

# Sustainable Forestry

Safeguarding the growth of forest resources and biodiversity as well as mitigating and adapting to climate change are integral to sustainable forest management. Sustainable forestry consists of economic, ecological, social and cultural sustainability dimensions.

The cornerstones of Metsähallitus' forestry operations are natural resource planning and regional ecological planning, along with operational forest planning and guidelines. We comply with the Forest Act as well as with forest certification and forest management recommendations.

## Ecological sustainability

Ecological sustainability can be ensured by, for example, preserving the biodiversity of forest habitats and keeping waters clean.

In addition to economic timber production, Metsähallitus safeguards natural values in forests through high-quality environmental management. It starts with research-based guidelines and training, followed by planning and implementation. The environmental impacts of forestry are monitored regularly.



## Economic sustainability

Economic sustainability involves the profitable forest use, long-term preservation of forest vitality and productivity.

Metsähallitus' felling calculations are made in accordance with up-to-date data, updated regional ecological plans, restrictions imposed by other forms of land use and common policies agreed in natural resource planning.

## Social sustainability

Social sustainability includes ensuring the benefits that forests offer citizens and various actors today and tomorrow.

Social responsibility in Metsähallitus Forestry means reconciliation, responsible procurement, maintenance of forest roads, employment and safety at work.

It also means guidance on the management of hiking and tourist areas, local forests and other special areas.

## Societal benefits

We emphasise the societal benefits of forestry. This means taking biodiversity, recreational use, reindeer husbandry, Sámi culture and employment into account in forestry activities.

In connection with this, there are approximately 500,000 hectares of multiple-use forests outside of forestry activities or in restricted use.

## Cultural sustainability

Cultural sustainability involves an understanding of nature and human activities - the relationship between the forest, economy and culture.

Cultural heritage sites in state-owned, multiple-use forests have been systematically inventoried in accordance with the objectives of the National Forest Programme. Cultural heritage sites are preserved in forestry activities.

## Forest certification

All state-owned, multiple-use forests are PEFC certified.

The PEFC forest certification is based on an operating method (standards) agreed upon in extensive national and international co-operation as well as on the supervision of an external, independent party, i.e. regular audits.

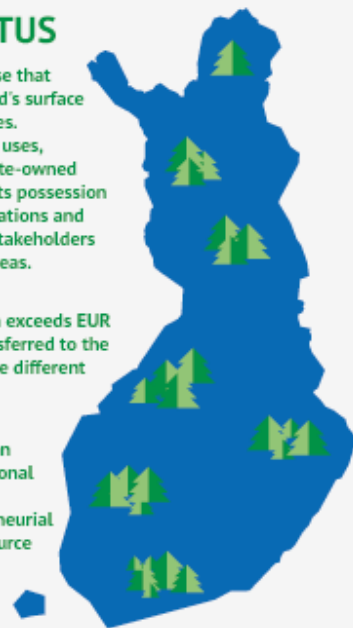


## METSÄHALLITUS

is a state-owned enterprise that manages a third of Finland's surface area - 12.5 million hectares. Metsähallitus sustainably uses, manages and protects state-owned land and water assets in its possession and reconciles the expectations and objectives of its owners, stakeholders and customers in these areas.

The business profit, which exceeds EUR 100 million a year, is transferred to the state and thus used for the different needs of Finnish society.

Metsähallitus also plays an important role in the regional economy. We enhance regional vitality, entrepreneurial diversity and natural resource industries.



## METSÄHALLITUS FORESTRY LTD

is a subsidiary owned by Metsähallitus. It manages commercial, multiple-use forests that are PEFC-certified. Metsähallitus Forestry Ltd is part of the bio and circular economy value chain.

The growth in multiple-use forests is approximately 13 million cubic metres per year. There are forestry operations on approximately one third of all state-owned land. Timber harvesting accounts for a couple per cent of the surface area in commercial forestry use each year.



13 000 000 m<sup>3</sup>

Approximately six million cubic metres of wood is harvested each year for bio-industrial and forest industry needs. Forest management accounts for just under 90 per cent of the annual turnover of Metsähallitus. The timber felled in Metsähallitus-managed forests accounts for approximately 8 per cent of the export revenue of the Finnish forest industry.

In addition to timber harvesting, other activities are carried out in forests - that is why we are talking about multiple-use forests. The extensive forest road network facilitates timber transports and serves the needs of recreational users, such as hunters, berry pickers and hikers. Multiple-use forests also provide a setting for other business activities, such as nature tourism and reindeer husbandry.

