



# **Control Union Certifications BV Evaluation of BIFESA S.L. Compliance with the SBP Framework: Public Summary Report**

Second Surveillance Audit

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# Completed in accordance with the CB Public Summary Report Template Version 1.5

*For further information on the SBP Framework and to view the full set of documentation see [www.sbp-cert.org](http://www.sbp-cert.org)*

## *Document history*

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# Table of Contents

|          |                                                                |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Overview</b>                                                |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate</b>             |
| 2.1      | Description of the company                                     |
| 2.2      | Detailed description of the Chain of Custody system            |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Specific objective</b>                                      |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Evaluation process</b>                                      |
| 4.1      | Timing of evaluation activities                                |
| 4.2      | Description of evaluation activities                           |
| 4.3      | Sampling methodology                                           |
| 4.4      | CB stakeholder engagement                                      |
| 4.5      | Stakeholder feedback                                           |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Results</b>                                                 |
| 5.1      | Main strengths and weaknesses                                  |
| 5.2      | Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation                               |
| 5.3      | Collection and communication of data                           |
| 5.4      | Competency of involved personnel                               |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Review of company's risk assessments</b>                    |
| 6.1      | Overview of company's risk assessments and mitigation measures |
| 6.2      | Specified risk indicators and mitigation measures              |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Non-conformities and observations</b>                       |
| <b>8</b> | <b>Certification decision</b>                                  |

# 1 Overview

|                               |                                                  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Certification Body (CB) Name: | Control Union Certifications BV                  |
| Primary CB contact for SBP:   | Robin Rosendahl                                  |
| Primary CB contact email:     | rrosendahl@controlunion.com                      |
| Audit team leader:            | Lennart Holm                                     |
| Audit team members:           | -                                                |
| Name of the Company:          | BIFESA S.L.                                      |
| Company legal address:        | Calle Ricardo Velazquez 1-1°21003, Huelva, Spain |
| Company contact for SBP:      | Oliver Camacho                                   |
| Company contact email:        | administracion@bifesa.com                        |
| Company website:              | www.bifesa.com                                   |
| SBP Certificate Code:         | SBP-06-29                                        |
| Date of certificate issue:    | 02 Aug 2019                                      |
| Date of certificate expiry:   | 01 Aug 2024                                      |
| Audit closing meeting date:   | 11 Oct 2021                                      |
| Audit cycle:                  | Second Surveillance Audit                        |

## 2 Scope of the evaluation and SBP certificate

| Scope Item                                                                | Check all that apply to the Certificate Scope                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Change in scope (N/A for Assessments) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Primary Activity:</b>                                                  | Biomass Producer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
| <b>Approved Standards:</b>                                                | SBP Standard 1: Feedstock Compliance Standard; SBP Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock; SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody; SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data Instruction; Instruction Document 5E: Collection and Communication of Energy and Carbon Data 1.5 | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
| <b>Includes Supply Base Evaluation (SBE):</b>                             | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
| <b>Includes communication of Dynamic Batch Sustainability Data (DBSD)</b> | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
| <b>Includes Group Scheme</b>                                              | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
| <b>Products</b>                                                           | Chips                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/>              |

|                                                                                                                                                                                |                                               |                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Feedstock types:</b>                                                                                                                                                        | Primary                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Feedstock origin (countries):</b>                                                                                                                                           | Spain                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used:</b>                                                                                                                            | Not applicable                                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Public link:</b><br><a href="https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/">https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/risk-assessments/</a> |                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Chain of custody system implemented:</b>                                                                                                                                    | PEFC, FSC: PEFC/14-31-00027-CUC CU-COC-868701 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                | Transfer                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## 2.1 Description of the company

