



**Public Briefing Paper for
Forest Management Certification annual audit of
Canadian Forest Products Ltd.
Cranbrook, British Columbia, Canada
Date of Notice: October 5th, 2018**

Introduction

The Rainforest Alliance is conducting an annual forest management surveillance audit of the Canadian Forest Products Ltd (Canfor) located in the East Kootenays, British Columbia, Canada. The audit will be conducted the week of November 5th 2018. The forest management certification annual audit will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of the forest areas managed by Canfor using the Forest Stewardship Council Regional Certification Standards for British Columbia. This Standard is available on the FSC Canada website at: <https://ca.fsc.org/preview.bc-standard.a-82.pdf>. Rainforest Alliance is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and this annual audit process must follow procedures which have been approved by the FSC.

Assessment Team Composition

Jeremy Williams (team lead): Jeremy earned a B.Sc.F. from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Forestry (1979) and a Ph.D. from the same Faculty with a specialization in Forest Economics (1986). He successfully completed QMI's environmental lead auditor course for ISO 14000 in 2000, and in 2009 took the Smartwood Lead Auditor training course. Dr. Williams is a Registered Professional Forester in Ontario. Dr. Williams has a wide range of experience in forest management in Canada, and has worked in most provinces and territories, as well as internationally. Within Ontario, he is familiar with both the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and boreal forest types. As of January 2018, he has participated in 45 Independent Forest Audits, including 25 as lead auditor. He has also been involved in ten FSC re/assessments and a half dozen eleven annual audits. One indicator of the breadth of his experience was his role as a technical writer for the 2004 FSC national boreal standard, and subsequent involvement in preliminary activities related to updating the standard. Other recent, relevant work has included an assessment of the Ontario MNRF's approach for assessing sustainability in forest planning, undertaking a jurisdictional review of forest sustainability frameworks, and providing expert advice to a Nova Scotia review of forestry practices. He is also active in forest carbon management, forest governance and supporting Aboriginal efforts to participate in the forest sector. Jeremy was part of Canfor's 2014 FSC reassessment audit.

Ugo Lapointe: Ugo holds of a Master's degree in forest ecology on the impact of forest management on wildlife in the boreal forest. He joined the Rainforest Alliance team in 2011. Until

December 2013, he held the position of coordinator of FSC certification in Quebec before working with the Rainforest Alliance as a consultant. He had previously worked 4 years overseeing the collection and data analysis and writing reports and articles within the framework of research projects carried out in the boreal forests in Quebec. He completed the Rainforest Alliance FSC auditor training for the forest management and for the Chain of Custody as well as the Lead auditor ISO 14001 training and since then has conducted over 80 FM and CoC audits internationally.

Annual audit Steps and Schedule

Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- Auditing organization – The Rainforest Alliance team will begin stakeholder consultation and evidence review starting in October 2018.
- Field assessments – The team will assemble in Cranbrook and visit sites managed by Canfor during the week of Nov 5th 2018.
- Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork portion of the audit, the team will contact local stakeholders and Aboriginal groups regarding Canfor's forest management in communities surrounding the forest area. This will include private interviews and discussions.
- Presentation of preliminary findings to Company – Prior to departure, the team will meet with Canfor managers and other parties to present preliminary findings and discuss followup information gathering.
- Draft report production – The audit team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to Canfor.
- Audit Conclusion – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from Canfor forest managers, other general stakeholder comments and based on the Company's conformance with the FSC and Rainforest Alliance requirements, Rainforest Alliance will finalize the audit report and reach a certification decision regarding certificate maintenance. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur later in January 2019.

Your Input Sought

As a part of the annual audit process, we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Canfor forest management in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the assessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the field portion of the audit (i.e. prior to Nov 5th) or during the audit so that we can take them into consideration during the audit process. To provide comments and if appropriate, arrange an in-person meeting or phone interview, please contact Jeremy Williams at jeremy.w@sympatico.ca or 416 694-8123.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and Rainforest Alliance staff. Anyone who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access Rainforest Alliance's Complaints, Appeals and Dispute resolution procedures at http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry/certification/transparency/disputeresolution?id=dispute_resolution.