

Compile and maintain a forest or woodland inventory

Overview

This standard is about compiling and maintaining a forest or woodland inventory. This includes gathering data directly from the forest and woodlands. You should be able to recognise growing crops, quantify them and record them in a formal inventory.

You will need to be able to take appropriate measurements and apply forest and woodland mensuration techniques.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
3. define and subdivide the area under management, to identify logical units in order to compile an inventory
4. identify tree classifications relevant to the crop
5. identify the value of existing records in relation to the actual crop
6. decide the intensity of the survey required in order to compile an inventory based on the available information
7. compile and maintain a forest or woodland inventory to meet the given specification
8. follow the environmental good practice set by your organisation and the industry, and minimise environmental damage
9. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. how to use forest and woodland mensuration techniques
5. the information to be compiled in a forest or woodland inventory
6. the use of aerial photography in compiling a forest or woodland inventory
7. the different survey techniques, such as use of Global Information System (GIS) and maps
8. how to assess the risk of windthrow and the tools and techniques that are available for this
9. how to identify forest and woodland tree species
10. how to identify items of specific interest
11. the methods of recording a formal inventory
12. the reasons for carrying out inventories and how they are used
13. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Compile and maintain an inventory that describes:

- the area distribution by species
- age class
- stocking and yield class
- land use type
- any selective systems for continuous sustainable yield

Compile and maintain an inventory that meets the following specification:

- the crops to be recorded
- the format of the inventory
- the accuracy and clarity required by the survey and by the forest and woodland inventory
- the updating of stock maps
- the environmental and conservation requirements set by your organisation and by legislation
- record items of specific interest

Glossary

Windthrow:

The fall of a tree in a high wind, with the breakage of the outer roots, so that the tree is uprooted. There are three main modes of windthrow.

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