



**BUREAU
VERITAS**

**Bureau Veritas Certification
North America, Inc.
SFI Forest Management Audit Report**

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PQC Code	E01E
Contract Number	US1850186

Certification Audit:		Re-Certification Audit:		Surveillance Audit:		Scope extension audit:	X
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Audit Summary

This report summarizes the results of a scope extension audit conducted on Catchmark Timber Trust’s SFI program for forest management operations. Richard Boitnott, Bureau Veritas Certification Lead Auditor, conducted the audit December 5th through the 6th, 2016. Mr. Boitnott is an SAF Certified Forester, a Texas Accredited Forester, and has wildlife management expertise.

Audit Scope, Objectives and Process

The scope of the audit is “management of forest lands”. The audit was conducted against the SFI 2015-2019 standard forest management edition. The audit was conducted to scope in approximately 69,000 acres recently purchased in the Sumpter South Carolina area. The addition of a new site required an audit in order to incorporate this ownership into the company’s SFI program. There was no substitution or modification of indicators. Specifically, two objectives of the SFI audit were to verify that the Program Participant’s SFI Program is in conformance with the SFI Objectives, Performance Measures, and Indicators, and any additional indicators that the Program Participant chooses, and verify whether the Program Participant has effectively implemented its SFI Standard program requirements on the ground. Standard Bureau Veritas Certification protocols and forms were applied throughout the audit as provided by the most recent version of the Bureau Veritas Certification SFI Auditor Handbook available on the auditor access website.

Audit Plan

The audit consisted of a review of program documentation the afternoon of 12/5/2016, and a field audit on 12/6. A closing meeting was held at the end of business on the 6th. An audit plan was developed and is maintained on file by Bureau Veritas Certification.

Company Information

Catchmark owns or manages approximately 450,000 acres of land in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Texas, Louisiana and South Carolina. On-the-ground management is conducted by Forest Resource Consultants, Inc. (FRC) in Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, by Universal Timber Services (UTS) in Texas and Louisiana, and American Forest Management (AFM) in South Carolina.

The newly purchased property is typical of the rest of its ownership in the southeast. It consists primarily of loblolly pine uplands, with mixed pine-hardwood streamside management zones.

Clearcut stands are regenerated artificially following chemical site preparation.

Multi-Site Requirements

Catchmark operates a multi-site certification program now consisting of the four sites as shown below. All sites conduct the same activity; forest management. Catchmark operates a centrally-controlled management system, with one person responsible for oversight of the SFI program. An internal audit program is in place to ensure conformance of each site with the company's SFI procedures. This audit was conducted to scope in the Mid-Atlantic management unit.

Multi-Site	X	Group Certification	
Sites		Sites Audited During this Event	
South Central management unit			
Coastal management unit			
Southwest management unit			
Mid-Atlantic management unit		X	

Audit Results

The document review was conducted to determine if Catchmark has incorporated the newly acquired land into its SFI program. The field audit consisted of a review of four chemical site prep tracts, two of which had also been harvested under AFM administration.

Objective 1-Forest Management Planning:

Catchmark has incorporated the newly acquired land into its forest management planning system. As with the rest of its property, a stand-level inventory system is in place. Volume is grown using the PMRC growth and yield model. 20% of all stands are cruised each year to validate the growth and yield model. A harvest schedule is run annually, taking into account removals, growth, and updated inventory information. A GIS is in place, which includes soil mapping. Biodiversity at landscape scales is documented through the company's landscape assessment program found in Objective 4. Catchmark also tracks percentage of its ownership in various cover types and age classes. A harvest schedule has been developed that reduces inventory until 2030, with harvest exceeding growth. After 2030 growth will exceed harvest, with inventory levels at 30 years being equal to inventory levels at the start of the schedule.

Catchmark practices conversion on a very limited basis. It has developed a review process for the conversion it does conduct that meets the requirements of the standard.

Objective 2-Forest Health and Productivity:

The four chemical applications tracts reviewed during the audit demonstrated AFM has incorporated Catchmark procedures into its herbicide application program. Applications were well done. Rates were well below label maximums, and the rates and types of chemicals used were typical for the types of competing vegetation in the region. No drift into off-target areas observed during the audit.

Soil maps are available. Soil productivity was very well protected, with no rutting or compaction observed during the audit.

Objective 3-Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources:

Compliance with South Carolina BMPs was observed on all harvest and regeneration sites observed during the audit. Streamside management zones were well established, and road and skid trail construction and stabilization ensured protection of soil productivity and water quality. No Stream

crossings were observed during the audit.

Objective 4-Conservation of Biological Diversity:

AFM has identified potential T&E species and FECVs that could occur on Catchmark's newly acquired property. No T&E species or FECVs are known to occur on this ownership.

Implementation of stand-level wildlife habitat elements was observed on the two clearcuts. This property is highly fragmented, but the landscape assessment program was applied to one larger tract.

