

**ICILA Srl**  
**Via Braille, 5 – 20035 LISSONE (MI) , Italy**

**Public Certification Summary**  
**FSC – Certification**

**PUBLIC CERTIFICATION SUMMARY FOR THE “FOREST OF PIEGARO”**  
**Piegaro (PG), Umbria Region, Italy**

**October, 2002**

- **Certification body:** ICILA Srl – via Braille, 5 – 20035 Lissone (MI), Italy  
Tel. +39.039.465239 - fax: +39.039.465168  
www.icila.org - E-mail: info@icila.org
- **Client of the certification:** Selvamar s.s. sponsored by Margaritelli Italia Spa
- **Date of report:** October, 2002
- **Author of the report:** Francesca CAMBIAGGI, forester
- **Certification number** ICILA-FM-001
- **Date of evaluation visit:** 25, 26, 27 September 2002

### **Short description of enterprise management**

the *Forest of Piegaro* belongs to Margaritelli Family, from Perugia, and is managed by *Selvamar s.s.* enterprise, that designated and named a Forest Manager, responsible for all the matters concerning the management of the forest. *Selvamar s.s.* is a private company created and owned by Margaritelli family expressly and exclusively to manage the Forest of Piegaro, while Margaritelli Italia SpA is the joint-stock main company managing the industrial activities of the group. Margaritelli Italia SpA financially participates to the certification process. On this purpose, a partnership agreement between *Selvamar s.s.* and Margaritelli Italia Spa has been contracted.

The certification is requested by *Selvamar s.s.*, formally the client of the audit.

A Management Plan and an exhaustive documentation was prepared and finalised according to standards required by FSC in terms of technical, legal, administrative, social-economical and environmental aspects.

### **Reason of the awarding of the certification:**

ICILA has verified the adherence of the management of the "bosco di Piegaro" with the FSC Principle and Criteria and therefore is proud to award the certification of "good forest management".

This report is the basis for the certification decision of ICILA and is drafted according to the ICILA's Forest Management Certification Scheme, FSC accredited.

This report belongs to ICILA and *Selvamar s.s.* every reproduction of it or part of it have to be approved by ICILA or *Selvamar s.s.*

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FOREST OF PIEGARO - Piegaro (PG) - Umbria Region - Italy

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## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1.1 Name and contact information for the certified operation

- Forest enterprise: Selvamar s.s. c/o Margaritelli Italia spa  
Via Adriatica 109 - 06087 Ponte S. Giovanni (PG) – Italy
- Forest Manager: Mr Fernando MARGARITELLI
- Address: Piegaro (PG) – strada Pievaidda
- Tel/fax number: + 39.075.597211/+ 39.075.395348
- E-mail: Fernando@margaritelli.com

### 1.2 General background about the operation

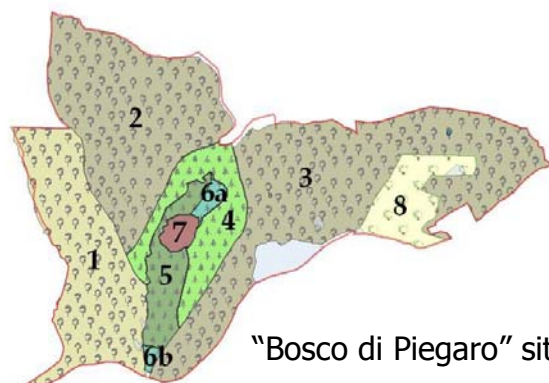
Selvamar s.s. is the forest enterprise in charge of the management of the Forest of Piegaro, whose ownership belongs to Margaritelli family. Selvamar s.s. requested the certification of Sustainable Forest Management of the Forest of Piegaro according to FSC standard, adapted to Italian Apennines' Forests.

A pre-certification visit was carried out in February 2002 and the global evaluation/results were positive (a pre-certification report is available).

