

UKWAS Review & Revision Plan & Timetable 2025-26 for PEFC

1. In summary: phases of the review & revision processes

1.1 Public announcement of review (19th May 2025)

Prior to the commencement of the review, revision and consultation process, the Steering Group shall make a public announcement of the beginning of a review process and invite standard users to submit feedback (B4.3). All relevant documents shall be posted on the website (B4.1, B4.3).

1.2 Review

The review process shall be taken forward by the Working Group:

- **Phase 1 Evidence gathering (June to September 2025):** this phase shall include collecting evidence to inform the review through an Interpretation Review (D3a), Technical Review (D3b), Standard Users' Feedback Review (D3c), Risk Review (D3d), Certification Schemes' Requirements Review (D3e).
- **Phase 2 Review of evidence (September 2025):** the Working Group shall review the evidence gathered and decide whether or not a revision is necessary; should the Working Group consider it necessary, it shall proceed with a revision. Should the Working Group consider that a revision is unnecessary, it shall recommend to the Steering Group that a revision is not needed. (B3.7, D1)

1.3 Public announcement on revision (17th November 2025)

The Steering Group shall publicly announce a decision on whether or not to undertake a revision of the standard (B4.3).

1.4 Revision & consultation

Should the Working Group consider it necessary, it shall proceed with the revision process:

- **Phase 1 (November 2025):** Working Group to prepare Initial Revision Draft (B5a)
- **Phase 2 (December 2025 to January 2026):** stakeholder consultation 1 (60 days) (B5a)
- **Phase 3 (February 2026):** Working Group to analyse stakeholder feedback and prepare Second Revision Draft including synopsis of stakeholder comments and explanation of proposed changes (B5b)

- **Phase 4 (March / April 2026):** stakeholder consultation 2 (60 days) (B5b)
- **Phase 5 (May 2026):** Working Group to analyse stakeholder feedback and prepare Pre-approval Draft including synopsis of stakeholder comments and explanation of proposed changes (B5) and remit to Steering Group (B3.8)

1.5 Approval of the Pre-approval Draft by Steering Group

(June 2026): Steering Group to consider Pre-approval Draft and, if thought fit, confirm the draft (B3.1, C4) and remit the finalised Pre-approval Draft to certification schemes (B5).

1.6 Certification scheme approval

(July 2026): certification scheme approval phase allowing minimum of 6 months for certification scheme national bodies to prepare documentation as necessary and submit to their international parent bodies for approval and to receive their approval.

1.7 Effective date for UKWAS 5.1

The 'effective date' is scheduled as **1 September 2026**.