas populated by species from annex 1, even after their use or their affectation by a Forest fire. This prohibition will not be applicable in cases of regeneration after planting or regeneration, on the lower floor or undergrowth, of species listed in Annex 1. " Therefore, there is a legal prohibition to carry out these transformations with established fines for violators. No reference to similar problems linked to *Pinus radiata* in Galicia has been found. As a result of the large fires that have affected the environment in recent years and have generated social alarm due to their virulence and danger, the Xunta de Galicia has established a moratorium on new eucalyptus plantations through the ninth transitory provision of Law 11/2021, of Recuperación da Terra Agraria, which establishes the prohibition of new eucalyptus plantations with the conditions indicated in the provision. In addition, the administration's own surveillance tasks have been increased with respect to reforestation with eucalyptus, having significantly increased the disciplinary proceedings for infractions of the regulations.

Asturias:

On a smaller scale when compared with Galicia, similar situations can occur since the eucalyptus area has also increased, especially in coastal areas. Even so, no evidence has been found that the area that comes from cutting native hardwoods is relevant, since there is both legislation that controls and prohibits it (Article 42 of the Asturias Forest Law) and a sufficient administrative control implemented.

Andalusia:

The Junta de Andalucía includes eucalyptus as an invasive exotic in the Andalusian Program for the Control of Invasive Alien Species. Since 1992, measures have been taken to address the task of recovering areas of public forests occupied by eucalyptus plantations. Since that year, eucalyptus has not been used in

repopulations in public forests and thousands of hectares of eucalyptus have been recovered in public forests in Andalusia. On the other hand, the area of eucalyptus in the province of Huelva, the one with the largest plantations, has been reduced since 1989 from 234,000 hectares to 140,000 which, added to the high level of control of actions in the natural environment of the Junta de Andalucía, makes it possible to rule out the existence of relevant substitution changes of autochthonous stands by eucalyptus since 2008.

Castilla y León:

Theoretically there could be situations of conversion in poplar production areas (a very relevant sector at an economic level in Castilla y León) due to the elimination of riparian forest, although no relevant evidence of these situations has been found since the Riparian forests are probably one of the ecosystems hardest hit by human activity due to the high productivity of the soils on which they are based and, currently, wherever they exist, they are protected.

Means of verification:

- Historical maps and orthophotos;
- Records of field inspections;
- Monitoring records
- Forestry work/harvesting authorisation/ allocation
- Cartography available and consultation with the competent bodies of the Autonomous Communities regarding transformations
- Management Plan, development project
- Signed agreements and contracts

Evidence reviewed:

- Forestry Law consolidated text (Law 43/2003 on Forestry modified by Laws 10/2006, of April 28 and 21/2015, of July 20): <https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2003-21339>
- Law 2/1992, of June 15, Forestry of Andalusia: <https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-1992-15996>
- Law 7/2017 of Montes de Galicia, consolidated text: <https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2012/BOE-A-2012-11414-consolidado.pdf>
- Galician Land Law 2/2016, consolidated text: <https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2016/BOE-A-2016-3191-consolidado.pdf>
- Law for the Recovery of Agrarian Lands of Galicia:

<https://info-sitegal.xunta.gal/es/paxina/lei-112021-do-14-de-maio-de-recuperacion-da-terra-agraria-de-galicia>

- Galicia: <https://www.campogalego.es/lei-de-recuperacion-da-terra-agraria-escenario-y-retosen-el-dia-0/>

- Law 3/2004, of November 23, on forestry and forest management in Asturias:

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2005/BOE-A-2005-393-consolidado.pdf>

- Urban Planning Code of Asturias:

<https://www.boe.es/legislacion/codigos/codigo.php?id=26&modo=1-1a=0>

- Law 3/2009, of April 6, on mountains of Castilla y León:

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2009-7698>

- FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 National Risk Assessment For

Spain: <https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/168>

- Cartography web visors: <https://sig.mapama.gob.es/geoportal/>

Galicia: <https://mapas.xunta.es/visores/conservaciondanatureza/>

Asturias: <http://sitpa.cartografia.asturias.es/Geoportal/extlayout.aspx?userId=FZr4XHq0PJA=&lang=es>

Andalucía: <https://laboratorioediam.cica.es/VisorRediam/>

<http://ws128.juntadeandalucia.es/agriculturaypesca/sigpac/index.xhtml>

Castilla y León: <https://idecyl.jcyl.es/vcig/>

Risk designation:

Low risk: areas where forest management plan exists and/or FSC or PEFC certified areas.

Specified risk: in areas where no forest management plan is available.

Mitigation measures:

- Analysis of owner's information regarding the future area's cover and use;
- Procedures for conduct field Inspections;
- Suppliers qualification;
- Monitoring plan.
- Disqualify material which legal situation of harvesting cannot be confirmed.

- Disqualify material harvested from forest areas not regenerated nor planned to be regenerated.

