



2016 SFI Public Summary Report

Wagner Forest Management, Ltd. Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Forest Management Standard [2015-2019]

Date: October 6, 2016

Project Scope and Objectives

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) completed a multi-site Re-Registration Assessment on Wagner Forest Management, Ltd.'s (the Company) Forest Management in North America for manage the lands owned by the members of the Wagner Landowner Group, which are listed below. The forest management activities are managed by the Central Office in Lyme, New Hampshire. The Lead Assessor was Joann Cox, EMS (LA) (PwC Contract Assessor) who was assisted by Dr. Kevin Russell (PwC Contract Subject Matter Expert - Wildlife). The audit team was accompanied by Wagner's SFI Representative, Gordon Gamble.

Description of the Forest Lands

Bayroot LLC (Moxie and Crown Tree Farms, Maine and New Hampshire) The Moxie Tree Farm is located within the watersheds of the Androscoggin and Kennebec Rivers in the mountains of northern New Hampshire and western Maine. This tree farm consists primarily of mixed northern forest, dominated by northern hardwoods (maple-beech-birch) and spruce-fir. Southern portions of the ownership include transitional types with white pine, red oak, and eastern hemlock. The property includes important deer wintering habitat and areas above 2700' in elevation. It provides pulpwood under a long-term supply agreement to the Rumford Paper mill in Rumford, ME.

The Crown Tree Farm is located primarily in the Androscoggin River watershed in the mountains of northern New Hampshire. It also contains some ownership in western Maine. Its forests consist of mixed northern forest, dominated by maple-beech-birch with lesser amounts of red spruce-balsam fir forests in the higher elevations and wet low elevation flats.

Merriweather LLC (Penobscot Tree Farm, Maine) The Penobscot Tree Farm is located in northwestern Maine in the watershed of the West Branch of the Penobscot River. This tree farm consists of a mixed northern forest with maple-beech-birch dominating upland areas and spruce-fir forest types at the lower elevations. The tree farm is subject to a conservation easement held by the Forest Society of Maine. The property includes deer wintering habitat and supports large-scale maple syrup production.

Typhoon LLC (Sunrise Tree Farm, Maine) The Sunrise Tree Farm is located in the Down East region of Maine. Consisting of rolling to flat terrain, this tree farm contains a wide variety of hardwood and softwood species typically associated with the northern hardwood and spruce-fir forest types. A significant portion of this tree farm is subject to a conservation easement held by the New England

Forestry Foundation. This property includes deer wintering habitat, important riparian habitats along Atlantic salmon rivers, and extensive wetlands.

North Star Forestry Ltd. (Newaygo and Voyageur Tree Farms, Ontario, are managed by Wagner's subsidiary, Wagner Ontario Forest Management, Ltd.) The Newaygo Tree Farm is located south of Hearst, Ontario and the Voyageur Tree Farm is located north of Thunder Bay, Ontario. Both are located in the boreal forest of northwestern Ontario. The prevailing forest types consist of relatively few commercial tree species. Black spruce and balsam fir predominate on the wet sites. Drier sites are characterized by either relatively pure stands of jack pine or mixtures of jack pine, white birch and trembling aspen. White spruce and white and red pines may mix in upland stands. Cedar and larch are frequently found in lowland sites.

Atlantic Star Forestry, Ltd and Nova Star Forestry Ltd. (Cumberland and Fundy Tree Farms, Nova Scotia, managed by Wagner's subsidiary Wagner Forest NS, Ltd.) The Cumberland and Fundy Tree Farms are located throughout the mainland in the province of Nova Scotia. Considered part of the Acadian forest, their forests are generally composed of mixed stands of conifers and deciduous species, characterized by red spruce, balsam fir, yellow birch, and sugar maple.

The primary objective of the assessment was to assess the Company's SFI management system and to evaluate the Company's implementation of the SFI Standard in the field. There have been changes to the scope of the multi-site certification since the last public summary.

