

## **Boise Cascade Public Audit Summary Report Sustainable Forestry Initiative<sup>®</sup> (SFI) Standard [2005-2009 Edition]**

### **Introduction**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (“PwC”) completed SFI Surveillance assessments of Boise Cascade’s (“Boise”) raw material procurement system at its St. Helens and Wallula Paper fiber procurement groups on May 2, 2006 and its Western Oregon Region Wood Products procurement headquarters in Medford, Oregon, on October 19, 2006. The Lead Auditor for this assessment was Don Taylor, CF, EMS (LA).

### **Audit Scope & Objectives**

The audit scope included all procurement operations carried out under Boise’s company-wide Fiber and Wood Procurement System in the states of Oregon, Washington, and California. The procurement practices for all of Boise’s Western Oregon Region Procurement Groups were assessed against Objectives 8 through 13 of the SFI Standard [2005-2009 Edition].

Boise manages its SFI Program through a centralized management structure that provides a consistent approach to procurement throughout the organization. The primary objective of the audit was to assess the SFI management system at the corporate level and evaluate Boise’s continued implementation of the SFI Standard, using a continuous certification approach.

### **Indicators**

All of the indicators associated with Objectives 8 through 13 in the SFI Standard were included within the audit scope. There were no substitute indicators.

### **Audit Process**

The audit team conducted interviews and reviewed appropriate documentation to assess policies and procedures, and the implementation of overall SFI program requirements pertaining to procurement systems across all regions.

### **Summary of Findings**

There were no nonconformities identified during the audit.

Opportunities for improvement were identified in the following areas:

- Boise could take further steps to ensure that all personnel are wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment.
- The company could consider requiring contractors to have at least one SFI trained staff member on site at all times.

- Boise may want to consider developing a new hire training plan and a listing of courses so the appropriate personnel will be available for the courses.
- The Boise logging contract template could include specific contract language that requires the harvest of purchased stumpage to comply with Best Management Practices.
- Boise may wish to consider evaluating prescribed logging systems to confirm suitability to the terrain on purchased stumpage tracts.
- More specific SFI related objectives could be included in the performance plans of the procurement managers for St. Helens and Wallula.

The audit team identified several good management practices that are summarized below:

- Boise has a very good system for tracking and documenting evidence (EMS manual and Evidence Summary) to verify its progress towards meeting SFI objectives. This is reinforced by having all procurement foresters read and sign a statement acknowledging their commitment to the SFI principles.
- Strong support for sustainable forestry research within the Western Region through the Boise Cascade Foundation's support of Elk and Spotted Owl habitat studies and support for water quality research on Hinkle Creek.
- Strong leadership and support for publishing excellent documents which are mailed to landowners throughout the state.
- Commercial thinning on very sensitive sites for the Medford Water Commission exceeded their representative's expectations with regard to improving the forest health of the stand.
- The development of a very comprehensive system to investigate all sources of wood from outside North America.

### **Audit Conclusion**

Boise's procurement operations continue to be certified to the SFI Standard. The Registrar's Report can be obtained by contacting Brad Holt, Sustainability Manager, of Boise Cascade (208-384-3517).