(iii) That areas designated by international or national law or by the relevant competent authority for nature protection purposes

Including in wetlands, grasslands, heathland and peatlands, are protected with the aim of preserving biodiversity and preventing habitat destruction, unless evidence is provided that the harvesting of that raw material does not interfere with those nature protection purposes

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level B – management system at forest sourcing area level

Level B management system at the level of the forest sourcing area:

Finding:

Most important forest areas with high concentration of nature conservation values have been identified and designated as classified or protected areas at national and/or EU level (ZEPA, LIC, Natura 2000 sites, Natural and National Parks). All these areas are clearly mapped in cartography. Information on location and geographical distribution of nature conservation areas, rare, threatened and endangered species and habitats can be considered sufficient. There are legal instruments to identify, map and protect the network of areas of high conservation importance by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing and Food. The Law 42/2007, of December 13, on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity establishes the basic legal regime for the conservation, sustainable use, improvement and restoration of the Spanish natural heritage and biodiversity and includes the basic framework for the management of the Natura 2000 network. This is complemented by relevant regulations in each Autonomous Community. It also includes the international standards and recommendations that international environmental organizations, such as the Council of Europe or the Convention on Biological Diversity, have published. Spain is contributing the most to the Natura 2000 network among all European countries. The implementation of it in Spain means extending the protected area status to approximately 28% of the territory, a significant proportion. In Spain there are 1,863 Natura 2000 sites, of which 1,467 are Sites of Community Importance (LIC, Lugares de Importancia Comunitaria) and 644 are Special Protection Areas for Birds (ZEPA, Zonas Especiales de Protección para las Aves), covering 27.3% of Spanish territory; some LIC and ZEPA overlap.

Although Natura 2000 and other protected areas include a large proportion of HCV present in Spain (mainly HCV 1, 2 and 3), HCV are also present outside protected areas. In these cases, Law 42/2007 and the legislation of the HCV are a complementary safeguard against potential threats to HCV from forest management activities. At the operational level, Law 21/2015 on Forestry with its subsequent amendments and other detailed developments by the HCV provide an additional safeguard against threats to HCV from forest management activities through monitoring and control measures on the ground when forest products are marked and harvested. In terms of law enforcement, it is widely accepted among the experts that there is a high level of implementation of the above-mentioned legislation. HCV attributes are well identified and mapped within the area of assessment, as well as data from voluntary forest certification schemes, namely FSC and PEFC.

Spain has signed the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, a global treaty to protect wetlands which has paved the way for the development of targeted programs focused on their conservation, restoration, and sustainable management in order to protect them. Spain has the Strategic Plan for Wetlands 2030, which outlines the actions needed to address the factors driving loss and degradation. The general purpose of this Strategic Plan is to prevent, halt and reverse the loss and degradation of wetlands in Spain, helping to guarantee:

- (i) the maintenance of the habitats and species they support and their capacity to provide essential ecosystem services,
- (ii) to promote their recovery and
- (iii) to achieve their value and the recognition of the multiple benefits they provide.

It is a roadmap that identifies the measures that must be implemented urgently to systematically and continuously address the factors of loss and degradation of wetlands in the country. Determines priorities and goals, and specifies actions and timetables to achieve them. It also responds to Spain's obligations as a member of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the European Union (European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030), and is in line with the national strategic planning in the field of natural heritage, biodiversity, green infrastructure, ecological connectivity and restoration.

Areas occupied by peatlands in Spain are estimated to be around 350 km², i.e. barely 0,07% of the national territory. The EU Habitats Directive and the Natura 2000 network of protected areas are vital for saving Europe's peatlands. 33 000 km² of peatlands are already protected under this Directive across 8 700 Natura 2000 sites. Also, the European Commission's EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 calls for peatland restoration and their strict protection.

Grasslands in Spain involves about 22% of Spain's land mass. Based on satellite data, EU Grassland Watch provides grassland information in 3 689 Natura 2000 sites in 27 EU Member States, Spain included. Covering the period from 1994 until the present, the information in this portal exploits Landsat and, since 2016 Copernicus Sentinel 1, and 2, images. Allows to explore grassland cover changes at land parcel, Natura 2000 site or regional levels.

Heathlands and shrubs cover about 4% and sparsely vegetated lands 1.5% of the EU land area. They are distributed across all the biogeographic regions of Europe from Mediterranean, including Spain, to boreal regions and lowlands to high altitudes.

By law, forest activities with certain characteristics and of a certain size must have an environmental impact report prior to the request for license activity. Environmental impacts of harvesting activities, like soil or water course damage, are well regulated in Spanish legislation. No reports on violations of this legislation were found. The assessment of environmental impacts of harvesting activities on the land or watercourses are well regulated in Spanish legislation. The environmental impact report for operations near water zones needs to be provided to the Forest Service when applying for the Authorization for Harvesting, otherwise it cannot be issued. The Autonomous Communities have their own personnel to carry out law enforcement. Within the Civil Guard there is also the SEPRONA unit (Nature Protection Service), which carries out the enforcement of environmental laws. Environmental impact assessment projects are required by Law 21/2013, of 9 December. It indicates the obligation to develop an environmental impact assessment for any reforestation area project greater than 50 ha. Environmental assessments do not act as licences but as a prior and binding requirement to obtain a certain authorisation or resolution.