### 1.3 Forest and management system

The Forest of Piegaro globally covers 159,7 ha; out of this total, 154,21 ha are interested by the Forest Management Plan, according to the following division:

- |               |          |  |
|---------------|----------|--|
| • section 1:  | 29,38 ha | coppice with standards of <i>Quercus cerris</i>                |
| • section 2:  | 38,50 ha | coppice with standards of <i>Quercus cerris</i>                |
| • section 3:  | 53,40 ha | coppice with standards of <i>Quercus cerris</i>                |
| • section 4:  | 12,76 ha | plantation of <i>Douglas</i>                                   |
| • section 5:  | 7,31 ha  | plantation of <i>Pinus silvestris</i>                          |
| • section 6a: | 1,18 ha  | plantation of <i>Pinus nigra</i>                               |
| • section 6b: | 0,48 ha  | plantation of <i>Pinus nigra</i>                               |
| • section 7:  | 1,75 ha  | high forest of <i>Quercus cerris</i>                           |
| • section 8:  | 9,45 ha  | new experimental plantation of productive broad-leaved species |



"Bosco di Piegaro" site map

The Forest of Piegaro is a productive forest. The coppice of *Quercus cerris* (with a 15 years rotation) represents the current silvicultural system implemented in Umbria as well as in the most of the Italian Apennines.

Part of the forest, once harvested, has been planted (1970-71) with conifers and a plot of 9,45 ha has been recently devoted (2000) to an experimental plantation of broad-leaved species for wood production, such as *Quercus petraea*, *Quercus pedunculata*, *Prunus avium*, ...

The **main objective** of the Forest Management Plan consists in the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity, without renouncing to economical aspects.

In fact, economical sustainability represents an essential issue to assure a long term management to the forest.

Assumed that the forest is a **productive forest**, however the management plan is based on a **multipurpose management approach**, as follows:

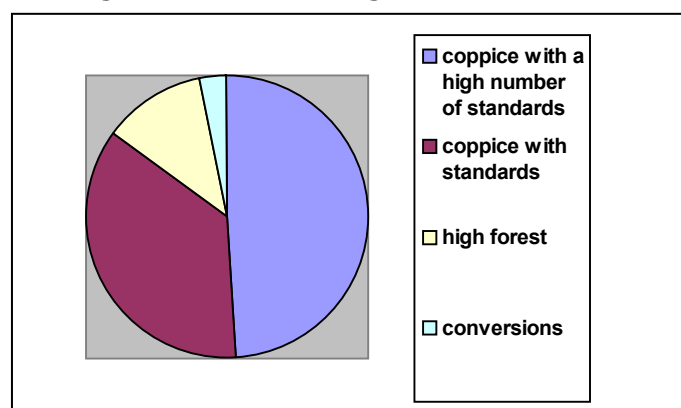
- ⇒ productive management approach
- ⇒ protective management approach
- ⇒ social-recreational management approach
- ⇒ experimental management approach

The validity of the plan is 10 years and the silvicultural treatments globally foresee to:

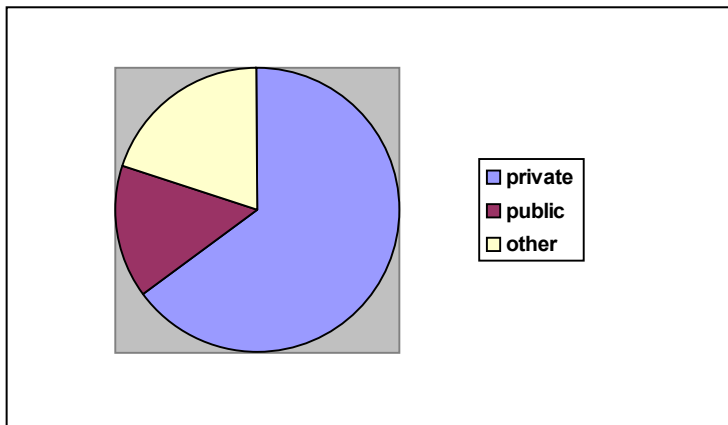
- ⇒ keep on coppicing the sections occupied by *Quercus cerris*,
- ⇒ protect the areas reserved for biodiversity conservation/enhancement;
- ⇒ enrich specific forest composition and enhance biodiversity within artificial plantation of conifers and the coppice of *Q. cerris*, by introducing indigenous broad-leaved species and protecting natural regeneration of other forestry species (*Sorbus torminalis*, *Sorbus domestica*, *Carpinus betulus*, *Prunus avium*, *Castanea sativa*, ...);
- ⇒ control the spread of *Robinia pseudoacacia* along gullies and clear cut areas.

