

SFI 2015-2019 – Public Summary Report

ISLAND TIMBERLANDS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

DESCRIPTION OF COMPANY

Island Timberlands LP (Island Timberlands) is a private timberlands business focused on growing, harvesting and delivering timber and other forest products from coastal British Columbia to a broad customer base. The company SFI representative is Mr. Domenico Iannidinaro, RPF, P.Eng, RPBio, VP Forest & Sustainability and Chief Forester.

AUDIT

During the period of February 11 to 13 and March 5, 2019, Island Timberlands underwent a re-registration audit to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) 2015-2019 Forest Management (FM) Standard. The registration cycle is over five years with surveillance audits conducted annually. The audit assessed active and/or 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.

THE AUDIT TEAM

The SAI Global audit team who performed the audit consisted of Mr. Jeff Koch, RPF, EMS(LA) audit team leader and Mr. Ken Hall, RFT, EMS(LA) audit team member. The auditors are forestry professionals and certified auditors.

REGISTRATION TYPE

Certificate Type	SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard	SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard
Single site	012735	

MULTI-SITE / GROUP EVALUATION

Not applicable.

SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard

FOREST LAND AND MANGEMENT PLAN INCLUDED IN THE AUDIT SCOPE

Island Timberland's land base comprises an area of approximately 252,500 hectares (as of December 31, 2018) of Private Managed forestland on Vancouver Island, the mainland coast of British Columbia and Haida Gwaii. Forests are made up of coastal species: Douglas fir, western hemlock, balsam fir, western red cedar, cypress (yellow cedar), Sitka spruce and red alder. A range of silviculture practices are applied including regeneration harvest and partial cutting in sensitive areas.

Island Timberlands manages their forests sustainably through the balancing of timber production with the protection of key values such as water, soils, wildlife, ecological diversity, and community needs. This balance is met through their internal policies, certification standards, and legal obligations. Island Timberlands has shown that they consistently harvest at or slightly below sustainable levels.

Island Timberlands allows public access for the purpose of recreation and other approved uses when compatible with forest management policies and practices. Island Timberlands proactively reaches out to First Nations, neighbors and other stakeholders to understand their values and concerns.

SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION

The scope of registration is: Forest management activities – planning harvesting, transportation and silviculture on managed forest lands across Vancouver Island and in isolated parcels on the mainland coast, Gulf Islands and Haida Gwaii (MF74, MF19, MF21). The SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard meets and exceeds the requirements of the earlier SFI 2010-2014 Standard (Section 2), therefore fiber sold under this certificate counts as 100% SFI and 100% PEFC certified forest content.

The scope has not been modified since the last public audit report.

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 were received which could be construed as inconsistent practices contrary to the SFI 2015 – 2019 Forest Management Standard which would require reporting SAI Global for further review. Island Timberlands Limited Partnership maintains an external communication log which tracks public comments, concerns and questions and has a process in place to respond to these in a timely fashion.

SITES INSPECTED AND ASSESSMENT TIME

Audit Activity	Duration in days
Onsite	5.5 days
Sites	Number inspected
Roads	3
Harvesting Blocks	6
Dryland Sorts	2
Silviculture Sites	0 – heavy snowfall precluded field inspection of completed renewal activities
Operations visited: Northwest Bay Operations, Cowichan Operations, West Coast Operations	

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Areas of non-conformance

Not applicable.

Opportunities for improvement

One opportunity for improvement was identified.

SFI Forest Management Standard Indicator 3.2.4 – Consideration could be given to instructing field operators to dispose of old Emergency Preparedness & Response Plan (EPRP) summary sheets which most carry as part of their infoFlip field SOP package. All operators sampled had the latest version of the EPRP summary sheets but some also had older copies from previous years in their possession.

Good practices

Comprehensive Island Timberlands Block Pre-Harvest Planning Checklist which includes information relating to archaeological, visual, riparian, windthrow amongst other block variables assessed during the planning phase.

Online granting of fire wood permits to the public via Island Timberlands internet site.

Comprehensive hard copy binders are maintained onsite for each block by Island Timberlands contractors containing block maps, pre works, safety and other TMS information applicable to the site.

Status of previous audit non-conformances

There were no non-conformances levied during the 2018 audit.

CERTIFICATION DECISION SFI 2015-2019 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

Re-registration Audit

Based on the results of this re-registration audit it has been determined that the management system is effectively implemented and meets the requirements relative to the scope of registration and audit criteria, therefore, a recommendation for 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	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	X
Objective 6	Protection of Special Sites	X
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	NA
Objective 14	Communications and Public Reporting	X
Objective 15	Management Review and Continual Improvement	X

Table 2 Evidence Observed

Environmental management system (EMS) Manual	X	Cut block 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		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	X
Cutting/harvesting permits	X	Multi-licensee and/or government meeting minutes	X
Operational plans (annual, cut block 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	
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	
Silviculture surveys and reports	X	SFI Implementation committee (participation/support)	
Standards for seed use		Climate change information and/or meeting minutes	X
Chemical use/spray records and applicator certification	X	Research and discussion papers	
Tree improvement reports		Support for research and science	X
Green-up records	X	External audit field inspections	X
Free to grow records	X	External audit interviews (office and field)	X
Planting program records	X	Pre-harvest inspection records	X
Harvest inspection records	X	Post-harvest inspection records	X
Road and bridge inspection records	X	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

MULTI-SITE / GROUP SAMPLING APPROACH

This multi-site / group organization maintains an internal audit program determined to be reliable, in this case SAI Global sampling approach is as follow where n = number of sites:

- i. $\sqrt{(n)}$ for initial certification audits
- ii. $0.6 \sqrt{(n)}$ for surveillance audits
- iii. $0.8 \sqrt{(n)}$ for re-registration audits

The central office function is audited annually.

OR

This multi-site / group organization did not maintain its internal audit program. SAI Global applies the following sampling where n = number of sites:

$\sqrt{(n)}$

The central office function is audited annually.



West Coast Operations – Block 173118 – Assisted Falling for Power Lines

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.

Company Contact:

Mr. Domenico Iannidinardo, RPF, P.Eng, RPBio
VP Forest & Sustainability and Chief Forester
1420 East Island Highway
Nanose Bay, BC V9P 9A3
Canada

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