Means of verification:

- Legislation in force;
- Online maps;
- Forest Management Plans;
- Priority Classified Habitat and species catalogue;
- Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party as FSC and PEFC reports;

Evidence reviewed:

- Biodiversity strategy for 2030 – European Commission:
https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030_en

- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: <https://www.ramsar.org/>

- Spain Strategic Plan for Wetlands to 2030:

Plan Estratégico de Humedales a 2030:

https://www.miteco.gob.es/content/dam/miteco/es/biodiversidad/planes-y-estrategias/planestrategicodehumedalespublicacionoficial_tcm30-548431.pdf

- Directive - 92/43 - EN - Habitats Directive - EUR-Lex:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/1992/43/oj/eng>

- The Natura 2000 protected areas network — European Environment Agency:
<https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/biodiversity/natura-2000#:~:text=Natura%202000%20is%20a%20network%20of%20protected%20areas,Member%20States%2C%20both%20on%20land%20and%20at%20sea.>
- EU Grassland Watch: <https://ec.europa.eu/eu-grassland-watch/>
- Ecosystems and their services | Biodiversity Information System for Europe:
<https://biodiversity.europa.eu/europes-biodiversity/ecosystems>
- Europarc: <http://www.redeuroparc.org>
- Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity:
http://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2007-21490
- FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 National Risk Assessment For Spain:
<https://fsc.org/en/documentcentre/documents/resource/168>
- Cartography web visors: <https://sig.mapama.gob.es/geoportal/>
Galicia: <https://mapas.xunta.es/visores/conservaciondanatureza/>
<http://mapas.xunta.gal/visores/aproveitamentos/>
Andalucia:
<https://laboratoriolediam.cica.es/VisorRediam/>
<http://ws128.juntadeandalucia.es/agriculturaypesca/sigpac/index.xhtml>
Asturias: <http://sitpa.cartografia.asturias.es/Geoportal/extlayout.aspx?userId=FZr4XHq0PJA=&lang=es>
Castilla y León: <https://idecyl.jcyl.es/vcig/>

Risk designation:

Low risk: areas where forest management plan exists and/or FSC or PEFC certified areas.

Specified risk: in areas where no forest management plan is available.

In this indicator are considered all the relevant findings of the FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment.

Mitigation measures:

- Check that harvesting operations are authorized by the Forest Service and that are not subject to environmental impact assessments;
- Best forest management practices during harvesting operations;

- Procedures for conduct field Inspections;
- Suppliers qualification;
- Monitoring plan.

(iv) that harvesting is carried out considering the maintenance of soil quality and biodiversity in accordance with sustainable forest management principles

with the aim of preventing any adverse impact, in a way that avoids harvesting of stumps and roots, degradation of primary forests, and of old growth forests as defined in the country where the forest is located, or their conversion into plantation forests, and harvesting on vulnerable soils, that harvesting is carried out in compliance with maximum thresholds for large clear-cuts as defined in the country where the forest is located, and with locally and ecologically appropriate retention thresholds for deadwood extraction and that harvesting is carried out in compliance with requirements to use logging systems that minimise any adverse impact on soil quality, including soil compaction, and on biodiversity features and habitats.

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level B – management system at forest sourcing area level

Level B management system at the level of the forest sourcing area:

Finding:

The main problem of soil quality of Mediterranean forests is desertification increased by climate change, loss of nutrients and erosion. Climate change will deteriorate soil fertility through a loss of carbon from the soil.

The following conditions of large areas of Spain and the Mediterranean region are associated with desertification processes:

- The semi-arid climate in large areas, seasonal droughts, extreme variability of rains and sudden high intensity rains;
- Poor soils with a marked trend to erosion;
- Uneven relief, with steep slopes and very diversified landscapes;
- Losses of forest cover due forest fires.

The combination of factors and processes such as aridity, drought, erosion, forest fires, overexploitation of coastal areas, etc., gives rise to the different landscapes or scenarios typical of desertification in Spain. The European Court of Auditors (ECA) research indicates that up to 44% of Spain runs a great risk of soil erosion.

Protection against erosion is addressed via the National Plan of Prioritized Actions to Hydrological and Forest Restoration, Soil Erosion Control and Combating Desertification. Flood protection is addressed by the Flood Risk Prevention and Management Directive, which draws up Flood Risk Management Plans. These plans designate the priority watersheds and develops programs and actions to be carried out. The plan is operating on more than 18,4 million hectares, of which 3,5 million are a priority. Several laws in each autonomous community regulate management and harvesting, including specific technical limitations (among others, machinery to be used according to the soil conditions, etc.). The legislation is complemented with a high degree of implementation. There are no published reports on significant impacts of forest activities. The increase of forest and artificial surfaces is considered an important factor for decreasing erosion, new forests on abandoned agricultural lands improve the soil quality. The risk of erosion also depends on the kind of terrain where harvesting is conducted. Another problem for soil quality in Spain is a loss of nutrients specially in Mediterranean area. And, mountain areas also require a special attention in terms of erosion.