#### 1.4 Environmental and socio-economic context

The Forest of Piegaro is representative of the regional landscape and environment. In Umbria around the 49% of the forest land is occupied by coppices with a high number of standards, as it is the case of the Forest of Piegaro. Based on Regional Forest Inventory (1991), silvicultural systems according to forest land occupation may be represented as follows:



As regards ownership of forest land, in Umbria the most of it is private and data may be represented as follows, according to available statistics (1992):



Forest management is obliged by law to ensure the maintenance of all the functions of the forest. Therefore, in addition to the economical attention to the forest, the ecological and social aspects are also ensured.

Under the social functions of the forest, the general rights to walk in the forest, to collect mushrooms, to hunt (aspect out of the control of the forest management) and to generally enjoy the forest, are respected.

Another social aspect is represented by the difficulty in all the Umbria Region to recruit forest workers.

No particular rare or endangered species lives in the area, apart from the red woodpecker. Safeguard of his habitat is assured by maintaining in the forest some dead standing trees for nesting and feeding purposes.

A relevant area of the forest, in terms of biodiversity, has been mapped and destined to be protected. This area includes natural and riparian vegetation along small streams and natural vegetation belts around conifer plantations' borders.

Around the 10% out of the total area is protected and left to **free evolution** or **controlled evolution**, when there is presence of *Robinia pseudoacacia* considered a weed species in terms of biodiversity.

### 1.5 Products produced

In Umbria, most of the forests are still exploited mainly to produce firewood that amounts to the 97.6% of the total wood production, with a commercial yield/ha varying between 600 ÷ 1000 q/ha.

As above mentioned, the silvicultural system currently used is the oak coppice with a high number of standards (> 150/ha), generally composed by *Quercus cerris*, with a 15 years rotation.

The commercial yield of the Forest of Piegaro amounts to 700-800 q/ha of firewood and this production will be maintained in the future.

It seems that in the short term, there will be new regional disposals about rotation period that will pass from current 15 years to 18 years. In this case yields will necessarily increase.

## 1.6 Chain of custody

The certification at the moment is only for forest management.

## 2. THE CERTIFICATION ASSESSMENT PROCESS

### 2.1 Assessment dates

- **24/9/02:** arrival in Perugia. Working dinner.
- **25/9/02:** Perugia. Office work. In depth discussions were done on the forest Management Plan as well as on all documentation prepared for certification process, with particular attention on thematic maps, management plan, procedures for environmental/social impacts evaluation, contracts, legal documents concerning ownership and management of the forest, ...
- **26/9/02:** Piegaro and Città della Pieve. Meetings and forest survey. Meetings were held with local office of Corpo Forestale dello Stato and with Mr S. Cagiotti, responsible for forest works in the Forest of Piegaro. Particular attention was paid on the forest regional laws and regulations, on comparison of field data (rate of harvesting, rate of growth, local forest yield, ...) and on safe of forest workers. A control was carried out on contracts, respect of current law on this matter, work organization, training... In the afternoon a field visit was done to control new experimental plantation plot and damages caused by the laying of underground gas pipes, to visit areas for biodiversity conservation, to monitor *Robinia pseudoacacia* spreading, to assess forest road system.
- **27/9/02:** Perugia. Meetings, office work, final discussion, preparation of the Evaluation Report and Work Sheet. Departure.

### 2.2 Audit team

<b>Auditor</b>	Francesca CAMBIAGGI, forester, ICILA inspector, with 20 years work experience as follows: 11 years national work experience, 9 years international work experience in Developing Countries (Africa) with United Nations Organization (F.A.O.). An updated copy of the CV is available from ICILA.
<b>Auditor</b>	Riccardo GIORDANO, environmental engineer, with 6 years work experience, ICILA staff member since 1998, responsible for Environmental and Ethical Certification and Manager for FSC Certification.
<b>Peer review</b>	Laura SECCO, FSC Italia – Padova
<b>Peer review</b>	Eliseo ANTONINI, freelance forester, qualified in Environmental Certification

### 2.3 Assessment process

According to evaluation dates and schedule, the certification process took 3 full days, as follows:

- one day for office work: documents assessment
- one day for forest survey: forest assessment and stakeholders consultation
- one day for office work: stakeholders consultation and final certification assessment. Preparation of official papers, such as Final Evaluation Report and Work Sheet.