Indicators

All of the indicators in the SFI Forest Management Standard were within the scope of the assessment, except for Objective 13, since none of the land managed by the Company is public land. There were no substitute indicators.

Assessment Process

On August 8 to 10, 2016, the assessment team conducted field assessments on the Bayroot LLC, Merriweather LLC, and Typhoon LLC. On August 11, 2016, the assessment team conducted interviews and reviewed appropriate documentation to assess policies and procedures, and tested the implementation of SFI program requirements at the Central Office in Bangor, Maine. In total, the audit team spent 1 day at the central office and 3 days on-site for field assessments. The audit report was dated October 6, 2016.

Wagner has a multi-site certification for the forest management in North America on the Wagner Landowner Group properties listed above. PwC uses a rotational audit approach where the central office is audited annually and the Landowner Groups are sampled on a three year rotating schedule that conforms to the International Accreditation Forum Inc.'s Mandatory Document 1.

Summary of Conformance, Findings, and Good Management Practices

FOREST MANAGEMENT 1.6 SFI 2015-2019

Objective	Performance Measure	Evidence of Conformity
<p>Objective 1. Forest Management Planning To ensure forest management plans include long-term sustainable harvest levels and measures to avoid forest conversion</p>	<p><i>Performance Measure 1.1 Program Participants shall ensure that forest management plans include long-term harvest levels that are sustainable and consistent with appropriate growth-and-yield models.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner staff regarding their ongoing forest strata based inventory, G&Y models, and harvest schedule modeling system and documentation review of projected harvest levels for each Tree Farm confirm that management plans include sustainable harvest levels.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 1.2 Program Participants shall not convert one forest cover type to another forest cover type, unless in justified circumstances.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner’s management staff and documentation review of the organization’s guiding management principles and objectives confirm management of acquired lands as a timberland investment and as such, does not convert one forest type to another, only doing so in justified circumstances.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 1.3 Program Participants shall not have within the scope of their certification to this SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard, forestlands that have been converted to non-forestland use.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner’s management staff stated the organization has made two conversions: One conversion to a wind farm and another to a blueberry farm. In both cases these conversions satisfied the requirements of the standard and the acres are not within the scope of the certification.</i></p>
<p>Objective 2. Forest Health and Productivity To ensure long-term forest productivity, carbon storage and conservation of forest resources through</p>	<p><i>Performance Measure 2.1 Program Participants shall promptly reforest after final harvest.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner’s management staff, field foresters and GIS specialist confirm the organization has relied exclusively on natural regeneration silviculture in Maine and New Hampshire. The auditors observed the organizations natural regeneration efforts on the field sites visited. A Harvest Regeneration Assessment is completed on harvest greater than 20 acres to demonstrate compliance to the Maine Forest Practice Act that requires forest landowner to meet the state’s regeneration Standards. The organization uses the same Regeneration assessment program on its New Hampshire forest operation.</i></p>

<p>prompt reforestation, afforestation, minimized chemical use, soil conservation, and protecting forests from damaging agents.</p>		
	<p><i>Performance Measure 2.2 Program Participants shall minimize chemical use required to achieve management objectives while protecting employees, neighbors, the public and the environment, including wildlife and aquatic habitats.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner’s staff stated the organization does not use any chemical to achieve management objectives on forest lands in Maine and New Hampshire.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 2.3 Program Participants shall implement forest management practices to protect and maintain forest and soil productivity.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Documentation review of the organization’s written Harvest Plan process contains descriptions of the current state found and appropriate actions taken to maintain forest and soil productivity. Interviews with Wagner foresters as well as documentation review of completed Harvest Inspections forms on the oversight of forest management practices demonstrates the organizations compliance to the requirement of the Standards.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 2.4 Program Participants shall manage so as to protect forests from damaging agents, such as environmentally or economically undesirable wildfire, pests, diseases, and invasive exotic plants and animals, to maintain and improve long-term forest health, productivity, and economic viability.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner foresters demonstrated their knowledge of potential damaging agents threatening Maine and New Hampshire forests. Documentation review of the organization’s written Harvest Plan process included the notation of any damaging agents observed by the forester and if found, appropriate action to manage the condition.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 2.5 Program Participants that deploy improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings, shall use best scientific methods.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner’s staff stated the organization does not deploy improved planting stock in Maine and New Hampshire.</i></p>
<p>Objective 3. Protection and Maintenance of</p>	<p><i>Performance Measure 3.1 Program Participants shall meet or exceed all</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Documentation review of the organization’s Forest Management Water Quality Protection & Riparian Zone Management Policy states all Wagner personnel, wood suppliers and contractors comply with state/provincial and local</i></p>

