

UPDATE Forest Certification



Canadian Forest Products Prince George TFL 30

In December 2001, an audit team from KPMG Performance Registrar Inc. carried out a periodic assessment audit of Canfor's Prince George Region woodlands operations. The audit determined that the Environmental Management System (EMS) in use at Canfor's Prince George Region continues to meet the ISO 14001 EMS standard. Additionally, the audit determined that the Sustainable Forest Management System in use at Canfor's operations on Tree Farm Licence 30 (TFL) continues to meet the Canadian Standards Association's standard for Sustainable Forest Management Systems (CSA-SFM).

The combination of ISO 14001 and CSA-SFM registration provides a robust framework for implementing and monitoring a sustainable forest management plan on the TFL. The framework of criteria and indicators used in the plan are based on the criteria and critical elements for sustainable forest management developed by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers and embodied in the CSA-SFM Standard. The specific indicators selected were developed through a public involvement process using a multi-interest Public Advisory Group (PAG).

This Certification Update outlines the process used by KPMG auditors during the recent periodic assessment and summarizes KPMG's findings.



Background

- Both the ISO 14001 and CSA-SFM standards require regular audits by the Registrar to assess continuing conformance with the standards.
- A team of five auditors conducted the recent assessment over a five-day period for the Prince George Region.
- The team conducted interviews with staff and contractors, examined EMS records, monitoring information and public involvement information.
- The team conducted a field assessment of conformance and assessed the accuracy of monitoring records.



Current practices lead to significantly higher retention of trees during harvesting.

Findings – Tree Farm Licence 30

Noteworthy comments

- Field foreman and equipment operators exhibited a high level of environmental awareness and awareness of site-specific issues during interviews in the field.
- The recent internal EMS audit conducted by Canfor was comprehensive and thorough and the operation has made good progress on its action plans in response to the audit findings.
- The operation has addressed all nonconformances identified during the implementation assessment and has made good progress toward addressing the opportunities for improvement.
- The operation has upgraded its fuel storage facilities at the Herrick camp to meet its new Fuel Management Standards.

Key areas of minor nonconformance

- The audit found that in two incidents, equipment operators were not fully aware of the contents of the emergency response procedures and the types of emergencies addressed in those procedures.
- In two incidents, equipment operators were identified as not having copies of site maps as required by the work instructions, however, the operators were aware of the site-specific issues and other operators had copies of the site maps.



Equipment operators and foreman continue to show a high level of awareness of environmental and site-specific issues during road and bridge construction on TFL 30.

December, 2001 ISO 14001 and CSA-SFM Periodic Assessments	
Major nonconformances	0
Minor nonconformances	2
Opportunities for improvement	0

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 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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