Stakeholders meetings schedule:

- 26/09/2002: Mr G. BORDI, Inspector, Corpo Forestale dello Stato, Città della Pieve (PG).
- 26/09/2002: Mr S. CAGIOTTI, local forest enterprise responsible, Piegaro (PG).
- 27/09/2002: Mr M. MIGNINI, agronomist, consultant for Selvamar s.s, Perugia.

No particular comments were done, except the recommendation of a prompt replacement of dried/damaged seedlings and a better maintenance of the new experimental plantation.

On last July the 7<sup>th</sup>, an official meeting was planned and held in Perugia, whose main objective was to inform, on a participatory basis, all the concerned parties about the certification process of the Forest of Piegaro and possibly collect further useful information and comments on the matter.

## 2.4 Guidelines

the "ICILA's general standard and checklist for the assessment of forest or plantation management" have adapted to Italian Apennines (the general standard and its adaptation for the Apennines' forests are available from ICILA on request).

The checklist makes reference to the Regional guidance prepared for Italian Alps regions (prepared by the "Gruppo FSC-Italia" now on the way to be approved by FSC).

## 3. RESULTS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 3.1 General discussion of findings, conditions and recommendations of the certification

During the certification audit, a global and attentive evaluation has carried out. Results are described in the Evaluation Report and Work Sheet (sept.2002), as follows:

**Primary Non-Compliance (PNC) Table**

<b>1 PNC</b>	lack of a work organization chart where roles and responsibilities be clearly identified (ref. 2.1.3, 7.3.1., 10.1.3).	<b>Solved</b> (7/10/2002) It is suggested to timely name and appointed the concerned people.
<b>2 PNC</b>	lack of a monitoring system plan and monitoring procedures (ref. 8.1 all, 7.1.8, 7.3.6, 8.2 (8.2.2, 8.2.5), 8.5.1)	<b>Solved</b> (7/10/2002) It is suggested to include in the monitoring system forest workers' training too.
<b>3 PNC</b>	lack of a contractual scheme/model for forest enterprises where all clauses, responsibilities and technical aspects concerning forest operations are clearly defined on a contractual basis (ref. 5.3.2, 6.5b.1, 6.7.1, 7.3.3, 7.3.5).	<b>Solved</b> (14/10/2002)

**Secondary Non-Compliance (SNC) Table**

<b>4 SNC</b>	the concerned parts are not informed on communication System/procedures between them and Selvamar s.s. on different aspects related to forest management and certification process (needs, requests, information, recommendations, suggestions,...). (ref. 4.5.1)	<b>Solved</b> (7/10/2002) Application to be checked
<b>5 SNC</b>	no measure is adopted to previously identify in the field areas for biodiversity conservation, before implementing any forest activity. (ref. 6.2b.2).	<b>PENDING</b> To be checked at next audit

**Observations (O) Table**

<b>6 O</b>	an ordinary forest road system maintenance is recommended. (ref. 6.5a.2)	Next forest works implementation
<b>7 O</b>	it is recommended that results of the certification process and the concerned documentation be timely communicated/transmitted to the all concerned parts, with particular care of the institutional level (CFS, Regione, Comunità Montana, ...) (ref. 7.4.1)	soonest
<b>8 O</b>	it is recommended to specify who is in charge of Management Plan updating/revision. (ref. 7.2.1).	soonest

**3.1.1 Notable strengths of the forest management enterprise**

At general level, the more relevant "strong point" of the forest management enterprise consists mainly in the economical sustainability of the silvicultural approach and in the correct implementation of the forestry works.

In detail, as regards certification process, the notable strengths of the forest management enterprise is represented by its "in-field" management system that doesn't present any serious non-compliance with FSC standards.