Bifesa SL is a biomass producer located in the city of Huelva and performing harvesting operations within the Huelva, Seville and Cadiz provinces of the Andalusia Autonomous Community. Bifesa SL is a 30 years old, vertically integrated, company specialised in the production and delivery of wood products for different users: roundwood for pulpmills, wood chips for biofuel producers. It has multidisciplinary staff of around 80 people and 7 – 8 permanent harvesting teams. The harvesting teams consist of 2 to 8 people, which are mainly performing harvesting by means of a harvester/forwarder with occasional use of manual felling. Other machinery used in forest operations are: skidders, forestry tractors and chipping machines. Bifesa SL has a team of engineers, responsible for the technical processes. They organize the harvesting, chipping and transportation processes. Bifesa SL is mainly engaged in thinnings, prunings, sanitary cuttings, selective fellings and final cuts of mature trees, as well as fire protection cuttings, and reforestation. In total, it harvests more than 50 000 tons of wood per year, of which around 30 000 tons is for biomass production. Regionally, Bifesa SL is considered a medium-sized enterprise. Bifesa SL is the second biggest company in the region. The biggest forest company in the region is producing biomass for its own energy plant. Bifesa is ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 certified and these systems include well-developed mitigation measures that are applicable to the scope of SBP certification as well. For instance, waste management system was developed in line with ISO 14001, complaint management was established within ISO 9001 and, as mentioned above, health and safety control system works effectively due to ISO 45001 certification system implemented. Bifesa harvest trees and produces chips as SBP Compliant through their SBE.

## 2.2 Detailed description of the Chain of Custody system

The BP holds PEFC and FSC Chain of Custody certificate with physical separation method or transfer system in the scope. All certified inputs are received as 100% PEFC certified or FSC 100%. Material not included in the certification scope is sourced and managed physically segregated. The CoC scope covers the purchase of roundwood in the forest, chipping and transport of biomass to be sold in the Spanish ports

detailed in the scope of the client. Purchased documentation (harvesting permit, origin, specie, etc.) is reviewed and validated by the BP prior to start the harvesting activities. Once the material is received in the ports, Bifesa double check all documentation from the supplier and the port to validate it. The biomass is stored in each port under the scope of their client.

### 3 Specific objective

The specific objective of this evaluation was to confirm that the Biomass Producer's management system is capable of ensuring that all requirements of specified SBP Standards are implemented across the entire scope of certification. The scope of this evaluation also covered the Supply Base Evaluation, and the mitigation measures describing herein.

The scope of the evaluation covered:

- Review of the BP's management procedures, including requirements designated in applicable SBP Standards and Instruction Documents;
- Review of the production processes, production site visit;
- Review of the updated Supply Base Report;
- Review of the risk assessment results;
- Review of SBP system control points, analysis of the existing FSC and PEFC CoC system;
- Evaluation of mitigation measures implemented for primary feedstock
- GHG data collection analysis
- Interviews with responsible staff;
- Review of the records

## 4 Evaluation process

### 4.1 Timing of evaluation activities

| <i>Audit Level of Effort (LoE)</i> |              |               |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Activity                           | Auditors     | Auditor hours |
| 1. Preparation                     | Lennart Holm | 6,0           |
| 2. On-site (excl. travel time)     | Lennart Holm | 16,0          |
| 3. Report writing                  | Lennart Holm | 8,0           |
| 4. Other                           | -            | 0,0           |

| <i>Audit Schedule</i>                                   |                                 |              |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Activity                                                | Location                        | Auditor name | Date/time        |
| <i>Activity Opening Meeting</i>                         | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/9.00 |
| <i>Agreement on Scope</i>                               | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/9.15 |
| <i>Suppliers and incoming raw material registration</i> | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/9.20 |
| <i>Chain of Custody registrations and</i>               | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/9.40 |

