

Date of notice : September 9, 2019



Public notification

FSC® Forest Management Certification Annual Audit

Taan Forest Limited Partnership

in

Skidegate, British Columbia, Canada

Introduction

NEPCon is conducting a FSC® forest management and chain of custody annual audit of Taan Forest Limited Partnership located in Skidegate, British Columbia, Canada. The evaluation will be conducted during the week of October 21st, 2019.

Scope of Evaluation

The FSC® surveillance audit will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of the forest management units managed by Taan located on Haida Gwaii, using the Forest Stewardship Council Regional Certification Standards for British Columbia. To obtain a copy, please visit: <https://ca.fsc.org/regional-fm-standards.201.htm>

NEPCon is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council® and this evaluation must follow procedures which have been approved.

Team Composition

Nicolas Lecomte, will be leading the audit. He has a doctorate degree in environmental sciences. He will be accompanied by Brenda Hopkin, a registered professional forester in BC.

Steps and Schedule

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

- Field visits - The on-site portion of the evaluation, including field visits of recent and active forest management operations, will be conducted during the week of October 21, 2019.

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- Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding the forest management activities of TAAN in communities surrounding the forest area. This can include private interviews and discussions as well as public meetings.
- Final evaluation briefing – Prior to departure the team will meet with TAAN managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- Draft report production – The audit team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to TAAN. This should occur within one month after completion of the evaluation.
- Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from TAAN forest managers, and other general stakeholder comments, NEPCon will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur by December 20, 2019.

Your Comments Sought

As a part of the audit process we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Taan's forest management activities 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 process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior or during the on-site audit so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows.

1. Meet with a NEPCon assessment team member during or shortly prior to fieldwork.
2. Call and give comments to the NEPCon staff person responsible for coordinating this certification assessment or submit written comments by mail or email.

Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential, available only to FSC and NEPCon staff and are solely for the purposes of assessing the certificate holder. The source of any information provided will be kept confidential.

Stakeholders who wish to challenge a forest certification decision or process can access the complaints, appeals and dispute resolution policy at www.nepcon.org.

Contacting the Audit Team Leader

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Contacting NEPCon

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