

Forest Certification



Canadian Forest Products Chetwynd TFL 48

Canfor's Peace Region is currently registered under the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (EMS) standard. Additionally, TFL 48 is also registered under the Canadian Standards Association's Sustainable Forest Management System (CSA-SFM) standard.

In January 2001, an audit team from KPMG Quality Registrar Inc. carried out a periodic assessment of both the ISO 14001 and CSA-SFM registrations. This Certification Update summarizes the process and KPMG's findings.

Background

- TFL 48 was registered to ISO 14001 in October, 1999 and CSA-SFM in July, 2000. The TFL is one of Canfor's three SFM registered area-based tenures.
- The implementation of an **ISO 14001** based EMS assures the public that Canfor is operating under the objectives of continually improving environmental performance and reducing environmental impact.
- The implementation of a **CSA SFM** System assures the public that Canfor is conducting sustainable forest management on a defined forest area to the standards defined by the CSA. These standards are based on the criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management developed by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers. A public participation process is also an important requirement of the CSA System.



The audit

- *Initial Registration Audit* – The initial audit included a complete assessment of operations on Canfor's TFL 48. The assessment consisted of an exhaustive EMS document review and a full-scope field audit.
- *Periodic Assessments* – These are used to monitor the continued conformance of operations to certification standards. They include a sample of roughly one-third of the certification elements.
- The January 2001 Periodic Assessment focused primarily on field practices, including the following elements:
 - training and awareness;
 - EMS documentation;
 - operational controls and implementation (functional work instructions and operational plans);
 - emergency preparedness and response; and,
 - internal monitoring, measurement and assessment.



The audit included both ground and helicopter based field inspections of recent activities.



Findings – TFL 48

Noteworthy comments

- No nonconformances were identified during the January, 2001 Periodic Assessment.
- Integration of SFM Objectives into the operation’s environmental management programmes is ongoing.
- Positive progress continues to be made toward SFM Objectives such as habitat modeling.
- Public involvement continues to occur through the Public Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC environmental representative observed part of the field work during the periodic assessment.
- Impressive tracking and management efficiencies are being developed through the implementation of Genus.
- Good field practices were observed and the general knowledge of the EMS by contractors was high, particularly with regards to:
 - pre-works and logging plan maps;
 - training of new operators; and,
 - camps and fueling facilities.

Key opportunities for improvement

- SFM commitments with respect to backcountry access levels should be further defined and discussed with the Public Advisory Committee.
- In isolated incidences, older, lower quality maps were being used by on-site operators.
- There are alternate versions of the Emergency Response Plan in the field manual, field operations manual and on the back of logging plan maps. This can be confusing to operators and leads to the potential dilution of important information.



Field operators showed a good awareness of Canfor’s procedures in all aspects of forest operations.

January, 2001 ISO 14001 and CSA-SFM Periodic Assessments	
Major nonconformances	0
Minor nonconformances	0
Opportunities for improvement	5

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 of the EMS where improvements can be made.

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