



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

Audit Coverage

- During the period July 22, 2008 through July 24, 2008 inclusive, QMI-SAI Global conducted the annual surveillance audit of Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Heffley Creek) Sustainable Forest Management System to the CAN/CSA Z809 Standard. The audit took 3.0 audit person-days to complete.
- The Audit Team consisted of Ken Hall RFT., EMS(LA), CEA(SFM). as the Lead auditor and David Barker RPF, EMS(LA).
- The audit assessed pre and post harvest operations in the Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Heffley Creek) operating area. This entailed site visits with Tolko Thompson-Nicola Woodlands staff and a member 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 (Heffley Creek) office and a review of the applicable SFM Indicator documentation.

Background

- The Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Heffley Creek) SFM system has been registered to the CAN/CSA Z809 Standard since 2001. This registration is supported by an Environmental Management System registered to the ISO 14001 Standard since 2001.
- The Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Heffley Creek) SFM system and EMS system have undergone annual 3rd party surveillance audits by QMI-SAI Global since the date of initial registration.
- The Thompson-Nicola Woodlands (Heffley Creek) SFM Define Forest Area is located in the Kamloops Timber Supply Area.



Photo #1: Installation of a portable bridge using concrete lock blocks on footings on either side of the creek, a steel superstructure and modular wooden deck panels.

Positive Aspects

The Audit Team observed the following positive management practices:

- AIA process includes First Nations Band members with appropriate training being included in assessment process.
- Tolko's progressive approach to engaging First Nations into business opportunities.
- Tolko's progressive approach to assist First Nation youth (2 Ashcroft Band members) in training.

Areas of Non-conformance

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

Audit Recommendation

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



Photo #2: Engineered culverts being used that include integrated footings and headwalls. Fish passage remains possible. Note the use of geotextiles to ensure fine material does not migrate to the creek.

CAN/CSA Z809 :2002 Surveillance Audit

Non-conformances.....	0
Opportunities for Improvement	5
Positive Aspects.....	3

Non-conformance

Non-conformance (NCR):

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

Area of Concern (AOC):

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-conformance require an action plan within 30 days. Non-conformance must be addressed by the operation or registration cannot be achieved / maintained.

Opportunities for Improvement (OFI):

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/SFM performance.

Key Opportunities for Improvement

- 7.3.2 / 7.3.4(d) - Ownership Rights and Responsibilities / Rights and Regulations: The Organization should consider including a verbage in the SFMP that states; "non signatory's rights and responsibilities will be respected". ie: woodlot owners and other non signatories.
- 7.5.3 - Records: Not all records pertinent to the SFM have been posted to the new electronic intranet, including the PAG TOR. The Organization may wish to make changes to its current electronic record keeping system in order to make it more user friendly and reduce the amount of lost time when using the system. The "filing tree" located on the left side of the screen collapses after each time the user selects a file to view. The Organization should also consider a "basic standardized filing tree" by year by subject. This will provide for some consistency between operations while still allowing for flexibility to reflect the unique characteristics of each operation.
- 7.6 - Management Review: The organization may wish to consider including changes in technology and science that have or could have impacts on their sustainable forest management system as part of the senior management review.
- 7.4.6 - Operational Control: The organization may wish to develop a system whereby part loads not shipped when the blocks have been completed are inventoried; estimated volumes and locations, so that they can be collected as part of a "clean up" process. This includes decked right of way wood.
- 7.4.6/7.5.3 - Operational Control/Records: The organization may wish to consider including checking for snag abatement as part of its regular monitoring/inspection process. The organization must ensure that their contractors are falling snags along the block perimeter in accordance with WCB regulation. The organization also needs to ensure that records of inspections, including road inspections are completed and added to the filing system.



Photos #3 and #4: Species at Risk field tour and training session Spring 2008. One species being managed for is the Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*).

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-saiglobal.com for more information.

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