

FOREST CERTIFICATION

Island Center Forest is managed by the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks with the cooperative assistance of the Friends of Island Center Forest. This group of stakeholders played a key role in the acquisition of the forest and collaborated with King County staff in preparing the 2006 Site Management Guidelines ([Island Center Forest Site Management Guidelines](#)) which direct restoration of the diversity and complexity of this 363 acre forest which has been logged multiple times over the past 100 years.

In 2007 King County received a letter of support for Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®) certification of Island Center Forest (ICF) from the Friends of Island Center Forest. This letter requested that King County *“should take a leadership role in helping to support and promote green forestry and the green building industry. We also believe that having a 3rd party audit and certification of the Island Center Forest management will further build and maintain public trust”*.

Based on this letter and discussions with the [King County Rural Forest Commission](#) a decision was made in May 2009 to dually certify Island Center Forest under [FSC](#) and [American Tree Farm System](#) standards. These certification standards verify that the forest is grown to standards which demonstrate environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable management practices that promote responsible forestry. Under certified management the extraction of timber is a tool to help restore diversity and complexity. With the certification, logs can be sold as certified wood to certified mills and ultimately made into certified products that can be purchased by consumers.

This certification was undertaken as a pilot project to help determine the value of certification of other County forest land. There has been one forest practice sold but not completed since the certification. Therefore it is difficult to determine if certification has increased the economic value of forest products sold from Island Center Forest.

CERTIFICATES

American Tree Farm Certificate

Forest Stewardship Council Certificate