Spain is one of the countries with the greatest biological diversity in the EU due, among others, to factors such as its geographical position, its geological diversity, the great climatic, orographic and edaphic variability, its paleo biogeographical history or the existence of islands. Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity establishes the basic legal regime for the conservation, sustainable use, improvement and restoration of natural heritage and biodiversity with a series of instruments for knowledge and planning of natural heritage and biodiversity, such as the Spanish Inventory of Natural Heritage and Biodiversity , the Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity and the Guidelines for the Management of Natural Resources. Regarding the conservation of habitats and natural spaces, it incorporates Marine Protected Areas, and includes the provisions relating to the Natura 2000 European Ecological Network and Areas protected by international instruments. Regarding the conservation of wild biodiversity, the law creates the List of Species under Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species , as well as the Spanish Catalogue of Invasive Alien Species . The protection of species in relation to inland hunting and fishing is also regulated and the Spanish Hunting and Fishing Inventory is established. In the same way, access to genetic resources from wild taxa and the distribution of benefits derived from their use are regulated. The law also creates the Fund for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, a co-financing instrument aimed at ensuring territorial cohesion and the achievement of the objectives of the law, the State Commission for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, as an advisory and cooperation body between the State and the autonomous communities, and the State Council for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, as a body for public participation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of natural heritage and biodiversity. In addition, in Spain there is a

systematic legal framework for protection and a good level of governance linked to the degree of control by the forestry authority of activities in the natural environment.

Means of verification:

- Existing legal framework: laws, regulations and control bodies;
- Manual of good practices;
- Records of field inspections;
- Desk assessment of the harvesting areas on soil and biodiversity aspects;
- Assessment at an operational level of measures designed to minimise impacts;
- Erosion and desertification programs and maps;
- Approved Forest Management Plan;
- Lists of protected and threatened species;
- Agreements/Contracts with suppliers.

Evidence reviewed:

- Map of erosion:
https://www.ign.es/espmap/mapas_riesgos_bach/Riesg_Map07.htm
- National erosion inventory:
<https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/desarrollorural/temas/politicaforestal/inventario-cartografia/inventario-nacional-erosion-suelos/>
- National desertification:
<https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/desarrollorural/temas/politicaforestal/desertificacion-restauracion-forestal/>
- Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity:
http://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2007-21490
- Biodiversity Concept: <https://www.ecologistasenaccion.org/6296/biodiversidad-que-es-donde-seencuentra-y-por-que-es-importante/>
- Biodiversity Concept: https://www.biodiversidad.gob.mx/biodiversidad/que_es
- Protected Spaces Spain:
<https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/temas/espaciosprotegidos/espacios-naturales-protegidos/>
- Nature Data Bank, Protected Areas Spain:

https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/banco-datos-naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto

- Map of Protected Areas Spain:

[https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/bancodatos-](https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/bancodatos-naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto[pp_gal]/0/)

[naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto\[pp_gal\]/0/](https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/bancodatos-naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto[pp_gal]/0/)

- GIS layers National Storages: <https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/red-parques-nacionales/sig/>

- Royal Decree 139/2011 List of Wild Species under Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species:

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2011/BOE-A-2011-3582-consolidado.pdf>

- Current situation of the List of Wild Species under Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species:

<https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/temas/conservacion-de-especies/especiesproteccion-especial/ce-protection-listing-situation.aspx>

- FSC National Risk Assessment for Spain, FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 ES_2018-09-11:

<https://members.fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/168>

- Study on wood control procedures and risk assessment in each Autonomous Community for the application of the Due Diligence System:

https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/publicaciones/control_cortas_de_madera_espanya_2012_tcm30-152390.pdf

Andalucía:

- Network of Protected Areas of Andalusia (RENPA):

https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal/landing-page-%C3%ADndice/-/asset_publisher/zX2ouZa4r1Rf/content/mapa-actualizado-de-la-renpa/20151

- Natura 2000 Network:

<https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal/areastematicas/>

[espacios-protegidos/espacios-protegidos-red-natura-2000](https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal/areastematicas/espacios-protegidos/espacios-protegidos-red-natura-2000)

- REDIAM viewer: <https://portalrediam.cica.es/VisorRediam/>

- REDIAM RENPA viewer:

<http://www.ideandalucia.es/catalogo/inspire/srv/api/records/353b69b809d681056465df3eab6f7b882d28ec0e>

- Downloads of Environmental Information:

<https://portalrediam.cica.es/descargas>

Galicia:

