

SFI 2015-2019 – Public Summary Report

Dryden Forest Management Co. Ltd.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPANY

Dryden Forest Management Co. Ltd. (DFMC) is a co-operative made up of 12 small harvesting companies who were former District Cutting Licensee/Order in Council Licensees on the Dryden Forest. DFMC was awarded a Sustainable Forest Licence #542444 on June 24, 1998 and became responsible for the general administration of the Dryden Forest, including responsibilities for planning, reporting and implementing all forest operations. The company SFI representative is Dave Legg, General Manager, DFMC.

AUDIT

During the period of September 3 to September 6, 2019 DFMC underwent a re-assessment 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 and silviculture 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

Rod Seabrook, an auditor with SAI Global, performed the audit. Mr. Seabrook is a Certified Environmental Professional and Environmental Management System Lead Auditor and an Associate Member of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association.

REGISTRATION TYPE

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

MULTI-SITE / GROUP EVALUATION

Not applicable.

SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard

FOREST LAND AND MANGEMENT PLAN INCLUDED IN THE AUDIT SCOPE

- Dryden Forest
- 2011 – 2021 Management Plan for the Dryden Forest

The Dryden Forest lies within the Boreal Forest Region however a small portion in the south is a transition zone between the Boreal Forest and the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Regions. Coniferous trees, mostly spruce and jack pine are characteristic of the Dryden Forest, in association with trembling aspen and white birch. Pockets of red pine and white pine occur, and to a limited extent eastern white cedar, and tamarack. DFMC does not own or operate a manufacturing facility. Harvesting is done by the 12 shareholders of DFMC and three Aboriginal communities/businesses - the wood fibre is sold to local/regional mills. The available annual harvest volume is approximately 160,000 m³.

SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION

There has been no modification to the scope since the last public summary 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 have been received; therefore the complaint handling process could not be verified.

SITES INSPECTED AND ASSESSMENT TIME

Audit Activity	Duration in days
Onsite	4
Sites	Number inspected
Roads	4
Harvesting Blocks	4
Silviculture Sites	2
Operations visited: Felling, skidding, chipping, log loading, natural regeneration, water crossing installations, road maintenance	

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Areas of non-conformance

NC#	Type	Performance Measure #	Description	Corrective Action Plans
2019-01	Minor	Indicator 11.1.5	Evidence was not provided by DFMC that a QLP was present on the Noopiming chipping operation at the time of audit.	Action plan has been accepted and implementation will be reviewed during the next surveillance audit

Opportunities for improvement

- Consider adding a field to the Environmental Inspection Form to record observations of leaks on heavy equipment
- Consider adding requirements to pertinent SOPs and the prestart checklist requirements to maintain heavy equipment in a leak free state and to repair leaks promptly
- Consider adding a field to the Pre-Start Checklist and the Environmental Inspection Form to check for the presence of at least one QLP on the logging operation
- Consider adding fuel tank inspections to the list of inspection in Section IX Monitoring
- Consider increasing the frequency of inspections of contractors where deficiencies are ongoing or repeated deficiencies are found

Good practices

- Well maintained service trailer at Fenwick Chipping
- Ongoing excellent slash piling
- Auditee co-operation during the audit

Status of previous audit non-compliances

The status of previous audit non-conformances is as follows:

NC#	Type	Performance Measure #	Status (closed/upgraded to major)
2018-01	Minor	Objective 2	Closed

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 is effectively implemented and meets the requirements relative to the scope of registration and audit criteria. The action plan related to the non-conformance has been reviewed and considered acceptable. Implementation of the action plan for minor non-conformance will be reviewed at the next surveillance audit. 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 12.3	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	x	Harvest inspection records	x
Written policies	x	Cut block size calculations	x
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	x	Utilization records	x
EMS and SFI field handbook	x	Laws, legislation, regulations records	x
Training records (staff and contractors)	x	Annual management review records	x
SFI/EMS training agenda	x	Internal audit records	x
Maps (pre-harvest, harvest, post-harvest, and silviculture)	x	Corrective action logs	x
Timber development standards	x	Records of public inquiries and complaints	x
Non-timber values impact assessments (riparian, visual, recreation, biodiversity, cultural heritage, other:)	x	Stakeholder communications records	x
GIS inventories (soils, forest, land classification, non-timber values)	x	Agreements and communications with Indigenous communities	x
Long term management plans and sustainable harvest level calculation	x	Logging agreements and/or contracts	x
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	x	SFI Annual Report	x
Reforestation plans	x	SFI and company websites	x
Fire preparedness plan	x	SFI Implementation committee (participation/support)	x
Spill prevention and response plan	x	External audit field inspections	x
Silviculture surveys and reports	x	Post-harvest inspection records	x
Chemical use/spray records and applicator certification	x	Government compliance records	x
Planting program records	x		

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

.



Regenerating jack pine stand

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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