|                                                                            |                                 |              |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <i>ouput claims</i>                                                        |                                 |              |                   |
| <i>Health and safety, and training</i>                                     | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/10.15 |
| <i>Logo/trademark use</i>                                                  | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/10.30 |
| <i>GHG data registrations</i>                                              | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/10.45 |
| <i>Lunch</i>                                                               | -                               | -            | 01 Jun 2021/12.30 |
| <i>Supply Base report review</i>                                           | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/13.30 |
| <i>Supply Base Evaluation</i>                                              | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/15.00 |
| <i>Day's closing meeting</i>                                               | Skype call to the Bifesa office | Lennart Holm | 01 Jun 2021/18.00 |
| <i>Brief opening meeting</i>                                               | Bifesa, Huelva                  | Lennart Holm | 11 Oct 2021/8.00  |
| <i>Field verification of SBE, including visit to harvesting sitestions</i> | Charquito and Cartaga           | Lennart Holm | 11 Oct 2021/9.15  |
| <i>Closing Meeting</i>                                                     | Bifesa, Huelva                  | Lennart Holm | 11 Oct 2021/17.30 |

#### Auditor qualification

| Auditor name | Role | Qualification |
|--------------|------|---------------|
|--------------|------|---------------|

|              |              |                                                                                                                |
|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lennart Holm | Lead Auditor | Lead SBP, GGL, SDE+ and FSC and PEFC FM/COC auditor and successfully passed the SBP auditor training programme |
|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## 4.2 Description of evaluation activities

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this audit was split in two parts

The first part of the audit, June 1, 2021, consisted of an opening meeting, during which the scope was confirmed. The auditor also explained the methods to be employed during the audit. During the audit, all relevant requirements of the applicable SBP standard(s) were verified on compliance through the use of a report template and checklists. Interviews were made using skype. In this remote audit, Control Union used information and communication technology (ICT) to evaluate all requirements from the annual audit plan to the extent possible. The audit was conducted on the basis of virtual meetings / interviews with relevant people of the certificate holder, relevant documents and records, and other best available information.

The second part of the audit, October 11, 2021, included on-site visits and field inspection of forest properties in two areas. Control Union evaluated the BP compliance with the SBP standards and how risk from the risk assessment is implemented on the ground. Implementation of sampling for inspection of the feedstock suppliers included into Supply Base Evaluation.

Filed sites were:

Stop 1. Charquito e outros, province of Huelva.

Stop 2. Campo Comum Arriba, in Cartaga, province of Huelva.

The audit was completed by filling in the audit checklist and discussing the audit results. During this closing meeting it was also discussed how evidence can be submitted of corrective action with respect to non-conformities that were identified during the audit.

### Names and affiliations of people interviewed

|       |              |
|-------|--------------|
| Name: | Affiliation: |
|-------|--------------|

Remote audit:

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Simona Ferutta | Consultant |
|----------------|------------|

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Pedro Garcia | Bifesa |
|--------------|--------|

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Oliver Camacho | Bifesa |
|----------------|--------|

On-site audit:

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Simona Ferutta                 | Consultant |
| Pedro Garcia                   | Bifesa     |
| Oliver Camacho                 | Bifesa     |
| Rosa Maria Fernande Crespo     | Bifesa     |
| Maria Rosa Fernande Rebollo    | Bifesa     |
| Juan Luis Jauregualde          | Bifesa     |
| Manuel Velasquez               | Bifesa     |
| José António Rodriguez Arragas | Bifesa     |
| Juan Maria Rafallo Bautista    | Bifesa     |
| Pedro Martinez Garcia          | Bifesa     |

#### **Critical control points, summary**

| <i>Identified CCP</i>    | <i>Evaluation CCP</i>                                                                                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sourcing and input check | Check prior to sending the material by supplier and check upon request                                  |
| Volume control           | Bifesa provided CU with evidence of the quantity of woodchips produced at different harvest operations. |
| Labelling                | Trademark licence agreement signed, but no trademark use                                                |
| Biomass production       | Bifesa provided CU with evidence of the quantity of woodchips produced at different harvest operations. |

## **4.3 Sampling methodology**

During the preparation of the audit, a sample plan was developed based on the following criteria: - A review of documentation related to energy and carbon data for the chosen reporting period of the SAR. - An evaluation of DTS, inputs and outputs, invoices and transport documentation. - Interviews with staff. 2 FMUs were sampled where priority were given to active sites as well as sites where mitigation measures were implemented.

