

# Bureau Veritas Certification North America, Inc. SFI Fiber Sourcing Audit Report

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PQC Code	E01E
Contract Number	US.1966165

Certification	Re-Certification	Surveillance		Scope extension	
Audit:	Audit:	Audit:	3	audit:	

# **Audit Summary**

#### Introduction

A surveillance audit of Louisiana Pacific Corporation's (LP) wood procurement program was conducted from July until November 2018, at locations across the continent. Brian Callaghan RPF EP(EMSLA) lead the audit and was assisted by Paul Chenard. Mr. Callaghan is a registered professional forester and certified environmental auditor with 30 years of experience in forest planning, operations and analysis.

# **Audit Scope, Objectives and Process**

The scope of the audit was "Fiber Sourcing activities for company mills in Canada and the United States". The objective was to verify the effectiveness and conformance of Louisiana Pacific's wood procurement activities to the requirements of the SFI 2015-2015 Standard and Rules. The audit consisted of a thorough review of documents and a review of the implementation of policies, programs and plans in the field. Prior to the audit, the auditor selected field sites to be sampled at each location based on all management operations and activities conducted over the past 12 months.

#### **Audit Plan**

An audit plan was prepared which covered the fiber sourcing audit as well as the forest management audit and chain of custody audits which occurred at the same time. The audit plan covered site audits at the Jasper Texas, Carthage Texas, Swan River Manitoba and East River Nova Scotia along with a visit to headquarters in Nashville. The audit plan was provided to the client prior to the start of the audit. The audit plan identified the various activities which would be carried out at each Company facilities. A copy of the audit plan is on file at the Bureau Veritas Certification office in Houston Texas.

Six of the ten SFI Objectives (2, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 10) including all of their Performance Measures and Indicators were verified through a review of documents and field verification of sites to meet the intent of the SFI 2015-2019 Standard. The Louisiana Pacific Corporation Sustainable Forestry Program- Fiber Sourcing Handbook, office documents, records, field files and interviews were used to verify conformance. A debriefing was conducted at the end of the day by the lead auditor.

# **Company Information**

Louisiana Pacific Corporation is a leading manufacturer of high quality building products. LP Building Products manufactures LP Solid Start Engineered Wood Products such as Laminated Strand Lumber (LSL), Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL), Oriented Strand Board (OSB), Siding, I-Joists and Rim Board. Products are used primarily in new construction, repair and remodeling, and manufactured housing. LP operates production facilities in the U.S., Canada and South America.

# **Multi-Site Requirements**

Louisiana Pacific Corporation maintains a multi-site certification consisting of headquarters and 18 facilities throughout the U.S. and Canada which are certified to the SFI fiber sourcing standard. Headquarters for all management systems is in Nashville, Tennessee. The company qualifies as a multi-site certification since the management system is controlled and directed by the central office. There is one set of procedures that applies to the entire system, and the SFI manager is the sole person responsible for maintaining the procedures. Individual sites are responsible for conforming to the company's SFI program, and for providing corrective actions to the SFI manager when necessary. The company has a reliable internal audit program and monitoring system carried out at headquarters to determine conformance at facilities or sites and to implement corrective actions when appropriate. There is good coordination and communication between the central office and each site. Internal audits were conducted at all sites within the last year and a management review was conducted on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Duluth, MN. Louisiana Pacific Corporation meets all multi-site requirements.

Sites covered during this surveillance audit were selected based on a randomized schedule developed by Bureau Veritas Certification at the time of contract renewal. Five sites were audited this year for SFI Fiber Sourcing; the Jasper Texas, Carthage Texas, Swan River Manitoba, East River Nova Scotia, and Maniwaki Quebec. The Nashville, TN headquarters office is audited annually.

Multi-Site	✓	Group Certification					
	Sites Audited During this Event						
Nashvill	le (Centra	d Office)	✓				
Hancey	ville - OS	В					
Jaspo	er - OSB			<b>✓</b>			
Roxbo	oro - OSE	3					
Two Har	bors - Sic	ling					
Peace V	alley - O	SB					
Cartha	age - OSE	3		$\checkmark$			
Haywa	rd - Sidin	ıg					
Newber	Newberry - Siding						
Sago	Sagola - OSB						
Dawson	Creek - C	OSB					
Swan Ri	Swan River - Siding						
Maniw	Maniwaki - OSB						
Clark Co	SB						
Hoult	)						
Roaring F	-						
Tomaha	Tomahawk - Siding						
Golde	Golden - EWP						
East Ri	East River - Siding						

**Audit Results** 

During the field portion of the fiber sourcing audit, a total of 18 field sites were reviewed for BMP monitoring and compliance. The majority of the sites inspected (16) were gatewood sales and two sites were stumpage sales. All operations/activities were found to be in compliance with all regulations and BMP's.

