

# Statistics Work Plan 2008-09

August 2008

This work plan for the year April 2008 – March 2009 has been developed to meet the needs of users of our statistics and services, including all parts of the Forestry Commission (FC), international organisations and external stakeholders. Industry stakeholders are consulted through the Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics (EGTTS) <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-5rabj3>.

## 1. National Statistics (NS) publications and related work

- Carry out surveys and data collection to cover UK timber industries (January to April), as agreed with Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics.
- Wood Production and Trade first release (May), as in 2007. Based on UK industry statistics and surveys and Overseas Trade Statistics.
- Timber Price Indices first release (May and November). Complete review of updating and alternative indices, publish proposed methodology and new indices.
- Woodland Area, Planting and Restocking first release (June), as in 2007.
- Forestry Facts & Figures (September), as in 2007.
- Forestry Statistics (September). Publication advanced one more month, to align with FFF.
- Maintain NS compliance plans and introduce new arrangements required for statistical independence (e.g. release pages accessible from publication hub).
- For Survey Control, advise all parts of FC on possible surveys, and prepare reports to obtain ministerial approval.
- Provide statistics for other government publications, PQs, researchers, public enquiries.

## 2. International returns

- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (provisional May, final September) for timber production and trade, as in 2007.
- Timber Committee Questionnaire (September) for timber production and trade forecasts, as in 2007.
- Joint Wood Energy Enquiry: improve coherence of data from energy and forestry statistics, for reporting September 2008.
- Integrated Environmental & Economic Accounts: new combined return in 2008.
- UK report for Global Forest Resources Assessment reporting – drafts to be submitted in 2008, finalised by March 2009.

## 3. Other statistics and indicators

- Develop internet (particularly through web-based Forestry Statistics) and intranet (including evidence base distilling relevant statistics and economic studies).
- UK Indicators of Sustainable Forestry: updates and review data availability for full range of indicators published in 2002, with the aim of final report in 2008.
- Support development of indicators for country forestry strategies (England, Scotland, Wales) including 2 new surveys for Scottish indicators.

## 4. Research

- Agree scope and commission market research companies for Public Opinion of Forestry surveys to be carried out in February to March 2009.
- Advise on National Inventory of Woodland, environmental monitoring and social and economic research.

## 5. Recreation statistics and monitoring

- Support on-site monitoring (All Forests, Quality of Experience, local surveys).
- Participate in collaborative household surveys in Scotland, England and Wales).

## 6. Statistical Services

- Support Human Resources Division and other parts of the FC by carrying out statistical analysis (e.g. for equality / diversity) and advising on surveys.

Comments on this work plan for 2008-09 or possible future work can be directed to the address below.

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