

Forest Certification UPDATE



WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY AND WEYERHAEUSER NR COMPANY, SOUTHERN TIMBERLANDS

DESCRIPTION OF COMPANY

Weyerhaeuser Company Southern Timberlands Operations are located in the southeast United States and have a head office in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The company's Southern Timberlands Sustainable Forest Management program has been registered to the SFI Standard since February 2, 2006 and has undergone annual 3rd party surveillance audits by QMI, QMI-SAI Global and SAI-Global since the date of initial registration.

BACKGROUND

During the period of October 12, 14-16, and 19-22, 2015, the Weyerhaeuser Company Southern Timberlands underwent a 24 month surveillance audit to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard and SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard. The registration cycle is over 3 years with surveillance audits conducted annually. This report summarizes the audit process and the results of the SAI Global evaluation.

SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION

SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard scope: Forest management activities, planning, harvesting, transportation and silviculture on company lands in Southeast United States. The SFI certificate covers both the 2015-2019 SFI Forest Management Standard and the 2010-2014 SFI Standard (Section 2). Fiber sold under this certificate counts as 100% SFI and PEFC certified forest content.

SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard scope: Sourcing of fiber from Southeast States. The Appendix 1: Rules for Use of SFI Certified Sourcing Label is not covered by the scope of this certificate.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) program third-party audit was undertaken by SAI Global. SAI Global is an independent third party registrar that is accredited by the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) for registrations to SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard and SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard. This ensures the integrity and credibility of the audit process.

The audit assessed active and completed harvest operations through interviews with Weyerhaeuser Company staff and contractors at North Louisiana and Mississippi/Alabama operations. The audit also assessed the SFIS and supporting EMS documentation, and records at the Weyerhaeuser Vanceboro, NC; Dodson, LA and Columbus, MS offices. The audit assessed harvest operations of purchased stumpage sales and non-fee units where Weyerhaeuser purchased some or all of the timber to assess the Company's procurement system.

THE AUDITORS

The SAI Global audit team who performed the audit consisted of Ms. Lynn Penniman CEP, EMS (LA).

AREAS OF NON-CONFORMANCE

No non-conformances were identified during the audit.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Mississippi/Alabama Operation: Consider reviewing the methods used for communicating the requirement for maintaining MSDS/SDS on site

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS

No non-conformances were identified during the audit.

COMPLAINTS

No complaints have been received; therefore the complaint handling process could not be verified.

POSITIVE ASPECTS

Central Office, North Louisiana and Mississippi/Alabama

- Document revisions and implementation of new policies and programs to support the new SFI standard requirements
- Contactor performance, knowledge and records continue to be a strong part of the company's SFI program
- Inspection and monitoring programs to support forest activities and other programs
- Training of mill personnel for the new SFI standard

North Louisiana

- Good organization of records and documents, including hyperlinks to supporting evidence within crosswalks

SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard Periodic Assessments

Major non-conformances:	0
Minor non-conformances:	0
Opportunities for Improvement:	1
Positive Aspects:	5

SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard Periodic Assessments

Major non-conformances:	0
Minor non-conformances:	0
Opportunities for Improvement:	1
Positive Aspects:	5

Major Non-Conformances

Pervasive or critical to the achievement of the SFI objectives. All major non-conformances require an action plan to be implemented by the auditee within 90 days of an initial audit and subsequently 60 days or registration cannot be achieved/maintained.

Minor Non-Conformances

Isolated incidents that are non-critical but must be addressed before the next surveillance audit to maintain compliance to the SFI standard.

Opportunity for Improvement

Are not non-conformances but are comments on specific areas where improvements can be made.

Positive Aspects

Areas that are deemed to be of best practices.

EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY TO THE SFI 2015-2019 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

Objectives Audited

Objective 1	Forest Management Planning	X
Objective 2	Forest Health and Productivity	X
Objective 3	Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources	X
Objective 4	Conservation of Biological Diversity	X
Objective 5	Management of Visual and Recreational Benefits	
Objective 6	Protection of Special Sites	
Objective 7	Efficient Use of Forest Resources	X
Objective 8	Recognize and Respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights	X
Objective 9	Legal and Regulatory Compliance	X
Objective 10	Forestry Research, Science and Technology	X
Objective 11	Training and Education	X
Objective 12	Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach	X
Objective 13	Public Land Management Responsibilities	
Objective 14	Communications and Public Reporting	X
Objective 15	Management Review and Continual Improvement	X

