

Forest Management Certification Reassessment State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit

09-11, November 2026

Introduction - NEPCon is conducting forest management reassessment of the State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit, located in Ukraine. The reassessment will be implemented 09-11, November 2026.

Scope of the Certification Assessment – The forest management certification reassessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of Assessment of State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit, using *FSC-STD-UKR-01.1-2024 V1-1*. To obtain a copy of the applicable Standard please contact NEPCon by telephone, email or on website listed below; standard may also be found at the link in the internet www.preferredbynature.org.

The forest under evaluation contains areas either identified as High Conservation Value Forests or where high conservation values, as defined by the FSC, are likely found. NEPCon evaluates the identification, management and protection of these High Conservation Values and solicits related comments from stakeholders.

Reassessment Team Composition: the reassessment team will be led by LEAD AUDITOR Oleksandr Topchii (Ukraine). The team members will be: auditors Vasyl Ivanchenko (Ukraine).

Reassessment Steps and Schedule – Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Reassessment organization – Preferred by Nature team will gather together in city Berezhany on 09 of November 2026.
- ◆ Field reassessments – The team will visit sites, managed by State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit, 09-12 November 2026.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding of State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit. This will include private interviews and discussions, and public stakeholder meetings.
- ◆ Public stakeholder meetings – A public stakeholder meeting will be held in State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit. Date, time, and location will be announced soon.
- ◆ Final reassessment briefing – Prior to departure the team will meet with State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske

Forestry Management Unit and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.

- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from the representatives of State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit and other general stakeholder comments, Preferred by Nature will reach a certification decision.

Your Input Sought. As a part of the forest certification reassessment process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the reassessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to reassessment, during reassessment, so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows.

1. Meet with a Preferred by Nature reassessment team member during or shortly after the reassessment.
2. Call and give comments to Olesya Kaspruk, Preferred by Nature staff person responsible for coordinating this certification reassessment as representative of Preferred by Nature in Ukraine. If Olesya Kaspruk is not in the office, please give your comments to Oleksandr Topchii.
3. Submit written comments by telephone, FAX or email to Olesya Kaspruk. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of assessing the State Specialized Forest Enterprise «Forests of Ukraine» Branch «Podilskyi Forest Office» Berezhanske Forestry Management Unit.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only to FSC and NEPCon staff.

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access NEPCon's Dispute Resolution Policy at www.preferredbynature.org

Contacting NEPCon

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