

Forest DATE Certification



Canadian Forest Products Chetwynd TFL 48

TFL 48 is located in northeast B.C. around the communities of Chetwynd, Hudson's Hope and Tumbler Ridge. As part of Canfor's commitment to sustainable forest management and forest certification, an audit team from KPMG Performance Registrar Inc. completed the following assessments of Canfor's Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 48 in July 2003:

- Periodic assessment of TFL 48 to the Canadian Standards Association's standard for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Systems (CAN/CSA Z809-96); and
- Field assessment of the TFL as part of a corporate-wide periodic assessment to the ISO 14001 standard for Environmental Management Systems (EMS).

The audit determined that both the SFM System and EMS in use on the TFL continue to meet the requirements of CSA Z809 and ISO 14001 and are, overall, well implemented.

The combination of ISO 14001 and CSA Z809 registration demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainable forest management on the TFL and is a significant achievement for Canfor. The assessment applies to a defined forest area (DFA) of 643,500 hectares with an allowable annual harvest of 580,000 cubic meters.

Background

- The ISO 14001 and CSA Z809 standards require regular audits by an accredited Registrar to assess continuing conformance with the standards and the implementation of action plans related to previous assessments.
- A team of two auditors conducted the ISO 14001 and CSA Z809 assessments in July 2003.
- The team conducted interviews with staff, contractors and stakeholders and examined EMS and SFM System records, monitoring information and public involvement information.
- The team conducted field assessments of 35 sites during the 2-day audit to assess the operation's planning, harvesting, silviculture, road construction, maintenance and deactivation, as well as fuel and facilities management.



Noteworthy comments

- The SFM system has been effectively implemented. Continuous improvement was noted in operational planning, SFM objectives and field practices. No nonconformances were identified during the audit.
- The operation has effectively addressed all opportunities for improvement identified during the previous assessment.
- The operation is fulfilling its commitment to coordinate forest management planning with BC Timber Sales by developing operating guidelines with BCTS to ensure operational planning is consistent with the SFM indicators.
- The operation continues to work diligently to fine tune the SFM Plan (e.g., improvements to indicators concerning wildlife and water).
- The operation has implemented an EMS project review to assess and minimize the risks associated with the harvesting, transportation, storage and milling of mountain pine beetle-infested timber.
- The operation's commitment to enhanced public involvement opportunities continues through its public advisory committee. Interviews with committee members indicated strong, positive support for this established process.
- Habitat mapping and assessments required under the SFM Plan have now been completed by the operation.
- Overall, operator awareness of block-specific issues was found to be very high.
- A stream crossing quality index has been developed and implemented, providing a structured approach for assessing and managing the risks associated with sediment delivery into streams.



Irregular shelterwood systems are commonly applied when managing high elevation uneven-aged Engelmann spruce - subalpine fir stands.

| July, 2003 CSA Z809 Periodic Assessment | |
|--|---|
| Major nonconformances | 0 |
| Minor nonconformances | 0 |
| Opportunities for improvement | 2 |

Key Areas of Nonconformance

- There were no areas of major or minor nonconformance identified during the periodic assessment audit indicating overall sound SFM planning, a high level of field performance and a strong commitment to continuous improvement.

Key Opportunities for improvement

- Our assessment indicated that objectives have generally been updated and fine tuned in consideration of new information as required by CSA Z809. However, changing economic circumstances and mill log quality specifications have led to the objective relating to Timber Harvesting Utilization Standards not being met for a second year. There is a clear opportunity to reconsider the specific nature of this objective to reflect the revised expectations of operations in this regard.
- CSA Z809 requires records to be maintained of field assessments. On one cutblock however, two low gradient streams considered non-fish bearing on the basis of electroshocking did not have the required back-up field assessment documentation to support the absence of fish.

Major nonconformances:

- Are pervasive or critical to the achievement of the EMS/SFM Objectives.

Minor nonconformances:

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

All nonconformances require an action plan within 30 days and must be addressed by the operation.

Major nonconformances must be addressed immediately or registration cannot be achieved/maintained.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Are not nonconformances but are comments on specific areas of the EMS or SFM where improvements can be made.

Through KPMG PRI, KPMG's Vancouver based forestry specialist group is accredited to register forest companies to ISO 14001, CSA-SFM and AF&PA SFI certification standards. The group is led by Mike Alexander and consists of a highly qualified team of professional foresters and industry experts.

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