<p>Water Resources To protect the water quality of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies through meeting or exceeding best management practices.</p>	<p><i>applicable federal, provincial, state and local water quality laws, and meet or exceed best management practices developed under Canadian or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – approved water quality programs.</i></p>	<p><i>riparian zone management, water body protection, and water quality laws and regulations. Interview with staff and observed implementation of harvesting and road construction programs demonstrate the organization’s compliance with the requirements of the Standard.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 3.2 Program Participants shall implement water, wetland and riparian protection measures based on soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system, state best management practices (BMPs), provincial guidelines and other applicable factors.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner foresters and documentation review of their forest management programs demonstrate the organization’s protection measures to protect water quality. During the duration of harvest operations, Wagner’s foresters periodically visit harvest blocks to monitor and document the progress of each contractor and to verify that the contractor is following harvest prescriptions; operating within the designated harvest area; progressing at an acceptable rate; utilizing harvested materials properly; spacing skid trails appropriately; protecting desired regeneration; operating in a safe manner; maintaining the appearance of the operation; following instructions regarding special sites; operating in compliance with laws and regulations; appropriately using BMPs; maintaining fuel/oil spill kits. The issuance of an opportunity for improvement encourages the organization to consider consistent interpretation and accurate documentation of observations made on their Harvest Inspection forms.</i></p>
<p>Objective 4. Conservation of Biological Diversity To manage the quality and distribution of wildlife habitats and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity by developing and implementing stand-and landscape-level measures that promote a diversity of types of habitat and successful stages, and the conservation of forest plants and animals, including aquatic species, as well as</p>	<p><i>Performance Measure 4.1 Program Participants shall conserve biological diversity.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner staff described and demonstrated during the field visits how specific policies and implemented programs promote biological diversity on its lands at both the stand and landscape levels. Documentation review and observations of implemented Harvest Plans identified and protected non-forested wetlands, including bogs, fens and marshes, and vernal pools of ecological significance if found and presence of invasive species, if found. Interview with both foresters and GIS specialist and documentation review of forest history stand maps demonstrate how Wagner documents the diversity of forest cover types, age, size classes at the individual ownership level.</i></p>

threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old-growth forests and ecologically important sites.		
	<i>Performance Measure 4.2 Program Participants shall protect threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Values (FECV) and old-growth forests.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner foresters and the GIS specialist described and demonstrated how the organization incorporates Maine and New Hampshire natural heritage data into its GIS which is used during the harvest planning processes to ensure that known occurrences of sensitive, rare, threatened, and endangered species and natural communities as well as old growth remnants that are mapped and protected during management activities. Previously unknown occurrences of such species and communities are mapped, protected, and their locations provided to the relevant state or federal agency. The organization has also assessed the landscape context of both rare and common species of fish and wildlife on the lands it manages.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 4.3 Program Participants shall manage ecologically important sites in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner staff described how they develop and implement prescriptions at the stand level that retain wildlife habitat elements including snags, patch retention of reserve trees reflective of stand conditions, and retention of individual mast, nest, den trees for wildlife. Field observations of aquatic and other sensitive habitats, including streams, wetlands, and steep slopes were appropriately buffered from disturbance.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 4.4 Program Participants shall apply knowledge gained through research, science, technology, and field experience to manage wildlife habitat and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner management and foresters and field observations made demonstrated their understanding to manage wildlife habitat to conserve biological diversity. Documentation review and outside stakeholder interviews confirm Wagner's active participation and support with agencies, universities, and non-governmental organizations on biodiversity inventory, monitoring, and research efforts.</i>
Objective 5. Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits To manage the visual impact of forest operations and provide recreational opportunities for the public.	<i>Performance Measure 5.1 Program Participants shall manage the impact of harvesting on visual quality.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner's forester described how the organization manages their lands to limit the potentially negative visual impact of their harvesting operations or to enhance the visual quality of the land. In addition, field observation of new road construction projects (and major upgrades) were designed to limit negative impacts on scenic views from public roads or high use recreational areas.</i>