- Protected Spaces:

http://cmaot.xunta.gal/secciontema/c/CMAOT_Consewacioncontent=Direccion_Xeral_Consewacion_Natureza/Espazos_protexidos/seccion.html&std=presentacion.html

- Nature Conservation Viewer:

<https://mapas.xunta.es/visores/conservaciondanatureza/>

- Galicia, forest exploitation viewer:

<http://mapas.xunta.gal/visores/aproveitamentos/>

- Cartography of Galicia: <https://www.sergas.es/Saude-publica/GIS-Cartografia-Galicia-formatovectorial-SHP?idioma=es>

Asturias:

- Regional Network of Protected Natural Areas of Asturias (RRENPA):

<https://medioambiente.asturias.es/general/-/categories/773614>

- Environment Viewer Asturias : <https://ideas.asturias.es/medio-ambiente>

- Asturias Environmental Network: <https://medioambiente.asturias.es>

Castilla y León:

- NETWORK OF PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS (RANP) CyL:

<https://medioambiente.jcyl.es/web/es/medio-natural/espacios-naturales.html>

- REN CyL map: <https://datosabiertos.jcyl.es/web/jcyl/set/es/medio-ambiente/la-red-espaciosnaturales-cyl/1284687312196>

- IDECYL REN CyL:

<https://idecyl.jcyl.es/geonetwork/srv/spa/catalog.search#/metadata/SPAGOB CYL MNADTSPSREN>

- CyL Natural Heritage: <https://patrimonionatural.org>

Risk designation:

This indicator is classified as:

- SOIL: Specified risk for “Mediterranean forests” (Andalucía), because of the erosion, desertification and loss of nutrients. Low risk for “Temperate broadleaf and mixed forests” (Galicia, Asturias and Castilla y León).

- BIODIVERSITY: Specified for eucalyptus felling on private property with a continuous cutting surface of more than 50 hectares. The felling of eucalyptus trees on private properties on continuous upper surfaces are considered conflictive in terms of risk to biodiversity at 50 hectares, mostly in Andalusia.

Mitigation measures:

- BSL evaluates the impacts of its operations considering maintenance of soil quality and biodiversity, through the implementation of the following good practices:
- Where needed, considering the soil and groundwater level, only selective cuttings and small clear cuts of maximally 5 ha are planned;
- Leave nutrients in the forests, mainly the green fraction of forest residues less or equal to 3 cm (on the other hand other forest residues shall be cleared to prevent forest fires).
- Not operate near-water areas.
- Not operate in primary forests.
- Not operate in old growth forests;
- Harvesting of stumps and roots are avoided.
- On dry locations selective cuttings are often preferable, because the ground gets less direct impact of the sun and the forest can maintain soil quality and regenerate naturally.

(v) That harvesting maintains or improves the long-term production capacity of the forest.

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level B – management system at forest sourcing area level

Level B management system at the level of the forest sourcing area:

Finding:

The available forestry statistics of national forestry inventory show a significant increase in timber stocks in Spain from inventory to inventory as a result of both the continued increase in forest area in recent decades and the improvement in forest cover. Also, according to the reports produced by the Ministry's Forestry Service, the annual growth of wood in Spanish forests (45 million m³) is about three times greater than the amount harvested (15 million m³ per year). This balance, with an extraction rate of 35%, is maintained with the current data. However, the figures vary widely between

Autonomous Communities. In all cases, the felling figures are lower than the growth figures. The different laws in each Autonomous Community regulate forest operations, use and specific technical limitations (type of logging, maximum allowable cutting area, machinery to be used according to the soil conditions, etc.), diameters (minimum and/or maximum), species and other parameters.

Means of verification:

- Management Plans;
- National or regional inventories, stocks and growth data;
- Harvested volume data;
- Type of forestry operations.

Evidence reviewed:

- Source of information of volume and species explored by Autonomous Community:

Andalucía:

<http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/vem/?c=Menu/tema/441>

Galicia: <https://mediorural.xunta.gal/es/recursos/estadisticas/estadisticasforestales/>

Castilla y León:

https://medioambiente.jcyl.es/web/jcyl/MedioAmbiente/es/Plantilla100/1131977831418/_/_/_

- Montero, G. and SERRADA, R. 2013. La situación de los Bosques y el sector en España - ISFE 2013 Sociedad Española de Ciencias Forestales. Lourizán (Pontevedra): <http://secforestales.org/content/informe-isfe>
- ORDER of December 29, 2011, which regulates the use of forest biomass for energy use: <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/boja/2012/12/3>

Risk designation:

Low risk.

Harvest levels are justified by inventory and growth data.