Louisiana Pacific Corporation's fiber sourcing system does a very good job of documenting BMP compliance on their wood suppliers. The Fiber Sourcing Inspection Report is well developed and documents findings of Best Management Practices (BMP) compliance and forest management activities. Site visit reports from all fiber sourcing facilities are collected and summarized annually at headquarters to provide insight on any compliance issues or areas of concern. Louisiana Pacific provides communication packets to all suppliers and maintains records of contractor training. Documentation was found to be consistent between mills and in conformance with the standard.

# **Objective 1-Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing:**

This objective was not directly audited during this year's surveillance audit. However in Swan River the auditor visited two harvest sites within the Duck Mountain Provincial Park in Saskatchewan. Louisiana Pacific has purchased contract stumpage in the park as part of an effort to increase the amount of early successional forest within the park (Figure 1). This contract has the Company undertaking large clear cuts in a provincial park which could be considered a risk activity.



Figure 1. Recent harvest in Duck Mountain Provincial Park creating early successional forests.

# **Objective 2-Adherence to Best Management Practices:**

Louisiana Pacific monitors the sites where it obtains timber to ensure that they are in compliance with

Best Management Practices and local regulations. In order to deliver fibre to a Louisiana Pacific mill each supplier signs a timber purchase agreement which specifies training requirements and adherence to BMPs. Each supplier signs an agreement that that includes BMP requirements. LP's Timber Products Purchase Agreement (TPPAs) and supplements include the requirement for use of BMPs, trained loggers, and required signage from the supplier.

A wide variety of harvest sites were visited on the audit including aspen clear cuts, pine plantations, and spruce/ fir clear cuts. All harvests were well executed with no apparent BMP issues.

Wood procurement staff at each mill plan wood supply deliveries around seasonal weather constraints by stockpiling wood in winter when everything is frozen. Most mills have both off-site and on-site storage.

# Objective 3-Use of Qualified Resource and Qualified Logging Professionals:

Louisiana Pacific requires that all loggers be trained to the standard of the applicable Implementation Committee. Training includes the application of best management practices to protect soil and water quality, knowledge of species at risk and rare/threatened/endangered species, safety, and environmental protection. All suppliers must sign a Timber Products Purchase Agreement which requires loggers to be trained. All loggers interviewed were fully trained.

# **Objective 4-Legal and Regulatory Compliance:**

Company staff have access to all relevant laws and regulations through an electronic service which maintains access and provides updates when laws or regulations change. Each location has a SFI Handbook which contains a complete list of regulations that apply to their operations with website listings. Relevant laws and regulations are stated in all contracts and purchase agreements. Any issues with operations that arise are documented in Report of Corrective Action. LP utilizes site visits and follows BMP Procedures to ensure compliance. These visits and checklists note compliance with laws and regulations.

Louisiana Pacific is a responsible employer and business venture. They employ a Code of Business Conduct to guide all their relationships. The Company provides a full range of benefits and rights to its employees. It contracts responsible suppliers to provide service and complies with all labor laws.

#### **Objective 5-Forestry Research, Science and Technology:**

Louisiana Pacific is a member of NCASI which conducts research on forest health, water quality, wildlife habitat, climate change, etc. NCASI recently assembled information on Climate Change and prepared a presentation that was made available to LP personnel. Louisiana Pacific is working with a number of cooperators on a project to identify Natural Range of Variation (NRV) on a landscape scale and how to incorporate this information into their upcoming forest management plan.

## **Objective 6-Training and Education:**

Not Audited

### **Objective 7-Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach:**

Not Audited

# **Objective 8-Public Land Management Responsibilities:**

Not Audited

# **Objective 9-Communications and Public Reporting:**

The 2017 Louisiana Pacific SFI Audit Report is posted on the SFI Website. All records necessary for reporting to SFI are maintained electronically and were reviewed as part of this audit. The 2017 SFI Annual Progress Report was submitted to SFI, Inc. prior to the deadline.

