

# SFI 2015-2019 – Public Summary Report

## Ondaadiziwin Forest Management

### Lac Seul Forest

Ondaadiziwin Forest Management Inc. (OFMI) offices are located in Hudson, Ontario. OFMI oversees planning, harvesting, silviculture (seeding, planting, tending), and road maintenance/construction, while protecting culturally sensitive values, instilling traditional knowledge, conserving animal habitats and maintaining renewable resources in an environmental and economical way in partnership with the Lac Seul First Nation.

Lac Seul First Nation is the oldest Reserve in the Sioux Lookout District. The Reserve is made up of the communities of Kejick Bay, White Fish Bay and Frenchman's Head, all located on the shores of Lac Seul.

Located on Crown Land in Northwestern Ontario, the Lac Seul Forest Management Unit has a total surface area of slightly more than 1 million hectares and a potential annual harvest volume of 600 000 cubic meters.

Ondaadiziwin Forest Management SFI representative for the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management standard is Chantal Alkins, Certification Coordinator.

## AUDIT

During the period of April 26 to 28, 2021, Ondaadiziwin Forest Management Inc. underwent a surveillance audit to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) 2015-2019 Forest Management (FM) Standard which does not include the review of Appendix 1 Rules for Use of SFI Certified Sourcing Label.

The registration cycle is over five years with surveillance audits conducted annually. The audit assessed completed harvest operations through interviews with the company staff and contractors. The audit also assessed the SFI documentation and records at the company's office including stakeholder and First Nations communication.

The 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) Standard ensuring the integrity and credibility of the audit process.

**Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this audit has been performed remotely.** Google meet was used for opening and closing meetings as well as for interviews with the personnel of the organization. Interviews were also done by phone. Documents were exchanged between the auditees and the audit team members using Dropbox and e-mails.

## THE AUDIT TEAM

The SAI Global audit team who performed the audit consisted of François Grimard, audit team leader, and Hervé Bescond, audit team member. Mr. Grimard is a Forestry Engineer while Mr. Bescond holds a Master degree in biology and is specialized in forest ecology. Both are SFI certified auditors.

## REGISTRATION TYPE

Certificate Type	SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard	SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard
Single site	✓	

## MULTI-SITE / GROUP EVALUATION

Not applicable.

# SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard

## FOREST LAND AND MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDED IN THE AUDIT SCOPE

The 2011-2021 Lac Seul Forest Management plan [...] « *provides direction for the levels of access, harvest, renewal and tending activities that are required to achieve the desired forest and benefits. The desired forest and the management objectives were created by the planning team with assistance from the Local Citizen Committee.* »<sup>1</sup>

The Lac Seul Forest Management Unit has a total surface area of 1 070 567 hectares (2 645 429 acres) located in the Sioux Lookout District, Northwestern Ontario, Canada. The annual potential harvest volume of the territory is 611 531 cubic meters of spruces, pines, fir and various species of hardwoods; it is based on an Average Annual Harvest Area of 7 913 ha (remaining term 1 and term 2 harvest areas combined).

Due to delays in the preparation of the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP) and to ensure Forest Management activities can continue after the end of the 2011-2021 FMP, a Contingency Plan will be put in place to ensure Forest Management activities can continue until the implementation of the new FMP. Once approved by the authorities, this contingency plan will potentially be in effect up until March 2024.

*Note 1: Extract from the Summary of the Long-Term Management Direction; 2011-2021 Lac Seul Forest Management Plan.*

## SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION

Forest management activities - planning, harvesting, transportation and silviculture on Lac Seul Forest. Fiber sold under this certificate counts as 100% SFI and 100% PEFC certified forest content.

## AUDIT PROCESS

During this audit, the audit team evaluated the company against the objectives listed in Table 1. The evidence of compliance observed is listed in Table 2. Both tables are found in the section Evidence of conformity to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest management standard.

A sample of field review sites were chosen from a list of active sites and sites where forest management activities occurred since the last audit. The site choice also considered activity type, and risk factors, related to the audit objectives selected for review, as well as the opportunity to verify implementation of corrective actions for previous non-conformities.

## SUBSTITUTE INDICATORS

No substitute indicators were evaluated during this audit.

## COMPLAINTS

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

## SITES INSPECTED AND ASSESSMENT TIME

<b>Audit Activity</b>	<b>Duration in days</b>
Remote audit	6 man-days
<b>Sites</b>	<b>Number inspected</b>

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### ***Areas of non-conformance***

Not applicable.

### ***Opportunities for improvement***

#### **9.1.1 Access to relevant laws and regulations in appropriate locations.**

In the document "Municipal By-Law Review.xlsx", links leading to by-laws website page for Ear Falls and Dryden are no longer active. They should be updated.

### ***Status of previous audit non-compliances***

No non-compliance raised during last year audit.

# 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 Ondaadiziwin Forest Management 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 THE SFI 2015-2019 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

**Table 1 Objectives Audited**

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

**Table 2 Evidence Observed**

Environmental management system (EMS) Manual	✓	Cut block size calculations	
Written policies	✓	Employee observation forms (species at risk, invasive plants, other values)	
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	✓	Pre-work discussions/meeting records	✓
EMS and SFI field handbook	✓	Monitoring records for non-timber values	
Training records (staff and contractors)	✓	Utilization records	✓
SFI/EMS training agenda	✓	Laws, legislation, regulations records	✓
Health and safety manual and/or employee policy manual		Annual management review records	✓
Timber supply review		Internal audit records	✓
Maps (pre-harvest, harvest, post-harvest, and silviculture)	✓	Corrective action logs	✓
Timber development standards		Education/community involvement records	✓
Non-timber values impact assessments (riparian, visual, recreation, biodiversity, cultural heritage, other: )		Records of public inquiries and complaints	✓
GIS inventories (soils, forest, land classification, non-timber values)		Stakeholder communications records	
Long term management plans and sustainable harvest level calculation	✓	Agreements and communications with Indigenous communities	✓
Cutting/harvesting permits		Multi-licensee and/or government meeting minutes	✓
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	✓	Logging agreements and/or contracts	
Wet/adverse weather plans or guidelines		Wood producer training programs	✓
Reforestation plans		Wood producer information package	✓
Pest management plan		SFI Annual Report	✓
Fire preparedness plan		SFI and company websites	✓
Spill prevention and response plan		SFI brochure	
Silviculture surveys and reports		SFI Implementation committee (participation/support)	✓



Standards for seed use		Climate change information and/or meeting minutes	✓
Chemical use/spray records and applicator certification		Research and discussion papers	✓
Tree improvement reports		Support for research and science	✓
Green-up records		External audit field inspections	✓
Free to grow records		External audit interviews (office and field)	✓
Planting program records		Pre-harvest inspection records	
Harvest inspection records	✓	Post-harvest inspection records	✓
Road and bridge inspection records		Government compliance records	✓

## DEFINITIONS

### ***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 or registration cannot be achieved. Subsequently for surveillance audits, an action plan shall be implemented by the auditee within 60 days for the registration to be 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. Non resolved minor non-conformance will be escalated to a major non-conformance.

### ***Opportunity for Improvement***

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

### ***Good practices***

Areas that are deemed to be mentioned



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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