

DER-STD-20-007_05 V1-1 Ecosystem Services Report access outside of the ES Registry

Normative reference	FSC-STD-20-007 V4-1, Annex 8 FSC-PRO-30-006 v2-1, clause 1.4
Scope	☒ Generic (applicable by all certificate holders) ☐ Specific (applicable only upon individual request and FSC confirmation)
Approval	27 August 2026
Effective date	27 August 2026
Period of validity	Until 30 November 2026
Certification Body	GFA Certification GmbH SGS Société Générale de Surveillance SA
Request by CB	GFA Certification and SGS request a derogation that permits them to continue on using the Template for Ecosystem Services Certification Document included in the FSC-PRO-30-006 v1-2. And permits them to bypass the use of the ES Registry (required as per clause 1.4 FSC-PRO-30-006 v2-1) for the audits in 2026, due to ongoing technical issues preventing GFA Certification from using the ESR. GFA Certification requests this derogation to temporarily exempt its certificate holders from the requirement to use the ESR. Any other requirement in FSC-PRO-30-006 v2-1 shall still apply.
Rationale	According to FSC-PRO-30-006 V2-1 clause 1.4, "When requesting the verification or validation of a proposed ES impact, The Organization shall submit to its certification body an Ecosystem Services Report (ESR) with completed part I, II and -if applicable –III of Annex A, using the template provided by FSC". Additionally, Annex A of FSC-PRO-30-006 V2-1 states that all content of the ecosystem services report will be made publicly available in the FSC Registry. However, since the ES Registry was released, GFA and SGS have not been able to successfully create users for its certificate holders in the ES Registry platform due to technical issues, preventing GFA and SGS from implementing FSC PRO-003-006 v2.1. GFA and SGS remain in ongoing communication with FSC regarding the resolution of this issue.
FSC Conclusion	After evaluating the issues with the ES Registry onboarding experienced by GFA and SGS, FSC acknowledges the obstacle that the lack of access to the ES Registry poses for the performance of evaluations of Ecosystem Services Reports following the requirements of <FSC-PRO-30-006 V2-1 Ecosystem Services Procedure: Impact Demonstration and Market Tools>, clause 1.4 and <FSC-STD-20-007 v4-1 Specific Requirements for Certification Bodies - Forest Management>, Annex 8.

Consequently, FSC has decided to grant to GFA and SGS an additional three month authorisation to bypass the usage of the ES Registry to access ES Reports and receive them via an offline document (such as a Word or PDF version). However, they may not use the template of FSC-PRO-30-006 v1-2 since the template does not reflect the updated requirements of version 2 of FSC-PRO-30-006

Once the technical difficulties preventing GFA and SGS staff to access the ES Registry are overcome, GFA and SGS shall use the ES Registry to confirm the evaluation decisions stemming from the aforementioned audits and to access the Ecosystem Services Reports of Certificate Holders.