(vi) that forests in which the forest biomass is harvested do not stem from the lands that have the statuses referred to in Article 29(3) first subparagraph with

the exception of point (c), Article 29(4) with the exception of point (b) and (c) and Article 29(5), respectively under the same conditions of determination of the status of land specified in those paragraphs

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level B – management system at forest sourcing area level

Level B management system at the level of the forest sourcing area:

Namely, this indicator addresses to biomass fuel that shall not be made from raw material obtained from:

1. the primary forest (there is no clearly visible indication of human activity) and old-growth forest (signs of former human activities may be visible) (no-go area).
2. highly biodiverse forests unless evidence is provided that the production of that raw material did not interfere with those nature protection purposes.
3. natural highly biodiverse grassland or non-natural highly biodiverse grassland unless evidence is provided that the harvesting of the raw material is necessary to preserve its status a non-natural highly biodiverse grassland (no-go area for natural).
4. heathland (no-go area).
5. land that had the status of wetlands in 2008 and no longer has that status.
6. peatland unless evidence is provided that the cultivation and harvesting of that raw material does not involve drainage of previously undrained soil.

Finding:

Most important forest areas with high concentration of nature conservation values have been identified and designated as classified or protected areas at national and/or EU level (ZEPA, LIC, Natura 2000 sites, Natural and National Parks). All these areas are clearly mapped in cartography. Information on location and geographical distribution of nature conservation areas, rare, threatened and endangered species and habitats can be considered sufficient. There are legal instruments to identify, map and protect the network of areas of high conservation importance by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing and Food. The Law 42/2007, of December 13, on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity establishes the basic legal regime for the conservation, sustainable use, improvement and restoration of the Spanish natural

heritage and biodiversity and includes the basic framework for the management of the Natura 2000 network. This is complemented by relevant regulations in each Autonomous Community. It also includes the international standards and recommendations that international environmental organizations, such as the Council of Europe or the Convention on Biological Diversity, have published. Spain is contributing the most to the Natura 2000 network among all European countries. The implementation of it in Spain means extending the protected area status to approximately 28% of the territory, a significant proportion. In Spain there are 1,863 Natura 2000 sites, of which 1,467 are Sites of Community Importance (LIC, Lugares de Importancia Comunitaria) and 644 are Special Protection Areas for Birds (ZEPA, Zonas Especiales de Protección para las Aves), covering 27.3% of Spanish territory; some LIC and ZEPA overlap.

Although Natura 2000 and other protected areas include a large proportion of HCV present in Spain (mainly HCV 1, 2 and 3), HCV are also present outside protected areas. In these cases, Law 42/2007 and the legislation of the HCV are a complementary safeguard against potential threats to HCV from forest management activities. At the operational level, Law 21/2015 on Forestry with its subsequent amendments and other detailed developments by the HCV provide an additional safeguard against threats to HCV from forest management activities through monitoring and control measures on the ground when forest products are marked and harvested. In terms of law enforcement, it is widely accepted among the experts that there is a high level of implementation of the above-mentioned legislation. HCV attributes are well identified and mapped within the area of assessment, as well as data from voluntary forest certification schemes, namely FSC and PEFC.

Spain has signed the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, a global treaty to protect wetlands which has paved the way for the development of targeted programs focused on their conservation, restoration, and sustainable management in order to protect them. Spain has the Strategic Plan for Wetlands 2030, which outlines the actions needed to address the factors driving loss and degradation. The general purpose of this Strategic Plan is to prevent, halt and reverse the loss and degradation of wetlands in Spain, helping to guarantee:

- (i) the maintenance of the habitats and species they support and their capacity to provide essential ecosystem services,
- (ii) to promote their recovery and
- (iii) to achieve their value and the recognition of the multiple benefits they provide.

It is a roadmap that identifies the measures that must be implemented urgently to systematically and continuously address the factors of loss and degradation of wetlands in the country. Determines priorities and goals, and specifies actions and timetables to achieve them. It also responds to Spain's obligations as a member of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the European Union (European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030), and is in line with the national strategic planning in the field of natural heritage, biodiversity, green infrastructure, ecological connectivity and restoration.

Areas occupied by peatlands in Spain are estimated to be around 350 km², i.e. barely 0,07% of the national territory. The EU Habitats Directive and the Natura 2000 network of protected areas are vital for saving Europe's peatlands. 33 000 km² of peatlands are already protected under this Directive across 8 700 Natura 2000 sites. Also, the European Commission's EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 calls for peatland restoration and their strict protection.

Grasslands in Spain involves about 22% of Spain's land mass. Based on satellite data, EU Grassland Watch provides grassland information in 3 689 Natura 2000 sites in 27 EU Member States, Spain included. Covering the period from 1994 until the present, the information in this portal exploits Landsat and, since 2016 Copernicus Sentinel 1 , and 2, images. Allows to explore grassland cover changes at land parcel, Natura 2000 site or regional levels.

Heathlands and shrubs cover about 4% and sparsely vegetated lands 1.5% of the EU land area. They are distributed across all the biogeographic regions of Europe from Mediterranean, including Spain, to boreal regions and lowlands to high altitudes.