## **4.4 CB stakeholder engagement**

Due to changes in the SBE, and as part of NCs of 2020 audit, consultation with stakeholders' was conducted by Bifesa on November 18, 2020.

The process for stakeholder consultation consisted of sending direct email to different stakeholder categories: state institutions, local NGOs, authorities, government bodies, forest owners associations, academic and research institutions.

No comments received.

## 4.5 Stakeholder feedback

No comments received

## 5 Results

### 5.1 Main strengths and weaknesses

The audit of Bifesa demonstrated a good level of compliance with the required criteria of Standard 1, 2, 4 and 5. There was reasonable evidence provided to support compliance where a Non-Conformity was not detected.

The existence of a PEFC Chain of Custody system in combination with the SBP are considered a strength with respect to Bifesa's overall conformity with the relevant SBP standards.

Weaknesses: No weaknesses detected during this audit.

### 5.2 Rigour of Supply Base Evaluation

Bifesa embarked on the development of a detailed Supply Base Evaluation which includes a clear description of their Supply Base Area. The geographical scope of the SBE are the provinces of Huelva, Seville and Cadiz in the autonomous region of Andalucia. The SBE was developed in joint efforts between internal personnel and a qualified consultant, using credible data sources. Bifesa's management and monitoring systems are designed to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Risk was designated low for all core Indicators, with the exception of 8 Indicators which were designated as specified risk. Bifesa has developed additional controls and mitigation measures to manage these risks. After the risk assessment was completed, mitigation measures were proposed and consulted with stakeholders. The stakeholder consultation process involved consultations to key stakeholders with regard to information on SBP certification, SBP risk assessment and supply base report, by communicating this via electronic email. As no comments were received, Bifesa has implemented the mitigation measures for the specified risk indicators as initially proposed. The risk mitigation measures have been designed and implemented planned in cooperation with acknowledged experts and external consultants in relevant fields.

### 5.3 Collection and communication of data

The SBP Audit Report (SAR) on Energy and Carbon Data for Woodchips with Mobile Chipping for Biomass Producers producing woodchips using mobile facilities, Version 2.1 has been completed according to the standard and all data provided by the BP were verified for their consistency and accuracy. Bifesa do have in depth procedures for this and have supplied and communicated actual data, as well as provided a good overview of the requirements for data collection.

### 5.4 Competency of involved personnel

Internal staff members are involved in the SBP system management and implementation. All interviewed responsible staff demonstrated awareness of their responsibilities within SBP system. The key responsible person for developing the SBE system is an external consultant with experience in producing SBP systems. All involved personnel, including responsible staff at harvesting operations have demonstrated good knowledge in relevant fields (ex. safety and health measures at work) during the site visits. Relevant certificates and diplomas were presented during the audits. Qualification requirements for personnel involved in the SBE system are provided in documented procedures of the BP. In overall, auditors evaluate the competency of main responsible staff to be sufficient for implementing the SBP system with primary material sourced within the SBE. This has been based on interviews, review of qualification documents, training records and a set of procedures and documents that were composed for the SBP system as well as field observations during the audit. HCV, biodiversity has a follow up of the authorities with correspondence with Bifesa staff.

## 6 Review of company's risk assessments

### 6.1 Overview of company's risk assessments and mitigation measures

Control Union assessed the risk for each Indicator using the guidance in Section 11 of SBP Framework Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock.

The risk assessment has been performed with the use of a technical expert. Determining the risk rating the likely impact of a non-compliance together with the probability of that noncompliance arising was used. and evaluated risk at both regional and the individual forest.

The risk assessment identified 8 specified risk indicators, which need specific control systems or mitigations measures.