Environmental management system (EMS) Manual	X	Cutblock size calculations	X
Written policies	X	Employee observation forms (species at risk, invasive plants, other values)	X
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	X	Pre-work discussions/meeting records	X
EMS and SFI field handbook	X	Monitoring records for non-timber values	X
Training records (staff and contractors)	X	Utilization records	X
SFI/EMS training agenda	X	Laws, legislation, regulations records	X
Health and safety manual and/or employee policy manual	X	Annual management review records	X
Timber supply review	X	Internal audit records	X
Maps (pre-harvest, harvest, post-harvest, and silviculture)	X	Corrective action logs	X
Timber development standards	X	Education/community involvement records	X
Non-timber values impact assessments (riparian, visual, recreation, biodiversity, cultural heritage, other:)	X	Records of public inquiries and complaints	X
GIS inventories (soils, forest, land classification, non-timber values)	X	Stakeholder communications records	X
Long term management plans and sustainable harvest level calculation	X	Agreements and communications with Indigenous communities	
Cutting/harvesting permits		Multi-licensee and/or government meeting minutes	
Operational plans (annual, cutblock level)	X	Logging agreements and/or contracts	X
Wet/adverse weather plans or guidelines	X	Wood producer training programs	X
Reforestation plans	X	Wood producer information package	X
Pest management plan	X	SFI Annual Report	X
Fire preparedness plan	X	SFI and company websites	X
Spill prevention and response plan	X	SFI brochure	X
Silviculture surveys and reports	X	SFI Implementation committee (participation/support)	X
Standards for seed use	X	Climate change information and/or meeting minutes	X
Chemical use/spray records and applicator certification	X	Research and discussion papers	X
Tree improvement reports	X	Support for research and science	X
Green-up records	X	External audit field inspections	X
Free to grow records		External audit interviews (office and field)	X
Planting program records	X		
Harvest inspection records	X		
Road and bridge inspection records	X		
Pre-harvest inspection records	X		
Post-harvest inspection records	X		
Government compliance records	X		

CERTIFICATION DECISION SFI 2015-2019 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

Surveillance Audit

Based on the results of this surveillance audit it has been determined that the management system of WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY AND WEYERHAEUSER NR COMPANY, SOUTHERN TIMBERLANDS is effectively implemented and meets the requirements relative to the scope of registration and audit criteria, therefore, a recommendation to maintain the registration is made to SAI Global.

EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY TO SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD

Objectives Audited

Fiber Sourcing Within the United States and Canada		
Objective 1	Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing	X
Objective 2	Adherence to Best Management Practices	X
Objective 3	Use of Qualified Resource and Qualified Logging Professionals	
Objective 4	Legal and Regulatory Compliance	X
Objective 5	Forestry Research, Science, and Technology	X
Objective 6	Training and Education	X
Objective 7	Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach	X
Objective 8	Public Land Management Responsibilities	
Objective 9	Communications and Public Reporting	X
Objective 10	Management Review and Continual Improvement	X

Fiber Sourcing Outside the United States and Canada		
Objective 11	Promote Conservation of Biological Diversity, Biodiversity Hotspots and High-Biodiversity Wilderness Areas	
Objective 12	Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal Logging	
Objective 13	Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Fiber Sourced from Areas without Effective Social Laws	

Evidence Observed

Environmental management system (EMS) Manual	X	SFI Annual Report	X
Written policies	X	SFI and company websites	X
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	X	SFI brochure	X
EMS and SFI field handbook	X	SFI Implementation committee (participation/support)	X
Training records (staff and contractors)	X	External audit field inspections	X
SFI/EMS training agenda	X	External audit interviews (office and field)	X
Cutting/harvesting permits	X		
Operational plans (annual, cutblock level)	X		
Wet/adverse weather plans or guidelines	X		
Reforestation plans	X		
Best management practices monitoring records	X		
Evaluation of best management practices	X		
Government compliance records	X		
Pre-work discussions/meeting records	X		
Monitoring records for non-timber values	X		
Utilization records	X		
Laws, legislation, regulations records	X		
Corrective action logs	X		
Education/community involvement records	X		
Records of public inquiries and complaints	X		
Stakeholder communications records	X		
Logging agreements and/or contracts	X		
Wood producer training programs	X		
Wood producer information package	X		
Policies provided to wood producers	X		
Education and outreach to forest landowners	X		
List of qualified logging professional/certified logging professional	X		
Agreements for purchased stumpage	X		
Program to assess and address risk of illegal logging	X		
Research and discussion papers	X		
Support for research and science	X		
Climate change information and/or meeting minutes	X		

Additional evidence for Objectives 11 -13 Sourcing from Outside Canada and USA			
Use of information from sources such as: Biodiversity hot spots, high biodiversity wilderness areas, rare species, habitat information		When identified, Program to address significant risk for countries without effective laws	
Info about direct supplier's application of principle of sustainable forestry		When identified, Program to address significant risk of Illegal logging	
Program in place to reduce risk of Illegal logging			
Program in place to assess risk for countries without effective laws			

CERTIFICATION DECISION SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD

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SAI Global forestry specialist group registers/certifies forest companies to ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, CSA Z809 and CSA Z804 SFM, SFI Forest Management, SFI CoC, SFI Fiber Sourcing, SFI Certified Sourcing Label, PEFC CoC, FSC® Forest Management, FSC® CoC.

The group, led by Sylvain Frappier, Technical Manager - Forestry, consists of a highly qualified team of professional foresters, technical and industry experts.

Contact certification.americas@saiglobal.com for more information.

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