	<i>Performance Measure 5.2 Program Participants shall manage the size, shape and placement of clear-cut harvests.</i>	<i>Evidence: Field observation demonstrated the utilization of diverse forest conditions and treatments, shaped harvest blocks, and riparian zones or buffer strips to blend harvest blocks into surrounding areas to manage the visual impact of forest operations. Landing designs incorporated consideration of visual quality management, with greater weight given to visual quality on roads receiving higher public use.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 5.3 Program Participants shall adopt a green-up requirement or alternative methods that provide for visual quality.</i>	<i>Evidence: Review of the organization documented process to calculate the average clearcut size for each Tree Farm demonstrated compliance to the requirement of the Standard. Interviews with Wagner foresters verify "green-up" as part of their clear cut prescription process to ensure adequate regeneration is present and the adjacent property has the required size height requirement of the Standard.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 5.4 Program Participants shall support and promote recreational opportunities for the public.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with outside stakeholders confirm Wagner is actively engaged in providing public recreational opportunities that include ATV and snowmobile trails and recreational campsites.</i>
Objective 6. Protection of Special Sites To manage lands that are geologically or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.	<i>Performance Measure 6.1 Program Participants shall identify special sites and manage them in a manner appropriate for their unique features.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner foresters and GIS specialist demonstrated how the organization identifies, maps, and catalogs in their GIS all known occurrences state-designated significant archaeological and historical sites. Previously unknown occurrences of such special sites are mapped and protected.</i>
Objective 7. Efficient Use of Fiber Resources To minimize waste and ensure the efficient use of fiber resources.	<i>Performance Measure 7.1 Program Participants shall employ appropriate forest harvesting technology and in-woods manufacturing processes and practices to minimize waste and ensure efficient utilization of harvested trees, where consistent with other SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard Objectives.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner foresters described the Harvest Inspection process used during the duration of harvest operations monitors the progress of each contractor and to verify that the contractor is following harvest prescriptions; operating within the designated harvest area; and utilizing harvested materials properly. Interviews with contract loggers described their utilization efforts and verified the periodic inspections and communication with Wagner foresters to ensure the efficient use of fiber resources.</i>
Objective 8. Recognize and Respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights To recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights	<i>Performance Measure 8.1 Program Participants shall recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner management and foresters demonstrated their knowledge and awareness about the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes located in their area of operations.</i>

