

# Statistics Work Plan 2013-14 - Outturn

This note reports on the activities of the Forestry Commission's Statistics team in 2013-14.

The work plan for 2013-14 was based on a total expected staff resource of 3.0 full-time equivalents (1 Statistician, 1 Assistant Statistician and 1 Administrative Support Officer); this corresponded with the actual staff resource over the year. A copy of the work plan is available at [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-7R4JSR](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-7R4JSR).

The following pages show the work plan for 2013-14 (including any amendments to take account of changes in requirements), along with a summary of progress achieved during the year.

The Statistics Work Plan for 2014-15 has now been produced and is available at [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-7R4JSR](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-7R4JSR).

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## 1. UK Official Statistics publications

Task	Action in 2013-14
Carry out surveys and data collection to cover UK timber industries (February to April), as agreed with Expert Group on Timber & Trade Statistics.	Administration of 2012 surveys completed in April 2013. Response rates were generally similar to the previous year. 2013 surveys issued in January 2014.
UK Wood Production and Trade (provisional figures) first release (May), as in 2012, based on UK industry statistics and surveys and Overseas Trade Statistics.	Published on due date.
Timber Price Indices first release (May and November), as in 2012.	Published on due dates.
Woodland Area, Planting and Restocking first release (June), as in 2012.	Published on due date.
Nursery Survey (September), as in 2012.	Published on due date.
Forestry Facts & Figures (September), as in 2012.	Published on due date.
Forestry Statistics (September), as in 2012.	Published on due date.
Produce quarterly releases on Woodland Carbon Code Statistics, in April, July, October and January, similar to the release issued in January 2013.	Published on due dates.
Analyse and report on 2013 Public Opinion of Forestry surveys in UK/England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.	Reports released in July 2013.
Methodology developments, including reviewing data availability.	Initial discussions with Defra on the development of plant and tree health statistics.  Participated in FC workshop on data and forestry issues in natural capital accounting.
Maintenance of Statistics pages on FC website (internet and intranet).	Completed, as required.

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## 2. Official Statistics for international organisations

Task	Action in 2013-14
Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (provisional May, final September) for timber production and trade, as in 2012.	Data were submitted to Eurostat on time.
Timber Committee Questionnaire (September) for timber production and trade forecasts, as in 2012.	Data were submitted to UNECE on time.
Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounts for Forestry (July) – annual economic data, as in 2012.	Data were submitted to Eurostat on time.
Forest Resources Assessment and the State of Europe's Forests – 4-5 yearly.	<p>Extensions to deadlines negotiated to enable reporting of NFI-based data where possible.</p> <p>Initial FRA return submitted in March 2014. SOEF return partially drafted for submission in April/ May 2014.</p>
Participate in international meetings on forestry statistics.	<p>Meetings attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE Working Party on Statistics, Economics &amp; Management (April 2013);</li> <li>• Eurostat Task Force on IEEAF (November 2013); and</li> <li>• Eurostat Working Group on Forestry Statistics (January 2014).</li> </ul>

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## 3. Compliance with standards

Task	Action in 2013-14
Develop and maintain statistics documentation to meet the requirements of UK Statistics Authority and GSS guidance.	Additional documentation produced on the sawmill survey and on UK wood production statistics, following completion of quality reviews in 2012-13.
Provide advice to others in FC to assist them to identify and develop other official statistics and to comply with the Code of Practice (includes National Forest Inventory, climate change, FC National Offices, Forest Research).	Advice provided, as required, on Official Statistics and the Code of Practice for National Forest Inventory and for indicators produced by FC National Offices.
Run a User Engagement Survey, analyse & report on the results, and produce an implementation plan setting out how we plan to address the issues identified.	Survey run in Autumn 2013 and report drafted. Report to be finalised and implementation plan developed in 2014-15.
Undertake annual statistical quality reviews, covering one survey and one output, similar to those undertaken in 2012-13.	Quality reviews on survey of round fencing manufacturers and on wood import and export statistics completed March 2014.
For Survey Control, advise all parts of FC on possible surveys, and prepare reports.	Advice provided as required and input provided to Government Statistical Service annual report on statistical surveys.
Liaise with other Government Departments on statistical issues.	Liaised with other Government Departments, as required, on a range of statistical issues (including statistical quality & international reporting requirements).

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## 4. Statistical services

Task	Action in 2013-14
Support development and reporting of indicators for country forestry strategies (England, Scotland, Wales).	Support provided to FC National Offices on request, including provision of data for selected indicators.
Support Forest Service in commissioning a Public Opinion of Forestry Survey in Northern Ireland	Survey commissioned on behalf of Forest Service in early 2014.
Participate in collaborative household surveys on recreation in Scotland and England.	Participated in steering groups for Scotland's People and Nature Survey, Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (England) and the Welsh Outdoor Recreation Survey.
Support on-site visitor monitoring, including All Forests Survey (Scotland) and local surveys.	Support provided on All Forests Survey (AFS2) in Scotland.  Visitor Survey Summary Report 2012 drafted. To be finalised in 2014-15.
Support Human Resources Division on diversity monitoring reporting.	Support provided on analysis of diversity questions from UK/ England Public Opinion of Forestry Survey 2013.
Support other parts of the FC and Natural Resources Wales/ Welsh Government by providing statistical advice and analysis (including Native Woodland Survey of Scotland).	Analysis of data undertaken for Native Woodland Survey of Scotland report.  Advice provided to National Offices and other parts of FC on a range of issues, including statistics on employment and Gross Value Added (GVA).
Advise on environmental monitoring and social and economic research (including work to improve statistics on wood energy).	Input provided to Defra/ FC England on woodland owners segmentation research.
Provide statistics for other government publications, PQs, researchers, public enquiries.	All requests completed.