

2015 SFI Public Summary Report

Boise Paper Holdings, L.L.C. Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Standard [2010-2014]

Project Scope and Objectives

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) completed a SFI Surveillance Assessment of the raw material procurement system at Boise Paper Holdings (“Boise”). The Alabama procurement operations in Jackson, Alabama were the subject of the assessment. The Lead Assessor was Joann Meyer Cox, EMS (LA).

The primary objective of the assessment was to assess the SFI fiber procurement management system at the corporate level and to evaluate the implementation of the SFI Standard in the field. Boise administers its SFI management system through a centralized management structure that provides a consistent approach to procurement throughout the organization. The certification scope includes wood procurement operations carried out in the United States and Canada at Boise Paper Holding’s Jackson, AL, International Falls, MN and Wallula, WA paper mills.

Indicators

All of the indicators in the SFI Standard were within the scope of the assessment, except for Objectives 11-13, 16.1.5 and 18, since Boise procures raw material in the USA and Canada and does not have land management responsibilities for public land. There were no substitute indicators.

Assessment Process

The field work was completed From March 11 to 13, 2015. 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 May 1, 2015.

Summary of Conformance and Good Management Practices

Boise has a well-developed program to review progress and to implement continual improvement across the organization. Each procurement operation has SFI coordinators who annually compile and communicate SFI related accomplishments and issues to the Corporate Certification Manager. The Corporate Certification Manager prepares Boise’s annual SFI progress report and meets annually with senior management to review and prioritize issues and opportunities for improvement in Boise’s SFI program.

Specific Good management practices are noted below:

- Jackson's system of tracking landowner SFI packets provides an effective way to trace the delivery date of the regionally appropriate information provided to market suppliers and landowners.
- Boise staff are to be commended for their effort to have all wood delivered to the mill by trained logging professionals.
- Boise has demonstrated ongoing efforts to protect endangered species like the Gopher Tortoise.

Summary of Findings

No Nonconformities were identified during this assessment.

Opportunities for improvement were identified in the following areas:

- Developing a methodology to help ensure that the most current NatureServe data is used to compile county-specific lists of species that are used to assess Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value.
- Improving consistency of all wood fiber contracts so that purchase orders have the same terms and conditions.
- Clarifying how to reflect completed harvest activity on plan maps to demonstrate compliance with applicable BMPs and changes made to contract conditions.
- Encouraging state SICs to ensure contact information for the respective SIC representatives is current on the SFI website.

Conclusion

Boise has maintained conformance with the requirements of the SFI Standard. The Certificate can be can be obtained by contacting Brad Holt, Forest Certification Manager (208-384-7514).