



Tolko Industries Ltd.
Sustainable Forest Management System
Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt)

Audit Coverage

- During the period June 11th to 13th, 2007, QMI conducted the annual surveillance audit of Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt) Sustainable Forest Management System to the CAN/CSA Z809 Standard. The audit took 3.0 audit-days to complete.
- The Audit Team consisted of Gregor Macintosh, RPF., EMS(LA), CEA(SFM) as the Lead auditor and Ken Hall RFT., EMS(LA), CEA(SFM).
- The audit assessed pre and post harvest operations in the Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt) operating area. This entailed site visits with Tolko Thompson-Nicola Woodlands staff and members of the Public Advisory Group (PAG), verifying conformance with operational planning requirements and confirming the status of SFM Indicator performance for forest related Indicators.
- SFM Indicator performance was assessed through interviews with staff at the Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt) office and a review of the applicable SFM Indicator documentation.

Background

- The Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt) SFM system has been registered to the CAN/CSA Z809 Standard since 2003. This registration is supported by an Environmental Management System registered to the ISO 14001 Standard since 2002.
- The Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt) SFM system and EMS system have undergone annual 3rd party surveillance audits by QMI since the date of initial registration.
- The Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Merritt) SFM Define Forest Area is located in the Kamloops Timber Supply Area.



Positive Aspects

The Audit Team observed the following positive management practices:

- CSA (5.5): Merritt PAG supplied with a copy of a summary of the May 07 CSA Z809 Tech. Committee meeting results.
- CSA (5.4): PAG Field Trip and discussion of hydrologic impact of harvest rates resulting from MPB management.
- CSA (7.3.4): Practice of self reporting to MoFR C&E when operational issues are identified during inspections by Tolko staff.

Areas of Non-conformance

There were no areas of non conformance identified during the course of this audit.

Audit Recommendation

The Tolko Heffley Woodlands (Merritt) is recommended for continued registration to CAN/CSA Z809:2002 Standard.



Layout personnel locating creeks in the field using GPS technology.

CAN/CSA Z809 :2002 Surveillance Audit

Non-conformances.....	0
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Non-conformances

Major Non-conformance:
A systemic failure of the Program Participant's EMS/SFM system to meet an EMS/SFM objective, performance measure or indicator.

Minor Non-conformance:
An isolated lapse in EMS/SFM system implementation which does not indicate a systemic failure to consistently meet an EMS/SFM objective, performance measure or indicator.

All non-conformances require an action plan within 30 days. Major non-conformances must be addressed by the operation or registration cannot be achieved / maintained.

Opportunities for Improvement

Are isolated observations that are non-critical to the achievement / maintenance of EMS/SFM objectives.

Positive Aspects

Are features of the EMS/SFM system that are considered as enhancements to the expected level of EMS/SFIS performance.

Key Opportunities for Improvement

- CSA Z809 (7.3.6.1): Consider revisiting the 2006 data compilation for Indicator No. 8 (Volume of No. 1 seed applied).
- CSA (5.5): Consider including details of the annual PAG field trip in the Annual Merritt TSA Monitoring Report.
- CSA (7.3.6.1): Indicator No. 9 (Percent of harvest priorities related to catastrophic forest health events) – consider if this indicator is still relevant given the extent of the MPB epidemic.
- CSA(7.3.6.1): Indicator 30 (No. of written comments from FNs related to FDP/FSP proposals and the number of responses.) – Consider whether this indicator is still necessary given Indicator 4 and the FSP review time-lines.



A sea of red. An aerial view of the extent of the current “red” attack from the Mountain Pine Beetle.

QMI's Forestry Group registers forest companies to ISO 14001, SFI 2005-2009, and CSA Z809 SFM standards. The QMI Forestry Group consists of professional foresters and industry experts located in our Cleveland, Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal offices. Contact marketingservices@qmi.com for more information.

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