and traditional knowledge.		
	<i>Performance Measure 8.2 Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall confer with affected Indigenous Peoples with respect to sustainable forest management practices.</i>	<i>Evidence: Confirmed during the interview process with Wagner management the organization does not have any forest management responsibilities on public lands in Maine and New Hampshire.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 8.3 Program Participants are encouraged to communicate with and shall respond to local Indigenous Peoples with respect to sustainable forest management practices on their private lands.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner management and foresters demonstrated their knowledge and awareness about the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes located in their area of operations.</i>
Objective 9. Legal and Regulatory Compliance To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state, and local laws and regulations.	<i>Performance Measure 9.1 Program Participants shall comply with applicable federal, provincial state and local forestry and related social and environmental laws and regulations.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner staff demonstrated their knowledge of and access to relevant laws and regulations through websites, contract language, state SIC participation, forest products organizations and legal service providers. They achieve compliance with applicable laws through communication and enforcement of company policies, contract provisions, and contract monitoring.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 9.2 Program Participants shall take appropriate steps to comply with all applicable social laws at the federal, provincial, state and local levels in the country in which the Program Participant operates.</i>	<i>Evidence: A documentation review of Wagner's Employee Handbook that contain written policies addressing the requirements of the Standard and interviews with staff demonstrate the steps taken by the organization to comply with applicable social laws.</i>
Objective 10. Forestry Research, Science and Technology To invest in forestry research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management	<i>Performance Measure 10.1 Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners provide in-kind support or funding for forest research to improve</i>	<i>Evidence: Wagner staff provided documentation of the organization's support individually as well as through state SIC participation, for various forest research activities such as University of Maine's Cooperative Forestry Research Unit.</i>

decisions are based and broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.	<i>forest health, productivity and sustainable management of forest resources, and the environmental benefits and performance of forest products.</i>	
	<i>Performance Measure 10.2 Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners – develop or use state, provincial or regional analyses in support of their sustainable forestry programs.</i>	<i>Evidence: Wagner staff provided documentation of the organizations support in state SICs. Outside stakeholder interviews with SIC chairs and/or coordinators confirmed the organizations active participation.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 10.3 Program Participants shall – individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners – broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner management described their awareness of climate change data and the organization’s employees have participated in training on climate change impacts on wildlife and biodiversity. Wagner staff confirmed the organization does not engage in forest tree biotechnology research.</i>
Objective 11. Training and Education To improve the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs.	<i>Performance Measure 11.1 Program Participants shall require appropriate training of personnel and contractors so that they are competent to fulfill their responsibilities under the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.</i>	<i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner management described the required training for employees and contractors that was confirmed during interviews with Wagner foresters and contract loggers who demonstrated their understanding of their SFI roles and responsibilities. The issuance of an opportunity for the organization to consider additional training or communication with contractors to ensure that all internal Wagner policies and external legal requirements are adhered to during all phases of timber harvest.</i>
	<i>Performance Measure 11.2 Program Participants shall work – individually</i>	<i>Evidence: Documentation review of the organization’s written contract term requires the use of qualified logging professionals. Interview with state SIC chairs/coordinators confirmed the organizations active participation in state SICs including support of initial training and continuing education</i>

	<p><i>and/or with SFI Implementation Committees, logging or forestry associations, or appropriate agencies or others in the forestry community – to foster improvement in the professionalism of wood producers.</i></p>	<p><i>classes for wood producers. The organization also sponsors continuing education training for foresters and wood producers within their management areas.</i></p>
<p>Objective 12. Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through public outreach, education and involvement, and to support the efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.</p>	<p><i>Performance Measure 12.1 Program Participants shall support and promote efforts by consulting foresters, state, provincial and federal agencies, state or local groups, professional societies, conservation organizations, Indigenous Peoples and governments, community groups, sporting organizations, labor, universities, extension agencies, the American Tree Farm System® and/or other landowner cooperative programs to apply principles of sustainable forest management.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Interviews with Wagner management and foresters as well as the respective state SIC chairs/coordinators and documentation of financial supports demonstrates the organizations active participation in Maine and New Hampshire state SICs to promote other landowners to apply the principles of sustainable forest management.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 12.2 Program Participants shall support and promote, at the state, provincial or other appropriate levels, mechanisms for public outreach, education and involvement related to sustainable forest management.</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Outreach examples include: You Tube training videos of erosion control methods; multi-day in the field road grading technique workshops; participant and contributor in FIN (Fisheries Improvement Network) which improves stream connectivity for Atlantic salmon and brook trout; partnership with Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM), the Maine Snowmobile Association, and Kennebec Woodland Partnership are a few examples of public outreach and educational event related to sustainable forest management. Wagner foresters participate individually in various conservation and professional society organizations. Wagner foresters actively engage with the public in numerous outreach activities.</i></p>
	<p><i>Performance Measure 12.3 Program Participants shall establish at the state, provincial or other appropriate levels, procedures to address concerns raised by</i></p>	<p><i>Evidence: Examination of the respective state SIC website confirm the SIC's have processes in place to receive and respond to public inquiries that appear inconsistent with this standard.</i></p>