For mitigation measures, see below section 6.2

### 6.2 Specified risk indicators and mitigation measures

| Country/Area | Indicator                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Specified risk description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Mitigation measure                                                                                                              |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Spain        | 2.2.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is sourced from forests where there is appropriate assessment of impacts, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them. | Indicator 2.2.1 related to verify that feedstock is sourced from forests where there is appropriate assessment of impacts, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them . The risk related to this indicator is classified as specified in relation to the monitoring operations that are needed. | Bifesa has implemented a checking system and records are kept in Annex 4 of the Handbook (Monitoring activity in forest sites). |
| Spain        | 2.2.2 The BP has                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Indicator 2.2.2 for eucalyptus plantation in regards to clear cut                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Only thinnings are performed in forest sites.                                                                                   |

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       | implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is sourced from forests where management maintains or improves soil quality (CPET S5b)       | in the mountain areas is considered a specified risk, however, best forest management practices and specific measures to avoid this are always taken by Bifesa, for instance: the cut is done in counter lines avoiding the maximum slope, machinery movements are avoided in the mountain areas, cord off the residues in contour lines to reduce the streams produced by rain, remaining stumps on the harvesting site after re-planting and other, specific ones for the signal site. | <p>Best forest management practices are always applied.</p> <p>When harvesting eucalyptus on slopes these mitigation measures are applied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Work in the contour lines avoiding maximal slopes;</li> <li>o Cord off the residues in contour lines to reduce the streams produced by rain;</li> <li>o Avoid the use of machines in the steepest areas.</li> </ul> <p>Soil depletion in eucalyptus stands is counteracted applying the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o stumps left in the soil;</li> <li>o fertilization;</li> <li>o planting improved clones which require less nutrients.</li> </ul> |
| Spain | 2.2.3 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that key ecosystems and habitats are conserved or set aside in their natural state (CPET S8b). | Indicator 2.2.3 related to control systems and procedures to ensure that key ecosystems and habitats are conserved or set aside in their natural state (CPET S8b) is a specified risk. the risk related to this indicator is classified as specified in relation to the monitoring operations that are needed.                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>Manual of Good Environmental and Forestry Practices;</p> <p>technical personnel of Bifesa are responsible for collecting information and ensuring compliance, performing monitoring operations (Annex 4, Handbook).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Spain | 2.2.5 The BP has implemented                                                                                                                                                     | Indicator 2.2.5 related to appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Monitoring operations (annex 4, Handbook) are carried out by Bifesa                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|       |                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       | appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that the process of residue removal minimises harm to ecosystems.                                        | process of residue removal minimises harm to ecosystems is a specified risk since performing only thinnings does not automatically minimise harm to ecosystems.                                                                                                                                   | <p>during forest harvesting by professional personnel to ensure that minimal</p> <p>harm affects the ecosystem during residual removal.</p> <p>On the other side Bifesa has mandatory instruction by the Forest Service</p> <p>to remove residuals in order to prevent forest fires, which endanger the</p> <p>survive of all ecosystem in a hot region such as Andalucia.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Spain | 2.2.7 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that air quality is not adversely affected by forest management activities. | Indicator 2.2.7 related to appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that air quality is not adversely affected by forest management activities is a specified risk because technical personnel of Bifesa are responsible for collecting this information and ensuring compliance. | <p>Bifesa holds the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 certifications, and</p> <p>has an environmental policy with procedures implemented to minimise the</p> <p>emission of atmospheric pollutants.</p> <p>In forestry works three main sources of atmospheric pollution have been identified:</p> <p>1) Dust. To minimise the amount of dust produced by the works, it is necessary to proceed in moderation in those places where dust is generated.</p> <p>2) Combustion gases from machinery and vehicles. To minimise the</p> <p>emission of gasses, the engines must be kept perfectly maintained and</p> <p>switched off when not in use.</p> <p>3) Incineration of forest waste. Forest waste management methods such as</p> <p>shredding are used.</p> |

