



# UPDATE Forest Certification



## TFL 48 – Canfor and BC Timber Sales – 2009 CSA Z809 Surveillance Audit Public Summary Report

During the summer of 2009, an audit team from KPMG Performance Registrar Inc. (KPMG PRI) carried out a surveillance audit of Canadian Forest Products Ltd. (Canfor) Chetwynd's and BC Timber Sales – Peace Liard Business Area's operations on Tree Farm Licence 48 (TFL 48) against selected requirements of the CSA Z809-02 sustainable forest management (SFM) system standard. This Certification Summary Report provides an overview of the audit process and KPMG's findings.

### Background

TFL 48 is located in northeast B.C. around the communities of Chetwynd, Hudson's Hope and Tumbler Ridge. The TFL encompasses just over 643,200 hectares and has an allowable annual harvest of approximately 466,000 cubic meters. The TFL 48 Defined Forest Area (DFA) has been certified to the CSA Z809 standard since October 31, 2002.

### Audit Scope

The 2009 surveillance audit was a limited scope assessment against selected elements of the CSA Z809 standard.

### The Audit

**Background** – The CSA Z809 standard requires annual surveillance audits by an accredited Registrar to assess the operation's continuing conformance with the requirements of the standard.

**Audit Team** – The audit was conducted by a 2 person audit team, both of whom are Registered Professional Foresters and certified sustainable forest management (SFM) and/or environmental management system (EMS) auditors

**Document Review** – An off-site document review was completed prior to the field audit in order to assess SFM system documentation (e.g., SFM Plan and associated values, objectives, indicators and targets, documentation pertaining to the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) process, etc.) and increase the efficiency of the field portion of the audit

**Field Audit** – The on-site field audit included interviews with a sample of staff, contractors and PAC members and examination of EMS and SFM system records, monitoring information and public involvement information. The team also conducted assessments of sample of field sites the Canfor's and BC Timber Sales planning, harvesting, silviculture, camps and road construction, maintenance and deactivation practices on TFL 48.





### Audit Objectives

The objective of the audit was to evaluate the sustainable forest management (SFM) systems employed on TFL 48 by Canfor – Chetwynd and BC Timber Sales – Peace Liard Business Area, their implementation, effectiveness and conformance with the requirements of CSA Z809.

### Audit Conclusions

The audit found that Canfor - Chetwynd's and BC Timber Sales – Peace Liard Business Area's SFM systems for Tree Farm Licence 48:

- Were in full conformance with the requirements of the CSA Z809 standard included within the scope of the audit, except where noted otherwise in this report;
- Continue to be effectively implemented, and;
- Are sufficient to systematically meet the commitments included within the organization's environmental and sustainable forest management policies, provided that the systems continue to be implemented and maintained as required.

As a result, a decision has been reached by the audit team to recommend that co-registrants Canfor - Chetwynd and BC Timber Sales – Peace Liard Business Area continue to be registered to the CSA Z809 standard within TFL 48.

### Good Practices

A number of good practices were noted during the 2009 audit. The following list highlights some of the examples noted:

- Despite the significant reduction in Canfor staffing levels associated with the current curtailment of operations, the TFL 48 SFM process continues to be effectively maintained in most respects.
- On Canfor opening T4155 operational staff conducted two pre-work meetings with the same contractor, one for summer conditions and a second for winter conditions.

### Follow-up on Findings from Previous Audits

At the time of this assessment there were no open non-conformities from previous audits.

### New Areas of Nonconformity

No new non-conformities were identified during the 2009 surveillance audit.

### Opportunities for Improvement

A total of 1 new opportunity for improvement was identified during the 2009 surveillance audit, as follows:

- The CSA Z809 standard requires that the organization and the public participation process ensure that interested parties have opportunities to work with the organization and interact to: (1) review the SFM plan, (2) design monitoring programs, evaluate results and recommend improvements, and (3) discuss and resolve any issues relevant to SFM on the DFA. However, it is not clear that the current frequency of PAC meetings is sufficient to adequately address these requirements.

#### 2009 CSA-SFM Surveillance Audit Findings

Major nonconformities	0
Minor nonconformities	0
Opportunities for improvement	1

#### Types of audit findings

##### Major nonconformities:

Are pervasive or critical to the achievement of the SFM Objectives.

Major nonconformities must be addressed immediately or certification cannot be achieved / maintained.

##### Minor nonconformities:

Are isolated incidents that are non-critical to the achievement of SFM Objectives.

All nonconformities require the development of a corrective action plan within 30 days of the audit, which must be fully implemented by the operation within 3 months.

##### Opportunities for Improvement:

Are not nonconformities but are comments on specific areas of the SFM System where improvements can be made.



### Corrective Action Plans

Organizations that are certified to the CSA Z809 standard are required to develop and implement corrective action plans that are designed to address the root cause(s) of all non-conformities identified during external audits. These are then reviewed and approved by the organization's Registrar. Follow-up on the implementation and effectiveness of these action plans is completed during the next surveillance audit.



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