FSC Forest Management Course
(FSC-PRO-20-004)
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Accredited to FSC-PRO-20-004

At Soil Association Certification Forestry, we offer a range of forest certification training services. So, whether you are a trainee auditor, a certificate holder, a certification consultant/researcher, or someone working for an organisation with an interest in forest certification (e.g. an NGO), we have an option designed for you.

We are able to tailor our training approach to your specific needs. Our full courses are blended in nature, consisting of both e-learning and in-person training — however, we can provide options that focus on using one learning style or the other based on what might work best for your situation, for example:

Using our online learning management system, we can cost effectively give refresher training to large numbers simultaneously.

Alternatively, we can provide in-person training for groups of 5 to 20, lasting between 1 and 10 days, depending on your requirements.

Our FSC training programme has been assessed and approved by ASI and we are one of a small number of approved training providers able to provide these courses worldwide. Those who successfully complete the full FSC Forest Management, Chain of Custody and Auditing to ISO 19011 courses will receive a valid training certificate as part of a crucial step towards becoming a qualified FSC auditor. These courses will also be of interest to certificate holders and other providers of certification services.

Our full range of FSC and PEFC courses are a systematic way to learn everything that an auditor or certificate holder will be required to know.

FSC Forest Management Training
FSC require all auditor candidates intending to qualify as auditors against FSC’s Forest Management scope to complete formal FSC Generic training and Forest Management Training. The course is provided as blended training with e-learning content and ‘audit real’ in-person training covering the following:

Generic FSC
- The history and objectives of FSC
- Structures and relationships within the FSC system relating to its main stakeholders (members, ASI, FSC, regional and national offices, certificate holders, license holders and certification bodies)
- FSC and other forestry certification schemes
- Roles and responsibilities in certification according to FSC’s normative documents
- Potential effects and impacts of certification
- Overview of FSC’s normative system and its structure
- The FSC dispute resolution management system
- FSC and timber legality legislation
- Conflict of interest definitions and requirements

Forest Management
- Overview of general requirements for FM application (quality management system, scope etc)
- National and interim national standards and the role of the international generic indicators (IGI’s)
- FSC’s stakeholder consultation process and its application
- The FM certification process and certification decision making
- Group certification of FM
- Certification of small and low-intensity managed forest
- Social requirements within certification
- Legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples, as addressed in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, national laws and indigenous laws
- Evaluation of high conservation values
- Controlled Wood evaluation and certification
- FSC’s pesticides policy and its implementation
- Non-timber forest products (NTFP)
- Forest certification for ecosystem services (ForCes)
- FM certification report writing

The e-learning takes 18-24 hours and the in-person training, including final assessment, is scheduled over 4 days.

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If you’d like to learn more about our courses or for all training course registrations, questions, and applications for discounts, please contact our Course Director, Clive Thomas:

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Please note all of our training is fully compliant with our independence as FSC and PEFC service providers. This means that, whilst our courses are based on our longstanding expertise as a certification body by way of training techniques, all our training is general in nature and based on standards and information that is available in the public domain. We do not, and cannot, provide company specific solutions or advise on specific certification requirements for your organisation.