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|       |                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Bifesa also has a system implemented with the following elements in order</p> <p>to minimise the possible impacts of the operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual of good environmental practices, recommended conduct for its own workers and workers from subcontracted companies;</li> <li>• Manual of operating practices of the occupational risk prevention system;</li> <li>• Code of good environmental practices in Sustainable Forest Management.</li> </ul> <p>When Bifesa buys chips from other suppliers, under contract it obliges the supplier to provide its Manual of Good Environmental and Forestry Practices and to follow it and implement it in the work to be carried out.</p> <p>The technical personnel of Bifesa are responsible for collecting this information and ensuring compliance.</p> |
| Spain | 2.2.8 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that there is controlled and appropriate use of chemicals, and that Integrated pest management (IPM) is | Indicator 2.2.8 related to appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that there is controlled and appropriate use of chemicals, and that Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is implemented wherever possible in forest management activities (CPET S5c). The risk related to this indicator is classified as specified in relation to the procedures that have been implemented in the environmental certification. | <p>Bifesa holds the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 certifications and</p> <p>has an environmental policy with procedures implemented to minimise environmental impact.</p> <p>Bifesa has a system implemented with the following elements in order to</p> <p>minimize possible impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual of good environmental practices, recommended conduct</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|  |                                                                                  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p>implemented wherever possible in forest management activities (CPET S5c).</p> |  | <p>for its own workers and workers from subcontracted companies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual of operating practices of the occupational risk prevention system</li> <li>• Code of good environmental practices in Sustainable Forest Management</li> </ul> <p>When Bifesa buys chips from other suppliers, under contract it obliges the supplier to provide its Manual of Good Environmental and Forestry Practices and to follow it and implement it in the work to be carried out.</p> <p>The technical personnel of Bifesa are responsible for collecting this information and ensuring compliance.</p> <p>Under the present legislation (Royal Decree 1311/2012, of 14 September)</p> <p>Bifesa follows (and does not approve) inefficient use of pesticides against pine processionary moth (<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>). Aerial spraying of pesticides is forbidden, but in special cases can still be approved by the government.</p> <p>There has not been aerial spraying in the forest areas of importance to Bifesa in the past. In case this inefficient method is used in some forests in the future, the feedstock coming from these forest areas would be</p> |
|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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|       |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                    | excluded.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Spain | 2.4.2 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that natural processes, such as fires, pests and diseases are managed appropriately (CPET S7b). | Indicator 2.4.2 in relation to forest fires was considered a specified risk, since it is the Mediterranean Region. | <p>Fire mitigation measures are classified according to 2 periods:</p> <p>Ø 1st - Fall, Winter and Spring (Low fire risk)</p> <p>- The fire measures applied by Bifesa during this period are those required</p> <p>by legislation, that is, fire extinguishers in vehicles and machines, as well</p> <p>as having a telephone to call INFOCA in case of a fortuitous fire.</p> <p>- As in all the mountains there is a cutting permit, automatically the local</p> <p>“Rangers” authorities know the actions in the area and take some</p> <p>measures that are explained to the workers for each cutting area, with</p> <p>extraordinary risks such as scrubland dry or similar</p> <p>- However, Bifesa, through its manual of good forestry practices, takes the</p> <p>following extraordinary measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· After the work day the area is left clean of waste such as papers, oils, cans, etc.</li> <li>· When refuelling oil and diesel, chainsaws are always made in the same</li> </ul> <p>area enabled for this purpose using absorbent paper or similar so that no</p> <p>fuel falls in the forest area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Cutting works are always done from the perimeter of the forest towards</li> </ul> |

