



**BUREAU  
VERITAS**

**Bureau Veritas Certification  
North America, Inc.  
SFI 2005:2009 Audit Report**

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PQC Code	E01E

Contract Number:	HQ15877	Certification Audit:		Re-Certification Audit:		Surveillance: (Indicate visit # or Pre-Assessment)	S3
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**Audit Summary**

This report summarizes the results of surveillance audit #3 on American Forest Management's (AFM's) SFI program for management of Black Bear Forest, Inc. Richard Boitnott, Bureau Veritas Certification Lead Auditor conducted the audit 9/9/2008 through 9/11/2008.

The objectives of the audit were to review AFMs SFI program documentation in accordance with the requirements of the SFI 2005-2009 standard and verify the effective implementation of AFM's SFI program in the way it conducts its on-the-ground management activities. Specifically, two objectives of the SFI audit were to:

1. Verify that the Program Participant's SFI Program is in conformance with the SFI Objectives, Performance Measures, and Indicators, and any additional indicators that the Program Participant chooses, and
2. Verify whether the Program Participant has effectively implemented its SFI Standard program requirements on the ground.

The audit was conducted against the SFIS 2005-2009 standard. SFI objectives 3, 4, 6 and 13, and portions of objectives 1 and 5 were reviewed during this audit. There was no substitution or modifications of SFI indicators. An audit plan was developed and is maintained on file by Bureau Veritas Certification. Standard Bureau Veritas Certification protocols and forms were applied throughout the audit as provided by the most recent version of the Bureau Veritas Certification SFI Auditor Handbook available on the auditor access website.

Black Bear Forest, Inc. was previously managed by Sustainable Forest Technologies, Inc. (SFT). American Forest Management purchased SFT in 2007. No change was made in the management system, and the same employees are in place as they were with SFT. Black Bear Forest is divided into two regions; the East forest, consisting of approximately 300,000 acres, and the West forest, consisting of approximately 706,000 acres. This surveillance audit was conducted on the East forest, headquartered out of Milford, Maine. The Milford office also serves as the organization's headquarters.

The focus of this audit was on Objective 3 due to a minor non-conformance issued during the second

surveillance audit. The non-conformance was due to improper culvert installation, so road construction projects were the primary focus of this audit. Five timber harvest, five road construction, and one special site were visited during the audit. Three of the harvest sites were active at the time of the visit. One contractor was interviewed to determine level of training and awareness of BMPs, petroleum spill response requirements, and other AFM requirements. Personnel interviewed during the audit are identified on the SF61 evidence matrix maintained on file by Bureau Veritas Certification. Results of each field visit were recorded on a field audit form, and also maintained on file.

The findings made by Bureau Veritas Certification are listed below:

**Previous non-conformances:**

One minor non-conformance was issued during the second surveillance audit against Objective 3, specifically due to culvert installation. The organization conducted additional training for road construction and culvert installation procedures. The road construction projects reviewed during the audit demonstrated that corrective actions have been properly implemented for the non-conformance. In fact, road construction practices were so well done it resulted in a notable practice.

**Non-conformances:**

There were no non-conformances issued during this audit.

**Opportunities for Improvement:**

There were no opportunities for improvement issued during this audit

**Notable Practices:**

One notable practice was observed.

1. PM 3.2, Ind. 3: Observed excellent road construction practices. Considerable planning to reduce road impacts to streams was evident. Culvert installation to facilitate fish passage was very well done. In some cases old road beds were used for the construction project. The new road bed was re-routed, at additional expense, in instances where following the old bed would create water quality impacts.

**Logo/label use:**

The organization does not use the Bureau Veritas Certification logo.

**SFI reporting:**

The 2007 surveillance audit report for SFT was not found on the SFI website. However, it appears the audit report was never provided to the client. Bureau Veritas Certification CSRs will be reminded to forward audit reports to the client, and the client was reminded to submit all audit reports to SFI, Inc. for posting on its website.

**Conclusions**

The results of this audit indicate AFM continues to operate an effective SFI program.

A closing meeting was held at the Milford office. Since no non-conformances were issued, a recommendation for continued certification to the SFIS 2005-2009 was made.

**Surveillance audit**

AFM is on a continuous surveillance cycle. A surveillance audit schedule is maintained on file by Bureau Veritas Certification to ensure all applicable indicators are audited over the certification cycle. The 2009 surveillance audit will be conducted in the West forest.

PLEASE SEE SF61 FOR AUDIT NOTES

Summary of Audit Findings:						
Audit Date(s):		From: 9/9/2008			To: 9/11/2008	
Number of SF02's Raised:			Major:		0	Minor: 0
Is a follow up visit required:		Yes	No	X	Date(s) of follow up visit:	
Follow-up visit remarks:						
Team Leader Recommendation:						
Corrective Action Plan (s) Accepted		Yes	No		Date:	
Proceed to/Continue Certification		Yes	X	No	Date: 9/11/2008	
All NCR's Cleared		Yes	No		Date:	
Standard audit conducted against:						
1)	SFIS 2005-2009		3)			
2)			4)			
Team Leader (1):		Team Members (2,3,4...)				
Richard Boitnott; CF, RF, EMS(LA)		2)				
		3)				
		4)				
		5)				
Scope of Supply: (scope statement must be verified and appear in the space below)						
Forest and land management activities conducted by American Forest Management (AFM) on Black Bear Forest, Inc. (1,006,000 Acres)						
Accreditation's		ANAB				
Number of Certificates		1				
Proposed Date for Next Audit Event						
Date	The company has requested Sept. 15-17, 2009 for its next audit event					
Audit Report Distribution						
AFM: Paula Pelletier-paula.pelletier@amforem.biz						
Bureau Veritas Certification: Karen Rhodes-karen.rhodes@us.bureauveritas.com						

<b>Clause</b>	<b>Audit Report</b>
Opening Meeting	Participants: Paula Pelletier, John Bryant, Tom Dodd, David Cole, Al Beeson Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Introductions</li> <li>➤ Scope of the audit</li> <li>➤ Audit schedule/plan</li> <li>➤ Nonconformance types – Major / Minor</li> <li>➤ Review of previous nonconformances - 1.</li> <li>➤ Process approach to auditing and audit sampling</li> <li>➤ Confidentiality agreement</li> <li>➤ Termination of the audit</li> <li>➤ Appeals process</li> <li>➤ Closing meeting timing</li> </ul>
Closing Meeting	Participants: Paula Pelletier, John Bryant, Tom Dodd, David Cole Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Introductions and appreciation for selecting Bureau Veritas Certification.</li> <li>➤ Review of audit process - process approach and sampling.</li> <li>➤ Review of OFIs and System Strengths</li> <li>➤ Nonconformances - 0</li> <li>➤ Date for next audit.</li> <li>➤ Reporting protocol and timing</li> </ul>