



2014 SFI Public Summary Report

Capacity Forest Management Ltd. Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Standard [2010-2014]

Project Scope and Objectives

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) completed a SFI Surveillance Assessment on the Capacity Forest Management Ltd. (CFML) SFI Group (the Group). CFML is a multi-site registration and the forestry activities of the Group are managed by CFML from its corporate office in Campbell River, BC. In addition to the head office, six of the thirteen First Nations licensees were sampled in 2014.

The primary objective of the assessment was to assess CFML's SFI management system and to evaluate CFML's implementation of the SFI Standard in the field. The Lead Assessor was Dan O'Brien, EMS(LA).

Indicators

All of the indicators in the SFI Standard were within the scope of the assessment, except for Objectives 8-13, since the Group does not procure fiber. There were no substitute indicators.

Assessment Process

The assessment team conducted interviews and reviewed appropriate documentation to assess policies and procedures, and tested implementation of SFI program requirements. The report was dated January 12, 2014.

Summary of Conformance and Good Management Practices

Forest management planning is being performed at an appropriate level for the various operations and licensees in the Group through CFML's participation in the relevant British Columbia Provincial government Timber Supply Reviews. The forest inventory is also updated by the Provincial government through their RESULTS system and utilizing data provided from CFML. Forest Stewardship Plans are reviewed by CFML's clients and the public through a public review process.

Capacity Forest Management has developed a SFI Environmental Management system that contains a number of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) which the company and contractors follow to protect resources during planning and operations. Site Plans (SP's) are the primary vehicle for documenting riparian protection measures at the planning stage. At the implementation stage, requirements are specified at the pre-work meeting and shown in the pre-

work package including a map of streams showing the fish bearing status. The site plan also addresses soil disturbance risks and erosion control measures. Waste and residue surveys are performed to monitor utilization on each harvest unit.

CFML works on behalf of a large number of First Nations clients. Special sites are identified through preliminary reviews of government GIS database layers and discussions with local First Nations experts. Through direct interaction with the Bands and adjacent Bands during the planning process, a variety of culturally important issues are identified and addressed. If potential archaeological sites are identified, then a full archaeological assessment is conducted by a qualified team. There has been extensive training with all field staff in identifying special sites. Special sites identified on the Group's lands include tailed frog habitat and culturally modified trees.

Reforestation strategies are determined through the requirements of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and specified in Silviculture Prescriptions for each harvest unit. This includes natural regeneration and planting; adjacency; soil assessment, compaction and erosion; forest health and fire protection requirements. CFML has committed to avoiding the use of chemicals at all times. CFML conducts a soil and terrain stability assessment for each harvest site. Water resources are protected and maintained through Standard Operating Procedures that are consistent with FRPA requirements. CFML has a comprehensive data management system where they can query and summarize harvesting and silviculture data.

Training of staff and contractors is ongoing. At least one person from each contractor must complete the Contractor Awareness Training, and communicate requirements to the rest of the crew.

Specific Good management practices are noted below:

- The pruning and topping of trees in the Riparian Management Zone of fish bearing streams mitigates damage from wind and protects the integrity of the stream.

Summary of Findings

There were two minor non-conformities identified during the assessment:

- CFML employee roles and responsibilities for achieving the SFI objectives are only defined for general areas and are not specifically aligned with the SFI objectives.
- The post-harvest inspection did not identify an issue with timber utilization in one harvest area.

Opportunities for improvement were identified in the following areas:

- When calculating average cut block sizes, CFML may wish to consider including adjacent cut areas outside their operating area that have not achieved green up.
- Due to the terrain the stream prescription on one site was not operationally achievable.

Conclusion

The Group has maintained conformance with the requirements of the SFI Standard. The Certificate can be can be obtained by contacting Mike Beck, RPF of CFML at 250 287 2120 or on www.capfor.ca.