# **Objective 10-Management Review:**

The internal audit and management review system is mature, fully functioning and effective. LP has a well-documented procedure for collecting information, conducting an internal audit and reporting results of all monitoring to management. An internal audit is conducted annually at each facility. A checklist is completed listing evidence for each indicator in the standard. Where necessary non-conformances are issued when standard requirements are not met. A corrective action procedure is followed to remedy any non-conformances. A management review meeting is conducted annually where monitoring results are presented and discussed.

# Objective 11-Promote Conservation of Biological Diversity, Biodiversity Hotspots and High-Conservation Wilderness Areas:

Not Applicable. All wood sourced in Canada and the United States of America

# Objective 12-Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal Logging:

Not Applicable. All wood sourced in Canada and the United States of America

# Objective 13-Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Fiber Sourced from Areas without Effective Social Laws:

Not Applicable. All wood sourced in Canada and the United States of America

# **Findings**

**Previous non-conformances:** *None.* 

**Non-conformances:** *None* 

**Opportunities for Improvement:** *None* 

#### **Notable Practices:**

1) Louisiana Pacific's collaboration with Saskatchewan Parks to undertake landscape scale harvesting in Duck Mountain Provincial Park to increase early succession habitats. This partnership is working to improve landscape diversity in the Duck mountains. (1.1 1)

#### Logo/label use:

Louisiana Pacific users the SFI Trademark for promotional purposes. They seek approval from SFI Inc. before using the trademark. They do not use the Bureau Veritas trademark at this point.

# **SFI** reporting:

During this audit verification of the SFI website was consulted on September 20<sup>th</sup> to ensure that the

previous audit report was submitted and posted.

# **Conclusions**

A closing meeting was held November 14th in the Company's corporate offices in Nashville. The lead auditor chaired the meeting and provided findings from all sites audited. The audit team found that Louisiana Pacific operates a sophisticated information system which can capture, track and store all the information requirements of the standard. The auditor recommended continued certification to the 2015-2019 SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard.

**SEE SF61 FOR AUDIT NOTES** 

Summary of Audit Findings:											
Audit Date(s):	From: J	uly 16, 2018				To: November 14, 2018					
Number of SF02's Raised:				Majo	or:		•	N			
Is a follow up visit required:		Yes		No	X	Date	te(s) of follow up visit:				
		Follo	w-uj	o visit	rema	arks:					
	Tea	am Le	ader	Reco	mme	endati	on:				
Corrective Action Plan(s) Acc	_	Yes		N	0		N/A	X	Date:		
Proceed to/Continue Certification	tion	Yes	7	K N	0		N/A		Date:	Nov	. 14 2018
All NCR's Closed		Yes		N	_		N/A	X	Date:		
		ındard	audi	t cond	ucte	d agair	ıst:				
1) SFI 2015-2018 Fiber Sou	ırcing	3)									
2)	_	4)									
Team Leader (1):	Team	Meml	bers (	(2,3,4)	)						
Brian Callaghan RPF	2) Paul Chenard										
	3)										
4)											
	5)	,									
Scope of Supply: (s	cope sta	itemen	t mu	st be v	erifi	ed and	appea	r in the	e space be	elow)	
Forest management activities on all company held and managed crown licenses in Canada, and the procurement of logs, pulpwood and other wood fiber in the United States and Canada using both stumpage and gatewood systems.											
Accreditation's ANA		AB									
Number of Certificates 1		-									
Proposed Date for Next Audit Event											
Date Summer/Fall 2019											
Audit Report Distribution											
Liliana Ramirez - liliana.ramirez@us.bureauveritas.com											
Doug Rodman – doug.rodman@lpcorp.com											

Clause	Audit Report							
Opening	Participants:	Steve Jeansonne, David Padgett, James Edelen, Wesley Briers, Matt Matwijec						
Meeting	Discussions:	> Introductions						
		> Scope of the audit						
		Audit schedule/plan						
		<ul> <li>Nonconformance types – Major / Minor</li> </ul>						
		> Review of previous nonconformances - 0.						
		<ul> <li>Process approach to auditing and audit sampling</li> </ul>						
		<ul><li>Confidentiality agreement</li></ul>						
		> Termination of the audit						
		> Appeals process						
		<ul><li>Closing meeting timing</li></ul>						
Closing	Participants:	Doug Rodman, Matt Matwijec, Donna Kopecky, Dan Toivonen, Mike Blosser						
Meeting	Discussions:	> Introductions and appreciation for selecting Bureau Veritas Certification.						
		Review of audit process - process approach and sampling.						
		Review of OFIs and System Strengths						
		Nonconformances - 0						
		> Date for next audit.						
		> Reporting protocol and timing						