

# Forest Certification UPDATE



## WOODLAND PULP LLC

### DESCRIPTION OF COMPANY

Woodland Pulp LLC is located on the international border between Maine and New Brunswick, Canada. The Woodland Mill produces St Croix Hardwood, utilizing a Kamyrr continuous digester and ECF 5-stage bleaching system. St Croix Hardwood is a premium Northern ECF bleached Kraft pulp manufactured using hardwood chips from Maine and New Brunswick, Canada. The primary wood species are maple, birch, beech and aspen. The mill is 100% energy self-sufficient.

The Woodland Pulp mill is situated in The St. Croix River Valley in Eastern Maine, USA. The St. Croix River forms a natural boundary with the Province of New Brunswick, Canada. The mill is also about 40 miles northwest of the deep water Port of Eastport, Maine that handles nearly all of the mill's production destined for the export market.

### BACKGROUND

During the period of 24-28 August 2015 underwent a Surveillance audit to the SFI 2015-2019 Sourcing Standard 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

Procurement of fiber from Woodland Mill procurement areas in New England, Quebec, and Canadian Maritimes.

### 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 SFIS and supporting EMS documentation and records at the Woodland Pulp office. The audit also used site visits and interviews with contractors logging private timber sales to assess the Woodland Pulp procurement system and the effective implementation of the SFI standard. Field visits during this audit included both large- and small- scale wood suppliers in Maine.

### THE AUDITORS



## FOREST CERTIFICATION UPDATE

The SAI Global audit was conducted by Daniel J. Simonds, CF. Mr. Simonds is a Licensed Professional Forester (Maine), a Certified Forester, an EMS Lead Auditor, and Forest Certification lead auditor.

### AREAS OF NON-CONFORMANCE

No new areas of non-conformance were identified.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

No new opportunities for improvement were identified.

### CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS

No corrective action plans are underway.

### COMPLAINTS

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

### POSITIVE ASPECTS

The strong and long-standing relationships maintained by Woodland Pulp, LLC with large and small suppliers throughout its procurement area.

### SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard Periodic Assessments

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

### 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 SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD**

**Objectives Audited**

<b>Fiber Sourcing Within the United States and Canada</b>		
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	X
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	N/A
Objective 9	Communications and Public Reporting	X
Objective 10	Management Review and Continual Improvement	X

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

**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	
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			
Operational plans (annual, cutblock level)			
Wet/adverse weather plans or guidelines	X		
Reforestation plans			
Best management practices monitoring records	X		
Evaluation of best management practices	X		
Government compliance records			
Pre-work discussions/meeting records			
Monitoring records for non-timber values			
Utilization records			
Laws, legislation, regulations records	X		
Corrective action logs			
Education/community involvement records	X		
Records of public inquiries and complaints			
Stakeholder communications records			
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			
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		

**CERTIFICATION DECISION SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD**

**Surveillance Audit**

Based on the results of this surveillance audit it has been determined that the management system of Woodland Pulp LLC 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.



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](mailto:certification.americas@saiglobal.com) for more information.

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