By law, forest activities with certain characteristics and of a certain size must have an environmental impact report prior to the request for license activity. Environmental impacts of harvesting activities, like soil or water course damage, are well regulated in Spanish legislation. No reports on violations of this legislation were found. The assessment of environmental impacts of harvesting activities on the land or watercourses are well regulated in Spanish legislation. The environmental impact report for operations near water zones needs to be provided to the Forest Service when applying for the Authorization for Harvesting, otherwise it cannot be issued. The Autonomous Communities have their own personnel to carry out law enforcement. Within the Civil Guard there is also the SEPRONA unit (Nature Protection Service), which carries out the enforcement of environmental laws. Environmental impact assessment projects are required by Law 21/2013, of 9 December. It indicates the obligation to develop an environmental impact assessment for any reforestation area project greater than 50 ha. Environmental assessments do not act as licences but as a prior and binding requirement to obtain a certain authorisation or resolution.

Spain is one of the countries with the greatest biological diversity in the European Union due, among others, to factors such as its geographical position, its geological diversity, the great climatic, orographic and edaphic variability, its paleo biogeographical history or the existence of islands. Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity establishes the basic legal regime for the conservation, sustainable use, improvement and restoration of natural heritage and biodiversity with a series of instruments for knowledge and planning of natural heritage and biodiversity, such as the Spanish Inventory of Natural Heritage and Biodiversity , the Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity and the Guidelines for the Management of Natural Resources. Regarding the conservation of habitats and natural spaces, it incorporates Marine Protected Areas, and includes the provisions relating to the Natura 2000 European Ecological Network and Areas protected by international instruments. Regarding the conservation of wild biodiversity, the law

creates the List of Species under Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species , as well as the Spanish Catalogue of Invasive Alien Species . The protection of species in relation to inland hunting and fishing is also regulated and the Spanish Hunting and Fishing Inventory is established. In the same way, access to genetic resources from wild taxa and the distribution of benefits derived from their use are regulated. The law also creates the Fund for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, a co-financing instrument aimed at ensuring territorial cohesion and the achievement of the objectives of the law, the State Commission for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, as an advisory and cooperation body between the State and the autonomous communities, and the State Council for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, as a body for public participation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of natural heritage and biodiversity. In addition, in Spain there is a systematic legal framework for protection and a good level of governance linked to the degree of control by the forestry authority of activities in the natural environment.

Means of verification:

- Existing legal framework: laws, regulations and control bodies;
- Online maps;
- Forest Management Plans;
- Priority Classified Habitat and species catalogue;
- Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party as FSC and PEFC reports;
- Manual of good practices;
- Records of field inspections;
- Desk assessment of the harvesting areas specifically on biodiversity aspects - including wetlands, peatlands, grasslands and heathlands;
- Assessment at an operational level of measures designed to minimise impacts;
- Lists of protected and threatened species;
- Agreements/Contracts with suppliers.

Evidence reviewed:

- Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity:

http://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2007-21490

- Biodiversity Concept: <https://www.ecologistasenaccion.org/6296/biodiversidad-que-es-donde-seencuentra-y-por-que-es-importante/>

- Protected Spaces Spain:

<https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/temas/espaciosprotegidos/espacios-naturales-protegidos/>

- Nature Data Bank, Protected Areas Spain:

https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/banco-datos-naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto

- Map of Protected Areas Spain:

[https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/bancodatos-naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto\[pp_gal\]/0/](https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/servicios/bancodatos-naturaleza/informaciondisponible/ENP_Descargas.aspx#prettyPhoto[pp_gal]/0/)

- GIS layers National Storages: <https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/red-parques-nacionales/sig/>

- Royal Decree 139/2011 List of Wild Species under Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species:

<https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2011/BOE-A-2011-3582-consolidado.pdf>

- Current situation of the List of Wild Species under Special Protection Regime and the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species:

<https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/temas/conservacion-de-especies/especiesproteccion-especial/ce-protection-listing-situation.aspx>

- FSC National Risk Assessment for Spain, FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 ES_2018-09-11:

<https://members.fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/168>

- Study on wood control procedures and risk assessment in each Autonomous Community for the application of the Due Diligence System:

https://www.miteco.gob.es/es/biodiversidad/publicaciones/control_cortas_de_madera_espanya_2012_tcm30-152390.pdf

Andalucía:

- Network of Protected Areas of Andalusia (RENPA):

https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal/landing-page-%C3%ADndice/-/asset_publisher/zX2ouZa4r1Rf/content/mapa-actualizado-de-la-renpa/20151

- Natura 2000 Network:

<https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/medioambiente/portal/areastematicas/espacios-protegidos/espacios-protegidos-red-natura-2000>

- REDIAM RENPA viewer:

<http://www.ideandalucia.es/catalogo/inspire/srv/api/records/353b69b809d681056465df3eab6f7b882d28ec0e>

- Downloads of Environmental Information:

<https://portalrediam.cica.es/descargas>

Galicia:

- Protected Spaces:

http://cmaot.xunta.gal/secciontema/c/CMAOT_Consewacioncontent=Direccion_Xeral_Consewacion_Natureza/Espazos_protexidos/seccion.html&std=presentacion.html

