



Forest *Certification*

Canadian Forest Products Grande Prairie FMA #9900037

As part of Canfor's commitment to sustainable forest management and independent forest certification, an audit team from KPMG Performance Registrar Inc. completed the following assessments of Canfor's Grande Prairie FMA in July 2004:

- Periodic assessment of Grande Prairie Forest Management Agreement #9900037 (FMA) to the Canadian Standards Association's standard for Sustainable Forest Management Systems (CSA-SFM);
- Field assessment of the FMA as part of a corporate-wide periodic assessment to the ISO 14001 standard for Environmental Management Systems (EMS); and
- The audit determined that the operation's sustainable forest management system continues to meet the CSA-SFM standard and the Environmental Management System in use on the FMA continues to meet the ISO 14001 EMS standard.

The combination of ISO 14001 and CSA-SFM registration demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainable forest management on the FMA and is a significant achievement for Canfor. The combined registration on the FMA applies to a defined forest area (DFA) of 649 000 hectares with an allowable annual harvest of 1 082 100 cubic meters (630 400 m³ coniferous and 451 700 m³ deciduous).

Background

- The ISO 14001 and CSA Z809 standards require regular assessments 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 interviews with staff and contractors and examined EMS and SFM system records, monitoring information and public involvement information.
- The team conducted field assessments of 30 sites to assess the operation's planning, harvesting, silviculture, camp maintenance and road construction, maintenance and deactivation practices.



Noteworthy comments

- Our periodic assessment indicates that the SFM and EMS systems continue to be effectively implemented.
- The format of the Sustainable Forest Management Annual Report was found to have been changed to significantly improve its clarity and usefulness.
- The Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) now forms the basis of the development of the new Detailed Forest Management Plan (DFMP), which has effectively incorporated SFMP commitments into the regulatory framework of the DFMP.
- The operation continues to provide good public access to its Sustainable Forest Management plans and annual reports through the corporate website.



Key Areas of Nonconformance

- The field audit identified one incident where the drainage structures prescribed for a recently constructed road were inadequate to properly drain surface water from the road. Consequently there was significant road surface rutting and a road grade cut failure resulting in siltation of an ephemeral stream.
- Spill response procedures were not posted on the large diesel and gas tanks at Camp 11 as required by the operation's procedures. In addition, an outdated version of the Fuel Management Standard was being referenced at Camp 11.
- The operation's procedures require a final audit report to be produced within two weeks following the audit exit meeting. However, a final audit report for the SFM internal audit conducted in June 2004 was not produced until a month following the audit.

Key Opportunities for Improvement

- Although the internal EMS/SFM audit of the operation generally met EMS and SFM requirements, the audit did not include a significant field component (the field component was restricted to testing knowledge in the field of a brushing crew). Consequently, the audit appears to have been of limited utility in helping the operation to assess the effectiveness of EMS implementation on the ground (although the audit results have helped the operation to identify a number of EMS elements requiring revision).



The SFM Plan has effectively incorporated SFMP commitments (such as protecting such rare physical environments located in the FMA as the Parabolic Sand Dunes) into the regulatory framework of the DFMP.

Through KPMG QRI, KPMGs Vancouver based forestry specialist group registers forest companies to ISO 14001, CSA-SFM and AF&PA SFI certification standards. The group is lead by Mike Alexander and consists of a highly qualified team of professional foresters and industry experts.

Contacts:

Mike Alexander, RPF, CEA (604) 691-3401
 Chris Ridley-Thomas, RPBio, CEA (604) 691-3088
 David Bebb, RPF, CEA (604) 691-3451

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The operation has ensured that its EMS and SFM continue to be effective by, for example, periodically reviewing its established procedures for appropriateness (e.g., by testing its emergency preparedness and response procedures through the staging of mock drills) and revising them where necessary.

CSA-SFM and ISO 14001 Periodic Assessments

Major nonconformances	0
Minor nonconformances	3
Opportunities for improvement	1

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 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 can not be achieved/maintained.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- Are not nonconformances but are comments on specific areas where improvements can be made.