Objective 5-Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits:

There was little need for specific aesthetic considerations on harvest sites reviewed during the audit, as all were in relatively remote areas, offering little exposure to the public. Compliance with the company's green-up policy was observed on all clearcuts.

Objective 6-Protection of Special Sites:

Special sites have been identified on Catchmark property. The only sites known to occur on its land in South Carolina are a few cemeteries.

Objective 7-Efficient Use of Fiber Resources:

Utilization was acceptable on all harvest units observed during the audit.

Objective 8: Recognize and Respect Indigenous People's Rights:

Catchmark has a documented policy to respect the rights of indigenous peoples. There are no known rights or claims of any indigenous peoples on Catchmark property in South Carolina. The company has a process to respond to public inquiries, including those that may come from any concerns expressed by indigenous peoples.

Objective 9-Legal and Regulatory Compliance:

Catchmark has access to applicable regulatory requirements. Its system to achieve compliance consists of a pre-harvest prescription process that identifies water quality requirements, and possible locations of T&E species. Contract language is in place to require compliance. Monitoring is conducted to further ensure compliance. No adverse regulatory actions are in evidence. One BMP inspection reports in Alabama has been conducted in the past year, both providing evidence Catchmark is complying with regulatory requirements.

Objective 10-Forestry Research, Science and Technology:

Not audited

Objective 11-Training and Education:

Catchmark has a training program in place. Training records verified employees have received training as required. Catchmark requires all contractors to have at least one person on-site who has completed SIC sponsored logger training. This requirement is a part of the logging contract. The logger training program in South Carolina has continuing education requirements.

Objective 12-Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach:

Catchmark has become a member of the South Carolina SIC. It is represented on the committee by an employee of AFM. Membership in the SICs includes the distribution of landowner education materials, which contains information on the conservation of biological diversity. It has a process to respond to public inquiries or complaints. The company has received no reports of inconsistent practices.

Objective 13: Public Land Management Responsibilities: N/A-Catchmark does not have public land management responsibilities.

Objective 14-Communications and Public Reporting: Not audited

Objective 15-Management Review: Catchmark has a management review process in place. The company has historically done a good job of recording meeting minutes. Management review minutes verified the meeting is held annually as required by the SFI Standard.

Findings

Previous non-conformances:

No non-conformances were issued during the previous audit.

Non-conformances:

No conformances were issued during this audit event.

Opportunities for Improvement:

No opportunities for improvement were issued.

Notable Practices:

One notable practice was identified.

Logo/label use:

Catchmark uses the SFI logo on its website for promotional purposes. Approval is documented. The company does not use the BVC logo.

SFI reporting:

The 2016 surveillance audit report was found on the SFI website as required for public review.

Conclusions

Results of the audit indicate Catchmark has effectively incorporated its newly acquired property in South Carolina into its SFI program. The lead auditor issues a recommendation this new site be included in the company's SFI certificate.

SEE SF61 FOR AUDIT NOTES

Summary of Audit Findings:									
Audit Date(s):		From: December 5, 2016				To: December 6, 2016			
Number of SF02's Raised:			Major:		0		Minor:		0
Is a follow up visit required:		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date(s) of follow up visit:			
Follow-up visit remarks:									
Team Leader Recommendation:									
Corrective Action Plan(s) Accepted		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date:	
Proceed to/Continue Certification		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date:	12/6/2016
All NCR's Closed		Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date:	
Standard audit conducted against:									
1)	SFI 2015-2019 FM Standard			3)					
2)				4)					
Team Leader (1):			Team Members (2,3,4...)						
Richard Boitnott; CF, EMS (LA)			2)						
			3)						
			4)						
			5)						
Scope of Supply: (scope statement must be verified and appear in the space below)									
Management of forest lands									
Accreditation's		ANAB							
Number of Certificates		1							
Proposed Date for Next Audit Event									
Date	Week of March 27, 2017								
Audit Report Distribution									
Bureau Veritas Certification: Dawn Komnick-dawnkomnick@us.bureauveritas.com									
Catchmark: Don Warden-don.warden@catchmark.com									

Clause	Audit Report
Opening Meeting	Participants: Wes Cheatham, John Cheatham, Kent Shepard, Rodney Chandler, William Farn, Preston Fout, Chas Skinner, John Kaufman Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Introductions ➤ Scope of the audit ➤ Audit schedule/plan ➤ Nonconformance types – Major / Minor ➤ Review of previous nonconformances -.0 ➤ Process approach to auditing and audit sampling ➤ Confidentiality agreement ➤ Termination of the audit ➤ Appeals process ➤ Closing meeting timing
Closing Meeting	Participants: Wes Cheatham, John Cheatham, Kent Shepard, Rodney Chandler, William Farn, Preston Fout, Chas Skinner, John Kaufman Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Introductions and appreciation for selecting Bureau Veritas Certification. ➤ Review of audit process - process approach and sampling. ➤ Review of OFIs and System Strengths ➤ Nonconformances - 0 ➤ Date for next audit. ➤ Reporting protocol and timing