

# Benefits of FSC Quantified - An Analysis From the UK

## Abstract by WWF

Sources: Simon Jeffreys, *An Analysis of all Forest Management Certification Corrective Action Requests in the United Kingdom*. Tilhill Forestry Ltd. [stuart.goodall@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.goodall@forestry.gsi.gov.uk) January 2002; WWF UK January 2002; David Bills, *The UK Government and certification*. Excerpt from : *International Forestry Review Vol.3 (4e) December 2001*

“Certification has had a positive impact on forest management.” This is a key result of the UK study *An Analysis of all Forest Management Certification Corrective Action Requests in the United Kingdom* which demonstrates the benefits of certification against the FSC recognised UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS). “Certification in the UK has prompted managers to thoroughly evaluate how they manage their woodlands and this has led to improvements in a number of areas”, said Stuart Goodall, Head of the UKWAS Support Unit. The study investigated corrective action requests which identify improvements to be made by an applicant during the certification process. Simon Jeffreys of Tilhill Forestry Ltd. announced that a more detailed analysis will follow.

Another positive evaluation of the benefits of certification in the UK comes from David Bills, the Director General of the UK Forestry Commission. In his view certification is a useful tool for achieving Sustainable Forest Management. “As a result of the process, environmental and forestry groups have overcome barriers to co-operation and communication.(...)There is a far better understanding of each others concerns, and in place of dispute over the sustainability of UK forestry there is now a consensus and, importantly, a willingness amongst ENGOS to positively promote UK forestry as a sustainable activity.”

The UK is the first country in the world to have FSC certified all its state forests.