**Appendix 2**

**Ecosystem services**

Forest ecosystems provide a variety of **ecosystem services** to society, and **forest managers** can maintain and/or enhance these services through management activities, thereby making a significant contribution to ensuring human health and well-being. This appendix is designed as a tool to help **forest managers** to identify the most significant **ecosystem services**, management objectives/indicators and activities in the **certified area**. **Forest manager** may include to this list also other **ecosystem services** that are provided in the **certified area**.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **The group of ecosystem services** | **Objectives** | **Management activities to achieve the objectives** | **Measurable indicators** | **Monitoring (frequency)** |
| **Provisioning functions** | To ensure the growth and quality improvement of wood and **non-wood forest resources**. | Maintain and/or increase the **certified area** managed in an environmentally sound, economically viable and socially responsible manner. | Certified area, ha | Annually or more often |
| To ensure vitality of forest stands and to limit spread of diseases. | Pre-commercial thinnings; Maintenance of forest drainage systems;  Measures for the protection of forest stands (biological and chemical methods);  Sanitary fellings. | ha | Annually or more often |
| **Regulating functions** | Mitigating flood risks. | Maintenance of forest drainage systems. | ha | Annually or more often |
| Ensuring water quality. | Forest areas that perform water resources protection functions.  Areas where no chemicals or other harmful substances are used.  Protective belts along watercourses and water bodies. | ha | Annually or more often |
| Protecting soil against erosion. | Protective belts along the Baltic Sea and the Riga Bay. | ha | Annually or more often |
| **Supporting functions** | Conservation of biological diversity. | Areas designated for nature protection.  Ecologically important forest and non-forest areas.  Felling sites where the structural elements characterising a natural forest are preserved. | ha | Annually or more often |
| Maintenance of genetic diversity. | Areas of genetic resources stands. | ha | Annually or more often |
| Maintaining CO2 sequestration potential.Carbon stocks in forest stands. | To ensure timely forest regeneration.  To evaluate the possibility of increasing the forest area by afforestation.  Forest planting with selected reproductive material. Pre-commercial thinnings. | ha | Annually or more often |
| Carbon stock in forest stands. | milj. CO2 t. | Annually or more often |
| Reduction of green-house gas emissions. | CO2 footprint. | Define according to the methodology. | Annually or more often |
| **Recreational functions** | Preserving cultural heritage objects. | Objects and places of cultural heritage objects managed in the territory. | number | Annually or more often |
| Providing recreation opportunities. | Equipped recreation areas. | number | Annually or more often |
| Areas significant for recreation. | ha | Annually or more often |
| Maintenance of forest roads. | km | Annually or more often |