	<p>loggers, consulting foresters, employees, unions, the public or other Program Participants regarding practices that appear inconsistent with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard principles an objectives.</p>	
<p>Objective 13. Public Land Management Responsibilities To participate and implement sustainable forest management on public lands.</p>	<p>Performance Measure 13.1 Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall participate in the development of public land planning and management processes.</p>	<p>Evidence: This Objective is not applicable as this organization does not have any management responsibilities on public lands.</p>
<p>Objective 14. Communications and Public Reporting To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.</p>	<p>Performance Measure 14.1 A Program Participant shall provide a summary audit report, prepared by the certification body, to SFI Inc. after the successful completion of a certification, recertification or surveillance audit to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.</p>	<p>Evidence: Documentation review confirmed the organization has provided the required documentation to SFI Inc.</p>
	<p>Performance Measure 14.2 Program Participants shall report annually to SFI Inc. on their conformance with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard.</p>	<p>Evidence: The onsite review confirmed the organization has provided the required documentation to SFI Inc.</p>
<p>Objective 15. Management Review and Continual Improvement To promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry by conducting a management</p>	<p>Performance Measure 15.1 Program Participants shall establish a management review system to examine findings and progress in implementing the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard, to make appropriate improvements in programs, and to inform</p>	<p>Evidence: Documentation review of the processes to collect, review and report on the organization's review of their implementation of the Standard to Wagner's Board of Directors as well as interviews with two Board members demonstrates the organization's continual improvement process.</p>

review and monitoring performance.	<i>their employees of changes.</i>	
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Specific Good management practices are noted below:

- Demonstration of the ability to assess riparian protection measures, protect wildlife habitats and promote biodiversity.
- Comprehensive and reflective Forest Operation Permit documentation on a multifaceted Category 3 clear-cut in a Protection –Mountain Area harvest block included photographs and detailed stand description, discussion on the risks associated with operating on the rocky and shallow soils, and Integrated Pest Management approach to mitigate spruce budworm infestation demonstrated the thoroughness of the harvest planning process that resulted in the support of the proposed harvest prescription by the Maine Forest Service.
- Consultation with a state wildlife biologist during the harvest planning process to evaluate the potential and special considerations for deer wintering areas that resulted in changes to the harvest prescription to provide critical winter wildlife habitat.
- Two highly visible harvest units, one along historic US Route 1 and the second alongside the Androscoggin River, were harvested using a variety of methods, including selective harvesting, orientation of skid trails and placement of retention areas to effectively minimize the visual impact of the harvest operations.
- Providing contractors written Harvest Guidelines detailing specific harvest criteria such as distance between skid trails, merchandizing criteria, and description of trees to be retained for wildlife and slash management thereby reinforcing Wagner’s expectations of the logger’s responsibilities for performance.
- Demonstrating sustainable leadership in collaborating with multiple state and public entities to replace two bridges destroyed by Hurricane Irene over Rapid Stream re-establishing access to a small part of Wagner ownership and public access to the popular Mount Abraham hiking trailhead.
- Consistently monitoring utilization performance, implementing scattered and patch retention of snags and live trees that benefit wildlife, and working with contractors to distribute coarse woody debris across the harvest blocks.

Conclusion

Wagner has maintained conformance with the requirements of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Forest Management Standard [2015-2019]. The Certificate can be can be obtained by contacting Gordon Gamble, Forest Certification Manager of Wagner Forest Management, Ltd. at (207) 369-9759 or at www.sfiprogram.org.