Primary and secondary non-compliances as assessed during the audit may be easily solved by completing the required documents' integration.

**3.1.2 Main weaknesses of the forest management enterprise**

At general level, it may be noted that the silvicultural approach is highly oriented on the productive aspects: if on one hand this approach allows an economical sustainability of the management system, on the other hand may generate negative impacts on the environment, if mitigation measures are not implemented.

Forest workers receive only a basic training. It is difficult in all the Umbria Region to recruit forest workers. Most of them are immigrants without specific training in forest works, recruited on seasonal basis. As a consequence, forest enterprises have no interest to invest on them and improve/upgrade their professional skills.

For this reason, great attention should be paid to control quality in forest operations implementation.

This issue is considered a weak point but it is essentially due to the current trend of local/national labour market.

### 3.2 Certification decision

The Selvamar s.s. Forest Enterprise reached the level of compliance required from the FSC certification, provided that the primary non-compliance **n.3 (3PNC)** be timely solved (deadline October 2002).

The Environmental Certification Committee of ICILA judged the forest well managed, in adherence with FSC Principle and Criteria.

The certification has validity of **FIVE** years and its maintenance is submitted to periodical audits (at least annually programmed). The certification of the "Bosco di Piegaro" will be endorsed by FSC only after the FSC accreditation of ICILA for the forest management certification.

## 4. AUDITS

In the following table audits and different certification steps are summarised. The most recent audit supercedes and synthesises the others.

AUDIT	DATE	MAIN ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Pre-certification	1.2.2002	The main recommendation concerned the preparation of the Forest Management Plan as this document was not yet finalised. Other generic and specific recommendations regarded the need of finalising technical documents concerning: monitoring system, the work plan with a work organization chart, safe conditions of forest workers, methods of harvesting, contracts with forest enterprise implementing forest works.
Stakeholders (official consultation)	7.7.2002	Main issues come out from the consultation: <b>Conifers plantations:</b> need of restoring previous indigenous vegetation after selective thinnings and final cut of the plantations. <b>Contracts with forest enterprises:</b> contracts should include specific/detailed clauses concerning correct procedures to avoid damages during forest operations (e.g. logs felling and dragging out) to the soil, natural regeneration, other standing plants, road system, ... <b>Gas pipes:</b> damages caused by the laying of underground gas pipes (2002) within the new experimental plantation area. This area will be restored by planting indigenous tree species and providing suitable measures against soil erosion. Restoration's costs will be covered by National Gas Enterprise. <b>SIC (Sito di Interesse Comunitario) areas:</b> it was simply mentioned that there is a Regional proposal to include the Forest of Piegaro in its whole in a Regional SIC area. <b>Lymantria parasite:</b> comments were done on possible damages from this parasite. Investigations have been done on this subject and there is no danger at the moment as the parasite growth simply follows seasonal trend.
Certification	24-27.9.2002	Please see chapter 3. RESULTS
Stakeholders (unplanned meetings)	26-27.9.2002	Main objectives of these meetings were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to inform the local office of "Corpo Forestale di Stato" about the Management Plan of the Forest of Piegaro and the state of the art of the certification process;</li> <li>to meet the agronomist responsible for the new experimental plantation and for damages claim against National Gas Enterprise;</li> <li>to meet the responsible person of the forest enterprise that implemented forest works in the Forest of Piegaro until this year.</li> </ul>

		No particular comments were done, except the recommendation of a prompt replacement of dried/damaged seedlings and a better maintenance of the new experimental plantation.
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## 5. PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN AND MONITORING

Forest Management Plan, Monitoring Procedures and all the documentation related to the certification process are available in Selvamar s.s. and ICILA offices on request.

The contents of this document are checked and approved by:	
<p align="center"><b>ICILA S.r.l.</b>  Via Braille 5 – 20035 Lissone (MI) - Italy  Tel. +39-039465239 - fax. +39-039465168</p> <p>Lissone (MI), 11/10/02</p>	<p align="center">Audited Forest Organization:</p> <p>Place, date:</p>
<p align="center">Riccardo Giordano  FSC Certification Manager</p> <p>Signature</p>	<p>Signature</p>