- Nature Conservation Viewer:

<https://mapas.xunta.es/visores/conservaciondanatureza/>

- Galicia, forest exploitation viewer:

<http://mapas.xunta.gal/visores/aproveitamentos/>

- Cartography of Galicia: <https://www.sergas.es/Saude-publica/GIS-Cartografia-Galicia-formatovectorial-SHP?idioma=es>

Asturias:

- Regional Network of Protected Natural Areas of Asturias (RRENPA):

<https://medioambiente.asturias.es/general/-/categories/773614>

- Environment Viewer Asturias : <https://ideas.asturias.es/medio-ambiente>

- Asturias Environmental Network: <https://medioambiente.asturias.es>

Castilla y León:

- NETWORK OF PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS (RANP) CyL:

<https://medioambiente.jcyl.es/web/es/medio-natural/espacios-naturales.html>

- REN CyL map: <https://datosabiertos.jcyl.es/web/jcyl/set/es/medio-ambiente/la-red-espaciosnaturales-cyl/1284687312196>

- IDECYL REN CyL:

<https://idecyl.jcyl.es/geonetwork/srv/spa/catalog.search#/metadata/SPAGOB CYL MNADTSPSREN>

- CyL Natural Heritage: <https://patrimonionatural.org>

- Biodiversity strategy for 2030 – European Commission:

https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030_en

- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: <https://www.ramsar.org/>

- Spain Strategic Plan for Wetlands to 2030:

Plan Estratégico de Humedales a 2030:

https://www.miteco.gob.es/content/dam/miteco/es/biodiversidad/planes-y-estrategias/planestrategicodehumedalespublicacionoficial_tcm30-548431.pdf

- Directive - 92/43 - EN - Habitats Directive - EUR-Lex:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/1992/43/oj/eng>

- The Natura 2000 protected areas network — European Environment Agency:
<https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/biodiversity/natura-2000#:~:text=Natura%202000%20is%20a%20network%20of%20protected%20areas,Member%20States%2C%20both%20on%20land%20and%20at%20sea.>

- EU Grassland Watch: <https://ec.europa.eu/eu-grassland-watch/>

- Ecosystems and their services | Biodiversity Information System for Europe:

<https://biodiversity.europa.eu/europes-biodiversity/ecosystems>

- Europarc: <http://www.redeuroparc.org>

- Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity:
http://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2007-21490

- FSC-NRA-ES V1-1 National Risk Assessment For Spain:
<https://fsc.org/en/documentcentre/documents/resource/168>

- Cartography web visors: <https://sig.mapama.gob.es/geoportal/>
Galicia: <https://mapas.xunta.es/visores/conservaciondanatureza/>
<http://mapas.xunta.gal/visores/aproveitamentos/>

Andalucia:

<https://laboratoriolediam.cica.es/VisorReditam/>
<http://ws128.juntadeandalucia.es/agriculturaypesca/sigpac/index.xhtml>

Asturias: <http://sitpa.cartografia.asturias.es/Geoportal/extlayout.aspx?userId=FZr4XHq0PJA=&lang=es>

Castilla y León: <https://idecyl.jcyl.es/vcig/>

Risk designation:

Specified risk in areas where no forest management plan is available. For eucalyptus felling on private property with a continuous cutting surface of more than 50 hectares. The felling of eucalyptus trees on private properties on continuous upper surfaces are considered conflictive in terms of risk to biodiversity at 50 hectares, mostly in Andalusia.

Mitigation measures:

- BSL evaluates the impacts of its operations considering maintenance of soil quality and biodiversity, through the implementation of at least the following good practices:

- Where needed, considering the soil and groundwater level, only selective

- Not operate near-water areas.
 - Not operate in primary forests.
 - Not operate in old growth forests;
 - Harvesting of stumps and roots are avoided.
-
- Check that harvesting operations are authorized by the Forest Service and that are not subject to environmental impact assessments;
 - Best forest management practices during harvesting operations;
 - Procedures for conduct field Inspections;
 - Suppliers qualification;
 - Monitoring plan.

(vii) that installations producing biomass fuels from forest biomass, issue a statement of assurance, underpinned by company-level internal processes, for the purpose of the audits conducted pursuant to Article 30(3), that the forest biomass is not sourced from the lands referred to in point (vi).

At present date, there is no legal requirement in Spain for biomass producers to issue a statement of assurance or maintain internal procedures specifically for the audits conducted under Article 30(3), to verify that forest biomass is not sourced from the lands referred to in point (vi). However, existing national and regional laws and regulations on Forest and Environment, exclude the possibility of biomass being sourced from ecologically sensitive areas. In addition, regulations on traceability also support the transparency of the origin of input materials.

LULUCF criteria 29(7)

Type of Risk Assessment used:

Level A – proof at national or sub-national level

Level A risk assessment description:

SBP-endorsed REDII Level A risk assessment for Article 29(7) LULUCF