



**Gilbert Smith Forest Products Ltd.  
Barriere, B.C.**

**SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**AUDIT REPORT CAN/CSA-Z809-1996 (or CAN/CSA-Z809-2002) (& ISO 14001-1996)**

**Date(s) of Audit:** July 27, 2009 to July 29, 2009  
**Audit Team Leader:** Nathan Ryant, RPF  
**Type of Audit:** 12 Month Surveillance Audit

**Scope Description**

The sustainable forest management system as it applies to the forest management activities including planning, harvesting, hauling, road construction and maintenance, and silviculture activities on the Defined Forest Area (Forest Licenses A56291 and A18692) and Timber License TO713.

**SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS:** Gilbert Smith Forest Products has implemented and maintained an effective Sustainable Forest Management system to ensure the SFMP is suitably managed over the companies Defined Forest Area. The company has demonstrated that their management is commendable and they will be recommended for continued registration to the CAN/CSA Z809:2002 standard.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE DEFINED FOREST AREA (DFA):**

The Defined Forest Area for Gilbert Smith Forest Products Ltd. operations are located in the Kamloops Timber Supply Area (TSA). The specific boundary of the defined area is contained within the GIS and has been agreed upon by all Licensees and by Government.

**AUDIT FINDINGS:**

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**Audit Criteria:** CSA Z809:2002

**Description of QMI-SAI Global and the QMI-SAI Global Audit Team:**

Quality Management Institute (QMI-SAI Global) is a third party management system certification Registrar. QMI-SAI Global is a Division of the CSA Group. Audit teams are comprised of certified auditors and registered professional foresters. All audit team members are subject to strict confidentiality and conflict of interest agreements.

**Summary:**

- No specific concerns with Gilbert Smith operations
- Licensee cost issues are more of a concern today than they were a year ago
- PAG members have provided the CSA technical committee with input towards the new standard
- Indicators in the new standard are better and the group has implemented new indicators such as a trapping indicator and management for Blue Listed Species
- Membership in the PAG is stagnant other than new trapper representative
- FN participation was good at the first meeting of the year and then fell off again for the remainder of the meetings
- PAG has been provided with excellent information supporting the issues
- There has been improvement in the process and the facilitator has done a good job in keeping the group focused and the meetings moving along

**The QMI-SAI Global Audit Team recorded the following audit results:**

**Documentation Review:**

The audit team reviewed the SFM documentation (2008 SFM monitoring report, 2009 SFM plan, 2009 EMS Manual)

**Non-conformances:**

**Status of any previously recorded non-conformances (NCRs)**

No previously recorded or outstanding NCRs.

**Significant Issues:**

None Identified

**Effectiveness of the Internal Quality Audit System:**

The annual internal audit was performed according to the Gilbert Smith procedures and was adequate in verifying the implementation and maintenance of the SFM system.

### Positive Aspects of the Management System:

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Simpcw First Nations is framed and available for all to see at the office reception area. This MOU shows a longstanding mutually beneficial relationship between the company and the local First Nations.
2. The PAG review of the 2008 Monitoring Report has comments documented for
3. each indicator.
4. PAG meeting minutes have improved showing who said what and highlighting when agreement has been achieved.
5. Gilbert Smith was responsible for bringing in a new PAG member representing the trapping community.
6. The use of the incident reports for process improvement items deemed beneficial to the system such as improved use of the road maintenance data base.

### Opportunities for Improvement:

#### Recommendations:

- 7.5.1 Monitoring and Measurement: Consider developing reports that would show a listing of road and bridge outstanding maintenance items which would allow for easier tracking of maintenance required to be completed.
- 7.5.2 Non-conformance Corrective and Preventative Actions: Consider developing an incident report for the minor non-compliance relating to the seed transfer guidelines to ensure future preventative measures are employed.
- 7.5.2 Non-conformance Corrective and Preventative Actions: Consider reporting issues relating to road agreement holders to the C&E staff where non-compliances may exist, eg. Bridge site on CP 701-6.

### Areas of Concern:

- 6.2 Interested Parties: The PAG member list has not been kept current (dated Jan. 2008) and does not accurately reflect the PAG membership
- 7.4.2 Training and Awareness: Training records have not been kept current for a helicopter logging contractor and the Simpcw archaeological contractor.

## GENERAL ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION:

### Surveillance Audit:

The results of the Surveillance Audit indicate that the Management System of Gilbert Smith Forest Products Ltd. is suitable and effective and will continue to be recommended for registration to CAN/CSA-Z809-2002.

An effective inter-action exists between all elements of the management system; Top management has demonstrated a commitment to maintain the effectiveness of the system.

### Statement of Confidentiality

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