|  |  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|  |  |  | <p>the interior.</p> <p>Ø 2nd - In Summer (Fire risk)</p> <p>In addition to the measures taken during the rest of the year, there are taken special precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The administration itself limits forestry work from June 15 to September</li> </ul> <p>1, since historically it is the period with the greatest fire risk (Although sometimes this period can be extended until November 1 according to the weather and administration criteria)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Following the “Resolution of June 19, 2018 of the Director General of Management of the Natural Environment and Protected Areas, which approves preventive measures for the realization of forest work and exploitation in times of high danger of forest fires”, INFOCA must be notified 1 week in advance that work will continue in the mountains and for this purpose, a notification is presented to INFOCA for the forest in which Bifesa is going to work.</li> <li>· The works to be carried out are cutting, unloading, loading, chipping and transport of the chips.</li> <li>· Those works notified to INFOCA again have new limitations following the instructions mentioned in the resolution of June 19, 2018 of section 2, and</li> </ul> |
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|  |  | <p>will depend on the weather forecast for the day and the next day, for this purpose Bifesa consults the page of the State Meteorological Agency (AEMET) in its fire risk section:</p> <p><a href="http://www.aemet.es/es/eltiempo/prediccion/incendios">http://www.aemet.es/es/eltiempo/prediccion/incendios</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· This page shows the map of Spain with different colors and offers the prediction of fire risk for the current day as well as for the next day. The colors that appear are: cyan, green, yellow, orange and red:</li> <li>o Cyan (Low risk): authorized work can be done following the summer restrictions;</li> <li>o Green (Moderate risk): authorized work can be done following the summer restrictions;</li> <li>o Yellow (High risk): You can perform cutting, chipping and transport work;</li> <li>o Orange (Very high risk): Only works in loader area can be done (shearing, chipping, loading timber into trucks and transporting timber);</li> <li>o Red (Extreme risk): No work is allowed.</li> </ul> <p>Forest guards are pending and informed by the INFOCA of the forests in which they are working, so due to the risk of fires they are supervising the cuts in these areas and carry a map to know the daily risk of fires.</p> <p>If work is being carried out that, even if authorized, does not respect the</p> |
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|  |  |  | <p>indications of the AEMET, those works are immediately paralyzed and the company is fined.</p> <p>If the prediction changes, it is possible to resume the work and check the AEMET page daily in the summer months.</p> <p>In addition to these measures for these months of work Bifesa does the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The cutting works will always be carried out in the opposite direction to the favorable winds.</li> <li>· Every work crew is accompanied by a forest fire prevention / extinction team, consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Vehicle equipped with a 500 liter water tank with a motor pump</li> <li>o 16 liter fire extinguisher backpack. (per worker in the bush)</li> <li>o Water tank of 25 litres extra. (per worker in the bush)</li> <li>o Fire baits (per worker in the bush)</li> <li>o Responsible for firefighting, a person who is responsible for monitoring during work as well as up to 1 hour after completion of work.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Example: if 6 people are going to work cutting wood there will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The vehicle with a 500 litres water tank (actual capacity 1000 litres);</li> <li>o 6 fire extinguishers with 16 litres of water;</li> </ul> |
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|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>o 6 extra water tanks of 25 litres (150 litres);</p> <p>o 6 firefighters;</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Spain | <p>2.8.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that appropriate safeguards are put in place to protect the health and safety of forest workers (CPET S12).</p> | <p>Indicator 2.8.1 in relation to health and safety of forest workers is considered a specified risk related to the kind of jobs (forestry). Bifesa implements the following mitigation measures to reduce this risk:</p> | <p>Bifesa is ISO 45001 certified company.</p> <p>Ensure that all necessary documentation related to health, safety and social security are in place for every worker within own company:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Training records on health and safety risks;</li> <li>•Record of delivery of PPE to all workers.</li> </ul> <p>Provides obligational training for own forest workers;</p> <p>Provide a copy of best forest management practices to the forest workers;</p> <p>Provide all necessary PPE and protective equipment to every forest team;</p> <p>Supervise own harvesting operations for fulfilment of the health and safety rules. In case of violations, additional sanctions are implemented.</p> <p>If not possible to ensure that health and safety rules are fulfilled for the harvesting operation in the Supply Base, rejection of SBP-compliant claim for the feedstock coming from such operations.</p> |

# 7      **Non-conformities and observations**

N/A

## 8 Certification decision

| Based on the auditor's recommendation and the Certification Body's quality review, the following certification decision is taken: |                        |
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| Certification decision:                                                                                                           | Certification approved |
| Certification decision by (name of the person):                                                                                   | Andries Polinder       |
| Date of decision:                                                                                                                 | 20 Dec 2021            |
| Other comments:                                                                                                                   | N/A                    |